

Midland Public Library

Policy Type: **Foundation**

Policy Number: **FN-04**

Policy Title: **Intellectual Freedom**

Initial Policy Approval Date: April 2019

Last Review/Revision Date: 2023

Year of next review: 2027

Recognizing that the board has a fundamental responsibility for upholding the principles of, as well as advocating for, intellectual freedom, this policy ensures the rights of individuals to access information.

1. The Midland Public Library Board adopts the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' **Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries**, approved originally in June 27, 1974; Amended November 17, 1983, November 18, 1985 and September 27, 2015.
 2. It is the responsibility of the board, and those who work in the library, to:
 - a) ensure that all library users have the fundamental right to have access to all expressions of knowledge, creativity and intellectual activity, and to express their thoughts publicly;
 - b) guarantee and facilitate access to all expressions of knowledge and intellectual activity, including those which some elements of society may consider to be unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable;
 - c) make available all of the library's public facilities and services to all individuals and groups who need them; and
 - d) resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities, while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups
3. The board directs the Library Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to ensure that the principles of intellectual freedom are integrated into all organizational policies, procedures and practices.

Related Documents:

- Canadian Federation of Library Associations' **Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries (Appendix E)**