



Midland Public Library

Policy Type: **Operational**

Policy Number: **OP - 05**

Policy Title: **Programming Policy**

Initial Policy Approval Date: April 2016

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Year of next review: 2028

Programming supports the library's mission to stimulate imagination and inquiry. Programming provides information, invites public discussion, encourages curiosity and creativity and promotes literacy and reading. Programming promotes the library's services and resources. This policy defines the provision of programs at the library.

1. Programs are defined as any group activity offered to the public that staff coordinate, plan and/or present.
2. The Midland Public Library upholds the principle of intellectual freedom embodied in the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' Statement of intellectual freedom and libraries. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program, or the views expressed by presenters or participants. See Intellectual Freedom Policy FN-04
3. All programs are designed to be inclusive and safe spaces, providing activities that are innovative and community driven. The library may present controversial or opposing points of view. Community members are expected to respect the rights and freedoms of others when expressing concern over a specific program. All expressions of concern should be addressed in writing to the CEO of the Library.
4. The library will:
 - a) make available a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints
 - b) select programs based on the interests and needs of the community
 - c) use programs to promote interest in, and the joy of, reading and literacy
 - d) limit program attendance based on safe use of space, or when success of a program requires a limited number of attendees
 - e) make programs open to all, based on a first come, first served basis, either with advanced registration or at the door
 - f) not offer programming that is purely commercial
 - g) regularly evaluate the planning and delivery of library programs
 - h) make available a process for user feedback and expressions of opinions/concerns about programs
 - i) the library may charge fees for some programs with the intent of cost recovery for materials, presenters or external resources
 - j) Assess the credibility of any partners involved in delivering a program.

5. The library may:

- a) offer programs for children, young adults, adults, families, seniors and the business community, and any other audience as deemed appropriate by the CEO.
- b) participate in cooperative programs with other agencies, organizations, institutions or individuals
- c) sponsor programs in the library facility or outside of the library
- d) promote programs through brochures, news releases, and the library's website and social media
- e) allow presenters to display products or books for purchase