Whitby Public Library

Program Policy

Policy Type: Public

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Library programming includes recreational, educational, or cultural events or activities. Programs support the Library's vision, mission, values, and strategic priorities. The Whitby Public Library Board endorses the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' **Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries**, and the Ontario Library Association's Positions on **Children's Rights in the Library** and **Teen's Rights in the Public Library.**

Library programs:

- promote reading and lifelong learning,
- raise awareness of library resources and services,
- enhance the library's role as a community gathering place,
- educate, inform, and entertain,
- invite discussion and encourage engagement about issues affecting the community,
- reflect the wide range of human qualities within society.

The following will be considered when planning and delivering programs:

- the Library's strategic priorities,
- the community's diverse needs and interests,
- the target audience and appropriate scheduling for that audience,
- the location within the Library, the community or a virtual space,
- available staff, space and budget.

Hosting a program does not necessarily indicate that the Library or the Board endorses its content. Individuals or organizations may not use a library program to advertise or to recruit members. Sales are limited to books and CDs/DVDs by visiting authors, illustrators and performers.

While programs are open to all, the Library reserves the right to set age restrictions, limit registration and cancel programs. Any person who objects to a program may submit a **Request for Reconsideration of Library Programs**.

Support persons are welcome in all programs and are not charged fees. Communication supports for people with disabilities will be provided upon advance requests. Supports may include, but are not limited to assistive listening device, ASL interpreter, etc. Contracted services may not be available for all programs.

Programs will be evaluated on an ongoing basis.