

**Policy Number:** ST 01

**Policy Title:** Canadian Library Association Statement on Intellectual Freedom

**Policy Status:**

**Date Ratified:** November 9, 1998; June 16, 2003; March 19, 2007; December 12, 2011;  
October 20, 2014

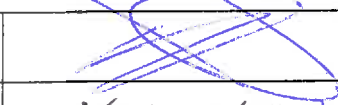
**Date Amended:**

**Date for Review:** 2017

---

The Strathcona County Library Board supports the statement from the Canadian Library Association and uses it as a guide in the selection of materials for the Library's collection, the use of its facilities by community groups and the programs and services it makes available to its users.

See Appendix A.

Approved by Board Chair	
Date	November 27, 2014

## APPENDIX A

### **Canadian Library Association / Association canadienne des bibliothèques Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom**

*Approved by Executive Council ~ June 27, 1974; Amended November 17, 1983; and November 18, 1985*

All persons in Canada have the fundamental right, as embodied in the nation's Bill of Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to have access to all expressions of knowledge, creativity and intellectual activity, and to express their thoughts publicly. This right to intellectual freedom, under the law, is essential to the health and development of Canadian society.

Libraries have a basic responsibility for the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom.

It is the responsibility of libraries to 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. To this end, libraries shall acquire and make available the widest variety of materials.

It is the responsibility of libraries to guarantee the right of free expression by making available all the library's public facilities and services to all individuals and groups who need them.

Libraries should resist all efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups.

Both employees and employers in libraries have a duty, in addition to their institutional responsibilities, to uphold these principles.