

## Town of Grimshaw Municipal Library Board Policy

### **Subject: Collection Development: Materials Selection**

### **Policy: 5/A\_ 2004**

Date Approved: January 16, 2014

Reviewed & Approved: March 15, 2019

1. The Board Trustees believe the library collection is for all residents of the community and should include materials of literary, educational, informational and recreational value.
2. Responsibility for selection of materials rests with the Library Manager, who will operate within the framework of the policies determined by the board.
3. "Selection" refers to procedures or decisions governing the addition and retention of books or other materials in the collection. It does not refer to reader guidance.
4. Materials are selected on the following basis:
  - a. Author's reputation and his/her significance as a writer.
  - b. Recommendation or notation by reviews, critics or general public
  - c. Importance of the subject matter to the collection
  - d. Scarcity of material on the subject
  - e. Availability of the material from other sources (i.e. interlibrary loans)
  - f. Timelessness or permanence of the material
  - g. Price
5. Strong consideration shall be given to keeping a comprehensive selection of materials by Canadian authors or centered on Canadian content.
- ~~6.~~ Priority will be given to purchasing most material through the Peace Library System, as our membership grants us better purchasing power. When needed, materials can be bought from other sources.
- ~~7.~~ No library materials shall be excluded because of race, nationality, and political or social views of the author. In establishing this policy the Board endorses the Canadian Federation of Library Associations; Statement of Intellectual Freedom and Libraries, approved September 27, 2015
8. Since the library is a tax-funded institution, any citizen has the right to question the inclusion or exclusion of any title in the library's collection. The Library Manager will address all complaints, concerning the selection of specific titles, only if submitted in writing using the prescribed form provided. (See attachment, 5A1 and 5A2). Citizens unwilling to accept the decision of the Library Manager may appeal to the Board.

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5/a Attachment 1

### **Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries**

Approval History: ~ June 27, 1974 Amended November 17, 1983; November 18, 1985; and September 27, 2015

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations recognizes and values the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as the guarantor of the fundamental freedoms in Canada of conscience and religion; of thought, belief, opinion, and expression; of peaceful assembly; and of association.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations supports and promotes the universal principles of intellectual freedom as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which include the interlocking freedoms to hold opinions and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

In accordance with these principles, the Canadian Federation of Library Associations affirms that all persons in Canada have a fundamental right, subject only to the Constitution and the law, to have access to the full range of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, and to express their thoughts publicly. Only the courts may abridge free expression rights in Canada.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations affirms further that libraries have a core responsibility to support, defend and promote the universal principles of intellectual freedom and privacy.

The Canadian Federation of Library Associations holds that libraries are a key institution in Canada for rendering expressive content accessible and affordable to all. Libraries are essential gateways for all persons living in Canada to advance themselves through literacy, lifelong learning, social engagement, and cultural enrichment.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and facilitate access to constitutionally protected expressions of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, including those which some individuals and groups consider unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable. To this end, in accordance with their mandates and professional values and standards, libraries provide, defend and promote equitable access to the widest possible variety of expressive content and resist calls for censorship and the adoption of systems that deny or restrict access to resources.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and foster free expression and the right to safe and welcoming places and conditions. To this end, libraries make available their public spaces and services to individuals and groups without discrimination.

Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and defend privacy in the individual's pursuit of expressive content. To this end, libraries protect the identities and activities of library users except when required by the courts to cede them.

Furthermore, in accordance with established library policies, procedures and due process, libraries resist efforts to limit the exercise of these responsibilities while recognizing the right of criticism by individuals and groups.

Library employees, volunteers and employers as well as library governing entities have a core responsibility to uphold the principles of intellectual freedom in the performance of their respective library roles.



