

Purpose:

To establish a healthy environment, grounded in RPL's values, that supports community services, spaces, and technologies to inspire discovery, learning, and connection.

Objective:

RPL is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for customers and staff and to protecting library resources and buildings. This policy details RPL's authority to exclude people with court-ordered restrictions from certain areas of the Library or to bar them from entering the Library.

Delegated Authority:

Executive Director, Central Library

Legislated Authority:

The Public Libraries Act, 1996, s.67

Other Relevant Documents:

RPL Bylaw #1 – Safe Use and Conduct Bylaw

Criminal Code, RSC 1985, c. C-46, s. 161

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Application:

This policy applies:

- at all RPL branches and units; and
- to any individual under any court order which restricts their attendance at certain locations and/or contact with certain people.

Policy:

1.0 Restrictions are sometimes imposed on individuals by the courts.

- 1.1 Typically, these restrictions prohibit the individual from going to community centres or other places where children under 16 gather or where computers are available for public use.
- 1.2 Court-ordered restrictions may also take the form of a restraining order prohibiting contact with a specific person or persons.
- 2.0 RPL is committed to upholding the law and to following legal directives and, therefore, when RPL is made aware of people with court-ordered restrictions by police or others, RPL will investigate the issue and take appropriate action.
- 3.0 Action may include:
 - 3.1 requiring the person with court-ordered restrictions to leave the area of the library subject to restriction;
 - 3.2 to stay away from computers or other equipment; or
 - 3.3 to leave the library property entirely.
- 4.0 RPL may ban people with court-ordered restrictions from entering any or all library properties.
- 5.0 People with court-ordered restrictions may be refused entry to the library or asked to leave by library staff. If they do not comply, or become disruptive, the police will be called.
- 6.0 A library staff member or customer who has a legal restraining order against a certain person or persons may be asked to show the order to the Executive Director, Central Library.
- 7.0 RPL will take any administrative measures necessary to enforce this policy (e.g., photos of people with court-ordered restrictions may be provided to library staff and notes placed on library files).
- 8.0 It is not the Library's intent to deny access to services to those with court-ordered restrictions.

CUSTOMERS WITH COURT ORDERED RESTRICTIONS POLICY

- 9.0 Within the limits of the court-ordered restriction and the Library's ability to "provide opportunities for discovery and learning" to the customer, RPL will endeavour to serve the customer in whatever way possible.