

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:

To enable the provision of Internet access to the public.

Delegated Authority:

Executive Director, Customer Experience

Legislated Authority:

The Public Libraries Act, 1996, s.67

Other Relevant Documents:

RPL Internet Access Procedures

RPL Safe Use and Conduct Bylaw

Human Rights Legislation

Criminal Code of Canada

Local Authorities Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act

Application:

Applies to the public.

Policy:

- 1.0 The Internet is an unregulated network of resources, which enables access to information, opinions, and images that may be inaccurate, controversial or offensive. RPL is not responsible for the accuracy, currency or quality of any Internet resources found.

- 2.0 Parents or guardians are responsible for their children's use of the Internet at RPL. Staff can provide information to assist children and their parents in using the Internet in a safe and effective manner.
- 3.0 RPL provides access to workstations with privacy screens, to reduce the risk of the violation of customers' legal right to access information, under The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and respect their privacy.
- 4.0 RPL requires that use of Internet workstations is done in a responsible manner, respecting the rights of other users, not invading the privacy of others, and not engaging in any activity that is harassing or defamatory. The Library may terminate an Internet session if information accessed is inappropriate for viewing in a public setting.
- 5.0 RPL specifically prohibits the use of its workstations for illegal, unethical or criminal purposes, or any purpose which may make the Library or any person liable for any civil action or prosecution. Civil law forbids the harassment, libeling or slandering of others. Criminal law forbids the display or dissemination of hate literature, child pornography, illicit drug literature, or obscene material. Any material tending to deprive any person of his or her rights, or to expose any person or class of persons to hatred or affronts to human dignity, must not be displayed or disseminated through an RPL workstation.
- 6.0 Individuals using a Library Internet workstation, are responsible for:
 - 6.1 any commercial transactions made through the use of the Internet access workstation;
 - 6.2 any direct or indirect damages suffered from the use of Internet services;
 - 6.3 any damage caused to the Library's computer equipment;
 - 6.4 any losses or damages sustained by RPL as a result of the individual's use of Internet access; and



- 6.5 any infringement of copyright or licensing that could result from the copying or distribution of materials found on the Internet.
- 7.0 Individuals using a Library Internet workstation, agree to follow RPL Internet Access Procedures.
- 8.0 RPL reserves the right to control the use of its computers and Internet access to both monitor use, and to review patterns of RPL workstation use, to assess conformity with the standards described in this policy. Library privileges may be suspended if the Library computer or Internet access is misused. RPL will not disclose the use of public computers and Internet access, unless RPL is required to do so pursuant to an order by a court with appropriate jurisdiction.

