



<b>Policy Name:</b>	Public Internet & Technology Use Policy		
<b>Section:</b>	System	<b>Effective Date:</b>	May 25, 2000
<b>Motion Number:</b>	21-40	<b>Reviewed Date:</b>	September 23, 2021
<b>Policy Number:</b>	SYS-25	<b>Next Review Date:</b>	February 2029

## Purpose

Barrie Public Library provides access to technology and the Internet to foster the individual's educational, cultural, recreational, literacy and information needs. The Library supports the Ontario Library Association's Statement on the Intellectual Rights of the Individual and maintains a commitment to providing free and safe access to the Internet.

## Policy

Public computer and wireless Internet access are provided at all locations to ensure equitable access to information and online resources. The Internet is an unregulated, ever-changing, worldwide environment.

- Patrons are cautioned that ideas, points of view, and images can be found on the Internet which are controversial, divergent, and/or inflammatory. Not all of the information available via the Internet is accurate, current, or complete. Patrons should assess the validity of all information found
- While the Library takes reasonable measures to ensure the privacy and confidentiality of Internet users, patrons are advised to exercise caution when viewing or transmitting personal information on public computers or library devices, or over computer networks

The Library's public computers and wireless network are in public areas shared by Library users of all ages, backgrounds, and sensibilities.

- Individuals are expected to be considerate of other Library users when using library computers or tablets, or their own devices in the Library, including appropriate volume and content of material and appropriate viewing and listening behaviour
- Parents and guardians are responsible for guiding their child's use of Library technology and/or the Internet
- The Library prohibits use of its computer equipment and network for illegal purposes. Access to the Internet shall not be used to access, post, or transmit unlawful, threatening, abusive, libelous, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, or similar material
- The Library prohibits damaging or modifying the Library's computer equipment, software, or network, and accessing confidential information
- Users must agree to the Library's Internet Usage Agreement to access the Library's Internet service through public computers and/or wireless networks

- Patrons assume total responsibility and risk for access to and use of the Library's equipment, network, and Internet service. The Library assumes no liability for claims of loss from use of Library computers or devices, the Library's Internet service, and/or the Library's network
- Certain copying or distribution of material found on the Internet may infringe on the copyright laws of Canada. The Library is not responsible for such infringements. The copyright law is available for consultation, if required

Patrons must use their own Library account when using computer workstations and wireless networks and must not represent themselves as other users for any reason

The Library reserves the right to:

- Limit computer and Internet use in terms of the amount of time used and/or network load
- Terminate an Internet session at any time

Failure to comply with this Policy will result in loss of computer and Internet access and possible banning from the Library. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.