

TITLE: Collection Development		POLICY: B-2003	
COMMITTEE: Internal	PASSED:	December 1, 2015	
TOPIC: Library Collections	AMENDED:	May 24, 2018	
	REVIEW PERIOD:	Every 5 years	

Strong library collections are fundamental to excellent library service. The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is committed to developing diverse, robust collections which anticipate and meet customer needs and reflect Library goals. EPL collections are broad in scope and variety in order to fulfill the Library’s mandate.

Collection development is an ongoing process requiring professional judgment and experience to balance needs and demands with maximum use of space, staff and fiscal resources. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for collection development and ensuring EPL maintains collection development guidelines to direct staff in the selection of library materials. The CEO may delegate this responsibility to other EPL staff.

The EPL Board endorses the CFLA Statement on Intellectual Freedom and, therefore, EPL acquires a wide range of materials representing various points of view, including materials which may be considered controversial and offensive to some individuals. Selections will not be made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval, but solely on the merits of the work in relation to developing collections and serving the public.

Edmonton Public Library collections will:

1. Meet the information needs of the public;
2. Support lifelong learning and supplement formal study;
3. Reflect the recreational needs and interests of the community;
4. Reflect various cultural, ethnic, linguistic, religious and philosophical backgrounds;
5. Stimulate participation in the affairs of the community, the country and the world;
6. Recognize and accommodate a range of education levels and abilities;
7. Inspire the love of reading and the exploration of ideas, culture and knowledge.

EPL participates in resource sharing initiatives and consortium purchasing to provide the greatest access to library materials.

The Board recognizes that this policy is carried out in compliance and with due regard for all applicable legislation.

Customer Requests

Customer requests for the purchase of library materials are encouraged and given due consideration.

Donations

EPL has the discretion to accept gifts of library materials and reserves the right to decide the disposition of gifts received.

Deselection

Deselection is a crucial aspect of maintaining healthy, vigorous and current collections. EPL continually assesses its collections so they remain current and in good physical condition.

Reconsideration of Library Materials

The Library will review the selection of any materials upon receipt of a *Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Library Material* form.

Legislative and Policy Authorities

- [Alberta Libraries Act - Chapter L-11](#)
- [Criminal Code](#)
- [Copyright Act](#)

Related Board Policies

- [Gift Acceptance, B-2013](#)
- [Intellectual Freedom, B-2012](#)