



Internet Access Policy [PUB 2]

Date: March 2003

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SECTION: Public Services

Statement of Policy

- 1.1** The Brantford Public Library regards the Internet in the same way as its other information resources in accordance with its mission to connect the community to information, partnerships and place
- 1.2** As with more traditional resources, the Library does not act in place of or in the absence of a parent. The Library is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of this resource.
- 1.3** The accuracy of the information obtained from the Internet is the responsibility of the producer/originator, not the Library. The Library cannot guarantee the quality of the information obtained through the Internet.
- 1.4** In addition to the general rules respecting use of the library, the Brantford Public Library Board prohibits the use of the Internet services it provides for any purpose which would contravene any statute or government regulation, or which might create civil liability by the user or the Library Board to any person. For example, the Ontario Human Rights Code prohibits certain forms of discrimination and harassment of other individuals or groups, and the Criminal Code includes prohibitions against child pornography, obscenity, hate literature, and literature for illicit drug use. An example of civil liability is the law of libel and slander. No effort has been made to be exhaustive in giving the above examples. Users are reminded that ignorance of the law is not an excuse.
- 1.5** The Brantford Public Library reserves the right to limit any use of the Internet services it provides, if that use deviates from what the Library intends.
- 1.6** Use of Library workstations and Internet services provided by the Library is conditional on the user's agreement to observe this policy. By continuing to use these Internet services, the user indicates agreement to all requirements of this policy.

Procedures

- 2.1 Internet Access Policy:** Before making use of the Library's Internet services, users are required to read and agree to the Brantford Public Library's Internet Access Policy.
- 2.2 Staff Assistance:** Library staff will assist you on request, although we may not be familiar with every application you might want to use. You are invited to consult the many books, magazines, and videos about the Internet available at the Library. While library staff will provide what assistance they can to patrons, the Library cannot guarantee that a successful connection will be made to the Library's wireless network from a patron's device.
- 2.3 Time Limits:** The Internet is a very popular resource. You are welcome to search the Internet for a maximum of three hours per day, including time required to print pages. We hold your spot for 5 minutes only if others are waiting.
- 2.4 Printing:** *Print stations* are available for use. Copies are 10 cents per page, payable either the Reference or Information Desk. Printing is not available for those using the wireless service. Downloading is available.
- 2.5 Bookable Internet Stations:** A Brantford Public Library membership card is required to use all Internet stations. You can book in advance, either in person, by telephone or online. For people who live out of the BPL service area, a temporary card can be issued with proper identification.
- 2.6 Filtered Stations:** The Library provides a mix of filtered and unfiltered stations. Be aware that filters may still allow objectionable material to be seen. Filters are not intended to replace parental guidance, training, or the exercise of critical judgment.
- 2.7 Wireless Services:** Internet access is available for patrons with wireless devices at all locations. It is the responsibility of the patron to configure his/her electronic device to access the Library's wireless network
- 2.8 Internet Express Stations:** Internet Express stations require a library card. They have a 20 minute limit and are meant for users who want to check their web-based email, or do some quick browsing. Games and chat groups are not permitted on these terminals.
- 2.8 Blind or Print-Disabled Citizen Access:** Internet access is available through adaptive technology at the Main Library.
- 2.9 Sound:** Headphones must be worn when using websites with sound or video components.