



POLICY: <b>Computer and Internet Access Policy</b>		POLICY NO: <b>OP 07</b>
POLICY LEVEL: <b>Operational</b>	LAST REVIEW / REVISION DATE:	SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE: OCTOBER 2027

# Computer and Internet Access Policy

The Stratford Public Library provides public access to the Internet to foster an individual’s education, 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. Stratford Public Library takes reasonable measures to ensure the privacy and confidentiality of Internet Users.

The Library’s computers are located in public areas shared by Library users of all ages, backgrounds and sensibilities. The Library offers unfiltered access to the Internet.

- Individuals are expected to respect other library users when using library computers or tablets, or their own devices in the Library, including appropriate volume, content of material and appropriate viewing and listening behavior.
- Parents or guardians are responsible for guiding their child’s use of a library computer and/or the Internet.
- Customers use their own library card to access the adult computers. Visitors can obtain daily passes to access computers.
- Stratford Public Library prohibits use of its computers and network for illegal purposes. Access to the Internet must not be used to post or transmit unlawful, threatening, abusive, libelous, defamatory, obscene, pornographic or similar material.
- The Stratford Public Library also prohibits damaging or modifying the Library’s computer equipment, software, or network, and accessing confidential information.
- Customers must agree to the library’s conditions of use to access the Library’s Internet service through public computers and/or its wireless network.
- Customers 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.

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 SPL’s Public Internet Access Policy and the prohibited activities listed above will result in loss of computer and Internet access and possible banning from the Library. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.

## References:

- Public Libraries Act, RSO 1990
- Customer Code of Conduct, OP 04
- Ontario Library Association’s Statement on the Intellectual Rights of the Individual

ORIGINAL DATE ADOPTED	October 16, 2023	Review Cycle	Four Years
APPROVAL HISTORY			
DEVELOPED BY	Krista Robinson		

