



Policy #:	OPL-106
Policy Title:	<u>Internet and Computer Use Policy</u>
Creation Date:	September 20, 2005

In keeping with its goals to facilitate the dissemination of information which may be of interest, use or concern to the members of the Library's community, the Oshawa Public Library is pleased to provide unfiltered public access to the Internet through the World Wide Web.

Background:

- The Internet is an unregulated, worldwide environment, which provides access to ideas, information and commentary from around the globe. It contains information and opinions that range from reliable and authoritative to controversial or offensive. Oshawa Public Library does not monitor and has no control over the information accessible through the World Wide Web and is not responsible for determining that information is acceptable, reliable, and suitable to their needs.
- The Library endorses the Canadian Library Association's Statement on Intellectual Freedom and the Ontario Library Association's Statement on the Intellectual Rights of the Individual.
- The Library is governed by such legislation as the Canadian Copyright Act, the Criminal Code of Canada, the Public Libraries Act, Freedom of Information Act as well as other legislation which may govern the dissemination of, or access to, information.
- Certain copying or distribution of materials found on the Internet may infringe upon copyright or other intellectual property rights. The Oshawa Public Library is not responsible for such infringements. The Copyright Act is available for consultation in the Library.

Features:

- Internet use will be managed in a manner consistent with the Library's Guidelines for Use, which are posted in the Library. The Library reserves the right to modify these guidelines when and where appropriate.



- A Patron may use only his/her own valid Oshawa Public Library card to access the Library's workstations. Visitors may, upon presentation of appropriate identification, use the Library's workstations.
- Children must have the express permission of a parent or guardian to access the Internet at the Library.
- Misuse of computer equipment and software, either attempting to/or circumventing the Library's security measures, illegal use of Internet access or failure to follow posted rules and procedures will result in loss of Library privileges and may lead to prosecution.
- Library staff will assist patrons with computer use as time and expertise allows.
- It is the right of the Library to restrict the installation of plug-ins and helper applications. This is to preserve the security of the network and intended use of the workstations.
- Oshawa Public Library does not gather information on patron use of the Internet, online databases or Microsoft products, except for generic statistics used to measure use, which will assist in future service planning.
- The Library reserves the right to end a computer session.