
**CHAMPLAIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS' SERVICES POLICY**

MOTION # 24-06	Adopted May 25, 2006
MOTION #19-08	Amended April 23, 2008
MOTION #25-11	Amended May 25, 2011
MOTION #23-13	Amended March 20, 2013
MOTION #18-16	Reviewed March 16, 2016
MOTION #16-19	Amended March 18, 2019

Champlain Library recognizes that the needs of young people are important in their own right: that their intellectual growth, their cultural appreciation and their recreational activities should be fostered through quality library service, delivered with consideration and respect. This policy sets out the services to be offered for children and young adults.

Rights of the Child

Champlain Township Public Library endeavours to provide this service based on the principles stated in the Ontario Library Association's *Children's Rights in the Public Library, 1988*. See Appendix A.

Membership

Any child residing in, or attending a school in Champlain Township, is entitled to a free membership at Champlain Township Public Library.

Section 1: Library Space

1. The library will provide well-planned areas for children and young adults that are distinct from the adult area.
2. These areas should be visually stimulating so that children and young adults are able to readily distinguish their own space from the rest of the library.
3. These areas will have furniture, shelves and equipment that are designed for, and accessible to, all children and young adults.
4. The library will ensure that signage is clear and age appropriate.
5. The children's and young adults' areas are interactive learning environments where controlled noise levels are tolerated and where young users are invited to explore the library materials and services in their own way.

Section 2: Services:

1. Collections

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will ensure the maintenance and organization of comprehensive children's and young adults' collections based on the Collection Development Policy.

The children's and young adults' collections will meet high standards of quality and

reflect the changing educational needs and personal interests of children and young adults as well as trends in society.

These collections will encompass

1. Canadian authors and content
2. award-winning titles
3. age appropriate formats
4. Indigenous authors

2. Reference and Readers Advisory

- a) Qualified staff will answer all users' requests for advice on selecting books and for finding information, without judgment and with confidentiality and respect.
- b) Library staff will point out the resources available in all areas of the library, as appropriate.

3. Programmes

- a) The library will provide programming for children and young adults to stimulate creative potential and to encourage and facilitate the habit of reading, independent learning and use of the library.
- b) The library will provide educational, entertaining and literature-related programmes and support for children, young adults and parents, such as:
 - i) programmes on the importance of early literacy, the role of the library in children's lives and the support Champlain Library can offer
 - ii) programmes for children, depending on age, which will emphasize early literacy and library orientation, and that encourage reading for leisure
 - iii) programmes for summer, school breaks and professional development days will highlight various aspects of our collection while encouraging reading for pleasure or leisure activities.
- c) The staff will actively involve young adults in planning and implementing programmes for this age group.
- d) The number of participants for all programmes will be restricted based on space available and the number of staff or volunteers involved in any given programme.