Internet and Computer Use

Background

High River Library provides public computer and internet access for a broad variety of public needs including equitable access to online information and resources. Internet access is provided in keeping with the intellectual freedom statement of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA-FCAB).

Policy

This policy applies to all computers and computer-related equipment, as well as personal devices used on the library's wired and wireless networks. Use of the library's computer resources or networks assumes acceptance of the terms and conditions of use.

- Access to the library's network and equipment is provided free of charge with no guarantees of performance, security, confidentiality, or availability. Use of the network and equipment is done at the patron's own risk. Patrons are responsible for closing all applications and logging out when they are done using computers.
- To ensure equitable access to computers, the library may establish time limits for use.
- The library is a shared public space. Individuals are asked to consider other library patrons with regard to volume, content of material, and appropriate viewing and listening behaviour when accessing the Internet. To ensure a positive library experience, everyone is expected to follow the library's Rules of Conduct.
- Library computers and networks must not be used for any illegal, unauthorized, disruptive, threatening, harassing, or dangerous purpose. Internet users are subject to federal and provincial legislation regulating Internet use, including the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada regarding obscenity, child pornography, sedition, the incitement of hatred, and the Canadian Copyright Act.
- Internet access at the library is not filtered. Patrons should be aware that the internet is an unregulated environment and information found there may not be accurate, complete, age appropriate, or current. Parents, guardians, or caregivers are responsible for guiding their child's use of library computers and networks.
- The library prohibits damaging or modifying the library's equipment, software, or networks, and accessing confidential information.

Library staff are authorized to intervene when patrons fail to comply with the Computer and Internet Access Policy. This may result in the suspension of library privileges or exclusion from the library. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.