

**PROGRAMMING POLICY**  
**WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**BOARD APPROVED: JUNE 7, 2007**

**1. Preface**

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library will offer a variety of programs that promote the enjoyment of reading and provide informational, educational, recreational, and cultural enrichment to the community. The Library Senior Management team (CEO, Co-ordinator of Public Services and the Co-ordinator of Children and Youth Services) shares responsibility for selecting, developing, and running programs. Co-sponsorship of programs with other agencies is encouraged. The Library's role in such cases may include, but is not limited to, library staff time in planning the program, furnishing space for the program, and promotion of the program.

**2. Program Contents**

Library programs include, but are not limited to, story times, lectures, workshops, discussion groups, performances, readings, book talks and demonstrations. Programs are presented for adults, young adults and children.

**3. Program Selection**

The Library's goal in programming is to connect members of the community with a wide variety of ideas and perspectives. The Library is not obligated to present a program which represents multiple and/or opposing viewpoints within one program or series. The Library is obligated to offer the opportunity for other viewpoints to be presented. The Library welcomes program proposals from individuals and community groups. Library staff will examine the request to determine if the program proposal supports the mission of the Library and if the resources needed to implement the program are available.

“Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program or the views expressed by the participants, any more than the purchase of materials for the library collection constitutes an endorsement of the contents of the materials or the views of its creator. Library staff selects topics, speakers and resource materials for library-initiated programs based on the interests and information needs of the community. Topics, speakers and resource materials are not excluded from library-initiated programs because of possible controversy.” (*Library-Initiated Programs as a Resource: an Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights*, American Library Association).

**4. Attendance**

Every attempt will be made to accommodate all who wish to attend a program. When safety or the nature of the program requires it, however, attendance will be limited. When limits must be enforced, attendance will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, or by pre-registration. For some children's programs, the nature of the program may require limiting attendance based on age.

**5. Fees**

Fees for programs are determined on a program-by-program basis, with the intent of recovering the cost of materials and/or external resource people.

**6. Cancellation**

Programs may be cancelled due to insufficient registration.