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## Smiths Falls Public Library



Policy Type: **Operational**

Policy Number: **OP-05**

Policy Title: **Resource Sharing**

Policy Approval Date:  
May 28, 2024

Last Review Date:

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Resource sharing through the provincial interlibrary loan network is a core service that supports the mission of the library by providing enhanced access to library materials and information. By participating in resource sharing, the Smiths Falls Public Library provides library users with access to shared collections, the collections of other libraries, and makes its collections available to other libraries.

1. The library will participate in resource sharing opportunities by:
  - a) joining collaborative initiatives such as material pools and the provincial interlibrary loan network
  - b) using resource sharing as an adjunct to, not a substitute for, the library's collection
  - c) offering provincial interlibrary loan service to users in good standing
2. Interlibrary loan is a transaction in which the Smiths Falls Public Library borrows materials directly from another library on behalf of a user, or another library borrows materials from the Smiths Falls Public Library on behalf of its user through INFO (Information Network for Ontario). The library will:
  - a) adhere to the provincial interlibrary loan policies and participation standards
  - b) make its database of holdings available to the provincial interlibrary loan network
  - c) promote awareness of the interlibrary loan service
  - d) request materials not available within the library's collection
  - e) request any type of library materials needed for the purpose of study, instruction, information, recreation, or research
  - f) not regularly request items owned by the library and temporarily in use or on reserve
  - g) support the library's book clubs and other book-based programming by requesting multiple copies of a book even if the library already owns a copy
  - h) strictly observe any conditions for use of loaned materials that are imposed by a lending library
  - i) not charge users a fee for borrowing via interlibrary loan
  - j) inform users of fees charged by lending libraries (such as replacement or late fees)

- k) be responsible for materials borrowed on behalf of patrons and pay for overdue charges, damage, or loss of material borrowed on interlibrary loan
  - l) reserve the right to limit the number of concurrent requests by an individual user as stipulated in the Circulation Policy (OP-02)
3. Interlibrary loan service is offered to other libraries that abide by the provincial interlibrary loan policies and participation standards. The library will:
- a) make available the broadest range of materials for interlibrary loan with the following exceptions:
    - i. equipment
    - ii. materials limited by licensing agreements
    - iii. materials designated as non-circulating
    - iv. lendable technology
  - b) reserve the right to refuse to lend other materials or to ask a borrowing library to restrict use of materials lent
  - c) respond to requests within five (5) business days
  - d) circulate items for the same period of time as for regular circulation with exceptions for book club or homebound use; in such cases, extended loan periods are at the discretion of Smiths Falls Public Library interlibrary loan staff
  - e) grant renewals (up to two) unless the material is needed for a user of the library
  - f) charge for damaged or lost materials based on the Smiths Falls Public Library Circulation Policy (OP-02)