

## Topic: Collection Development and Management – Policy and Planning

### 3.20 Controversial Collection Materials

Board Motion Number:	<b>24.054</b>
Date of Original Board Motion Number:	<b>March 10, 2008</b>
Date of Current Issue:	<b>May 28, 2024</b>
Date of Next Review:	<b>2028</b>
Attachments:	

Signature of Board Chairperson (and Date):

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The North Kawartha Public Library Board recognizes that some books may be regarded by certain individuals or groups as controversial, whether because of bias, frankness of language, political expression, or moral implication; however, selection will not be made on the basis of anticipated approval or disapproval by any individual or group in the community.

#### Procedures

1. The CEO/Librarian has primary responsibility for evaluation of collection materials with regard to literary merit, authenticity, honesty of presentation, topical interest, and use to the audience for whom it is intended.
2. The ideas and opinions found in the Library's collection are not advocated by the Library Board or staff and the presence of materials in the Library does not indicate an endorsement of their contents by the Library.
3. Materials representing all points of view concerning the problems and current issues will be provided in the Library's collection. The primary aim of materials selection is to establish a balanced collection which adequately represents various points of view on many subjects.
4. Books or other materials of sound factual authority shall not be proscribed or removed from library shelves because of doctrinal or partisan disapproval.
5. Subject areas particularly sensitive to controversy and misunderstanding are:
  - a. Sex education. Sex education is a subject that shall be well represented.
  - b. Religion. A well-balanced religion collection will be maintained in the library. However, materials which obviously foster religious or racial intolerance are outside the scope of this collection.

c. Technical law materials not intended for the untrained layman will not be included in the library's collection.

d. Medicine and drugs. Current, authoritative materials designed for the layperson on the subjects of health, hygiene and common ailments will be stocked in the library. The subject of mental health will be well represented, together with works on public health (including sanitation, pollution, alcoholism and drug abuse). Technical and professional materials not intended for the untrained layperson will not be included in the library's collection.