



## Prince George Public Library Patron Code of Conduct

June 2024

The Prince George Public Library strives to create a safe, accessible, and welcoming environment for all members of our community, recognizing the need to focus on providing inclusive and respectful spaces. All patrons and staff can expect an environment that is free from discrimination, bullying, and harassment. **Thank you for keeping your actions consistent with this Code of Conduct.**

Behaviours that are disrespectful or that interfere with the rights of others will not be tolerated while using the library or when on library property, including:

1. Threatening, abusive, obscene or harassing language or behaviour, including making inappropriate or unwanted personal comments about others.
2. Boisterous activity such as play fighting, roughhousing, or running.
3. Excessive noise including loud conversations and using electronic devices that disturb others.
4. Consuming food or drinks in a manner that disrupts others, including strong odours.
5. Consuming food or drinks around library computers, or in a manner that may damage library materials, furniture, or equipment. Food waste and leftover wrappers/containers must be placed in the receptacles provided.
6. Emitting strong scents or smells that are disruptive to others.
7. Soliciting, including panhandling, for any purpose without prior written consent from the Library Director.
8. Photographing, filming, video or audio recording in the library without prior approval from the Library Director or the Manager of Communications & Engagement when the Library Director is unavailable.
9. Adults who are not accompanying a child or teen, sitting or loitering in areas designated for youth.
10. Bringing animals into the library other than professionally trained service dogs on a leash that are well-behaved, clean, and healthy.
11. Sleeping anywhere in the library or on library property.
12. Smoking or vaping in the library, on library decks, in the Library's Knowledge Garden, or within 6 meters of an entrance.
13. Damage or theft of library materials, furniture or equipment, including graffiti.
14. Trespassing into staff only areas or emergency exits, other than during an emergency.
15. Using skateboards, roller blades, or other sports equipment in the library.
16. Ignoring the alarm at the security gates and refusing to return to the service desk when asked to do so by staff.

**For your safety and the safety of others:**

1. Do not engage in illegal activity in or on library property.
2. Do not visit the library if you are intoxicated, and do not use any intoxicating substances including alcohol, drugs and drug paraphernalia while on library property.
3. Do not smoke or vape in or on library property, on library decks, or in the Library's Knowledge Garden or within 6 meters of an entrance.
4. Refrain from sleeping anywhere in the library or on library property.
5. Do not leave personal items unattended in the library. The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to personal items.
6. Bicycles, shopping carts, and other oversized items are to be secured outside the building away from exits and pedestrian routes.
7. Consider the ages, backgrounds, and sensibilities of others when accessing the internet in a public space. Do not use any public workstation or personal device to project imagery or audio content that jeopardizes the library's ability to maintain a safe and harassment-free environment for both patrons and employees.
8. Do not wear a mask or clothing/accessories covering your face while in the library. This does not apply to medical masks or face coverings worn as part of a religious garment.
9. Do not pull the fire alarm unless there is an emergency situation requiring evacuation.
10. In the case of fire or other emergencies, follow all staff instructions.
11. No weapons in the library.
12. Do not visit the library if you are already suspended due to violations of the Code of Conduct.

Violations of any provisions of the Code of Conduct may result in charges for damage or misuse, suspension of some or all library privileges, exclusions from all Prince George Public Library locations, and/or criminal prosecution.