Policy Type: **Operational**

Policy Number: OP-09

Policy Title: **Programming**

Policy Approval Date: June 8. 2024

Policy Review Date:

SEVERN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Programming supports the library's mission to stimulate imagination and inquiry. Programming provides information, invites public discussion, encourages curiosity and creativity, and promotes literacy and reading. Programming promotes the library's services and resources. This policy defines the provision of programs by library staff and through co-sponsored or partnership activities.

1. Programs are defined as any group activity offered to the public that staff coordinate, plan and/or present.

2. The Severn Township Public Library upholds the principle of intellectual freedom embodied in the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' *Statement of Intellectual Freedom and* Libraries. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the content of the program, or the views expressed by presenters or participants

3. All programs are designed to be inclusive and safe spaces, providing activities that are innovative, and community driven. The library may delivery programs that present controversial or opposing points of view. Community members are expected to respect the rights and freedoms of others when expressing concern over any specific program. All expressions of concern should be addressed, in writing, to the CEO of the library.

4. The library will:
    a. make available a wide spectrum of opinions and viewpoints
    b. select programs based on the interest and need of the community
    c. use programs to promote interest in, and the joy of, reading and literacy
    d. make programs available free of charge except for fundraising events to benefit the library
    e. limit program attendance based on safe use of space, or when demand for a program requires it
    f. make programs open to all, based on a first come, first served basis, either with advanced registration or at the door
    g. not offer programming that is purely commercial in nature or intent
    h. Assess the credibility of any partners involved in delivering programs
    i. regularly evaluate the planning and delivery of library programs
    j. make available a process for user feedback and expressions of opinions/concerns about programs
5. The library may:
    a. offer programs for children, young adults, adults and families

b. participate in cooperative programs with other agencies, organizations, institutions or individuals
c. sponsor programs in the library facility or outside of the library
d. promote programs through brochures, news releases, and the library's website
e. allow presenters to display products or books for purchase