

Muskoka Lakes Township Public Library  
LIBRARY BOARD POLICY

Policy Type: Operational	Policy Number: OP-10
Policy Title: Resource Sharing	Policy Approval Date: 01/14/25
Chairperson: V. Duke	Policy Review Date: 01/29

### Intent:

The Muskoka Lakes Public Library (herein after referred to as the Library) is committed to resource sharing partnerships. By participating in resource sharing, the Library provides Library members with access to shared collections, the collections of other libraries and makes its collections available to other libraries

### Regulations:

Resource sharing through the provincial interlibrary loan network is a primary service that supports the mission of the Library by providing enhanced access to library materials and information.

### Operating Principles:

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 members in good standing
  
2. Interlibrary loan is a transaction in which the Library borrows materials directly from another library on behalf of a member, or another library borrows materials from the Library on behalf of its member 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 available holdings accessible to the provincial interlibrary loan network
  - c) promote awareness of the interlibrary loan service
  - d) request materials not owned by the Library or missing from the Library's collection and purchase frequently requested materials
  - e) request library materials available for borrowing from other lending libraries
  - f) not 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 members a fee for borrowing via interlibrary loan
  - j) consult with members in advance regarding fees charged by lending libraries

- k) be responsible for materials borrowed on behalf of members and pay for overdue charges, damage, or loss of material borrowed on interlibrary loan. The Library will recoup any fees paid on behalf of a member.
  - l) reserve the right to limit the number of concurrent requests by an individual member
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
  - 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 as quickly as possible
  - d) circulate items for up to a month
  - e) grant renewals unless the material is needed for another member of the Library and/or another interlibrary loan request
  - f) charge for damaged or lost materials based on the Library's Circulation Policy (OP-04)

**Related Documents:**

MLPL OP-04 Circulation

MLPL OP-05 Membership

MLPL OP-13 Fee Schedule

INFO (Information Network of Ontario) Participation Policies and Schedules

