



PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AGREEMENT

POLICY STATEMENT: The aim of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board is to provide Internet access to the residents of Pictou and Antigonish Counties. Access is provided on condition that the user complies with the terms of this Agreement. The purpose is to provide access to unique resources and information to facilitate communications between individuals and groups in the community.

THE INTERNET: The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. The Internet allows you to access and use information sources from distant computers, to communicate and share information with individuals or groups and to expand significantly your knowledge base. The Nova Scotia Regional Public Libraries are connected to the Internet through the Department of Education and Culture's Wide Area Network.

Your access will include:

- C information and news from scientific research institutes and scientists all over the world
- C business and employment opportunities
- C discussion groups on many topics from the environment to music
- C access to many university and public library catalogues.

PRIVILEGE: The Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board, in providing use of the Access Site to the Internet (Public Access Site), is providing a privilege, not a right. The Internet user is responsible for their actions and activity. Unacceptable uses of the network may result in revocation of this privilege.

ACCEPTABLE USE: The purpose of the Public Access Site is to facilitate communications to support individuals, business and community groups by providing access to unique resources and information, some of which is noted above. All use of the Public Access Site and the Internet must comply with applicable laws, and rules and policies outlined in this Agreement.

UNACCEPTABLE USE: Examples of unacceptable use include:

- C engaging in any illegal activity or unauthorized acts, including violation of copyright or contractual obligations
- C degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance
- C vandalizing the data of another user
- C wastefully using finite resources
- C gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities
- C invading the privacy of individuals
- C posting personal communications without the author's consent
- C posting anonymous messages or engaging in harassment on the Internet

WARNING: *The user must understand that the Internet access is a system to support library collections, programs and services. The rules and policies for access will change from time to time.*

The Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library Board does not have control of the information on the Internet, nor does it provide any barriers, except due to limited resources, to users accessing the full range of information available. Some sites on the Internet may contain material which is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some minors or adults. Potentially offensive material may include harassing, pornographic, obscene, racist, sexually explicit or threatening material. The Library Board's intent is to make Internet access available to support learning. The Library Board makes no warranties respecting the Internet service. The Library Board is not responsible for any damages for which a user might suffer for any reason or in any way relating to accessing the Internet.

PRIVACY: The Library Board will make reasonable efforts to protect the privacy of every user, but this privilege can not be guaranteed. The circumstances when the usage may be reviewed, collected or suspended by the site are as follows;

- C as required by law; as a part of system maintenance activities; if improper or illegal use is believed; with permission of the account holder; a privacy statement and outline of circumstances when the account holder's privileges could be suspended.