

Lending and Resource Sharing

Purpose

The purpose of this Lending and Resource Sharing policy is to ensure compliance with the Libraries Act Regulation 7(2) and to ensure Sylvan Lake Municipal Library (SLML) patrons have equitable access to library and information resources.

I. THE LIBRARIES ACT REGULATION 7(2):

Every Board that operates a library service point shall, in addition to establishing policies under subsection (1), establish policies with respect to the following:

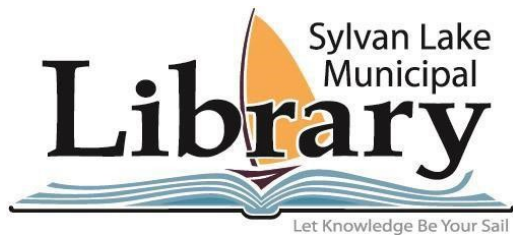
(c) resource sharing, including participation in a provincial resource sharing network and the conditions that apply to the acquisition of library resources and information from other sources, including inter-library loans and information in electronic databases.

1. The Board is committed to reciprocal Library resource sharing.
2. The Library actively participates in resource-sharing programs and services, including but not limited to the provincial interlibrary loan program, and Alberta-wide borrowing programs such as ME Libraries.
3. In accordance with the Libraries Act, the Library will not charge a fee for acquiring items from other libraries. However, any charge to the Library from the lending library will be passed on to the borrower.
4. The Board will not charge another member library for the interlibrary loan service.
5. The Library will work with other libraries in Alberta, the Public Library Services Branch, Parkland Regional Library System, and The Alberta Library (TAL), to access electronic resources through subscriptions, licensing, or direct purchasing.

II. LENDING AND RESOURCE SHARING

A. Loan Periods and Renewals

1. All materials are available to patrons with a valid library card and are lent in accordance with our Bylaw Schedule which outlines loan periods, limits, sharing, and fines and penalties.
2. Patrons will be allowed to renew eligible materials online, by phone, or in person unless there are holds placed on the items.
3. The number of renewals permitted is 5 for all regular library materials



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4. Digital Materials will be managed by Parkland Regional Library System (PRLS)

B. Resource Sharing and Interlibrary Loans (ILL)

1. The SLML participates in the provincial resource-sharing program and therefore shall abide by the rules and procedures as outlined by the Parkland Agreement and any agreements pertaining to network operation that Parkland Regional Library system may be bound by.
2. There are no associated fees for materials borrowed from other libraries within the Alberta Resource Sharing Network. However, fees may apply if materials are brought in from libraries outside the province. Patrons will be notified before proceeding with orders when extra fees apply.

C. Borrowing Privileges

1. Borrowing privileges are contingent upon a patron having a valid library card in good standing.
2. Late fees will be assessed for overdue materials according to the bylaw fees schedule.
3. Lost or damaged materials may incur replacement charges.
4. Failure to return items or pay appropriate fees may result in suspension of library privileges and per SLML bylaws.
5. Once a patron has paid for a lost or damaged item, they become the owner of said item. No refunds will be given.

Approved: May 20, 2014

Revised: May 12, 2021
Board Chair: Deb Parry

Revised: June 11, 2025
Board Chair: Carol Moore