

800 Library Facility

As Whistler's community hub and living room, the Library is committed to providing a facility where community members can come together. Consistent with its commitment to intellectual freedom and its role as community gathering place, Whistler Public Library makes select Library spaces available for private use when not required for Library purposes.

801 Community Use of the Library

801.1 The Library's spaces primarily serve public needs, such as hosting Library programs, activities, and meetings organized or sponsored by the Library, or conducted in collaboration with other community agencies. When not utilized for Library events, certain spaces are available for private rentals.

801.2 Private bookings operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

801.3 After-hours bookings are subject to staff availability.

801.4 The Library does not restrict the rental of its spaces based on the subject matter or content of the meeting or gathering, or on the beliefs or affiliations of the renting user or group.

801.5 Renting a Library space does not imply that the Library endorses, supports, or co-sponsors the activities, beliefs, viewpoints, aims, or policies of the renting user or group.

801.6 Renters must comply with all laws, including the Criminal Code of Canada and the Human Rights Act of British Columbia.

801.7 The Library reserves the right to cancel any booking with reasonable notice.

801.8 The Library can refuse or cancel a booking if it could interfere with Library operations, or poses potential physical risk to Library patrons, staff, or property.

801.9 The Library may limit the number of bookings by any one user or group to ensure equitable access.

801.10 Renters may not claim Library sponsorship or endorsement of an event without the Library's prior written permission.

801.11 The Library will not promote private events held in our rental spaces.

801.12 The Library is not responsible for any loss or damage to the renter's materials or equipment.

801.13 Bookings must include time for set-up and takedown, which are the sole responsibility of the renter.

801.14 At the discretion of the Library Director, the Library may offer a discount to non-profits that do not charge for attendance.

801.15 Refunds will be provided for bookings canceled by the renter at least 7 days in advance of the booking date.

802 Art & Displays in the Library

802.1 The Library Director and Board of Trustees determine what is displayed in the Library.

802.2 In collaboration with partner organizations, local museums or local artists, the Library may periodically participate in a call for artists to display work on a temporary basis.

802.3 While donations of art and artifacts benefit the community, the Library has limited space for display and storage. Offers of donations of art and artifacts will therefore be referred to other institutions.

803 Political Use of Library Spaces

As a foundational institution for informed and inclusive democracy, the Library plays an important role in civic dialogue and debate, and in ensuring access to the information and wide range of opinions essential to informed decision-making. Accordingly, the Library must always remain neutral toward political parties.

The Library's commitment to political neutrality does not preclude it from taking positions and issuing statements in support of core Library values, as well as human rights, Charter rights, and other legislated rights.

Libraries are often approached by politicians and political parties requesting to use Library spaces or requesting access to patrons. Examples include requests for permission to host press conferences or announcements, leaflet, or leave campaign materials in the Library during election periods.

The Library will generally deny requests by political candidates or parties during an election period.

"Election period" is broadly defined to include the time during which parties, candidates, or supporters are seeking to promote their political platforms leading up to the writ or announcement of an election, and the actual campaign period until the election itself.

During a government's term, Councillors, MLAs, and MPs are often invited to Library events as active participants or to bring greetings from government. However, once a writ is dropped, or there is an equivalent signal in provincial or municipal elections, no elected official or candidate will be permitted to speak or present at the Library until after the election has concluded, except at an all-candidates meeting organized by Library staff.

804 Library Endorsement Statement

The Library endorses the following statements:

- [Canadian Federation of Library Association's Position Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries](#)
- [Position on Third Party Use of Publicly Funded Library Meetings Rooms and Facilities](#)

Related policies:

- 100 and 200 Mission Vision and Strategic Plan
- 700 Library Collections