



Internet Access & Acceptable Use Agreement

The Stratford Public Library provides Internet access to fulfill its mission of being “An equitable, safe and welcoming environment where anyone can explore, learn, create and connect.” The Library also provides wireless access to the Internet through Library owned hardware and through customers’ own wireless devices.

The Stratford Public Library does not use filters to restrict access to the Internet. The Library's computers are located in public areas. These computers and the wireless network are shared by Library users of all ages and backgrounds. Individuals are expected to respect other Library users when accessing the Internet within the Library.

Parents or guardians are responsible for guiding their child’s use of a Library computer and / or the Internet. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a supervisory adult in the Library while accessing the Internet.

Customers use their own library card to access the adult computers. Visitors can obtain daily internet passes to access computers.

Prohibited Uses

Library computers or wireless network may not be used to:

- Access sites or transmit materials which violate any Canadian Federal or Provincial law or City bylaw such as defamatory, discriminatory, or obscene materials
- Send fraudulent, harassing, or obscene communications
- Display overtly sexual or violent images
- Violate copyright law and licensing of programs and data

The Stratford Public Library also prohibits:

- Damaging or modifying the Library's computer equipment, software, or network

Failure to comply with SPL’s Public Internet Access Policy and the prohibited activities listed above will result in loss of computer and Internet access and possible banning from all Library facilities. Unlawful activities may result in prosecution.

We Can Help

Stratford Public Library staff are available to assist customers with their questions. Staff at all service points can provide informal or formal guidance in learning how to use the Internet, email and how to access digital resources.

User's Responsibilities

Be cautious: The Internet provides access to many resources for different age levels and reflects various points of view. Customers should be aware that information might not be accurate, complete, age-appropriate, or current. Stratford Public Library's staff can assist in finding quality sites and evaluating the quality of an Internet site.

Be careful: The Internet is not a secure medium and third parties may be able to obtain information about users' activities. Please use caution before providing any personal information over the Internet. The Stratford Public Library assumes no responsibility for Internet content, losses or damages, directly or indirectly, arising from the use of its website or from its connections to other Internet services.

Be aware: The library's wireless internet service is not encrypted. Users should be aware that any information sent or received could potentially be intercepted by another wireless user. Users should avoid entering sensitive information such as credit card numbers, passwords or any other personally identifying information on any wireless network.