

## POLICY on the USE of the GPL's SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

### PURPOSE:

The Guilderland Public Library ("Library") has established social media sites primarily in order to inform Library users about Library programs, events and materials, and to encourage dialogue and the exchange of information and knowledge between users and Library staff . The Library's social media sites are not intended to be traditional public forums for the general exchange of ideas and viewpoints, but a limited forum for discussing library programs, events and materials. Postings related to the Library's mission statement (as so determined by the Library in its sole discretion) are permitted except as otherwise stated in this policy.

### AGREEMENT:

By joining, utilizing and/or posting on the Library's social media sites, you agree to comply with this Policy, and the Guilderland Public Library's Internet Policy, as applicable.

### POLICY:

The Library considers social media sites to include any online forum or site, web application or account created and/or maintained by the Library or its agents, which permits users to communicate with other users through postings, including but not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr, blogs, and chats. A posting is any writing, image, video, download, audio or multimedia file, or hyperlink to other websites, or media which is downloaded, referenced, inserted, or placed upon any Library social media site. Comments and posts are welcome on the Library's social media sites, however, the Library, in its sole discretion, may remove postings that violate this Policy, including but not limited to postings that contain any of the following:

Obscene matter or hate speech

Language or representations that discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ancestry gender identity, sexual orientation, sex (including pregnancy), age, or disability

Personal attacks, harassment, or threatening language

Potentially libelous or defamatory material

Plagiarized or copyrighted material, or which otherwise violate or potentially violate local, state or Federal laws

Advertisements or commercial messages

Solicitation for donations, memberships, or services requiring a fee for any non-Library purpose Spam

Comments pertaining to organized political or partisan activities Material that is deemed off-topic, inappropriate, or offensive

Information that, in the Library's discretion, is private or personal, even if posted by the person to which it pertains, or which contains privileged, proprietary or confidential information about any person or entity

Postings made through a falsification of identity

Hyperlinks to material not directly related to the discussion

Any illegal activity

### DISCLAIMER:

The Library is not responsible or liable for the content of postings by third parties on any Library-sponsored social media site, and such postings do not reflect the opinions or positions of the Guilderland Public Library, its employees, or its Board of Trustees.

### PRIVACY:

You should have no expectation of privacy in postings on Library-sponsored social media sites, and by utilizing these sites, you consent to the Library's right to access, monitor, and read any postings on these sites. The Library's social media sites are considered public records under state and federal laws. In accordance with applicable law and regulations, the Library may disclose public records to third-party requestors.

#### VIOLATIONS:

The Library in its sole discretion reserves the right to remove any postings, terminate accounts, ban, and/or block users who have posted in violation of this policy.

#### Citations

Adopted: June 14, 2012

Revised: January 12, 2017