

Collection Development Policy Overview

Background

- Collections policies are standard practice for public libraries
- Previous policy approved 2014
- Legislative changes require revision and adoption of revised policy



Legislative Updates

- Minn. Stat. 134.51 - "Ban on Book Bans"
- Requires a policy that establishes procedures for:
 - selection of;
 - challenges to;
 - and reconsideration of library materials
- Establishes procedures for receipt of and reporting on content challenges

Collection Development Policy



- How to decide what is in the Library's materials collection
 - Goals & scope of the collection
 - Criteria for adding and removing items
 - Asserts commitment to Intellectual Freedom in collection decisions

Collection goals & principles

- Support Library Mission, Vision and Values, Strategic Direction
- Intellectual Freedom



Selection Criteria:

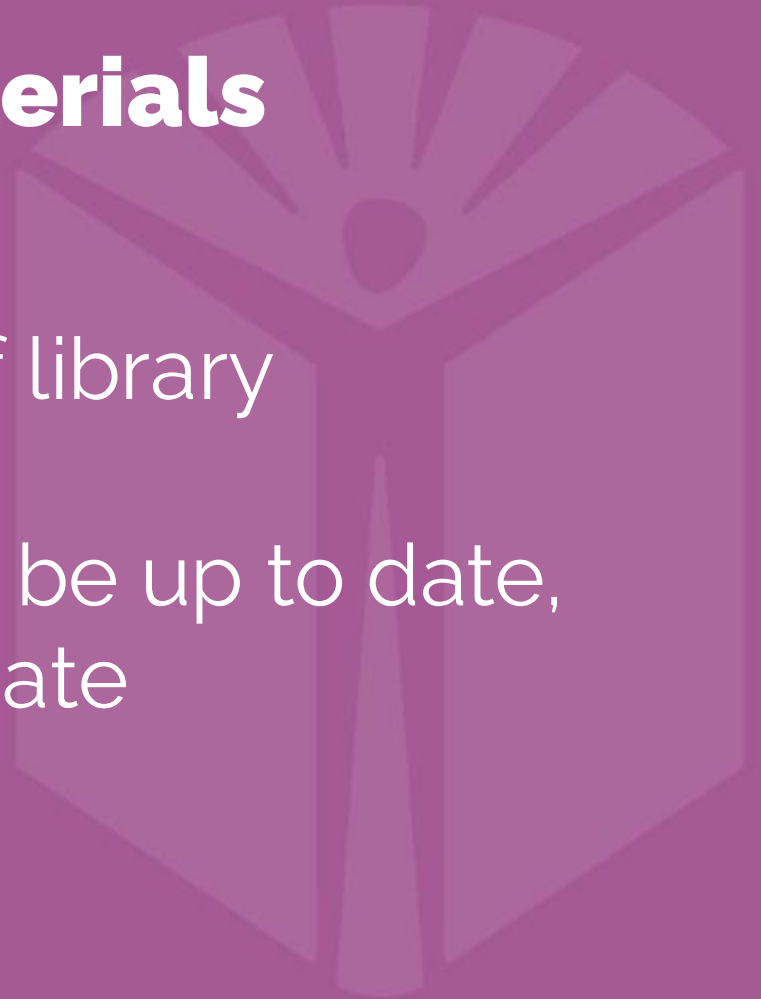
- Support of the Library's mission, vision and strategic direction
- Representation of diverse points of view
- Representation of diverse cultural experiences
- Currency, timeliness and accuracy of the content
- Public demand
- Relevance to the community
- Relation to the existing collection
- Cost
- Positive professional reviews

Book donations

- Can add donations that are well aligned with selection criteria, scope and goals.
- Library retains ownership.
- Limitations: must be in good condition, published within 3 years, some formats (e.g. magazines, textbooks) not accepted.

De-accessioning Materials

- Aka “weeding”
- Part of the life cycle of library materials
- Want the collection to be up to date, relevant, easy to navigate
- Space limitations

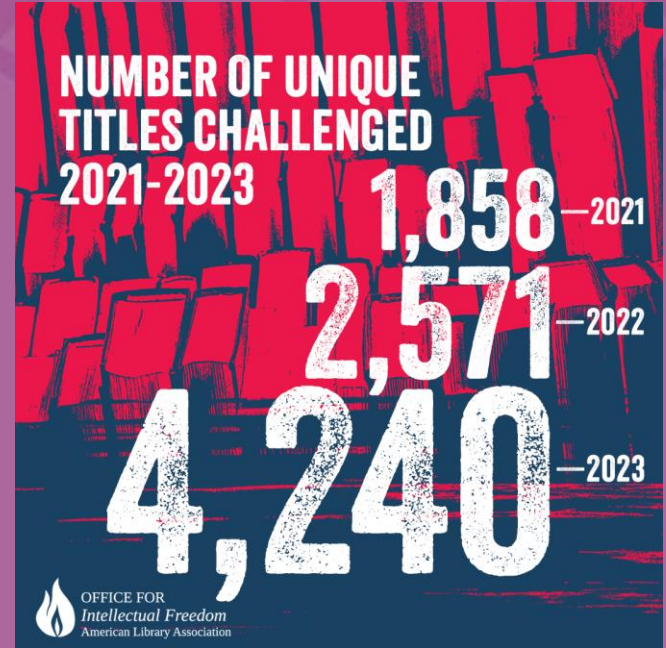


Requests for Reconsideration

- Saint Paul residents can ask the Library to reconsider or reclassify materials
- Reviewed by Materials Management Supervisor and Selectors
 - Review whether the item violates the Collection Development Policy.
- Reported to MDE per new statute

Book Challenges

- ALA Reports the following national statistics:
 - 2023
 - 1,247 requests for reconsideration of library materials
 - 4,240 unique titles targeted



Intellectual Freedom

- Commitment to the principles of intellectual freedom.
 - Reading, listening, viewing are individual, private matters.
- Responsibility for children's use of materials rests with parents/guardians



Intellectual Freedom

- Commitment to the principles set out by American Library Association
 - [Library Bill of Rights](#)
 - [Freedom to Read Statement](#)
 - [Freedom to View Statement](#)



Freedom to Read Statement

It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.

Questions?



SAINT PAUL
PUBLIC LIBRARY