

RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

The Board of Trustees (Library Board) support and follow the principles of the LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS*, FREEDOM TO READ* and the FREEDOM TO VIEW* statement.

Because the library attempts to represent all sides of issues and ideas it is inevitable that some people in the community might find some of the materials objectionable. The library, however has a responsibility to serve the minority, as well as, the majority of the community and firmly believes that no one has the right to prevent another from reading or using specific materials.

The Director and Board welcome comments and complaints about the library's collection. Patrons are welcome to meet with the Director to discuss any problems with the collection.

If a formal complaint is made the complainant must fill out the REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS* form. A staff review committee will consider the request and prepare a written report for the Director. If after this report and discussion with the Director, the complainant is not satisfied the matter may be brought to the Library Board. Materials will not be withdrawn from the collection as a result of a citizen's complaint without Library Board consideration.

The complaint will be forwarded to the Library Board and they will make every effort to settle the issue amicably, paying due attention to all sides of the debate. Under no circumstance will the challenged material until a final decision is reached nor shall the material be removed in response to any putative legal or extra-legal pressure. Materials will be removed only by Board decision or after an independent determination by a judicial officer in a court of competent jurisdiction after an adversary hearing, in accordance with well-established principles of law.

* Appended

Reviewed and approved by the Mt. Pleasant Public Library Board of Trustees
February 10, 2009