

Resource Sharing

Interlibrary Loan, Regional Lending Service, Information Services

Policy

All Chinook Arch member libraries participate in the provision of Interlibrary Loans, Regional Lending Service and Information Services.

Members of any Chinook Arch member library may request any circulating materials from any other member library. The following materials are not usually lent under this policy, though photocopied materials may be supplied:

- Reference Materials
- Toys
- Current issues of periodicals

Chinook Arch coordinates interlibrary loan services for materials not available within the shared catalogue.

Per the Resource Sharing Agreement, Lethbridge Public Library provides information services to member libraries upon request.

The Chinook Arch delivery service transports materials between libraries.

Training of personnel of member library staff in the use of the Integrated Library system (ILS) and the interlibrary loan software is the responsibility of the Chinook Arch.

Definitions

Resource sharing is the lending of local library resources to users of other public libraries. Resource sharing strengthens public library service to Albertans by increasing the range of materials available for borrowing.

Interlibrary loan (ILL) is a transaction by which library material is made available by one library to another upon request. It includes the provision of photocopies as substitutes for loans of the original material. It is a request for a specifically identified item (i.e. an author/title request, whether a periodical or book). The Chinook Arch Regional Library System agreement designates such lending between member libraries as **Regional Lending Service**.

Information Service is assistance provided in answer to a request for information. It may involve the use of materials, instructions on their use, interpretation of information, or recommendations on materials.

Background

The Alberta Library Act requires that public libraries in Alberta share resources with other public libraries in Alberta. The Alberta government supports a province-wide network of libraries through the Alberta Public

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Library Network. Chinook Arch Regional Library System is a member of the Alberta Public Library Network and a designated node on that network.

The Chinook Arch Regional Library System Agreement requires that member libraries make available to all valid cardholders of the Parties to the Agreement all library materials normally lent under municipal board policy.

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