

## Saskatchewan Library Association's Commitment to Intellectual Freedom

The Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) values intellectual freedom and supports the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA)'s <u>Statement on Intellectual Freedom and Libraries</u>.

As part of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, intellectual freedom is an everimportant issue in our current world. We support libraries, their staff, and their patrons in the protection of, and their rights to, intellectual freedom – rights to read, seek, access information, privacy, and choice without fear of discrimination and censorship. As part of our ongoing advocacy efforts, SLA has made intellectual freedom a specific focus through <a href="Freedom to Read">Freedom to Read</a> <a href="Week">Week</a>, a national initiative that takes place annually in February to encourage Canadians to consider and affirm their commitment to intellectual freedom.

"Libraries have a core responsibility to safeguard and facilitate access to constitutionally protected expressions of knowledge, imagination, ideas, and opinion, including those which some individuals and groups consider unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable" (Canadian Federation of Library Associations, 2019).