

LIBRARY POLICY - 1974

The primary aim of TEAM's policy on libraries is that the libraries should project themselves to the total community to better serve the people of Vancouver.

1. Aim - To make libraries the principal information centre for all citizens

a. By improving the public relations and advertising techniques of the Board to tell people what services their libraries provide.

2. Aim - To widen the role of the libraries in the community

a. By encouraging greater co-operation with the City Council, the Schools and Parks Boards and local Resource Boards to determine the educational, recreational and social needs of citizens that can best be satisfied by libraries.

b. By encouraging branch libraries to set up local advisory groups to involve citizens in planning and providing services for their particular areas.

Typical responsibilities could include:

- i. Encouraging and supporting local cultural activities in libraries.
- ii. Providing services to those unable to go to a library.
- iii. Assisting in the setting of priorities for the particular branch.
- iv. Assisting in the informal extension of library facilities to place of people action.
- v. Involving citizens as "docents" or volunteers to assist in the delivery of special services particularly outside the branch library. (Ex: Possible co-ordination with "Meals on Wheels")

3. Aim - To increase the use of libraries

a. By making libraries warm, inviting and friendly places.

b. By setting aside areas in libraries for special displays that will be stimulating to the browser and infrequent visitor.

c. By increasing the library resources available to various ethnic communities.

d. By developing multi-media services including:

- i. Provision of special rooms of "Communication Spaces" for the use of citizens with equipment such as typewriters, record players, tape recorders, film, video equipment.
- ii. Provision of language tapes for learning languages and also recreational tapes for the elderly and handicapped.

e. By broadening and strengthening the services to children.

f. By improving the hours of service particularly to coincide with weekends and other leisure times.

g. By improving the reference services available at branch libraries.

4. Aim - To encourage interaction between the Library Board and the staff of libraries

a. By involving the staff in policy planning for the improvement of library services to the whole community.