

**SNO-ISLE LIBRARIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a member of the Sno-Isle Libraries Board of Trustees, I accept the following guidelines with respect to my conduct as a member of the Board of Trustees.

I will support and promote the benefits of the public library system.

I will comply with all national, state and local laws, rules and regulations regarding public libraries and follow only legal, professional and ethical procedures to bring about desired changes.

I will join with my fellow members on the board, the staff and the community in the continuing study of the nature, value, and direction of public libraries in our society in order to facilitate needed changes and growth patterns. I will support the maintenance of a comprehensive and balanced collection.

I will work to keep all library policies and Trustee conduct free of racism, sexism, bigotry and intolerance. I specifically support and will uphold Sno-Isle's Personnel Practices Policy 2-7 regarding Harassment Awareness as to my own conduct and interactions with my fellow Trustees and employees of Sno-Isle Libraries.

In my interactions with my colleagues, I will recognize the need for trust as the basis for team building and shared leadership. During meetings I will conduct myself in accordance with the Sno-Isle norms:

- Focus on the situation and consider the broader implications,
- Respect others and promote positive relationships,
- Express ideas and opinions constructively,
- Share responsibility for effective and positive communication,
- Take initiative to develop solutions,
- Lead by example.

I will make decisions on issues before the Board and reach conclusions only after deliberation and full public debate with my fellow board members.

I will attend required regular and committee meetings, read distributed materials/information, and participate in discussions/votes.

I will accept the responsibility to work with the Library Director and respect the professional expertise of the Sno-Isle Libraries Staff and acknowledge that the internal operation of the library system is the responsibility of the Director. I will refer questions about the system's operations to the Library Director.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees – March 24, 2003

Revised – September 22, 2008

Revised - April 21, 2010

I will refer all complaints to the Library Director and will act on such complaints in a public forum only after the Director has reviewed them and only if a policy revision is necessary or legal ramifications are involved.

I will recognize that my responsibilities are limited to policy-making decisions, planning, budgeting, evaluations, and the overseeing of the director.

I recognize the need to excuse myself immediately whenever the appearance of a conflict of interest exists or an actual conflict exists.

I will participate in official board discussions and decisions, and recognize that authority rests with the whole board assembled in public meetings and will make no personal promises nor take any private action, which may compromise the board. Nor will I, when representing the board, promote the special interests of individuals, myself, organizations or political views which may be in conflict with the role of the library to serve our entire public.

I will uphold all policies adopted by the board. I acknowledge that it is appropriate for trustees to state their opposition during board discussion of an issue, and register their dissent at any meeting. I acknowledge that a dissenting board member may publicly state that he or she dissented on an issue and why he or she voted against it but that he or she should not undermine or interfere with implementation of the final decisions of the board. I agree that if a board member is so strongly opposed to the actions of the Board that he or she cannot support the decision, he or she should consider resignation from the Board.

I support the mission statement of the Sno-Isle Libraries and embrace the First Amendment, relevant principles of WLA and ALA and the right of our patrons to pursue knowledge for their enrichment and continued education.