

**Policy No.:** P28

**Policy Title:** Sustainability Policy

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**Point of Contact:** CEO Pickering Public Library

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## POLICY STATEMENT

Climate change is already affecting the library sector, our communities, and the local and global ecosystem in profound ways. As an important community resource and public space, the Library is responsible for minimizing our environmental impact, promoting sustainable practices and supporting residents to do the same.

## DEFINITIONS

### Sustainability

- decisions and actions that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

## POLICY PRINCIPLES

### Environmental Leadership

#### 1. Environmental Leadership

- Actions and decisions that reduce the environmental footprint of the Library. Can include but not limited to reducing landfill waste (finding ways to reduce, reuse, recycle or donate whenever possible), reducing energy use, reducing water use, and reducing use of single-use plastics

#### 2. Community Leadership

- Modelling sustainable operations and providing sustainability education and resources to the public.

### **3. Continuous Improvement**

- Regularly reviewing, measuring, and improving our sustainability practices. Providing staff with education and tools to integrate sustainability into daily work. Encouraging staff-led initiatives that contribute to a culture of sustainability.

Alternate formats of this document are available upon request.  
Please speak to Library staff for assistance.