



POLICY TYPE/NUMBER:	PUBLIC	P14
POLICY TITLE:	VIDEO SURVEILLANCE POLICY	
DATE CREATED:	March 15, 2010	DATE REVISED:

POLICY STATEMENT

Pickering Public Library strives to maintain a safe and secure environment for clients and staff. In pursuit of this objective, selected public areas of the library premises are under video surveillance. This Policy aims to ensure that, in adopting the use of security video surveillance cameras, the Library balances the security benefits derived from the use of video surveillance with the privacy rights of the individual.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

In the daily operation of Pickering Public Library premises, the safety of property, visitors, and employees is protected and maintained by conventional means such as: alert observation by staff, patrols by security personnel, security-conscious design of library locations, safe behaviour training for staff, and the consistent application of the Library's Personal Conduct Policy. However, in some circumstances, the additional protection provided by surveillance cameras is essential in maintaining lawful and safe use of library premises.

The Video Surveillance Policy provides direction concerning the context and protocols within which the Library installs and operates surveillance cameras. The Policy ensures that the Library follows the guidelines set out by the Information and Privacy Commission/Ontario, and the privacy requirements of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA), without compromising the safety and security of library visitors, staff and premises.

PRINCIPLES

1. Apart from periodic maintenance spot-checks to ensure that the recording system is functioning properly, records will be viewed only to investigate a pre-defined occurrence, for example, vandalism, theft, break-in, or a violation of the Library's Personal Conduct Policy. Viewings will be conducted by authorized staff. If the incident is deemed to be police-reportable, appropriate action will be taken. The information viewed will remain the property of the Pickering Public Library, and will be treated as confidential and will be securely stored.

2. Signage will be prominently posted at the library entrances at all times, disclosing the use of security cameras to the public, where applicable.
3. In order to enable a proper audit trail, each location with video surveillance equipment will maintain a record of all activities related to video devices and records. Activities include all information regarding the use, maintenance, and storage of records and all instances of access to, and use of, recorded material, including the staff name, date, time and activity.
4. Access to video surveillance records will be restricted to authorized personnel, and only in order to comply with their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Video Surveillance Policy.
4. The normal retention period for records is approximately 30 days, followed by destruction by recording over, unless required as part of a criminal, safety, or security investigation. Records required for evidence will be destroyed when no longer required.
5. Images will not be routinely monitored in real time, nor reviewed by library staff, except when specific incidents are reported. The images from the entrance camera are displayed continuously for client information.
6. All viewing equipment and stored data will be kept securely in an access-controlled area and will require a password for access. Access is limited to authorized staff. The video surveillance equipment will be dedicated to that use only and will under no circumstances be used for any other purpose.
7. Images saved from the video surveillance footage will have identities of people not involved in the incident technologically blurred or blocked wherever possible.
8. When recorded images from the cameras must be viewed for law enforcement or investigative reasons, this must only be undertaken by authorized staff, in a private, controlled area that is not accessible to other staff and/or visitors.
9. If access to a video surveillance record is required for the purpose of a law enforcement investigation, the law enforcement officer must provide a badge number or investigation number in order to obtain the data from the CEO or designate. The CEO or designate will provide the image record for the specified date and time of the incident requested by the officer, subject to *MFIPPA* exemptions.

The CEO, or designate, will record the following information on an Incident Report form:

- a) The date and time of the original, recorded incident
- b) The name of the in-charge personnel at the time of the incident

- c) The time and date the copy of the original record was created
- d) The time and date the sealed record was provided to the requesting Officer.

10. A library employee who becomes aware of any unauthorized disclosure of a video record in contravention of this Policy, and/or a potential privacy breach, has a responsibility to ensure that the CEO is immediately informed of the breach.

The following actions will be taken immediately:

- a) Upon confirmation of the existence of a privacy breach, the CEO or designate will notify the Information and Privacy Commission of Ontario (IPC)
- b) Library staff will work constructively with the IPC staff to mitigate the extent of the privacy breach, and to review the adequacy of privacy protection with the existing Policy.
- c) The CEO, or designate, in consultation with the Director of the department in which the breach of Policy occurred, will investigate the cause of the disclosure with the goal of eliminating potential future occurrences
- d) The library staff will take all reasonable actions to recover the record and limit the record's disclosure
- e) The CEO or designate, where required, will notify affected parties whose personal information was inappropriately disclosed.

A breach of this Policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. A breach by service providers or contractors to the Library may result in termination of their contract.

11. *MFIPPA* provides individuals with a right to access data held about them, including those obtained by video surveillance. Severing the personal information in a recording (including technological blurring or blocking of the identity of others) may be necessary to allow individual access.

Requests for access are to be directed to:

Director of Support Services
Pickering Public Library
1 The Esplanade
Pickering, ON
905-831-6265 ext. 6231

12. A staff member receiving an inquiry from the public regarding the Video Surveillance Policy will direct the inquiry to the Director of Support Services.

For further information please contact: Elaine Bird, Director of Support Services at Pickering Public Library: (905) 831-6265 ext. 6231, email elaineb@picnet.org.