



Policy Type:	Operational	Policy Number:	OP-26
Policy Title:	Food in the Library	Initial Policy Approval Date:	February 2023
		Last Review/Revision Date:	
		Year of Next Review:	2027

The Carleton Place Public Library strives to create a welcoming, clean, and comfortable environment for the public. To preserve library resources and protect library facilities, the Carleton Place Public Library must regulate the consumption of food and beverages in public areas of the building.

1. Food brought by library visitors

- a. Light snacks may be eaten in the library. Appropriate snacks would be considered as those that do not leave stains, crumbs, or have a strong odour. All food packaging and waste must be disposed of before leaving the library.
- b. Consuming beverages from lidded containers is permitted in the Library except where signs indicate that food and drink are not permitted.
- c. Foods and beverages may be consumed in the Barbara Walsh Room and at special events.

2. Food Allergens

- a. Nuts, or foods containing nuts, are not to be brought into the library, unless an exemption has been provided.
- b. As the library is a public open space, the Library cannot guarantee that library facilities and amenities are completely nut-free. The library cannot guarantee that books or other library materials have not come into contact with nut products.
- c. Signs will be posted informing visitors and staff that no nut products should be brought into the library.

3. Food at Library Programs

- a. Food or snacks may be provided at library programs and events.
- b. If a library visitor has food allergies that require accommodation, it should be brought to the attention of the event organizer.



4. Enforcement

Library staff have the authority to determine if food and beverages meet the criteria outlined above.

The consumption of prohibited and controlled substances is not permitted.