Cromaine District Library Policy

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COOPERATION WITH LIBRARIES & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

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Philosophy

The Cromaine District Library (the library) actively promotes cooperation with other libraries and organizations to ensure its users access to the resources they need and want. Within limits set by policy and budget, the library's resources are available to any user, even if he or she has access to other libraries, whether public, academic, school or special. Whenever possible, reciprocal arrangements are made with these other libraries so that the combined resources of the entire library community may be used to satisfy the community.

The library supports planning for and participation in networks of cooperating libraries to share resources and technology, exchange information and avoid unnecessary duplication of materials. The library also makes available materials for other libraries through existing state and regional shared systems.

The library is open to staff of other libraries and encourages formal and informal continuing education of its own staff through conferences, workshops and field trips at other library facilities.

The library believes that through cooperative efforts, a larger share of the public will better understand the function and value of library service, and libraries in general will benefit from a broader base of support.

Cooperation with The Library Network

The library shall maintain membership in The Library Network to:

- Obtain services for Library customers beyond the scope or capability of the library.
- Participate in the cooperative purchasing of library materials, supplies, services, etc. to obtain the lowest possible cost to taxpayers.
- Share in the distribution of popular print and nonprint materials throughout the cooperative via the Shared Automation System.

Cooperation with Partners in Progress

The library participates in the organization called "Partners in Progress" which is an alliance of Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce, Hartland Consolidated Schools, and Hartland Township along with the Library. In addition to the broad collaboration for the improvement of the Hartland area, Cromaine works diligently with each of these individual organizations to achieve shared visions.

Cooperation with Hartland Consolidated Schools

In recognition of the fact that schools and public libraries share education and literacy goals, the Library seeks to promote close cooperation and sharing of resources between these institutions. Such cooperation may include:

- Room collections of materials for teachers' classroom use, as items are available.
- Library tours and orientations for classes.
- Borrowing of materials from other libraries.
- Class visits by Cromaine librarians to promote library programs and services.
- Networking through electronic resources.
- Supply of enrichment materials and activities that support literacy and self-education, excluding textbooks, workbooks, or similar materials generally supplied by the schools for their students.

Cooperation with Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce

Encouraging growth in the area's economy in reasonable and sustainable ways benefits the Library as well as the Chamber. In collaboration with the Chamber, the Library seeks:

- To promote entrepreneurism by encouraging the use of the many resources specifically for new businesses available at and through the library.
- To engage the member businesses in positive promotions for the community's benefit.
- To offer the library's resources to employees of businesses located within the district, further creating a desirable environment for workers

Cooperation with Hartland Township (and other district townships)

The library is a district because of the partnership of the Hartland Consolidated Schools and Hartland Township. The library collaborates with the Township leaders to promote this community's assets: its natural resources and warm and friendly public service. Working with the Township, the Library supports:

- Community initiatives and festivals.
- Participation with the Hartland Area Community Council.
- Ease of access to public information, including township agendas, reports, and survey summaries.
- Area wide volunteerism initiatives.

Cooperation with Nonprofit Community Organizations

The library supports the activities of community nonprofit organizations by:

- Posting information about the organization and its activities on the library bulletin board and website, as space is available.
- Selling tickets and gift items at the Circulation Desk for community nonprofit organizations located in the library's district.

Organizations included are nonprofit agencies, professional organizations and tax-supported agencies that benefit the Library District.

Collaboration is essential to a community's well-being and is part of the unique legacy of the Hartland Area Project, founded by J. Robert Crouse, Sr. The library values the motto, "a friendly association for community service" from the Project and welcomes new opportunities to further this legacy.