

# Publicity Audit

## a) Basics:

- 1a. Has your library board engaged in a **community-based long-range planning** within the past two years?  
 Yes    No
  
- 2a. Mark all the ways in which your library has **solicited community input** within the past two years:
  - Print Survey distributed in the library
  - Print Survey mailed to patrons
  - Print Survey mailed to the whole community
  - Online Survey
  - Suggestion box (physical)
  - Suggestion box (on the library's web site)
  - Focus Groups run at the library
  - Attend meetings other groups/organizations in town
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 3a. Does the library director or a library representative regularly attend: (check all that apply) Town board meetings
  - Town Board meetings
  - Chamber of Commerce meetings
  - Rotary meetings
  - School board meetings
  - Parent/Teacher Association (PTA)
  - Other networking meetings (please list them here):  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 4a. Do you track **patron complaints**?  
 Yes    No
  
- 5a. Do you track each time staff has to say to a patron **"no, we don't do that" or "no, we don't have that"**?  
 Yes    No   If yes, how? \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 6a. Who is attending your programs?
  - Same loyal patrons
  - Combination of current patrons and new people

- 7a. Do you regularly ask program attendees how they found out about the library program they attended?  
Yes No
  
- 8a. What is the most frequent way program attendees report learning about your programs?
  - word-of-mouth from staff
  - word-of-mouth from friend/acquaintance
  - flyers in the library
  - flyers posted around the community
  - calendar on library's web site
  - other community calendars
  - press releases
  - library newsletter
  - library enewsletter
  - radio
  - TV
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 9a. Do you use **programming to reach out to segments of your non-user population** in the community?  
Yes No
  - If yes, have you targeted any of the following groups:
    - New residents
    - Elected officials
    - Retirees
    - Firefighters
    - Homeschooling families
    - Commuters
    - Small business owners
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **b. Print & Online Communication:**

- 1b. Do you have a **standard design for publicity pieces** that uses a consistent graphic/logo, typeface and regular placement of the library's contact information?  
Yes No
- 2b. Does your library have a **professionally designed logo**?  
Yes No
- 3b. Does your library have a **basic brochure** that details the services you have to offer and how to access them?  
Yes No
- 4b. Does your library produce a **written annual report to the community**?  
Yes No
  - 4b.1. If yes, is it:
    - available in the library
    - available on the library's web site
    - mailed to all library patrons
    - mailed to all VIPs (mayor, police chief, fire chief, school principals, newspaper editors, head of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary, etc.)
    - mailed to all residents in the library's service area
- 5b. Does your library produce a **print newsletter** two times a year or more?  
Yes No
  - 5b.1. If yes, how is this distributed? (please check all that apply):
    - It is available in the library
    - It is available on the library's web site
    - It is mailed to all library patrons
    - It is mailed to all VIPs (mayor, police chief, fire chief, school principals, newspaper editors, head of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary, etc.)
    - It is mailed to all residents in the library's service area
- 6b. How many **press releases or proactive communications** do you send to local media outlets (newspapers, radio stations, community publications) in a year?  


---

- 7b. Does your library produce an **newsletter**?  
Yes No
  - a. 7b.1. If yes, is it distributed through a newsletter service? (i.e. Constant Contact, MailChimp, etc.):  
Yes No
  - b. 7b.1. If yes, is the current issue available on your web site?  
Yes No
  
- 8b. Is your library's **web site** updated with fresh content at least once week?  
Yes No
  
- 9b. Does your library have a **Facebook** page?  
Yes No
  - a. 9b.1. If yes, are there postings to the library's Facebook page at least once a week by staff?  
Yes No
  - b. 9b.2. If yes, how many fans or friends does your library's Facebook page have?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 10b. Does your library have a **Twitter** account?  
Yes No
  - a. 10b.1. If yes, does the library post to the account at least once a week?  
Yes No
  - b. 10b.2. If yes, how many followers does the library's Twitter account have? \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. 10b.3. Do you follow other organizations and residents in your community through Twitter?  
Yes No

**c. Facility:**

- 1c. Have you ever conducted an **inventory of all the signage** in your library with the goal of reducing visual clutter?  
Yes No
  
- 2c. Have you ever asked a **new resident** to find their way around the library and report back as to any confusion over signage?  
Yes No
  
- 3c. Who on the staff is allowed to **post signs** in the library?  


---
  
- 4c. Do you use signage **in front** of the library to advertise programming, etc.?  
Yes No
  
- 5c. Has your **collection been weeded** within the past two years?  
Yes No
  
- 6c. Do you **merchandise your collection** in any of the following ways:  
turn book covers face out  
use slatboard to market books on the ends of your shelving  
create themed displays of books, DVDs and other items on a rotating basis  
assign a staff person, in their job description, the job of merchandizing the collection  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 7c. Do you allow **food and/or beverages** in the library?  
Yes No
  
- 8c. Do you allow patrons to talk on their **cell phones** in the library?  
Yes No

d. Staff Education & Staff Roles:

- 1d. Do you have **regular staff meetings** to bring everyone up-to-date and share the important things for the staff to be promoting to the patrons?  
Yes No
- 2d. Does your staff receive an **orientation to the library's web site annually**?  
Yes No
- 3d. Does the staff in your library receive **customer service related training** at least once a year?  
Yes No
- 4d. Does your staff wear **name tags**?  
Yes No
- 5d. Is a person at the library tasked with **scanning the local** newspapers, blogs and web sites for what is going on in town, topics of high interest, hot button issues?  
Yes No
- 6d. Do you have an employee, other than the director, who is **tasked with keeping the library's web site up-to-date**?  
Yes No
- 7d. Do you have an employee, other than the director, who is **tasked with coordinating press releases**?  
Yes No
- 8d. Do you have an employee or volunteer who serves as a **greeter**?  
Yes No
- 9d. Do you plan **programming at the library that is related to hot button issues** in your community?  
Yes No
- 10d. Do you, as the director, or a staff person **welcome program attendees** to the library and **provide an update or "commercial" on library services and programs** before a program starts?  
Yes No

e. Trustee & Friends:

- 1e. Does your library have a **designated spokesperson** to deal with media inquiries?  
Yes No
  
- 2e. Do you have a **board approved media relations or public relations policy**?  
Yes No
  
- 3e. Do you, as the director, **attend all Friends Group meetings**? Or assign a staff person to attend all meetings?  
Yes No No Friends Group
  
- 4e. Do you routinely provide your trustees with **talking points** about new services or important issues facing the library (like a budget vote or building project)?  
Yes No
  
- 5e. Do you routinely provide your Friends Group Board with **talking points** about new services or important issues facing the library (like a budget vote or building project)?  
Yes No