

# PATTERSON LIBRARY

## VULNERABLE ADULTS

A vulnerable adult is an individual over the age of 18 who is mentally or physically challenged to a degree that may significantly impair that person's ability to provide adequately for his/her personal needs and manage his/her behavior without assistance.

Vulnerable adults must have a parent/guardian or caregiver 18 years of age or older with them while they are in the library who can manage their behavior and provide adequately for their personal needs. Staff cannot be expected to monitor or prevent vulnerable adults from leaving the building/grounds or to assume responsibility for monitoring their behavior.

Vulnerable adults who are capable of providing for their own needs are welcome to remain in the library without supervision so long as a contact person is available in the event that the adult's health or safety is in doubt.

Staff will attempt to contact a parent, guardian or caregiver when a vulnerable adult's:

- health or safety is in doubt;
- behavior disturbs other Library users;
- actions violate any part of the Patron Code of Conduct;
- parent, guardian, or caregiver is not present at closing time.

Every reasonable effort will be made by the staff to assist the vulnerable adult in contacting the appropriate adult. If no responsible adult is reached, or the vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes of the library closing, staff will notify the police. No library staff member will transport any vulnerable adult from the library to another location.