MATERIALS REVIEW COMMITTEE
RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS SUMMARY – 2003

DATE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	SUMMARY OF CUSTOMER COMMENTS	FINDINGS AND ACTION TAKEN
March 2003	1. **Brigade,** V. 2:1, May 1993; **New Warriors**, V. 1:25, July, 1992**; X-Men** V. 1:197, February, 1993 Children's/Teen Comic books (English)	• Unsuitable for children • Violent • Promotes violence in teens and children • Wants Library to select only comics with no violent content	• All three titles feature the struggle of good over evil and equality; teamwork and diversity are emphasized. Characters wrestle with moral questions and social issues. • Violence is stylized, conforming to mainstream popular culture. • Branches have discretion to place comics in Teen or Children's Sections depending on community interests. These comics were in the Teen section of branch where complaint originated. • **Retained in either children or teen collections.**
June 2003	**2. Atlas of the World** Oxford, 6th edition 1998 **Canadian World Atlas** Phillip's, 2002 Adult Nonfiction (English)	• Objects to naming of the gulf between the Arabian Peninsula and Iran as "The Gulf" instead of the "Persian Gulf" • All names except the "Persian Gulf" are racist, harmful and insulting to Iranians • Wants these atlases to be replaced with those using "Persian Gulf"	• Both books are standard, well-reviewed works with a reputation for authority and accuracy. • Gazetteers indicate other terms are geographically acceptable. • **Retained in adult nonfiction collection.**

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June 2003	**3. Silent Witness** By Richard North Patterson 1996 Adult fiction (English)	• Objects to descriptions of rape and murder • Wants all copies withdrawn	• Well-known author who writes in the popular legal thriller genre characterized by realism and frequently sensational subject matter. • Book was a bestseller at the time it was written and received favourable reviews. • Library customers expect to find such titles in the collection and it has circulated well. • **Retained in adult fiction collection.**
July 2003	**4. Adventures of Tintin: The Blue Lotus** Hergé 1934, 1984 Children's Fiction (English)	• Book depicts racism against Asians • Unsuitable for children's collection • Wants book transferred to adult collection	• Book attempts to combat racism and promote understanding of the Chinese and their culture. • Characters' views reflect those of author's times and, while language may be more frank than used today, the overall intent is to combat racism. • Tintin books were written for children so are placed in this collection which serves children up to grade eight. • **Retained in children's fiction collection.**
July 2003	**5. Maxim for Men** October and November 2002 issues Adult periodical (English)	• Pornographic • Wants magazine removed from all Library branches	• Title is a general lifestyle magazine directed at a male audience and in content and form is similar to other magazines directed at the female market. • It is a popular, widely distributed magazine in demand by Library customers. • **Retained in adult periodicals collection.**

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August 2003	**6. Theory of Flight** 1998 Adult Feature Video Rated R (English)	• Sexually explicit and vulgar • Wants rating changed form 14A to Restricted or video removed from collection	• Film is a BBC co-production which attempts to show a disabled woman as having the same wants and needs, including sexual, as others. • It features the well-known actors Kenneth Branagh and Helena Bonham-Carter whom critics praised for her performance as the disabled woman. • The rating of 14A was an error. • **Retained in adult video collection and rating corrected to "Restricted".**
September 2003	**7. I'll Always Love You** By Hans Wilhelm 1985 Children's Picture Book (English)	• Sensitive subject matter (death of pet) • Wants it shelved separately or identified as sensitive material	• Title is a well-reviewed picture book by award-winning author and illustrator and is age-appropriate. • Subject matter is clearly identified on book jacket and title page. • Similar books for different ages are found throughout the children's collection. • **Retained in children's picture book collection.**
October 2003	**8. eye weekly** Adult bulk newspaper distributed free at branches (English)	• "Adults Only" classified ad section offers sexual services. • Wants Library to receive edition without offensive ads.	• Title is one of a number of bulk publications distributed at branches to provide information about the Toronto community and local events. • It is read by over 100,000 Torontonians weekly and is in demand by Library customers. • An edition without ads is not available. • **Library will continue to distribute and staff will be asked to ensure placement is appropriate.**