

Background

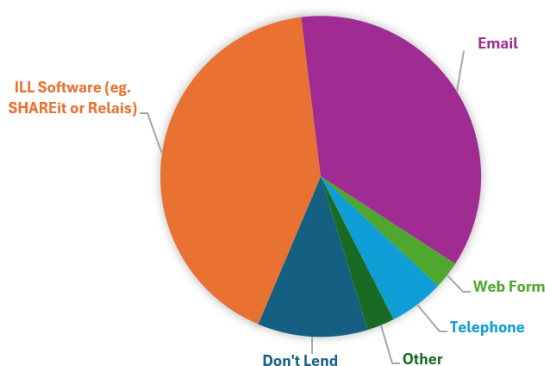
In recent years, BC ELN partner libraries have noted a significant decrease in borrowing requests for physical media (e.g., DVDs, Blu-rays), largely owing to the widespread availability of streaming services. For the few requests that do remain, partner libraries have expressed interest in a refresh of the recommendations on the [Media Resource Sharing](#) page of the BC ELN website. To inform these updates, the Illume Administrative Centre distributed a survey in late 2024. Key findings from the survey are summarized below, followed by proposed next steps.

Key Findings

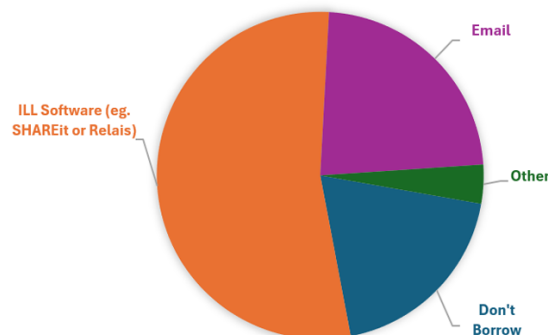
The Illume Administrative Centre received 26 total responses to the survey.

- The majority of the respondents (65%) reported lending media resources to other BC ELN libraries very rarely (1-2 requests per year), and 27% indicated they *never* lend media.
- Media requests are primarily managed by interlibrary loan (ILL) staff (65%).
- More than half of respondents use ILL software like SHAREit or Relais for both lending and borrowing.
- Email remains a common method when coordinating media lending (50%), though only 23% of respondents indicated that this was their preferred method when borrowing.

LEND MEDIA CURRENTLY BY:



PREFER TO BORROW MEDIA BY:



- Respondents generally support the idea that BC ELN maintain a coordinated approach to media resource sharing and update the existing best practices on the webpage.

- Most respondents noted a preference to sunset the existing Media Resource Sharing listserv (media@bceln.ca), with several commenting that they believed it had already been retired.

Next Steps

In response to these findings, the Illume Administrative Centre will:

- (1) **Update best practices** on the [Media Resource Sharing page](#) to encourage the use of ILL software (e.g. SHAREit, Relais) for handling media resource requests.
- (2) **Decommission the Media Resource Sharing listserv**, with future discussions to take place via existing, more widely-used channels (i.e., resource-sharing@bceln.ca)

Partner libraries are also encouraged to **update their [policy pages](#)** to clearly indicate current practices and preferences for borrowing and lending physical media.