

# BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRONIC LIBRARY NETWORK

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2023 - 2027



## BC ELN'S PURPOSE

BC ELN is mandated to develop, promote, and maintain system-wide mechanisms that allow post-secondary libraries in British Columbia to equitably meet the expanding information needs of the province's learners, educators, and researchers at the lowest possible cost.

## CORE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

### Collaboration

Together we are stronger. We work as a collegial community in a spirit of teamwork, participation, and inclusion. We look for opportunities to form new partnerships.

### Trust

The foundation of our success is respect, integrity, and accountability. We foster long-term, trust-based relationships through open and honest communication and ethical practices.

### Innovation

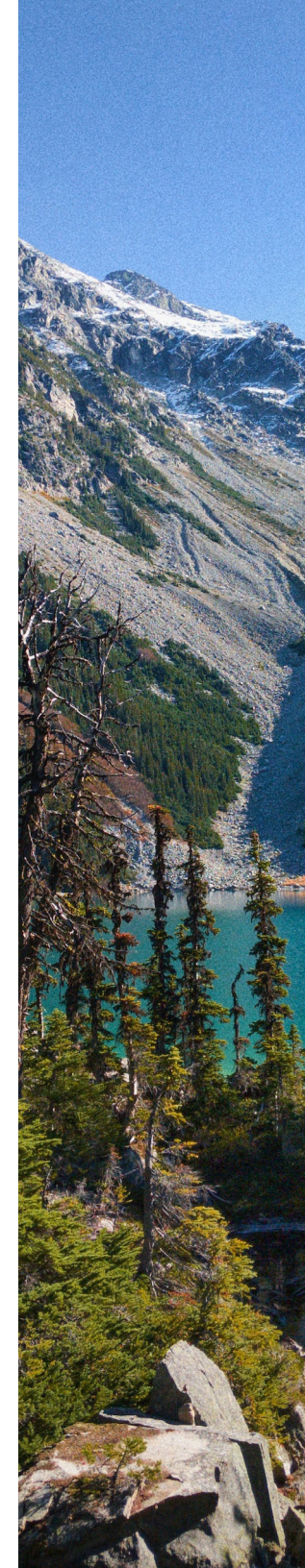
We are creative and flexible, adapting and responding to opportunities and change.

### Leadership

Our success is based on competence, expertise, and a commitment to excellence, learning, and professionalism.

### Sustainability

We ensure our on-going viability through continuous improvement, cost-effectiveness, and accountability for results.



## A FLEXIBLE FRAMEWORK

For over thirty years BC ELN has effectively brought partner libraries together to address pressing challenges and produce innovative, student-focused services, even as library resources have often been stretched thin. This has been possible by consistently focusing on shared goals and adapting quickly so that resources are pooled where the need is greatest.

BC ELN's flexibility is an essential strength. As such, BC ELN's Strategic Framework 2023-2027 provides a plan for the consortium's next five years that is also flexible.

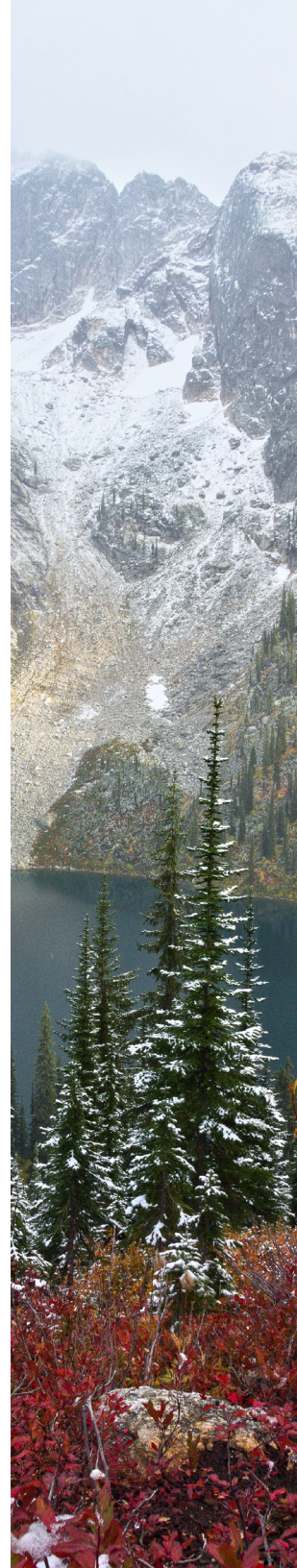
Developed in consultation with partner libraries, Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills representatives, and BC ELN staff, the framework's three directions point to the core activities that will move BC ELN towards the [vision elements](#) that emerged in planning meetings. With these five-year overarching directions in place, the consortium will set goals on shorter timelines to allow for frequent assessment and adjustments as priorities shift and circumstances change. This flexible approach ensures BC ELN remains responsive to partner libraries and the Ministry, which provides core funding for the consortium's work.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

BC ELN partner libraries and stakeholders collectively identified the following directions that will guide activities for the next five years.

### BC ELN WILL:

1. **Develop Responsive, Inclusive, and Sustainable Services**
2. **Empower and Engage our Community**
3. **Pursue Meaningful, Reciprocal Partnerships**



## 1. BC ELN will develop responsive, inclusive, and sustainable services, by:

- Improving, developing, and diversifying services through assessment and implementation
- Ensuring internal resources are sustainable

### 2-YEAR GOALS:

- 1a. Review services to ensure they are steeped in a culture of continuous improvement and inclusion.
- 1b. Update BC ELN licensing principles to reflect partner libraries' current needs.
- 1c. Review and upgrade BC ELN services' technical infrastructures to improve experience for participating institutions.
- 1d. Review and clarify Associate Membership information (e.g. clarify technical requirements for participation, update application process, etc.).
- 1e. Secure a new multi-year resource bundle that will support students at undergraduate levels and deliver exceptional discounts to partner libraries.
- 1f. Migrate BC ELN website and all BC ELN service websites to Drupal 9.



## 2. BC ELN will empower and engage our community, by:

- Creating a more inclusive organization
- Diversifying engagement
- Sharing knowledge and collective expertise

### 2-YEAR GOALS:

- 2a. Investigate mechanisms for connection, learning, and knowledge-sharing among all partner library staff.
- 2b. Using data collected from 2a activities, develop regular events open to partner library staff at all levels to share knowledge, learn from experts, and engage with each other.
- 2c. Strengthen engagement between Steering Committee members and constituency groups.
- 2d. Review BC ELN services' Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to ensure they meet current and evolving service needs.
- 2e. Refresh partner library director and staff orientation and training to increase understanding of BC ELN's function and increase awareness of how staff can contribute.
- 2f. Grow relationships with iSchool and Library Technician program staff and students.



### 3. BC ELN will pursue meaningful, reciprocal partnerships, by:

- Advocating for partner library needs with vendors
- Creating meaningful partnerships

#### 2-YEAR GOALS:

- 3a. Explore processes to identify and manage consortium-wide issues with vendor products.
- 3b. Build relationships with potential partners that will advance BC ELN strategic goals.
- 3c. Reach out to Indigenous communities to build respectful relationships in support of Indigenous information needs.
- 3d. Create targeted, modular communications for partner libraries to effectively demonstrate the value of consortial licensing and initiatives, including the value of central expertise.
- 3e. Share expertise in collaborative service development with external groups.

*Photographs included in this document capture the scenic beauty of British Columbia and the Yukon. The BC ELN Office, hosted at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia, is situated on the unceded, traditional territories of the səliłwətaʔ (Tsilil-Waututh), kʷikwəłəm (Kwkwetlem), Skw̓xwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.*

