



## Progress Report

**Dates Covered: July 2000 to December 2000**

### Goal 1

Provide access to a wide range of databases and services, and foster the development of intuitive electronic interfaces to worldwide information resources

#### *Objective 1.1*

Develop streamlined connections to ELN databases and services, using new technologies and protocols

#### *Activities/Results*

- advised partner libraries on authenticating remote users for database access
- configured referring page access via Micromedia's CIRC interface for partner libraries
- revised ProQuest remote authentication script for partner libraries
- development work undertaken to enable scoping of ELN web site database gateway to individual partner library licensing profiles

### *Objective 1.2*

Pursue new database services that meet users' needs

- developed and implemented web-based ELN Resources Forum to facilitate and systematize gathering of partner library recommendations for potential consortium product licences
- coordinated trial, licensing and subsequent implementation of ITKnowledge database, an education and reference library covering technology with full text access to thousands of technical books, guides and source code from leading IT publishers
- met with representatives of CEDROM-Sni, Proquest Direct, OCLC and netLibrary to gather information on products of interest to ELN partner libraries
- surveyed partner libraries to ascertain interest in a potential purchase of ebooks through netLibrary
- coordinated a comparative trial of CINAHL (full text) on ProQuest and EBSCOhost . Trial results were inconclusive; ELN will revisit both products in the early spring 2001 when vendors have done further development work

### *Objective 1.3*

Integrate instructional materials with database services

### *Objective 1.4*

Ensure the most appropriate technological platforms, storage and delivery mechanisms for databases and services

- UBC systems staff commenced work on configuring the WebSPIRS 4.2 interface for the ERIC and CBCA Full Text Education databases
- email alerting capability added to ELN automated client. Client monitors licensed databases for outages and response times, alerts ELN staff in the event of problems
- reviewed usage of Text-BRS interface, notified partner libraries that interface will be decommissioned on August 31, 2001 as final process of migration to web based SLRI interface
- decommissioned text-based OJAC ILL requesting service, completing migration to web-based GODOT module

## Goal 2

Facilitate resource sharing among institutions to ensure users have timely and effective access to the province's collective information resources

### *Objective 2.1*

Facilitate links to holdings from commercial services and databases

### *Activities/Results*

- GODOT linkage added to WebSPIRS 4.2 interface by UBC for ERIC and CBCA Full Text Education databases
- SFU development work on GODOT full-text linking continues. Update sent to partner libraries via ALPS list in December 2000

### *Objective 2.2*

Integrate user-initiated online ordering features into database services

see section 2.1, above

### *Objective 2.3*

Provide leadership in establishing a coordinated provincial resource sharing network

- surveyed partner libraries to ascertain interest in pursuing a consortium licence for Ariel software
- developed and implemented a web-based process for submitting ILL statistics

**Objective 2.4**  
Improve union  
databases

- commenced development of guidelines for contributing transaction-based updates using SIRSI systems
- met with A-G Canada in September 2000 to discuss migration issues and media matching algorithm implementation timelines
- committed funds to a joint ELN-LSB project that will assess the quality of records in the union databases, and provide recommendations for improving them. Posted contract position for specialist to oversee the analysis

### Goal 3

Provide a mechanism for post-secondary libraries to play a prominent role in educational planning, policy development and program delivery

#### *Objective 3.1*

Participate on provincial / national projects and planning groups

#### *Activities/Results*

#### *Objective 3.2*

Have a presence and impact within the Ministry and at the senior executive level of post-secondary institutions

- held briefing teleconferences with Ministry representative regarding Key Performance Indicators, budget request and potential funding proposals

#### *Objective 3.3*

Ensure ELN governance and organizational structures reflect the broad educational community and promote effective communication among stakeholders

## Goal 4

Promote organizational alliances that are mutually beneficial to users and service providers

### *Objective 4.1*

Extend alliances and partnerships with public, school, health sector, government, non-profit & corporate libraries within B.C.

### *Activities/Results*

- began discussions with Public Library InterLINK to fund a joint study to assess mechanisms for the delivery of library materials

### *Objective 4.2*

Extend partnerships on an inter-provincial basis

### *Objective 4.3*

Expand national and international alliances

- hosted 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC), September 20-22
- acted as lead consortium on Consortia Canada initiative to license ITKnowledge
- participated in Consortia Canada meetings, September and December 2000; items discussed included database licensing initiatives and Bath Profile support
- signatory to International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) letter to CrossRef urging the development of an open DOI ejournal linking structure ‡

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‡ see: <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/lettertocrossref.html>  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/crossrefreply.html>

## Goal 5

Generate strong and diverse support for ELN products and services

### *Objective 5.1*

Strengthen accountability and communications framework for ELN owners and clients

### *Activities/Results*

- launched new web site (<http://www.eln.bc.ca>)  
Features of the new site include:
  - Product trial information linked from the top level
  - Link to ELN contacts at the top level
  - A "What's New" section on the home page allowing users to quickly link to information about new ELN initiatives
  - A site map for improved navigation
- posted draft strategic plan 2000-2003 and draft strategic priorities 2000-2002 on ELN web site for review by ELN stakeholders
- reported on ELN initiatives at CPSLD meeting (November 2000), MEC Annual General Meeting (May 2000), BCCATS meeting (October 2000) and Host Site meeting (December 2000)
- presented at ALPS meeting, December 2000 (ELN licensing process)
- prepared and released Communication Framework 2000/01

### *Objective 5.2*

Pursue appropriate business opportunities to export ELN's services and expertise to other organizations or regions

- co-organized BCLA Continuing Education *eBook Bonanza!* workshop

### *Objective 5.3*

Ensure sufficient financial and human resources to meet current and long range needs

- recruited and trained two new staff members
- created an ELN position to help support client service functions, replacing the Administrative Assistant position
- contributed to ELN staff members' professional development through participation in BCLA Continuing Education workshops
- at the request of MAETT, prepared and submitted to Ministry four brief project funding proposals