

eHLbc Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 1, 2026

10:00 to 11:30 PM Pacific

Virtual Meeting

In Attendance:

M. Crouch, Simon Fraser University, *Post-Secondary* (Vice-Chair)
Daphne Hamilton-Nagorsen, WorkSafeBC, *Affiliate*
Shannon Cheng-Gornall, Provincial Health Services Authority, *Health*
Darcie Smith, Northern Health, *Health*
Todd Mundle, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, *Post-Secondary* (Past Chair)
Katharine Shipley, Douglas College, *Post-Secondary*

eHLbc Admin Centre:

Amber Gallant (Recorder)
Sunni Nishimura
Reba Ouimet (Moderator)

Regrets:

C. Bolding, Interior Health Authority, *Health* (Chair)

1. Welcome and Adoption of Agenda

S. Nishimura thanked M. Crouch for stepping into the Chair role in C. Bolding's absence. M. Crouch provided welcoming remarks including territorial acknowledgements.

The agenda was adopted as distributed.

2. BC ELN Administrative Transition

S. Nishimura shared information on the BC ELN Administrative Transition. BC ELN administers eHLbc, and has been hosted administratively at SFU since 2004. Recent increased data privacy and cybersecurity risks have led the provincial government to direct the formation of a new public-sector organization that will host the post-secondary sector program offices and in doing so centralize legal responsibility and manage risk.

The goal of the transition is to provide a stronger foundation for program offices while keeping the impact as minimal as possible and leaning into opportunities for collaboration between program offices. The hope is that the move will reduce administrative overload on BC ELN staff and increase capacity. No changes are anticipated to eHLbc's relationship with BC ELN itself; eHLbc's contract is with BC ELN no matter where it is hosted. There should be minimal impact on licensing as eHLbc licenses are signed with BC ELN, not SFU.

T. Mundle asked how widely this information is known. The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills has shared this information with the post-secondary institution Presidents. BC ELN will be sending communications to all of our partners as soon as possible.

M. Crouch commented how important the BC ELN team is to the consortium and its continued work, and offered letters of support for the BC ELN team if needed. T. Mundle commented that the transition sounds like it is on a good path.

3. Administrative Center Updates

Strategic Framework Dashboard

S. Nishimura shared the updated Strategic Framework dashboard, which will be posted to the BC ELN website. Highlights included:

- BC ELN is moving forward with piloting the LEAP (Library eResource Accessibility Portal), a repository of shared accessibility audits of licensed tools and platforms coordinated by Ontario College Library Services (OCLS). It will be extended to eHLbc after it has proven successful with BC ELN.
- A. Gallant has worked in partnership with the Health Libraries Association of British Columbia (HLABC) to offer Continuing Education opportunities. She is beginning to plan a series of member-to-member learning opportunities for late summer/early fall.
- The eHLbc Office has completed much of the licensing work on the Strategic Framework; the Core Suite has been renewed, the model license is in place, and the New Resource Selection Process has completed its first round.

eHLbc Risk Register

S. Nishimura gave background on the new eHLbc risk register. The eHLbc Office developed this useful living document, meant to understand and monitor new and continuing risks, at T. Mundle's request. The register includes risks such as the risk of full members leaving the consortium, and notes mitigation measures such as clear communication around the value of membership, and the role of affiliate members in contributing to the resiliency of the consortium.

T. Mundle asked how the administrative transition will be reflected in the risk register. S. Nishimura responded that the transition will mitigate several listed risks, such as eHLbc's lack of status as a legal entity, and that other risks such as the IT transition will be added. K. Shipley asked how a risk register is kept up to date. T. Mundle shared that KPU reviews theirs every three years, although the KPU register is not as complex as this; their risk department stewards it. S. Nishimura agreed that regular review will be on our task list. T. Mundle commented that creating a risk register and confronting risk are two very different things, and that risk level may change upon review.

Core Suite Renewal Process Feedback

The eHLbc Office ran the Core Suite Process Feedback Survey in April-May 2026 to collect information about the usefulness of the communications and engagement work the eHLbc Office performs during the Core Suite renewal and received enthusiastic feedback. 66% of respondents logged into the Core Suite Web, noting that they appreciated the Background, Product Information, and Proposal Overview sections. 47% of respondents attended the Watercooler, many finding it helpful to hear information on negotiations and timeline, and to hear answers to member questions. 94% of respondents felt their organization had sufficient opportunity to provide input on the Core Suite and renewal process; 88% felt that they received sufficient information to make an informed decision about renewing the Core Suite. Based on the feedback received, the Office will plan to conduct the next Core Suite renewal process in a similar way.

New Resource Selection Process

Last year, eHLbc revamped the process for collecting and selecting resources to investigate for consortial licensing. The eHLbc Office streamlined the process to a single 'hub' on the eHLbc website; moved resource suggestions and ranking surveys to Forms to accommodate data security and privacy concerns; and committed to investigating new resources more frequently.

The first round of the New Resource Selection Process commenced in early 2026. eHLbc members put forward a number of suggestions, though the majority of participants indicated that they would not be able to license anything new due to budget constraints.

eHLbc has now initiated discussions with vendors for the top two resources, UptoDate and EMBASE. Both resources have been investigated in previous rounds. Regardless, eHLbc is committed to these conversations and to exploring every possible avenue to meet members' needs. The [2026-27 Outcomes Report](#) is now available on the website.

4. Artificial Intelligence in eHLbc Resources- Discussion

M. Crouch opened the floor for discussion of AI in licensed resources. The goal was to hear members' experiences of AI in their work; learn what the eHLbc Office is doing around AI; and identify actions that eHLbc can take to support and advocate for members.

Highlights of the discussion included:

- AI tools are increasingly being incorporated into databases, i.e. taking precedence over the Ask a Librarian links in ProQuest DBs, and show inconsistently in some databases. Some members have opted out of AI features in databases or interfaces.
- Members are concerned that these features may constitute a one-sided value-add that will be used to justify increase in database costs.

- Members are seeing enthusiastic uptake and interest in AI tools such as Copilot from IT departments, managers, and patrons, and are spending a disproportionate amount of time educating about the pitfalls of using AI for health research, e.g., an estimated 90% hallucination rate.
- Members are focused on communicating the value of 'real' information and research support, trying to get ahead of the question "If we have AI, why do we need librarians?"
- Post-secondary members are offering critical AI literacy workshops and designating a point person within the library to assist colleagues with AI questions and implications.
- Members shared strategies for promoting AI literacy, such as asking users to share the prompts they used; educating where AI can be useful to organize results rather than searching; and seeking to understand where the gaps may be in a patron's AI-assisted process that can be filled by the librarian.
- Members noted that working groups are examining the privacy implications of AI tools and their impact on licensed resources and seeking to understand how privacy impact assessments will need to change to accommodate the privacy risks of using AI tools.
- Members raised concerns about significant price increases for the AI tools institutions are using, as well as users uploading licensed materials into AI tools such as Copilot; doing so violates many license agreements. Many are spending time proactively discouraging this in mass communications.

S. Nishimura and R. Ouimet shared what the eHLbc Office has been doing to support members around AI:

- Surveyed vendors to find out what AI products they are creating, whether products are opt-in, and what the costs are for libraries. The Office has received responses from most vendors. This information will be shared on the BC ELN and eHLbc websites.
- Monitoring what other national and international consortia are doing around AI clauses in licenses.
- Developing best practices around AI language in licenses. The eHLbc model license does not mention AI, and the eHLbc Office has pushed back on AI language in other licenses. eHLbc is working with ConCan to model best practices for AI language.
- Advocating for vendors to use opt-in AI infrastructure in their products; not make libraries responsible for controlling disallowed usage across organisations; and to consider allowing non-commercial use of AI.

S. Nishimura asked how eHLbc could support members. Suggestions included:

- Providing opportunities for member conversations and sharing strategies around AI in Licensed Resources
- Communicating to members about advocacy with vendors around AI
- Hosting a combination of member-to-member learning opportunities and vendor sessions, noting that vendor-led sessions allow members to hear from and speak directly to vendors.

5. New Business

M. Crouch noted that this is T. Mundle's last meeting and thanked him for his service. T. Mundle shared that it has been nice to see the evolution of eHLbc and interesting to work alongside the health sector. The consortium's next chapter feels positive.

6. Next Meeting

The next eHLbc Management Committee meeting will be held in the fall.