

Electronic Health Library of BC

Year in Review 2020

Released June 2021



Message from the Chair

Looking back on 2020, a year filled with uncertainties and unpredictable challenges for both post-secondary and health sectors, eHLbc was one constant we could rely on. eHLbc is an established, stable consortium that has provided the province with equitable access to essential online health resources for over ten years. As health practitioners and researchers supported their communities through the COVID-19 pandemic, these resources were essential to their work. Health students were able to continue their studies at a distance thanks to eHLbc's online databases. And member organizations benefited from the discounted prices that consortial negotiation delivers.



eHLbc exists to support health care professionals, researchers, educators, and students with current, evidence-based research. Our deep appreciation goes to all the front-line health workers who worked so hard through 2020 to keep our communities safe.

- Trish Rosseel, eHLbc Management Committee Chair
Director, Learning Resources & Records Management, Privacy Officer, Douglas College

Advocacy for Members

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the eHLbc Administrative Centre advocated for lower annual increases on electronic resources to reduce financial pressures on eHLbc members. The consortium succeeded in either eliminating or reducing increases on five annual renewals, with a promise of three additional reductions in the coming year.



Photo: Dr. Bonnie Henry provides an update on COVID-19 in British Columbia, August 27, 2020. "[COVID-19 Update](#)" by [Province of British Columbia](#), licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)

Cross-Consortial Cooperation

eHLbc and Consortia Canada

Consortia Canada is an informal group of library consortia representing all library types. Consortia Canada members cooperatively license electronic resources that are useful and relevant to constituents across the country. As an active member of Consortia Canada, eHLbc reaps many rewards, including:

- Better discounts through participation in larger, cross-consortial offers
- The ability to participate in specialized databases that a local consortium would not have sufficient participants to pursue
- Opportunities to explore consortial best practices and build new relationships

In 2020, eHLbc collaborated on 6 licenses with other Canadian consortia. In partnership with Western consortia, eHLbc also succeeded in negotiating low renewal rates (typically subscriptions see annual inflationary increases) on EBSCO and ProQuest-licensed resources, benefiting all subscribers with lower, predictable prices.

New Boutique License Spotlight

Premier Human Anatomy Package

The delivery of quality health information continues to change and evolve, and eHLbc strives to provide access to innovative, cutting edge electronic resources for students and practitioners across the province. [Primal Pictures Premier Human Anatomy Package](#),



a new boutique license for eHLbc in 2020, is an anatomy learning tool containing research-proven adaptive learning techniques and an interactive format.

The package contains built-in features that allow users to interact with evidence-based 3D reconstructions of human anatomy, which they can access on any device 24/7. Newly developed compatibility with modern browsers like Google Chrome or Firefox support diversified requirements, and dynamic 3D content can be seamlessly integrated into Learning Management Systems and Virtual Learning Environments. Twenty-two eHLbc members have taken advantage of this perpetual access license.

2020 Strategic Progress

Provided Support Through COVID-19

When COVID-19's arrival in B.C. necessitated the physical closure of the eHLbc Administrative Centre in March 2020, the Centre quickly shared a service continuity update with members. Additionally, eHLbc:

- Worked with vendors that provided complimentary access to e-resources during COVID-19, and communicated options and assisted members
- Signed the [Statement on the Global COVID-19 Pandemic and Its Impact on Library Services and Resources](#), informing vendors and publishers of the pandemic's effects on the information community and requesting actions that would ease hardships
- Negotiated low common inflationary renewal rate increases for EBSCO and ProQuest licensed resources through cross-consortial collaboration with the BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN), the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) and the Alberta Library (TAL), delivering pricing benefits to organizations facing uncertain economic situations
- Undertook a focused initiative to move eHLbc organizations to electronic funds transfer (EFT), thereby reducing need to handle physical checks and creating system efficiencies; 90% of all eHLbc members now pay by EFT

Maintained Core Suite of Resources

- Renewed the Core Suite, a multi-vendor bundle that all eHLbc member organizations have access to (see page 11 for full list of Core Suite resources)
- Refreshed one-pager value statement included with Core Suite invoices to assist members in communicating with their administration about the value of the Core Suite

Negotiation Power

The eHLbc Admin Centre brings more than 35 years of experience to the table when negotiating with vendors on behalf of members. In 2020 eHLbc put that experience to work and succeeded in negotiating a rate of 1% on Clinical Skills for Health Authorities — lower than the expected 2% increase — saving the health sector considerable funds.

Grew Collection of Boutique Resources

- Renewed 14 boutique licenses; 6 in collaboration with other consortia.
- Negotiated a new boutique resource: Primal Pictures Premier Human Anatomy Package, a one-time purchase providing perpetual access to the 2020 version of Primal Pictures products Anatomy.TV and Human Anatomy & Physiology Resources
- Onboarded new Licensing Coordinator to support the eHLbc licensing programme
- Began preparations for the eHLbc eBox and Ranking Survey in the new year to collect new resource suggestions from member organizations

Empowered and Supported eHLbc Members

- Launched the eHLbc Member Forum, a members-only discussion space on the eHLbc website for members to communicate informally on topics of common interest
- Provided troubleshooting solutions for members when access or authentication issues arose
- Created a new guide and comprehensive how-to video on [retrieving EBSCO MARC records from OCLC for eHLbc eBook collections](#)
- Updated eHLbc Management Committee [Terms of Reference](#) after consultation with All Member Group
- Refreshed and rebranded [eHLbc “Vital Signs” newsletter](#); produced October and December issues

Developed eHLbc’s Affiliate Membership

- Responded to three new membership requests

More Engaged Meetings start with Why

Teleconference meetings of 50+ people are logistically challenging and difficult spaces for conversations to spark. So, in 2019, eHLbc members began discussing the best way to engage the consortium through its meetings. In 2020 the Management Committee picked up the conversation and created a clear purpose statement for All Member Group meetings. With the why(s) illuminated, the appropriate how(s) are much easier to select. Looking ahead to the next All Member Group meeting, we will activate this purpose statement to foster a more engaging experience for all.

- Provided custom client education materials for Affiliate members to support their staff and clients accessing eHLbc resources
- Began review of membership pages and application process to streamline the process

eHLbc: Value for Members

- 51 health and post-secondary organizations work together
- 24/7 online access to evidence-based research
- More than 745,000 electronic journals, ebooks, videos, and point-of-care tools available online to members
- \$2.7 million dollars in savings each year on the Core Suite of resources, available to all members
- In addition to the Core Suite, eHLbc members have 14 boutique licenses available on an opt-in basis.
- Discounts on resources are in the range of 20-100% thanks to collaborative licensing
- For the price of a fancy coffee (only \$5.18 per person), students and health practitioners have access to a full year of eHLbc resources
- The eHLbc Administrative Centre brings 35 years of collective negotiation experience
- 600,000 students, practitioners, and government organization employees across B.C. and Yukon have access through eHLbc to the trusted information they need to research and deliver excellent patient care.
- 5.1 million B.C. and Yukon residents can rest assured that their health care providers have access to evidence-based health research

“2020 was the year that so many organizations ‘pivoted to online’ but for policy and clinical practice standard developers in Northern Health, it was a time to express gratitude for already being accustomed to accessing high quality evidence online. Our regional library services provide access to evidence for staff and physicians in over 24 communities across a vast geographic area of almost 600,000 square kilometres. Having reliable access to familiar resources such as Clinical Skills and CINAHL meant one ‘new normal’ to which we didn’t have to adjust. **In a year where so much changed, that consistent continuity supported ongoing access to evidence for staff when they needed it most.**”

Linda Axen, MN, BSN, RN
Regional Manager,
Policies and Clinical Practice Standards Northern Health

eHLbc Member Organizations

Post-Secondary Institutions

Alexander College

British Columbia Institute of Technology

Boucher Institute of Naturopathic
Medicine

Camosun College

Capilano University

Coast Mountain College

College of New Caledonia

College of the Rockies

Columbia Bible College

Douglas College

Justice Institute of British Columbia

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Langara College

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

North Island College

Northern Lights College

Okanagan College

Quest University Canada

Royal Roads University

Selkirk College

Simon Fraser University

Thompson Rivers University

Trinity Western University

University of British Columbia

University of Northern British Columbia

University of the Fraser Valley

University of Victoria

Vancouver Community College

Vancouver Island University

Yukon University

Health Authorities

First Nations Health Authority
Fraser Health Authority
Interior Health Authority
Island Health Authority
Northern Health Authority
Providence Health Care
Provincial Health Services Authority
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
Yukon Health & Social Services

Government and Health Profession Organizations

BC Association of Kinesiologists

BC College of Nursing Professionals
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists – BC Chapter
College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC
Health Employers Association of BC
Ministry of Children and Family Development
Ministry of Health
Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC
Physiotherapy Association of BC
Registered Massage Therapists' Association of BC
Speech and Hearing BC
WorkSafeBC



Connecting British Columbia's students and practitioners to trusted health information.

Photo: "[COVID-19 Immunizations Begin](#)", by [Province of British Columbia](#), licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#)

Financials

Fully funded by members, eHLbc is a self-sustaining organization operating on a cost-recovery basis.

eHLbc Administration

Revenue		
	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Projected
Carryforward	13,136	18,066
Full Member Fees	118,604	119,195
Affiliate Member Fees	10,046	10,073
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	8,353	5,425
TOTAL	150,139	152,759

Expenditure		
	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Projected
Coordination and Staffing	113,771	120,808
All Member Group Meeting	9,232	n/a
Administration/Communication/Governance	3,230	n/a
Technology Infrastructure	5,839	4,214
TOTAL	132,073	126,377

eHLbc Administration Revenue minus Expenses (Carryforward): \$18,066 (2019/20 Actual); \$26,382 (2020/21 Projected)

Licensing

Revenue		
	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Projected
Carryforward	92,465	188,766
Member Contributions	4,218,948	4,520,859
Affiliate Member Core Cost Contributions	38,460	39,796
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	79,361	94,327
TOTAL	4,429,235	4,843,749

Expenditure		
	2019/20 Actual	2020/21 Projected
Payments to Vendors (Core Suite and Boutique)	4,240,468	4,630,849
TOTAL	4,240,468	4,630,849

eHLbc Licensing Revenue minus Expenses (Carryforward): \$188,766 (2019/20 Actual); \$212,900 (2020/21 Projected)

Note:

19/20 Carryforward (\$188,766) includes Affiliate Member Core Cost Contributions for 2018/19, 2019/20, and the subsidy for 2020/21, plus prepayments of ~\$79K.

20/21 Carryforward (\$212,900) includes Affiliate Member Core Cost Contributions for 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and the subsidy for 2021/22, plus prepayments and credits ~\$94K.

The Year Ahead

eHLbc activities on the horizon for 2021 include:

- Surveying the All Member Group to explore interest in vendor training and peer-to-peer sharing of expertise
- Launching the eHLbc Electronic Suggestion Box (eBox), inviting member organizations to nominate and rank products to consider for consortial licensing
- Developing additional communication pieces for members to impart the value of eHLbc membership to stakeholders

eHLbc regularly reports on its activities via [biannual progress reports](#).

Management Committee as of December 2020

- Chair: Trish Rosseel, Douglas College
- Vice Chair: Kenneth McFarlan, Island Health Authority
- Post-Secondary Sector Representatives:
 - April Haddad, Justice Institute of British Columbia
 - Debbie Schachter, Capilano University
- Health Sector Representatives:
 - Julie Creaser, Northern Health Authority
 - Brooke Scott, Fraser Health Authority
- Affiliate Sector Representative: Carol MacFarlane, BC College of Nurses and Midwives

eHLbc Administrative Centre

- Jennifer Bancroft
- Anita Cocchia
- Korinne Hamakawa
- Leah Hopton
- Sunni Nishimura (on leave)
- Vaughn Postgate

Licensed Resources

Core Suite of Resources

APA PsycArticles
APA PsycInfo
Biomedical Reference Collection: Comprehensive Edition
CINAHL Complete
eBooks Nursing Collection
Evidence Based Medicine Reviews
LWW Total Access Collection 2021 with Neurology
EBSCO Medline with Full Text
OVID Medline

Boutique Resources

Ageline
Alexander Street Press Video Online
Clinical Skills
DSM-5 Library
Dynamed
EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS)
EBSCO Health Source Package (Health Source Consumer & Nursing/Academic, Alt Healthwatch, and AHFS Consumer Medication Info)
Full Text Finder (eHLbc House account)
Joanna Briggs Institute Database, Journal, and Tools Package
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (LWW) Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Book Collection
Nursing Reference Center / Nursing Reference Center Plus
Primal Pictures/Anatomy.TV
PsychiatryOnline Core / PsychiatryOnline Premium
SPORTDiscus Index / SPORTDiscus with Full Text

The Core Suite is available to all eHLbc Members and consists of 4,000 full-text journals, 550 ebooks, 25 million bibliographic citations and abstracts, and 740,000 evidence-based reviews. Members choose boutique resources as budgets and needs dictate.



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