

Electronic Health Library of BC: Year in Review 2023



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Chair's Message

eHLbc is a remarkably nimble organization, able to evolve while remaining steadfastly committed to its core mission: ensuring students, researchers, and professionals in BC and the Yukon have access to reliable health resources. In line with our evolution, the consortium successfully launched a new 5-year strategic framework in 2023, and we warmly welcomed Sunni Nishimura as the new Executive Director of our administrative centre host, the BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN). With her extensive consortial experience, I'm confident Sunni's expertise and vision will chart a positive course for eHLbc.

In 2023, eHLbc continued to enhance its licensing infrastructure, introducing a new model license and improved license management tools to better support our member organizations. The Core Suite of essential health resources has entered the second year of its four-year term, ensuring uninterrupted access for all members. Additionally, eHLbc has been proactive in rolling out new learning opportunities to bolster the professional development of member organization staff.

Thank you for your dedication and collaboration as we navigate these developments together. Here's to another year of growth, innovation, and collective achievement.

Chantalle Jack

eHLbc Management Committee Chair
BC Cancer
Provincial Health Services Authority



Photo 1: Chantalle Jack

Setting Strategic Directions

In June, delegates representing eHLbc's 50 member organizations convened for a one-day strategic planning event. Attendees reflected on the past few years of challenges and successes, and using insights from member survey data, affirmed four directions for the consortium:

- Supporting eHLbc Members
- Optimizing Professional Development
- Growing our Collection of Opt-in Resources
- Maintaining a Core Suite of Resources

These four directions provide structure to the [2024-2028 Strategic Framework](#) and guide eHLbc's progression over the next five years. With the adoption of a shorter cycle for goal-setting (2-3 years), the framework facilitates more frequent evaluation and adaptation. Complementing this, eHLbc has released a comprehensive [dashboard](#) outlining essential tasks aimed at goal achievement, alongside a commitment to regular progress updates.



Photo 2: eHLbc Strategic Planning Event

Welcoming New Leadership

In 2023, eHLbc's administrative centre host BC ELN welcomed a new executive director, Sunni Nishimura. Before her appointment, Sunni was a coordinator and then manager with BC ELN for 17 years, and worked on multiple eHLbc initiatives, serving most recently as the eHLbc Operations Manager. In her new role, Sunni will be collaborating closely with the eHLbc consortium and serving on the eHLbc Management Committee.

"I feel incredibly privileged to be a part of the eHLbc community, and I am excited to serve you in my new capacity."

– Sunni Nishimura



Photo 3: Sunni Nishimura

Stronger Together

Since 2013, Simon Fraser University (SFU) Library has served as eHLbc's host, providing administrative, financial, and organizational infrastructure to the consortium. SFU Library houses BC ELN, which serves as the administrative centre for eHLbc. This co-location fosters synergy through resource sharing and maximized cost savings. Staff collaborate across both consortia, exchanging ideas and expertise, and where there are opportunities for eHLbc and BC ELN to join licenses together, such as through Consortia Canada agreements, the larger subscription numbers bring better discounts to all.

2023 Achievements

eHLbc plays a crucial role in ensuring equitable access to vital online health information for healthcare and post-secondary communities. Centralized negotiation leverages larger subscriptions for better discounts and saves organizations time. The consortium also provides value through learning and networking opportunities.

Licensing Infrastructure

Released New Model License

In concert with BC ELN, eHLbc developed a new model license under the direction of terms and conditions expert Carol Stephenson, formerly of the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries, and through collaboration with national licensing colleagues. The model license is a foundational document that communicates the consortium's ideal terms to vendors. EBSCO and ProQuest, BC ELN and eHLbc's two largest vendors, have adopted the model license with minimal changes.

Enhanced ConsortiaManager Tools

The consortium continued to support members through the transition to ConsortiaManager, eHLbc's license management tool, with a "ConsortiaManager Tip of the Month" email campaign. The Admin Centre updated custom metadata to improve ConsortiaManager's reporting functionality and released a new ConsortiaManager [guide for Affiliate Members](#). eHLbc staff are active in national and international ConsortiaManager user groups to strategize optimal ways of using this powerful tool.



The eHLbc model license is accessible for member organization staff to use and customize for their own vendor negotiations. Find it along with guiding documentation on the [Licensing Overview page](#).



ConsortiaManager tips and tricks are available in the [help section](#) (login required).

The Core Suite

eHLbc renewed the Core Suite, a multi-vendor bundle that all eHLbc member organizations have access to. The Core Suite includes journals, evidence-based reviews, books, and more that serve the broad needs of health care providers, researchers, and students. See Appendix A for a list of resources included in the Core Suite.



For just \$5.50 a year... For the low cost of just \$5.50 per individual per year (the price of one fancy coffee), students, educators, researchers and health care professionals have anytime/anywhere access to evidence-based health information through the Core Suite.

Opt-In Resources

Renewed 14 Opt-in Agreements

In 2023, eHLbc renewed 14 agreements (including 30 products) for member organizations. These are available to members on an opt-in basis, allowing for flexibility and adjustments as member needs shift. See Appendix A for a list of opt-in resources.

eHLbc regularly collaborates with other consortia in Western Canada on licensing agreements and is an active member in Consortia Canada, which brings library consortia together to license electronic resources that are useful and relevant to members across the country. Pooling subscription power through these types of collaborations results in stronger discounts for eHLbc members. In 2023, eHLbc participated in 2 Consortia Canada-brokered licenses, and 3 licenses with Western consortia.



Significant Savings... Thanks to consortial discounts on opt-in agreements, in 2023 eHLbc members collectively saved approximately \$800,000.

Professional Development

Expanded Learning Opportunities

eHLbc continued its series of learning opportunities in 2023 with sessions on Ovid MEDLINE and Medical Subject Headings, Supporting Clinicians with eHLbc EBSCO Resources, and JBI Evidence-based Practice Database. Recordings of all previous sessions are available on the eHLbc website under [Training & Support](#) (Log in required to view recordings). Since eHLbc began offering learning opportunities in 2021, staff from 42 member organizations have attended sessions.

The Year Ahead

Activities on the horizon for 2024 include:

- Strengthening orientation materials and processes, including the development of an asynchronous orientation program.
- Reviewing provincial accessibility legislation and identifying gaps for the consortium.
- Continuing to offer learning opportunities, and exploring peer-to-peer learning.
- Reviewing the new product selection process.

eHLbc Management Committee, as of Dec. 2023

Chair: Chantalle Jack, BC Cancer, Provincial Health Services Authority

Vice Chair: Todd Mundle, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Post-Secondary Sector Representatives: Megan Crouch, Simon Fraser University, Debbie Schachter, Langara College

Health Sector Representatives: Connie Bolding, Interior Health Authority, Brooke Scott, Fraser Health Authority

Affiliate Sector Representative: Rachael Bradshaw, Physiotherapy Association of BC

Financials

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

eHLbc Administration

Revenue	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Projected
Carryforward	18,073	24,041
Full Member Fees	127,099	125,101
Affiliate Member Fees	11,354	9,100
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	7,300	2,359
Total	163,826	160,600

Expenditure	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Projected
Coordination and Staffing	123,037	126,999
Strategic Planning Event	n/a	12,401
Administration/Communication/Governance	1,809	2,598
Technology Infrastructure (including ConsortiaManager)	14,940	11,210
Total	139,786	153,207

eHLbc Administration Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2022/23 Actual Carryforward: \$ 24,041
- 2023/24 Projected Carryforward: \$ 7,393

Licensing Programme

Revenue	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Projected
Carryforward	239,358	229,298
Member Cost Contributions (Core Suite & Opt-in Licences)	4,425,917	4,655,538
Affiliate Member Contributions (Core Suite)	34,981	35,597
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	92,865	116,787
Total	4,793,121	5,037,220

Expenditure	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Projected
Payments to Vendors (Core Suite and Boutique)	4,330,311	4,563,824
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year One	21,646	n/a
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year Two	n/a	32,922
Total	4,563,824	4,816,922

eHLbc Licensing Programme Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2022/23 Actual Carryforward: \$ 229,298
- 2023/24 Projected Carryforward: \$ 220,298

N.B. 2022/23 Carryforward (\$229,298) includes targeted funds to cover Core Suite spending gap and special projects, plus prepayments and credits of \$92,865.

2023/24 Carryforward (\$220,298) includes targeted funds to cover Core Suite spending gap and special projects, plus prepayments and credits of \$116,787.

Appendix A: Licensed Resources

eHLbc 2023 licensed resources.

Core Suite

The Core Suite is available to all eHLbc Members and consists of 5,500 full-text journals, 800 ebooks, 25 million bibliographic citations and abstracts, and 740,000 evidence-based reviews. Members choose boutique (opt-in) resources as budgets and needs dictate.

- 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

Opt-In Agreements

- Ageline
- Alexander Street Press Video Online
- American Psychiatric Association Products (DSM-5 Library, Introductory Textbook of Psychiatry, PsychiatryOnline Core, PsychiatryOnline Premium, Psychotherapy Library)
- Clinical Skills (Clinical Skills Core, Pediatric Nursing, Perioperative Nursing, Respiratory Therapy)
- DynaMed
- EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS)
- Full Text Finder (eHLbc House Account)
- Health Source Package & Nursing Reference Center (Health Source Package, Health Source Package and Nursing Reference Center Plus)

- Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Database (JBI Complete Package, JBI EBP Database and Journal Package, JBI Research Package)
- Lippincott Williams & Wilkins (LWW) Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Book Collection
- Ovid Products (Health and Psychosocial Instruments, OVID User Licence, EMBASE)
- Medline Upgrade (MEDLINE Complete)
- Primal Pictures / Anatomy TV
- SPORTDiscus Index / SPORTDiscus with Full Text



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