

The Library as Partner

UVIC LIBRARIES' STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS
2018–2023



Open. Engaged. Enduring. These three principles guide the University of Victoria Libraries and align us with the University of Victoria's Strategic Framework, which aims to establish UVic as *the Canadian research university that best integrates outstanding scholarship, engaged learning, and real-life involvement to contribute to a better future for people and the planet.*

UVic Libraries navigates a higher education environment that continues to experience significant global change and disruption driven by multiple factors, the most important of which is the transition to a digital knowledge economy. Within rapidly shifting contexts full of ambiguity and necessitating much flexibility, academic libraries are becoming increasingly valued interdisciplinary collaborators and research partners furthering the mission of their institutions.

The library's long-standing and trusted role in enabling access to and preserving knowledge is enhanced by a focus on opening avenues to research, systems, and structures; engaging actively with stakeholders, including local Indigenous communities; and adopting sustainable and enduring approaches to core activities.

Open

UVic Libraries will connect people, knowledge, and expertise through partnerships and collaborations, as well as create open avenues to research and to physical and virtual spaces.

- **Advocate for and enable learning and research innovation through open, globally networked knowledge mobilization**
- **Strengthen seamless discovery and access to resources to enable learning, teaching, and research**
- **Develop effective processes to prioritize and communicate activities and initiatives that include opportunities for dialogue and engagement within UVic Libraries and across the University of Victoria**
- **Provide welcoming, inclusive, and intuitive physical and virtual spaces that connect faculty, students, staff, and community with UVic Libraries, with the University of Victoria, and with each other**



Engaged


UVic Libraries will be an active collaborator and connector to enhance the learning, teaching, and research activities of the University of Victoria, and embrace its role as an access point to the university for the broader community.

- **Provide differentiated approaches to instruction, research, digital citizenship, and the critical and creative inquiry skills needed to navigate complex, information-rich environments in order to nurture adaptable, resilient, life-long learners**
- **Provide experiential learning opportunities for students and the broader community**
- **Continue to build sustainable partnerships and collaborations with a wide range of external communities**
- **Deepen research, instruction, and curriculum partnerships across all disciplines**



Enduring

UVic Libraries will focus on developing long-term, flexible, nimble, and durable approaches to its role as a facilitator of student and faculty success. UVic Libraries will enhance the vibrancy of the local, regional, and global communities with which it engages.

- **Strive towards sustainable research resources models that prioritize access over acquisition**
 - **Invest in preservation expertise, infrastructure, and partnerships in order to provide sustainable access to knowledge**
 - **Foster a learning culture in which everyone at UVic Libraries grows their potential, enhances their leadership skills, develops their technical expertise, and strengthens their collaborations**
 - **Broaden and strengthen the base of donor and community support for sustaining UVic Libraries' priorities**
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We acknowledge with respect the Lkwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt, and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

The University of Victoria Libraries mirrors the University of Victoria's Strategic Framework values: excellence in all our endeavours; ethical and intellectual integrity; freedom of inquiry and freedom of speech; and equity, diversity, and inclusion.



University
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Victoria-born sculptor George Norris designed the bas-relief abstract panels on the exterior of the original early 1960s McPherson Library. A proponent of collaboration between artists and architects, Norris advocated for the importance of integrating public art into the form and function of buildings. He also frequently left works untitled so viewers could interpret his work for themselves, as is the case with the library panels.