The BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN) continues to thrive after thirty years thanks to a model of active partnership among post-secondary libraries in the province.

BC ELN is committed to its mandate of developing and supporting services that allow post-secondary libraries to meet the expanding information needs of learners, educators, and researchers – at the lowest possible cost. BC ELN's efforts to reach this goal have ripple effects in the province and beyond, benefting many more than its 33 partner libraries. From collaborating on licences with other Canadian consortia, to resource sharing among over a hundred provincial partners, BC ELN

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BC ELN negotiates
discounts for electronic
resources - providing
affordable access to a wide
range of online articles,
media, and books.

Resource Sharing

BC ELN supports a suite of tools that strengthens the entire research cycle from discovery to delivery, including Illume. The Illume Interlibrary Loan Service is jointly supported by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training through BC ELN, and the Ministry of Education through the Libraries Branch, and plays a critical role in resource sharing.

88.7k
interlibrary loan requests
filled through Illume

Illume is the technical and support infrastructure that underpins resource sharing throughout much of British Columbia. BC ELN hosts and staffs the Illume Administrative Centre and negotiates contracts that support both post-secondary and public libraries.

Formerly known as OutLook OnLine, the service re-branded to Illume in 2019. The Admin Centre made an Illume Branding Toolkit available to all participating library staff who were in turn able to customize the look and feel to meet their local needs.

Re-branding efforts were made in conjunction with an upgrade to Version 6 of the Auto-Graphics' SHAREit software, which supports Illume. The upgrade involved a significant change in server architecture and will facilitate enhancement, security, and efficiency of the Illume service.

Illume Admin Centre staff play an active role in the Auto-Graphics user community, and in 2019 acted as Chair of the User Group. Staff participate in Auto-Graphics user meetings and advocate for BC libraries by submitting enhancement requests on their behalf.

"Patrons have mentioned their gratitude for bringing books in for them as they are on a limited income and could not afford to buy the books they bring in using the Illume service. Many patrons say 'Thank you so much, what a great service you provide' as they walk out with a smile on their faces."

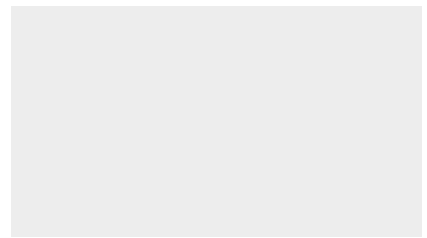- Cranbrook Public Library

Learning Support

BC ELN acts as the administrative centres for both AskAway and WriteAway, key research and learning support services that connect students with experts.

Shared Services

Managed by BC ELN, Arca Collaborative Digital Repository is a shared service that brings diverse sectors together to achieve a

Spotlight on: International Connections

BC ELN has long been an active participant in the International
Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC), an informal group of

Moving Forward

Financials: Core Administration, Licensing, Gateway

BC ELN is a partnership between British Columbia's post-secondary libraries and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training. BC ELN leverages the Ministry's investment of just under $500,000 to deliver affordable services and incredible savings to the post-secondary sector and beyond.

	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Projected
	Revenue	**Revenue**
Core Funding (AEST)	485,417	485,417
Host Site (SFU) Contribution (Progress through ranks & general wage increases)	183,870	209,860
BC Digital Library Business Analysis Funding	2,044	n/a
Illlume Interlibrary Loan Service (including Admin Centre, etc.)	364,849*	34,000
Miscellaneous Revenue (Associate Membership Fees, Carryforward, Prepayments, Resource Sharing support, etc.)	90,970	221,414
Total	**1,127,150**	**950,691**
	Expenses	**Expenses**
Salaries & Benef ts	553,876	524,164
Host Support (SFU)	56,000	56,000
AskAway Chat Reference Contribution	8,000	8,000
Arca Digital Repository Contribution	10,000	8,000
WriteAway Online Tutoring Contribution	10,000	12,000
BC Library Collections Gateway (Illume Service Costs, Canadian Hosting)	252,210	216,275
BC Historical Digitization Program, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC - Arca Support	12,477	5,760
Digital BC, formerly BC Digital Library, BC ELN Contribution (*2018/19 includes $15,735 Business Analysis External Funding*)	18,528	2,677
Administration/Communication/Governance	21,617	23,546
Technical Infrastructure	11,446	7,268
Total	**954,154**	**863,690**
Revenue - Expenses (Carryforward)	**172,997**	**87,001**

*Includes $134,386 prepayment for 2019/20.

Photo: BC Institute of Technology Library

	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Projected
	Revenue	**Revenue**
Partner Library Support (Service Support Fee & Flexible Contribution)	90,078	95,610
BC ELN Contribution	8,000	8,000
Miscellaneous Revenue (Carryforward, Contract Hours, etc.)	8,199	3,083
Total	**106,278**	**106,693**
	Expenses	**Expenses**
Staffing and Coordination Infrastructure	77,359	87,223

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Arca