As a leading research library at one of the world’s great public universities, the University of British Columbia Library celebrates and builds upon its achievements in this renewed Strategic Plan informed by UBC’s Place and Promise.

Learning and research are core to the University’s mission, and are accelerated in the environments the modern university library provides. At UBC Library, we will continue transforming our facilities into experiential spaces that stimulate ideas, innovation, and promote student success. The reimagined Walter C. Koerner Library will become a haven for researchers, with floors dedicated to graduate study, digital scholarship, and an expanded Research Commons. Our Asian Library, with its renowned collections, is poised to become an intercultural learning centre and vibrant community hub for discovery and dialogue.

Today libraries operate as fully in the digital realm as the physical one. Here librarians work alongside faculty and students navigating a complex information ecosystem, promoting digital fluency and partnering as co-creators of knowledge. We actively engage users to meet their needs, wherever they are and in the new ways they pursue learning and research. And we will build on the investments made in our previous Strategic Plan, being on the forefront in areas such as digital preservation, research data management, linked data, open dissemination, and mobile technology.

Through collaborations in BC and beyond, the Library and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre work to serve greater community purpose, foster lifelong learning, and fulfill a societal mission safeguarding what would otherwise be lost to future generations. We particularly embrace our partnerships with First Nations where we have been entrusted to steward the cultural and traditional knowledge of people for whom these places were, and remain, the original places of mind.

Guided by the External Academic Review, the Library will implement the actions outlined in its response to the University community. Reflecting UBC’s place among Canada’s top employers, the Library will strengthen its capacity to recruit and develop exceptional staff, and commit to their success by realizing the aspirational values we have set for ourselves.

These will be our priorities going forward, as we engage campus, alumni, and community and with our Mission, Vision, and Values as the foundation of what UBC Library is and aspires to be. We invite you to join us as we continue our evolution as a learner-centred, research-intensive, globally influential library in the 21st century.

Ingrid Parent
University Librarian
STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS

ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING
Students’ evolving needs demand that we deliver a responsive, integrated program of services and create exceptional learning and research environments.
- integrate library collections and programs more fully in the physical and digital classroom
- align library learning spaces, systems, and instruction with evolving user needs
- enhance new services to international students
- advance initiatives promoting student wellness
- undertake capital renewal of the Asian Library/Asian Centre and Walter C. Koerner Library

ACCELERATE RESEARCH
The Library connects faculty and students to the comprehensive scholarly record and through its expertise, enables new forms of knowledge creation and exchange.
- increase the visibility and open accessibility of UBC research
- contribute expertise in measuring the impact of research outputs
- promote leading-edge research skills through provision of space, tools, and services
- develop a Library culture of research to foster exemplary practices and collaboration

BUILD EXCELLENCE IN COLLECTIONS
Content is our strength. As we develop the digital library we will maintain our commitment to print collections and provide powerful tools for discovery.
- optimize funding opportunities for collections
- build and enhance unique and distinct collections
- ensure the long-term preservation of print and digital collections

ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITIES
Through collaboration we exchange perspectives, expertise and resources with diverse communities, contributing to the economic, cultural and social well-being of the people of BC and beyond.
- engage with campus and community, recognizing alumniUBC as a key partner
- enhance collaborations with First Nations and Aboriginal communities
- strengthen collaborations with other library, archival, educational and cultural organizations
- expand the Library’s global visibility and influence

CREATE AN EXCEPTIONAL WORK ENVIRONMENT
The Library commits to being a respectful, healthy environment that encourages leadership, collegiality, diversity, and individual growth and opportunity.
- implement strategies leading to beneficial changes in the work environment
- improve knowledge of institutional goals and desired cultural shifts
- maximize opportunities for leadership, learning, and new work experiences
- evaluate improvements and cultural changes

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
The Library aspires to be a campus leader by actively creating diversity-focused opportunities for engagement.
- form a community of practice to enable the Library to excel at intercultural communication and understanding
- establish connections with the broader community to work on issues of diversity and inclusion
- recruit and retain an excellent, diverse, and inclusive workforce
- enhance learning and research support services for our diverse community of patrons
- foster inclusive collections to support research needs and uphold intellectual freedom principles