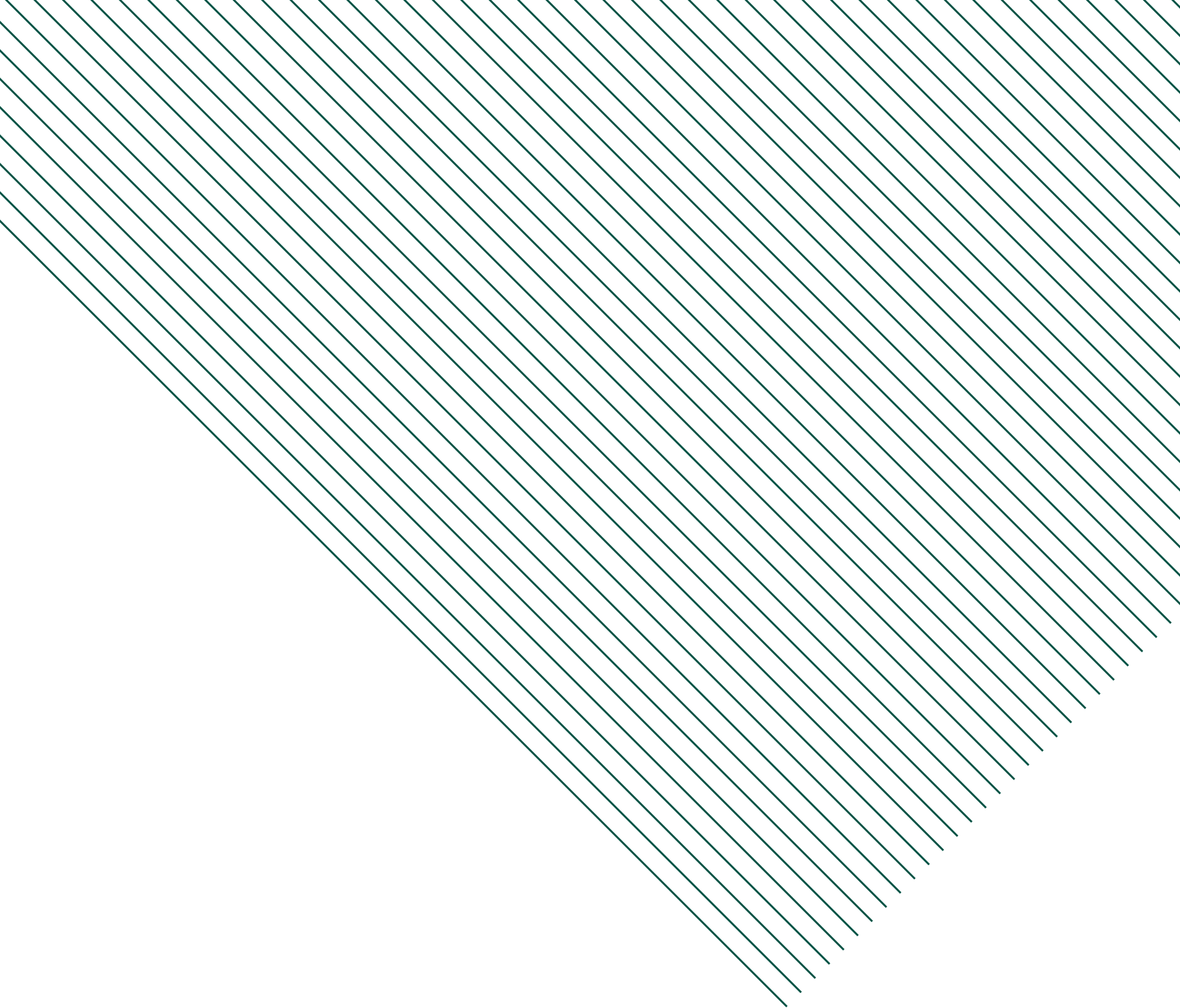




KEY DIRECTIONS 2018-2023

University of Northern British Columbia
Geoffrey R. Weller Library

December 2017



MISSION

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library's mission is to be the centre of intellectual life for the University of Northern British Columbia. The Library welcomes all UNBC's communities to access information, exchange diverse opinions, work collaboratively, conduct research, learn, teach, and pursue intellectual growth.

VISION

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library is integral to the University of Northern British Columbia's success and aspires to be an outstanding research library.

RESEARCH

The unique research needs of UNBC faculty and students require a research-intensive library. The Geoffrey R. Weller Library engages in research and provides a welcoming environment that ensures access to information resources and services.

These Key Directions and Key Actions are intended to support and extend the University's Strategic Priority 3 and the Strategic Research Action Plan.

Key Directions

- Enhance the Geoffrey R. Weller Library's capacity to support the research endeavours at the University
- Enable access to, and dissemination of, UNBC's unique research in an Open Access environment to support and enable the creation of new knowledge and to facilitate and foster an open exchange of ideas

Key Actions

Collections

- Continue to build state-of-the-art, high-impact multidisciplinary collections in print and electronic formats
- Continue to digitize our unique holdings to build a strong digital collection

Archives

- Continue to build the Northern BC Archives to make UNBC a research destination for scholars interested in the North
- Continue to build and provide online access to the unique resources housed in the Northern BC Archives and Special Collections

Institutional Repository

- Continue to build a strong UNBC Institutional Repository to increase the dissemination and impact of faculty, graduate, and undergraduate research
- Enable and support processes for managing and preserving UNBC theses and dissertations

Data Stewardship

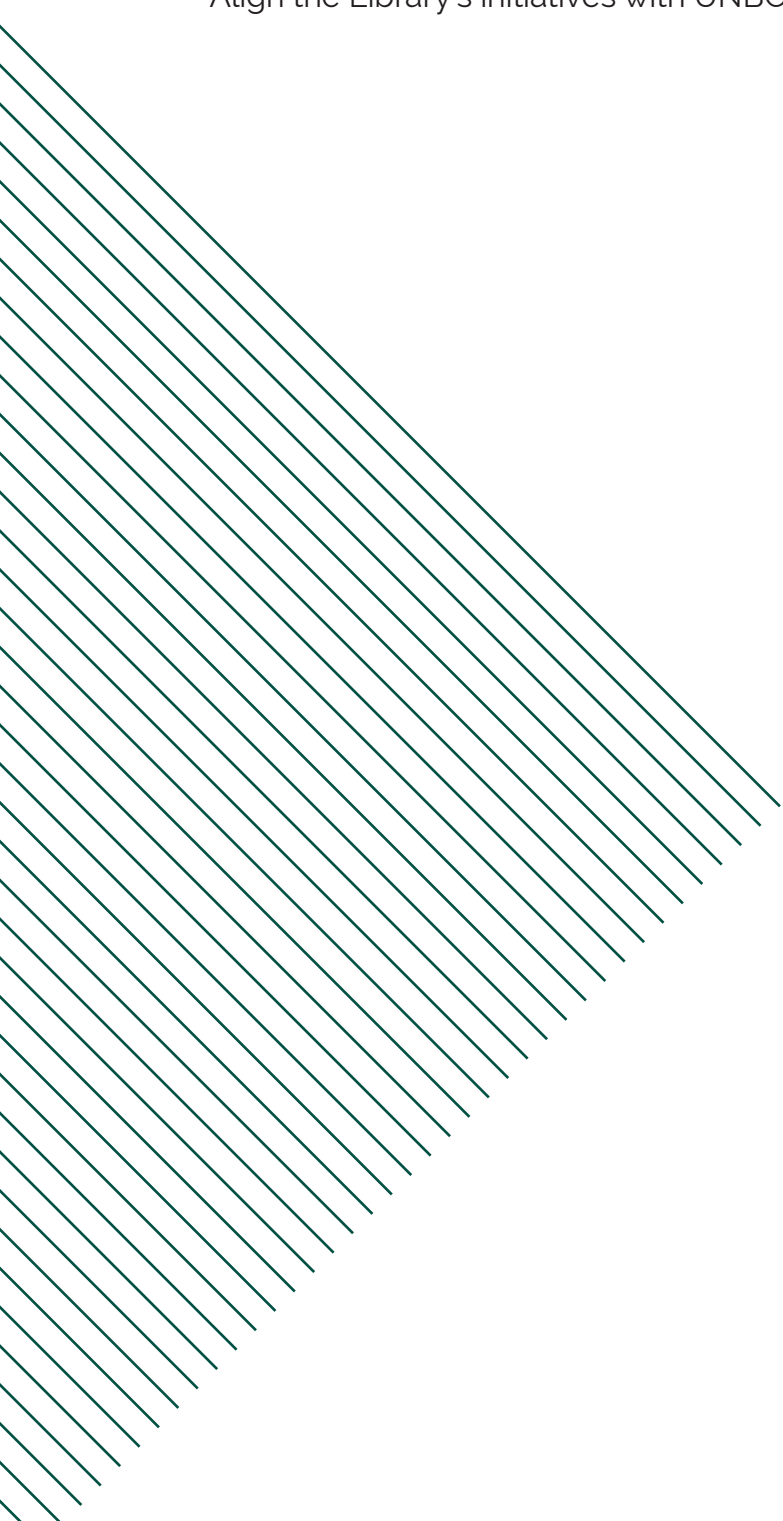
- Continue to support the management, preservation, and dissemination of UNBC research data by engaging key stakeholders and building strong infrastructure to support UNBC researchers at all stages of the research data life cycle

Scholarly Communication

- Support and advocate for institution-wide discussions on scholarly communication topics
- Advocate for Open Access and alternative publishing to be recognized in tenure and promotion discussions

Culture of Research

- Create a Culture of Research in the Library by encouraging and supporting Librarians and Archivists to develop research interests and to build collaborative research relationship
- Align the Library's initiatives with UNBC's Strategic Research Action Plan



TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library is committed to building collaborative relationships to enhance the quality and impact of program delivery. The Library provides integrated information literacy instruction informed by a liaison model and a strong teaching framework.

These Key Directions and Actions are intended to address the Academic Action Plan Recommendations 1.2.2a, 2.3.1a, 2.6.1a, 2.9.1a, 2.10.2a, 3.2.2a, 3.1.1a-c, and 3.6.1b.

Key Directions

- Build long-standing and collaborative relationships with academic areas involving a tailored, relationship-centred approach
- Integrate instruction into curriculum to support all UNBC students in meeting information literacy objectives
- Ensure equitable access to resources, services, and instruction across geographic locations

Key Actions

Liaison Model

- Develop a liaison model that:
 - Builds subject area expertise
 - Fosters relationships with faculty within the academic program
 - Tailors the teaching framework to each academic program
 - Addresses issues of equity with the Regional Programs

Teaching Framework

- Establish a teaching framework that includes:
 - Relationship building with programs and departments
 - In-class instruction (in-person and virtual)
 - Information literacy assessment
 - Evaluation of instruction
 - Fostering a community of shared practices and experiences in teaching
- Look for opportunities to map information literacy curriculum within degree programs
- Ensure Librarians/Archivists have adequate access to resources within budgetary restraints to support the teaching model informed by student needs

DECOLONIZATION AND INDIGENIZATION

Indigenous students, communities, priorities, and concerns have been a defining characteristic of UNBC since its founding. The Geoffrey R. Weller Library aspires to honour and uphold the voices and contributions of our Indigenous communities by supporting the University's efforts to decolonize and indigenize the academy.

Key Directions

- To build a respectful and inclusive environment that supports diverse ways of knowing and learning
- To uphold and affirm the decolonization and indigenization initiatives of the University
- To identify and begin to mitigate colonial constructs existent within current Library culture and practice
- To include local and regional Indigenous voices in Library programming and initiatives

These Key Directions and Actions are intended to support and extend the Academic Action Plan Recommendations 1.5.2a, b, and d.

Key Actions

- "Build student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect" through the development of innovative and respectful programming initiatives ¹
- Engage in dialogue with Indigenous students and instructors to develop a plan to ensure current services and resources meet their needs
- Actively liaise with First Nations Studies instructors to further support their pedagogical objectives
- Identify alternative library classification systems which more respectfully and holistically support the identification of Indigenous-related Library resources
- Continue to support outreach initiatives of the First Nations Centre related to literacy, knowledge sharing, cultural expression, and celebration
- Support and engage with institutional efforts to indigenize the University

It is important to remember that the Key Actions move forward in a good way, guided by Indigenous intellectual principles and knowledge to ensure that they are respectful, enduring, and meaningful. These Key Actions will be brought forth to the Aboriginal Priorities Council and/or the Aboriginal Support Circle for review and input once such entities are established at UNBC.

¹UNBC. 'Academic Action Plan - Final Recommendations, v. June 28, 2017 1.7 Endorsed by Senate', 2017.

TECHNOLOGY

A strong information access framework is crucial in meeting the research and academic needs of our Library users in both the physical and digital space.

These Key Directions and Actions are intended to support and extend the University's Strategic Priorities 2, 3, and 4.

Key Directions

- Maintain and grow a robust Library information technology infrastructure to provide equitable access to information resources
- Maintain and grow robust Library information technology services in support of research, teaching, and learning at the University

Key Actions

- Collaborate and integrate with Information Technology Services and other departments at the University to better serve our users
- Increase efficiency of the Library's technology infrastructure and services to meet the needs of Library priorities
- Improve the Library's web services to better serve our users
- Create a preservation program for the digital holdings of the Geoffrey R. Weller Library and Northern BC Archives
- Support technology learning opportunities for Library faculty and staff

OUR COMMUNITY

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library is an integral part of the University community. We strive to be an innovative partner and enabler of learning, research, and knowledge creation. Our community engagement reaches beyond the University through local, national, and international partnerships.

Key Directions

- Foster and maintain our collaborations with University, local, and Indigenous communities
- Advance strong provincial, national, and international partnerships to ensure effective and prudent use of resources
- Contribute positively to the community of academic and research libraries

These Key Directions and Actions are intended to support and extend the University's Strategic Priority 1 and the Academic Action Plan Recommendations 1.2.1a, 1.2.2a, and 2.6.1a.

Key Actions

- Build and maintain strong relationships with University partners to ensure integrated and seamless academic support services
- Continue to build partnerships with other academic research libraries
- Build and maintain strong relationships with student organizations on campus and UNBC Alumni
- Engage in dialogue with regional students and instructors to develop a plan to ensure current services and resources meet their needs
- Make our unique Northern BC content openly accessible to the world
- Build and maintain relationships with local libraries and cultural institutions

OUR PEOPLE

The staff is the strength of the Geoffrey R. Weller Library. Supporting our staff and work culture is paramount to our success as an institution.

These Key Directions and Actions are intended to support and extend the University's Strategic Priority 1.

Key Directions

- Maintain and promote an open, respectful, healthy, and collegial work culture
- Foster leadership, professional growth, and respect for diversity

Key Actions

- Develop a strong Library organizational structure that meets the needs of the University
- Improve communication by encouraging exchange of ideas and team interaction
- Continue to support staff learning, development, and growth