

Electronic Health Library of BC: Year in Review 2025



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Table of Contents

Chair’s Message.....	3
By the Numbers: eHLbc’s Impact in 2025	5
Strengthening Licensing Infrastructure.....	5
Growing Opt-In Resources	6
The Core Suite Renewal 2026-2030	6
Administrative Infrastructure.....	7
eHLbc Licensing Infrastructure and Responsiveness	7
The New Resource Selection Process	7
Member Engagement and Advocacy	8
Empowering and Supporting Members	8
Updating the 2024-2028 Strategic Framework	8
Member Engagement	9
Member Engagement and Responsiveness to Community Needs	9
Looking Ahead: 2026 Priorities	9
Key Links	10
Financials.....	11
eHLbc Administration.....	11
Licensing Programme.....	11
Appendix A: Licensed Resources	13
Core Suite	13
Opt-In Agreements.....	13

Chair's Message

2025 has been a year of momentum, renewal, and strategic alignment for eHLbc. As the demand for equitable and evidence-based health information continues to grow across British Columbia and the Yukon, our consortium remains committed to delivering meaningful value through strong partnerships, collaborative licensing, and shared governance.

I am incredibly proud of the work we have accomplished this year. We have stewarded the renewal of eHLbc's Core Suite, a critical package of core health information resources; begun new partnerships for member engagement; and strengthened our infrastructure in response to member needs. Our partnership with the Health Libraries Association of British Columbia brought engaging professional development sessions on current topics to eHLbc members, while our engagement with members at every step of the Core Suite renewal kept our community well-informed and strengthened trust in the power of collaborative licensing.

2026 will see the first class enter the Stephens Family School of Medicine at SFU, Western Canada's first new medical school in 50 years; the further expansion of and training in northern and rural medical programs; and continued integration of AI applications in medical research and an evolving understanding of their impacts. Amid these continuing evolutions in the health and health information landscape, the provincial government will also move forward with changes to BC ELN's administrative hosting model. eHLbc does not anticipate any changes to its relationship with BC ELN as a result, reflecting the ongoing strength and stability of this partnership. Ensuring continuity for both services and staff and remaining responsive to member needs across the post-secondary and health sectors will continue to be top priorities during the transition.

eHLbc is rising to this moment with resilience, community strength, and an unwavering dedication to equity. Our consortium will continue to ensure that health information is accessible to learners, educators, clinicians, and researchers across communities and remains sustainable for all as the health sector advances.

Connie Bolding
Manager of Library Services, Interior Health Authority
eHLbc Management Committee Chair



Photo 1: Connie Bolding

By the Numbers: eHLbc's Impact in 2025

Value and Savings: eHLbc's strategic approach to consortial licensing brings immense savings to member organizations.

- \$6.6 million in Core Suite savings
- 30% average discount on opt-in products

Community: Supporting students to professionals with trusted health information at every stage of practice.

- 46 member organizations working together
- 575,000 students, clinicians, and researchers with access to trusted health information

Licensed Resources: Providing foundational health resources to meet member needs.

- 9 Core Suite resources renewed
- 16 opt-in products renewed
- 4 multi-consortial agreements

Member Engagement and Support: Advocating for members' needs, triaging tech issues, and hosting enriching learning opportunities.

- 1 strategic goal-setting session facilitated
- 30% discount on resource management software
- 2 learning opportunities hosted or planned alongside HLABC

Strengthening Licensing Infrastructure

Supporting Scalable, Sustainable Access for Members

eHLbc facilitates equitable access to vital online health resources for over 575,000 healthcare professionals, researchers, and post-secondary students in BC and the Yukon. Ensuring the smooth operation of consortial licensing infrastructure is crucial to achieving this goal. In 2025, eHLbc:

- Completed the ongoing Terms & Conditions project with finalization of the new Ovid Master License
- Negotiated low inflationary increases for 2026 ProQuest renewals in partnership with Western consortia
- Trained BC ELN's newest Project Librarian on eHLbc licensing renewals work
- Consolidated and streamlined fund accounting practices through SFU Finance
- Continued ongoing work to renew the Core Suite for the 2026-2030 term

Growing Opt-In Resources

Ensuring Access to Specialized, Upgraded, and Boutique Resources and Tools

eHLbc leverages the collective subscription power of its member organizations to secure substantial discounts on health information resources. In 2025, eHLbc:

- Renewed 16 opt-in resources, including: MEDLINE Complete, MEDLINE Ultimate, and CINAHL Ultimate as optional upgrades to the eHLbc Core Suite
- Boutique resources, including Ageline, Clinical Skills, DSM-5, SPORTDiscus, and JBI Databases, Journals, and Tools Package
- Partnered with Consortia Canada, COPPUL, and BC ELN to coordinate and strengthen several licensing agreements

The Core Suite Renewal 2026-2030

A Success of Member Engagement and Collaborative Licensing

The Core Suite is a foundational, multi-year collection of essential health resources that all eHLbc member organizations license collaboratively, providing significant value to the entire consortium. In 2025, eHLbc made considerable progress toward renewing this crucial package, securing low annual increases on included products and engaging with eHLbc members at each step of the renewal. The Core Suite Team:

- Renewed the Core Suite's 9 databases (including CINAHL Complete, MEDLINE, LWW Total Access, and PsycINFO).
- Stewarded the Core Suite Renewal (2026-30):
- Engaged in Core Suite negotiations with EBSCO and Ovid
- Released the Core Suite Member Survey Report
- Updated the Core Suite Web 2026-2030, presenting crucial information about the current Core Suite renewal to eHLbc members
- Affirmed the health sector and the post-secondary sector cost-sharing models for the 2026-2030 term
- Presented the 2026-2030 Case for Renewal to eHLbc members
- Published the eHLbc Full Member Commitment Survey to confirm commitment to participation to the full 4-year term of the 2026-2030 Core Suite
- Facilitated a Watercooler session open to all member library staff inspiring questions around and discussion about the Core Suite Renewal

100% of respondents surveyed in the Member Input Survey during the Member Feedback Process said that the Core Suite met their organization's needs, with many noting its high usage amongst students, researchers, and health professionals in addition to its necessity for program offerings.

Quotes from eHLbc members from the Core Suite Feedback Survey:

The level of detail and thoroughness [on the Core Suite Web] was extremely helpful.” -
Darcie Smith, Northern Health

*“With so much to take care of in a day I appreciate being able to quickly reference and rely on the content on the site.” -*Patricia Scott, Camosun College

Administrative Infrastructure

Alongside the 2026-2030 Core Suite Renewal, eHLbc members renewed the Administrative Contract with the BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN), reaffirming BC ELN’s mandate to act as the eHLbc Administrative Centre for the 4-year term of the Core Suite. Since 2003, Simon Fraser University (SFU) Library has served as the administrative home for both BC ELN and eHLbc, providing administrative, financial, and organizational infrastructure to both consortia.

eHLbc Licensing Infrastructure and Responsiveness

eHLbc consistently collects feedback and suggestions from members to ensure that consortial licensing infrastructure remains aligned with member needs and emerging trends. The consortium is now investigating accessibility in licensing via the Library eResources Accessibility Project (LEAP). BCELN, eHLbc's administrative home, is currently participating in a pilot of the LEAP portal and accessibility assessment tool, which will potentially be expanded to eHLbc after the completion of a successful pilot.

eHLbc will also continue to update and improve the New Resource Selection; after the first round, to be held in early 2026, the eHLbc office will seek feedback to ensure the new process’ responsiveness to member needs.

The New Resource Selection Process

A Streamlined, User-Friendly Process for Member Input on Resource Selection

The eHLbc Administrative Centre investigates resources for potential consortial licensing based on suggestions from eHLbc members. In 2025, eHLbc updated and revised the New Resource Selection Process, giving members a more responsive and efficient way to submit their suggestions. The eHLbc Administrative Centre:

- Captured and incorporated member needs and suggestions for the new process via the New Resource Selection Process feedback survey in February 2025
- Performed an environmental scan of resource selection processes at national and international consortia
- Developed a new Vendor Checklist to streamline negotiations and ensure vendor alignment with eHLbc's licensing principles
- Launched updated New Resource Selection Process in Fall 2025
- Updated related webpages, FAQs, outcome reports, and eHLbc staff documentation

Member Engagement and Advocacy

Empowering and Supporting Members Responsive Capacity Building and Continued Advocacy

The eHLbc Administrative Centre provides ongoing support and advocacy to member organizations. In 2025, the eHLbc Administrative Centre:

- Continued to advocate to EBSCO on behalf of members regarding changes to the EBSCO UI interface
- Updated EBSCO UI documentation on BC ELN website
- Contributed to external national documentation
- Responded to changes in the US political situation:
- Addressed member concerns about the impact of US tariffs
- Liaised between vendors and member organizations
- Facilitated a strategic goal-setting discussion with the eHLbc All-Member Group and Management Committee, resulting in an updated strategic framework
- Migrated the eHLbc online training and orientation course to the new SFU Canvas Cloud platform, ensuring continued access for eHLbc members
- Delivered frontline troubleshooting and invoicing support to member library staff
- Provided orientations for new staff members at:
 - Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of British Columbia
 - University of the Fraser Valley
 - Yukon University

Updating the 2024-2028 Strategic Framework

The eHLbc Administrative Centre facilitated a strategic goal-setting discussion in June 2025 to identify key needs in the eHLbc community and update the goals in the [2024-2028 eHLbc Strategic Framework](#). Member organization representatives discussed needs around member support, professional development, growing eHLbc's collection of opt-in resources, and maintaining the Core Suite. The productive and engaging discussion informed updates to the strategic framework goals, demonstrating the framework's intended flexibility and responsiveness to evolving community needs.

eHLbc's regular member engagement, advocacy, and strategic planning activities ensure that the consortium is responsive to member needs. In 2026, the eHLbc Administrative Centre will begin planning the next strategic planning process and initiate the creation of a risk register.

Member Engagement

New Partnerships for Professional Development and Connection

The eHLbc Administrative Centre provides ongoing learning opportunities for member organization staff. In 2025, eHLbc:

- Formed a new partnership with the Health Libraries Association of British Columbia (HLABC) to offer reprisals of CHLA 2025 conference sessions
- Met with HLABC to brainstorm learning opportunities based on member interests
- Supported reprisal of CHLA 2025 workshop "Getting Comfortable with Context: A Qualitative Research Methods Workshop", featuring Robin Parker and Lindsey Sikora
- Provided honorariums to invited speakers

Member Engagement and Responsiveness to Community Needs

eHLbc's ongoing engagement with members helps ensure that its priorities, resources, and services remain aligned with member needs and the evolving landscape of health information. As emerging technologies such as generative AI continue to transform how people access and use health information, and health information professionals address an increased need for evidence synthesis services, eHLbc continues to explore opportunities for professional development and learning and position members for success as new challenges and opportunities emerge.

Looking Ahead: 2026 Priorities

Building for Sustainability and Equity

Priorities for the consortium in 2026 include:

- Officially launching the 2026-2030 Core Suite
- Conducting the first round of the updated New Resource Selection Process and investigating highly prioritized resources for consortial licensing
- Further expanding opportunities for member engagement and learning via CHLA session reprisals and member-to-member learning opportunities
- Continuing to improve and support sustainable, equitable, and resilient collaborative licensing infrastructure
- Surveying vendors on generative AI components in eHLbc licensed resources, posting results on eHLbc website for eHLbc member contribution and review

Key Links

- [eHLbc Management Committee](#)
- [eHLbc Member Organizations](#)
- [Core Suite](#)
- [Licensed Resources](#)

Financials

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

eHLbc Administration

Revenue	2024/25 Summary	2025/26 Summary
Carryforward	24,041	19,837
Full Member Fees	120,772	131,754
Affiliate Member Fees	14,986	9,555
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	2,359	12,859
Total	162,157	174,005

Expenditure	2024/25 Summary	2025/26 Summary
Coordination and Staffing	128,725	130,164
Administration/Communication/Governance	783	2,731
Technology Infrastructure (including ConsortiaManager)	12,813	12,763
Website Upgrade to Drupal 9	n/a	-
Total	142,321	145,658

eHLbc Administration Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2024/25 Actual Carryforward: \$ 19,387
- 2025/26 Actual Carryforward: \$ 28,347

Licensing Programme

Revenue	2024/25 Summary	2025/26 Summary
Carryforward	182,761	149,538
Member Cost Contributions (Core Suite & Opt-in Licences)	4,963,266	5,112,163
Affiliate Member Contributions (Core Suite)	34,972	35,615
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	140,676	-
Total	5,321,675	5,297,316

Expenditure	2024/25 Summary	2025/26 Summary
Payments to Vendors (Core Suite and Opt-In)	5,101,708	5,103,921
Full Member Subsidy	34,972	34,972
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year Three	35,457	n/a
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year Four	n/a	34,697
Total	5,172,137	5,254,760

eHLbc Licensing Programme Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2024/25 Actual Carryforward: \$ 149,137
- 2025/26 Actual Carryforward: \$ 42,556

N.B. 2024/25 and 2025/26 Licensing Programme Carryforwards: Spending gap coverage resulting from an organization's withdrawal from the Core Suite (2022 to 2026) & Special project funding.

Appendix A: Licensed Resources

Core Suite

The eHLbc Core Suite, available to all eHLbc members, includes millions of high-caliber health information resources that support learning and exceptional patient care. Members can opt into additional resources based on budget and needs.

The Core Suite consists of:

- 4,200 full-text journals
- 800 ebooks
- 28 million bibliographic citations and abstracts
- 740,000 evidence-based reviews. Members choose boutique (opt-in) resources as budgets and needs dictate.

The Core Suite Products:

- APA PsycArticles
- APA PsycInfo
- Biomedical Reference Collection: Comprehensive Edition
- CINAHL Complete
- eBooks Nursing Collection
- Evidence Based Medicine Reviews
- LWW Total Access Collection 2024 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 (perpetual purchase 2011)
- Ovid Products (Health and Psychosocial Instruments, OVID User Licence, EMBASE)
- Medline Upgrade (MEDLINE Complete)
- Primal Pictures / Anatomy TV (perpetual purchase 2020/21)
- SPORTDiscus Index / SPORTDiscus with Full Text



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