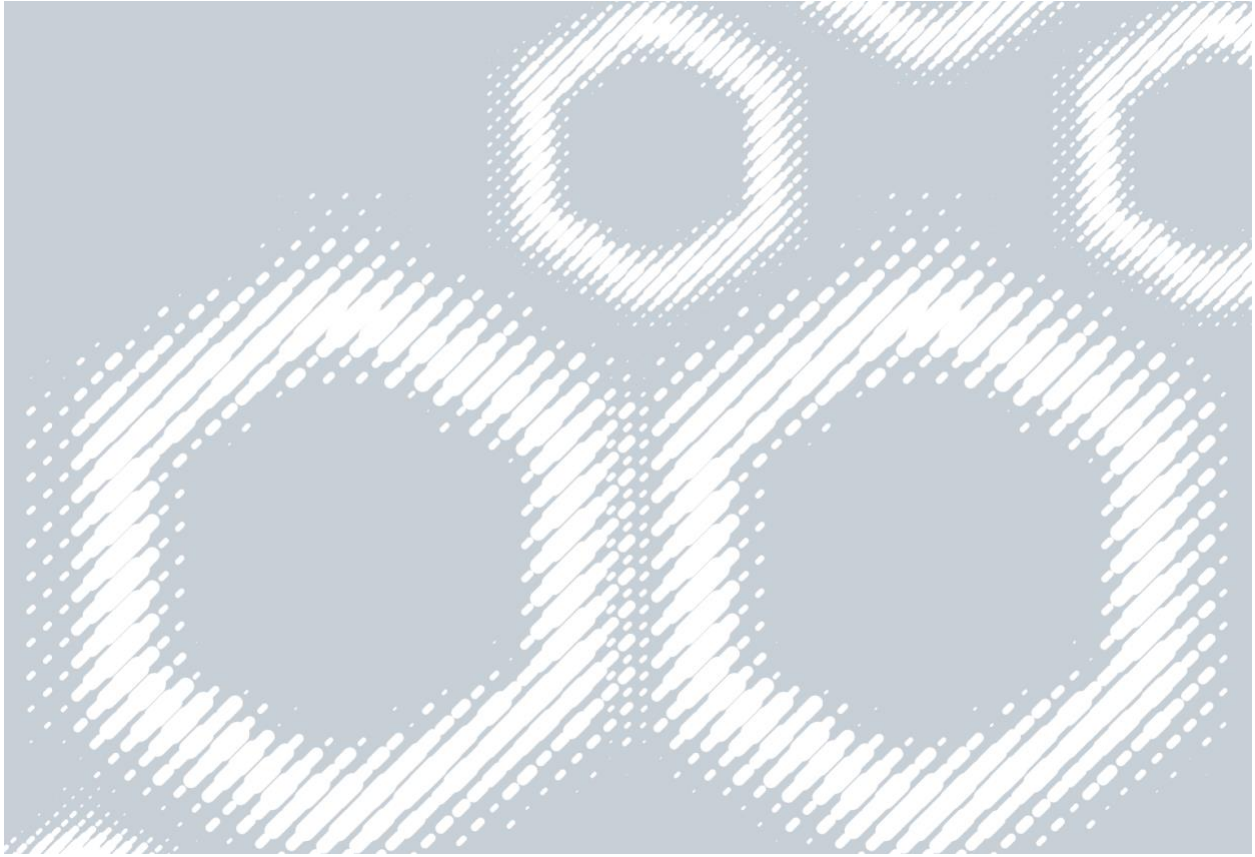


Electronic Health Library of BC: Year in Review 2024



Released August 2025

Chair's Message

2024 was a year of focus, growth, and responsiveness for eHLbc. As the need for equitable, evidence-based health information expands across British Columbia and the Yukon, our consortium continues to deliver real value through strong partnerships and collaborative licensing.

I am incredibly proud of the work we have accomplished this year. We've strengthened our infrastructure, renewed critical core and opt-in resources, and ensured that health knowledge remains accessible to frontline care providers, students, researchers, and educators. We've supported members through significant changes, including the closure of the CPSBC Library and its withdrawal from the Core Suite, and worked to mitigate impacts while advocating for consortial needs.

The launch of BC's first new medical school in more than 50 years at Simon Fraser University, the growth of rural medical training, and the urgent need for credible research in an era of misinformation all underscore one thing: the demand for robust, shared health information services is stronger than ever. Together, eHLbc is ready to meet that need with resilience, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to equitable access for every community we serve.

Todd Mundle

University Librarian, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
eHLbc Management Committee Chair



Photo 1: Todd Mundle

eHLbc by the Numbers

A year in review of impact, reach, and collaboration.

- 46 Member organizations working together: eHLbc links students, researchers, and clinicians with trusted, evidence-based health resources.

Value and Savings: Strategic group licensing brings significant savings to members.

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

Collaboration: Strength through partnerships.

- 4 multi-consortial agreements

Licensed Resources: Foundational health resources to meet member needs.

- 10 Core Suite resources renewed
- 16 opt-in products licensed

Member Support: Supporting students to professionals - trusted health information at every stage of practice.

- 1 new member orientation course
- 30% discount on resource management software
- Dozens of tech support issues resolved

Strengthening Licensing Infrastructure

eHLbc's main objective is to ensure equitable access to vital online health resources for BC's and Yukon's healthcare and post-secondary communities. Ensuring the smooth operation of consortial licensing infrastructure is crucial to achieving this goal.

2024 Accomplishments:

- Renegotiated a 3-year license for ConsortiaManager (with 30% discount) via Consortia Canada.
- Completed the upload and reorganization of 100% of eHLbc license documents into ConsortiaManager.
- Negotiated low inflationary increases for EBSCO renewals in partnership with Western Consortia.
- Trained two UBC iSchool co-op students in e-resource licensing and renewal workflows.
- Posted all "Tip of the Month" emails to ConsortiaManager as reusable training aids.

Core Suite: Access to Key Health Resources

The Core Suite is a foundational, multi-year collection of essential health resources that all eHLbc member organizations can access, providing significant value to the entire consortium.

2024 Accomplishments:

- Renewed the Core Suite's 10 databases (including CINAHL Complete, MEDLINE, LWW Total Access, and PsycINFO).
- Mitigated financial impact from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (CPSBC) Library's closure:
 - Recovered outstanding payments.
 - Renegotiated pricing to reduce budget shortfall.
- Initiated Core Suite Renewal (2026-30):
 - Formed a Core Suite Team.
 - Conducted a member-wide input survey.
 - Presented commitment plan at fall Management Committee meeting.

Growing Opt-in Resources

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

2024 Accomplishments:

- Renewed 16 opt-in resources, including:
 - Clinical Skills (Elsevier), (also negotiated a 5-year extension for the license, beginning Dec. 31, 2025).
 - JBI Tools, PsychiatryOnline, DSM-5, SPORTDiscus, and others.
- Partnered with Consortia Canada, COPPUL, and BC ELN to coordinate and strengthen several licensing agreements.
- Completed a feasibility review of top-ranked products from the most recent Product Selection Process, culminating in a detailed outcomes report.
- Initiated a review of the internal product selection workflow to streamline the process and improve responsiveness to member needs.

Empowering and Supporting our Members

The eHLbc Administrative Centre provides ongoing support and advocacy to member organizations.

2024 Accomplishments:

- Acted as a communications hub for [EBSCO UI changes](#) and concerns among members:
 - Compiled shared feedback and updates.
 - Liaised between the vendor and member organizations.
 - Hosted a watercooler peer support session.
- Launched an eHLbc Orientation Course (30-minute asynchronous module).
- Held virtual launch with ~20 attendees.
- Responded to queries from: Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of British Columbia, Michael Smith Health Research BC, Provincial Nursing & Allied Health Council, and Adams Lake Indian Band Health Centre.



Rural & Northern Medical Training

UBC's Northern Medical Program and new Rural Immersion residency are [extending medical training](#) to northern and rural BC, underscoring the need for accessible e-resources in these communities.

Stronger Together

eHLbc is an active participant in Consortia Canada, a group of library consortia that cooperatively licenses electronic resources and works on common goals. In 2024 eHLbc collaborated with fellow Canadian consortia to:

- Secure low common inflationary renewal rates on EBSCO-licensed resources.
- License electronic resources on behalf of members.
- Negotiate a three-year term for ConsortiaManager — software used to manage licensing infrastructure — at a 30% discount.



Investing in Skilled Information Professionals

More than licensing alone, eHLbc actively supports the professional growth of its members. eHLbc recognizes that knowledgeable, skilled library staff are vital to a resilient health information ecosystem. Alongside expert training sessions and peer-to-peer learning opportunities, eHLbc maintains a growing archive of webinars available on-demand, ensuring that staff across all member organizations can build and share expertise whenever they need it.

Looking Ahead: 2025 Priorities

Priorities for the consortium include:

- Finalizing the Core Suite 2026-2030 agreement.
- Improving the New Product Selection process.
- Expanding asynchronous and peer-led learning.
- Continuing to support resilient, cost-shared licensing infrastructure.

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	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Projected
Carryforward	24,041	15,491
Full Member Fees	126,579	122,740
Affiliate Member Fees	10,500	9,800
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	5,572	2,500
Total	166,691	150,532

Expenditure	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Projected
Coordination and Staffing	124,874	127,371
Strategic Planning Event	14,625	n/a
Administration/Communication/Governance	458	1,500
Technology Infrastructure (including ConsortiaManager)	11,243	12,000
Website Upgrade to Drupal 9	n/a	5,000
Total	151,200	145,871

eHLbc Administration Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2023/24 Actual Carryforward: \$ 15,491
- 2024/25 Projected Carryforward: \$ 4,661

Licensing Programme

Revenue	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Projected
Carryforward	229,298	182,761
Member Cost Contributions (Core Suite & Opt-in Licences)	4,842,807	4,963,266
Affiliate Member Contributions (Core Suite)	36,401	34,972
Miscellaneous Revenue (includes prepayments etc.)	116,787	140,676
Total	5,225,293	5,321,674

Expenditure	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Projected
Payments to Vendors (Core Suite and Opt-In)	4,973,209	5,103,921
Full Member Subsidy	36,401	34,972
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year Two	32,922	n/a
Core Suite Gap Coverage - Year Three	n/a	33,244
Total	5,042,532	5,172,137

eHLbc Licensing Programme Revenue over Expenditure (Carryforward):

- 2023/24 Actual Carryforward: \$ 182,761
- 2024/25 Projected Carryforward: \$ 149,537

N.B. 2023/24 and 2024/25 Carryforwards: Spending gap coverage resulting from an organization's withdrawal from the Core Suite (2022 to 2026) & Special project funding.

Appendix A: Licensed Resources

eHLbc 2024 licensed resources.

Core Suite

The Core Suite is available to all eHLbc Members and consists of 5,500 full-text journals, 800 ebooks, 25 million bibliographic citations and abstracts, and 740,000 evidence-based reviews. Members choose boutique (opt-in) resources as budgets and needs dictate.

- 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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