



LIBRARY

# Annual Report

2024-2025

LIBRARY

Image: Entrance to the UFV Abbotsford Campus Library





*Image: Aerial photo of G building where Library is located on the Abbotsford Campus*

The University of the Fraser Valley is situated in the traditional territory of the Stó:lō peoples. The Stó:lō have an intrinsic relationship with what they refer to as S'olh Temexw (Our Sacred Land); therefore, we express our gratitude and respect for the honour of living and working in this territory.



# Welcome

Welcome to our first **Annual Report**. As we reflect on the past year, we take great pride in the exceptional accomplishments of the UFV Library team. This past year holds special significance as we celebrated the **50th anniversary of the University of the Fraser Valley**—a milestone that reaffirms our shared commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and meaningful community engagement.

The UFV Library continues to be much more than a repository of knowledge. It is a dynamic, inclusive hub where curiosity, collaboration, and creativity converge. Guided by our **Strategic Plan**, we have made significant strides across all areas of our work—from expanding access to digital resources and reimagining our physical spaces, to enhancing programs and services and proudly opening the new **UFV Mission Library**.

As you read through this report, you'll see highlights of the ways our library continues to evolve in response to the changing needs of our students, faculty, and community. We invite you to explore these stories with us and to share in our excitement for the opportunities ahead. Together, we will continue building a library that inspires discovery, supports learning, and strengthens the UFV community for years to come.



*Image: Acting University Librarian, Kenley Neufeld*

# Mission

The UFV Library is pivotal in supporting the teaching, learning, and scholarship needs of the University's diverse community of learners and scholars, through:

- delivery of programs and services that are academically, culturally, and socially relevant;
- curation of excellent collections and resources;
- provision of welcoming learning spaces; and
- instruction in the lifelong skills of locating, accessing, and evaluating information.



*Image: Students at a study table at CEP Library*





J. Luke Pike – Coast Salish Artist

## Purpose

UFV library creates connections and diverse opportunities for learning, teaching, and scholarship. We are active partners in our students' success.

## Vision

At the intersection of discovery, collaboration, and empowerment, the library is a leader in providing an inclusive, inspiring, and supportive environment.



# Values

## **Respect**

We are committed to creating a positive culture of respect.

## **Integrity**

We are committed to being open, reliable, honest, ethical, and transparent in our interactions, inspiring trust and strong relationships.

## **Curiosity**

We strive to be curious about each other and the way we do things.

## **Inclusivity**

We celebrate diversity, welcome differences, and learn from those around us.

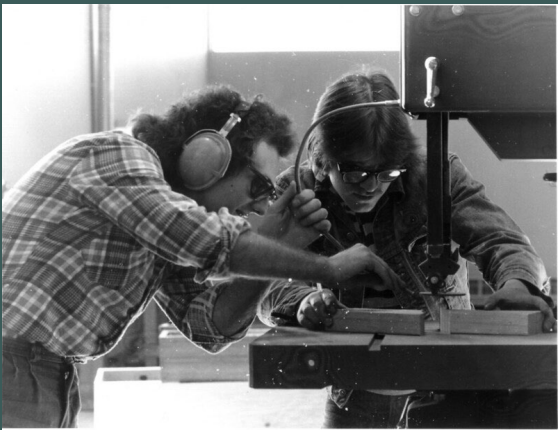
## **Collaboration**

We foster respectful relationships to support our common vision and goals.



*Image: 2024-2024 UFV SUS President Jayden Hovey at Mission Campus Library*





# UFV establishes an Archive

As part of UFV's 50th anniversary, the University Library officially founded an Archive. This is a part of the overall UFV Library but separate from Special Collections. Simply put, the Archives collects materials related to UFV's history while Special Collections more broadly looks at history and unique materials from around British Columbia and Fraser Valley. Of significant importance is respect and collaboration with South Asian Studies Institute, Stó:lō, and other community partners.

We are in the process of digitizing close to 10,000 photos from UFV's history from its inception in the early 1970s through to today. They will be available online through HarvestIR, UFV's institutional repository.







Una-Ann Moyer, Tahltan Artist, from stories told by Dr. Albert (Sonny) McHalsie Naxaxalhts'i

## Strategic Plan 2022-2027

The UFV Library met in 2022 to reconnect after COVID and to create a Strategic Plan to guide the library through the next five years. The UFV Library Strategic Plan was informed by Íyáqáwtsw (House of Transformation). At this event this custom artwork was unveiled to library staff and we established the vision of paddling in canoes together across all three campus libraries.



# Empowering Users

- UFV Library has chosen to:
- Revision Physical Space
  - Demonstrate Value
  - Build Student Connections

*Image: Student talks to Library staff member while looking at a book*



UFV Library has chosen to:

- Improve Faculty & Department Relations
- Enhance Technology Access & Relationships
- Revitalize Teaching & Learning



*Image: SUS Executives at a study table at Mission Campus Library*

# Positioning the Library



# Catalyzing Change

UFV has chosen to:

- Streamline Operations to Create Workload Balance
- Modernize Policies
- Prioritize Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Indigenization, Decolonization, Accessibility



*Image: Students at computers at UFV Abbotsford Library*



# 3<sup>rd</sup> year goals achieved

## Empowering Users

- Makerspace program designed
- LibGuides best practices created



*Image: Librarian Martin with a new 3D printer for Makerspace*

## Positioning the Library

- Mission Library opened successfully
- Created 2024-2026 Marketing Strategy
- Archives program established
- Developed Assessment Plan



*Image: First checkout at Mission Library Dr. Robertson*

## Catalyzing Change

- Filled staff vacancies
- Completed external library review



*Image: Librarian Emeritus Patti Wilson receiving her award*



# Celebrating Gifts of Japan: A Cultural Tribute at UFV Library

This special event brought together students, faculty, and esteemed guests to honor the rich cultural contributions of Japan and to highlight the collaborative spirit between UFV and Japanese institutions. One of the highlights of the event was the recognition of the "Read Japan Project," a generous initiative by the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research and Nippon Foundation. In 2023, the UFV Library received 27 Japan-related books, a donation facilitated by the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver.

These books, along with a symbolic plaque, now enrich the library's collection, supporting both curriculum and research at UFV. Dr. James Mandigo underscored the significance of the library's partnerships with Japanese institutions. A special moment during the event was the introduction of Deputy Consul General Satomi Okagaki, who graciously attended and spoke about the enduring friendship between Japan and Canada. Her presence, along with the involvement of UFV's diverse community, made this event particularly memorable.



*Image: Dr. Eiji Okawa speaks during event*



# Mission Campus Library

After 11 years, UFV Library returns to Mission! With the School of Education making the move to Mission, UFV Library is also making a new home on the Mission campus. The newly renovated campus has library staff excited to be a part of the innovative design to support teaching, learning and the scholarship needs of the University's diverse community of learners and scholars. They've been working hard, packing up all the Curriculum Collection which supports the Teacher Education programming and getting settled in their new home.



Image: Staff with Si:yémiya [Dr. Albert (Sonny) McHalsie] at Mission Campus Library Opening



# Student Engagement Working Group

The Library Student Engagement Working Group (SEWG) was established in Summer 2022 to address the goal within the Library Strategic Plan to create a formal working relationship with the Student Union Society (SUS) and UFV student representatives, including those from Pride Collective and Lá:lem te Baker. The group collaborates on events and projects and to date has:

- Launched pronoun pins in UFV Libraries
- Conducted student focused photoshoots to create inclusive marketing materials
- Support each other through collaborating on events including Freedom to Read and Open Education Week



*Image: Members of the inaugural SEWG with a few friends at first student photoshoot*



# Makerspace

UFV Library's Makerspace has hit the ground running. Our first Makerspace events centered around 3D printing, and several electronic component kits (available to borrow), along with weaving, button making and knitting.

In June 2024, Librarians Martin and Colleen were happy to unbox two sewing machines, an embroidery machine, and a second 3D printer. They piloted pop-up makerspace events through the Fall 2024 semester, happy to introduce students and faculty to the machines and the potential of creation. During Winter 2025, they tested a booking system which made the Makerspace more accessible and available to UFV students and employees. They are happy to announce that new toys are coming to the Makerspace program with new 3D printers, Raspberry Pis, several small looms for weaving, a serger, a Cricut die cutting machine, and more. The Raspberry Pis and small looms will be available to borrow.



*Image: UFV staff participate in the Bubbling Bliss Fermentation Workshop (2024)*



# Events Science Cafés



Images: 4 Science Café events at CEP Library

Science cafés provide a platform for research experts to share information on topics to the public. CEP Library hosts two Science cafes per semester to support our goals to engage learners, transform lives, and build community. Topics have included:

- Food Sustainability (March 2023)
- Water conservation (Oct 2023)
- Diabetes (Nov 2023)
- Chronic Pain (Feb 2024)
- Pollinators (Mar 2024)
- Fermentation (Oct 2024)
- Air Quality (Mar 2025)



# Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Indigenization, Decolonization, Accessibility

## Professional Development

Library staff focused on professional development which focused on the areas of EDIIDA individually and as library team. Some of the professional development they participated in includes:

- Bad Rock Tour (Chilliwack/Yale/Hope) with Naxaxalhts'í (now Si:yémiya) Dr. Albert (Sonny) McHalsie
- Tour of Abbotsford's historic Gur Sikh Temple
- Tour of St. Mary's Residential School (Mission) and Xá:ytem National Historic Site with Naxaxalhts'í (now Si:yémiya) Dr. Albert (Sonny) McHalsie
- Racism on campus workshop with Dr. Keziah Wallis
- Team training in de-escalation
- Guest speakers at team meetings from Pride, International, Teaching and Learning (assistive technologies)
- Xwelítem Siyáya: Allyship and Reconciliation Building program taken by several librarians and staff

## Library Actions

- Created and installed a Respectful Language statement on the library website and embedded in our search engines to warn users about outdated or offensive subject headings
- The library installed Unicode in our library system so that diacritics and non-Latin alphabets could be correctly input and displayed.

*Image: Guests attend an event at Abbotsford Library*





# Accessibility



*Image: Student talking to library staff member at CEP Library*

Inspired by a comment from a student about the accessibility of library databases, librarians Diane Cruickshank and Shawna Kristin embarked on a journey of accessibility. They connected with Teaching and Learning designer, Fizza Haider to explore how screen readers interpret the library's homepage and databases. This experience changed the way they wanted to teach students about using the library.

As a result, the Library Accessibility Committee was formed. At their first meeting they adjusted the language on the library website to make it clear which accessibility supports are available for users. They also connected with other departments, like CAS and TLC, to make sure these supports were shared with students. Diane also presented at ConnectED 2024, "Screen Readers and Me: A Journey with Library Resources" to share with faculty and staff the challenges students with visual impairments have when conducting research with library resources.



# Teaching & Learning

UFV Library offers instructional sessions to help students learn research skills. Library instruction supports the mission of the Library, as well as the Institutional Learning Outcomes

For the past few years, there have been improvements to the physical space where we teach. In 2024, the Abbotsford Library computer lab presenter station was updated. In 2025, the lab received a lighting upgrade and four new stand-up stations to accommodate accessibility needs.

Librarians have also been encouraged to explore opportunities for Indigenizing and decolonizing their instruction, as well as teaching from an accessible perspective.

## Information Literacy Stats:

- 115 Instruction Classes Taught (2024-2025)  
\* Instruction offered at Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and online
- 261 Published Libguides & 12 Tutorials (as of March 2025)
- Most popular Libguide is Business 100 with 5,780 views (as of March 2025)



Image: Students in the instruction lab at Abbotsford Campus Library



# Open Education

UFV Library has partnered with Teaching and Learning (TLC) as well as the Student Union Society to advance Open Education efforts on campus. In 2024 and 2025, the Library received grants from BCcampus to host Open Education Week events that focused on bringing community together and celebrate accomplishments.

UFV Library & TLC have hosted a series of funding opportunities for the creation of open educational resources including Open Education Micro Grant Programs and Open Education Faculty Fellows Program.



Image: Students, faculty, and staff at the 2025 Open Ed Week Celebration and Showcase event



Thank You

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