



# University of Victoria

## Libraries

### TOP STORIES OF 2019



#### UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN'S LECTURE

Archives related to the Indigenous peoples of Canada have a past; they have a present; and they have a future – and the three are not the same according to Ry Moran, director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation; Carey Newman, multi-disciplinary artist, master carver and UVic's sixth Audain Professor of Contemporary Art Practice of the Pacific Northwest with the Department of Visual Arts; and national radio host and UVic Chancellor Shelagh Rogers.

At this year's annual [University Librarian's lecture](#), these three distinguished guests invited the audience to join them in a conversation considering the implications for Canada's documentary heritage in the wake of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations.



#### BRITISH COLONIST: 12-YEAR DIGITIZATION PROJECT COMPLETE

UVic Libraries just completed the last batch of digitization of this historic newspaper that now covers the time period from 1858-1980.

The digitization of the *British Colonist* by UVic Libraries would not be possible without the support of the [BC History Digitization Program](#) at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC. The British Columbia History Digitization Program promotes increased access to British Columbia's historical resources by providing matching funds to undertake digitization projects that will result in free online access to unique historical material from around the province.

Read the [Times Colonist story](#).



#### BC HISTORICAL TEXTBOOKS



Photo: Royal BC Museum

### DR. JOYCE CLEARIHUE ENDOWMENT

In September, Dean Susan Breau, Law, announced a gift to the law school and the law library: Dr Joyce Clearihue donated \$434K to assist in establishing the Indigenous law collection as follows:

- \$80,000 will be used to acquire Indigenous law print resources, digital media, and additional electronic databases, as well as migrate large current print subscriptions to electronic format.
- The remaining funds will be endowed to help establish the *Clearihue Endowment for Indigenous Collections*.

Read more about [UVic Endowments](#).

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The Bruce Parisian Library

When the new BC curriculum was released in 2016, Research Librarian Pia Russell started to reflect on the Libraries' collections and resources under her purview. Wanting to remediate the collection to support her education patrons, Pia implemented their curriculum recommendations in an effort towards reconciliation and how they could collectively and critically "unsettle" the collections. With generous supplementary library collection funds, this remediation was made possible.

Upon receipt of a UVic Internal Research/ Creative Project Grant in 2019, Russell began to develop a comprehensive digital library and learning portal of British Columbia's **historical textbooks** for public and scholarly audiences. This collection presently focuses on over 500 textbooks authorized for use in BC schools during the first 50 years of the province's history—of which over 400 titles have been digitized to-date.

Read more in the [Ring story](#).

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## VICTORIA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

The [Victoria Native Friendship Centre](#) celebrated **50 years** this year, and UVic Libraries worked collaboratively with the VNFC to create an online catalogue for their Bruce Parisian Library using LibraryThing and [TinyCat](#). Circulation is now handled online and UVic provides assistance with classification. This vital partnership will continue into 2020 as UVic Libraries and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre work together to serve our communities.



## VOLATILE ATTRACTIONS IS A WINNER!

In April, the Association of College and Research Libraries—a division of the American Library Association—announced that UVic Libraries had won a prestigious [Leab award](#) for the digital exhibit [Volatile Attractions: Saul Holiff, Johnny Cash, and Managing a Music Legend](#), curated by Dr. Samantha MacFarlane. The award committee praised “its multiple modes of navigation, and especially appreciated that the items were fully



## EDITH IGLAUER ARCHIVES

In 2019, UVic Libraries acquired the personal and literary archives of Edith Iglauer—the renowned writer, author, activist and “truth-teller” who became one of the most adventurous and astute observers of the Canadian way of life.

A rich source of information on 20th-century history, the collection includes correspondence with artist Bill Reid; famed architect Arthur Erickson; and writer Doris Shadbolt; as well as letters from fans of *Fishing with John*, one of Iglauer’s best-known works. In addition, her archives contain cassette tapes of interviews with Erickson; original notes for her articles in *The New Yorker*; and files on Pierre Trudeau that include photographs, letters, and notes from his 1969 dinner at Iglauer’s apartment. The collection also holds her war correspondent writing and work at the US Office of War Information, along with material covering former US First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt’s speeches, which were described by Iglauer as a high point in her career.

Read about the life of [Edith Iglauer](#).

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digitized, providing research value beyond the life of the exhibition."



### THE UVIC PROFESSOR AND THE STEPHEN HAWKING LETTER

When donating a portion of his library to UVic Libraries, UVic Professor Emeritus Werner Israel included a first-edition copy of *The large scale structure of space-time* (Cambridge, 1973) by S.W. Hawking and G.F.R Ellis in his donation. The book included a signed letter from February 6, 1981 from "Stephen" to Werner tucked in the back dust jacket, along with two newspapers clippings about Hawking's latest accomplishments. Informal and chatty in tone, the letter reveals a close friendship between the two men. Hawking and Israel collaborated on two titles, including *General Relativity: An Einstein Centenary Survey* (Cambridge, 1979) and *Three Hundred Years of Gravitation* (Cambridge, 1987).

This copy can be viewed in Special Collections (QC173.59 S65H38), where readers can experience another dimension of the prolific genius of Stephen Hawking, and by holding a first-edition, signed volume in their hands at UVic Libraries.

Read more about [the letter](#).



### SCIENCE LITERACY WEEK

**Science Literacy Week** is a week-long celebration of science-based activities that highlight our outstanding scientists and science communicators from coast-to-coast.

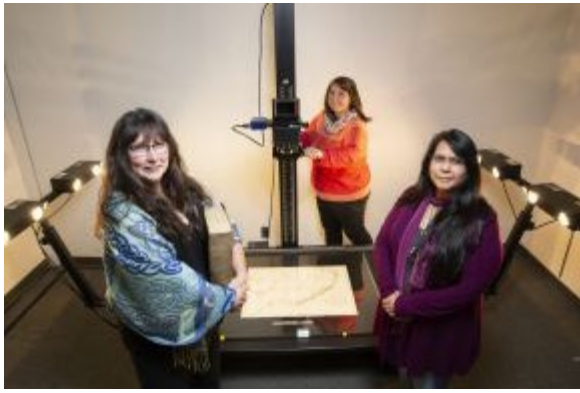
With 17 events and activities this year, Science Literacy Week was a collaborative and multi-disciplinary campus event. Held from September 17-20, the partners included: Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, Centre for Biomedical Research, Dept. of Biology, School of Child and Youth Care, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Ocean Networks Canada, Wildlife Conservation Society, in addition to colleagues across campus.

Over the week there were two panel discussions, six exhibits, relaxation activities, two live-streamed events, one workshop for a middle school class, a grad mixer for students across the disciplines engaged in science research, three book displays, and one Café Scientifique talk.



### ARTISTS' ARCHIVES PUBLICATION

In September, UVic Libraries launched its sixth publication, *[untitled]: The Artists'*



## PESA INNOVATOR AWARD

On April 30, at the President's Extraordinary Service Awards (PESA), our Digitization team was presented the Innovator Award by UVic President Jamie Cassels. Over the course of a decade, Katharine Mercer, Page DeWolfe and Leanne Gibb of the UVic Libraries Digitization Centre have transformed themselves into provincial leaders in the digitization of rare and delicate material.

While the focus of their day-to-day work primarily involves library digitization projects, this dedicated team does not hesitate to juggle faculty and donor requests, funding deadlines, and preservation initiatives.

More: [Digitization Centre](#) and [PESA Awards](#).

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## UVIC LIBRARIES BY THE NUMBERS

Did you know that in 2018-19\*...

- **149** staff were working at UVic Libraries, including 35 librarians.
- We had over **23,000** reference transactions.
- We provided access to well over **2,000,000** books, periodicals, and other types of materials.
- We subscribed to more than **260,000** journals (providing online access to the vast majority).
- Our librarians taught **586** instruction sessions, reaching more than 14,000 students.
- Over **1,800,000** people visited the Mearns Centre for Learning – McPherson Library.

\* Fiscal year 2018-19 (Apr. 1, 2018-Mar. 31, 2019)

*Archives at the University of Victoria Libraries*, focusing on the careers of ceramicist Robin Hopper, painter and digital artist Glenn Howarth, multidisciplinary artist Sandra Meigs, and painter and mosaicist Margaret Peterson.

A digital exhibit with supplementary material launched September 26; all UVic Libraries' publications can be accessed on our open-source [Spotlight](#) platform.

As a companion to the publication, UVic Legacy Art Galleries presents the ongoing exhibition *Object Biographies : Artists' Lives through their Archives*, until January 12, 2020 at the Legacy Maltwood Gallery, located in the lower level of the Mearns Centre for Learning —McPherson Library.



## ROGER BISHOP GIFT ANNOUNCEMENT

On November 1, UVic announced a \$1.6-million donation from the estate of the late Roger J. Bishop -- local scholar, avid book collector, and lifetime supporter of the arts, humanities and library at the University of Victoria. Regarded as the "father of UVic Special Collections", Bishop frequently shipped boxes of rare books to campus from his travels overseas.

Head of the English Department at Victoria College and then the University of Victoria, as well as a founder of what would become the university's Theatre Department (1945-1971), Bishop was a passionate advocate and builder of library collections, especially the rare book holdings at the heart of UVic Libraries' Special

Collections.

Read the [Ring story](#) and [news release](#).

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This newsletter is sent to you by the UVic Libraries Communications Office: [libcomm@uvic.ca](mailto:libcomm@uvic.ca)



[uvic.ca/library](http://uvic.ca/library)