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**December 2022**



*We acknowledge and respect the ɫəḱʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

**& HAPPY HOLIDAYS**



PLATE LXXXVIII. *Gaultheria Shallon.*  
(169)

*From all of us at UVic Libraries,  
we wish you health and happiness  
this holiday season.*

Click to read the [holiday card](#) text.

**& MESSAGE FROM ACTING UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN LISA GODDARD**



Dear Friends,

I'm thrilled to announce that we have begun the renovation of the lobby area in Mearns - McPherson Library. This renovation will provide more student study spaces, including group study which is always in high demand. Our five service desks will be amalgamated into a single desk to provide more streamlined service. We will be adding Indigenous elements to the space to acknowledge the history and culture of the peoples on whose traditional territory the library stands. Once the space is finished we will invite our donors to help us celebrate in style! Best wishes for a peaceful and happy holiday season. For a taste of local history, have a look at the 1926 [Christmas Edition](#) of *The Daily Colonist*, from the UVic Libraries digitized newspaper collection.

Very best,

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## &TOP STORIES FROM UVIC LIBRARIES IN 2022

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### Elizabeth Denham

UVic Libraries is proud to have supported the conferral of an Honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) upon [Elizabeth Denham CBE](#). An internationally recognized champion for data protection and government transparency,

### New library podcast

A new podcast series—[Taapwaywin: Talking about what we know and what we believe](#)—from the University of Victoria Libraries gives voice to Indigenous perspectives, harnessing the power of podcasting as an important and

Denham was BC's Information and Privacy Commissioner from 2010-2016, then became the UK's Information Commissioner in 2016, guiding her office and the country through Facebook's Cambridge Analytica scandal, as well as Brexit and COVID 19. Her many awards include a distinguished alumna award from UBC, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and her appointment in 2018 as a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. She holds a master's degree in archival studies from UBC's iSchool.

### **Book a librarian**

UVic librarians have helped thousands of students to shape their research question, develop a search strategy, and find and cite their sources. Starting this fall, getting expert research help became even easier. Now students and other researchers can [book a research help appointment](#) with a librarian on the UVic Libraries website, and meet either in person or on Zoom. From wanting to know how to find scholarly, peer-reviewed sources, to helping with systematic reviews -- or how to find a book or journal online -- librarians and archivists are available to help with any research question, conveniently and easily with the click of a button on the library website. From books and journals to datasets, streaming audio and video, government documents, maps, and even bike locks, we've got something to help all UVic students succeed.

### **Launch of new library interface**

In June, UVic Libraries celebrated the successful implementation of Ex Libris' Alma library services platform and the Primo discovery platform with a "Bon Voyager" BBQ held outside the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library. The milestone marked the replacement of UVic Libraries' twenty-year-old Voyager integrated library system and Summon discovery search interface. The once-in-a-generation software migration offers [improved search capabilities](#) for researchers, significant workflow efficiencies in the Libraries, better integration with other campus systems, and enhanced analytics to support data-informed decision-making.

vital way of sharing knowledge beyond the classroom and campus. Hosted by Associate University Librarian -- Reconciliation Ry Moran, *Taapwaywin* features conversations with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Survivors, academics, artists, activists, and community leaders about the role truth-telling can play in societal healing.

### **Faculty Success campaign**

To highlight the diverse research and teaching partnerships we have with faculty from all disciplines across the university, UVic Libraries launched our [Faculty Success campaign](#) featuring 12 stories about the ways in which the library successfully contributes to research and teaching at UVic. These include: providing access to rare research materials; digitizing local newspapers; creating open textbooks; publishing open access journals; creating digital exhibits to share research stories; helping faculty to organize and share research data; teaching technology workshops to support class assignments; and preserving digital research outputs to ensure long term access to the knowledge created by UVic researchers.

### **Ana and Peter Lowens Fellowship**

In November, UVic Libraries accepted applications from any UVic undergraduate and graduate students in any discipline to the [inaugural Peter and Ana Lowens University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections Student Fellowship Program](#). Successful student fellows undertake an independent research or creative project using rare and unique materials from Special Collections and University Archives. Projects can include ongoing research or new areas of scholarship. Thanks to the generosity of donors Peter and Ana Lowens, with additional funding supplemented by UVic Libraries, student fellows received a \$1,000 award, attended workshops, and were mentored by library staff and faculty.

### **Pathways to Impact**

The Pathways to Impact: Mobilizing Knowledge Fund awarded seven UVic community-based projects for original

### **ETextbooks savings for UVic students**

To track the use of eBooks, the Libraries' Copyright and Scholarly Communication office ran a small pilot for electronic textbooks assigned to courses for the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 terms. The resulting "[eTextbooks for Students](#)" website listed the eBooks by title, course number, term, and instructors' last names, and identified 327 eBook titles used in 270 courses during the two terms. The outcome of the pilot estimated that instructors saved UVic students a total of \$625,522 in the past two semesters by adopting Libraries' electronic resources for their courses. These savings greatly improve students' access to an affordable, quality education.

### **"Coming out of COVID" grants**

The "[Coming out of COVID](#)" UVic Libraries Strategic Directions Impact Fund was designed to support initiatives and projects that advance UVic Libraries' strategic priorities and organizational values. Eighteen applications were received with 13 of them funded for a total of \$68,000. The scope and vision of the projects range from celebrating student climate change action; solving 21st century digital preservation challenges; improving safety, ethics, and professional practice for engineering students; and creating an audio tour of UVic Libraries. Additionally, some funded projects provide professional development opportunities for UVic librarians and archivists.

research into real-world applications with the greatest impact. The selected research projects align and advance UVic's commitment to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), which aspire to "encompass equity issues for humanity—reducing poverty, hunger and inequality—along with sustainability issues that imperil the globe's habitability." The fund is among the first to directly target the SDGs at UVic, and is a joint initiative of the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation's [Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization](#) (RPKM) unit, in partnership with UVic Libraries.

### **Alan Hodgson digitization**

With generous funding from the British Columbia Historical Digitization Program from the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC, Special Collections and University Archives was proud to launch the [Alan Hodgson architectural plans and drawings collection](#) via UVic Libraries' digital asset management platform Vault. Totalling approximately 2,500 items related to over 40 projects, the collection includes elevations and floor plans, sketches and drawings, associated landscaping plans, photographs, and related records. The Hodgson digital collection complements [Victoria Modern](#), a series of previous online exhibits and publications dedicated to architectural modernism in Victoria, created by Professor Martin Segger and the Legacy Galleries, with other co-authors and curators.

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## **& ACROSS THE CAMPUS**

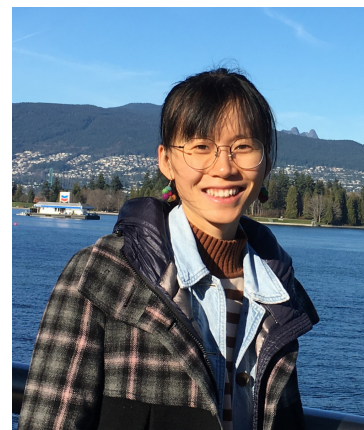
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*Sophie Groves*



*Chris Pihlak*



*Xue Ma*

## LIBRARY SCHOLARSHIPS

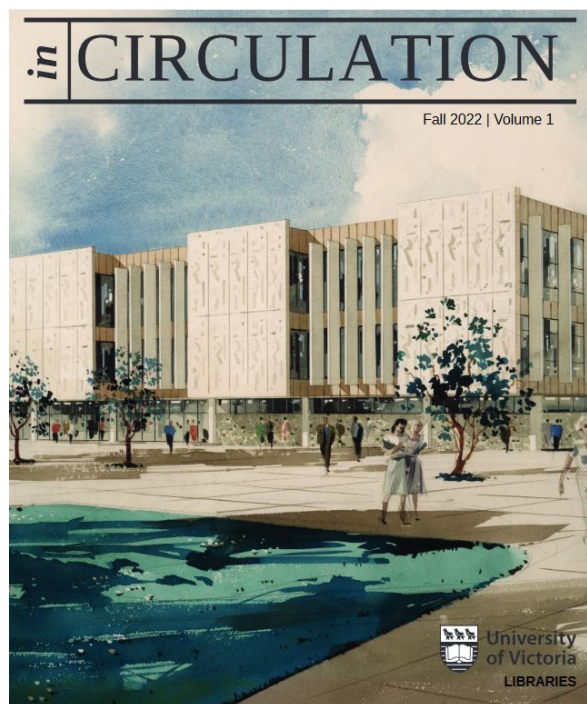
Congratulations to all the student recipients of our three library scholarships: the Gladys Nipp & Stephen Mah Family Award; the David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Student Library Scholarship; and the William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship.

Learn more information about the [donors and the scholarships](#).

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## & IN THE COMMUNITY

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### COMING SOON!

UVic Libraries is pleased to present a sneak peek of our new signature print and digital publication focused on library impact, *in CIRCULATION*. Featured content highlights our innovative programs, services, and activities and celebrates the committed work of library staff on campus and in our community. *in CIRCULATION* augments our existing library publications, including *The Ampersand*; our open-access journal, *KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies*; and our digital and print publications devoted to our archives and special collections. Look for a link to the digital Issuu version in our February newsletter!

Read our [current library publications](#)

### ABOUT OUR HOLIDAY CARD

A shrub with tough, oval-shaped, evergreen leaves and greyish to reddish bark, Salal features pinkish to white urn-shaped flowers that grow to long, one-sided clusters. The berries are dark blue to black, hairy and fleshy, with numerous seeds, giving them a grainy texture. Salal berries are without doubt the most plentiful and widely used fruit on the coast. All coastal Indigenous groups, from the Straits Salish to the Tsimshian, used them in large quantities. They picked them in clusters in late summer and ate them fresh or dried them in cakes for the winter. Salal cakes were highly prized, and the berries were frequently used to sweeten other foods, as well as to thicken salmon eggs. Salal berries are still eaten today by Indigenous Peoples, usually in jams and preserves.

Text adapted from Nancy J. Turner's *Food Plants of Coastal First Peoples Vancouver*: UBC Press E78 B9T85 1995

Image from *A Guide to the Wildflowers* by Alice Lounsberry, illustrated by Mrs. Ellis Rowan New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company QK118 L68 1899

Gift of Jim Rainier

Both titles available for use in Special Collections and University Archives.

## & IN THE NEWS



### WERNER ISRAEL (1931-2022)

It is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the passing earlier this year of library donor Professor Emeritus [Werner Israel](#). Werner and his late wife Inge generously [donated a letter](#) to the library from Stephen Hawking, honoring Werner's lifetime work with the world-renowned physicist.



It's been a big week for @UVicWriting student Rachel Lachmansingh @rachellwrites: she's just been announced as 1 / 5 finalists for @cbcbooks Poetry Prize + 1 of 2 WR students nom'd for @PushcartPrize fiction contest! [ow.ly/bgoX50LIFhB](https://ow.ly/bgoX50LIFhB) #thisisuvic #uvicstudents



### ON THE VERGE WRITING CONTEST ALUMNA NOMINATED FOR CBC PRIZE

Congratulations to Rachel Lachmansingh who was one of five finalists for CBC Books Poetry Prize and one of two writing students nominated for The Pushcart Prize.

[Rachel placed first](#) in our *on the Verge* (OTV) student writing contest in 2020, and Yusuf Saadi, another OTV alum, was nominated for the 2021 Griffin Poetry Prize.

Learn more about [this year's OTV contest](#).

## & OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



Photo: UVic Photo Services

### CAMPUS KUDOS



Desk rendering courtesy of Jensen Chernoff Thompson Architects.

### LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

Three library groups were celebrated at the November [Campus Kudos](#) event. Congrats!

### **Copyright and Scholarly Communications Team:**

*Inba Kehoe, Emma Hilliard, Jennifer Ashmore, and Mary Macleod*

This team scanned the university landscape to determine the extent to which the Libraries' licensed electronic resources were being used, identified 327 titles being used in 270 courses, which resulted in a savings of nearly \$630K for UVic students.

### **Decolonizing Description Task Group:**

*Laura Doublet, Ry Moran, Jane Morrison, Lisa Petrachenko, Pia Russell, and Dean Seeman*

The task group actively set out to change aspects of an outdated and offensive global vocabulary, guided by a set of principles that prioritize respect, diversity, and improved representation in describing Indigenous-focused material across the Libraries' collections and resources.

### **Library Custodial Services:**

*Mike Gillespie, Dave Collins, Chris Sawatsky, Thai Le, Jimmy Aquino, Dave Gellatly, Rodrigo Solomon, and Ruenruedee Nimwilai*

With a unique combination of fearlessness and positivity, this team made it possible for those working and studying in the libraries to continue doing so during the most challenging times during the pandemic.

We're building a new service desk and expanded study space in Mearns – McPherson Library! Construction will begin in early December and is expected to be completed by April 2023. During construction, the main Ask Us desk will be moved to the Music + Media desk at the back of the building.

Read the [Library Renovations guide](#) for details and updates.



*Photo: Jessica Sigurdson, Canadian Museum of Human Rights*

### **TAAPWAYWIN: NEW LIBRARY PODCAST EPISODE NOW AVAILABLE**

“Within the stories is the deeper truth that we're talking about.”

Episode 3 of *Taapwaywin* is about places that have tangible connections to human rights abuses, how we remember injustices when the physical signs of that history are no longer visible, and what we do with the buildings and structures that still stand.

[Listen: Preservation, Destruction, Transformation](#)

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## **& THE LAST STORY**

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Photo: Chad Hipolito

## **PROMOTING HEALING AND RECONCILIATION AT UVIC**

*by: Ry Moran, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation*

As a student, I arrived at the University of Victoria with two burning questions: how did the world get so out of balance, and what happened to Indigenous Peoples in Canada?

These questions were driven by a search to understand the profound inequality in the world, the challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples, and what I, as a Métis person, could do about all of this.

I spent countless hours in the library, pouring over books, articles, and archival documents. The foundation I built through the University of Victoria Libraries gave me the confidence I needed to turn hope into action, and to work each and every day to advance Truth and Reconciliation across Canada and beyond.

Each year we welcome thousands of new students to campus with burning questions of their own – students hungry and ready to leave the world a better place for themselves, their families, and communities. Our students leave this university equipped with the skills, knowledge, and acumen necessary to tackle our greatest societal challenges. The library is at the heart of this learning pathway.

Since I joined the Libraries team in 2020, I've taken a good look at what resources we have available for students, researchers, and community members. There is work to be done.

There is a need expand our services and offerings to community members, who are looking for a trusted and safe place to preserve critical information. This includes oral histories, written materials, maps and research collections.

There is also work to be done to better honour the collections we already have.

Digitizing these archives ensures their long-term preservation, and makes them accessible and available to the Indigenous communities who entrusted them to us. This is a vital step in reconnecting the circle of preserving and transmitting knowledge to future generations.

With your help today, we can digitize historical maps and newspaper collections, which have profound importance for both academic research and in legal cases related to treaties, land-claims, and reparations.

## YOUR IMPACT

**Library Enrichment Fund:** Your donation to this fund enables us to grow our special collections, as well as improve study space for students. Last year, Library Enrichment Fund donors supported us to acquire both personal and legal archives, including stories from residential school survivors and the papers of Chief Wilton Littlechild, a Cree lawyer who helped to architect the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

**Digital Initiatives Fund:** One of the most valuable resources at the UVic Libraries is our vast collection of digital archives, books and publications. Your gift to the Digital Initiatives Fund allows us to put our collections online. The process of digitization not only preserves critical artifacts, it also creates broad access to information, which benefits our students, researchers, and the community at large.



*Hand-written recording of Indigenous plant names and associated cassette tapes. These historic records have been digitized thanks to supporters like you.*

## With your donation, we can begin to decolonize our library spaces.

For example, we have plans to create a permanent installation on the main floor of the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library, which will feature commissioned art works from Indigenous artists and information about regional Indigenous history. This will ensure that each and every student within our space has the opportunity to better understand these lands and the responsibilities that come alongside living in these territories.

With your generosity, we can support efforts to revitalize Indigenous languages and repatriate materials back to communities. Throughout Canada's history, schools have been used as a tool for colonization and it is time we break these cycles and ensure our efforts are fully aligned with the resurgence of thriving Indigenous nations, communities and peoples.

I am humbled to be able to take these actions at the Libraries, to help promote respect, truth, and understanding. Your support will have a powerful impact for our students, for our researchers, and for the Indigenous communities on whose land we walk each day.

Please send in a donation today to further the vital work of reconciliation at the University of Victoria Libraries.

Donate today!



UVic Libraries Communications Office: [libcomm@uvic.ca](mailto:libcomm@uvic.ca)

