

NEOS 25+:

Building Community & Collaboration



NEOS
LIBRARY CONSORTIUM



The NEOS Library Consortium has **18 member institutions** serving Albertans through **40 libraries** throughout the province. Clients of NEOS libraries, who number in excess of **140,000 current users**, have access to over **14 million print and digital items** in the shared catalogue.

NEOS
LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

Vision

NEOS: Sharing resources and knowledge to empower people.

Mission

NEOS is a library consortium that supports members' clients in a cost-effective manner through the sharing of people, technology, and collections.

Values and Guiding Principles

As a consortium of member libraries, we are committed to the following values and guiding principles:

INNOVATION

We embrace innovative solutions for the enhancement of access and customer services.

COLLABORATION

We share our resources, our ideas, our expertise, and our knowledge to deliver quality services to our clients.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are responsible to member libraries, their clients and home institutions for our decisions and actions.

FAIRNESS

We reach equitable decisions through open and respectful discussions aimed at maximum benefits for our clients.

ADVOCACY

We promote the benefits of cooperation and resource sharing to member institutions and the broader community.

INTEGRITY

We base all our interactions, internally and externally, on mutual trust and ethical behaviour.

INCLUSION

We value diversity and equity among our users, staff and member libraries, and respond with equity.





As NEOS celebrates its 25th anniversary year in 2019 its member libraries continue to harness and leverage the strength of their physical collections to enable efficient access to print materials for their clients. By building on areas of subject strength, member libraries seek to support their clients' information needs through a unified collection. However, as collection formats and library services evolve, NEOS libraries look to other avenues of collaboration to expand NEOS's original mandate as a print-sharing consortium and to animate new initiatives. Digital-first collection strategies, a growing emphasis on research data management and open access resources, and a desire to demonstrate consortial value are driving the work of NEOS libraries. Libraries are also beginning steps towards decolonizing library services, responding to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. NEOS libraries seek to engage staff in consortial contributions to their core activities, to enhance services to clients.

The 2019-22 Strategic Plan is a guiding document developed with input from NEOS member libraries and represents the voices of the diverse NEOS members. The plan will shape the work of the NEOS Executive, and NEOS working groups, task forces and committees.

PART A: Executive Agenda

ACTION A1: Review Cost Allocation

Support the Fee Review Task Force in its review and revision of the NEOS annual assessment cost formula, which includes a long range view of library expansions, contractions, minimum fees, volatility of membership, ROI, and future trends.

A1.1 2019-20

- Fee Review Task Force to bring recommendations on cost formula to Executive, to be brought to Directors at the Spring 2019 meeting.
- Executive to review the recommendations of the Task Force in light of member library expansions/contractions, ROI. Executive will identify implications of these findings and provide a report and recommendations to Directors in 2020.

ACTION A2: Review E-resource Management Processes

Review processes undertaken at the University of Alberta as they relate to e-resource management on behalf of NEOS members to ensure efficiency and sustainability.

A2.1 2019-20

- Executive members to engage with the University of Alberta Collections Strategies Unit, Bibliographic Services and Information Technology Services to review processes undertaken on behalf of the consortium, to consider appropriateness and efficiency, and potential impact on workload.

ACTION A3: Examine Consortial Services Alignment

Examine overlapping memberships and strategic alignment of NEOS members in other library consortia. Assess whether strategies and outcomes are aligned, and whether there are duplications, or gaps that NEOS can fill.

A3.1 2020-21

- Executive to conduct an environmental scan to explore what consortia NEOS members belong to, what consortial services they use, what services the various consortia offer, and what their mandates are.

- Executive to review potential overlaps or gaps in services, potential impacts of membership patterns and consortial changes, and provide information and/or recommendations to Directors.

ACTION A4: Oversee the Work of Task Forces and Committees

Continue to lead operations and perform liaison roles in ongoing operational task forces: Shared Repository; ILS Interface Working Group; and standing committees including the Access Services Committee; Technical Services Committee; Continuing Education Committee; Communications Committee; Return on Investment Committee.

A4.1 2019

- Executive to ensure completion of work of task forces from 2014-18 plan.
- Executive to establish a BLUEcloud Analytics community of practice, including BCA report writers and site coordinators, to encourage support and recognition by Directors of the importance of BCA work.

A4.2 2019-22

- Executive to establish new task forces and working groups as required.

ACTION A5: Monitor Emerging Issues and Progress in E-lending

Monitor emerging issues and changes in the publishing/library environment regarding the lending/sharing of eformat materials (whole book and chapter level lending, model licenses).

A5.1 2020-21

- Executive to explore and document progress in this area.
- Executive to review ebook licenses held by NEOS member libraries and develop model wording for ebook licenses to improve our ability to share ebook content.

A5.2 2019-21

- Executive to engage with the Continuing Education Committee to develop learning opportunities for members on lending of ebook content.

PART B: Members' Agenda

ACTION B1: Encourage Progress towards Decolonization and Indigenization

Recognizing the spirit and intent of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' *Truth and Reconciliation Committee Report*, develop relationships, shared services, collection and description strategies, and learning activities to encourage progress towards decolonization and Indigenization in NEOS member libraries.

B1.1 2019-21

- Building on libraries' existing relationships and opportunities, and with appropriate consultation with Indigenous communities, offer learning activities including regional training events, cultural events, land-based learning, MOOCs and/or a symposium.
- Continuing Education Committee to explore learning opportunities in member libraries and develop one or two learning events annually, possibly in conjunction with the conference.

B1.2 2019-22

- Building on the work of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations Indigenous Matters Committee, establish a task force to explore strategies, activities, services, collections and staffing models that have been employed in the broader library community that support the goal of decolonization and indigenization.
- Inform NEOS member libraries of these best practices.

B1.3 2019-22

Technical Services Committee to monitor the progress and implications of the University of Alberta Decolonizing Description initiative. Engage in preparation for NEOS implementation of new subject headings. Implement the identified subject heading changes NEOS-wide and develop related policies and training.

ACTION B2: Support Strategic Collection Analysis and Development

Support the advancement of shared collection development by performing an analysis of the NEOS collection on a broad scale, considering print and eformat materials. This analysis will be used to create a snapshot of subject diversity, patron use, and sharing practices of materials available through the NEOS catalogue.

B2.1 2019

Executive to reestablish Collection Analysis Task Force and revise its Terms of Reference.

B2.2 2019-20

Using analytic tools, self-identification and a systems approach, Collection Analysis Task Force enables libraries to identify areas of subject strength and specialized collections within the consortium. The purpose of this identification is to enable libraries to declare areas of subject concentration.

B2.3 2020-22

Develop a model for libraries to declare areas of collection concentration and develop procedures that support a move to cooperative collection development.

ACTION B3: Seek Areas for Collaboration

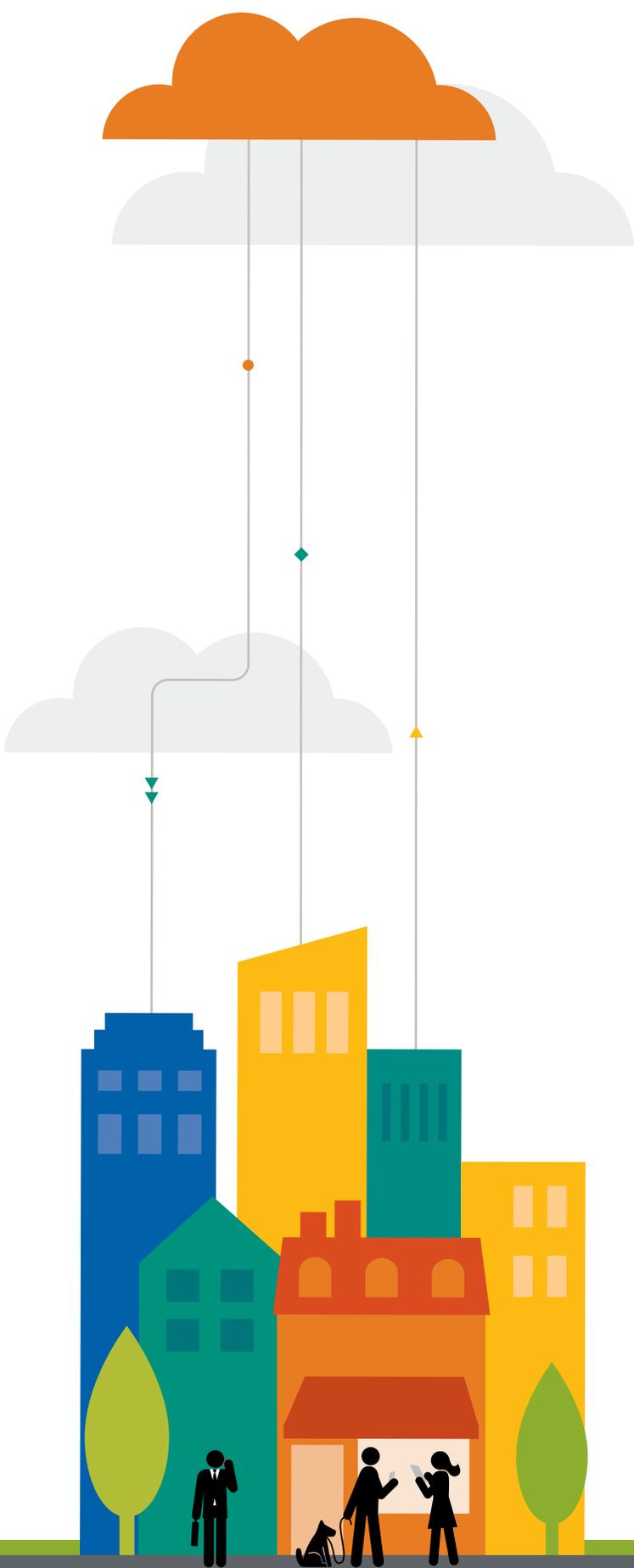
NEOS thrives on a foundation of diversity and collaboration. In order to recognize this strength and embed the notion into our strategic road map, specific collaborative targets are expressed.

B3.1 2021-22

Establish a task force to build upon relationships and partnerships between NEOS libraries and local or regional public libraries to foster the freer flow of materials between them and enhance users' access to services.

B3.2 2020-22

Facilitate the sharing of expertise, resources and educational opportunities across NEOS in areas such as copyright, Open Educational Resources, Open Access, model licenses, new technologies, print and digital preservation, patron privacy, etc.



NEOS

LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

- Alberta Government
- Alberta Health Services
- Alberta Innovates
- Burman University
- Concordia University of Edmonton
- Covenant Health
- Grande Prairie Regional College
- Keyano College
- The King's University
- Lakeland College
- MacEwan University
- Newman Theological College
- NorQuest College
- Northern Lakes College
- Olds College
- Red Deer College
- University of Alberta
- Vanguard College

18 institutional members
40 libraries
140,000 primary clients
5.9 million unique titles
14 million items



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