



**FEEDBACK RE OPEN SUNDAYS**

*"I have often wanted to go to the library on Sunday, it's hectic on Sat. and I work M-F. Wed. eves are appreciated, and I am often coming to the library Sundays now!"*  
- Carol

*"Great! perfect for kids trying to finish book reports before school on Monday."*

*"Wonderful for us commuters who appreciate weekend hours. Keep it going!"*  
- Jaye

*"I love having the Library open on Sundays. Please keep it going! Thanks!"*  
- Amy

*"I think the Sunday opening is great. It works well for student study and research."*  
- Robin

**Things are changing at the Bowen Island Public Library.**

This report describes the library's strategic planning process and identifies goals and objectives for 2009 to 2014.

The Bowen Island Public Library promotes lifelong learning, the love of reading, and the exploration of ideas, culture, and knowledge in a welcoming, lively atmosphere.



**Why Now?**

A review of strategic priorities for the library was overdue.

Since our last strategic planning session in 2004, much has changed on Bowen Island and in the library. The demographic profile of Bowen residents has changed, with growth in the number of seniors and young families. Housing costs have risen,

technology continues to change, and library use has increased. Many new trustees have joined our board. As well, in 2008 we decided to apply for municipal library status.

It was clear that we needed to look again at the library's services and community needs.

## What We Did



Summer 2008: Bowen Library partnered with the UBC School of Library and Information Sciences, with funding from MITACS ACCELERATE.

Surveys were mailed to every Bowen household. As well, three youth focus groups were held at Bowen Island Community School (Grade 6 and Grade 7) and at the Bowen Library (secondary school students).

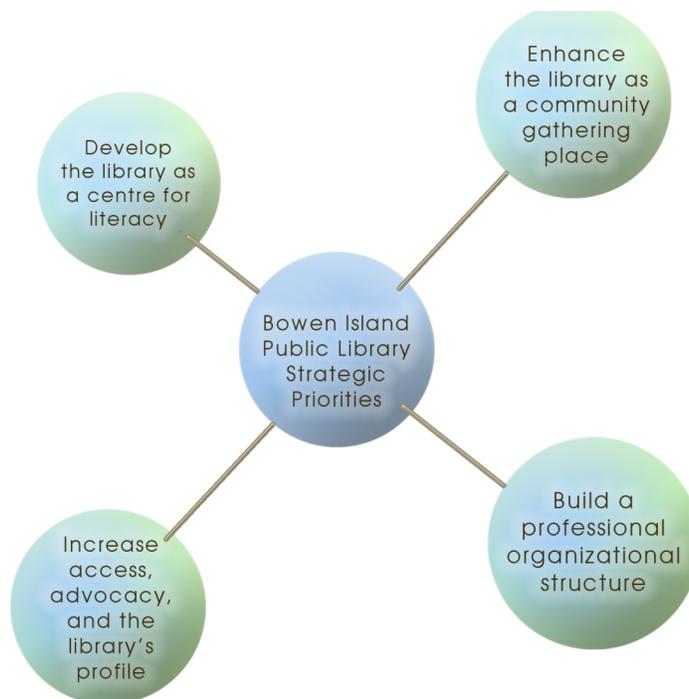
Fall 2008: The researchers and Chief Librarian presented the Findings from the Bowen Island Library Assessment to the Board.

February 2009: A facilitated half-day meeting on strategic priorities brought together the Library Board and Chief Librarian to review the report and identify priorities for 2009 to 2014. Additional board and staff meetings refined priorities and developed this strategic plan.

September 2009: The Board of Trustees adopted the strategic plan. Tactical planning for immediate priorities began.

2010: Promoted awareness of library planning and services.

## Our Priorities



## The Details

### Enhance the library as a community gathering place

- Outside, create a more welcoming and comfortable gathering place
- Inside, change the public space to improve seating, study areas, and shelf space
- Increase the area available for programs and events

*IN PROGRESS*

*IN PROGRESS*

### Develop the library as a centre for literacy

- Focus the library collection by building the collection differently rather than just acquiring more
- Continue to partner and collaborate with other community organizations to use resources, provide enhanced services to the community, and meet shared goals
- Repond to emerging needs as resources allow

*IN PROGRESS*

*DONE*

### Build a professional organizational structure

- Become a municipal library
- Establish key committees for human resources, finance, and policy and planning
- Review and revise library policies, focusing on collection development, and identify any policy gaps
- Develop a staffing manual that reflects current practices
- Recruit and retain library staff and volunteers to meet community needs over the next five years
- Develop a five-year financial plan

*DONE*

*DONE*

*IN PROGRESS*

### Increase access, advocacy, and the library's profile

- Open on Sundays in response to strong community interest expressed in services survey
- Promote awareness of library services by improved marketing to the public
- Help library patrons use electronic resources more effectively
- Expand or reorganize the library space

*DONE*

*IN PROGRESS*

## Who We Are



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**430 Bowen Island  
Trunk Rd.,  
PO Box 10,  
Bowen Island, BC  
V0N 1G0**

Phone:  
**604-947-9788**

E-Mail:  
**info@bowenlibrary.ca**

Check out our online  
resources:  
**www.bowenlibrary.ca**

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### Board of Trustees

Andrea Little, Chair  
Maureen Nicholson, Vice Chair  
Ted Benson, Treasurer  
Alison Beale  
Hilary Butler  
Val Geddes  
Len Gilday (joined Jan. 2010)  
Sarah Graham (joined Jan. 2010)  
Richard Labonte  
Katherine Lawrence  
(resigned Nov. 2009)  
Sheilagh Sparks  
David Wrinch  
(municipal liaison Jan. 2010)

### Library Staff

Tina Nielsen, Chief Librarian  
Susan Geist  
Christine Miller  
Janet Howey  
(resigned March 2010)  
Sandy Mulholland  
(joined Sept. 2009)  
Janet Esseiva  
(joined April 2010)

...and our thanks to our ever-growing contingent of over thirty volunteers



### Our mission

is to promote lifelong learning, the love of reading, and the exploration of ideas, culture, and knowledge in a welcoming, lively atmosphere.

### Your library

- fosters individual self-development and lifelong learning
- supports an active cultural and intellectual life on the island
- increases enjoyment of leisure time and activities
- promotes reading as a pleasurable and worthwhile experience
- creates and sustains community partnerships
- supports intellectual freedom
- helps develop skills and solve practical problems
- sustains a well-informed and knowledgeable public