

Bowen Library Strategic Plan 2021 COVID Edition



Introduction

The COVID-19 global pandemic is a life-defining moment for most of us. Everything we knew and understood about how our lives operate has been thrown into disarray and we are left needing to make plans for an unknown future. This was the great challenge for the Library Board and staff – how to make plans for the unpredictable?

We used a scenario-based analysis to review some possible futures and let the most important aspects of library service inform our plan.

Overarching Goal

To provide stability for our island community as an essential service during this uncertain and challenging time.

Principles to guide our path

During the COVID pandemic, it is important for the library to be nimble and flexible.

Being kind and supportive is critical.

Bowen Library Vision

Connecting islanders to each other and to the world.

Bowen Library Mission

Nurture discovery and learning for all ages, through the sharing of ideas, knowledge, skills and resources.

BOWEN ISLAND
LIBRARY

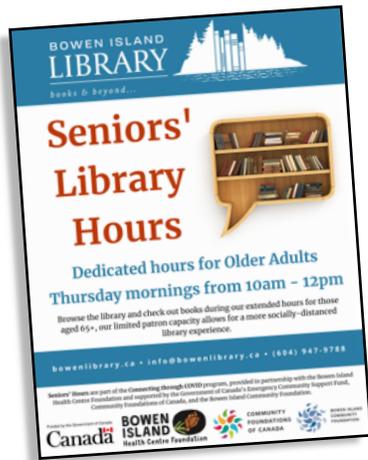
books & beyond...



Steps that support our goal

Keep in close touch with the island

Provide regular opportunities for communication with Bowen Islanders about their library needs.



Develop and deliver programs and services that are COVID safe

- ◆ Enhance online offerings.
- ◆ Explore alternative locations, including outdoor space.
- ◆ Collaborate with other organizations and individuals

Use our human resources effectively and safely

- ◆ Support the mental and physical health of library staff.
- ◆ Provide for staff professional development in new technologies.
- ◆ Ensure staff availability to participate in appropriate municipal committees and opportunities.
- ◆ Consider the changing role of library volunteers; plan for different library staffing scenarios.

This plan takes us to the end of 2021.

Review and update our collections development policy

- ◆ Use feedback from patron surveys to inform the policy.
- ◆ Investigate collection policies of other libraries.

Develop finances that are resilient and sustainable

- ◆ Create opportunities for the Library Board to connect with Mayor and Council regarding library budget requests and revisions.
- ◆ Consider and apply for alternative sources of funding, such as grants.
- ◆ Establish a fundraising committee.
- ◆ Commit to periodic reviews of actual income and expenses with regard to ongoing financial policy, including re-allocation of expenses as appropriate.