

Library Strategic Plan 2021-2025: Share Knowledge

Our Passion

Carleton Library is a vibrant and active partner in teaching, learning, and research across all disciplines of the university. A centre of knowledge, interdisciplinarity, and community, the Library collects, disseminates, and generates information, serving the campus and beyond. The Library welcomes all faculty, students, and staff as well as the community; its staff are dedicated to understanding and meeting the needs of its users. The library building is a space for people, connections, and learning.

Our Aspirations

- We will be active partners in the research mission of the university.
- We will build on our past strengths and success in supporting and partnering in teaching and learning.
- We will strengthen Carleton Library's connections and outreach to the community.
- We will explore new opportunities for collaboration with those external to the university in a focused way.
- We will enhance Library space to support knowledge and sharing that is purposeful, creating a physical and online manifestation of knowledge on campus that is accessible for all.
- We will build upon our role as global citizens and make actions that reflect our commitment to society.

Areas of Focus

Share Knowledge, Shape the Future

Research

We will be active partners in the research mission of the university.

Pathways:

Improve access to collections

- Acquire new resources, particularly in the areas of Carleton's research strengths, for new faculty, and for multidisciplinary research projects
- Expand access to global collections for research through RapidILL (Rapid Interlibrary Loan)
- Participate in service to automate access to print collections among other contributing Ontario libraries
- Promote special collections through discoverable online exhibitions and outreach

Build the capacity of and promote our existing services for researchers

- Strengthen our consultation services including data management; evidence synthesis; open scholarship; author rights and re-use permissions (copyright) for researchers
- Promote use of researcher profiles, metrics and other tools to increase impact, recognition and partnership opportunities for researchers
- Consolidate and upgrade current institutional repository (IR) infrastructure to highlight and promote Carleton research
- Enhance services to graduate students focussing on support for theses; establishing early researcher profiles and managing their research outputs
- Expand our contributions to open scholarship and research infrastructure initiatives (Portage, Public Knowledge Project (PKP), Traditional Knowledge, New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO), ORCID, FAIR etc.)
- Improve awareness of Indigenous data in terms of ethics, responsibilities (OCAP etc)
- Develop a Researcher in Residence program

Develop a systematic approach to digital preservation and infrastructure

- Digitize and provide access to our unique collections
- Participate in and support national and international print preservation efforts, such as the the Canadian Collective Print Strategy Working group
- Actively participate in digital preservation and access initiatives such as Hathitrust, Internet Archives, Canadiana Online and others
- Preserve and promote the Carleton Library Series

Increase profile and support for our own research practice

Teaching and Learning

We will build on our past strengths and success in supporting and partnering in teaching and learning.

Pathways:

Increase our support for online learning

- Create and expand upon library modules for Brightspace (including for first year students)
- Reimagine our face-to-face support for online learning
- Provide a more seamless experience for course readings in Brightspace

- Promote the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OERs)
- Promote resources with no additional permissions needed for re-use (existing licensed content, OERs, Open Access, Creative Commons, Public Domain)
- Make license information and permissions more transparent for course preparation
- Upgrade self-help component on copyright web pages

Extend our support and involvement in experiential learning

- Promote Book Arts Lab/Book Arts courses
- Expand program for supporting practicum and co-op students
- Create a Data Lab in the library for data, GIS and Bloomberg workstations
- Develop 3D printing services

Serve Ottawa, Serve the World

Community Engagement

We will strengthen Carleton Library's connections and outreach to the community.

We will explore new opportunities for collaboration with those external to the university in a focused way.

Pathways:

Highlight and strengthen our partnerships with community

- Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), and Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL)
- Other colleges, universities, high schools, and community organizations

Enhance and promote special collections

- Expand digitization efforts of Ottawa Resource Collection, archival material, and other special collections
- Focus on community engagement through the Uganda Collection

Build Book Arts Lab programming to include retirees, community and students

Review and enhance our support for community borrowers and alumni

Develop community events ie: speaker series

Strive for Wellness, Strive for Sustainability

Space

We will enhance Library space to support knowledge and sharing that is purposeful, creating a physical and online manifestation of knowledge on campus that is accessible for all.

Pathways:

Improve navigation and accessibility throughout the Library

- Washrooms, wayfinding, power, navigation, signage, etc
- Create a new booking system for groups rooms
- Improve service area

Reimagine first floor for research and learning needs

In partnership with the university's wellness hub initiative or with Health & Counselling, create a satellite wellness site (wellness desk)

Increase the accessibility of digital content created by the library, particularly videos and scanned copies of print materials

Plan for continuous improvement of workplace culture

Social and Environmental Responsibility

We will build upon our role as global citizens and make actions that reflect our commitment to society

Pathways:

Act on Kinàmàgawin recommendations to make Carleton Library a more welcoming space for current and future Indigenous students, staff, and faculty

- Review and enhance Indigenous collection
- Hire an Indigenous Services Librarian and create an Indigenous student internship program
- Participate in decolonization of metadata at the international, national, and provincial level

Stand by the recommendations of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan

- Engage with students on issues of EDI and accessibility as it relates to the library
- Incorporate best practices into our hiring process
- Foster a work and study environment of inclusion and respect

Work towards the objectives of Carleton's Coordinated Accessibility Strategy

- Develop a document accessibility standard to ensure all digitized materials meet accessibility standards
- Develop and provide continual and regular accessibility training for all library staff
- Take action on the recommendations from the accessibility audit