

THE COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

One example of Scholarly Communication Work in Public Scholarship

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Introductions: Who We Are

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Agenda

- Background to Community Scholars
- Scholarly Communications and advancing the community-facing missions of our universities
 - Examples from SFU, TRU, UNBC, and VIU
 - Breakout group discussions: Examples from your institutions?
Gaps and opportunities?
- Wrap-up and sharing our ideas

Background to Community Scholars

- Researchers around the world are studying **social problems** and possible solutions
- Findings are published in peer-reviewed journals which are mostly inaccessible to **>170,000 non-profits and charities** in Canada doing critical work on social issues

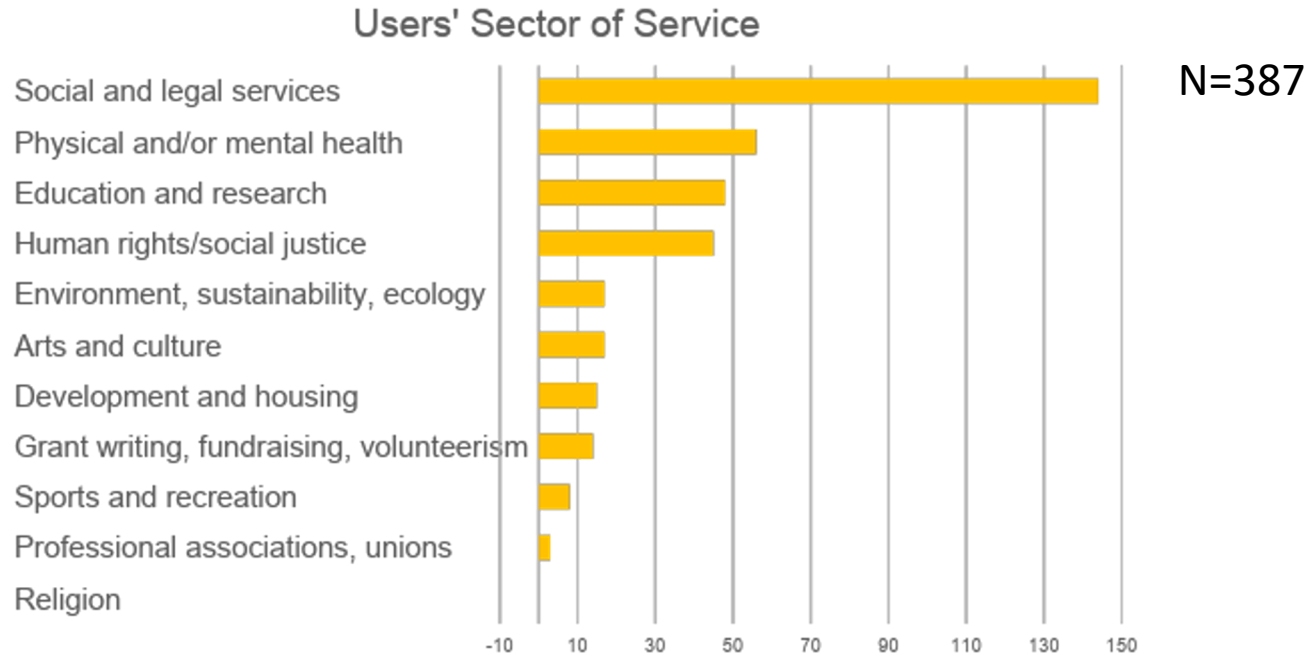
Our Response: Access to >**20,000** journal titles and ebooks for **500** Community Scholars

- Staff of charities and non-profits who can benefit from **access to the latest research and knowledge** to enhance their practice

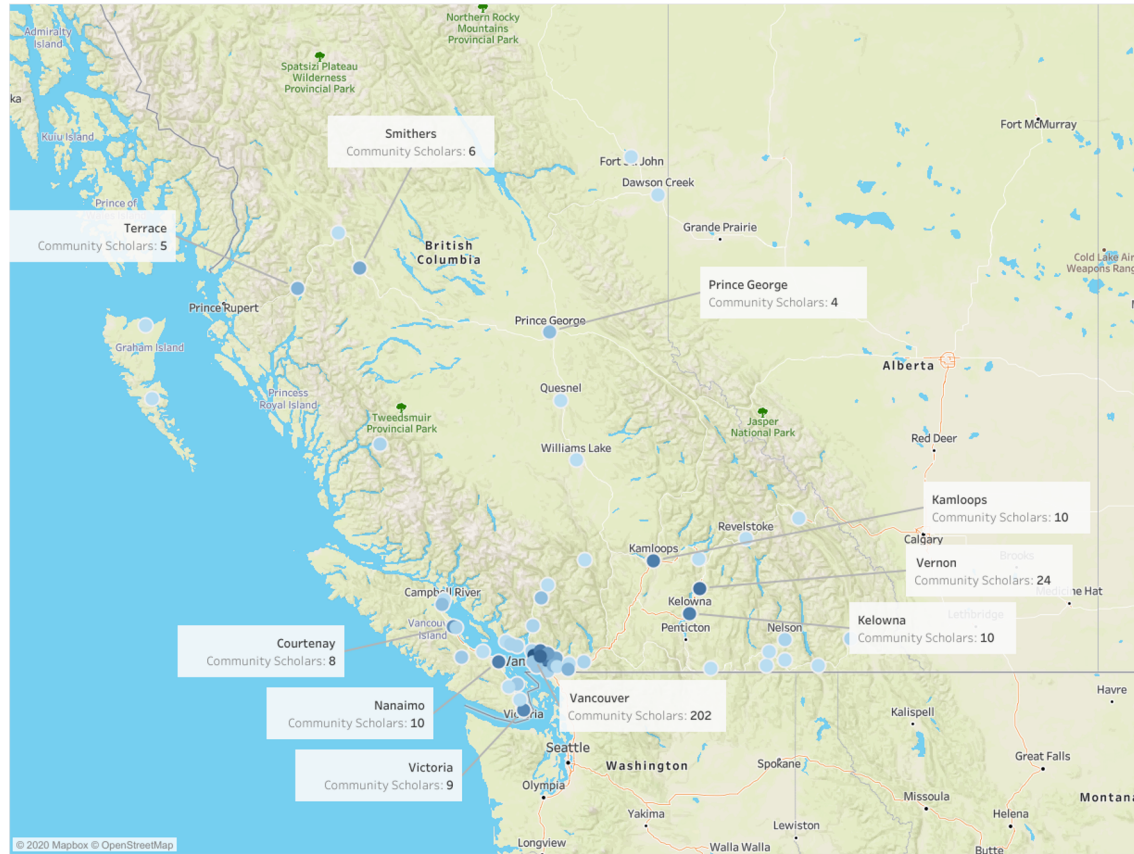
Community Scholars can

- Search for, find, and read scholarly publications from anywhere they have an internet connection
- Consult with a dedicated librarian
- Participate in tailored workshops, Community Scholars journal clubs, and other events

Who are the Community Scholars?

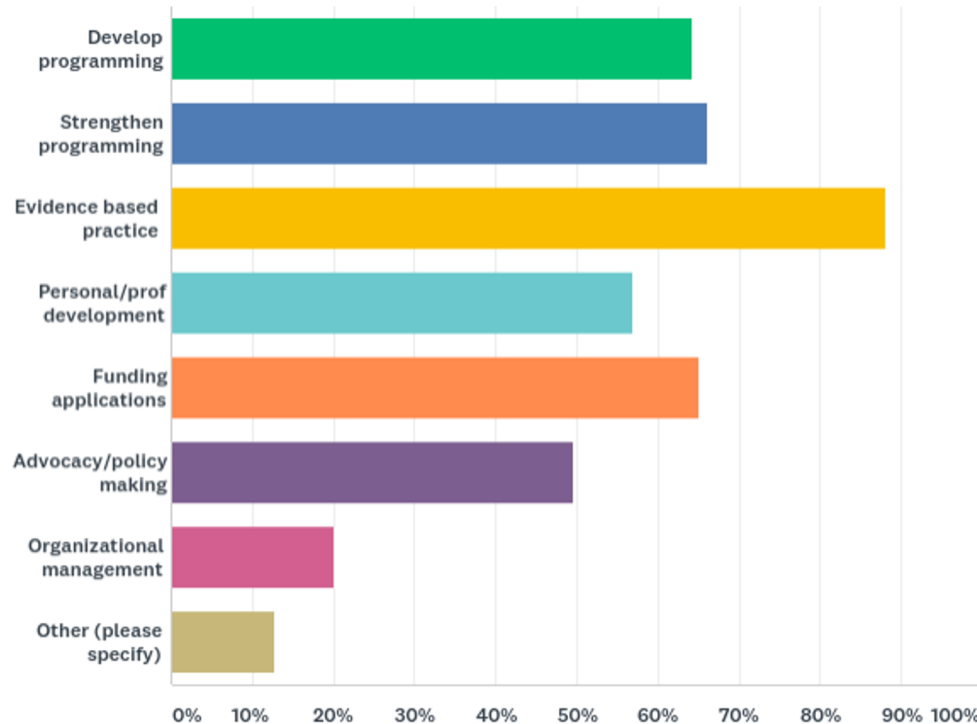


Locations of Community Scholars - 2020



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How do Community Scholars use research?



Success Stories in the Making



“...the access to scholarly information leveled the playing field” Alison Silgado, CEO of Pacifica Treatment.



“I discovered several useful articles, including one that seemed to match the very language and framework of the granting criteria”. Heather Lynch, Youth Services Manager, Options Community Services



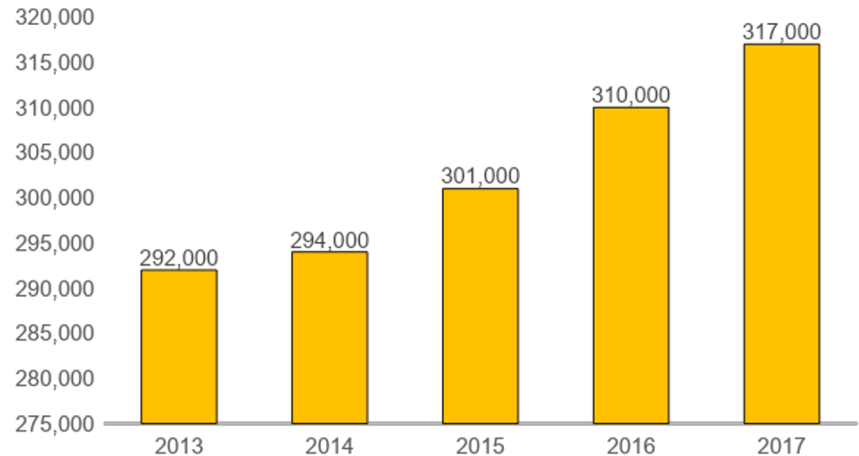
“The opportunity to bridge academic and community knowledge has helped shape our practice to new discoveries and we are grateful to have access to this resource when we need it.” Brooke Oxley, Community Connector

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The Non-Profit Landscape in BC

- \$21.9 billion in 2017
- (8% GDP for BC)
- 20,000 Non-Profits and Charities
- 12.7% of labour force

British Columbia: Employment in Non-Profit

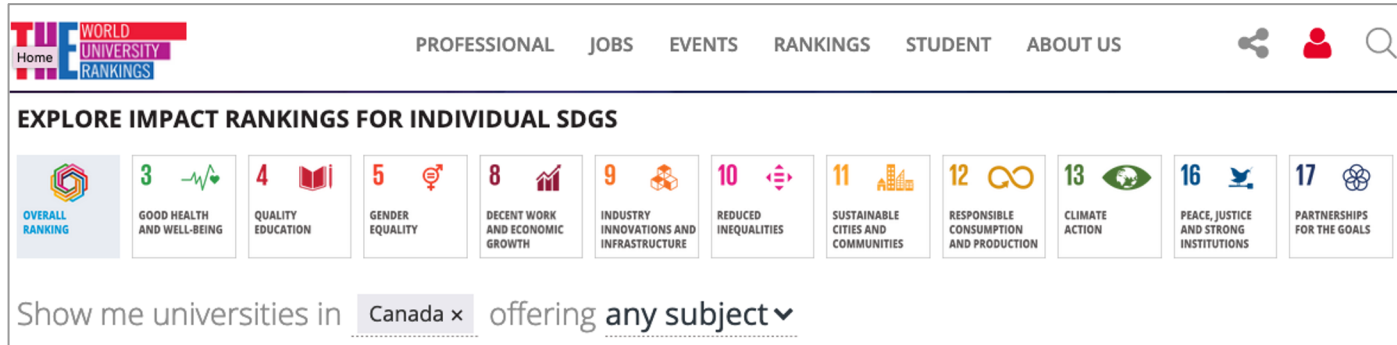


Barriers to access reported by Community Scholars



“Much more in the way of opportunities such as this are badly needed. [This helps] ensure an equitable society where social policy decisions are not made in isolation from those social groups most impacted by those policies.”

(De Forest and Karpilovsky, 2018)



The screenshot shows the 'THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS' website. The navigation bar includes links for PROFESSIONAL, JOBS, EVENTS, RANKINGS, STUDENT, and ABOUT US. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'EXPLORE IMPACT RANKINGS FOR INDIVIDUAL SDGs'. This section displays 17 icons representing different Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their corresponding themes. The first icon is labeled 'OVERALL RANKING'. The other 16 icons are numbered 3 through 17, each with a specific SDG icon and a description. At the bottom of the section, there is a search bar with the text 'Show me universities in' followed by a dropdown menu showing 'Canada x' and 'offering any subject v'.

SDG Number	SDG Icon	SDG Theme
3	Heart with pulse line	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4	Open book	QUALITY EDUCATION
5	Gender symbol	GENDER EQUALITY
8	Bar chart with upward arrow	DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9	Factory with gear	INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10	Two people with arrows	REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11	City skyline	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12	Recycling symbol	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13	Globe with flame	CLIMATE ACTION
16	Peace symbol	PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17	Network of people	PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Show me universities in **Canada x** offering **any subject v**

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Scholarly Communications and advancing the missions of our universities

VIU Library Strategic Objective: *Engaged community and informed practice*

“...To know, support, and reflect the VIU community, the library must continue to engage with that community to the greatest extent possible... to make our presence, our services, and our supports known...”

[VIU Library 2018 Strategic Plan](#)

[UN SDG worksheet \(adapted from VIU Library\)](#) (2019)

[VIU and the UN Sustainability Goals](#)

Scholarly Communications and advancing the missions of our universities

SFU's Strategic Vision: “To be the leading **engaged university**”

“We will contribute all of our capacities, from people to properties, to develop healthier and more vibrant communities”

SFU Library's Strategic Plan: “As a key player in SFU's Engaged University strategy, the Library will lead and collaborate with academic and community partners to share our assets and learn from others”

Scholarly Communications and advancing the missions of our universities

UNBC

Mission: “The Geoffrey R. Weller Library’s mission is to be a centre of intellectual life for the University of Northern British Columbia. The Library welcomes all UNBC’s communities to access information, exchange diverse opinions, work collaboratively, conduct research, learn, teach, and pursue intellectual growth”.

Vision: “...aspires to be an outstanding user-centered and community-centered research library”.

“We value our community, its knowledge and rich culture, and we care passionately for the people who make up the community”.

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A decorative horizontal line with a repeating wavy pattern in orange and yellow colors, located at the bottom of the slide.

Scholarly Communications and advancing the missions of our universities

TRU Vision Statement (draft Feb 2020)

- “Community-Mindedness” as a value: “to connect meaningfully with people in the communities we serve”
- “Lead in community research and scholarship...based on community partnerships.”

TRU Library Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

- “We believe all people should have equal access to opportunities, resources, information, and support.”
- “We are dedicated to providing excellent and innovative support to all our communities, including students, staff, faculty, and the broader community.”

Kathy Gaynor, University Librarian: “The social justice component of this program appeals to me because it reduces barriers...Adoption of this program opens one more door.”

“a genuine public scholarship”

“...is not simply performed for the public but... includes and is in fact given over to the publics with whom we work”

“What would be required in order to transform our colleges and universities into places where this public-oriented, generous thinking can flourish?”

From *Generous Thinking*, Kathleen Fitzpatrick

What about your library?

Poll: How does your library connect to the community?

What about your library?

In breakout rooms:

- What connections exist between Scholarly Communications activities, your Library's goals and priorities, and community engagement?
- What opportunities exist for further community engagement and collaboration?
- Share your ideas in our Google Doc: <http://at.sfu.ca/FgRKDT>

Takeaways: How did it go? What did you learn?

- One representative from each group: Please raise your hand to share something that you discussed in the document that you think will help your library, other libraries, and / or the community

Contact Us!



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