

# DIGITIZATION CENTRE

## IMPACT AND ACTIVITY REPORT | 2023-2024

The UBC Library Digitization Centre embraces new technologies, methods of access, workflows and preservation strategies while building sustainable digital collections to support and enrich the educational, cultural and economic endeavors of the University, the people of British Columbia and communities beyond.

### DIGITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (DAMS) PROJECT

The DAMS implementation project has continued to progress through 2023-2024 with the content migration to be completed in Fall 2024. In partnership with DSpace service provider Atmire, the Digitization Centre has:

- Processed more than 80% of content to the new repository (2 million pages)
- Continued quality control review of imported content
- Drafted workflow documentation for staff
- Uploaded the Phil Lind collection to DSpace

### DIGITAL PRESERVATION

In partnership with Artefactual, the library has carried out and completed fixity check of all our stored content. Fixity checking is an important part of ensuring the veracity and security of our digital preservation system and its contents. To date, we have preserved 8,772 packages totaling more than 53 terabytes of content.

The Digitization Centre has been fulfilling the Library's digital preservation mandate by using Archivematica to preserve our locally created digital assets since 2013.

### WEB ARCHIVING

The Digitization Centre continues to build [collections of web archives](#) to ensure that ephemeral and at-risk content that contributes to the University's research, teaching, and learning is preserved and accessible over time. Information on the web archiving service can be found in our recently launched [Web Archiving @ UBC Library Information Guide](#).

This past year we partnered with the Internet Archive on a pilot of their new collaborative functionality, to deliver the web archive collections of the 2022 British Columbia Local Elections from UBC, SFU, VIU, and UVic libraries in [a shared public portal](#). The Library also worked with InterPARES, a globally important archival research initiative, to archive their websites chronicling the development of knowledge essential to the long-term preservation of electronic records.

We have continued to develop our institutional UBC collections to ensure that web content documenting the online presence of the institution is archived. This work has resulted in the Library archiving more than 850 GB of web content in the last year, a total of 6.3 TB since the service's inception in 2013

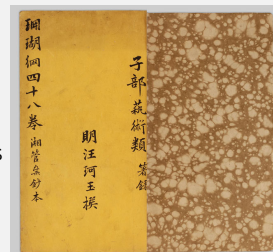
The Digitization Centre engages with our on-campus community, local communities, and global communities in partnering on digital projects.\*

### COLLECTION EXPANSION

#### Chinese Rare Books:

Some of the titles we have digitized this year are:

- [Shan hu wang \(珊瑚網\)](#), authored by Wang Keyu during the Ming dynasty in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is a comprehensive work that documents and critiques ancient and modern calligraphy and painting.
- Two volumes of [Xixi xian sheng yi shuo \(西谿先生易說\)](#), authored by Li Guo.



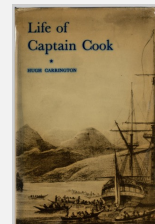
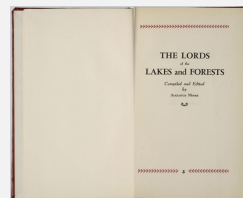
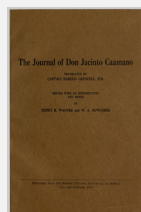
**BC Historical Newspapers:** The Similkameen Star Newspaper Project and the Labour Statesman Project have been successfully completed. The [Similkameen Star](#) collection comprises 2,747 items, while the [Labour Statesman collection](#) has digitized 836 items.



Other ongoing projects from the BC Historical Newspaper Collection:

- [British Columbia Building Record](#)
- [Alberni Pioneer News](#)
- [British Columbia Musician](#)
- [BC Mining Journal](#)

**BC Historical Books:** We are excited to introduce three new additions to the BC Historical Books Collection, which include [The Journal of Don Jacinto Caamano](#), [Life of Captain Cook](#), and [The Lords of the Lakes and Forests](#). These works, dating from 1938, 1939 and 1950, have all been digitized and are now accessible online.



The Digitization Centre has the infrastructure to collect, organize, provide access, disseminate and preserve collections.\*



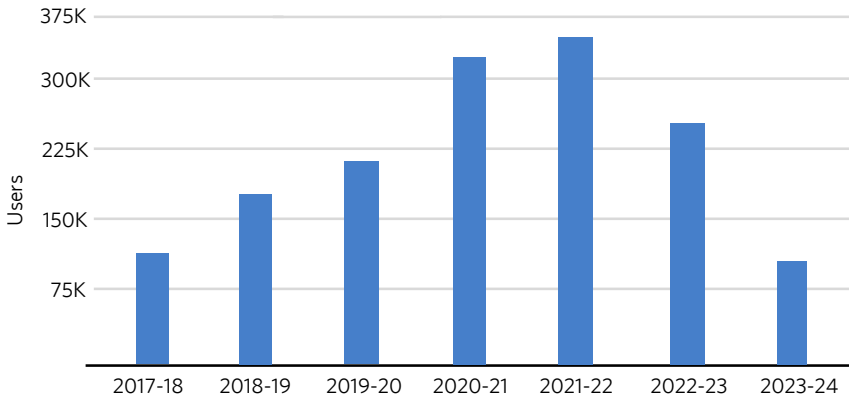
## POPULAR COLLECTIONS

The BC Historical Newspapers collection remains the most viewed. Here are the top five collections by views in the past year:

1. [BC Historical Newspapers](#) (379,189)
2. [BC Historical Books](#) (70,176)
3. [The Chung Collection](#) (65,985)
4. [BC Sessional Papers](#) (25,581)
5. [Chinese Rare Books](#) (24,401)

## ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

This year, our Open Collections were accessed by a total of 104,822 users. While demand peaked during the Covid-19 period in 2021-22, access numbers have since gradually returned to pre-pandemic levels.



### Top five Canadian provinces with the highest engagement:

1. British Columbia
2. Ontario
3. Alberta
4. Quebec
5. Manitoba

### Top five countries with the highest engagement:

1. United States of America
2. The People's Republic of China
3. United Kingdom
4. Australia
5. The Republic of India

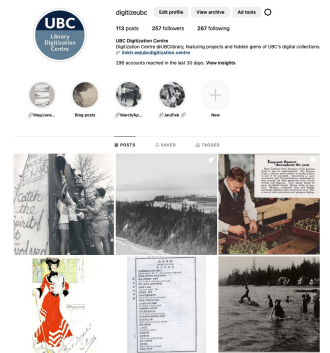
## SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

**X (formerly known as Twitter)** We created 275 tweets, generating 69,700 impressions and receiving 886 likes over the past year. [The most popular tweet is a snapshot from 1941 at CiTR radio, featuring Ted Speers, S. MacKay, Don McMillan, Albert Miller, Phyllis NeMetz, and Louis Manaschit.](#)

**The Digitizers' blog** had 20,835 page views over the past year, marking an increase of over 6,000 views from the previous year. The most viewed post was on Anyox in British Columbia. You may read it here: <https://digitize.library.ubc.ca/digitizers-blog/anyox-british-columbia-a-town-that-got-lost-but-permeates-our-collection/>



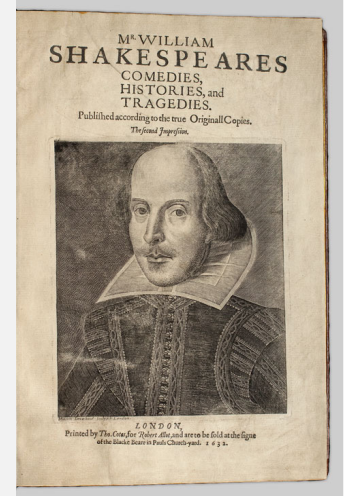
**Instagram:** In January 2024, the Digitization Centre launched an Instagram account to complement X and the Digitizer's blog, showcasing projects and interesting items from our open collections across various platforms. From January to April, the Instagram account has garnered 7,842 impressions and received 1,001 likes. [The post that received the most reach and engagement was a photograph from the 1980s Annual UBC Rec's Storm the Wall event.](#)



## FEATURED COLLECTION:

### William Shakespeare's Second Folio

This year, the Digitization Centre undertook the project of digitizing William Shakespeare's Second Folio, which is housed by the Rare Books and Special Collections. This significant literary work presented considerable challenges in preservation and digitization due to its delicate pages and tightly bound format. Through meticulous care and treatment conducted by the conservator, the Digitization Centre successfully digitized this invaluable literary treasure, allowing users worldwide to explore and appreciate Shakespeare's timeless work.



The Digitization Centre preserves and ensures access to unique materials of cultural, historical and research significance.\*

\*These outcome statements are derived from the Association of College & Research Libraries' Standards for Libraries in Higher Education available at <https://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/standardslibraries>

