

---

FALL 2021 EDITION

# McLaughlin Library UPDATE

# Welcome from the University Librarian



As is the case with most everywhere, the past couple of years have been anything but normal for the McLaughlin Library due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the fall 2021 semester approached, we all looked forward to the changes that the start of a new semester would bring.

After having offered many of our services online and in alternative formats, there were still so many unknowns and constant changes as we began to prepare for the new semester. These included determining building capacity limits and related physical distancing requirements. Our planning was informed by provincial, public health and University guidelines with respect to what our services might look like based on a couple of potential scenarios.

As the summer months passed and it became apparent that the University was returning to increased in-person activities, library planning was adapted accordingly. This meant a gradual return to working onsite for library staff and the provision of face-to-face service to users, along with preparing the building for student study & collaboration space. This necessitated new signage with simple and clear messaging. Primary among them - to wear your mask and maintain social distancing.

For the fall semester we were open once again, with capacity limitations, for students, faculty, and staff. For first- and second-year students, stepping physically into the library has been a new experience. Many of the second-year students had taken most of their classes entirely online. The return to campus and an increase to in-person classes represents a mix of face-to-face and virtual library services for students, as part of their overall transition.

The increase in activity throughout the building is now evident and a welcome sight. Students are once again actively using many services, including study space and learning supports. We continue to plan for welcoming alumni and retirees back in the winter term.

I would also like to acknowledge our dedicated library staff - both those who serve our community directly, and those who work behind the scenes. I have appreciated their continued efforts and willingness to embrace change. They have given new meaning to the University's core value to 'Improve Life'.

Rebecca A. Graham  
University Librarian







---

## Generous Pearson Family gift gives student athletes a head start

A new, and very generous, \$500,000 gift by long-time Gryphon supporters Larry and Joy Pearson will support the newly renamed Pearson Family Student-Athlete Mentor (SAM) program and will help develop a new student-athlete well-being program. University of Guelph student-athletes will be further supported in their commitments to excel both in the classroom and in competition thanks to this gift.

Larry Pearson played volleyball for the Gryphons in the early 1970s and coached the Gryphon men's volleyball team to their only provincial title in 1978. He continued his involvement with the Gryphons throughout his business career before returning as an assistant coach in 2006.

The original program was established in 2006 and runs in partnership between the McLaughlin Library and Department of Athletics.

"The SAM program has supported the academic development of thousands of Gryphons. Senior student-athletes serve as mentors to incoming and at-risk student-athletes, including referring them to academic resources across campus," said Jason Dodd, science learning specialist and SAM program coordinator. "This gift will continue to support the growth of both student-athletes and mentors."

During the pandemic, mentors met online each week primarily with first-year student-athletes to establish a personal connection, resulting in ~3,000 meetings with 200 student athletes. The Pearson Family SAM program has since returned to face-to-face programming in the library this fall, with 186 student-athletes meeting with their mentors over 1,937 times at the time of this writing.





Algoma  
UNIVERSITY

Brock  
University

Carleton  
University

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

Lakehead  
UNIVERSITY

Laurentian University  
Université Laurentienne

LAURIER  
*Inspiring Lives.*

NIPISSING  
UNIVERSITY

OntarioTech  
UNIVERSITY

uOttawa

Queen's  
UNIVERSITY


TRENT  
UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF  
WATERLOO

Western  
UNIVERSITY • CANADA

University  
of Windsor

YORK  
UNIVERSITÉ  
UNIVERSITY




## Library partners with Ontario libraries to expand access to physical collections

In December 2019, the McLaughlin Library implemented Omni, a new academic search tool. Omni was the result of a collaboration between [16 Ontario university libraries](#) with the goal of expanding access to resources and standardizing policies across libraries, including fines and fees, loan periods, and borrowing privileges.

Then in August 2021, we officially announced that students, staff, and faculty could now use Omni to request shared physical resources from all partner libraries. This now provides users with access to a collection of nearly 23.5 million resources. This was a major milestone for the Collaborative Futures initiative, which began in late 2014.

Since implementation of physical item resource sharing, we've seen upwards of 17,000 requests across the network.

"This relatively new collaboration offers even more potential to dramatically expand access to resources for our users, while also allowing our own resources to be more visible to others," said Randy Oldham, University of Guelph digital initiatives librarian and former OCUL Collaborative Futures Omni technology coordinator. "This is only the tip of the iceberg and we're very excited to continue our work on this collaboration in the future."



We continue to work collaboratively with our Omni library colleagues to improve the system, enhance user experience, and introduce new features.




# Library promotes its Indigenous resource collection to help raise awareness for Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

In recognition of Canada's first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Orange Shirt Day, and in commemoration of the recent discovery of unmarked graves of the many Indigenous children sent away to residential schools, the library further enhanced its online collection and resources.

A new collection [Exploring Indigenous Narratives and Worldviews](#), was curated by the University of Guelph's Indigenous Initiatives and the Indigenous Student Centre.

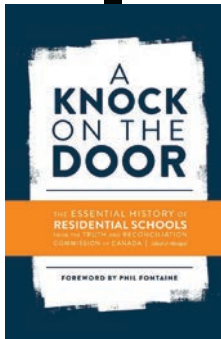
"We curated this collection to share experiences of those impacted by the residential school system and to uplift the stories of survivors, their families, and communities," said Cara Wehkamp, special advisor to the president on Indigenous Initiatives.

This enhanced collection is meant to be a place for learning and exploration about First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, cultures, and worldviews. Members of the University of Guelph community can access novels, memoirs, research texts, and scholarly texts to learn about the history of residential schools and to support the University's commitment to decolonization and reconciliation.

A decorative graphic in the bottom left corner featuring a dark grey diagonal shape. Overlapping this shape are three circles: a yellow one, a red one, and a white one. The bottom right corner of the page is a solid orange triangle.

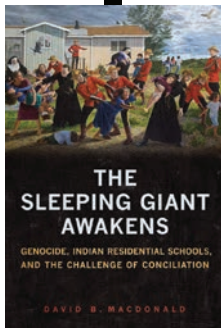


## Titles included in the collection



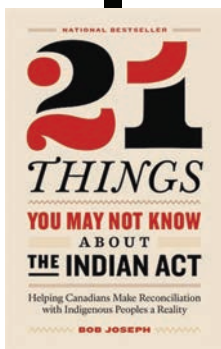
*A Knock on the Door: The Essential History of Residential Schools from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*

by Phil Fontaine and Aimée Craft



*The Sleeping Giant Awakens: Genocide, Indian Residential Schools, and the Challenge of Conciliation*

by David MacDonald,  
University of Guelph Professor of Political Science



*21 things you may not know about the Indian Act:  
Helping Canadians make reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a reality*

by Bob Joseph





---

## CRKN-SAGE agreement enhances library's progress towards greater open access

We are participating in a new agreement between SAGE Publishing and the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN). The agreement combines elements of a traditional subscription with increased open access to research articles published by authors from CRKN member institutions.

The result is a reduced cost to researchers and increased access to Canadian research ensuring the widest possible readership for publicly funded research.

“The library is committed to increasing open access options for University of Guelph researchers and this agreement represents a transitional step towards fully open access agreements as outlined under the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy,” said Jennifer Marvin, acting head, Research & Scholarship.

The library recently celebrated Open Access Week, an annual international campaign that aims to raise awareness about free and open online access to academic information. This year's theme focused on creating equitable access, centering around the theme “It Matters How We Open Knowledge: Building Structural Equity.”

---

# Online exhibit provides a 'taste' of the past of Canadian rural cooking

Because cookery and dining are fundamental human activities, cookbooks often record important traditions and document cultural change in Canadian life. Drawing from the more than 17,000 books, magazines and pamphlets (published and unpublished) in the [McLaughlin Library's Culinary Collection](#), a new online site, "[What Canada Ate](#)", which includes a repository of nearly 300 digitized Canadian cookbooks and exhibitions curated by students in prior History courses was launched in March 2021 at the Rural Women's Studies Association 14<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference. The cookbooks on the site could previously only be accessed as physical copies in Archival & Special Collections and very few of them were available in digital formats on electronic repositories. The site includes a new exhibit that explores rural cooking in Canada, aptly titled "[From our Mothers' Kitchens: Cooking in Rural Canada](#)", curated by students in Dr. Rebecca Beausaert's Food History course during the Winter 2021 term.

The exhibit is dedicated to Anita Stewart (1947-2020), U of G's first Food Laureate, given its focus on Canadian food and rural communities, which served as the focus of her work here. "Stewart's legacy as a champion of Canadian cuisine will live on in the What Canada Ate site," said Melissa McAfee, special collections librarian, Archival & Special Collections. Stewart donated her archives, documenting her life's work to Archival & Special Collections' Culinary Collection in 2015.







/McLaughlinLibrary



@uglibrary



@uglibrary



---

Your support makes what we do possible.

Consider donating today to help us  
improve services, spaces and resources.

If you are interested in giving to the library,  
please go to [uoguelph.ca/give](https://uoguelph.ca/give)

[lib.uoguelph.ca](https://lib.uoguelph.ca)

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

McLAUGHLIN  
LIBRARY