



5 things Camosun needs to know about Open Textbooks!



Open Textbooks ...

- Are free textbooks, available online or through printable formats;
- Can be used by anyone, anywhere;
- Can be retained, reused, revised, remixed, and redistributed;
- Are reviewed and of high quality;
- Give faculty control over the resources they are using in their teaching; and
- Have been shown to be just as effective as traditional textbooks for learning.



Implications for Students

- Up to 64% of post-secondary students no longer purchase textbooks.
- Students instead share with other students, wait for access through the library, break copyright law to obtain textbooks, or rely solely on materials provided by their instructors.
- If students rent e-textbooks, they lose access to them after their courses.
- Many students take fewer courses, fail, or withdraw from courses and programs because they can't afford course materials.



Open Textbooks save students money!

- According to [BCcampus](#), between 2012 and 2022, over 250,000 BC students saved almost \$32,000,000 because their instructors chose open textbooks.
- Camosun's Biology 103 already saves students \$123,500/year using an open textbook.
- Reduces costs for international students.
- Students in programs using open textbooks are more likely to persist and complete their program.



How Camosun could save students even more money

Sociology 100, Winter 2023: 4 sections,
38 students/section @\$110/text = \$16,720
Psychology 110, Winter 2023: 9 sections,
35 students/section @\$81/text = \$25,515
Accounting 110, Winter 2023: 11 sections,
37 students/section @\$126/text = \$51,282
Business 130, Winter 2023: 6 sections,
35 students/section @\$108/text = \$22,680

Business 150, Winter 2023: 6 sections,
39 students/section @\$80/text = \$18,720

This means Camosun College could see upwards of \$134,917 in student savings in one term across only five courses if those texts were replaced with open textbooks.



What we need

For Camosun leadership to promote Open Education and Open Textbooks/OER at Senior Leadership Council, Educational Leadership Council, and to the Deans and Directors, as well as to advocate to any group that needs to understand how Open Textbooks can support our students and to get involved (e.g., the Students Society, Registration, the Bookstore).

Want to know more? [Talk to CETL](#)

Camosun College Strategic Plan Goals supported by Open Textbooks

- **Strengthen the Camosun Advantage, Goal 2 (Deliver outstanding flexible learning opportunities to support students' evolving educational expectations.)** Note: one identified success metric for this goal is measuring the percentage of courses using open textbooks for teaching.
- **Doing Good Work Together, Goal 2 (Ensure financial sustainability for continued investment in student success.)**
- **Responding to Community Needs, Goal 3 (Break down systemic barriers to improve access to post-secondary education.)**
- **Honouring Indigenous Resurgence, Goal 4 (Infuse Indigenous values into practices and spaces at the college.)** Note, within the framework of Open Education we find Traditional Knowledge Licences which provide licencing that honours Indigenous and cultural knowledge which traditional copyright laws do not.
- **Rising to the Challenge of Climate Change, Goal 2 (Support existing programs and increase climate education across the college.)** Note, there are many open education and open science resources on climate change and other important global concerns.
- **Advancing Social Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Goal 3 (Celebrate and uphold the diversity of students and employees as a strength within Camosun's community.)**

