



## 6 things Camosun Students need 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 complete their program.



### Some Camosun courses currently using Open Textbooks

- Business: Marketing 230, Economics 103
- Statistics 116
- Community Learning Partnerships Math
- Trades: Common Core, Sheet Metal, Fine Furniture
- Education and Career Exploration Program (EDCP)
- Biology 103
- Anthropology 260
- Massage Therapy 142



### 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 You Can Do

- Talk to your instructors
- Talk to your Department Chairs or Program Leads
- Talk to the Student Society and fellow students
- Talk to the [Centre for Excellence in Teaching & Learning](#) at Camosun

## **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.)**

