



The coop difference

A cooperative is the only business model in which ownership, control, and benefits all belong directly to the business's users (members). Members work together for common goals. Decisions are made democratically, following a set of principles and values that serve members' needs within a framework of economic viability and social responsibility. People, not profits or products, are at the heart of cooperative businesses.

Canada's 9,000 coops have over 18 million members, over \$250 billion in assets, and twice the survival rate of investor-owned companies. We bring big benefits to Canada's society and economy. For more details, visit coopscanada.coop.

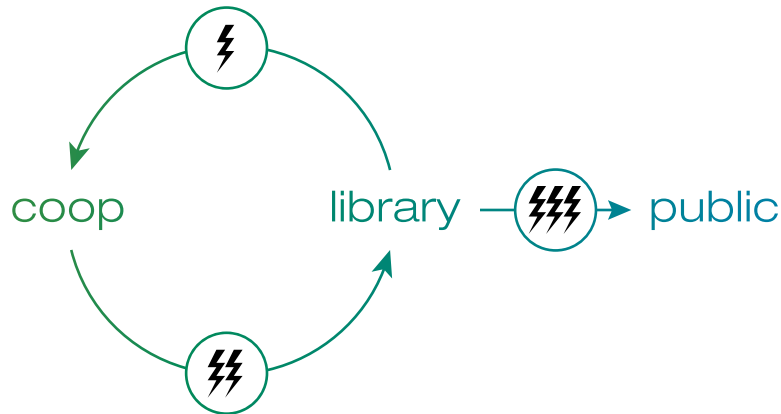


BCLibraries
COOPERATIVE

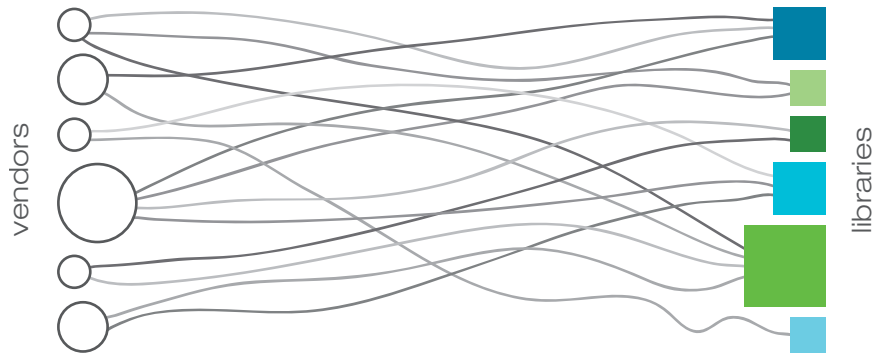
Power to the people

Our mission is to help libraries help people. We're not a vendor: we're a non-profit community resource. For public benefit, we work together to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and extend service delivery in libraries.

Our mission requires not only that we understand the challenges facing libraries, but also that we guide and support our membership through times of unprecedented change. To do this, we hire outstanding talent; we identify, develop, and invest in the right solutions; we attract experienced innovators to our board; and we develop strategic partnerships with aligned organizations.



Traditional approach



Traditionally, libraries negotiate directly with vendors. This process can be time-consuming, expensive, and unproductive when interests diverge. The cooperative approach works better.

Cooperative approach



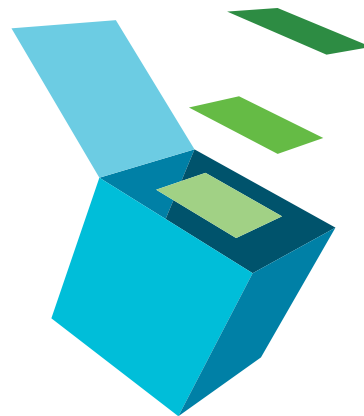
Leveraging collective purchasing power and expertise, we negotiate the best deals for our members while working with each member to tailor the best solutions to their particular needs.

Technology expertise

We license technology resources ranging from e-books to mobile applications, from images to software. As of this printing, we license 140 products for 80 member organizations. Both numbers are growing.

Our licensing expertise facilitates not only tremendous savings and product access, but also member training, comprehensive support, and a venue for sharing best practices.

Cooperation also opens up co-creation: we develop our own custom solutions to meet individual and shared needs.



Licensing

Product spotlight: Sitka

Sitka is a hosted Integrated Library System powered by Evergreen, the most advanced ILS on the market. By sharing a hosted solution, Sitka libraries avoid capital costs and maintenance responsibilities, freeing resources for front-line services. They benefit from highly qualified, dedicated support staff, and they have a direct influence on feature development.

Sitka is growing fast. As of this printing, it serves over 400,000 people across 120 service points in BC and Manitoba. 465,000 items were added to its database in the last year alone. The **shared cost** of this system is currently **six cents per user** per year. Every library that joins Sitka lowers this cost.



Sitka

Driving innovation

All libraries meet the needs of a fast-changing society. Cooperation makes that easier. Sharing makes us more responsive to local needs as well as to common opportunities and challenges. With more resources, we empower more people.





How can we help you?

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