

the library green team



Library Green Team members (L-R): Rory White, Cathy Hawkins, Karin Haug, Barbara Sobol, and Marjorie Mitchell. Not pictured: Melody Burton

The Library Green Team was formed in May 2009 with the mission to improve sustainability in the Library at UBC's Okanagan campus. The team began to meet monthly to brainstorm new projects and ways to implement sustainability focused initiatives into the operations of the Library.

The team has developed many creative and impactful sustainability-focused projects and initiatives in the Library. Some of the projects have included:

Partnership with Better World Books

Through this program, used books such as surplus donations are sent to Better World Books to be resold on the second hand market online. A portion of the funds are contributed to worldwide literacy initiatives. To date, the Library Green Team has raised over \$500.00 through this program to fund other sustainable initiatives. More information about Better World Books can be found at www.betterworldbooks.com

Green Printing Guide

The Green Printing Guide was produced through the Library Green Team and promotes sustainable behaviours such as double sided printing, saving electronically as an alternative to printing, reducing printing, increasing margins, and printing multiple class slides per page. These guides are posted throughout the library and are available at:

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/ubco/pdfs/greenprinting.pdf>

Eco-Friendly Purchasing

The Library Green Team has implemented many eco-friendly purchasing decisions for the unit. All staff areas house eco-friendly dish soap and glass cleaner, and as well, eco-friendly office supplies are ordered when available (such as pens, pencils, post-its, etc.).

Other Initiatives

All library staff power off computers overnight with regular e-mail reminders ensuring that all adhere to this practice.

Recent renovations within the Library were completed with low VOC building materials.