



ACCESSIBLE READING BC



BC accessible ebook collection now available through BC libraries

In partnership with the National Network for Equitable Library Service (NNELS), the Association of Book Publishers of BC (ABPBC) has launched a collection of accessible BC-published ebooks that is available to all library patrons of BC library systems that are members of the BC Libraries Cooperative.

The **Accessible Reading BC** (<https://accessbc.libraries.coop>) collection is hosted in a born-accessible reading platform prototype that is intended to serve as a proof of concept for future development of the platform and expansion of the ebook collection. This pilot phase of the project is funded by the Government of Canada through the Accessible Digital Books component of the Canada Book Fund.

Starting now, BC library card holders from registered libraries can download a variety of BC-published ebooks from the collection. Ebooks included in the collection are available for unlimited concurrent use over a time period of 12 months (until May 1, 2022) and DRM-free.

“We’re proud to launch this collection of BC-published titles that will be accessible to all readers, including those with print disabilities,” says Heidi Waechtler, Executive Director of the Association of Book Publishers of BC. “Our hope is to build on this collection and continue working with partners such as NNELS to increase the availability of BC-published content in accessible formats.”

How libraries can join

In order to proceed, NNELS will work with your library to set up a connector from Accessible Reading BC to your ILS to allow for direct patron authentication. The connection is established through SIP or Web Services. Please contact the ABPBC at admin@books.bc.ca if you are interested in connecting your library!

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About the ABPBC:

Founded in 1974, the Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia (ABPBC) represents 30 BC-owned companies. The ABPBC supports the aspirations and activities of its membership through cultural, economic, and political initiatives and engages book-related communities in British Columbia, Canada, and beyond. Website: www.books.bc.ca

For the media:

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