



**Mission, Vision and Actions**

# Strategic Directions

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# Guiding Principles

## **Access to Information**

CARL supports and promotes the right of all individuals to have access to all expressions of knowledge, creativity and intellectual activity.

## **Research Libraries – a Strategic National Resource**

CARL promotes the development of the collective human resources, materials and services of its member libraries as a strategic national information resource.

## **Scholarly Communication**

CARL has a fundamental role in facilitating and enhancing the process of scholarly communication.

# Mission

To increase the capacity of individual member libraries to be effective academic partners in support of research and scholarship at the national, regional and local levels.

# Vision

To be recognized internationally as a leading research library association whose member libraries are assets and major contributors to the development of research in Canada.

CARL will be an inclusive leader, an influential partner and a consensus builder.



# Strategic Approaches

CARL will develop its programs, activities and initiatives based on partnership models because it recognizes that such models will be critical for the success of the Strategic Directions and thus the effectiveness, visibility and impact of the Association.

As the leadership organization of the Canadian research library community CARL will advance its agenda using **advocacy and partnerships**.

**Advocacy** occurs through the development and execution of systematic programs that engage with the academic community, influence government and inform the public.

**Partnership** is both a strategy and a capacity. CARL will expand its capacity to build partnerships, and seek out partnership opportunities.

# Strategic Directions

In support of its mission CARL has identified three broad strategic directions.

## 1. Leadership

To promote the leadership role of the research library in the academic enterprise, to advocate widely to develop the academic community, and to shape and influence federal legislation, policies and programmes.

*CARL represents the country's major research libraries. Its member libraries house Canada's most valuable collections, and manage extensive human and financial resources. CARL will provide leadership and work with partners to represent the interest of Canada's research libraries.*

## 2. Scholarship

To encourage, foster, support and participate in open access scholarly communication, national consortia and innovations that advance scholarship.

*Research is increasingly global and interdisciplinary. The research library is a key element in scholarly communication. CARL will work to influence scholarly communication in the best interests of our institutions and the research community. CARL will focus on national initiatives that lead to a coherent approach to research support.*

## 3. Stewardship

To take responsibility and accountability, through a national leadership role, in addressing the challenges inherent in the stewardship of research resources.

*Research libraries ensure the sustainability and durability of resources in support of advanced study and discovery, where resources are broadly defined as infrastructure, access, collections, expertise and strategies. CARL will focus on the maintenance and development of the physical and electronic infrastructure, and planning, funding and accountability issues at the institutional and national levels.*

# Objectives

## Leadership

1. To demonstrate the central role of the research library in the process of scholarship.
2. To achieve a balanced copyright regime that recognizes the rights of the user and the creator, in learning, teaching and research.
3. To formulate and promote clear positions on government policies and programmes that affect research libraries.

### MAJOR INITIATIVE

Achieve successful copyright reform through legislation

## Scholarship

1. To advance scholarly communication through open access systems and other innovations.
2. To develop new business models and other innovations to increase the cost-effective availability of research resources.

### MAJOR INITIATIVE

Advance open access to scholarship

## Stewardship

1. To encourage and develop programs, such as AlouetteCanada, to ensure the discovery, accessibility and preservation of Canada's scholarly and heritage resources in all formats.
2. To develop a national digital preservation and archiving policy in collaboration with other organizations.

### MAJOR INITIATIVE

Support the development of AlouetteCanada