The Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) is the leadership organization for the Canadian research library community. The Association’s members are the 27 major academic research libraries across Canada plus Library and Archives Canada, the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) and the Library of Parliament. CARL members are the backbone of Canada’s intellectual holdings in all disciplines, with an annual expenditure of over half a billion dollars ($537,339,000*), monograph holdings of over 75 million items and nearly half a million print and electronic journals.

* CARL 2003-2004 Statistics
Message from the President

Research Access and Its Consequences

In a world where access to published research can make the difference between being recognized as a leader and being viewed as following the pack, the work of acquiring, providing access to and preservation of published research (the hallmark of Canada’s research libraries) plays a critical role in supporting Canada’s ongoing commitment to innovation and excellence using the research enterprise as a way to accomplish this goal.

The reality is that time and distance have turned local matters into global matters. It is no longer possible to separate the impact of our domestic knowledge base and international cooperation. For Canada, national activities in research are a real advantage in asserting interests and values in a changing world.

Canada’s proud tradition as a leader in research is being tested today by increasing demands from all fronts. Support for the Canadian research community and the broader knowledge-based society becomes even more critical. The contribution of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) and its respective members is to provide the backbone of Canada’s intellectual holdings and the effective support and encouragement for advanced study and research; supporting not only domestic leadership but the vital role in building a world-class knowledge infrastructure.

Given Canada’s growing desire to improve the impact and value of research, there is a pressing need for the development, implementation and assessment of new models, technologies, standards and systems to improve the efficacy of scholarly communication systems. Canada must make a significant investment in research and development in this area if we are to adapt to these changes and remain competitive.
Message from the Executive Director

Making Access to Research a Reality

In support of the role its members play, CARL is committed to delivering direct, timely and effective support through three broad strategic directions:

- **Leadership** to promote the role of the research library and to advocate widely to shape and influence federal legislation, policies and programs

- **Scholarship** to undertake actions to help design, implement and promote an innovative and effective scholarly communication system that both fosters research and its dissemination

- **Stewardship** to take a national leadership role in addressing the complex challenges inherent in the preservation and long-term access to Canada’s documentary heritage in both physical and digital forms

Highlights of activities undertaken in 2004 to support these themes are described in this Annual Report.
LEADERSHIP
Copyright Legislation Review

Canada. Following the tabling of the Status Report on Copyright Reform (March 24, 2004) CARL advocated for equitable, balanced copyright. CARL’s principal goals are to ensure that the rights of the copyright user are carried over from the print world to the digital environment and that Canadian researchers are not disadvantaged in comparison with international competitors. CARL has advocated for the ability to use information communications technology (including the Internet) for off-site learning; and the electronic delivery of inter-library loans directly to the user’s desktop. Major events during the year included an appearance before the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage (April 29, 2004) and a meeting with Hon. Lucienne Robillard, Minister of Industry (May 11, 2004). CARL wrote to the then newly-appointed Ministers of Industry and Canadian Heritage, drawing attention to the flaws of the Interim Report on Copyright and discussing how to remedy them (July 27, 2004). In concert with other members of the Copyright Forum CARL wrote to all M.Ps about the flawed Interim Report (October 22, 2004). This was followed by the December 13, 2004 full-page advertisement in The Hill Times “Canada is headed down the wrong path of copyright reform” initiated and promoted by CARL. On December 14, 2004 CARL wrote to all members and affiliates of the Heritage Committee and the Industry Committee (273 in all) drawing attention to the December 13th advertisement and requesting that copyright legislation be considered by a joint Heritage and Industry Committee.

Internationally. CARL has committed to increase its interests in organizations dealing with forums such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), where intellectual property matters are increasingly being dealt with. CARL was represented at the Third Zwolle Conference on Universities and Copyright, February 12-13, 2004 and contributed to the International Copyright Analysis Project.

Depository Services Program (DSP)

The status of the federal government Depository Services Program presents conditions that impact access to government publications. In 2004 CARL and its partners continued to advocate for the transfer of the DSP from the Department of Public Works and Government Services Canada to Library and Archives Canada. CARL recommended that the DSP be adequately funded as an essential part of the government’s commitment to disseminate government information as widely as possible, in different formats in both official languages.

Recruitment and Retention

To continue the critical role of research libraries, human resources challenges must be addressed. CARL provided major financial support for an important study on the matter, 8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study. The most pressing challenges identified include: the replacement of retiring librarians, ability to fund staffing properly, implementation of new technologies, and ensuring appropriate competencies.

www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/copyright/copyright-e.html

www.ls.ualberta.ca/8rs/8RsFutureofHRLibraries.pdf

University of British Columbia: Chapman Learning Commons Room
Concordia University: Webster Library
SCHOLARSHIP
Scholarly Communication

The federal government and private sector spend $6.8 billion every year to promote academic research in Canada, which in turn spurs social, cultural and economic development. New technologies and other forces are radically changing the methods of research communication. To devise a research agenda to address these changes, CARL co-funded with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, a study on knowledge dissemination in Canada, entitled *Optimizing the Transformation of Knowledge Dissemination: Towards a Canadian Research Strategy*. The final report recommends the creation and implementation of a multi-disciplinary research agenda on scholarly communication as a central component of an effective national strategy for knowledge dissemination in Canada. CARL held a presentation and general discussion of the preliminary recommendations (*An Integrated Knowledge Ecosystem: A Canadian Research Program*) on November 5, 2004. Representatives of the Granting Councils, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and other stakeholders from scholarly associations and the research community attended. As a next step CARL will produce a working document to highlight the recommendations of the study that the Association will pursue.

www.kdstudy.ca

Dealing with Transformation

CARL, responded to an invitation from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to a bilateral consultation and subsequently submitted a formal Brief to assist the Council in its proposed transformation to better meet the changing needs of its research community. The main thrust of CARL’s submission related to promoting Open Access to research publications and associated data. CARL also recommended SSHRC become a signatory to the Budapest Open Access Initiative.


CARL participated in the consultative process supporting the development of strategic directions to transform Library and Archives Canada.

www.collectionscanada.ca/consultation/index-e.html

Institutional Repositories

Institutional Repositories (IR’s) are digital collections, indexed in a standardized way and searchable using one interface, which capture and preserve the intellectual output of a single or multi-university community. IR’s benefit both institutions and scholars by raising the institutional profile, through broader dissemination, increased use, and enhanced professional visibility of scholarly research. CARL provides national leadership through the following initiatives:

- **CARL Institutional Repositories Project** is an initiative to implement institutional repositories at Canadian research libraries. The project facilitates discussions of lessons learned and best practices for implementing IR’s. It will pave the way by examining the feasibility of IR’s in the Canadian context; www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/institutional_repositories/pdf/selfarchiving-e.pdf
- **CARL participation in a webcast: Institutional Repositories: Revealing Our Strengths** (June 2004) provided direct access to experts in order to identify potential users, and explore the benefits, and users of IR’s;
- **CARL Open Archive Metadata Harvester** launched in 2004 with the aim of increasing visibility of Canadian researchers and universities through metadata harvesting. This initiative is gaining momentum as 22 CARL libraries have or plan to develop IR’s; http://carl-abrc-oai.lib.sfu.ca:8044
- **CARL Workshop: Institutional Repositories: The Future is now!** CARL held this successful international workshop in October 2004 at the ACCESS 2004 Conference in Halifax.

www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/institutional_repositories/workshop-e.html

The Canadian Institutional Repository Community, for IR-related document sharing, was created as a result of this workshop.

https://dspace.ucalgary.ca/handle/1880/360
Working Groups

A CARL Information Literacy Working Group was established in the fall of 2004 with a one-year mandate to determine the Association’s role in information literacy. The group will develop a policy statement and position paper on learning, teaching and research outcomes.

A CARL E-Learning Working Group was established in the fall of 2004, also with a one-year mandate, to examine the Association’s role in e-learning. The Group will review literature on libraries and e-learning targeting best practices, learning outcomes, learning objectives and repositories.

Open Access

Promoting a Competitive Market for Scientific Publications: CARL submitted a Brief to the (U.K.) Science and Technology Committee’s Scientific Publications Inquiry. Among its recommendations, CARL proposed that governments support the development of a new, more sustainable system for scholarly communication. www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/scholarly_communication/pdf/UK-Brief-0402-e.pdf
Digital Preservation

CARL statement on the preservation of documents in electronic format
As part of its ongoing commitment to the development of a comprehensive digital preservation strategy, CARL released *Stewardship of Scholarly Resources in a Digital World*. The declaration calls for national action to ensure long-term access to and preservation of Canada’s digital assets.

National Digital Preservation Conference
CARL hosted a very successful conference *Here today, gone tomorrow?* It was presented as part of the 2004 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Winnipeg on June 2, 2004. A panel of international speakers drew attention to the critical issue of digital preservation. The Conference also provided an appropriate venue for the launch of the CARL statement on digital preservation.

European Study Tour
In conjunction with the Annual General Conference of the Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherche (LIBER), CARL Directors visited libraries in Scandinavia and Holland to examine digital library initiatives, with a view to examining how some of these might be implemented in Canada.

National Consultation on Access to Scientific Research Data (NCASRD)
CARL was represented by its President at this Consultation in November 2004 to discuss how Canada can maximize the value received from its publicly funded natural and medical sciences research. CARL expects to take a proactive role in helping design and implement a national scientific data archive.
http://ncasrd-cnadrscitech.gc.ca/home_e.shtml

Government Electronic Documents Survey
In the fall of 2004 CARL commissioned Andrew Hubbertz, Librarian Emeritus, University of Saskatchewan, to conduct a national survey and analysis of the treatment of provincial and territorial government documents in electronic format, in terms of acquisition, access and preservation. From this activity will flow a call for discussion on how to ensure the long-term access and stewardship of these important resources.
Key CARL statistics*

Spending on electronic serials by CARL-member libraries rose from an average of $2,237,792 million in 2002-2003 to $3,012,840 million in 2003-2004 — a remarkable increase of 34.6%.

Altogether the 27 reporting CARL-member libraries spent an impressive $78.42 million on electronic serials in 2003-2004. For the first time, collections and access expenditures for electronic serials (34%) exceeded expenditures for print serials (31%) as a percentage of overall materials expenditures.

The 29 reporting CARL-member libraries spent $232,694,918 on materials in 2003-2004. A 31% increase over the 1999-2000 figure of $177,498,056, compared to overall library budgets increasing by only 24% over the same period.

Library Expenditures 2003-2004
Briefs, Submissions, Publications, Webcasts, Consultations and Conferences in 2004

Brief to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Concerning the Transformation of SSHRC

Library and Archives Canada Transformation Consultations
www.collectionscanada.ca/consultation/index-e.html

Pre-Budget Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance

National Consultation on Access to Scientific Research Data (NCASRD)
http://ncasrd-cnadrs.scitech.gc.ca/home_e.shtml


Canada is headed down the wrong path of copyright reform
www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/copyright/pdf/Hill_Times_ad-e.pdf

Brief to the (U.K.) Science and Technology Committee’s Scientific Publications Inquiry
www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/scholarly_communication/pdf/UK-Brief-0402-e.pdf

CARL 2002-2003 Statistics

Stewardship of Scholarly Resources in a Digital World (CARL Digital Preservation Statement)

Here today, gone tomorrow? National Digital Preservation Conference (2004 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences)

www.carl-abrc.ca/projects/institutional_repositories/workshop-e.html
FOR NEXT YEAR

- Continue to engage the process of copyright law reform
- Work to establish a digitization strategy for Canada
- Ongoing support for CARL Institutional Repositories Project
- Raise awareness and promote Open Access among academic researchers
- Participate in helping design and implement a national scientific data archive
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### CARL Members:

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