

Speaking Notes

for

**David Lametti, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Innovation,
Science and Economic Development**

**on the occasion of the
2017 Fall General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries
(CARL)**

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Good morning,

I am very pleased to be here today and to have the opportunity to address the membership of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries.

As an academic, and as an educator, I know first-hand the valuable contribution that the research libraries within CARL make in terms of Canada's ability to innovate and participate fully in the knowledge economy.

The Government of Canada recognizes the important role of post-secondary institutions in terms of research and research training, and as a critical developer of our people – their skills, experiences, and competencies to succeed and drive Canada forward.

Budget 2017 announced funding of \$117.6 million over eight years for 25 Canada 150 Research Chairs to attract top-tier international scholars and researchers to Canada and enhance Canada's reputation as a global centre for innovation, science and research excellence. Budget 2017 also announced \$125 million for the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy to retain and attract top academic talent and increase the number of postgraduate trainees and researchers studying artificial intelligence and deep learning.

Canada is a world leader when it comes to investing in research at post-secondary institutions, ranking first among G7 nations and eighth among Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development nations. A significant portion of these investments are made by the Federal Government, over \$3 billion through the granting councils in 2016-

17 alone.

The granting councils have been busy in developing principles and policies to facilitate Open Access and Open Science. In 2015, they launched the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications, in which “grant recipients are required to ensure that any peer-reviewed journal publication arising from Agency-supported research is freely available online within 12 months of publication.”

In 2016, they adopted the Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management, which includes responsibilities for researchers and institutions to manage and make available their federally funded research data.

Implementing these principles will have significant implications for research libraries and their efforts to

promote effective stewardship of research data. Through its Portage initiative, CARL has taken critical steps in the development of tools and platforms that facilitate the management and sharing of research data among researchers across the country.

The progress that CARL and its partners have made over a relatively short period of time is to be commended, and the participation of CARL's members in Portage serves as an impressive model of collaboration and cooperation.

Research data management is only one component of a larger ecosystem of digital research infrastructure that provides the foundation for research excellence in Canada. Our government is committed to the development of a strategy for digital research infrastructure, and we have worked

closely with the Leadership Council for Digital Research Infrastructure over the past year to this end.

I thank CARL for the active role they have played in the Leadership Council to date, and particularly for their leadership in developing recommendations for research data management.

The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that government-funded science is open and transparent to Canadians. As a signal of our commitment to Open Science, and Open Government more broadly, I am excited to say that Canada will take on the role of lead government co-chair of the international Open Government Partnership for 2018-19. The Minister of Science and her G7 counterparts also recently endorsed Open Science at the G7 Science Ministerial in Italy

this past September.

Through our current Open Government Action Plan, which was launched in July 2016, we are making progress on a number of Open Science initiatives. This includes increasing the public availability of data and publications produced from federal S&T activities and launching the Federal Science Library, a one-stop online portal for accessing the collections and repositories of seven science-based departments and agencies.

These efforts align with the Government's vision for supporting innovation in a data-driven world, outlined by Minister Bains this summer. This vision highlights the importance of open data and data analytics technology as drivers of innovation, business growth and job creation, while maintaining privacy and security of sensitive data.

Intellectual property rights play an equally important role in promoting business innovation by facilitating the commercialization of the products of research and data analytics.

Budget 2017 announced that our Government will develop a new intellectual property strategy over the coming year. The strategy will help ensure that Canada's intellectual property regime is modern and robust and supports commercializing Canadian innovations in the 21st century.

On copyright specifically, I know this is an issue very important to CARL. Our Government understands the importance of ensuring that Canada's copyright legal framework supports research and fosters innovation. The balance within the Act is always a tricky one, but one that we know helps to foster the

important public policy goals of creativity, education, innovation, and a functioning marketplace.

As many of you know, the *Copyright Act* now includes a requirement for a review of the legislation by Parliament every five years to ensure it remains responsive to a changing environment. The timing and other modalities of the review have not yet been established, but it is expected to begin sometime after November 7, 2017, which is the statutory five-year mark for the review requirement.

As we prepare for the review, our Government has continued to be active on copyright matters.

Pursuant to Bill C-11, which received Royal Assent in June 2016, changes were made to the *Copyright Act* to enable Canada to implement and accede to the World Intellectual Property Organization

Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.

It was certainly an honour last year for Canada to be the critical 20th country to accede to the Marrakesh Treaty, resulting in its entry into force internationally. We continue to work with our international partners to ensure that this initiative will foster a more inclusive global community, where print-disabled and visually impaired persons can more fully and actively participate in society and reach their full potential. CARL should be particularly commended for your continued support for the Marrakesh Treaty, including now in its implementation through mechanisms such as the Accessible Books Consortium.

More recently, our Government undertook public

consultations on proposed legislative and regulatory changes to the decision-making processes of the Copyright Board of Canada.

There is consensus among stakeholders and Parliament that the Copyright Board requires priority consideration. The precise timelines have yet to be determined but it is the Government's intention to reform the Copyright Board in a timely manner.

Through the consultations, we received nearly 60 submissions from individuals, corporations, collectives, and other interested parties. The responses are currently being analyzed by officials from Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Canadian Heritage, and the Copyright Board.

I would like to thank CARL for its submission to the

consultations. Your views will inform our Government's thinking and contribute to the ongoing Copyright Board reform process.

We have also continued to meet with stakeholders, as we want to stay connected to the issues of importance to those who use and work with the Act. This has included CARL, as well as authors' and publishers' representatives. Not surprisingly, one of the issues they have raised with us is fair dealing, particularly in an educational context.

These discussions have reinforced that there are strong, opposing viewpoints in the stakeholder community on educational copying and fair dealing. We are also aware that these issues remain live before the courts and before the Copyright Board of Canada.

We are aware of the critical role that learning plays in fostering a skilled and innovative workforce, and the need for researchers, innovators, and educational users to have access to copyright-protected material. At the same time, our Government recognizes the need to ensure that there are appropriate incentives for creators and publishers in the Canadian market for educational content.

We have received numerous letters in recent months from members of the educational community expressing concerns over whether fair dealing would fall within the scope of the up-coming copyright review. We have received an equally large number of letters from authors and publishers who felt short-changed by the last reform of the *Copyright Act*, and that are urging the Government to review exceptions related to educational publishing.

Ultimately, decisions regarding how the parliamentary review of *Copyright Act* will take place, how long it will run, what it will cover and how Canadians can participate will be taken by members of the parliamentary committee that will be tasked with the review. We imagine this will all become clear soon after the Review is launched.

Our Government appreciates that there is considerable interest in the copyright stakeholder community in the up-coming review. For those who may be called as witnesses by the parliamentary committee, I would urge you to come prepared with data and other evidence in support of your views, as it will be of tremendous assistance to the members of the committee and to policy makers.

Again, I want to reinforce the importance of

organizations like CARL, helping to guide learning and research, particularly in the incubator that are our academic institutions. Your continued efforts are appreciated, and we greatly appreciate our ongoing dialogue and work together.

Thank you.