House of Commons
Chambre des communes
Canada

House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance – Pre-budget Consultations 2013

This brief is submitted by:

(•) **an organization** **Organization name:** Canadian Association of Research Libraries

or

( ) **an individual** **Name:** _____

Topic: Innovation and commercialization

*Recommendation 1: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Canada must develop a national research data management infrastructure. Such a system would allow researchers to preserve and share research data.

Maintain support for existing programs that enable research and the sharing of research data, such as the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Research Data Canada, the CANARIE network and Compute Canada.

With finite resources, we need to be able to fully exploit existing data. These programs ensure that Canada's researchers have the infrastructure they need to discover and innovate.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$10 million-$99.9 million

5 or more years

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Funding for research data management infrastructure could be provided through the Canadian Foundation for Innovation. Data repositories would preserve and allow access to datasets which can be transmitted among researchers via CANARIE.

It is important that the government maintain its investments in CFI, the National Research Council and other crucial organizations mentioned in the box above.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

By implementing a comprehensive national data management strategy with the necessary infrastructure, the Government of Canada will benefit industry, researchers, governments, policy makers and practicing professionals.

This allows researchers to access and re-use data for new discovery, thereby accelerating innovation. When a dataset is publicly available it is much less likely to be recreated, avoiding expensive and needless repetition. Data made visible through a data repository can dramatically increase the impact of the original research investment.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Presently, the vast majority of Canadian research data remain inaccessible to other researchers or are lost. Research data in Canada are not being systematically managed so valuable data are under-utilized. While certain disciplines and research projects have project support for data management, this support is available for a minority of researchers only.

Creating a national research data infrastructure would bridge this gap.

Topic: Arts and culture

Recommendation 2: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

2017 marks Canada's 150th anniversary and the Government of Canada will introduce a number of historical initiatives for the event. We believe that the government should support Library and Archives Canada's (LAC) digitization program, whether in-house or with partners such as Canadiana.org, to complement the celebrations and allow Canadians access to their documentary heritage.

A strong Library and Archives Canada connects Canadians with our collective history and increases world-wide knowledge about our country.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$10 million-$99.9 million

5 or more years

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Allocate some of the Heritage Canada 2017 expenses to LAC to ensure that it can digitize portions of Canada's documentary history.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

This measure will benefit students, teachers, authors, creators, researchers, members of the public, museums and other memory institutions.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Canada's national library and archive services play a vital role in connecting Canadians with our national documentary heritage. They gather, preserve, digitize and make accessible government and cultural information.

Digitization will allow Canadians access to large portions of their documentary history that were unavailable beforehand, or that was only accessible through on-site consultations. It will teach Canadians about our history and raise international awareness of Canada.

Topic: Innovation and commercialization

Recommendation 3: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Maintain funding for the federal granting councils and issue a directive to ensure Open Access (free online access) to the results of publicly funded research. Canadians are entitled to consult the results of research they pay for.

The federal granting councils are an essential component of Canada's research environment that enable countless discoveries that propel innovation and wealth creation.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

Please select from the drop down menu

Please select from the drop down menu

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

No new federal funding is required for the granting councils to implement an Open Access policy (CIHR already has such a policy).

At least maintaining the granting councils' current funding requires no new money, although increasing the council's funding is a good investment for the government.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

The federal granting councils are a crucial component of university research in Canada, which in turn pushes national innovation. Issuing an Open Access directive would allow greater access to information and research outputs for Canadians with no university affiliations.

These measures benefit researchers, students, faculty, governments, policy makers and the general public.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Financing the research councils stimulates university research that can lead to innovations with commercialization possibilities.

Canadians pay for billions of dollars of public research each year. An Open Access policy would lead to widespread sharing of the results, which fuels more research and innovation. Open Access will save costs in sectors such as health care, government and industry, allowing broad access to previously inaccessible scholarly information.

Please use this page if you wish to provide more explanation about your recommendation(s).

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided