1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Provincial and territorial governments’ information: the state of play and looking forward – Snell Hall

‘Collecte, conservation et mise en valeur de l’information numérique gouvernementale, une priorité de BAnQ’ – Hélène Cadieux, Directrice, Direction générale des archives nationales, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

‘GALLOping Toward the Future: Government information in Canadian Legislative Libraries’ – Vicki Whitmell, Chair, Association of Parliamentary Libraries in Canada (APLIC); Executive Director, Information and Technology Services Division and Legislative Librarian, Legislative Assembly of Ontario

2:00 – 2:45 p.m. International perspectives – Snell Hall

Bernard F. Reilly, President, Center for Research Libraries

Ingrid Parent, University Librarian, University of British Columbia; former President, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

2:45 – 3:45 p.m. Break out discussions – Framing some actions for Canada

Coffee and refreshments available throughout

Deanery, Lecture room and Snell Hall

3:45 – 4:45 p.m. Group reporting and discussion of next-steps – Snell Hall

4:45 – 5:00 p.m. Wrap-up and closing remarks from CARL President,

Martha Whitehead

Leviathan North:
Long-term Access to Government Information in the Digital Era

May 14 – 15, 2015
St. James’ Cathedral Centre
65 Church St
Toronto, ON
**Agenda**

**Thursday, May 14, 2015**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
**Opening remarks** – Snell Hall North  
Martha Whitehead,  
CARL President; Vice-Provost and University Librarian,  
Queen’s University  

Opening Keynote – *Preserving Government Information in an Age of Big Data: The Canadian Story*  
**Dr. Janice Stein**, Munk School of Global Affairs, Belzberg  
Professor of Conflict Management, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto  

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
**Reception** – Snell Hall South

**Friday May 15, 2015**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.  
**Coffee available** – Library  

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.  
Welcoming remarks and framing the day – Snell Hall  
**Leslie Weir** (moderator)  
Chair, CARL Committee on Research Dissemination;  
University Librarian, University of Ottawa  

8:45 – 9:30 a.m.  
Keynote – ‘Information, Transparency and Government Records in the Digital Age: A Public Policy Perspective’  
**Thomas S. Blanton**, Executive Director, National Security Archive, Washington, DC  

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.  
**Information Policy Directions of the Government of Canada**  
**Stephen B Walker**, Executive Director, Information Management and Open Government, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat  

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.  
**Networking/health break** – coffee and refreshments  
Library

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Federal government information resources: the state of play and looking forward – Snell Hall  
**Dr. Guy Berthiaume**, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, Library and Archives Canada

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
**Catered lunch** – Library

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**Keynote speakers**

**Janice Stein** is professor and former director of the University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs, and is currently Bosch Public Policy Fellow, the Transatlantic Academy, Washington and Senior Scholar, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Stein is the author of over 80 books and articles on public policy and international affairs, and is known for her frequent appearances on CBC’s *The National* and TVOntario’s *The Agenda*. She is a member of the Order of Canada.

**Thomas S. Blanton** is Director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. The *Los Angeles Times* (16 January 2001) described the Archive as "the world's largest nongovernmental library of declassified documents." Blanton served as the Archive's first Director of Planning & Research beginning in 1986, became Deputy Director in 1989, and Executive Director in 1992. In 1996, he won the American Library Association James Madison Award Citation for "defending the public’s right to know."
Information Policy Directions of the Government of Canada
IM Vision

In the Government of Canada, information is safeguarded as a public trust and managed as a strategic asset to maximize its value in the service of Canadians.
Policy direction to departments on the requirements for managing all information resources regardless of format.
IM Policy Suite

Policy on Information Management

MANAGING
Directive on Recordkeeping

SHARING
Directive on Open Government
Core Objectives

Informed decision making

Decision-makers have **timely** access to **high quality**, **authoritative** information.

Accountability

**Openness** and **transparency** in the delivery of programs and services to Canadians.

**Access** to information for the benefit of present and future generations.

Asset Control

**Efficient** and **effective** management of information resources to support program and service delivery.

A culture that **values information** as a strategic asset.
Policy on Information Management

OUTCOMES

Achieve efficient and effective information management to support program and service delivery; foster informed decision making; facilitate accountability, transparency, and collaboration; and preserve and ensure access to information and records for the benefit of present and future generations.

IM is embedded in the business.
Policy on Information Management

**Key Requirements**

- Information management is embedded in departmental activities, and electronic systems are the preferred means of creating, using, and managing information.

- Decisions and decision-making processes are appropriately documented.

- Information is shared within and across departments to the greatest extent possible, while respecting security and privacy requirements.

- A IM Senior Official is responsible for ensuring the appropriate management direction, processes and tools are in place to efficiently manage information under the control of the department to support the department's business and to retain the quality of information throughout the information life cycle.
Directive on Recordkeeping

OUTCOMES

Ensure effective recordkeeping practices that enable departments to create, acquire, capture, manage and protect the integrity of information resources of business value in the delivery of Government of Canada programs and services.

Moves focus to the management of information resources of business value.
KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Information resources of business value are identified and captured in designated corporate repositories.

- Designated corporate repositories in which information resources of business value are stored are inventoried and maintained.

- Risk profile of information resources are understood and documented, taking into consideration legal and regulatory risks, access to information, security of information and the protection of personal information.

- Regular disposition activities for all information resources are carried out in accordance with established retention periods.
Directive on Open Government

OUTCOMES

Maximize the release of government information and data of business value to support transparency, accountability, citizen engagement, and socio-economic benefits through reuse, subject to applicable restrictions associated with privacy, confidentiality, and security.

Moving from closed by default, to open by default
Directive on Open Government

KEY REQUIREMENTS

• Maximizing the release of data and information

• Open data and open information is released in accessible and reusable formats via Government of Canada websites and services designated by the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

• Comprehensive inventories of data and information resources of business value held by the department are developed

• Access restrictions on departmental information resources of enduring value are removed prior to transfer to Library and Archives Canada as part of planned disposition activities

• Open government requirements are integrated in any new plans for departmental information applications, systems, or solutions in support of the delivery of programs and services
Issued on July 1, 2007. Emphasis is on managing, maximizing, and preserving information.

Issued on June 1, 2009. Emphasis is on maturing recordkeeping practices.

3. GCDOCS EPMO Established (2011)
Project office for government wide solution for records and document management

TBS works with department to support the implementation of the Policy on Information Management and the Directive on Recordkeeping.

5. Directive on RK Compliance Deadline
Departments and agencies are required to demonstrate full compliance with the Directive on Recordkeeping by March 31st, 2015.

Issued on October 9, 2014. Departments and agencies have been given 5 years to become compliant.
New Directions for IM

To truly maximize the value of our information, IM in the Government of Canada must take into account several Key Challenges.
Technological Realities

The IM/IT world has changed significantly in recent years and it continues to evolve rapidly.

From 2005 to 2020, the digital universe will grow by a factor of 300, from 130 exabytes to 40,000 exabytes, or 40 trillion gigabytes (more than 5,200 gigabytes for every man, woman, and child).*

Canadians expect effective and efficient government services which must be supported by strong IM practices.

- Integrated multi-channel services
- Seamless access
- Simple e-service options
- Secure account management

Paper as Default Medium  |  Digital as the Only Medium

01000 10101 00010 11100 01000
Canadians expect an open and transparent Government that promotes and facilitates information sharing while managing and protecting their information.

- Information Open by Default
- Information Open by Exception

GC and other orders of government
GC and business, and organisations
GC and citizens
Expectations About Collaboration

A modernized public service draws on a wide range of data and information to develop evidence-based ideas, analysis and advice.

Information as a Key Organisational Asset

Information as a Key Enterprise Asset

Employee to employee
Department to department
GC to other governments, business, and organisations
Moving Forward

- Information as a Key Enterprise Asset
- Digital as the Only Medium
- Open by Default Information
- Agile IM/IT Approaches
Building a Strong Foundation

- **IM Policy Suite**: Policy direction to departments on the requirements for managing all information resources regardless of format.

- **Enterprise IM Solutions**: Consolidated and re-engineered standardized solutions across GC to increase efficiency and reduce costs of government operations.

- **Transformed IM Culture**: A culture in which the value, use, and sharing of information is recognised in achieving operational and strategic success.
Thank you

Jennifer Paquet
Jennifer.paquet@tbs-sct.gc.ca

TBS Information Management Policy Team
im-gi@tbs-sct.gc.ca
Long-term Access to Government Information in the Digital Era

Sylvie Michaud
Statistics Canada
Overview

• Background

• Drivers and considerations

• Vision

• Ensuring long term access to information
Statistics Canada

Our mandate:
  - to collect, compile, analyze and publish statistical information on all dimensions of Canada’s economy, society and environment.

Our mission:
  - Serving Canada with high-quality statistical information that matters

Our commitment
  - Statistics Canada is committed to ensuring that Canadians have all the key information on Canada’s economy, society and environment that they require to function effectively as citizens and decision makers in a rapidly evolving world.
Background

- With nearly 100 years of existence, Statistics Canada’s current digital information holdings exceed 1.4 Petabytes

This is equivalent to:
- 28 million four drawer filing cabinets
- 2,000 years of continuous play music on MP3
- 6 times the total holdings of the U.S. Library of Congress in 2011
Drivers and Considerations

External
- Managing new information demands
- Formal and informal stakeholder consultations
- International comparability – concepts, standards, formats
- Government standards
- IT infrastructure governance
- Audits - OAG
Drivers and Considerations

Internal
- Accessibility
- Organizational efficiency
- Lessons learned
- Internal audits, quality reviews and program evaluations
- Priority management
- Capacity/affordability
Statistics Canada’s Information management (IM) Vision

Preserving Canada’s statistical heritage by ensuring:

- Interpretability
- Coherence
- Replicability
- Reversibility
- Metadata driven programs
- Affordability

IM Roadmap: transitioning from local IM solutions to corporate solutions for managing information as a strategic asset
Accessibility

“Data not used to its fullest possible potential represents a failure of relevance. Increasingly, modern policy research requires access not only to aggregated statistics but also to data at the level of the individual business, household or person. Statistics Canada is committed to removing obstacles to access while preserving the privacy and confidentiality of respondents”\(^1\)

\(^1\)Statistics Canada Corporate Business Plan 2014-2015 to 2017-2018
Accessibility

- Statistics Canada web site
- Various access options
  - CANSIM: time series
  - Custom requests – costs recovered
  - Data liberation initiative: public use micro-data files
  - Research data centres / Centre for Economic Development Research
  - Integrated meta-database (IMDB): ensuring interpretability of statistical information
- Open government portal
Ensuring long term access to Statistics Canada’s data

- Specific initiatives
  - Digitization
  - Web archiving
  - New Dissemination Model
  - Review of internal policies and directives related to disseminated information
  - Renewal of the Integrated Meta Database (IMDB)
Statistics Canada’s website

- Over 4 million pages each official language
- Some users experience challenges with its search engine
- Government of Canada framework

Result:
- Removal of redundant, obsolete, trivial (ROT) material
  - Vast majority of content remains

- Legacy web content is superseded by more recent content
  - No longer useful in support of informing public on state of economy and society
  - Removed from public site but retained internally for record keeping purposes
Statistics Canada’s website

- Archived content is no longer current but retained to provide context to newer information and remains accessible

Search settings must be modified to access

CANSIM data tables that are not active are currently labelled “Terminated”. These will be identified as “Archived” to designate online tables which are not most current.
New Dissemination Model

- Improvements to how information is organized and presented on the website
- New comprehensive registry of all statistical outputs
  - Data
  - Analysis
  - Reference documents
- Filters to sort through information holdings and key word search to locate important descriptors
  - To facilitate maintenance of our vast digital information holdings
  - To improve efficiency and user access
Conclusion

- Statistics Canada’s information holdings are vast and their growth rate continues to increase

- Information management in support of preserving the nation’s statistical legacy is a priority
  - Strategies are in place
  - Renewal initiatives under way

- The issue is not limited to disseminated information
  - Input, some intermediary and final data micro data sets are important assets
Keeping government information on the record: stewardship in a digital era

Amanda Wakaruk, Government Information Librarian
Founding / Former Chair, CGI DPN Steering Committee
CARL Leviathan North, May 15, 2015
Assumption

- Canada’s Depository Services Program (DSP) publishes and distributes all information products created by the Government of Canada (GOC) and its agencies

Reality

- DSP is not a publisher and many publications are not made available to the DSP (despite TBS PPs*)
- DSP stopped distributing paper in 2014; only collects PDFs from listed agencies (TBS web protocols prioritize html over PDFs)

* Treasury Board Secretariat Communications Policy
Treasury Board Secretariat Procedures for Publishing
Assumption

- Library and Archives Canada (LAC) collects and preserves all government information, regardless of format

Reality

- despite legal deposit and TBS PPs, many publications are not collected and preserved by LAC
- recent (post 2007) content acquired via LAC’s renewed web harvesting program is not (yet) available to the public
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assumption</th>
<th>Reality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● All non-sensitive GOC information is online and/or searchable via Google</td>
<td>● been waiting years for a centralized Virtual Library for government information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Open Government is a GOC priority which means all government publications are available online</td>
<td>● publications have been removed from GOC web sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● researchers use archive.org to find removed GOC web content</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT

OF

COMMISSION

APPOINTED TO INQUIRY INTO THE

STATE OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS

1897

To the Honourable the Treasury Board:

The undersigned, in conformity with the terms of a Minute Board recommending their appointment as a departmental commission into the whole question of the state of the public records, which was approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on 1897, have the honour to report:

That in the execution of this duty they have visited the several offices and made as thorough an inspection of the records in each as circumstances have permitted. This examination discloses a state of affairs which, in the undersigned, calls for prompt and vigorous measures of reform.

The objects of the inquiry falling under several heads, it may be convenient to examine the subject under the following sub-heads, which method is adopted to exhibit the whole question in the clearest manner:

1. The actual state of the records and public documents in the several departments.
2. The danger to which they are exposed from fire.
3. What papers or records might be destroyed and after what time.
4. General recommendations of the Commissioners.

1.—The Actual Condition of Affairs.

Throughout their inspection the commissioners were impressed with the need for a community of plan among the several departments for the care and preservation of their records. As a rule, departmental papers a few years back are convenient of access. Those of older date are kept in the basement (apparently rather as lumber to be got rid of than for preservation) where they are stored, often under conditions unsuitable to their preservation and use. In some departments papers are destroyed after periods varying from three to ten years, and despite their age, they remain indefinitely in underground storage. More records are difficulty of access, then fresh accumulations occur in the records and are aggravated by the

the departments which are gradually becoming choked with an ever increasing mass of documents.

The above remarks apply to public documents generally. As regards the older papers of historic interest which form the archives of the country, the undersigned are unable to speak more favourably. It is true there is a collection of valuable papers bearing on the early history of Canada in the Department of Agriculture, under the control of an official known as the Dominion Archivist, but this officer though amply qualified for the post, has never been provided with facilities for its adequate administration, nor enjoyed anything beyond a casual and perfunctory recognition. The Department of the Secretary of State possesses a similar collection of papers under the immediate charge of an officer known as "The Keeper of Records." These two branches of the public service, though seemingly devoted to the promotion of a common object, are not in any sense of the word auxiliary to each other. On the contrary, they are distinct, and even antagonist. The Commissioners, for instance, understand that for the purpose of bridging over breaches in the archives, copies have been made of documents in the libraries of European capitals when the originals of these very documents were in the custody of one or other of the public departments. It is not too much to say that the rivalry existing between these offices has long been an obstacle to the attainment of that unity of responsibility and control essential to the introduction of a perfect system. Another collection of State papers relating to the history immediately preceding Confederation exists in the Privy Council Office, and there are many minor deposits to one of which reference may be made. In the Department of Indian Affairs the Commissioners were shown a number of bound volumes of manuscript containing the reports of the Indian Commissioners at Albany, from 1722 to 1833, and amongst other matters of historic interest the story of part of the Mohawk war, the conspiracy of Pontiac, and the migration of the Six Nation Indians. These books are quite unprotected from fire and their destruction would be a serious loss. Thus, records which united would form a collection of rare interest, are dispersed throughout the departments, where they lie in every stage of insecurity, often unarranged and undescibed, suffering more or less from damp, their value sometimes unrecognized and their very existence, it may be, unknown. Nor is this surprising when it is borne in mind that until the fire of 1870, the care of records was not considered a matter of immediate concern.

2.—The Danger to Which the Government Records are Exposed from Fire.

Recent experience must have taught all persons, as it has greatly impressed the undersigned with the conviction, that the danger from fire to which the public records are exposed is a serious and ever present one.
Web Renewal Action Plan

Reduce Redundant, Outdated and Trivial Content

Government of Canada websites should deliver easy-to-find, clear, accurate, up-to-date information to their visitors. To make government information easy to find and use, government departments need to be aware of the information published online and ensure quality information is delivered, evaluated and reviewed regularly.

The key steps in managing an effective content lifecycle are outlined below.

The benefits of removing Web content that has become redundant, outdated or trivial (ROT) include:

- Increased ease of finding and using Web content
- A better experience for visitors
- Decreased website maintenance costs
- Enhanced ability to deliver services online
Canadian Government Information Digital Preservation Network

- start date: October 2012
- content: DSP pdfs, Government of Canada web content
- governance: committee and policy
Canadian Government Information DPN

University of Victoria
University of British Columbia
Simon Fraser University
Stanford University
University of Alberta
University of Calgary

University of Saskatchewan
University of Toronto / Scholars Portal
McGill University
Dalhousie University
CGI-DPN Governance

Steering Committee
- sets policy (e.g., Collection and Access)
- special projects (e.g., fugitive docs, etc.)

Technical Committee
- advisory, develops workflows for ingest
CGI-DPN Collection

Workflow:
1. DSP catalogue report / identified at-risk web content
2. create seedlist
3. conduct and QA Archive-IT crawl [https://archive-it.org/collections/3572](https://archive-it.org/collections/3572)
4. WARC files (including metadata) added to LOCKSS boxes using Archive-IT plugin
CGI-DPN Successes

- multi-Institutional, coast to coast partnership
- self-organized network of government librarians
- preservation of at-risk digital content
- joint Archive-IT account for capturing at-risk web content
- new research projects (e.g., fugitive docs, lost web content analysis)
Questions?

Amanda Wakaruk, BComm, MLIS, MES
Government Information Librarian
Acting Digital Repository Services Librarian (2015-2016)
University of Alberta Libraries
amanda.wakaruk@ualberta.ca
https://sites.google.com/a/ualberta.ca/wakaruk/


@awakaruk
Collection, Conservation and Development of Digital Government Information—A Priority for BAnQ

Hélène Cadieux
Interim Conservator and Director General,
National Archives Direction
• Missions and powers of BAnQ
• Legal deposit of digital publications
• Collection of websites
• Accession and conservation of digital archives
• Next steps, upcoming challenges
Missions and Powers

- BAnQ’s mission is to gather Quebec’s published documentary heritage for the purpose of conserving and providing access to it, primarily through legal deposit.
Missions and Powers

- Bibliothèque et Archives nationales also works to guide, support and advise public agencies on the management of their documents and to ensure the conservation of public archives.
Deposit of Digital Publications

- Legislative context
- Summary of publications deposited to date
- Dissemination of deposited publications
Deposit of Digital Publications
Legislative Context

- Current, deposit is voluntary
- Willingness of BAnQ to make it mandatory
  - The BAnQ Act would enable the legal deposit of digital publications.
  - The *Copyright Act* requires BAnQ to obtain authorization from copyright owners to be able to reproduce digital publications.
- 170 licences obtained for the 200 departments and centralized departments authorized to deposit
Deposit of Digital Publications
Summary of Publications Deposited

- 45,451 publications registered (deposited: 46,473)
- 37,495 monographs registered (deposited: 38,364)
- 7,675 serial publications registered (deposited: 7,723)
- 281 geographical maps registered (deposited: 386)
Deposit of Digital Publications
Dissemination


Collection of Websites

- Since 2012
- Logical next step to the deposit of digital government publications
- Ultimately, the collection of sites could replace the deposit of publications
Collection of Websites

- Legislative context
- Collection stages
- Frequency of collections
- Summary of collections made to date
- Dissemination of collected sites
Collection of Websites
Legislative Context

- BAnQ cannot collect websites without authorization from copyright owners.
- Sole exception: the 145 departments and centralized departments subject to the Archives Act.
Collection of Websites
Collection Stages

- Obtain authorization
- Collect the sites (Heritrix archival crawler)
- Quality control (Wayback Machine)
- Disseminate the collections (Wayback Machine)
Collection of Government Websites
Frequency of Collections

- During modifications to a department/centralized department’s structure or mission
- During the online launch of a new site
- Following a major site change (major content replacement, redesign of graphic layout, modification of architecture)
- Just before a site deletion
Collection of Government Websites
Summary of Collections

- Number of centralized departments: 243
- Number of collections: 607
- Number of domains (URL) collected: 527
- Number of records collected: 37,821,467
- Size (GB/TB): 8.302 GB/ 8.1 TB
Collection of Government Websites Dissemination

- Internet Archive
  https://archive.org/

- New interface available on the BAnQ portal:
  http://www.banq.qc.ca/collections/collections_patri moniales/archives_web
Evolution of Archive Management Systems

GID

GALA

PISTARD

DNS

Creators/users from D/CDs
Records managers from D/CDs
BAnQ archivists
Users
The *Archives Act* review provides for the implementation of a document management program for centralized departments subject to the Act.
At the present time, GALA is a transactional web tool that facilitates the management of records retention schedule approvals.

- An additional development is planned to allow accession.
- Will be done as part of the Pistard development.
Pistard

- Database that integrates all the processes related to heritage material
- Re-development project under way
Institutional project under the responsibility of the Direction générale des technologies de l’information et des télécommunications, with the participation of all “content” directions
Next Steps, Upcoming Challenges

▪ Regulatory relief
  • Overhaul of the *Archives Act* and its associated regulations
  • Discussions for potential relief concerning legal deposit and website collection

▪ For all projects:
  • Creation of a Trusted Digital Repository that would ensure the long-term conservation of the digital government resources held at BAnQ
Thank You
Montreal Area:
514-873-1100

Toll-free, elsewhere in Quebec:
1-800-363-9028

banq.qc.ca

Montreal
Grande Bibliothèque
475 De Maisonneuve Boulevard East
Montreal, Quebec H2L 5C4

BAnQ Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
2275 Holt Street
Montreal, Quebec H2G 3H1

BAnQ Vieux-Montréal
535 Viger Avenue East
Montreal, Quebec H2L 2P3

Capitale-Nationale
BAnQ Québec
Pavillon Louis-Jacques-Casault
Université Laval Campus
1055 Du Séminaire Avenue
Quebec City, Quebec G1V 4N1

BAnQ Gaspé
80 De Gaspé Boulevard
Gaspé, Quebec G4X 1A9

BAnQ Gatineau
855 De la Gappe Boulevard
Gatineau, Quebec J8T 8H9

BAnQ Rimouski
337 Moreault Street
Rimouski, Quebec G5L 1P4

BAnQ Rouyn-Noranda
27 Du Terminus Ouest Street
Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec J9X 2P3

BAnQ Saguenay
930 Jacques-Cartier Street East, Suite C-103
Saguenay, Quebec G7H 7K9

BAnQ Sept-Îles
700 Laure Boulevard, Suite 190
Sept-Îles, Quebec G4R 1Y1

BAnQ Sherbrooke
225 Frontenac Street, Suite 401
Sherbrooke, Quebec J1H 1K1

BAnQ Trois-Rivières
225 Des Forges Street, Suite 208
Trois-Rivières, Quebec G9A 2G7
Part I: GALLOPing Toward the Future: Government information in Canadian Legislative Libraries

Part II: Looking for Solutions in Ontario

Vicki Whitmell
Executive Director, Information and Technology Services Division and Legislative Librarian
Ontario Legislative Assembly
OVERVIEW

• Part I:
  • The role of legislative libraries in collecting and preserving government and legislative information
  • The GALLOP Portal and its place in the long-term preservation of digital government information

• Part II: Challenges in Ontario
Canada’s provincial and territorial legislative libraries are heavy collectors of government and legislative publications. Some have a mandate to collect and preserve the government and legislative output of their jurisdiction. For others it is a necessity as government and legislative information is central to providing reference and research services to parliamentarians.
CASE IN POINT: ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY
CASE IN POINT: ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

• Our policy is to collect multiple copies of each available Ontario government print publication in both English and French
• We assign ISBN and ISSN numbers to Ontario ministries for their publications
• We provide CIP for Ontario government publications
• We provide the information that is the backbone for the Ontario Government Checklist of Publications
Ontario ministries began releasing documents in electronic format in the late 1990s.

We collect these by visiting Ontario government websites daily to capture newly released electronic publications.

We have a digital repository of about 75,000 documents that is available through our online catalogue, OCUL, Our Ontario, and the GALLOP Portal.
Our partnerships with OCUL and Our Ontario helped us to see the benefits of working with others to find the best technologies to make government information easily available, searchable and available to a wider audience.

Our next step: Working with APLIC/ABPAC (Library of Parliament, all provincial and territorial legislative libraries)
Goal:

- To find a way to provide full and complete access to the electronic legislative and government documents held in all APLIC collections

Getting there:

- Took six years to develop and get everyone on board
- Up against firewalls, copyright and ownership issues and consequences of having publications more openly available
- Some processes had to change at individual libraries to allow them to contribute their documents
GALLOP PORTAL

BENEFITS

**Comprehensive**
Created a pan-Canadian collection of government and legislative materials

**Improved Access**
For individual documents and cross-jurisdictional searching

**Improved Efficiency**
Reduced the need for individual libraries to collect and maintain materials from other jurisdictions
Materials in portal are based on each APLIC’s library’s individual collection policy

Comprehensive, but not exhaustive

Includes documents in English, French and Aboriginal languages such as Cree, Inuuktut

Contains: monographs, serials, legislative publications such as committee reports, annual reports, speeches, press releases, reports of Royal Commissions and Commissions of Inquiry

Full text

Built to meet the needs of Materials date back to 1960s

Searching is by keyword or APLIC libraries, but we recognized that other libraries would also find it useful
IT'S GETTING BIG

- The Federal Depository Services Program joined as a partner in 2012 and all of its electronic records are included in the portal.

470,000 records in the portal as of April 2015
GALLOP’S ROLE AND FUTURE

• Emerged at a critical time given LAC’s decision to stop collecting provincial and territorial government publications.

• The move of some governments from multiple ministry sites to ‘one’ comprehensive site is expected to result in the reduced availability of government documents and publications.

• GALLOP promises the long-term availability of these important materials. However, it is very much dependent upon the willingness and ability of legislative libraries and the legislatures themselves to continue contributing. Many are small and have limited capacity. Much reliance is on Ontario to maintain the technology and servers.
“Currently, there is no comprehensive or strategic approach to collecting, protecting, and providing access to [Ontario Government] in-print and digital materials. The responsibility for creating, publishing, promoting and, finally, removing non-current content is dispersed throughout the government.

Irretrievable loss of vital government publications may risk the ability to support Ontario’s policies and services, promote evidence-based decision making, and maintain openness, transparency, accountability and corporate memory.”

Jim Hamilton, Archivist of Ontario
“Currently, there is no comprehensive or strategic approach to collecting, protecting, and providing access to [Ontario Government] in-print and digital materials.

The responsibility for creating, publishing, promoting and, finally, removing non-current content is dispersed throughout the government.

Irretrievable loss of vital government publications may risk the ability to support Ontario’s policies and services, promote evidence-based decision making, and maintain openness, transparency, accountability and corporate memory.”

Jim Hamilton, Archivist of Ontario
Since 2013 the Ontario Government Libraries Council (OGLC) Working Group has focused its activities on the following goals:

- identify workable solutions to ensure the comprehensive collection, provision of access and preservation of Ontario Government publications;
- ascertain if any action is required by other Ontario Government bodies
- build connections between OGLC and others within the OPS who can affect change
- encourage cooperation and efficiencies between ministries
- develop partnerships throughout the province with other libraries and stakeholders
ONTARIO GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS ARE AT RISK OF BEING PERMANENTLY LOST

current state

No one is collecting everything
- Legislative Library: mandate to serve the interests of MPPs; issues ISBNs
- Ministry libraries collect within their mandates but 19 ministries and most ABCs have no library
- University libraries collect independent of government needs

No plan for long term access
- Provides access to current publications only
  - The Ontario.ca platform inhibits easy identification and downloading of publications

No plan for long term preservation
- Preserves records, not publications
  - Archives and Recordkeeping Act: “published works” are excluded
  - Guidelines for archiving Ontario government web sites have been drafted

desired state

- Comprehensive collection
- Long term access
- Long term preservation

Good stewardship supports government transparency and accountability

March 2015

Ontario Government Libraries Council (OGLC)
WORK OF OGLC

• Have met and are meeting with key ministries and Cabinet Office to:
  • advocate for centralized collection and preservation of Ontario government publications
  • advocate for adding metadata to Ontario publications (pilot project underway at Ministry of the Environment)
  • get agreement on the definition of an official ‘publication’
CHALLENGES

• Government no longer uses the word ‘publication’, stopping publishing in PDF
• ‘One site’ has a narrow focus on consumers, no acknowledgement of needs of researchers or scholars
• Government stakeholders are often only interested in their own territory, unwilling or unable to take on more work
• The players keep changing
Ontario Open Government report was published in 2014. It calls for a digital strategy for the Province

- The report recommends:
  - publishing key documents online, in an open format
  - publishing all government data in commonly accepted open standards in a timely manner

- Open Government Office has been established and is in start-up phase.
  - Have agreed to meet with OGLC
  - Consideration being given to adding an RSS feed to ‘one site’ to identify new publications added.
CONCLUSION

• A coherent and partner-based approach to preserving Canada’s documentary heritage is needed

• GALLOP is only a piece of the puzzle

• Partnerships are needed not just for collecting government documents but also to support the technology, storage and maintenance of the portals and repositories we build. We cannot expect one library or group to take the full and long-term responsibility alone

• We need to be visible and to advocate at all government levels
The Leviathan Strategic Framework: A New Research Library Agenda for Preserving Critical U.S. and Foreign Government Information

Bernard F. Reilly
Center for Research Libraries
From a March 2012 Congressional Research Service report:

“The emergence of a predominantly digital [Federal Depository Library Program] may call the capacity of the statutory authorities GPO exercises into question. Whereas GPO is the central point of distribution for tangible, printed FDLP materials, its responsibilities . . . may be less explicitly specified, regarding its distribution of digital information. . . .”
“... The agency has archiving and permanent retention authorities for tangible materials, but those authorities do not envision digital creation and distribution of government publications. Digital distribution authorities provide for online access to publications, but are silent on GPO’s retention and preservation responsibilities for digital information.”
In May 2011, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) published a report on U.S. federal agencies’ self-assessments of their recordkeeping, which found that “90% of agencies had a moderate to high risk of records mismanagement.” . . .
Agency self-assessments found that 45% of agencies had records management programs with “moderate risk” and another 45% had records management programs with “high risk” of records mismanagement.
A June 2011 report by the Government Accountability Office found that 23 of 24 major federal agencies used Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube as platforms for the public dissemination of agency information.
A 2012 Congressional Research Service report called attention to “the proliferation of the proprietary platforms employed by the agencies of the U.S. federal government for their records, and the accompanying dangers.”
The records transferred by the Bush Administration to the National Archives in 2009 totaled over 72 terabytes of data in almost 400 million files. They included more than 200 million emails, more than 11 million digital photographs, 48,000 digital motion videos, more than 29 million records of entry by workers and visitors to the White House complex.
Prior to 2009, estimates indicate, between 5 million and 23 million emails of White House staff were either lost or destroyed by the White House.
According to testimony given to the Congress by officials of the Government Accountability Office in June 2010, federal records management “has received low priority within the federal government,” and the creation of “[h]uge volumes of electronic information” posed a “major challenge” in agency record management . . . .
. . . GAO officials noted that poor federal records management could leave the government “exposed to legal liabilities, and historical records of vital interest could be lost forever.”
According to NARA, in fiscal year 2011 “80% of [U.S. federal] agencies captured e-mail records by printing them out and filing them.”
1. “Triage” (Focus)
1. “Triage” (Focus)

Research libraries must focus their efforts on what is truly at risk and what is not likely to be adequately preserved by other actors, public sector or private.
2. “Drill Down” (Analyze)
2. “Drill Down” (Analyze)

Determining what is at risk requires a full understanding of the digital government information lifecycle and supply chain: critical government archiving infrastructure and proprietary distribution systems and platforms.
3. “Differentiate”
Researchers in different fields require different things of government information: integrity and authenticity of data may mean one thing to an economist and another to a historian.
4. “Collectivize”
4. “Collectivize”

Research libraries must actively engage with key “suppliers” of government information, like NARA, GPO, and Library and Archives Canada; must unite to gain leverage in dealings with key aggregators; and must “speak with one voice” in negotiating terms of access to government information.
5.  “Act Up”
5. “Act Up”

To play a meaningful role in a realm as important as government information research libraries will have to forge new alliances.
www.crl.edu/leviathan
An international perspective on preserving digital government information

Ingrid Parent
Leviathan North 2015 Conference
May 14, 2015
The Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development

- Approved in August 2014
- Affirms that access to information is a human right; and everyone should be able to use and share information
- More than 540 signatories

lyondeclaration.org
Platform to Enhance the Sustainability of the Information Society Transglobally (PERSIST)

http://ow.ly/ywZRt