Canadian Association of Research Libraries
Annual Report 2019

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Fraser Library, Simon Fraser University, Photo credit: Simon Fraser University.
President’s Message

I am pleased to present the 2019 CARL Annual Report.

CARL provides leadership on behalf of Canada’s research libraries and enhances capacity to advance research and higher education. It promotes effective and sustainable knowledge creation, dissemination, and preservation, and public policy that enables broad access to scholarly information.

In 2019 we finalized CARL’s Strategic Framework for 2019-2022 and made significant progress in its five strategic directions: Advance Open Scholarship, Ensure Enduring Access, Strengthen Capacity, Demonstrate Impact, and Influence Policy. I would like to thank our members, committee chairs, board, staff, and stakeholders for their commitment, vision, energy, and enthusiasm, which have made the accomplishments reflected in this report possible.

Jonathan Bengtson, CARL President

Executive Director’s Message

Working with a new strategic framework and additional funding to support the work of Portage, 2019 was full of new and exciting opportunities. We welcomed a number of new staff members and Visiting Program Officers. On a personal note, I completed my first five-year term, and was delighted to be renewed for a second term.

As always, CARL continued to advance open scholarly communication, support workforce development and renewal, develop new methods of demonstrating the value of libraries and to act as the voice of Canada’s research libraries in national policy.

It has been a privilege to continue to work closely with library leaders throughout Canada and I look forward to building on this great work in 2020.

Susan Haigh, CARL Executive Director
CARL Board

President
Jonathan Bengtson (Victoria)

Vice-President
Vivian Lewis (McMaster)

Treasurer, Atlantic Region Representative
Lesley Balcom (New Brunswick - to May 2019)
Susan Cleyle (Memorial - from May 2019)

Secretary, Québec Region Representative
Guylaine Beaudry (Concordia - to May 2019)
Loubna Ghaouti (Laval - from May 2019)

Director, Ontario Region Representative
Larry Alford (Toronto)

Director, Western Region Representative
Melissa Just (Saskatchewan)

Executive Director
Susan Haigh

Strategic Committee Chairs

Advancing Research Committee
Catherine Steeves (Western)

Assessment Committee
Colleen Cook (McGill)

Policy Committee
Martha Whitehead (Queen’s)/
Carol Shepstone (Ryerson)

Strengthening Capacity Committee
Vivian Lewis (McMaster)/
Brett Waytuck (Regina)
Highlights from 2019

In 2019 CARL finalized their Strategic Framework for 2019-2022 and made significant progress in advancing its strategic directions. Key 2019 achievements and activities from the four CARL committees are described below.

Policy Committee

In 2019, with guidance from the Policy Committee under the leadership of Carol Shepstone (Ryerson), CARL participated in the following advocacy initiatives:

- CFLA and CARL jointly submitted a Brief to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage Study on Remuneration Models for Artists and Creative Industries (a corollary to the review of the Copyright Act).
- On April 4, CARL sent a letter to Minister Bains and Minister Lametti expressing its support for proposed changes to Canada’s Crown copyright provision, as reflected in the Private Members Bill presented by MP Brian Masse. CARL and CFLA also participated with Mr. Masse in the Hill press conference held on April 10.
- On August 2, members of the library and archival community submitted a letter encouraging the Government of Canada to consider alternatives to the recommendation regarding Crown copyright that was proposed in the INDU report. On August 20, Susan Haigh and Katherine McCollgan (representing CARL and CFLA) met with the Policy Advisor to Minister Bains regarding this request.
- A meeting with ISED and PCH officials was held on September 9 and led to commitments from both the government and the library and archives community to do some further information gathering. As a consequence, representatives of ACA, CFLA, CARL, and CALL formed a CFLA working group on Crown copyright.
- Mark Swartz led a working group that is creating a series of educational, video-based modules designed to educate faculty and staff at Canadian Universities about copyright. The completed modules are scheduled to be launched in early 2020.
- CARL issued a statement on the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology (INDU)’s Report, which brought the legislative review of the Copyright Act to a close and presented 36 recommendations. In its statement, CARL applauded the INDU Committee for their reasoned analysis and balanced conclusions, including those related to fair dealing, text and data mining, Indigenous knowledge, and technological protection measures.
- CARL published an objection to Access Copyright’s proposed Post-Secondary Educational Institution Tariff, 2021-2023.
Strengthening Capacity Committee

Under the leadership of outgoing chair Vivian Lewis (McMaster - until May 2019) and new chair Brett Waytuck (Regina), the Strengthening Capacity Committee (SCC) worked toward the long-term support of librarian research, workforce development and renewal, strategic recruitment, leadership and management development, and diversity. 2019 initiatives included:

- The next LRI, to be hosted by the University of New Brunswick in June 2020, began its planning.
- The Competencies Working Group (CWG) completed the revised Competencies for CARL/ABRC Librarians, which was approved for a soft launch at the CARL Fall General Meeting. A consultation draft was circulated in December 2019, with a deadline to submit comments by January 17.
- Maha Kumaran (Saskatchewan) was selected to serve as CARL Visiting Program Officer for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.
- Under the leadership of chair Melissa Just (Saskatchewan), the newly formed EDI Working Group worked with Maha Kumaran to shape CARL’s diversity-related activities and communications and support the planning and delivery of these activities.
- A task group made up of SCC members worked with the Gardiner Centre (Memorial) to develop the Academic Librarian’s Leadership Institute (ALLI), a pilot professional development opportunity for senior library leaders to be offered in June 2020.
- Recipients of the Practicing Librarian Category of the CARL Research in Librarianship Grant were:
  - Elizabeth Yates (Brock), Study of the perspectives of transgender students regarding services, collections, and spaces in academic libraries.
  - Tim Walsh (Concordia) & Jess Whyte (Toronto), National review of current workflows and methods for identifying sensitive information in digital collections (including special, general, and research data).
  - Christina Winter (Regina) & Rumi Graham (Lethbridge), Copyright practices and approaches at Canadian post-secondaries: an expanded follow-up national survey.
  - Laura Bredahl & Kari D. Weaver (Waterloo), Exploring students’ information use through learner needs analysis, in a Canadian STEM context: towards a collaborative approach to integrated instructional design.
- Recipients of the Graduate Student Category were:
  - Marnie James & Alec Mullender (Western), Invisible structures: how classification defines and divides us.
  - Justin Fuhr (Alberta), Developing core competencies in emerging areas of academic librarianship.
Advancing Research Committee

Under the leadership of chair Catherine Steeves (Western), the Advancing Research Committee (ARC) continued to further the goals set out in CARL’s Scholarly Communication Roadmap while also engaging in collective efforts with Canadian research libraries to sustain print and digital collections:

- In February, CARL submitted a response to Plan S’s request for feedback on its implementation guidance. In October, the International Alliance of Research Library Associations (IARLA), of which CARL is a member, issued a view on Plan S’s revised release.

- CARL and CRKN released a joint press release expressing support for the University of California’s decision to end negotiations with Elsevier.

- CARL released the CRKN license cost data for both 2018 and 2019. These datasets included costs incurred by all 29 CARL university library members.

- ARC undertook a study of CARL institutions’ open investments via a survey to members in April. Based on feedback received, a revised survey was redistributed to CARL institutions in early August. Kathleen Shearer presented an analysis of the responses at the November meeting, and a public report will be released in 2020.

- CARL released three documents related to author rights and the Canadian Author Addendum: a revised Canadian Author Addendum to Publication Agreement, the CARL Guide to Using the Canadian Author Addendum, and the CARL Guide to Author Rights. These were produced by Lise Brin (CARL), Rosarie Coughlan (Queen’s), Roger Gillis (Dalhousie), Stephanie Savage (British Columbia), and Jennifer Zerkee (Simon Fraser).

- The Digital Preservation Working Group (DPWG) released a report from @Risk North 2: Digital Collections and published the final report on its survey on digital preservation capacity in Canadian memory institutions (coauthored by Grant Hurley, Scholars Portal, and Kathleen Shearer).

- Through the CRKN-CARL joint consortial approach to SCOSS, more than 30 CRKN institutions pledged funding to SHERPA/RoMEO and/or DOAJ. CARL is a member of the SCOSS Board and also participates in the expert advisory committee for the selection of services to be funded.

- Will Roy (Queen’s), Brian Cameron (Ryerson), and Tim Ribaric (Brock), on behalf of the Open Repositories Working Group (ORWG)’s Task Group on Standards for IR Usage Data, prepared a report with recommendations regarding collection of IR usage data across Canadian repositories.

- Tomasz Neugebauer (Concordia), Pierre Lasou (Laval), Andrea Kosavic (York), and Tim Walsh (Concordia), drafted on behalf of the ORWG’s Task Group on Next Generation Repositories a report on digital preservation functionality in Canadian repositories.

- Canada’s three federal research funding agencies agreed to work with CARL on its OpenAIRE pilot project, an ORWG-COAR initiative to aggregate repository contents via the OpenAIRE platform. This collaboration will ensure a common approach to identifying funders and projects in metadata records.
• 62 people participated in the Advancing Open workshop (May 6-7 in Vancouver). Members of the Advancing Open Planning Committee distributed summary notes from the event’s discussions and extended a request for thoughts from those who were unable to attend. A report will be issued with recommendations from the repository practitioner community regarding moving forward toward open in Canada.

• The Canadian Collective Print Strategy Working Group, co-chaired for CARL by Gwen Bird, met throughout the year, and worked with OCLC on a first National Overlap Study focused on federal government publications.

• Erin Fields (British Columbia) joined CARL for a one-year engagement as Visiting Program Officer for Open Education, helping to kick off the new Open Education Working Group (OEWG).

• The Open Education Working Group (OEWG) drafted a CARL statement on open education and held a webinar dealing with accessibility in OERs. It also spent substantial effort preparing the Open Education Leadership Essentials workshop, which will bring together 60 librarians active in open education in Toronto in January 2020.

Assessment Committee

Under the leadership of Colleen Cook (McGill), CARL continued to support assessment within and across Canadian research libraries by collecting and publishing data that demonstrates the valuable contributions of these libraries toward higher education and the research enterprise, and by facilitating the continued evolution of library services. 2019 initiatives included:

• Data collection for the Statistical Survey of Canadian Academic and Research Libraries 2017-2018 was completed in the spring of 2019, and results were published in the fall. Reporting for the 2018-2019 statistics opened in October.

• The Statistics Working Group completed their review of the feedback received from the assessment community on the newly revised survey, which will be implemented for the first time in Fall 2020.

• CLAW was held at the University of Windsor, October 22-24, 2019. 54 participants attended this edition, which included a single-track two-day Conference program with two pre-Conference workshops and focused on qualitative research methods. In accordance with CARL’s commitment to supporting workforce development and advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion, two travel awards were offered.

• The Continuing Education Working Group’s Data Visualization Project Group developed a Data Visualization toolkit intended to provide guidance for academic libraries seeking to incorporate dashboards and other data visualization tools into their assessment practice.
• The Library Impact Toolkit Project Team was formed in October to develop a Library Impact Framework encompassing four key areas: Research & Scholarship, Student Learning & Experience, Community Impact, and Institutional Reputation.

Operations

Veronica Amirault transitioned to the Portage team as their new Project Manager and was succeeded by Katarzyna (Kasia) Kozyra-Kocikowska, CARL Administrative Officer & Event Coordinator. Erin Clary (Curation Coordinator), Beth Knazook (Preservation Coordinator), Caitilín O’Hare (Communications Officer), and Melanie Parlette-Stewart (Training Coordinator) also joined the Portage team in 2019. In addition to this, CARL welcomed two new Visiting Program Officers: Erin Fields (VPO for Open Education) and Maha Kumaran (VPO for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion).
CARL Events in 2019

- OER Jumpstart Meeting (January 29, Toronto, Ontario)
- Advancing Open (May 6-7, Vancouver, BC)
- 2019 Canadian Library Assessment Workshop (October 22 – 24, Windsor, Ontario)

Member Gatherings

The 2019 CARL Spring Meeting convened April 30 – May 2 in Victoria, British Columbia, and included the following sessions: Strategic Plan Finalization; Portage: Repositories and Training Update; Research Information Management Systems Landscape; Open Infrastructure Investment: Status and Discussion; and Ethics of Sensitive Information, Repatriation of Cultural Materials, Decolonizing Metadata.

The 2019 CARL Fall Meeting convened November 5-7, in Montebello, Quebec, and included the following sessions: Organizational Structures; CARL Delegation and Indigenous Services; CARL Library Impact Framework; A New Take on Competencies; and How Will We Determine What EDI Means for CARL as an Association?
CARL Award for Distinguished Service to Research Librarianship – Martha Whitehead

CARL honored Martha Whitehead with its Award for Distinguished Service to Research Librarianship on May 2, 2019, in Victoria, BC, during CARL’s Annual Spring General Meeting. This award is conferred annually to a Canadian individual who has served the profession with marked distinction and has made significant national and international contributions to research librarianship through their leadership and engagement.

CARL Award of Merit – Dr. Selinda Berg

CARL presented Dr. Selinda Berg with the CARL Award of Merit during its Fall General meeting on November 7, 2019. This award is conferred to an individual who has made an outstanding local, regional, or national contribution within an area of research librarianship and whose contribution has had broad and beneficial impact within the CARL community.
Portage Annual Update

Portage continues to experience significant growth, both in its Network of Experts, and the many aspects of the research data life cycle that it addresses. In 2019, this included progress on addressing sensitive data, an improved national discovery layer, and outreach related to data management planning. It has worked with influential stakeholders in the Canadian and international research landscape including the three federal funding agencies, Research Data Canada, the New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO), DataCite, FAIRsFAIR, Research Data Alliance (RDA), and OpenAIRE.

CANARIE announced $2M in directed funding to CARL Portage from Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (ISED). These funds are helping to augment and strengthen Portage’s national data stewardship activities and capitalize on the momentum of the foundational work achieved to date through much-needed Research Data Management platform support and development, in addition to covering administrative expenses.

Participant agreements were signed with five Canadian universities: University of Alberta, University of Saskatchewan, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, and University of Waterloo. These partnerships support collaboration and leadership within the Canadian RDM community as well as the development of RDM tools and infrastructure.

The Federated Research Data Repository (FRDR) was selected by FAIRsFAIR in their Open Call for Data Repositories: Support Towards Increasing Repository Interoperability. Furthermore, as a steward of Canada’s largest index of research metadata, FRDR will provide an enhanced metadata feed to the OpenAIRE Discovery portal. The FRDR team continues to work towards full production.

As a key player in the Data Management ecosystem, Portage was active in discussions with representatives of the New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO). In December, meetings were held to discuss the integration of data management into the NDRIO as well as plans to build and grow sustainable RDM support for researchers and institutions in Canada.

The Portage Director and the Service Manager promoted Portage nationally and internationally through conferences, workshops, symposiums, and other events, including the Canadian Data Curation Forum, IASSIST, CODATA, and RDA. Portage is increasingly recognized nationally and internationally for its leadership in research data management.

Membership in the Portage Network of Experts has grown from 42 volunteers at the end of 2016, to over 130 volunteers from 60 research institutions across Canada.
Key 2019 Portage Achievements:

- The Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) and Portage partnered to provide Canadian DOI-minting capability, through a newly-created DataCite Canada Consortium under DataCite international. Launch scheduled for January 1, 2020.
- FRDR was selected by FAIRsFAIR in their Open Call for Data Repositories: Support Towards Increasing Repository Interoperability.
- Portage and McMaster University Libraries developed and delivered a SSHRC Connection Grant-funded Canadian Data Curation Forum, held in October 2019.
- Portage released its brief to the INDU Committee on Text and Data Mining, prepared by Mark Swartz and Jeff Moon with input from the CARL Directors’ Portage Steering Committee.
- The Research Intelligence Expert Group conducted a survey on institutional RDM capacity.
- The Research Intelligence Expert Group published its Institutional Strategy Progress Survey Results in November.
- The Dataverse North Expert Group released an updated version of its Metadata Best Practices Guide.
- The FRDR User Experience and Training Working Group sought new members for its 2nd year mandate.
- The Research Intelligence Expert Group continued work on its French RDM taxonomy.
- The Data Discovery Expert Group convened a new working group, The Fast & the FRDR, to improve the FRDR Discovery Service.
- The Training Expert Group established the Data Repositories 101 Working Group.
- The Data Management Planning Expert Group made progress towards publishing several DMP Exemplars.
- Lee Wilson presented at the Open Science Conference in Berlin in March.
- Jeff Moon delivered the keynote address at the Research Data Management Information and Consultation Day at the University of Windsor in November.
- Lee Wilson, Susan Haigh, and Jason Brodeur presented at the Coalition for Networked Information Fall 2019 Membership Meeting held in Washington DC in December.
- Portage participated in Implementing Effective Data Practices: A Conference on Collaborative Research Support, held in Washington DC in December.
- CARL Portage expanded its Secretariat to include: Caitlin O’Hare as Communications Officer; Veronica Amirault as Project Manager; Beth Knazook as Preservation Coordinator, Erin Clary as Curation Coordinator; Kelly Stathis as Discovery and Metadata Coordinator; and Melanie Parlette-Stewart as Training Coordinator.
2019 CARL Publications

Regular Communications

CARL continued to publish its E-lert weekly bulletin (access the archive) and the number of subscribers increased from 657 to 785 in 2019.

CARL also increased its reach via Twitter, growing from 2312 to 2746 followers in 2019.

Responses to National Issues and Position Statements

- CFLA-CARL Brief to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage Study on Remuneration Models for Artists and Creative Industries View PDF
- CARL and CRKN Support the University of California in Taking a Bold Stand for Openly Available Research View PDF
- The University Librarian: Providing Value to the Research University View PDF
- CARL Statement on the INDU Report on the Copyright Act View PDF
- Letter to the Ministers of ISED and Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism, and the President of the Treasury Board of Canada – Next Steps in Advancing Changes to Crown Copyright View PDF
- CARL Statement on Open Education View PDF
- CARL Objection to Access Copyright’s Proposed Post-Secondary Educational Institution Tariff, 2021-2023 View PDF

Reports and Publications

- Report on @Risk North 2: Digital Collections View PDF
- CARL Guide to Author Rights View PDF
- CARL Guide to Using the Canadian Author Addendum View PDF
- Canadian Author Addendum to Publication Agreement View PDF
- Final Report of the Survey on Digital Preservation Capacity and Needs at Canadian Memory Institutions, 2017-18 View PDF
- Institutional Repository Statistics: Reliable, Consistent Approaches for Canada View PDF
- Digital Preservation Functionality in Canadian Repositories View PDF

Recent CARL publications and documents are available at:
http://carl-abrc.ca/publications-and-documents/

Portage’s publications and documents are available at:
https://portagenetwork.ca/about/documents-and-presentations
CARL institutions

University Libraries
Brock University
Carleton University
Concordia University
Dalhousie University
McGill University
McMaster University
Memorial University
Queen's University
Ryerson University
Simon Fraser University
Université de Montréal
Université de Sherbrooke
Université du Québec à Montréal
Université Laval
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
University of Calgary
University of Guelph
University of Manitoba
University of New Brunswick
University of Ottawa
University of Regina
University of Saskatchewan
University of Toronto
University of Victoria
University of Waterloo
University of Windsor
Western University
York University

Federal Institutions*
Library and Archives Canada
National Research Council Canada, National Science Library

* These members do not take part in CARL’s political advocacy activities.
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Katherine McColgan, Manager, Administration and Programs
Lise Brin, Program Officer
Julie Morin, Project Officer

Kasia Kozyra-Kocikowska, Administrative Officer & Event Coordinator
Kathleen Shearer, Research Associate

Erin Fields, Visiting Program Officer – Open Education
Maha Kumaran, Visiting Program Officer – Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Mark Swartz, Visiting Program Officer - Copyright
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