Canadian Subject Headings related to Indigenous Peoples

*update*

2021 CRKN Virtual Conference
October 13, 2021
Background

• CSH is managed by LAC contains over 2000 subject authority records created as needed.
• CSH for Indigenous-related content needs review.
• Goals: to make the terminology in the catalogue more respectful.
• Considerations:
  – LAC cannot improve CSH without direct contribution of First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation, as well as library communities. We are grateful for the sharing of Indigenous knowledge from our first discussions that helped identify more appropriate terminology.
  – Follow the same structural rules for now: LCSH, CSH, RVM.
  – The revision of existing bibliographic records is possible, WorldCat is a shared environment.
  – Ongoing updates are needed to remove bias, improve access and look for new ways of describing.
Progress

• Communicated project details and invited input (LAC Indigenous colleagues, LAC Indigenous Advisory circle, broader library community, etc.)
• Shared experiences through presentations, meetings, conversations (CRKN, CCC, etc.)
• Published CSH list (marc21.ca)
• Learned from others (MAIN, X̱wi7x̱wa Library, FNMIO, GVPL, etc.)
• Adopted incremental approach (small changes, distinctions based, relationship to LCSH)
Of the 389 headings related to Indigenous peoples:

- For the complete list, see Marc21.ca website:
  - [https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html](https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th># of CSH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modified</td>
<td>106 (27.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addition</td>
<td>153 (39.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in progress</td>
<td>40 (10.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No change required</td>
<td>91 (23.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Examples

- Canadian literature (English)$x$Native authors
- Canadian literature (English)$x$Indigenous authors
- Indigenous literature (English)
  - First Nations literature (English)
  - Inuit literature (English)
  - Métis literature (English)
Challenges

- Library of Congress, no changes in the near future
- Lots of interest, need for a range of expertise
- Other activities underway
- OCLC, shared environment
- Broader challenges ...
Next steps

• Continue to gather input and make appropriate updates (Indigenous and library communities).
• Work with RVM to recommend equivalents in French and support their efforts to update French headings (316,600+).
• Review together how we describe Indigenous items and how we create Indigenous headings.
Thank you!

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or

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Capital Region</th>
<th>Vancouver British Columbia</th>
<th>Winnipeg Manitoba</th>
<th>Halifax Nova Scotia</th>
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