



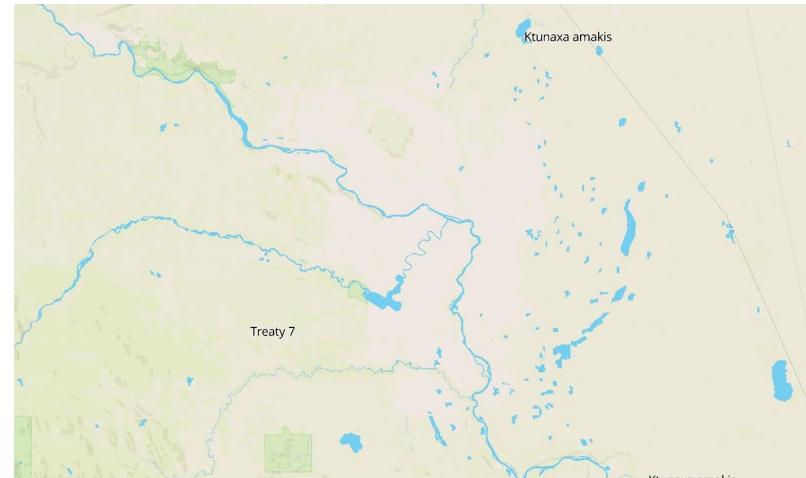
Expanding access to Indigenous publications through COPPUL

CRKN Virtual Conference, October 4, 2022

Kathryn Ruddock, University of Calgary

Rebecca Dickson, Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries

Introductions & land acknowledgement



Images from Native-Land.ca, September 2022



Outline

- Origins and purpose of COPPUL's Indigenous Historical Publications Working Group (IHPWG)
- Current focus areas
- Next steps

Summer 2020 Digitization Outreach: Conversations with our member libraries





Member priorities for digitization, Summer 2020

- Newspapers (historical and contemporary)
- Archival/ unique materials
- Materials related to local area
- Materials related to Indigenous Knowledge
- Audio-visual materials for access and preservation
- Institutional research outputs
- Materials to support immediate teaching & learning needs



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Addressing the settler gaze in digital stewardship

“Even detailed workflows all start with finding or getting content. The workflows suggest a process that begins with the notion of discovery that replays a colonial collecting paradigm, where content is imagined as unhinged from people and cultures and free for the taking.”

(Christen, 2018, p. 405)





Indigenous Historical Publications WG

- **Guiding principle:** enable collaboration between COPPUL members and communities in order to *build relationships*, not to *acquire collections*
- **Mission:** Guide efforts to improve community-centred discovery of, access to, and preservation of publications by and about Indigenous communities on whose lands COPPUL members live and work



IHPWG Membership

Kayla Lar-Son, University of British Columbia (Co-Chair)

Kathryn Ruddock, University of Calgary (Co-Chair)

Tina Bebbington, University of Victoria

Paula Daigle, First Nations University

Lyle Ford, University of Manitoba

Jenna Walsh, Simon Fraser University

COPPUL Shared Print Archive Network (SPAN) Coordinator

Rebecca Dickson, COPPUL Digital Stewardship Network (CDSN) Coordinator

Deborah Lee, COPPUL Indigenous Knowledge Coordinator



IHPWG Membership

- Interdisciplinary expertise includes:
 - Indigenous collections and community engagement
 - Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights
 - Print and/or digital collections management
 - Digitization project planning
- Minimum 2 Indigenous members, per Terms of Reference



Focus Areas

1. GRANTS: Identify appropriate grants and/or funding methods
2. DIGITIZATION: Establish digitization, preservation and access strategies
3. SURVEY: Create a survey to identify barriers to Indigenous newspaper digitization targeted to collection owners
4. OUTREACH: Establish principles for outreach and community collaboration
5. CONTENT SCOPE: Identify content scope of Indigenous Canadian newspapers
6. ALLIED ORGS: Collaborate with allied organizations working on similar goals

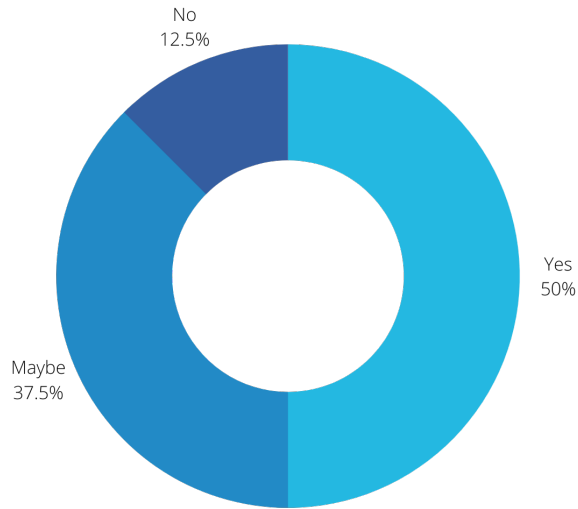


Highlight 1: Survey on Barriers to Preserving and Digitization Indigenous Heritage Publications

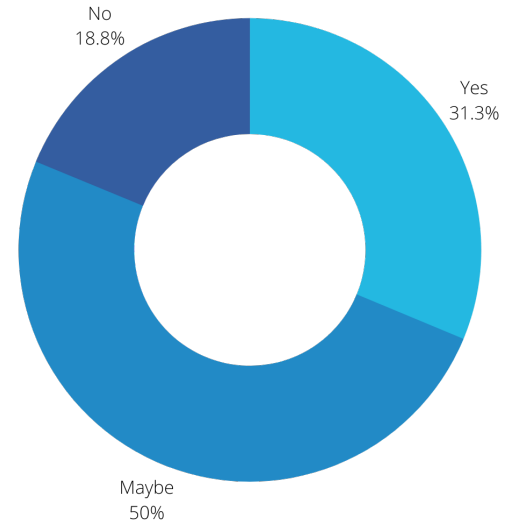
1. Survey issued November 2021 - August 2022
2. 18/23 COPPUL full members responded
3. Questions related to capability and barriers to:
 - a. Digitization
 - b. Metadata
 - c. Funding
 - d. Community Engagement
 - e. Digital Preservation
 - f. Capacity
4. Results analysis in progress

Teaser Highlights

Is there interest in digitizing Indigenous publications?



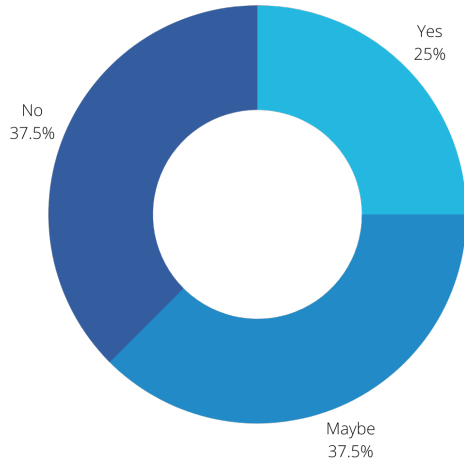
Is there political will?



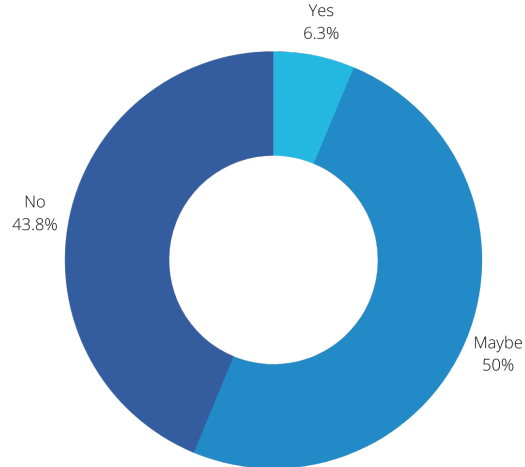


Teaser Highlights

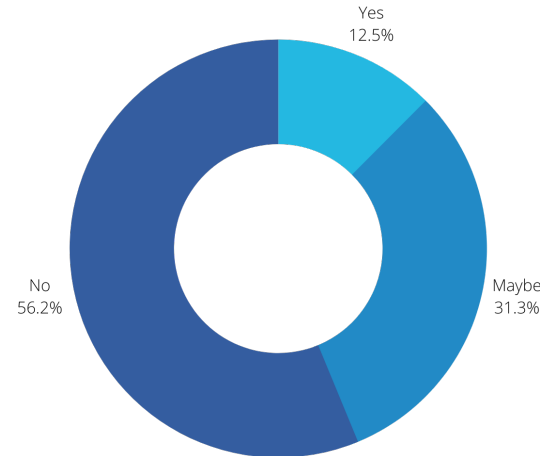
*Are you comfortable describing
Indigenous materials?*



Do you have staff capacity?



*Are you comfortable with
Indigenous protocols for
sharing?*





Highlight 2: Training and Outreach

1. Perspectives on Indigenous Historical Publications Digitization Panel Presentation, February 2022
 - a. 4 panelists with project experience in this area
 - b. 76 attendees from across Canada
2. Mukurtu training session in development for October/November 2022
 - a. Understand the unique benefits of Mukurtu as a CMS
 - b. Understand how some Mukurtu features can be applied to other CMS platforms



Highlight 3: Indigenous Historical Publications Dataset

- A comprehensive dataset of Indigenous community- or organization-created publications for the purpose of tracking these titles, what has been digitized, and content holders.
- Titles are primarily published in Western Canada, but the scope does include some other Canadian areas, and cross-border publications.
- Most titles are print, some hybrid, have not fully included born digital yet.



Search Strategy

- Over 20 sources searched to identify titles of potential interest
 - Includes LAC checklist, Worldcat, institution published lists
- Documenting search strategies and sources for replication and refinement
- Uncatalogued items are a gap

753 titles





What's Next?

- Continue to disseminate initial outputs
- Open for collaboration on moving this work along nationally
- Exploring opportunities to support institutions working on Indigenous publication digitization

References

Christen, K. (2018). Relationships, Not Records. In J. Sayers (Ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Media Studies and Digital Humanities* (1st ed., pp. 403–412). <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315730479-42>