Canadian Research
Knowledge Network

Réseau canadien
de documentation
pour la recherche

Canadiana and Infrastructure for the Future

crkn-rcdr.ca

Moderator and Presenters

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Infrastructure and
Development

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Strategy Task Group

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Research
Infrastructure
Grants Officer

Session Schedule

- Expanding the Collection: Collection Development Results
- Canadiana Access Platform 2.0 Development Timeline and Roadmap
- HSS Digital Research Infrastructure Landscape Analysis and Future Vision
- Open Science Infrastructure for Canad(ian)a: Digital Collections of the Future

Expanding the Collection

Canadiana Collection Development Project Results

Call for Canadiana Collection Development Projects

- Developed and guided by the Canadiana Content Sub-Committee
- Launched May 13, 2024
- **16** proposals received from **13** institutions across Canada
- Closed September 13, 2024

Theme:
Exploring Communities

Selection Criteria and Priorities

HCPTG priorities

- Diversity and representation
- At-risk materials

Feasibility assessment

- Condition of material or quality of digitized files
- Permissions and copyright
- Privacy and sensitive content
- Metadata

Resource assessment

- Estimate of the time and resources a project will require

And the Projects are…

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **Acadia University:** *The Athenaeum* student newspaper
- CRKN will digitize issues between 1879 and 1930
- Part of a project at Acadia to celebrate the 150th anniversary of *The Athenaeum*

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **Western University:** *London Advertiser* newspaper

- CRKN will digitize issues from 1922–1936

- Adds more issues of the *London Advertiser* to Canadiana, which currently includes issues from 1890–November 1922

Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **Dalhousie University:** *Wayves/Gaezette*, LGBTQ+ publication

- Dalhousie will share digitized issues with CRKN

- Represents a notable first LGBTQ+ collection in Canadiana!

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **McGill University:** Ontario Historical County Atlases
- McGill will provide new digital scans of these popular resources
- Improves Canadiana's existing collection of county atlases

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **OurDigitalWorld:** *Voice of the Fugitive* and *Provincial Freeman* abolitionist newspapers

- ODW will share scans from original paper copies

- Expands Canadiana's collection of abolitionist publications

OurDigitalWorld

Selected Projects, 2024-2025

- **University of Alberta:** *La Survivance* Franco-Albertan newspaper
- University of Alberta will share digitized issues with CRKN
- Increases representation of francophone communities outside Quebec

Thank You!

The Canadiana Content Sub-Committee and the CRKN team thank everyone who submitted a proposal or expressed support for the Call for Canadiana Collection Development Projects

Next steps…

- Announce projects to the CRKN community
- Enter into formal agreements with successful proponents
- Internal project planning for capacity and timeline
- In 2025, evaluate and adjust process for next call
- Get to work!

Questions?

Discussion

How can we facilitate member contributions to the Canadiana collection to diversify the collections and serve member needs?

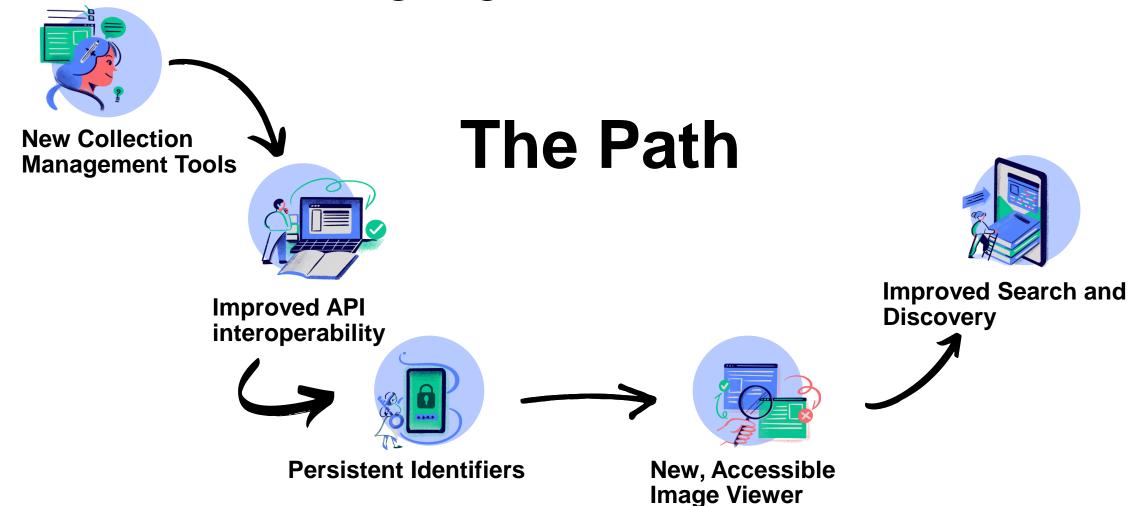# Future Proofing Access: The Roadmap to a New Canadiana User Experience

Canadiana Access Platform 2.0 Development Timeline and Roadmap

Updating the Canadiana User Experience

- Our Goals
  - Update the **access** component of Canadiana
  - System upkeep and modernization
  - Improved, more accessible interface
  - Preparation for CFI and other sustainability activities

- Our Development and Design Philosophy
  - User-centered design
  - Accessibility as development objective, not afterthought
  - Open development process and timeline

Future Proofing Access:
Tools Connecting Digital Collections for Tomorrow

New Collection Management Tools

The Path

Improved API interoperability

Persistent Identifiers

New, Accessible Image Viewer

Improved Search and Discovery

New and Improved Collection Management Tools

*The **Digirati Manifest Editor** helps staff quickly organize, label, and fix digital images and metadata. It is especially helpful for staff who are putting together digital exhibits or collections and want to make sure the images are well-organized and easy for viewers to explore.*

Production Q4 2024

Improved Interoperability

IIIF *(International Image Interoperability Framework) is a set of standards for providing access to high-quality digital images from various cultural institutions online. It allows users to view, compare, and manipulate these images interactively, enhancing research and education opportunities.*

Beta Q4 2024
Production Q3 2025

Persistent Identifiers

ARKs *(Archival Resource Keys) ensure that all the digital objects—whether they're books, images, or documents—have stable, reliable links. No matter where the digital item is stored or how much the system changes, the ARK link will always take users to the right place.*

**Beta Q1 2025
Production Q3 2025**

New, Improved, Accessible Image Viewer

Mirador *is where users can interact with the digital images. They can open multiple images, zoom in to examine fine details, and even compare images side by side. It is especially useful for researchers or students who need to study and analyze images closely, or look through many images at once.*
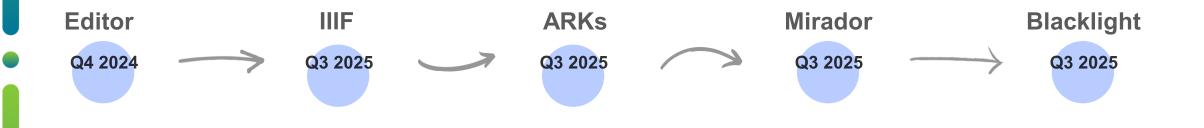
Beta Q2 2025
Production Q3 2025

Improved Search and Discovery

Blacklight *adds a powerful search engine to the platform, making it easy for users to find what they are looking for. It lets users search through the collection's metadata, filter results, and explore related materials.*
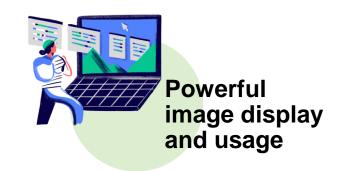
Beta Q2 2025
Production Q3 2025

Dependencies and Timeline

Editor

Q4 2024

IIIF

Q3 2025

ARKs

Q3 2025

Mirador

Q3 2025

Blacklight

Q3 2025

=

Canadiana Access Platform 2.0*

*(working title, expect a naming contest!)

Future Proofing Access:
Tools Connecting Digital Collections for Tomorrow

Seamless access across platforms

Open source ecosystem

Benefits

Powerful image display and usage

Persistent access

Ready for CFI!

Questions?

Discussion

Members have told us that there is a real need for long-term support and sustainability for library held digital collections. CRKN could support this need by:

- developing containerized, well-documented, open-source systems that could be installed and managed locally by member institutions
- developing a more expansive, fee-based, cloud hosting repository service for member institutions

Both of these options require planning and resourcing. Do either or both resonate with members?

Digital Research Infrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences in Canada:
A Landscape Analysis

Goal: survey main organizations & initiatives that make up humanities and social sciences digital research infrastructure (HSS DRI) in Canada today

Raison d'être

- Infrastructure Panel and discussion at CRKN Member Summit 2023

- Longstanding discussions re: collaboration in this space

- Calls from funding agencies: *come together and speak with one voice!*

Photo by Hannah Busing

10 Key DRI Organizations Considered

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ)
Canadian Association of Research Libraries / Association des bibliothèques de recherche du Canada (CARL / ABCR)
Canadian Research Knowledge Network / Réseau canadien de documentation pour la recherche (CRKN / RCDR)
Digital Research Alliance of Canada / Alliance de recherche numérique du Canada (The Alliance / L'Alliance)
Érudit
Internet Archive Canada
Library and Archives Canada / Bibliothèque et archives du Canada (LAC / BAC)
Public Knowledge Project (PKP)
Regional Library Associations
Scholars Portal
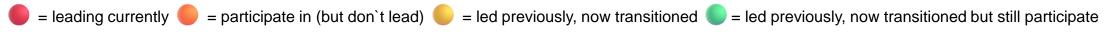
24 Key DRI Initiatives Reviewed

Borealis	Linked Editing Academic Framework (LEAF)
Canadian Persistent Identifiers Advisory Committee (CPIDAC)	Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship (LINCS)
Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN)	Lunaris
Canadian Writing Research Collaboratory / Le Collaboratoire scientifique des écrits du Canada (CWRC /CSÉC); Collaboratory for Writing and Research on Culture	National Indigenous Knowledge & Language Alliance / Alliance nationale des connaissances et des langues autochtones (NIKLA/ANCLA)
Canadiana collections (Canadiana and Héritage)	Open Journal Systems (OJS)
Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage (CCDH)	Open Monograph Press (OMP)
Coalition Publica	Open Preprint Systems (OPS)
Cyberinfrastructure ouverte pour les sciences humaines et sociales (CO.SHS)	ORCID Canada Consortium (ORCID-CA)
Data Management Plan (DMP) Assistant	Partnership for Open Access
DataCite Canada Consortium	Pressbooks
Federated Research Data Repository / Le Dépôt fédéré de données de recherche (FRDR/DFDR)	Scholaris
Implementing New Knowledge Environments (INKE) Partnership	Voyant Tools

Key Organizations & Their Initiatives

	Borealis	CPIDAC	Canadiana	CCDH	Coalition Publica	CO.SHS	DMP Assistant	DataCite CAN	FRDR	Lunaris	OJS	OMP	OPS	ORCID-CA	POA	Scholaris
Alliance	🔴	🟠					🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴				🟠		
BAnQ			🟠	🟠		🟠										
CARL	🟡	🟠					🟡	🟢	🟢					🔴		🔴
CRKN		🔴	🔴	🔴				🔴						🔴	🔴	
Érudit		🟠			🔴	🔴								🟠	🔴	
IAC				🔴												
LAC		🟠	🟠	🔴		🟠										
PKP		🟠			🔴	🟠					🔴	🔴	🔴			
Reg. Lib.	🟠	🟠									🟠					🔴
SP	🟠	🟠						🟠								🔴

🔴 = leading currently 🟠 = participate in (but don`t lead) 🟡 = led previously, now transitioned 🟢 = led previously, now transitioned but still participate
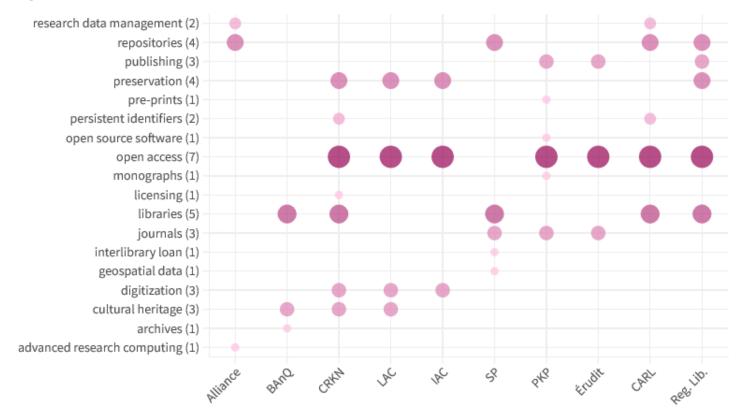
Main Areas of Activity: Organizations

Organization Sort: Keywords
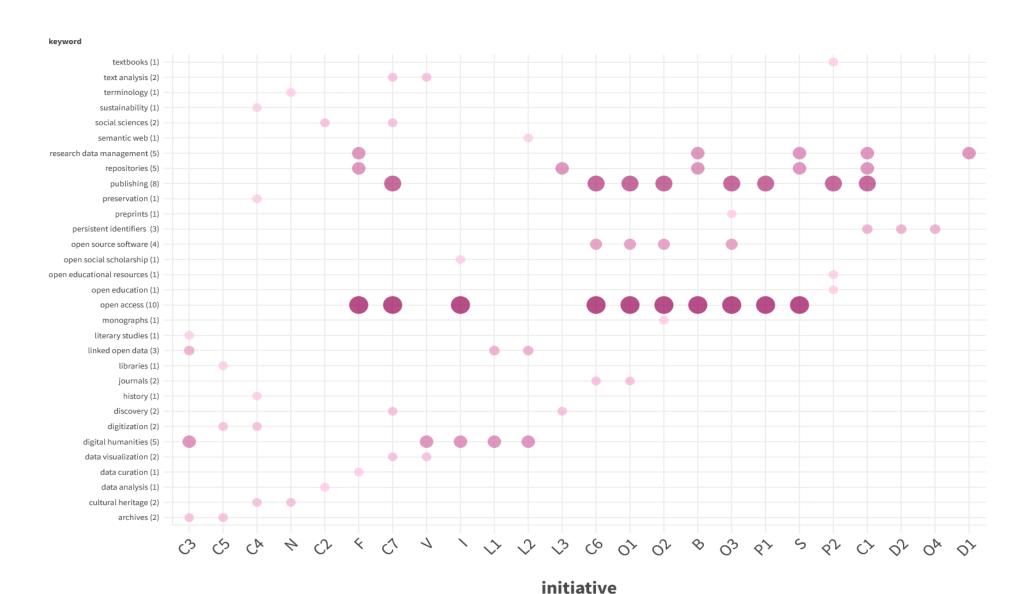
Initiative Sort: Keywords

Analysis Outcomes

- Significant coverage of HSS DRI landscape
- Clusters around specific areas; certain areas have emerged as a shared priority across multiple organizations
  - OA
  - PIDs

Photo by Mitchell Bryson on Unsplash

Challenges Flagged in Conversation

- Underinvestment, funding, & sustainability
- Highly qualified personnel
- Collaborative leadership gap
- Implementation of standardization initiatives
- Nuanced access (e.g. to sensitive data)
- Lack of researcher knowledge on how to engage w/ HSS DRI
- Optimization for future interoperability

Where Next? *Looking forward…*
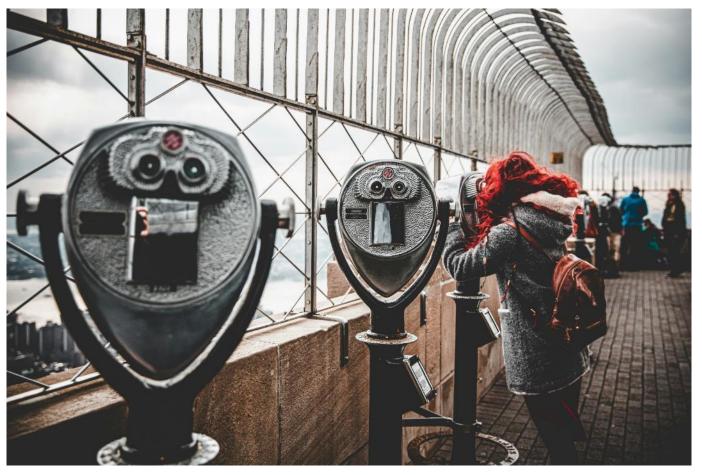
Photo by Rafael Leão on Unsplash

Questions?

Discussion

- Which areas of Canadian digital research infrastructure will be most impactful for CRKN member organizations, moving forward?

- As a digital research infrastructure provider CRKN is increasing our collaboration with other SSH research infrastructure providers. We know that these infrastructures do not get the same level of support as STEM infrastructure. How can libraries leverage this collaboration to raise the profile of SSH infrastructure the research ecosystem?

Open Science Infrastructure for Canad(ian)a: Digital Collections of the Future (DCoF)

Open Science Infrastructure for Canad(ian)a: Digital Collections of the Future

Proposal

- $10M total toward enriching, improving access to, and engaging with the Canadiana data corpus

Goals

- Enable world-leading equity-focused historical and cultural research at an unprecedented scale
- Ensure that diverse stories of Canada's past responsibly inform the increasingly AI-engaged future
- Rebuild CRKN's Canadiana platform into cutting-edge open science infrastructure

Open Science Infrastructure for Canad(ian)a: Digital Collections of the Future

Status

- Selected as uOttawa's Stream 2 project
- Application well underway: NOI *just* submitted to CFI (full application due: February 2025)

Challenges and Opportunities

- Canadiana collections' partial histories and content is the legacy of our colonial, racist, and sexist past and present, and vital contextual information is missing or inaccessible
- The current interface is outdated and unhelpful
- There is limited/no machine or API access
- The data is siloed by limited interoperability with other collections

Emily Carr fonds : C-13525

Image 63

For help and additional download options, please see our documentation

1866 images, 0 with full-text search

Document Record

Title	Emily Carr fonds - 13525
Identifier	C-13525
	105394
	MG 30 D 215
	oocihm.lac_reel_c13525
	lac_reel_c13525
Document source	Library and Archives Canada / Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
Language	English
URL	https://heritage.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.lac_reel_c13525

Research Program

Benefits

Enable innovative research on Canada's past to empower a better future for all Canadians.

Objective

3 Revolutionize analysis

Linked data
Analytic tools

Objective

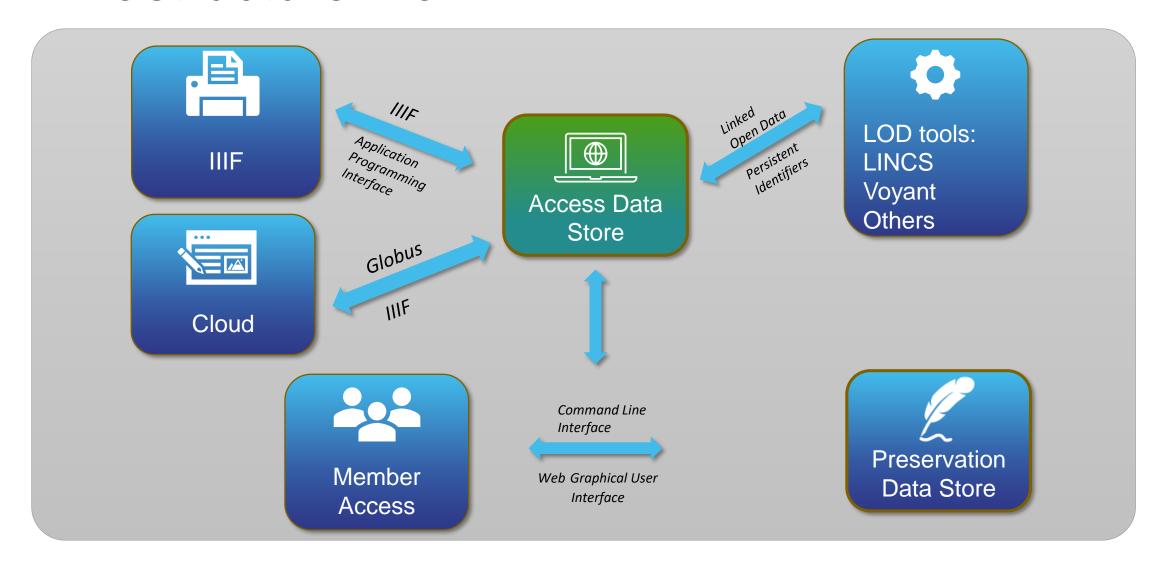**2** Access data at scale

API access

Objective

1 Reveal historical forces

Transcription
Metadata
Machine annotation

Our Commitment: Principles
- FAIR
- CARE
- OCAP
- UNDRIP
- CCDH

Infrastructure Plan

Existing Infrastructure vs. Rebuilt Infrastructure

Feature	Existing infrastructure	Rebuilt infrastructure
Access content at no cost	✔	✔
Read metadata online	✔	✔
Download PDFs	Partial	✔
Download metadata	✘	✔
Bulk-download content	Partial	✔
Query corpus via the IIIF API	✘	✔
Manage content with granular access controls	✘	✔
Apply Traditional Knowledge Notices and / or Labels	✘	✔
Integrate with high performance computing systems (eg. Globus)	✘	✔
Search, read, or download all full-text	✘	✔
Engage with semantically enriched full-text	✘	✔
View robust, respectful metadata	Partial	✔

Research Team and University Partners

Constance Crompton (lead)	University of Ottawa (applicant institution)
Stacy Allison-Cassin	Dalhousie University*
Noelani Arista	McGill University
Dan Brown	University of Waterloo
Elspeth Brown	University of Toronto
Susan Brown	University of Guelph*
Maxime Gohier	L'Université du Québec à Rimouski*
Deanna Reder	Simon Fraser University*
Diana Inkpen	University of Ottawa
Cheryl Thompson	Toronto Metropolitan University*

Key Collaborating Initiatives

Project Budget

Funds	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
CFI Contribution	$1,319,599	$1,319,599	$1,319,599	$3,958,798
Provincial Contribution	$1,319,599	$1,319,599	$1,319,599	$3,958,798
CRKN Institutional Contribution	$659,799	$659,799	$659,799	$1,979,399
Total	$3,298,998	$3,298,998	$3,298,988	$9,896,996

Institutional Contribution Development
- Research Offices and other University Departments
- Reallocation of portion of HCAP
- Leveraging other grant opportunities
- Vendor discounts

Return on (Collective) Investment

Canadian libraries leading digital research infrastructure	Global interoperability	Member collections: integration and impact	Libraries accelerating research & innovation

Rebuilt Canadiana

CFI-IF & Provincial Funding

CRKN Member Investments

Member-Owned Library Infrastructure Now and for the Future

- Stable, future proof, collectively owned infrastructure for Canadiana that meets international standards
- Capacity to integrate members' digital collections into Canadiana [within parameters]
- Training of Canadian library and information professionals to address and provide leadership in the increasingly AI-driven future
- Working together toward shared priorities, beyond CFI application

Questions?

Breakout discussion

- As we continue to evolve the Canadiana infrastructure, how can the infrastructure provide the best value to CRKN members and the researchers you serve?

Report Back

- What themes emerged at your table?

Thank you!

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