



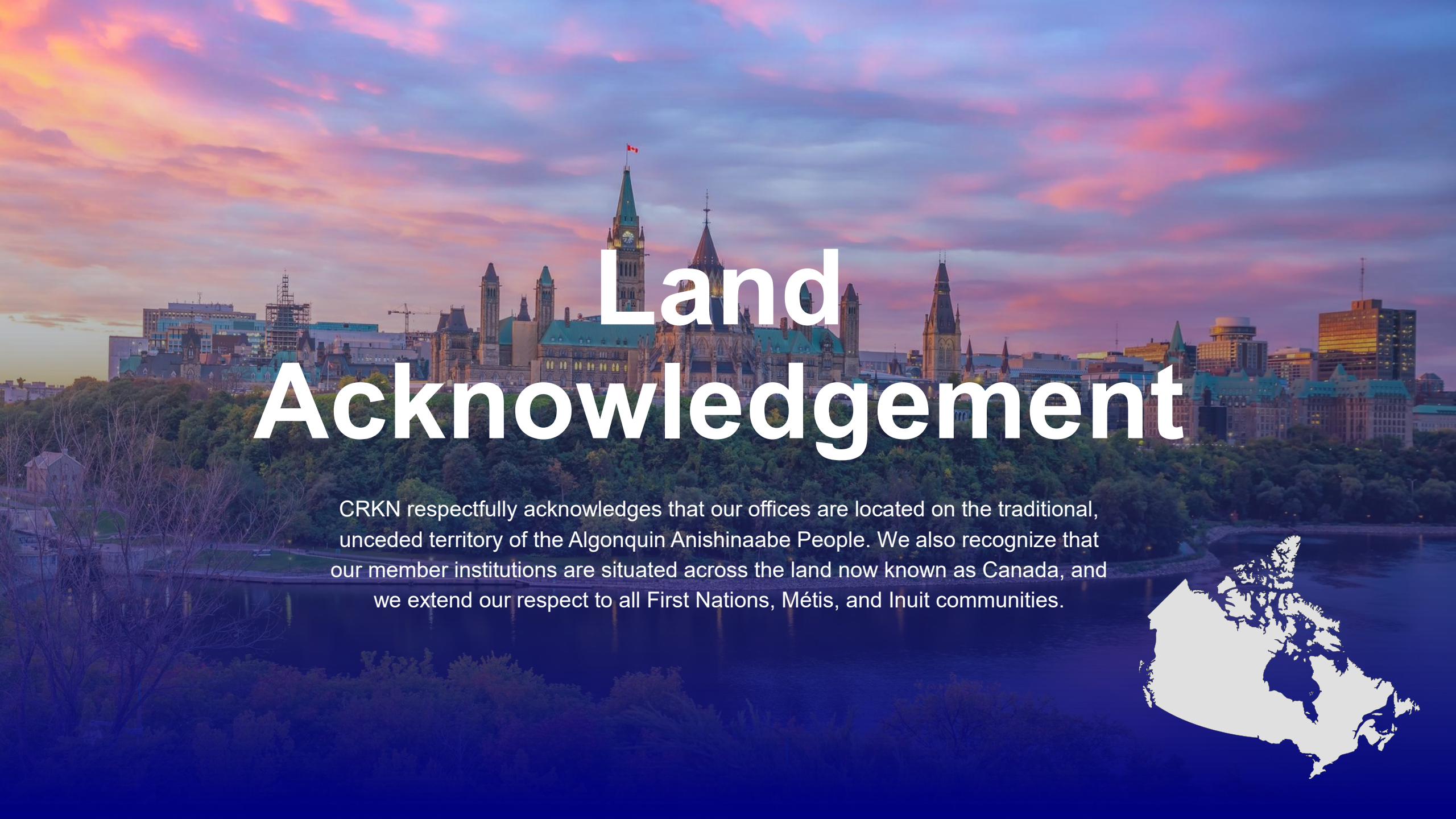
Canadian Research
Knowledge Network

Réseau canadien
de documentation
pour la recherche

Information Session: Call for Member Digitization Projects

August 26 and 28, 2026
Adele Torrance, Manager, Heritage Services
Percy Miller, Assistant Manager, Digitization

crkn-rcdr.ca



Land Acknowledgement

CRKN respectfully acknowledges that our offices are located on the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe People. We also recognize that our member institutions are situated across the land now known as Canada, and we extend our respect to all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities.



Agenda

01

Introduction

02

Project
Streams

03

Selection
Criteria

04

Next Steps
and
Questions

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Introduction



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Canadiana

Background

2020

The Heritage
Content Priorities
Task Group
(HCPTG) submits
its final report

2022

Upon the
recommendation of
the HCPTG, the
Canadiana Content
Sub-Committee
(CCSC) is struck

2024

CRKN staff and the
CCSC launch the
pilot Call for
Member Digitization
Projects

2026

The second Call for
Member Digitization
Projects is
launched

Goals of the Initiative

- Expand the Canadiana Collection in collaboration with CRKN member libraries
- Diversify Canadiana with content that is:
 - Representative
 - Collaborative
 - Open Access (*with exceptions*)

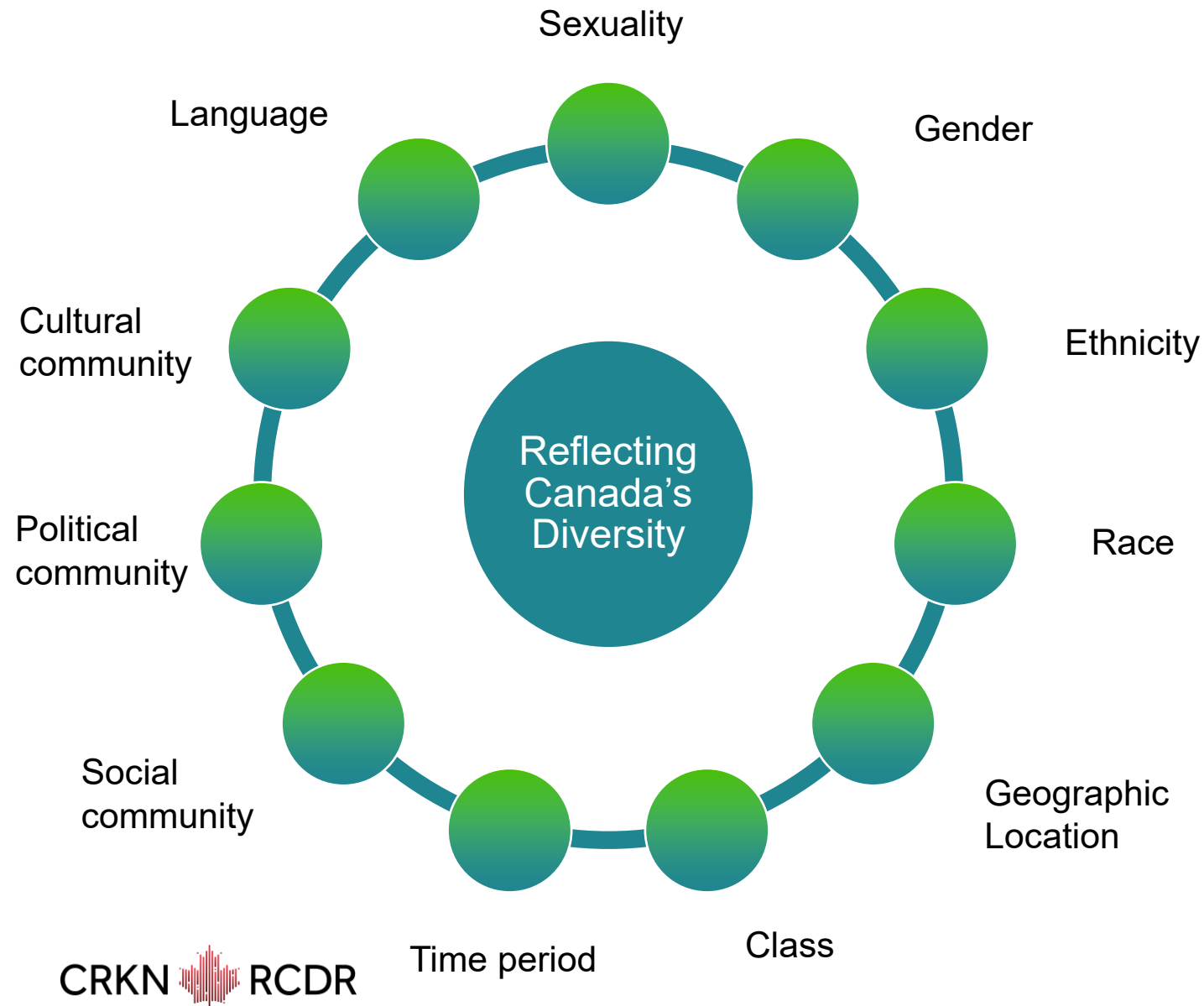


Canadiana Content Sub-Committee

Member	Role	Institution	Band
Lisa Miniaci	Chair	Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec	-
Heather Dean	Member	University of Victoria	10
Michelle Foggett-Parker	Member	Library and Archives Canada	-
Patricia Forget	Member	Université du Québec en Outaouais	6
Christopher Read	Member	University of Regina	8
Kenton Storey	Independent Researcher	Storey Historical Research	-
Mark Werner	Member	First Peoples Law	-

Three additional members will join the CCSC soon

Collection Development Priorities



CONTENT AT RISK

Content that is at risk due to factors such as, but not limited to:



Physical Deterioration

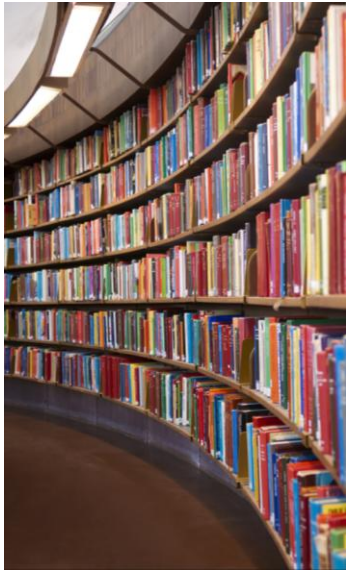
Fragile or deteriorating materials



Financial Constraint

Limited institutional resources

Benefits for Participating Institutions



Broaden reach and visibility

Showcase your collections to researchers, educators, students, and the public through Canadiana.



Advance preservation objectives

Secure long-term access to valuable and at-risk heritage materials.



Demonstrate institutional impact

Contribute to a growing national resource while increasing awareness and use of your collections.



Shape CRKN's work
Have a direct impact on what goes into this member owned infrastructure in 2027-2028!

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Project Streams

1

Accelerated
Digitization

2

Digital Content
Sharing

Accelerated Digitization

- Digitized as a priority and complete by March 2028
- 2-3 projects
- Fees apply
- Hosting, OCR, and preservation costs borne by CRKN
- Member + community collaborations



Digital Content Sharing

- Building on past investments, increasing exposure
- 1-2 projects
- Hosting, OCR, and preservation costs borne by CRKN
- Shipping/hard drive costs borne by members
- Extra ingestion costs charged back to members



Selection Criteria



Project Selection Criteria

Heritage Content Assessment	Feasibility Assessment
• Unique value • Anticipated audience • Diversity and representation • At-risk material	• Condition of material (risk to original, image quality) • Permissions • Privacy • Metadata • Resource assessment (internal assessment of staff time and/or direct costs): • <i>Shipping</i> • <i>Digitization</i> • <i>Quality assurance</i> • <i>File management</i> • <i>Metadata</i> • <i>OCR</i>

2024 Selected Projects



Acadia University
The Athenaeum



OurDigitalWorld
The Voice of the Fugitive
The Provincial Freeman



McGill University
Ontario Illustrated County Atlases



University of Alberta
La Survivance



Western University
London Advertiser



Dalhousie University
Wayves/GAEZETTE

Requirements: Accelerated Digitization



**Condition good enough
for digitization**



Permissions



Budget



**Community endorsement
– an eager audience**



**Shipping – is it ready to
go?**



**Metadata sample in .mrc
or CSV (see our sheet)**

Requirements: Digital Content Sharing



Image files are TIFF or JPG and 300 PPI



Permissions



Can they be harvested through a IIIF API?



**Community endorsement
– an eager audience**



Total size? FTP or hard drive?



**Metadata sample in .mrc
or CSV (see our sheet)**

Need more details? See the Guide for Applicants

Call for Member Digitization Projects Guide for Applicants

What is the Call for Member Digitization Projects?

The [Call for Member Digitization Projects](#) is an initiative by the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) to help plan and prioritize our Canadiana collection development and digitization work over the coming year. It is overseen by CRKN's [Canadiana Content Sub-Committee](#) and the [Preservation and Access Committee](#).

As collective owners of the Canadiana Collections and Infrastructure, this initiative provides the opportunity for CRKN members to leverage Canadiana's national-scale infrastructure to enhance digital access and preservation for their priority collections, while expanding access to knowledge for the public good.

Who can submit a project application

The Call for Member Digitization Projects is open to CRKN members as well as to external organizations with a connection to, or endorsement from, a CRKN member (for example, a campus museum). External organizations and member institutions should collaborate on the project application before submitting it, ensuring that the member's support for the project is clearly stated.

What's involved: from start to finish

1. Select a collection from your institution's holdings that meet our [Criteria](#) and [Priorities](#).
2. Submit a project application to CRKN.
3. CRKN staff and the Canadiana Content Sub-Committee review your application for feasibility and content priorities.
4. If your application is accepted, CRKN works with you to develop a timeline, statement of work, and license or repository agreement (to document copyright and/or stewardship permissions) for the project.
5. CRKN staff will contact you as your project progresses with any questions, concerns, or updates.
6. When your project is complete, CRKN will contact you and coordinate public communications to share the good news!

Selecting a Project for the Call

There are two streams in the Call for Member Digitization Projects:

- digitization projects and
- digital content sharing projects.

A digitization project involves an institution sending CRKN physical materials to be digitized and added to Canadiana, while a digital content sharing project involves an institution sending us files from a previously digitized collection to be added to Canadiana.

As of 2026, both types of projects must only contain **published textual material** (i.e. books, newspapers, maps, annual reports, pamphlets, etc.). In the future, CRKN will be able to add more types of material to Canadiana.

2026 Member Digitization Projects: Digital Content Sharing Project Application

We recommend reviewing the following documents as you complete this application:

- [Guide for Applicants](#)
- [Criteria for Selection and Prioritization of Digitization and Preservation Projects](#)
- [Canadiana Collection Development Priorities](#)

Please complete this fillable PDF form and send your application to digitization@crkn.ca.

Contact Information

Name	
Title	
Institution	
Institution that holds the content to be digitized (if different from your institution)	
Business phone	
Email	
Title(s) of content	

Project Description

1. Please provide a brief description of the scope and content of your project, including how it fits at least one of the following priorities:

- Content is reflective of the diversity of Canadians such as, but not limited to, diversity of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexuality, class, and abilities; also under consideration are diversity of time period, geographic location, types of communities such as social, cultural, or political communities, and improving representation in the digital historical record.
- Content is at risk due to factors such as, but not limited to, potential physical



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Member Digitization Projects

Contribute to the Canadiana Collections and Infrastructure by participating in the Member Digitization Projects initiative! The 2026 call for applications is now open.



Application Checklist

- ☐ Complete PDF application form
- ☐ Metadata sample for each title in your project
- ☐ (For projects in copyright) Proof of permission to reproduce each title in your project, or information on a risk assessment process from your institution
- ☐ (For digital sharing projects) Digital image sample for each title in your project
- ☐ (For digital sharing projects) Screen capture showing file organization/ naming
- ☐ Submit your application form and project samples to digitization@crkn.ca

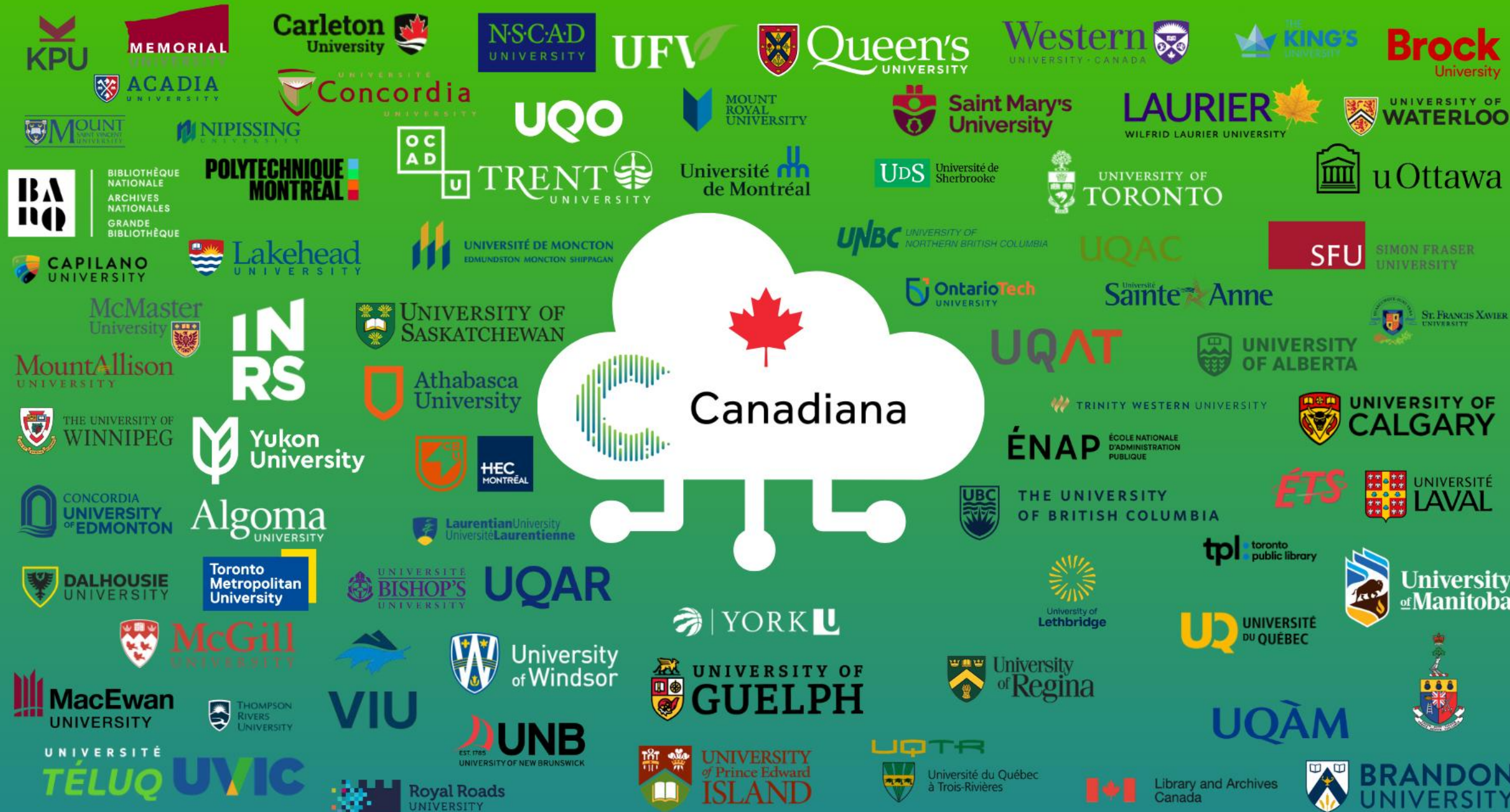


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Next Steps

Timeline







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Questions?

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