

# **GID18**

## **POST-DEPOSITORY**

INVESTIGATING THE PERSISTENCE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
PUBLICATIONS IN FORMER DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

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[bit.ly/GID18-post-depository](https://bit.ly/GID18-post-depository)

# OVERVIEW

- Project overview
- Relevance to the community
- Dissemination
- Next steps

# Project overview

- Builds on book chapter project that examined the status of depository programs across the country
- Seeks to explore the ways in which libraries are adapting their print holdings post-federal depository - lack of published info
- Evaluates the persistence of federal government materials in former full depository CARL libraries (23) to understand the landscape of access to historical federal government information

*Supported by the CARL 2018 Practicing Librarian - Research in Librarianship Grant*

# Key questions

- Have former full depository CARL libraries maintained their print, federal government holdings or are those collections being re-evaluated and weeded?
- Is it possible to locate materials distributed through the former program via public access catalogues?
- What do the results of this study reveal about access to federal government information in Canada more broadly?

# Method

- Use the public catalogues of CARL libraries to search for a sample of items selected from issues of the federal Weekly Checklist
- Use inclusion and exclusion criteria to inform the creation of a sample list of publications
- Perform searches in public catalogues, using a standardized method, to collect relevant record and holdings details for each publication from each library in the study
- There are many limitations!

# Some of those limitations...

- Institution-specific approaches to cataloguing, description, and discovery
- Different search interfaces may affect retrieval success
- Publications types we exclude may have been treated differently than those we include (e.g. the Hansard, CD-ROMs)
- What's in the catalogue might not reflect what's on the shelf

*among others...*

# Relevance to the community

- Contextual information for practitioners
- Guide government information seeking strategies
- Support collection management decisions
- Promotion of resource sharing and collaborative preservation

# Relevance to the community

CARL 2018 Practicing Librarian - Research in Librarianship Grant

*Supports research in the field of academic librarianship by and/or about Canadians. Intended to support projects involving structured, evidence-based research in libraries that propose answers to real-world issues.*

Grant money will be used to hire and train a research assistant, to carry out the data gathering component of the project.



# Relevance to the community

CARL strategic priorities :

- Facilitate collaborations to create, acquire, share, and preserve Canada's research resources
- Engage with multiple organizations to foster national and international collaborations

# Relevance to the community

Following up on CARL - Hubbertz reports (2005-2007) regarding government information in Canada

- Reports assessed the scope of acquisition and preservation of Canadian provincial and territorial government information published on the web
- Since the reports were published, DSP distribution ended
- Large scale, pan-Canadian assessment of the landscape is overdue

# Dissemination

We plan to:

- Keep the community posted with progress
- Reach out to the community to seek feedback or input
- Disseminate findings through formal publication and conference presentations
- Publish our research data
- Ensure that outputs are available in open access formats

# Keep the conversation going

## Questions for the community:

- How will this project be useful for your practice?
- How would you like us to keep the community posted on our progress?
- Have you, are you currently, or are you planning related projects? How can we build on each other's work?

## Get in touch!

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# Relevant resources

Canadian Association of Research Libraries (n.d.). Strategic directions May 2016 to May 2019 . Ottawa: CARL-ABRC. Retrieved from <http://www.carl-abrc.ca/about-carl/strategic-directions/>

Hubbertz, A. (2005). Collection and preservation of web-based provincial/territorial government publications: Report on a Survey of CARL and APLIC libraries. Ottawa: CARL-ABRC.

Hubbertz, A. (2005). Collection and preservation of web-based provincial/territorial government publications: An action plan for CARL. Ottawa: CARL-ABRC.

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