The New
Government of Canada Web Archive
and Launching the
Royal Commissions and Commissions of Inquiry
Collection

Tom J. Smyth

Program Manager

Digital Collections Operations Division

1. Program History

- Web Archiving had been conducted experimentally within the National Library of Canada since 2002.

- International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC) was chartered in 2003 with LAC as a founding member (Chair in 2008 and again in 2015)

- LAC's Web Archiving Program launched in December 2005.

- From, activities concentrated on capturing:
  - The GC domain (2005, 2006, 2007)
  - Provincial and Federal Elections
  - Summer and Winter Olympics
  - Commemoration (State funerals; Calgary Stampede, the War of 1812)

1. What is Web Archiving Anyway?

- Is an internationally-practiced, digital preservation and curation-based discipline that guarantees future access to unique resources from the Web
  - LAC Web Unit situated in the digital preservation area and is responsible for the program from end to end (acquisition to access)
  - Team consists of digital librarians and digital archivists that bring their perspectives to bear on the web archival curation
  - Specialized Web Unit created in April 2022, previously part of a larger portfolio (web archives and digital private and government archival records)
  - Digital Librarians and Digital Archivists on the curation team

2. Canadian Legislative Context: *LAC Act* section 8 (2)

Powers of Librarian and Archivist

- *8 (1) The Librarian and Archivist may do anything that is conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Library and Archives of Canada, including*

Sampling from Internet

- *(2) In exercising the powers referred to in paragraph (1)(a) and for the purpose of preservation, the Librarian and Archivist may take, at the times and in the manner that he or she considers appropriate, a representative sample of the documentary material of interest to Canada that is accessible to the public without restriction through the Internet or any similar medium.*

3. What do we do? Acquisition Methodology

1. Comprehensive collection of the GC web presence (2005-)

2. Thematic web and social media research collections (2009-)

3. Events-based collections and news media (2013-)

4. Rescue or preservation harvesting (2005-)

5. Acquisition of nominated resources (2005-)

6. Curate data and thematic collections from within datasets (2023-)

4. Who Uses Our Web Archives?

LAC Web Archiving Program stakeholders include:

1. GC Information Management/Recordkeeping Practitioners
2. University/Academic Researchers and University Libraries
3. Other National Libraries and Archives (Official Publications)
4. Government Contractors (historical research for biding)
5. The Public (general use)

Ensures digital preservation, data integrity, future access to online Canadian digital documentary heritage

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Search the website

Canada.ca > Library and Archives Canada > Services > Services for the Government of Canada

Web and Social Media Preservation program

The Web and Social Media Preservation Program at Library and Archives Canada (LAC) acquires Canadian web resources for the purposes of digital preservation and makes them available to the public via the Government of Canada Web Archive (GCWA) for future research. Learn more about the program, its collections, and the public access portal for web collections.

About the program

Learn more about the Web and Social Media
Preservation Program

Search the web archive

Search archived Internet resources

Report a copyright or privacy concern

Flag private information for removal

Search the website

MENU ⌄

Requirements and best practices for web preservation

Web archiving technologies are always improving, but some web content remains difficult to capture, preserve, or make accessible. It is difficult to capture content that relies on:

- human interaction and interactive technologies
- streaming media or data
- databases or document filters
- proprietary technology
- dynamic elements

LAC collects the Web for posterity and for the purposes of building its own digital and library research collections.

Effort shall be undertaken to faithfully preserve the content and functionality of web resources targeted for inclusion in the Web and Social Media Preservation Program's collections. LAC cannot offer any warranty, guarantee, or service level with respect to the preservation or functionality of selected web resources, nor is it possible to acquire and preserve all

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Search the website

MENU ✓

How to search the web archive

On this page

- What resources can I find in the web archive?
- Different ways to search
  - Quick search the entire web archive (all data)
  - Quick search of specific collections within the web archive (all data within a collection)
  - Quick search specific topics within a collection (for example, "Business and Economy" within COVID-19

Presenting…

The New Government of Canada Web Archive

https://webarchiveweb.bac-lac.canada.ca

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To exit full screen, move mouse to top of screen or press | F11 |

Government of Canada Web Archive

The Government of Canada Web Archive provides access to Canadian web content collected and preserved by Library and Archives Canada.

Search

| All web archives | | Search |

Advanced search

◉ **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

Browse collections

COVID-19

This collection provides access to websites related to the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, captured between February 2020 and the present. These resources document the response to the crisis from public health agencies, governments, charities and other groups, and the impact of the pandemic on life in Canada.

Federal Collections Discovery

Coronavirus/COVID-19

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Government of Canada

LAC has been capturing and preserving Government of Canada information published to the Web since 2005. This collection provides access to LAC's full archive of Government of Canada web resources, totaling over 35 terabytes of data, captured between 2005 and the present.

Truth and Reconciliation

Library and Archives Canada's (LAC) Truth and Reconciliation Commission Web Archive provides access to archival copies of the websites of organizations connected with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), either as active partners at national events or through initiatives to support commemoration. The collection was curated in collaboration with the University of Winnipeg Library, the University of Manitoba Libraries, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR).

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Search

[   ] Search

Advanced search   ● **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

Filter options

Filter by keyword

[   ]

Site title, URL, organization name

Select site language

☐ English
☐ French

Filter   Reset

Archived sites

Previous   Next

Showing 505 out of 505 total sites

Viewing page 1, 50 per page

Sort by: URL Title

Indigenous Services Canada | Services aux Autochtones Canada

https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/

Language: English, French

Department: Indigenous Services Canada

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

Government of Canada Web Archive

The Government of Canada Web Archive provides access to Canadian web content collected and preserved by Library and Archives Canada.
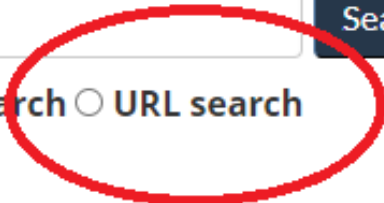
Search

Government of Canada ⌄

Search

All web archives
COVID-19
Government of Canada
Truth and Reconciliation

◉ **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

Browse collections

Canadian Web Archive

The Web Archive Access Portal of Library and Archives Canada

Search

| Government of Canada ▾ | https://www.pm.gc.ca | **Search** |

Advanced Search

○ **Keyword Search** ⦿ **URL Search**

Archives Web de Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
Library and Archives Canada Web Archive

Enter Web Address: http://   [All ▼]   [Take Me Back]

URL: **https://www.pm.gc.ca**

* indique quand la page a été modifiée / denotes when page was updated

2,361 captures, 2006-01-18 - 2022-11-29

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
15 pages	4 pages	16 pages	0 pages	0 pages	11 pages	0 pages	20 pages	15 pages	52 pages	43 pages	110 pages	64 pages	295 pages	709 pages	466 pages	541 pages
2006-01-18 *	2007-08-14 *	2008-09-10 *			2011-03-21 *		2013-02-27 *	2014-02-27 *	2015-02-06 *	2016-01-05	2017-01-18	2018-01-02 *	2019-01-11 *	2020-01-01 *	2021-01-01 *	2022-01-02
2006-01-20	2007-11-15 *	2008-09-11			2011-03-21		2013-03-22	2014-02-27 *	2015-06-03	2016-03-08	2017-01-18	2018-01-02 *	2019-01-23 *	2020-01-02	2021-01-02	2022-01-03
2006-01-26	2007-11-16	2008-09-17			2011-03-23		2013-04-19	2014-03-03 *	2015-06-20	2016-03-08	2017-01-18	2018-01-04	2019-01-29 *	2020-01-03 *	2021-01-02 *	2022-01-04
2006-01-26	2007-11-21	2008-09-18			2011-04-06		2013-04-19	2014-03-03 *	2015-08-06	2016-05-19	2017-01-24	2018-01-04	2019-01-29 *	2020-01-05 *	2021-01-03 *	2022-01-04
2006-02-01		2008-10-01			2011-04-25		2013-04-25	2014-03-04 *	2015-08-19	2016-06-21	2017-01-25	2018-02-01	2019-01-30 *	2020-01-06 *	2021-01-04 *	2022-01-05
2006-02-05		2008-10-02			2011-05-03		2013-05-29	2014-03-04 *	2015-08-25	2016-07-12	2017-01-31	2018-02-01 *	2019-01-30 *	2020-01-06	2021-01-04 *	2022-01-05
2006-02-05		2008-10-12			2011-05-04		2013-08-09	2014-03-12 *	2015-08-25	2016-07-15	2017-01-31	2018-02-02 *	2019-01-30 *	2020-01-06	2021-01-04 *	2022-01-06
2006-02-10 *		2008-10-12			2011-05-12		2013-10-01	2014-03-12 *	2015-08-25	2016-07-27	2017-02-08	2018-02-27	2019-02-04 *	2020-01-07 *	2021-01-05 *	2022-01-06

Office of the Prime Minister   Cabinet du Premier ministre

PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA   PREMIER MINISTRE DU CANADA

English   Français

Canada

Important Notices   Avis importants

Thematic Collection Discovery

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Government of Canada Web Archive

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Search

COVID-19 ▾

Search

All web archives
COVID-19
Government of Canada
Truth and Reconciliation

◉ **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

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 Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

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Search

[   ] **Search**

Advanced search

◉ **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

Search

Search [   ] [Search]

Advanced Search   ◉ Keyword Search ○ URL Search

Filter Options

Filter by Keyword

[   ]

E.g., Site Title, URL, or Org. Name

Select Site Language

☐ English
☐ French
☐ Chinese
☐ Ukrainian
☐ Inuinnaqtun
☐ Inuktitut
☐ Japanese
☐ Arabic
☐ Spanish
☐ Russian

Select Site Topic

Archived Sites

Showing 771 out of 771 total sites

Viewing page 1, 50 per page

[Previous] [Next]

Sort by: URL Title

Destination Canada – Updates on the COVID-19 situation

https://www.destinationcanada.com/en/coronavirus-updates

Language: English

Subject: Government of Canada

Destination Canada – Mises à jour sur la COVID-19

https://www.destinationcanada.com/fr/mise-jour-sur-la-coronavirus

Language: French

Subject: Government of Canada

Canadian Medical Association – CMA update: Information for physicians and the

Search

Search

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E.g., Site Title, URL, or Org. Name

Select Site Language

☐ English
☐ French
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☐ Ukrainian
☐ Inuinnaqtun
☐ Inuktitut
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Language: French

Subject: Government of Canada

Canadian Medical Association – CMA update: Information for physicians and the

Quick Word on Web Curation Methodology

- When thematic web archival collections are begun, a collection development policy is defined
- The CD policy defines the scope in/out and what we are trying to document (in what priority, degree of comprehension, quality level)
- *E.g., COVID-19: Impact on Business and Economy; Families and Education; Law, Arts and Culture, News Media, Fed/Prov Govts…*
- These seed groups or collection sub-themes get assigned for curation to staff members, and are tracked in metadata for project status
- These subthemes then appear in GCWA as resource discovery facets…

Select site topic

Select topic ▾

- Select topic
- Academic
- Alternate perspectives and protests
- Arts and culture
- Business and economy
- Charities and non-profits
- Families and education
- Government of Canada
- Health
- Indigenous
- Law
- News media
- Provincial
- Religion
- Satire
- Sports and fitness

Canadian Medical Association – CMA update: Information for physicians and the public on the coronavirus

https://www.cma.ca/cma-update-coronavirus

Language: English

Subject: Health

Association médicale canadienne – Mise à jour de l'AMC : renseignements sur le coronavirus à l'intention des médecins et du grand public

https://www.cma.ca/fr/renseignements-sur-le-coronavirus-a-lintention-des-medecins-et-du-public

Language: French

Subject: Health

Public Health Ontario – Synopsis of Key Articles – Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

For thematic collections, metadata generated at the point of seed selection is fed forward and shapes the discovery and access layer, enabling researchers and giving a sense of collection cope at-a-glance

Advanced Full Text Search

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Select collection

All web archives

Find these words

None of these words

This exact phrase

Within this website

File type

All formats

Start date

yyyy-mm-dd

End date

yyyy-mm-dd

Search   Reset

‹ Back to Search Results

‹ Result **2** of 2 ›

2

❝ Cite   ⦻ Share   ☆ Save

Coronavirus/COVID-19 web archive

Authors: Library and Archives Canada (Collector)

🖥 **Website** 2020

Ottawa : Library and Archives Canada, 2020-

Summary: This collection provides access to websites related to the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, captured between February 2020 and the present. These resources document the response to the crisis from public health agencies, governments, charities, and other groups, and the impact of the pandemic on life in Canada.

Retrieval Options

Access Online

✔ Available

Bibliothèque et Archives Canada / Library and Archives Canada

OCLC Number/Unique Identifier:	1351576450
Publication:	Ottawa : Library and Archives Canada, 2020-
Physical Description:	1 online resource (archived websites)
Language:	English
Access Restrictions:	Unrestricted online access.
Subjects:	*Répertoire de Vedettes-Matière* Pandémie de COVID-19, 2020- —Canada

Federal Royal Commissions
and
Commissions of Inquiry

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Federal-level Commissions investigate and report on "any matter connected with the good government of Canada or the conduct of any part of the public business thereof." While not binding, a Commission's findings are highly influential. The final reports of Commissions are therefore among the most important publications produced in Canada and have highlighted and documented matters of importance to society since pre-Confederation.

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Search

[   ] **Search**

Advanced search

◉ **Keyword search** ○ **URL search**

Commissions Collection in GCWA

- LAC's previous *Index to Federal Royal Commissions* was decommissioned in the switch to OCLC (and not replaced)
- A new curation tool enables the presentation of new collections
- Commissions exist in digitized historical copies, born digital, and websites; websites began in 2001 (Romanow/O'Connor) but these were previously in an isolated dataset
- For the first time, a comprehensive collection is now available in one place, with all the GCWA's discovery/access/search tools applied
- MMIWG, POEC, MCC will be available (FIC / FIFEPDI site launched [foreigninterferencecommission.ca] and collection has begun…)

Foreign Interference Commission

On September 7, 2023 the Government of Canada established the Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions. Justice Marie-Josée Hogue, a judge of the Quebec Court of Appeal, was appointed Commissioner.

The Commission will undertake its work in two phases. The first phase will focus on the interference that China, Russia and other foreign actors may have engaged in, and any impact it may have had on the 2019 and 2021 federal elections. The Commission will also examine and assess the flow of information within the federal government in relation to these issues, and evaluate the actions taken in response.

In the second phase, the Commission will examine the capacity of federal departments, agencies, institutional structures, and governance processes to permit the Government of Canada to detect, deter and counter such interference.

The Commission will hold public hearings in early 2024 and in the fall of 2024.

The Order in Council 2023-0882 requires that the Commission submit an Interim Report by February 29, 2024, and a Final Report by December 31, 2024.

Curated Collections to Come (~44 tera)

- Federal and Provincial Elections, 2005-present
- National Historical Commemorations, 2006-present
- Olympic and Paralympic Games, 2006-present
- Indigenous Collections
- Canada 150
- Royal Commissions and Commissions of Inquiry
- Events-based Collections (Lac-Megantic, Forest Fires, Humboldt…)
- Historical HTML Official Pubs and Bibliographies (1994-2005)
- Many more

Library and Archives Canada Blog

This is the official blog of Library and Archives Canada (LAC).

Improving your online experience: Launch of the new Government of Canada Web Archive

2

Posted on **July 19, 2023**

By Tom J. Smyth

Introduction and program history

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is the nation's designated national memory institution, with a legislated mandate to acquire, describe, preserve and provide long-term access to Canada's documentary heritage.

This includes the Canadian Web! Resources in formats for the Web are recognized internationally as an important facet of a nation's modern digital heritage. These

- **Library and Archives Canada Website**
- **Search all Government of Canada websites**

Categories

- **Archived**
- **Art**
- **Biography and People**
- **Census**
- **Co-Lab**
- **Consultation and Reference Services**
- **Discover/How to**
- **Exhibitions**
- **Exploration and settlement**
- **Film, Video and Sound**
- **Flickr**
- **Genealogy & Family History**
- **Geography**
- **Immigration**
- **Indigenous Resources**
- **Library**
- **Literature**
- **Maps and Plans**

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https://thediscoverblog.com

Future State

- Curate and roll out historical collections (2023-)
- Curate new thematic collections
- Proceed to *.ca domain crawl in the near future
- Upgrade the GCWA with new functionalities
- Publish thematic web archival finding aids

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Questions/comments welcome
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https://webarchiveweb.bac-lac.canada.ca