Arca
Actions & Achievements
2019

Message From the Chair

I am proud to share the Arca Actions & Achievements 2019 report. The service accomplished much in the last year. Host site BC Electronic Library Network and the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) entered into a new partnership that allows Arca sites to use WestVault, COPPUL's LOCKSS digital preservation service. New modules were created to improve the technical infrastructure; one notable module, called Islandora Remote Media, allows sites to catalogue, display, and stream files hosted elsewhere - from videos on YouTube and Vimeo, to audio in SoundCloud. And Arca welcomed six new partner organizations.

Arca collaborative digital repository continues to deliver incredible value both to participating organizations and to the thousands of visitors who use the site to find digital treasures. Let's keep this excellent momentum going!

Kim Isaac
University Librarian
University of the Fraser Valley
Arca Advisory Committee Chair

Value for Participating Organizations

26
system partners: shared expertise across 22 BC organizations and 4 external partners

$1.16m
saved across the service by sharing a platform, storage, infrastructure and coordination

19,000
staff hours saved across the service through central administration (e.g. troubleshooting, coordination)

73%
saved on software costs by joining Arca, compared to implementing a stand-alone repository

Visit the Arca website: arcabc.ca

2019 Achievements

Developed Partnerships and Enhanced Arca's Customized Platform

- Finalized Letter of Agreement between the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) and BC ELN, allowing Arca sites to use WestVault, COPPUL's LOCKSS digital preservation service; registered Emily Carr University of Art + Design as the first Arca member to use WestVault under the new agreement
- Negotiated 2019/20 hosting storage and maintenance costs with SFU IT Cloud Hosting to secure sustainable storage pricing for Arca members
- Released the new Islandora Remote Media module, which allows a site to catalogue, display, and stream files hosted elsewhere — from videos on YouTube and Vimeo, to audio in SoundCloud

Expanded Membership Within and Beyond BC

- Brought six new partners into Arca: Athabasca University, Brandon University, Mount Royal University, Red Deer College, Vancouver Community College, and Vancouver Public Library
- Reached out to 18 previous recipients of BC History Digitization grants to assess interest in Arca hosting and support
- Held a facilitated session with the Arca Advisory Committee to determine Arca's long-term growth strategy; decision made to take a proactive approach to partnerships within the BC GLAM sector

Supported Knowledge Exchange and Communities of Practice

- Convened the Islandora Multi-Tenancy Interest Group and led the Islandora community in developing a framework to support multisites in Islandora 8
- Led a workshop on using Islandora as an Institutional Repository at the 2019 Islandora Conference in Vancouver
- Presented at Canadian Knowledge Research Network (CRKN) Access to Knowledge conference about Arca's adoption of Rights Statements and to encourage their use in Canada

2019-20 Financials

	Projected
	Revenue
Member Service Support (service support fees, additional support and storage fees)	117,860
BC ELN Contribution	8,000
Miscellaneous Revenue (Carryforward, One-time set up fees, etc.)	14,791
Total	**140,651**
	Expenses
Staffing and Coordination Infrastructure	92,244
Islandora Foundation Membership	4,000
Administration/Communication/Governance	3,203
Software & Technical Infrastructure	23,332
Total	**122,779**
Revenue - Expenses (Carryforward)	**17,872**

Newman Western Canadian Cookbooks Collection

Exploring Cultural Trends through Local Cookbooks

Historians and anthropologists worldwide now have access to a unique view of evolving Western Canadian agricultural practices, gender roles, and societal values. The *Newman Western Canadian Cookbook Collection*, shared by the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) Library via Arca, holds digitized cookbooks spanning 1913 to 1968. Compiled of cookbooks from communities and local restaurants and cafés in Canada's western provinces, the Yukon, and Northwest Territories, the collection provides a distinct perspective of changing preferences and cultural values of the locale.

Named for the family of Dr. Lenore Newman, UFV's Canada Research Chair in Food Security and the Environment, the collection was launched in 2014 as part of UFV's Special Collections and now totals nearly 2,000 titles. The digitized versions in Arca are helping UFV preserve print copies in the collection and make the collection available worldwide.

Visit the Newman Western Canadian Cookbook Collection

Arca and the BC History Digitization Program

Leveraging Partnerships to Ensure Discoverable Content

An estimated 20% of pre-2016 British Columbia History Digitization Program (BCHDP) grant-funded materials are not available online and may be lost forever. With a goal of making those at-risk materials accessible to the public, BC ELN and Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (IKBLC) at the University of British Columbia Library partnered in 2017 to allow successful past and future BCHDP grant recipients the option of hosting their digitized material on Arca. Since 2017, ten GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums) sector organizations have joined Arca, and additional organizations are showing keen interest.

The Potters Guild of BC

Debra Sloan needed help finding a new home for a precious resource: 52 years of Potters Guild of BC newsletters tracing the evolution of ceramic practice in BC. Digitized with a BCHDP grant in 2011, they were housed in an increasingly unsustainable aging AtoM repository hosted by a commercial provider. As part of the IKBLC-funded partnership, the Arca Office had reached out to the Potters Guild as a former BCHDP grant recipient, and the email came at the perfect time. Within a few weeks, the newsletters were uploaded into the BCHDP Arca site, searchable and accessible in a stable, sustainable platform.
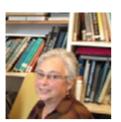

Jinny Whitehead, Linda Lewis and Debra Sloan in the Potters Guild of BC office. Image courtesy of Debra Sloan.

Visit the Potters Guild Collection in Arca

Value for Students, Educators, and Researchers around the World

Breadth

Users can search across 83 thousand digital items in collections shared by 26 partner sites

Variety

A range of formats to discover, including academic publications, historical photos, newspapers, videos, and more

Accessible

Collections are discoverable from anywhere in the world; in 2019 Arca had 147 thousand site visits

Distinctive

Many collections highlight "unique to BC" content, which is invaluable to researchers

In the words of a researcher...

"For work, I have been examining the 4,500+ images from the T.S. Bakshi Herbarium (Athabasca University) and reviewing the online thesis and published papers, particularly those pertaining to habitat, environmental mapping, and management. As a university student you can readily access journal publications, but as a graduate you lose this access, [so] it is nice to be able to access master thesis and other published papers, especially as these are at the local and regional level....

What I like: The great search engine - not only does Arca give you the document and page, but goes as far as highlighting the search term on the actual page. A wonderful time saver. The phenomenal content, everything from historical advertisements to botany, there is something for everyone. [And] you can download most content."

- Pat Marlowe

A Look Ahead to 2020

- Building and launching a new sandbox site that will provide an online space where administrators can test ingests, configurations, etc. in a site that looks and feels like the real Arca; space in the platform will be dedicated to the University of the Fraser Valley Library Technician program to use as an educational tool.

- Upgrading accessibility by working with CAPER-BC partners to implement improvements to accessibility within the Arca platform.

- Updating theming by collaborating with Arca Administrators on a theme update/refresh that may take the form of an update to the existing shared Arca theme, or a new theme that we will implement as an alternative option.