





THE DAILY KLONDIKE NUGGET











New Directions in Description / Canadian Metadata Forum 2005 Joint Session Monday, September 26, 2005

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Metadata Strategy at



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Outline

KNOWLEDGE IS HERE

- LAC: A Whole New World
- Metadata Strategy Catalytic Initiative
- Metadata Framework
- Integration of Metadata from External Sources
- Standardizing Names
- Rationalizing Descriptive Terminology
- The Future



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LAC: A Whole New World

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Chronology

- April 2004: proclamation of the Library and Archives Canada Act
- June 2004: Catalytic Initiatives established
- September 2004 : Metadata Strategy Catalytic Initiative underway
 - Core Team
 - Budget
 - Projects identified
 - Timelines defined



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Result of all descriptive activities related to LAC's published and unpublished resources regardless of support medium.



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Metadata Strategy Catalytic Initiative

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Purpose

Develop and implement a strategy for a collaborative approach to description facilitating integrated access to published and unpublished resources in all media

Access is the driver

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Metadata Framework

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MCI "flagship" deliverable, bringing coherence to institutional metadata activities, beginning with descriptive metadata

Deliverables

- Policy and "user's guide".
- Definition of common minimum descriptive metadata sets dependent on user needs.
- Mappings between descriptive metadata standards used at LAC.
- Clusters of elements from different standards to inform federated search.



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Metadata Framework Impacts

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External

 Public is better able to identify, select and locate the resources they need.

Internal

- A coherent approach to description of all LAC resources.
- Greater portion of the documentary heritage is described in accordance with appropriate standards.



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Integration of Externally-produced Metadata

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- From Publishers
- From Subject Experts
- From Government Departments and Agencies



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Metadata From Publishers

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Building a mechanism for publishers to communicate with LAC using their metadata "language" (ONIX, the **ON**line Information eXchange standard).

Deliverables

- Automation of the Canadian ISBN Agency communication with publishers in multiple formats, including ONIX.
- On-line, real-time updateable ISBN logbooks for publisher use



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Publishers' Metadata Impacts

External

- Enhanced relationship with Canadian publishers.
- Descriptions enriched with publisher-produced metadata

Internal

- Integration of Canadian ISBN Agency operations with other LAC systems.
 - Studies of publisher processes and internal process impacts
- Identification and implementation of workflow re-engineering opportunities (operational efficiencies)



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Metadata from Subject Experts

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Developing methods of acquiring and re-using description information from individuals and groups about LAC unpublished holdings.

Deliverables

- Policy on acceptable minimum quantity (core metadata requirements) and quality (internal verification levels required) for externally-produced metadata.
- Processes for incorporating externally-provided metadata into LAC systems.



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Subject Experts' Metadata Impacts

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External

- Metadata describing more LAC items and collections.
- Increased client access to unpublished materials.
- More Canadians engaged with their documentary heritage.

Internal

- Corporate policy decisions based on user needs
- Operational efficiencies



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Metadata From Government Departments and Agencies

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- Records Management Metadata Standard for the Government of Canada (GoC) aligned with GoC and ISO standards
- Deliverables
- Core set of metadata elements for use in describing records through their life cycle.
- Metadata set aligned with GoC core metadata standard (TBITS 39) and with LAC requirements for archival records transfer.
- To be incorporated into the functional requirements of the RDIMS shared solution (PWGSC).



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Government Metadata Impacts

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External

- More consistent approach to IM across government institutions
- Enhanced capacity of government to serve Canadians and achieve better business results through sound information management
- Heightened awareness of LAC leadership role in GoC records management

Internal

 Increased capacity in metadata standards related to government information



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Standardizing Names

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Integrated controlled name authorities for published and unpublished materials.

Deliverables

- A single standard
- A single process



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Standardizing Names Impacts

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External

- Public is better able to identify, select and locate documentary heritage materials.
- Greater portion of the documentary heritage is described in accordance with appropriate standards.

Internal

- Efficiency gains from a single process
- Highly visible integration effort



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Rationalising Descriptive Terminology

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- Making sense of varying descriptive practices related to use of controlled subjects and keywords to improve client information discovery.
- Deliverables
- Policy for application of subjects (by types of material, etc)
- Defined relationships between full text index terms (keywords) and controlled subjects.
- Study of possible search engine configuration using automated techniques for transparent clustering of terms around concepts.





Rationalizing Terminology Impacts

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External

Public is better able to identify, select and locate documentary heritage materials.

Internal

 Increased understanding of the ways in which clients want to search for LAC holdings.

 Improved alignment between descriptive practices and user needs.



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Leadership in Metadata

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Sharing research results and leading the way.

Deliverables:

- Participation in descriptive standards development for new domaines
 - NISO MetaSearch Initiative, Dublin Core Metadata Initiative
- Sponsorship of IM community events
 - New Directions in Description, Canadian Metadata Forum



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Metadata Leadership Impacts KNOWLEDGE IS HERE Canadian perspective represented on emerging standards bodies Increased knowledge sharing by LAC in the Government of Canada, national and international metadata communities

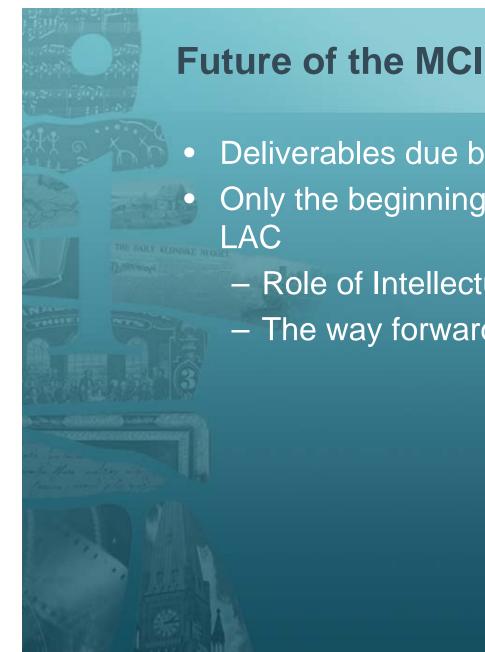


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Deliverables due by June 2006. Only the beginning of a new orientation for

- Role of Intellectual Management Office

– The way forward...

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Deane Zeeman Lead, Metadata Strategy Catalytic Initiative Library and Archives Canada

deane.zeeman@lac-bac.gc.ca

(819) 934-4358



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