

# Government Information Day

## Access to information framework

- Democracy best served through transparency
- Declassification 30 year rule - if reason was not given, doc was declassified. Onus was on the public. Now, with ATI&P the burden is on LAC.
- Civics classes have disappeared; rate of creation of governmental records has exploded; formats; currently 460 km of records @ LAC; 35%-40% of which are still closed; inherent limits to block review exercises; description at the series level; and, of course, that's only if our current IM hypotheses hold true in 5, 10, 20 years.
- legislative and judiciary branches should be 100% open/transparent. In an open government setting, the risk of information leaving

## Digitizing Alberta Gov Docs

- [Usage stats \(<https://archive.org/search?query=%28collection%3Aalbertagovernmentpublications%20OR%20mediatype%3Aalbertagovernmentpublications%29%20AND%20-mediatype%3Acollection&sort=-week>\) are high!](https://archive.org/search?query=%28collection%3Aalbertagovernmentpublications%20OR%20mediatype%3Aalbertagovernmentpublications%29%20AND%20-mediatype%3Acollection&sort=-week)
- Got an IA scribe.

## Digitization of Statistics Canada publications

- Scope: Officially published publications from SC and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that were never published in digital format.
- Yearbooks digitized in previous project.
- Raw TIFFs (high speed scanner) and JPEG files (book scanner) generated. QC process built in. Business case approved in fall 2010.
- Did not address dissemination component at that time.
- 2788 publications (402K pages). Available from IA and upon request from Stats Can Library.
- Not funded continuously
- Between 2011 and present: 90- series working toward 10-series. Digitization of the non-census collection. Cataloguing as "DONE".
- Currently: 10- and 20- series plus missing items. Solutions for digitizing very small number of oversized materials are being considered.
- Expect digitization to be completed by March 31, 2015.
- Challenges: poor condition and single copy publications; centralizing digitization efforts within the agency; workload from increased donations; incomplete catalogue records for older items; scope: what is an official publication?
- Dissemination: procedures have changed for gov websites. Should happen in 2015-16. In discussions with DLI to see if an interim solution can open up access to DLI members sooner.

## Historical Debates of the Parliament of Canada portal

- Collaboration with Canadiana and LAC.
- Debates are some of the most requested items. Senate records began in 1871 in English (FR 1895). HoC in 1875. Early Debates project reconstituted debates for the years without an official record and translated debates for the years without French official records. (Unofficial).
- PDF-based delivery on canadiana.org (OCRed).

## Canadiana.org TDR

- Took a couple of years (self-audit, submission evaluation, on-site audit, follow-up and certification).