

OCLC Research Update

June–September 2019

New report examines Canada's contributions to the published record

In the report *Maple Leaves: Discovering Canada through the Published Record*, author Brian Lavoie explores the contours of Canada's contribution to literature, music, film, and other forms of creative expression, as it is manifested in the collections of libraries around the world.



Using WorldCat®, the world's largest and most comprehensive aggregation of data describing library holdings, and mapping the information with Wikidata to identify publications authored or otherwise created by Canadians and Canadian organizations, Lavoie traces the boundaries of the Canadian presence in the published record: i.e., materials published *in* Canada, *by* Canadians, or *about* Canada.

Read the full report to find out the most “popular” works, authors, and more, along with shifting patterns over time, materials published in the languages of Indigenous peoples, and additional trends revealed in the rich data made possible by WorldCat.

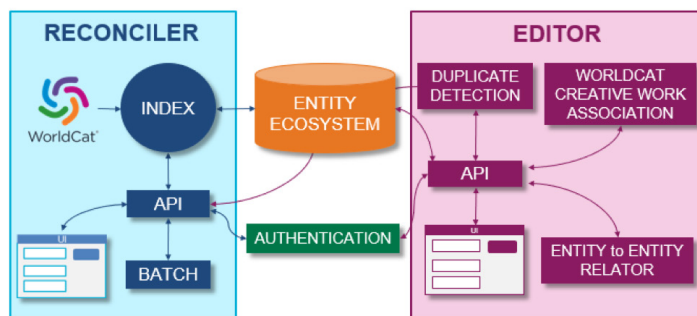
Download the report in English or French Canadian at oclc/maple-leaves.

Linked Data Wikibase Prototype detailed in report coming out soon

Recently, 16 research, academic, public, and federal libraries joined with OCLC in a research project that prototyped a new suite of linked data services. The project used out-of-the-box services from Wikibase and name entities available from FAST, VIAF®, and Wikidata to prototype services, including a reconciliation service and a service to view, create, and edit linked data entity descriptions and relationships.

The report will show how the Wikibase platform was adapted for libraries, and pilot participants will describe their experience creating metadata for resources in various formats and languages using the Wikibase editing interface. The use cases will reveal the potential of linked data in library cataloging workflows and the gaps that must be addressed before machine-readable semantic data can be fully adopted.

Learn about the prototype at oclc/linkeddatabase and look for a report on this project coming in July.



Public libraries respond to the opioid crisis: case studies

OCLC and the Public Library Association are working together to research how public libraries are responding to the opioid crisis with community partners. Eight libraries have joined this project to explore the types of programming and partnerships that are enabling them to meet community needs. The libraries are collaborating with organizations such as local health departments, court systems, and those involved with drug treatment.

Barrington Public Library (RI)
Blount County Public Library (TN)
Everett Public Library (WA)
Kalamazoo Public Library (MI)
New Orleans Public Library (LA)
Peoria Public Library (IL)
Salt Lake County Library (UT)
Twinsburg Public Library (OH)

The findings, based on site visits and interviews, demonstrate a clear commitment by libraries to support their communities in a range of ways, including offering life skills training, hosting author talks, and offering peer navigator support. Full case studies and summary research will be published in the coming months. This project is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services; find out more at oc.lc/opioid-crisis.

Learn how Wikipedia can help you guide patrons to reliable health information

The upcoming online course “Wikipedia + Libraries: Health & Medical Information” will help public library staff guide patrons to reliable resources. This October, with funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region, WebJunction® will deliver a free online course, consisting of four live sessions, for up to 100 public library staff to learn how to use Wikipedia to connect people to authoritative health and medical information. Those who work or volunteer in US public libraries are invited to register for the free four-week training.

Stay tuned for a preview webinar in July, and learn more at oc.lc/wikihealth.

OCLC awarded grant for Wikipedia + Libraries Training in Mexico

WebJunction created the “Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together” training program to help library staff leverage Wikipedia to better serve their communities. Now, with a newly awarded project grant from the Wikimedia Foundation, OCLC will work to expand the project to Mexico. OCLC will investigate the viability of and approach to a Wikipedia + Libraries training program for library staff in Mexico, in support of the Wikimedia Foundation’s New Readers initiative. OCLC will work with regional advisors to identify a Mexico-based organization that can lead the training and produce a plan for delivering a training program that will help library staff in Mexico guide community members’ understanding of Wikipedia. Learn more: oc.lc/wikipedia-mexico.

New self-paced course teaches libraries how to ‘supercharge’ storytime



WebJunction’s updated Supercharged Storytimes free self-paced course is available online now. Supercharged Storytimes is a research-based program that teaches storytime practitioners how to become a cornerstone in children’s early

literacy development by implementing some simple practices that promote learning.

The more than 2,000 practitioners enrolled in the self-paced course are engaging in robust online discussions and sharing ideas about how to improve library storytimes as they work through the course’s core content, applied learning, and reflection questions.

WebJunction also held a Facilitator Training for Supercharged Storytimes with approximately 100 participants who are now prepared to lead groups of learners through the Supercharged Storytimes self-paced course. The Facilitator Guide developed for the training is available to anyone who would like to use it in a Learning Group. Find out more at oc.lc/supercharged.



Join OCLC in Phoenix for the Library Futures Conference

Join fellow library leaders to explore how we can build future-forward libraries and future-ready communities. Before the two-day conference, OCLC Research will host two preconferences for academic, research, and public libraries.

WebJunction will lead a program focused on design thinking that will help libraries tell impactful stories about the great work they do with their communities. In this interactive workshop, participants will learn design thinking principles and practice the innovative techniques and reflective strategies to craft powerful stories that communicate the library's value to community members and key stakeholders.

The OCLC Research Library Partnership (RLP) will lead the half day program "Stewardship and services: Your library's role as a community catalyst" that will explore how research libraries are responding to the seismic changes occurring in library collections and services. This includes the increasing role of the library in managing the research and other outputs of the university, and how the library is facilitating access to a broader range of local, external, and collaborative resources organized around user needs.

Learn more and register at oc.lc/arc19.

Resources help libraries plan for research data management

Researchers Rebecca Bryant, Brian Lavoie, and Ixchel Faniel have created a three-part suite of resources to support planning and decision making at institutions considering and developing RDM services.

Part 1 covers understanding RDM needs and requirements at local institutions, and identifying current offerings. Part 2 focuses on exploring the factors influencing the development of RDM services, including the examination of local and external incentives. And part 3 is dedicated to sourcing RDM services; seeking to answer the question: do you build or buy?

The resources for each section include a 60-minute webinar recording and slides, a learning guide to support exploration and help frame discussions with colleagues, recommended readings, and a summary of the group's discussions. Access all of the resources at oc.lc/rdm-guide.



New publications from OCLC Research

'PEOPLE NEED A STRATEGY': EXPLORING ATTITUDES OF AND SUPPORT ROLES FOR SCHOLARLY IDENTITY WORK AMONG ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

OCLC Research's Lynn Silipigni Connaway is a co-author on this paper that addresses gaps in the variety of digital platforms that academics are increasingly using to create and manage their scholarly identities (SI). This research compares how academic librarians respond to the challenges of their SI management and those of their users. Findings identify current SI strategies and challenges, and inform suggestions for how academic librarians can increase SI support across platforms. Read more at oclc.org/si-strategy.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES RESPOND TO THE OPIOID CRISIS IN COLLABORATION WITH THEIR COMMUNITIES: AN INTRODUCTION

This is the first article of two in the journal *Collaborative Librarianship* about the OCLC and Public Library Association project that will help public libraries and their community partners develop effective strategies to address the opioid epidemic in America. The article, coauthored by Lynn Silipigni Connaway, focuses on the issues and preliminary themes surfacing in interviews with library staff and their partners. Read the article at oclc.org/crisis-intro.

ARL WHITE PAPER ON WIKIDATA: OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this Association of Research Libraries white paper, a task force of expert Wikidata users, including OCLC Research's Merrilee Proffitt, recommend a variety of ways for librarians to use the open knowledge base in advancing global discovery of their collections, faculty, and institutions. The white paper shares activity in Wikidata and highlights opportunities for research library involvement. Read the paper at oclc.org/arl-paper.

CONTAINER COLLAPSE AND THE INFORMATION REMIX: STUDENTS' EVALUATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH RECAST IN SCHOLARLY VS POPULAR SOURCES

Written by OCLC Research's Ixchel M. Faniel, Brittany Brannon, Christopher Cyr, Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Erin M. Hood, and additional co-authors, this paper focuses on the scientific communication life cycle and the nuanced judgments students make about which resources will help them as they begin their research, which to cite and incorporate into their project, and which are the most credible. This paper compares and contrasts 116 students' point-of-selection judgments of three resources recasting the same scientific content. Read more at oclc.org/remix-paper.

WHAT COLLABORATION MEANS TO ME: LIBRARY COLLABORATION IS HARD; EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION IS HARDER

In this piece published in *Collaborative Librarianship*, Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President of Membership and Research, argues that library collaboration is very important, so important that it needs to be a more deliberate strategic focus for libraries and the organizations that support them. Despite this importance, effective collaboration is hard and current arrangements are suboptimal. Dempsey discusses various reasons why this is so, and offers some suggestions for how matters might be improved. Read the article at oclc.org/dempsey-collaboration.

ABOUT OCLC RESEARCH

OCLC Research is one of the world's leading centers devoted exclusively to the challenges facing libraries, archives, and museums in a rapidly changing information technology environment. We work to activate communities of practice to produce knowledge, evidence, and models that help libraries plan with confidence, position with effect, and make an impact.

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