The newsletter home page is https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/services/government-canada/information-disposition/governance-recordkeeping-newsletter/Pages/governance-recordkeeping-newsletter.aspx

Email: centredeliaison-liaisoncentre@bac-lac.gc.ca

Section 1—General Information Management and Recordkeeping News Around the World

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) News

Highlights

AI is here and LAC is ready

LAC's approach supports broader Government of Canada priorities for digital transformation, transparency, and citizen-centered services. The goal is to make collections more discoverable, improve services, and strengthen connections between Canadians and their history. To achieve this, LAC is investing in both technology (AI-enabled tools) and people (training staff, running pilot projects).

Departmental Results Report 2024–2025

The report reviews LAC's performance against its priorities and planned outcomes for 2024–2025. During this period, LAC focused on making its collections more representative of Canada by acquiring a broader diversity of materials. LAC also began implementing its Data Strategy, advancing data literacy, governance, and cross-organizational data practices, alongside many other significant milestones.

LAC hosted its annual IM Backstage Pass event

The event was cohosted by LAC and the Canada School of Public Service's GC Data Community. It focused on how information management (IM) is being modernized in government by showcasing strategies, tools, and practices that are transforming how public servants manage and share knowledge. Through real-world case studies, it provided practical guidance on IM and data stewardship.

General News

Library and Archives Canada Annual Report on the Access to Information Act: 2024–2025

LAC continues to face backlog challenges due to the high volume and complexity of requests, which makes meeting legislated timelines difficult. LAC also engages in proactive publication, releasing certain information without waiting for formal requests, as required under Part 2 of the *Access to Information Act*. The report provides details on complaints submitted to the Information Commissioner and how LAC addressed them.

Canada's national archives act as a 'memory house'—and they're in trouble

Both Canada and the United States face mounting challenges as their archival institutions contend with political and financial pressures. Historian Charlotte Gray interviews Dr. Colleen Shogan, the 11th Archivist of the United States, and Dr. Leslie Weir, the Librarian and

Archivist of Canada, about the vital role of archives, the opportunities and risks of the digital era, and even the cultural significance of everyday practices such as selfies.

Canada News

[Researching Military History in the Canadiana Collections](#) (Canadian Research Knowledge Network)

The Canadiana collections, comprising millions of digitized historical documents, are a prime resource for researching Canadian military history. Widely used by historians, genealogists, and even surveyors, these collections support both scholarly inquiry and practical applications. Thanks to the support of Canadian Research Knowledge Network members, these resources are freely accessible, enabling historical research while also contributing to public safety.

[Ontario and Alberta privacy commissioners release investigation findings into PowerSchool breach affecting school boards and other educational bodies](#)

The investigation highlights the risks of relying on third-party education technology platforms without strong contractual safeguards and effective oversight. It underscores the need for better privacy governance in education, particularly when students' personal information is managed by external providers. If implemented, the recommendations could lead to stronger data protection for students, educators, and school systems in the future.

[Urgent Need for Action—Revision of the Archives Act](#) (French only)

Quebec's leading archival organizations are urging the government to promptly overhaul the province's *Loi sur les archives* (Archives Act), adopted in 1983, warning that it no longer meets modern needs in information governance, digital management, data protection, and public access. Without an updated legal framework, they caution, public bodies face increased risks of information loss, fragmented institutional memory, and rising management costs.

[The ArQuives to Digitize Key 2SLGBTQIA+ Audiovisual Collections with Major CLIR Grant](#)

The ArQuives: Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives is launching its largest-ever digitization initiative to preserve "hidden" 2SLGBTQIA+ Canadian history. The collections being digitized focus on communities historically excluded from mainstream archives. Digitizing these materials ensures that these stories are preserved with dignity, visibility, and accessibility. They will be made available on the organization's online portal.

[How we're preserving the past by protecting our digital history](#)

This article discusses Winnipeg's efforts to safeguard electronic records, such as emails, websites, and computer files so they remain accessible, authentic, and intact over the long term. It examines how specialized digital-preservation software is used to maintain formats and metadata as technologies evolve, and highlights the purpose, challenges, strategies, and call to action behind digital preservation initiatives.

Global News

Australia

[National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Selects Arcitecta's Mediaflux to Power the Nation's Audiovisual Heritage Strategy](#)

> The National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA) has chosen Arcitecta's Mediaflux® as its central Digital Asset Management System. This move is part of a broader strategy to modernize how Australia's audiovisual heritage is stored, accessed, and preserved. The adoption of Mediaflux signals a major digital transformation for NFSA, representing not merely a systems upgrade but a fundamental rethinking of how the archive manages its assets and engages with the public.

[UNESCO—Global Network of Libraries and Local Impact: a Policy Roadmap to Build an Inclusive Digital Future](#)

> This issue brief highlights that libraries aren't just places for books anymore; they are critical digital access points and community anchors. By centering libraries within digital policy, governments and international organizations can make digital inclusion more equitable, trust-based, and people-oriented.

Scotland

[Scottish Government launches updated digital strategy](#)

> The Scottish Government has introduced a refreshed National Digital Strategy, building on its 2021 version. The goal is to make Scotland more digitally connected, drive economic growth, and improve public services through digital innovation. A new app will launch next year to give citizens personalized access to public services. Education is a key focus, with plans to increase digital education in schools and support lifelong digital skills development for workers.

United Kingdom

[National Archives—Launch of a New Online Catalogue](#)

> The organization is redesigning its online gateway to make archival content easier to navigate, more intuitive, and more visually engaging, helping to reduce the sense of intimidation often created by the scale and complexity of archives. This redesign marks only the first step; ongoing enhancements and new features will continue to improve the experience, particularly for expert and frequent users.

United States

[The Black Archives hosts first-ever Family Roots Festival to preserve Miami's Black History](#)

> The festival is designed to educate participants by helping them trace their roots and to preserve heritage by capturing oral histories, strengthening community connections to Black Miami's past. Programming included expert-led genealogy workshops, storytelling and oral history sessions, a children's activity zone, and live music and entertainment.

Ukraine

[Ukraine Digitizes Crimean Archives to Preserve National Memory](#)

The State Archival Service of Ukraine has launched a major effort to digitize documents from Crimean archives, making them available in an online section called Archives of Crimea. Ukrainian archivists frame this digitization effort as part of a liberation policy, not just preserving history, but reclaiming memory and asserting the Ukrainian identity of Crimea.

Wales

[National Library of Wales—Welsh Political Archive Newsletter, no. 56 (2025)](#)

The Welsh Political Archive was founded in 1983 to collect a broad array of political material from Wales, including personal papers of politicians, party archives, campaign ephemera, posters, photographs, and media. The archive is assessing and developing treatment plans for Indigenous treaty documents in its holdings to preserve them more responsibly.

Section 2—Events

Notice: The following is the most recent information available as of the date of publication.

Meetings, conferences and virtual seminars

Conference—January 28-31, 2026, Canada

[OLA Super Conference 2026](#)

Virtual—February 5, 2026

[Digital Preservation Summit 2026: Securing Cultural Heritage in the Digital Age](#)

Webinar—March 19, 2026

[Legal Discovery: The Role of Records Management](#)

Meeting—March 16–20, 2026, Virtual

[RDA 26th Plenary Meeting (VP26)](#)

Conference—March 29–31, 2026, California

[i-SIGMA Annual Conference 2026](#)

Conference—April 19–22, 2026, Arizona

[ARMA InfoNEXT 2026](#)

Conference—May 6–8, Canada

Conference—May 17–19, 2026, Wales

Conference—May 25–27, 2026, Estonia

Conference—July 21–24, 2026, Pennsylvania

Conference—October 25–28, 2026, Georgia

Section 3—Current Developments

Products and Tools

Canada

[AI in Legal Research and Writing Applications: Assessment Guide](#)

The Canadian Association of Law Libraries has published a guide to help legal professionals evaluate AI tools for legal research and writing. Intended for lawyers, judges, law librarians, paralegals, students, faculty, and administrators, the guide supports informed decision-making when procuring, using, teaching, or managing AI-driven legal research and writing systems.

Czech Republic

[Czech Academy of Sciences launches a digital archive of 15,000 folk songs](#)

The Czech Academy of Sciences has launched a free online digital archive featuring 15,000 traditional Czech folk songs. The collection, which includes lyrics, melodies, and ethnographic notes, aims to preserve cultural heritage and support research and education. This initiative makes rare historical material accessible to the public and promotes Czech folk traditions globally.

Europe

[Metadata Quality—European Data Portal](#)

The Metadata Quality Assessment (MQA) is a tool created by the data.europa.eu consortium to evaluate the quality of metadata collected by the portal. It helps data providers and portals check their metadata, identify issues, and receive improvement suggestions. The results are accessible through the MQA interface and can also be downloaded. It essentially supports better recordkeeping and data management by ensuring metadata is accurate, standardized, and interoperable.

Global

Best Practices in the Disinfection of Cultural Heritage Artefacts and Archives Using Ionizing Radiation

This publication acts as a practical guide connecting radiation science with heritage conservation, highlighting the role of interdisciplinary collaboration in safeguarding cultural legacy. It is designed for radiation technologists, conservators, cultural heritage professionals, irradiation service providers, and newcomers seeking to understand the use of radiation treatments in cultural heritage protection.

Global

Major Release: Introducing the Impresso Datalab, Corpus Expansion and New Data Access Management

This release makes Impresso much more powerful for researchers, not only through its web app, but also programmatically, enabling large-scale data analysis, modelling, and customized research workflows. By substantially expanding the corpus (especially with French and Swiss newspapers), it offers a more representative view of Western European media history. The revamped access system shows a mature approach to rights management, balancing openness with respect to legal constraints.

United States

Cloudian launches HyperScale AI Data Platform to unlock enterprise knowledge with Nvidia AI

Cloudian launches a hyperscale AI data platform designed to help enterprises unlock knowledge from massive unstructured datasets using Nvidia AI technologies. Its purpose is to address the challenge of managing and analyzing petabyte-scale unstructured data, such as documents, images, and videos for AI-driven insights.

Netherlands

Provenance research into collections from a colonial context

This guide provides a step-by-step introduction to researching the provenance of objects from colonial contexts. It helps investigators determine how items entered a collection, whether their acquisition involved involuntary loss, and whether they may be candidates for return to their countries of origin. The guide outlines key sources, methods, and practical tips to support effective and responsible provenance research.

Projects and Initiatives

Asia

Central Asia, Azerbaijan to Launch Unified Digital Library of Rare Manuscripts

Azerbaijan's National Library, in collaboration with its Central Asian counterparts, is spearheading the launch of a shared online platform for rare manuscript collections. This initiative involves a forthcoming memorandum, coordinated planning, and the goal of equitable regional access to cultural treasures.

Canada

Canada aims to integrate digital sovereignty into government decision-making

The Government of Canada has published a new Digital Sovereignty Framework to guide how it builds and controls its technology systems. Digital sovereignty is defined here as the government's ability to exercise autonomy over its digital infrastructure, data, and intellectual property. This initiative is motivated by growing geopolitical tensions, cybersecurity risks, and dependence on global tech suppliers.

Cambodia

Audiovisual Heritage in Focus: Strengthening Exhibition Capacities at Choeung Ek Genocidal Center

In Cambodia, UNESCO is supporting the PEACE (Peace Education, Archives Preservation and Digitization, and Site Conservation for Youth Empowerment) Project in partnership with the Cambodian Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. The enhancements enable archival films, videos, and audio to be presented in a respectful and immersive way, turning the memorial site into a more powerful space for reflection, learning, and engagement.

New Zealand

Surveying our audiovisual holdings

Archives New Zealand conducted its largest-ever survey of audiovisual (AV) holdings, identifying at-risk materials still stored on obsolete formats. The survey aims to catalogue AV materials, assess format risks (VHS, Betacam, reel-to-reel, etc.), and establish long-term digitization priorities. By assessing media formats and their condition, Archives New Zealand can target resources where deterioration and equipment scarcity pose a risk.

Paraguay

Paraguay Launches Archive to Preserve Guaraní and Jopará

Paraguay has launched Proyecto Guaraní–Revista Ysyry, a major cultural preservation initiative to safeguard more than 14,000 poems, songs, and texts in Guaraní, Spanish, and Jopará (a

blended language combining Guaraní and Spanish). The project includes a free online library called Oremba'e ("what is ours"), and a printed bilingual anthology titled Che Ñe'ẽ, Che Purahei ("my word, my song"), featuring about 200 selected works.

Turkey

[From Past to Future: Trustworthiness of the Electronic Records](#)

The project will examine a range of digital record types created by public institutions, including emails, audiovisual materials, websites, social media records, and databases. The goal is to develop a roadmap for preserving the trustworthiness of electronic records with long-term, archival, and evidentiary value. It involves consultation with regulatory bodies and archival experts, and it will pilot applications in public institutions to test the criteria for trustworthiness.

United States

['Legacy of trauma': Oral histories project records stories of Nebraska's Native American boarding school](#)

The article highlights an oral history project led by Susana Geliga, which records the stories of descendants of students from the Genoa U.S. Indian Industrial School, a federal boarding school in Nebraska. While government records—such as census logs, disciplinary reports, and letters—document some aspects of school life, they don't capture the personal experiences of the students themselves.

United States

[Harvard Law School Library releases first complete set of digitized Nuremberg Trials records](#)

Harvard Law School's Nuremberg Trials Project has released the first fully keyword-searchable online archive, featuring over 750,000 pages of documents from the Nazi war tribunals. Launched in 1998 with 730 boxes of trial material, the project has now digitized 100% of the collection.

Section 4—Selected Readings and Recordings

Articles, Studies, Reports/Surveys and Presentations

Canada

White paper: [Government of Canada White Paper: Data Sovereignty and Public Cloud](#)

The Government of Canada has adopted a "cloud-first" approach for IT projects, prioritizing public cloud solutions first, followed by hybrid cloud, private cloud, and, lastly, non-cloud options. This is supported by updates to the Treasury Board's Policy on Management of IT, which explicitly reflect this priority.

Europe

Study: [Archive workers' information needs and how their expert knowledge influences information searching and collection curation: an interview study](#)

> This study focuses on archive workers' information behaviour and curation practices in digital cultural heritage archives, viewed through a post-colonial lens. It calls for more research on archive workers (including archivists as users), and investigates how their information needs, expert knowledge, and post-colonial domain knowledge shape searching and curation.

Finland

Report: [CITF network emphasizes importance of identifiers in the AI era](#)

> The article discusses the report which stresses that identifiers (persistent, standardized ones) are more critical than ever in the age of AI. Such identifiers help track and manage rights, authorship, and usage across different digital and AI-powered systems. They ensure that metadata remains reliable and machine readable, which is essential for legal clarity and proper licensing in automated systems.

Geneva

Presentation: [Beyond Digitization: Sustaining and Renewing the Connection with the Public of the United Nations Archives in Geneva](#) (French only)

> In recent years, a significant portion of these collections, notably the archives of the League of Nations, has been digitized and made freely accessible online through a dedicated platform. Concerned with maintaining the long-standing connection with their audience, the United Nations Archives in Geneva have implemented a range of digital tools. This session presents these tools, explores their impact, and assesses their ongoing relevance.

United Kingdom

Report: [The National Archives' Research Report 2024–25](#)

> The research report is organized around three main themes: collections and archives, digital and data, conservation and heritage science. It highlights partnerships and technological innovations, including work on handwriting recognition, optical character recognition, and AI-driven tools aimed at making records more usable and searchable.

United States

Study: [Convergences: Library, Archive, and Museum Collaboration and Future Trends](#)

> The paper is a literature review about the "convergence" of libraries, archives, and museums (LAMs). Convergence describes the growing alignment of these institutions' functions, practices, and goals to address shared challenges and meet broader societal needs. The authors argue that stronger collaboration among LAMs could transform not only operational practices but also how institutions envision their future roles and contributions to society.

Social Media (blogs, videos, podcasts)

Blog: Protecting Trust in Historical Images

> To protect trust, simple and neutral practices are proposed, based on the principles of Accuracy, Disclosure, Privacy, Education, and Compliance. These practices ensure that users can easily identify modifications while retaining access to the original image. They also enable responsible sharing of AI-enhanced images without overstating their evidentiary value.

India

Blog: Bridging archives: The role of IIIF in global manuscript preservation

> India has a deeply rich manuscript tradition spanning centuries, but much of it is fragmented, physically fragile, and hard to access. The author argues that access to these manuscripts is not just about preservation—it's a moral duty. Manuscripts are part of public reason and knowledge production. The article highlights *fragmentology*: a discipline that brings together paleography, codicology, art history, and other fields to reconstruct the histories of manuscript fragments.

Ireland

Digital Preservation Strategy, 2025–2030 (Queen's University, Belfast)

> This five-year Digital Preservation Strategy (2025–2030) for the Library at Queen's University Belfast sets out the principles and goals needed to establish strong, sustainable digital preservation practices. It provides a foundation for protecting the authenticity, integrity, and security of digital collections, ensuring their long-term accessibility for research, teaching, and learning.

Senegal

Video: Digitization of Archives: Adama Aly Pam, Chief Archivist at UNESCO, Ready to Support Le Soleil's Ambitious Project (French only)

> *Le Soleil* is digitizing over 55 years of its newspaper archives to make the documentary heritage accessible to all Senegalese, including researchers, students, and citizens. The Chief UNESCO Archivist emphasized that the archives are more than printed articles—that they "tell the life of our people"—and stressed the importance of careful organization, data security, and ongoing updates to keep pace with technological developments.

United States

Blog: Centralized Document Repositories and Modern Records Management in the Public Sector

> For public-sector agencies, centralized document repositories supported by strong records management provide a powerful means of modernizing operations. They help ensure legal compliance, improve access to historical and administrative records, and build public trust through greater transparency. A key element of effective records management is clear retention schedules that classify records as either temporary or permanent.

Books

Gerlini, Edoardo; Giolai, Andrea. *Textual Heritage: Locating Textual Practices Across Heritage and the Humanities*, 2025

> The text argues that cultural heritage studies have not adequately accounted for the role of often prioritizing material authenticity over the creative ways texts are transmitted and reused. *Textual Heritage* addresses this gap by examining the afterlives of written artefacts, especially in East Asia, to show how textual practices illuminate processes of canon formation, embodiment, and circulation. Through diverse case studies, the volume proposes a framework of "humanistic heritage studies" that integrates literary and heritage approaches to better understand how culture is preserved and reshaped.

Seligman, Mark. *AI and Ada: Artificial Translation and Creation of Literature*, 2025

> The book explores how AI can be used to translate and create literature. It uses Vladimir Nabokov's highly self-aware ("hyper-conscious") literary style as a touchstone. Preface: Seligman reflects on the rise of AI, widely situating it as a major technological shift, and also shares his personal journey with AI.

Malhache, Jérôme; Linarès, Marianne. *Archives départementales, série R : Du service militaire aux ravages de la guerre*, 2025 (French only)

> A practical guide covering the French "série R": the departmental archives for military affairs from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Designed for genealogists, historians, and general readers, it highlights how much more there is than just digitized military conscription records.

Kador, Thomas, *Object-Based Learning: Exploring museums and collections in education*, 2025

> This textbook provides a comprehensive and practical introduction to exhibition design and curatorial practice. Organized in a clear, accessible format, it combines theoretical foundations with applied learning through case studies, exercises, and visual aids. The book explores essential themes such as the history of collecting, audience engagement, accessibility, and the integration of digital media and emerging technologies.

Louis, Ross; Rodionoff, Anolga, *Les archives en performance, la performance en archive : Action, méthode, recherche*, 2025 (French only)

> The book explores how performance studies can deepen our understanding of both archival practices and performance itself. Spanning 422 pages, the volume brings together essays, theorists, and creative practices ranging from contemporary art and theatre to Brazilian-African dance, Afro-Colombian performance, and pedagogical workshops. Together, these contributions examine the tension between the permanence and authenticity of the archive versus the ephemeral, fragile nature of performance.

Section 5—Submissions from Subscribers

United Kingdom

Apply to join the International Library Leaders Programme at the British Library, July 1–8, 2026

With a collection of more than 170 million items, ranging from the Magna Carta to Shakespeare's *First Folio*, the British Library is one of the world's largest national libraries. Mid-career library and archive professionals are invited to apply for the sixth International Library Leaders Programme, which will take place in July 2026.

This intensive week-long programme features workshops, talks and tours given by senior staff from across the library's core departments. Designed for a small cohort of international participants, it offers a unique opportunity to engage directly with experts and to learn from their experiences addressing the everyday challenges facing libraries today.

Applications are now open. Further details, including the programme brochure and application process, are available on the British Library website: International Library Leaders Programme. The application deadline is **Thursday, February 5, 2026**.

If you have any queries or want to find out more, please get in touch with the British Library's International Office: international@bl.uk.

Global
RIMPA Global Presents RIMPA Live 2026: Where AI Meets Information

RIMPA Global is proud to present the 41st Annual RIMPA Live Convention 2026, its flagship event bringing together records, information, and data management professionals from across Australia and beyond. Held October 20–22, 2026, at Sydney's Royal Randwick Racecourse, this year's theme, *AI Meets Information*, explores one of the most transformative forces shaping the profession today.

RIMPA Live 2026 will deliver three days of innovation, inspiration, and practical learning, offering attendees access to transformative insights and strategies designed for an increasingly digital and data-driven world. The event features expert-led sessions, showcases of emerging technologies, and discussions focused on future-oriented practice, equipping participants to navigate a rapidly evolving information landscape.

As RIMPA Global's premier professional development event, RIMPA Live is more than a conference. It is a dynamic gathering of practitioners, leaders, and innovators redefining how information is created, governed, and protected. The 2026 program continues this legacy by fostering meaningful connections, collaboration, and forward-looking dialogue.