Strategic Plan
2020-2023
WHO WE ARE

Coalition Publica is a partnership between Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project (PKP) to advance digital scholarly publishing, open access dissemination and research capacity in the humanities and social sciences in Canada.

In collaboration with the scholarly publishing and research community, and with the guidance of expert committees, Coalition Publica is:

→ Developing and operating a community-owned production, dissemination and research infrastructure dedicated to the humanities and social sciences, combining the Open Journal Systems (OJS) software and the erudit.org platform;

→ Expanding the Partnership for Open Access, a diamond open access financial model—first established by Érudit and the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, and now expanding internationally—to support the editorial quality and international competitiveness of Canadian journals, by providing ongoing financial support to Canadian publishers in transition toward complete open access; and

→ Curating a research repository that hosts various corpora of scholarly and historical publications to enable new research practices and to support research capacity in the humanities and social sciences.

Coalition Publica builds on established relationships to leverage existing initiatives, develop new services, increase knowledge and engagement, and work collaboratively towards an equitable and sustainable open access environment in Canada. Coalition Publica’s committees and community contribute their specialized knowledge, guidance, and relationship-building capacity to achieve these shared goals.

PKP and Érudit are guided by their respective strategic plans; this strategic plan is intended to inform their joint work on Coalition Publica.
OUR APPROACH

We partner with scholarly journals, who publish the peer-reviewed research that Canadians need.

We also partner with university libraries, who invest in the financial sustainability of journals through the Partnership for Open Access, and also often serve as institutional publishers or providers of publishing services through OJS hosting programs.

We engage with all publishing stakeholders, including journals, libraries, scholarly societies, funding agencies, research groups, and university presses, who contribute to the overall health of the scholarly publishing ecosystem.

We seek to bring all these players together in a collaborative relationship that provides mutual support and contributes to a vibrant, open, and sustainable national infrastructure for research, dissemination and digital scholarly publishing in Canada.

We acknowledge the distinctiveness of humanities and social sciences research, where the text is a research object, and we recognize that scholarly publishing practices and services have been developed in different ways, to respond to different needs, across the country.

We respect these differences, and strive to work within each specific context for the mutual benefit of everyone involved.
Mission

To help develop and coordinate an open and sustainable national infrastructure supporting research dissemination and digital scholarly publishing in Canada.
Vision

Canadian research and scholarly publishing stakeholders working together in an innovative partnership to support the open dissemination of peer-reviewed scholarship, ensuring its widest possible reach.
Values

OPENNESS | COLLABORATION | EQUITY AND DIVERSITY | INNOVATION
VALUES

OPENNESS

We support open science, including open access and open data.

We use open licenses for the software we create and we encourage our partners to use appropriate open licenses whenever possible.

We support open technological standards and community-developed principles.

We seek to be transparent about our work, relationships, and results.

We will demonstrate this by:

→ Continuing to research, develop and implement open access publishing models that do not require article processing charges (APCs);

→ Promoting the value of open access, open science, and open licenses in our community training materials;

→ Ensuring all new software developed will be released under a GPL license;

→ Adopting open technological standards and community-developed principles whenever possible;

→ Reviewing and developing practices and policies to support transparency.

COLLABORATION

Our strength comes from the efficient combination of our resources.

We believe in working in partnership with different stakeholders to ensure the best possible outcomes.

We will demonstrate this by:

→ Conducting community consultations to ensure our infrastructure and services are meeting the needs of the stakeholder communities;

→ Acknowledging the contributions of our partners;

→ Inviting a wide variety of stakeholders to join our governing bodies;

→ Participating in conferences, meetings, and workshops organized by partner organizations.
VALUES

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

We learn from and are strengthened by the power of diverse perspectives and experiences.

We are committed to equitable access and participation in all of our activities, from software development to project governance.

We recognize the importance of bilingualism (French-English) as well as Canada’s diverse regions and Indigenous cultures in building and maintaining a truly national infrastructure and service offer.

We will demonstrate this by:
→ Developing and supporting our governing bodies to reflect linguistic, regional, and disciplinary diversity;
→ Working closely with scholarly publishers in English and French, from across all regions of Canada, from all types of academic institutions, and from all disciplines in the humanities and social sciences;
→ Actively engaging with Indigenous stakeholders and participating in ongoing conversations on Indigenous issues in academia and scholarly communication;
→ Developing our systems, content, and research corpus to be accessible to as many people as possible.

INNOVATION

We are creating and contributing to new technologies, workflows, and relationships to reshape the scholarly communication ecosystem to support openness and quality.

We will demonstrate this by:
→ Supporting the ongoing, collaborative evolution of a shared digital publishing infrastructure;
→ Exploring new financial models for open access that allow journals to continue to develop, sustain, and expand their quality;
→ Being guided by scholarly communication research and integrating new directions in scholarly communications into our software development roadmap;
→ Communicating our successes and challenges at conferences, meetings, and workshops investigating new directions in scholarly communication and open science.
Objectives

CIRCULATING KNOWLEDGE | ENABLING RESEARCH
FURTHERING INNOVATION | DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS | SUSTAINABLE FINANCING
OBJECTIVES

CIRCULATING KNOWLEDGE

We will enhance our distributed infrastructure for Canadian research publications.

→ We will track the evolving needs of our stakeholders through community consultation and incorporate them in our development roadmaps.
→ We will track progress on key development milestones.

We will work with journals and libraries to encourage the adoption of open access, improve journal discoverability, and promote open science.

→ We will track the number of participating journals and libraries.

We will promote scholarship published in Canada on the international stage to increase its visibility and impact.

→ We will track the growth of Partnership for Open Access agreements with international libraries.
→ We will track international readership.

We will further the adoption of and adherence to international standards (NISO) and principles (FAIR, CARE).

→ We will track the increased adoption of international standards and principles within our infrastructure.
OBJECTIVES

ENABLING RESEARCH

We will further develop an open and sustainable digital research corpus of historical and scholarly publications, including full text and metadata, to support new forms of research.

→ We will track the composition of the research corpus as it grows, ensuring that it reflects regional, linguistic, and disciplinary diversity.

→ We will track the number of research projects using the corpus.

We will undertake and support research in scholarly communication, to inform the development of our infrastructure, services, and business models.

→ We will track the number and progress of research projects supported by Coalition Publica.
OBJECTIVES

FURTHERING INNOVATION

We will continue to develop our innovative Partnership for Open Access business model to support open access journals and monitor other promising models being used elsewhere.

→ We will track new participants in the Partnership for Open Access.

We will continue to develop our XML publishing tools.

→ We will track progress on key development milestones.

We will enhance our distributed infrastructure’s statistical reporting to support publishers, libraries, and researchers.

→ We will track the development of statistical enhancements.

We will embrace and support the development of open alternative metrics and promote their use.

→ We will track the development of open alternative metrics tools and their implementation within our infrastructure.

We will collaborate with various research programs on innovation-related projects, such as linked open data.

→ We will track the establishment of new research partnerships.
OBJECTIVES

DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS

We will work within Canada to develop collaborative and complementary relationships with journals, libraries and researchers, as well as stakeholder organizations and other national digital research infrastructure projects.

→ We will track the number of partnerships established or renewed with Canadian partners.

We will work collaboratively with international organizations with similar goals to maximize developments in open science and open access.

→ We will track the number of partnerships established or renewed with international partners.

We will undertake outreach activities and engage with stakeholders through meetings, presentations in a variety of venues, as well as participation in relevant conferences and events.

→ We will track the number of outreach activities, such as meetings, presentations, relevant conferences and events.

We will explore potential relationships in the natural and health sciences.

→ We will track opportunities to engage with STEM stakeholders.
OBJECTIVES

SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

We will continue to explore funding opportunities.

→ We will track new granting opportunities within Canada and internationally.

We will continue to contribute to broader conversations about financial models for supporting open infrastructure for scholarly communication.

→ We will track opportunities to comment on the development and sustainability of open infrastructure.