

Coalition Publi.ca

International Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Last updated: February 22, 2019

Context

Coalition Publi.ca is a joint partnership initiative of two key Canadian-based projects, Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project (PKP). Coalition Publi.ca is funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation through its Major Science Initiative Fund (2017-2022) and its Cyberinfrastructure Initiative (2017-2020) in order to build and sustain a national Canadian publishing, dissemination, and research infrastructure that offers services to both the French- and English-language scholarly publishing communities.

Coalition Publi.ca aims to achieve a purpose common to both Érudit and PKP: to generate and support innovation in the Canadian digital scholarly publishing sector through advanced technological development and meaningful community participation. It encourages the transition to open access for journals in the social sciences and humanities through sustainable financial support provided by partnerships with libraries, government agencies, universities, and other related institutions.

Coalition Publi.ca builds local capacity and publishing expertise by working with Canadian scholarly societies, universities, libraries, and other publishers and believes in the strategic importance of national, public data stewardship and open technological infrastructures in order to support all activities of the research lifecycle.

Structure

Coalition Publi.ca's partnership structure is comprised of three committees: the Steering Committee, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the International Advisory Committee.

The Steering Committee is mandated to gather advice from the Stakeholder and International Advisory Committees, and to make recommendations to the governance bodies of PKP and Érudit, who are ultimately responsible for Coalition Publi.ca. The Steering Committee has received this mandate from the governance bodies of PKP and Érudit.

Objectives

The International Advisory Committee will provide advice and insight, to help realize the following objectives:

- Ensure that Coalition Publi.ca's infrastructure and services meet international technological standards and support world-class research;
- Position Coalition Publi.ca in the international open access environment;
- Ensure that CFI program goals are reached:

- MSI: contribute to the ongoing operation and management needs of national research facilities for which the loss of absence of support would represent a serious setback for Canada;
- Cyberinfrastructure: enhance the capacity of Canadian institutions and researchers to conduct leading-edge research in areas of demonstrated strength by supporting the infrastructure needs of computationally- and data-intensive research.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Assess Coalition Publi.ca's infrastructure and services to ensure they meet international technology standards and that they will continue to serve and to promote world class research;
- Encourage communication and collaboration with similar international platforms/infrastructure and the sharing of best practices;
- Provide advice on the strategic plan prepared by the Steering and Stakeholder Advisory Committees;
- Advise on strategic developments required to improve services to the community and to actively promote world class research;
- Recommend innovative best practices from similar research and technological environments;
- Identify priorities for the initiative's national and international technological development.

Membership

The proposed membership includes the following:

- A representative from an international university library association;
- A representative from an international publishing association;
- A representative from an international open access advocacy organization;
- A representative from an international infrastructure fostering digital research in the humanities and social sciences;
- A representative from a not-for-profit platform dedicated to the digital production and dissemination of national or regional research outputs in open access;
- An experienced manager in strategic areas related to the development of Coalition Publi.ca (ex: intellectual property in an open access and open science context);
- Discretion to appoint up to two (2) members from the international SSH community;
- Érudit's Executive Director (ex officio);
- PKP's Managing Director (ex officio).

Members will be selected based on their experience, complementarity and interest in the development of open, community-owned, and non-commercial publishing and research infrastructures.

The International Advisory Committee will choose a Chair from among their number, who will serve for a period of two years.

All appointments to the International Advisory Committee will be for two-year, renewable terms.

Staff members or other advisors may be invited to attend meetings of the International Advisory Committee by the Chair or the Érudit and PKP directors.

Agenda and Meeting Schedule

- Érudit's Executive Director, PKP's Managing Director, and the Chair will develop the agendas. Members are encouraged to suggest points to be discussed.
- Agendas and supporting materials will be distributed no later than one week before the meeting.
- Committee meetings will normally occur once a year and will generally last no more than 1 hour.
- Meetings will be held by teleconference or videoconference.
- Meeting agendas and notes will be available on Google Drive.

Commitment of Committee Members

All members of the International Advisory Committee will act with honesty and integrity in their work.

Committee members will seek to reach consensus wherever possible. If a vote is required, a majority of votes will prevail.

Members should be able to attend and participate in most meetings. In cases where they are not able to attend, they can clear an alternate with Érudit's Executive Director, PKP's Managing Director, and the Chair.