



Governance and Recordkeeping *Around the World*

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Canada

Canada

Governance and Recordkeeping Around the World, an online newsletter published regularly by Library and Archives Canada (LAC), highlights issues pertaining to government and recordkeeping practices in the public and private sectors.

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Section 1—General News

Canada

Government of Quebec

[An Act to modernize legislative provisions as regards the protection of personal information in force](#)

The first set of requirements pertaining to the [Act](#) (PDF) came into effect in September 2022. The Act modernizes the framework applicable to the protection of personal information in various Acts. The Act also gives better control for citizens over their personal information, and it provides new powers to the Commission d'accès à l'information du Québec.

Algeria

[Development of e-governance project](#) (French only)

The government has announced that it is working on a project to develop electronic governance. This will enable a transition to a modern and transparent digital administration, to guarantee effective service to citizens and businesses. In addition, a government portal will be created to access public services, and legislation on digitization is being drafted.

Argentina

[Government creates national blockchain committee](#)

A national committee, working with agencies and entities of the Argentine public sector, will develop public policies and technological solutions based on blockchain technology.

Australia

[National Archives: Data Strategy 2023–25 released](#)

The [data strategy](#) (PDF) focuses on four strategic objectives that embed data as a fundamental business enabler: maximizing the value of data, data is trusted and protected, enabling data use, and building data capability.

See also: [National Archives releases Personal Records Collections Acquisitions Policy and Strategic Framework 2021–24](#)

Barbados

[Government digitalization drive gathers momentum](#)

The government has announced that it is making tremendous progress in its public sector modernization and digitization efforts. Millions of records have already been digitized, including public service records, and several measures are producing tangible results.

See also: [Archives department has digitized more than 50,000 pages of historical documents](#)

Belgium

[Compulsory declassification of classified documents adopted](#) (French only)

The state has adopted legislation on the compulsory declassification of classified documents. This ensures more efficient management of classified archives, as well as initiating or accelerating their declassification, thereby reducing infrastructure costs.

Cuba

[Digital signature expanded in entities and agencies](#)

As of April 30, 2022, the digital signature mechanism must be used in the bodies and agencies of the Central State Administration, the Central Bank of Cuba, all national institutions and local bodies of the People's Power. This will achieve greater efficiency in the management of public administration within the framework of the Digital Government.

Dominica

[Construction of National Library begins](#)

The government has announced that construction on the new National Library will begin in 2022 and is expected to finish by early 2023.

See also: [National Library construction begins](#) (El Salvador)

Israel

[New National Library building opened in March 2023](#)

The new building covers 45,000 square metres. The National Library of Israel's collection includes more than five million rare volumes, manuscripts, incunabula, books and miscellaneous printed material.

Netherlands

[National Library to build book repository](#)

The repository will store the Netherlands' printed and written heritage safely and sustainably in a secure, energy-neutral, long-term storage facility. It will be almost fully automated, with a robot installation managing the collection and allowing the millions of books, newspapers and magazines to be kept in low-oxygen conditions.

Scotland

[Open Government Action Plan 2021–25 published](#)

The [action plan](#) commits Scotland to publishing much more public sector data in line with the doctrine of "open government." The focus is on openness, transparency and citizen participation, involving people in decisions on making data open and accessible across key areas of government and understanding how public finances work.

Singapore

[Google Cloud and Singapore government collaborate on artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#)

Singapore's National AI office will use Google Cloud's AI expertise to build AI applications and train public sector officers on AI. Dedicated training resources and certification programs will also be provided to cultivate deep AI and machine-learning proficiency for identified public sector officers.

South Korea

[President calls for improving public services through "digital platform government"](#)

President Yoon Suk-yeol has called for improving public services through the establishment of a "digital platform government" that connects data across the private and public sectors. The Presidential Committee of Digital Platform Government will be responsible for developing an overall strategy for the "digital platform government" and evaluating policies and projects under categories including artificial intelligence, infrastructure and services.

United Arab Emirates

[New program to help government entities leverage data to drive growth](#)

The Abu Dhabi Data Program focuses on all aspects of data management. This includes building data capabilities and skill sets; activating and building of data foundations across government sectors; deploying the necessary regulatory data toolkits; and developing sectoral executive dashboards, to be used by Abu Dhabi government entities.

United States

Federal Government

[New records rules require agencies to save chats and texts](#)

Previous records retention rules explicitly applied to email communications only. Now the rules have expanded to all pertinent electronic messages. Federal agencies are under new requirements to save electronic messages to and from top agency officials, a move that goes beyond previous email-specific rules to include chat apps and text messages.

See also: [Records retention guidance broadened to include text messages](#); [Expanding the use of a role-based approach \(Capstone\) for electronic messages](#)

[Digital Preservation Framework goes live as linked open dataset](#)

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is making its Digital Preservation Framework available as a linked open dataset, a first for the agency. Aimed at sharing NARA's research with digital preservation professionals around the world, the dataset expands access that was previously available only through GitHub. The dataset will be updated quarterly to keep pace with new formats and evolving digital preservation standards.

Section 2—Events

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

Annual Meetings and Conferences

National

May 2023

[Archives Society of Alberta \(ASA\) 2023 Biennial Conference](#) (Hybrid)

25–27 May; Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

June 2023

[Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians \(CAPAL\) Congress 2023](#)

1–2 June; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

[51st Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science \(CAIS\)](#) (Virtual)

6–9 June

[Atlantic Provinces Library Association \(APLA\) 2023 Conference](#) (Virtual)

6–9 June

[Canadian Association of Research Libraries \(CARL\) 2023 Librarians' Research Institute](#)

12–15 June; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

[2023 \(4th Annual\) Digital Transformation in Government \(DTiG\) Conference](#) (Virtual/Hybrid)

13–16 June

[Carto: Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives 56th Annual Conference](#)

14–16 June; Calgary, Alberta, Canada

June/July 2023

[Association of Canadian Archivists \(ACA\) 2023 Conference](#)

28 June–1 July; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada

July 2023

[ARMA Canada Information Conference 2023](#)

16–19 July; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

International

July 2023

[2023 National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators \(NAGARA\) Annual Conference](#)

18–21 July; Cincinnati, Ohio, United States

[Joint Annual Meeting of the Council of State Archivists and the Society of American Archivists](#) (Hybrid)

22–29 July; Washington, D.C., United States

August/September 2023

[Archives and Records Association \(ARA\) UK and Ireland Conference 2023](#)

30 August–1 September; Belfast, Northern Ireland

September 2023

[2023 Australian Society of Archivists \(ASA\) National Conference](#) (Hybrid)

4–7 September; Melbourne, Australia

[ECKM 2023: 24th European Conference on Knowledge Management](#)

7–8 September; Lisbon, Portugal

[iPres 2023: 19th International Conference on Digital Preservation](#)

19–22 September; Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, United States

September/October 2023

[2023 FOI \(Freedom of Information\) Summit](#)

28 September–1 October; Louisville, Kentucky, United States

October 2023

[AccelerateGOV Conference and the Digital Summit](#)

3 October; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

[International Council on Archives \(ICA\) Abu Dhabi Congress 2023](#)

9–13 October; Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Section 3—Current Trends and Products

Recordkeeping: Current Developments, Projects and Future Initiatives

Canada

[University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus—AMP Lab](#)

The [lab](#) carries out research projects and investigates the relationship between non-digital media, such as books, paintings, photographs and analog tape, and digital media, such as software, websites and social media. The lab explores questions about what scholars and the general public know about digitized cultural history.

Belgium

[Laboratory for Electronic Literature \(LabEL\) project](#)

The project's aim is to investigate and archive electronic literature. LabEL has three main goals: acquisition, archiving and sustainability; visibility and accessibility; and research.

Europe

[Collaborative Cloud for Europe's cultural heritage project](#)

The project will help to safeguard European cultural treasures through digital infrastructure, fostering co-operation and co-creation among cultural, creative and technology sectors. Cutting-edge technologies will be provided for digitizing artifacts, researching artworks and documenting data. These tools will add a new digital dimension to cultural heritage preservation, conservation and restoration.

Ireland

[Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland](#)

The Public Record Office of Ireland was destroyed by fire in 1922, with hundreds of thousands of historical documents relating to all aspects of Irish life lost, apparently forever. Not so. The [Virtual Record Treasury](#) brings these documents back to life. As of June 2022, collections from the years 1174 to 1922 include more than 150,000 database records and over 6,000 maps. See also: [Groundbreaking project brings lost archive back to life](#)

Israel

[National Library—MIDRASH \(Migrations of Textual and Scribal Traditions via Large-Scale Computational Analysis of Medieval Manuscripts in Hebrew Script\)](#)

Tens of thousands of handwritten medieval manuscripts in the National Library of Israel's [KTIV International Collection of Digitized Hebrew Manuscripts](#) will be analyzed by artificial intelligence-driven technologies. A computational analysis of 95,000 old manuscripts and fragments in the National Library will be developed.

Netherlands

[National Archives—Transkribus project: Digitization strategy to scan and transcribe collections](#)

Over the next 15 years, the National Archives plans to scan about 10 percent of its entire collection. That is more than 10 million scans a year, with part of the collection to be transcribed to make it more accessible. Using handwritten-text recognition technology, the handwritten text will be automatically transcribed and converted into a digital text file.

Tunisia

[National Library—Digitization of foreign-language newspaper collection](#) (includes video) (French only)

The National Library has launched a project to digitize its collection of foreign-language newspapers, comprising nearly 16,000 documents from the 19th and 20th centuries. The goal is to enhance this historic and fragile collection, in order to preserve this heritage, as well as to make these resources, which are a reflection of the country's history, accessible to researchers and academics.

United Kingdom

[National Archives—Project Omega: First sight of the new cataloguing system](#)

Project Omega is reinventing the internal catalogue and editorial process to refashion archival practice for the 21st century. The editorial process manages the addition of new records, corrections and other improvements. At the centre of this process are “edit sets.” These are selected collections of records that are worked on together and are used to share and distribute the work.

United States

[Library of Congress—Accessing our digital past in the Manuscript Division reading room](#)

A new workstation is now available in the reading room of the library's Manuscript Division. The workstation is equipped with specialized software that allows members of the public to examine complex and legacy born-digital files in the division's collections; it represents the fruition of the 2020 Staff Innovator project, Born Digital Access Now! Born-digital collection materials are files created and maintained in digital form.

Vietnam

[National Library—Developing the National Standards “Document management: Electronic document file format for long-term preservation” project](#)

To be implemented in 2022 and 2023, the project's goal to define a PDF file format to store documents. This includes a mechanism to display electronic documents in a way that maintains their visual appearance over time, independent of the tools and systems used to create, store or display the files. In addition, a framework for recording the context and history of electronic documents as metadata in appropriate formats will be provided.

Products and Tools from Around the World

Canada

[Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec \(BAnQ\)—Recueil des règles de conservation du secteur municipal, version 2022](#) (PDF) (French only)

Organizations in the municipal sector are required to manage and retain their records according to a conservation schedule submitted for the approval of BAnQ. To establish their schedule, and therefore comply with the requirements of the [Archives Act](#), these organizations can refer to this document, which replaces the *Guide de gestion des documents municipaux* [municipal document management guide].

Australia

[National Archives—Born-digital file format standards](#)

Using digital file formats, which have a low risk of becoming obsolete, preserves the authenticity and integrity of government records for future use and reuse. These standards have been issued to ensure the preservation, accessibility and interoperability of digital information across government agencies over the long term.

[Public Record Office Victoria \(PROV\)—Website archiving: A simple solution \(Conifer\)](#)

PROV was approached by a government agency for advice regarding the preservation of two public websites that were due to be decommissioned. As the websites were relatively small (in terms of the number of pages), it was decided to try to capture them using Conifer. Conifer, previously known as WebRecorder, is an open-source web archiving tool that allows for the capture of dynamic websites, including content relying on JavaScript and embedded media.

Italy

[Alphabetica](#) (French only)

Alphabetica is a single general catalog containing millions of bibliographic records and digital materials. This search tool allows individuals to simultaneously, and in an integrated way, consult all information databases.

Qatar

[National Library—QNL app](#)

The app is designed to engage users, keep them informed about the library's services and provide on-the-go access to resources and information. This includes immediate access to e-books and audiobooks, as well as newspapers and magazines from around the world. Users can also use the app to search for print books, book a room, send questions to Qatar National Library (QNL) librarians, keep up to date with the latest news, and much more.

Singapore

[National Library—Polaris Integrated Library System \(ILS\) and Vega Discover applications](#)

The applications will be used by the National Library Board as automation solutions for its library staff and patrons. These solutions will help to improve the library experience, whether in person at the library or online.

Switzerland

[New method: Archive data converted into linked open data](#)

A new method from the University of Applied Sciences of the Grisons allows archive data to be converted into linked open data, enabling data inventory from archives to be linked together. The method can be transferred to any archive almost automatically.

United Kingdom

[National Archives—Platform finder toolkit](#)

The platform finder will assist in finding the right platform, based on the audience that is being targeted and the content that is chosen. If interested in exploring a particular content type for the audience (audio, text, images or video), the platform finder will suggest the best platform for each format.

United States

[Council of State Archivists—Developing government email preservation policies](#)

Email has a prominent role in government, but adequate governance of email records and practices has lagged behind the adoption of email as a key technology. Topics include general statement of email policy, statement of scope and operational requirements.

Global

[Video: Introducing Records in Contexts: The New International Council on Archives \(ICA\) Standard for Describing Records](#)

Three members of the ICA Expert Group on Archival Description will introduce the new Records in Contexts (RiC) standard. The session will discuss the rationale for, and history of, developing the standard. It will also provide an overview of RiC-IAD (Introduction to Archival Description).

GMO Sign

Designed to facilitate simplified end-to-end approval and signing workflows, this cloud solution allows employees, partners and customers of any organization to electronically and digitally sign and manage documents through a single user-friendly and secure platform.

See also: [La plateforme cloud avec un workflow d'approbation et de signature numérique](#) (French only)

Studies and Surveys

Europe

[Open Data Maturity Report 2022](#)

Last update: December 2022.

The [maturity report](#)'s (PDF) preparation was coordinated by Capgemini on behalf of the Publications Office of the European Union, as part of the European Commission's data.europa.eu initiative providing the official portal for Europe's open data.

The 2022 report aims to help participating countries better understand their level of open data maturity, capture their progress over time, find areas for improvement and benchmark their maturity against other countries. The report identifies best practices that can be transferred to other national and local contexts.

Thirty-five countries participated, including the 27 European Union Member States, 3 European Free Trade Association countries (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland), 4 candidate countries (Albania, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine), and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Global

Survey: [The Role of M365 \(Purview\) in Information Governance](#) (PDF)

Published by *IG World Magazine*, June 2022.

The M365 survey results were collected from 200 information governance professionals, including from the United States, the United Kingdom and other countries around the world.

The survey is designed to collect and share valuable information within the world of information governance. The survey explored organizational use of M365, a product available since July 2017. In April 2022, the M365 Compliance portfolio was updated to Microsoft Purview to provide "a comprehensive set of solutions to help govern, protect, and manage entire data estates".

The survey contains nine key messages.

Survey: [Flexera 2023 State of the Cloud Report](#)

Published by Flexera.

The Flexera report explores the thinking of 753 global cloud decision-makers and users. Insights into their adoption of cloud infrastructure and services are included. Their answers provide a comprehensive perspective on the state of the cloud.

Highlighting year-over-year changes to help identify trends, the Flexera report provides insights to guide organizations' cloud computing strategy, digital business decision-making processes, cloud migration, vendor and technology selection, cost forecasting, and investment strategies to support the upcoming stages of their cloud journeys.

Section 4—Selected Readings and Recordings

Articles, White Papers, Presentations, Reports, Videos and Podcasts

Canada

[Report: Intelligence artificielle et transformation des métiers de la gestion documentaire](#) (PDF) (French only)

Written by Steve Jacob, political science professor; Seima Souissi, PhD in public communications; and Charlie Martineau, master's student in international studies; Université Laval, 2022.

This report explores some applications of artificial intelligence in the records management sector. Also highlighted are their implications for the functioning of archives and data management within organizations, and the role and skills of documentation professionals. The main advantages and challenges associated with the implementation of these technologies in the field are then discussed.

Australia

[Discussion Paper: Proactive and Informal Release of Information in the Victorian Public Sector](#)

Published by the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner, 2022.

The aim of this discussion paper includes determining the extent to which agencies are proactively and/or informally releasing information in response to, or outside of, Freedom of Information requests, and identifying the tools and resources used by agencies that successfully and consistently release information proactively and/or informally.

France

[Article: Skyblogs, post Instagram, vieux forums... Depuis vingt ans, le Web français est archivé à la Bibliothèque nationale de France](#) (French only)

Written by Pauline Ferrari, freelance journalist; featured in *20 minutes*, November 8, 2022.

Digital Legal Deposit at the National Library of France has been archiving the French web for 20 years. The article discusses this history, from the first collection machines to Heritrix: a small robot that captures and collects data from millions of websites.

Netherlands

Article: [Conceptual Modeling of Web Archive Metadata](#)

Written by Illyria Brejchova, master's student of Library and Information Science at Masaryk University, Czech Republic, September 12, 2022.

The data model of the software used for managing web harvests is described. The article first discusses how the metadata relating to web archives can be modelled in the digital asset management and preservation system Rosetta. Then it considers a bibliographic context using the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Library Reference Model and the Resource Description and Access cataloging rules. Finally, the article examines a linked data context with the CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model ontology.

South Africa

Article: [The future of data and information management](#)

Written by Tiana Cline for Meniko Records Management Services; featured in *ITWeb*, August 26, 2022.

In the age of data, it is easy to become overwhelmed by the sheer amount of information that an organization now has to manage. As a result, businesses do not take the time necessary to create a strategic framework for the management of information. A strategic, encompassing and dynamic approach, with an ongoing road map for the management of data, is beneficial from both the expenditure and the protecting-reputational-risk points of view.

Switzerland

Article: [How the State Archives of Zurich published 50,000 pages with read&search](#)

Featured in *READ-COOPSCE*; published November 29, 2022.

In the past, there was no way to quickly search whole pre-modern collections for relevant documents. Instead, the search would be conducted through shelves and boxes, trying to find the papers. To solve this problem and make it easier to access these documents, the State Archives is currently using Transkribus and read&search to create digital versions of the collections. Christian Sieber, who leads the digitization team at the Zurich archive, speaks about their first Transkribus project and their experience with the software.

United Kingdom

Report: [Preserving and Sharing Born Digital and Hybrid Objects Across the National Collection](#)

Written by Natalie Kane, Gabriella Arrigoni and Richard Palmer at the Victoria and Albert Museum; Joel McKim at Birkbeck, University of London; and Stephen McConnachie at the British Film Institute, October 4, 2022.

Contemporary culture is increasingly digital. However, this prevalence of digital culture poses a significant challenge to collecting organizations that are responsible for acquiring, preserving and making culture available to the public, now and in the future. In considering how to make national collections accessible, born-digital and hybrid material must be considered as an increasingly important and uniquely challenging part of those collections. The report focuses on three challenges: collections management, digital preservation and conservation, and meaningful access and experience.

United States

Article: [Machine learning digs into states' archives](#)

Written by Kaitlyn Levinson, Assistant Editor, *GCN*; featured in *GCN*, December 20, 2022.

Amid growing backlogs of archival data, states are turning to machine learning to streamline records management. This article highlights the work of various organizations with machine-learning tools. This includes assisting with the identification, classification and categorization of records received for preservation and retention, applying machine learning tools to millions of email messages, and using data privacy and governance software to analyze unstructured data.

Books

Selected Readings

Camlot, Jason, Martha Langford and Linda M. Morra, editors, [*Collection Thinking: Within and Without Libraries, Archives and Museums*](#), 2022.

Collection Thinking is a volume of essays thinking across and beyond critical frameworks from library, archival and museum studies to understand the meaning of “collection” as an entity and as an act. It offers new models for understanding how collections have been imagined and defined, assembled, created, and used as cultural phenomena.

Elin, Phyllis L., [*A Corporate Librarian’s Guide to Information Governance and Data Privacy*](#), 2022.

The information governance industry has experienced dramatic and often sudden changes, including the proliferation of data privacy rules and regulations. This book focuses on core information governance principles, with an emphasis on how they apply to the target audience. This includes law librarians, legal and research staff, and other individuals and departments in both the public and private sectors who engage deeply with regulatory compliance matters.

Mesguich, Véronique, [*Les bibliothèques face au monde des données*](#), 2023.

The digital transformation of documentation processes encourages information and library professionals to manage not only printed or digital documents, but also digital data. All libraries produce data concerning their activity (attendance, loans, users, etc.) that must be managed and secured under new regulations such as the General Protection Data Regulation (GPDR). From this overview of the world of data, information and library professionals will be able to detect challenges and opportunities in their professional practices.

Polirer, Sarah, editor, [*Managing Business Archives*](#), 2022.

The role and responsibilities of managing business archives are articulated, and direction is provided, for archivists making decisions in a dynamic business climate. Successful management of business archives is based upon core archival principles, and in this book nine corporate archivists apply these core archival functions.

Winn, Samantha, editor, [*Born-Digital Design Records*](#), 2022.

Three modules guide archivists in managing born-digital design records through historical overviews, use cases, practical tool registries, sample workflows and robust glossaries of terms. This volume applies to archivists in business archives, architectural firms, museums, universities and government offices. The three modules are Navigating the Technical Landscape of Born-Digital Design Records; Emerging Best Practices in the Accession, Preservation, and Emulation of Born-Digital Design Records; and Case Studies in Born-Digital Design Records.