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**Low-Key Load-Bearing**  
**Defining the National Role of Canada's Library Publishing**  
**Programs**

**Support en coulisses**  
**Définir le rôle des programmes de publication des**  
**bibliothèques au Canada**

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**Article abstract**

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# Low-Key Load-Bearing: Defining the National Role of Canada's Library Publishing Programs

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Canadian academic libraries play a demonstrably load-bearing yet under-recognized role in the nation's scholarly publishing ecosystem, supporting a predominantly independent, non-commercial journal landscape. While global trends reveal an oligopoly of large commercial publishers, Canadian publishing remains defined by diversity, with libraries offering essential infrastructure and services for journals rooted in open access and equity. This study explores the scope and nature of library publishing services in Canada, analyzing data from 42 institutions to reveal significant contributions to the production, dissemination, and preservation of scholarly knowledge. Despite limited resources, these programs provide critical support for diamond open access publishing models, bibliodiversity, and underserved journal types. As national and international conversations on scholarly publishing evolve, it is vital to recognize libraries not just as contributors, but as key players driving a more equitable and sustainable publishing system.

*Keywords:* academic libraries, scholarly journals, Canada, open access, publishing

## Introduction

Academic libraries occupy a critical role in scholarly journal publishing. Commercial journal publishers rely on institutional licensing agreements as a primary revenue source, and Canada's research libraries expend significant percentages of their budgets to license packages of journals, and enable open access publishing from major publishers. For example, the University of Alberta Library, which releases its collections expenditures publicly each year, spent more than CAD \$15 million on serials expenditures in 2023, excluding amounts that could not be disclosed due to restrictive publisher licenses from companies and organizations such as Elsevier, HeinOnline and IEEE (University of Alberta, 2023). As publishers move away from subscription-based models, the amount that publishers are collecting (and institutions and funding agencies are spending) on lucrative article processing charges continues to increase, with one study estimating that global spending with 6 major publishers has nearly tripled from 2019 to 2023 (Haustein et al., 2024). Libraries have responded to this changing economic model by shifting to so-called "transformative" or "read and publish" agreements with publishers that include open access publishing fees. In

2023, the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), a purchasing collective representing 79 research libraries and 5 research institutions across Canada, spent CAD \$128,535,226 on licensing fees (Canadian Research Knowledge Network, 2023), including several "read and publish" agreements, with major commercial publishers (Canadian Research Knowledge Network, n.d.).

Many of the conversations regarding changes to scholarly publishing – such as the shift to open access – position libraries as *customers* of publishers. They are contextualized as consumers, expressing justifiable concerns regarding unsustainable price increases, lack of ownership and control of the digital content they purchase, and an ever-increasing oligopoly of commercial academic publishers (Larivière et al., 2015). Libraries' relationship with major commercial publishers has often been fraught, with themes such as the "Big Deal" and "Transformative Agreements" representing frequent topics of professional debate and discussion (Cooper & Reiger, 2021; Schlak & Macklin, 2024). In Canada, however, academic libraries also function as journal publishers themselves, a role that has been recognized and documented in the research about Canada's journal publishing ecosystem, but only superficially explored in LIS literature (van Bellen & Céspedes, 2024; Canadian Research Knowledge Network, 2022; Lange & Severson, 2021a; Taylor et al., 2013; Whyte Appleby et al., 2018).

We know that many Canadian academic libraries are engaged in publishing activities. What's less clear is what,

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specifically, those activities *are*. Or, how important these activities are in supporting the publication of research and scholarship in Canada. There are a growing number of important publicly-funded regional and national initiatives supporting open access scholarly publishing, including projects such as the the new Réseau Circé network and the Coalition Publica partnership between Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project, and funding schemes, such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Aid to Scholarly Journals program, the FRQSC Soutien aux revues scientifiques, and the CRKN - Érudit Partnership for Open Access. As these initiatives gain momentum, it becomes increasingly important for us to understand how library publishing activities are positioned within and can best support the broader Canadian publishing ecosystem.

This study seeks to address our knowledge gap by contributing to a better understanding of how academic libraries are participating within not-for-profit journal publishing in Canada. To this end, the authors undertook a survey of libraries engaged in journal publishing activities. Through a website analysis and institutional questionnaire, the authors sought to identify which Canadian academic libraries provide publishing services to journals, and to define the scope of publishing services these institutions provide. Institutions were surveyed about the number and types of publications they support, the prevalence of Open Access publishing models, staffing and funding models, and the different services they offer. The results provide a more complete picture of library publishing programs, and contribute to a clearer understanding of the current Canadian academic library publishing landscape. We hope that this new data will support closer collaboration and coordination between publishing stakeholders in Canada, a greater understanding of gaps and opportunities in existing library publishing programs, and more effective promotion of Open Access publishing models to Canadian researchers.

## Literature Review

### Canada's Journal Publishing Ecosystem

Globally, scholarly publishing is dominated by what Larivière, Haustein, and Mongeon have described as the aforementioned oligopoly of large commercial publishers. These few publishers are increasingly responsible for a larger and larger share of scholarly journal publishing (Larivière et al., 2015). However, contrary to these global trends, studies about journals published in Canada indicate that commercial publishers have not yet entrenched themselves in this way within the nation's published research output (Canadian Scholarly Publishing Working Group, 2017; Lange & Severson, 2021a; Larivière et al., 2021; Lorimer & Maxwell, 2007; Paquin, 2017).

In a 2007 paper outlining the national Synergies project –

a national project to aggregate the output of library publishing services in the social sciences and humanities (SSH) – Lorimer and Maxwell describe some of the market and social forces in play nearly 20 years ago that led to a plurality of publishing models in Canada supporting many small, independent journals, especially in SSH disciplines (Lorimer & Maxwell, 2007). Since 2007, a number of articles, studies and reports have been published about the Canadian journal publishing landscape. Consistently, these reports point to the varied and independent nature of Canadian journals. For example, the 2017 final report of the Canadian Scholarly Publishing Working Group (a multi-stakeholder group convened in July 2016 by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries with representatives from university presses, research libraries, publishers, education and industry groups, a federal funding agency, and several researchers) describes a diverse, but fragmented publishing ecosystem in Canada, with various stakeholders, disparate approaches to publishing, and a lack of a unifying national program (Canadian Scholarly Publishing Working Group, 2017). Additionally, Paquin's 2017 study exploring journals' socio-economic realities also emphasizes the diversity of publishing structure and business models in Canada's "highly heterogeneous" publishing landscape (Paquin, 2017, p.4). Each of these studies draws attention to the involvement of university libraries in supporting independent journals, not just as subscribers or funding sources for collaborative projects, but also as partners in the production and publication of the journals themselves.

Until recently, studies in this space have been almost exclusively focused on small groups of non-commercial journals, publishing in HSS disciplines, and the various initiatives and projects underway that are supporting these kinds of journals. Understanding how they fit within the broader scope of Canadian journal publishing across disciplines, including alongside the large commercial publishers responsible for the lion's share of journal titles globally, has been challenging. While there have been strong arguments that supporting not-for-profit, independent journals is important (Larivière, 2014), it has been difficult to ascertain how many small independent, non-commercial journals are publishing in Canada, and what market share they have in Canada's national scholarly journal publishing landscape.

Fortunately, in 2021 Larivière, Beth, van Bellen, Delmas, and Paquin produced a detailed portrait of Canadian scholarly journals across disciplines, including journals published by large commercial publishers (Larivière et al., 2021). The researchers used the Ulrichsweb Global Serials Directory to construct a list of 825 journals actively publishing in Canada in 2019. In their analysis of this comprehensive list, the researchers identified the surprising near absence of large commercial publishers involved in the Canadian journal landscape. On the contrary, they found that most of the organizations publishing journals in Canada produce only a few jour-

nals each, and are primarily non-commercial entities, such as scholarly associations and universities (pp. 12 - 14).

Lange and Severson also published a detailed study in 2021 exploring the characteristics of Canadian independent journals (Lange & Severson, 2021a). The authors collected their data from a broader set of sources than Larivière et al, including Ulrichsweb Global Serials Directory, the list of Open Access journals produced by the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, publications included in the *Érudit* database, journals listed as members of the Canadian Association of Learned Journals, and the lists of journals awarded funding through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's Aid to Scholarly Journals grant in 2015 and 2018. Lange and Severson focus exclusively on journals published by non-commercial publishers, and restrict their study to journals with editorial boards which have at least one third of their members affiliated with a Canadian post-secondary institution. Lange and Severson also exclude journals defined as student publications, inactive titles, and those that do not publish peer-reviewed original scholarship. In addition to the published research article, the authors also released an open dataset of the resulting 485 journal titles, as well as a list of the 474 titles excluded from their study for the reasons above (Lange & Severson, 2021b). Notably, only 41 titles were removed from the study for being identified as commercial. Although some journals were removed for more than one criterion (which suggests that some of these commercial titles were potentially also no longer active, not Canadian, or not scholarly) the fact that this number is such a small fraction of the total number of active Canadian scholarly journals identified by this study certainly confirms Larivière et al.'s assertion that Canada's journal publishing ecosystem is not dominated by large commercial publishers. In fact, it seems that most journals published in Canada are independent publications, supported primarily by universities, scholarly societies, not-for-profit publishers, granting agencies, and libraries.

Recently, van Bellen and Céspedes (2024) have produced a comprehensive analysis of Canadian scholarly journals that confirm many of these earlier studies' findings of a highly non-commercial landscape. This study more conclusively quantifies the number of journals publishing in Canada, identifying 944 journals active at the time of publication (p. 5), with the majority (62%) adopting a Diamond, or no-fee, model of open access. The authors used multivariate analyses to identify the major patterns present within the journal ecosystem, and described 4 major clusters of journals sharing similar characteristics. The largest cluster they identified were 418 Diamond open access journals publishing in English, and contained the vast majority of Library-supported journals included in the study (p. 9). Only a small fraction of 6% or 56 of the 944 active journals were affiliated with one of 6 major global commercial publishers (p. 7). While the total number of library supported journals is not included in the

study, the associated dataset identifies 426 active journals that are "library hosted" (van Bellen, 2024).

### **The Library's Role(s) in Canadian Journal Publishing**

Understanding how the different components of this publishing system work together is crucial to establishing strategies for supporting Canada's independent scholarly journals. Libraries have long been recognized as important stakeholders and have provided publishing services to academic journals for many years. In 2010, Taylor et al. conducted a survey of university libraries and presses in Canada. They found broad support already in place within those libraries for scholarly journals, including services supporting publishing, and a willingness to explore both internal and external strategies for increasing support to journals (Taylor et al., 2013). Shearer's (2010) Review of Emerging Models in Canadian Academic Publishing describes a number of publishing services at Canadian academic libraries in some detail.

Lange and Severson's 2021 study quantifies Canadian libraries' involvement in journal publishing a little more precisely. The researchers tagged each of the journals they analyzed with affiliations, identifying the different kinds of organizations involved in publishing these titles, including scholarly associations, libraries, non-profit publishers (including university presses), and universities. Most journals were affiliated with more than one kind of organization. 170 or 35% of these titles of the journals that met their inclusion criteria, were affiliated with a library (Lange & Severson, 2021a).

That libraries represent a significant share of organizations providing publishing services to journals is further borne out by their representation in directories and other data sources: *Érudit*, one of Canada's largest not-for-profit dissemination services, includes 48% or 116 journals supported by Canadian libraries within their collection of 243 active journals (J. Hatherill, personal communication, November 15, 2024). The Canadian Research Knowledge Network maintains a list of open access journals supported by their member libraries, which currently numbers 440 titles (Canadian Research Knowledge Network, 2022).

Despite their extensive involvement in Canada's independent journal publishing landscape, the specific ways libraries are contributing remain under-acknowledged and poorly defined. For example, while the final report from the Canadian Scholarly Publishing Working Group suggests there is growing evidence that libraries represent a significant part of the publishing infrastructure in Canada, it notes that "there is a distinction to be made between the operations of established traditional publishers and these library-based publishing services that are often more rudimentary" (2017, p. 6). The report further suggests that library publishing programs could be positioned as a key component of a national sustainability strategy for publishing, but doesn't articulate what the role of libraries could be, and how it may intersect with the many

other stakeholders (Canadian Scholarly Publishing Working Group, 2017). Similarly, in their 2024 paper “Organizational Structures and Relationships in Canadian, Noncommercial Journals: Supporting Scholar-Led Publishing,” Lange and Severson report on interviews with editors of 15 Canadian scholarly journals. The authors comment on the minimal attention given to library support and services: “Despite our belief about the library’s potential role in upending the scholarly publishing ecosystem, the reality in the interviews was that editors spoke about the library minimally, and participants described their relationship with library partners as one of technical support/hosting services that made ‘sure that OJS works’” (Lange & Severson, 2024, pp. 86 - 87).

### **Publishing is a Verb and Libraries Do It**

Indeed, libraries themselves seem unable or perhaps unwilling to clearly articulate the nature of their work in this domain. A 2018 study by Whyte Appleby et al. (2018) explores how libraries define their services to journals through the naming of their service offerings, often characterizing the work that they do on a fluid continuum from software or platform hosting to publishing, with only 42% of respondents indicating that they name themselves as the “publisher” or “publisher and host” in formal documents such as service agreements or MOUs (p. 7). Generally, services that respondents characterized as publishing activities included copyediting, quality control of scholarly content, marketing, and journal design. Other services, including vetting participating journals, registration of journals with indexing services, and DOI registration were more strongly seen as characteristic of publishers than hosts, while user training, provision of statistics, and preservation were seen as equally characteristic of publishers *and* hosts (p. 11).

The hesitancy by libraries to define their work in this domain as explicitly *publishing* activities is not shared by other publishers and experts in scholarly communication. Anderson provides a lengthy, presumptive, but detailed list of activities carried out by publishers in his 2018 *Scholarly Kitchen* blog post, “Focusing on Value — 102 Things Journal Publishers Do (2018 Update)” (Anderson, 2018). Arguably, very few, if any, scholarly publishers are conducting every activity listed by Anderson, and many journals rely on multiple entities to meet all of their publishing needs. Nonetheless, many of the publishing activities flagged by Anderson are regularly carried out by libraries, as described in Whyte Appleby et al. and captured by the Library Publishing Coalition’s Library Publishing Directory (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2022). Even very large commercial publishers pick and choose which activities they engage in, suggesting that a broadly accepted suite of services that clearly identifies an organization as a “publisher” is difficult to define. For example, several of the PLOS journals, including *PLOS ONE*, which at the time of writing charged authors up to \$2290 USD

per article for APCs, do not copyedit their content (*PLOS One Submission Guidelines*, n.d.). And, many publishers de-prioritize such services as layout editing for more immediate “ahead of print” or “online first” publishing of the version of record.

Grossmann and Brems’ 2021 study into current market rates for scholarly publishing services steps through the costs of publishing a journal article, combined with the various operational costs of maintaining a publishing program (Grossmann & Brems, 2021). Apart from their surprising and important finding that publishing costs only account for about 15% of the average per article cost for a subscription article produced with full editorial services (p. 7), the authors also usefully articulate the various activities conducted by scholarly publishers. These tasks include those carried out during the stages of content acquisition, preparation, and dissemination /archiving, as well as activities that don’t contribute directly to producing a publication, such as business management, access control, marketing, innovation, and lobbying. The authors describe several publishing scenarios they used in their costing calculations, including both in-house and externally provided services and infrastructure, emphasizing the varied shape and nature of approaches that exist in scholarly journal publishing.

The 2022 Library Publishing Directory, compiled by the Library Publishing Coalition, lists 143 libraries worldwide who describe themselves as having a library publishing program or service of some kind (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2022). As the report describes, “over 70% of the 2022 Directory publishers indicated that they provide copyright support, metadata services, and DOI assignment, while nearly 70% provide training. Over half provide hosting of supplemental content, analytics, and ISSN assignment, while just under half provide digitization services” (x-xi). It’s clear that libraries are engaging in the production of scholarly articles, and that the work they are doing encompasses activities commonly defined as publishing by other publishers, and by standard reference sources such as Morris, Marnas, LaFrenier, and Reich’s *The Handbook of Journal Publishing* (2013).

In Canada’s diverse, predominantly independent, and not-for-profit journal publishing ecosystem, libraries are important players. However, while there is some international data, a comprehensive picture of the services Canadian academic libraries are providing, the role they occupy, and their relationship to other stakeholders and supporting entities within this space, does not exist. Only 15 Canadian libraries are listed in the 2023 Library Publishing Directory (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2023), and there is little data, published or otherwise, that can inform policy or service development at a national level. If supporting Canada’s national journals effectively and sustainably is an important priority for scholars, research institutions, govern-

ment agencies, and the public, the various entities supporting these journals need to have a well-informed and accurate understanding of their role within the system. As evidenced by Lange and Severson, Canadian libraries are currently playing an important role.

### What do we not Know?

Further articulating how Canadian libraries are participating and what services they are providing is an important step in identifying opportunities for collaboration, service complementarity, and gaps. Are libraries, research institutions and funders allocating resources in a way that reflects the labour of supporting Canadian journals? Are there missed opportunities for coordination or ways to avoid duplicating efforts? In a space where there are more hands on the wheel, can Canadian library publishers potentially make up for gaps or perceived shortcomings in Canada's publishing landscape? It is our hope that a broader understanding of the services on offer *now* by Canadian library publishers may make the answers to these questions clearer.

This study seeks to answer these fundamental questions about how academic libraries are participating within not-for-profit journal publishing in Canada. The authors' main goals were to:

- identify which Canadian academic libraries are providing library publishing services;
- determine the number and types of journals supported by libraries
- determine the access models of those journals;
- determine the publishing language of those journals;
- define the scope of publishing services libraries provide; and
- determine how publishing services are supported within the library, including number of staff and location of services within the organizational structure and budget model.

### Methods

During the summer of 2022, the authors reviewed several existing data sources to identify Canadian libraries associated with one or more published journals. Sources included: the Library Publishing Directory (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2022), the CRKN Open Access Journals List (Canadian Research Knowledge Network, 2022), UlrichsWeb Global Serials Directory, the Directory of Open Access Journals, and the list of journals produced by Lange and Severson (Lange & Severson, 2021b). The authors reviewed institutional websites to determine if there was any public information available about the library's journal publishing services, and contacted libraries directly to confirm the existence of a journal publishing service within their library. They also identified an institutional contact for each

publishing program who could provide detailed information about the library's service offerings. The authors identified 42 academic libraries across Canada with a journal publishing program.

At least one program was present in every Canadian administrative division excluding the three territories North: Nunavut, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. Ontario is the province with the greatest number of identified programs at 16, followed by British Columbia with 7, and Quebec with 6.

These figures become particularly insightful when analyzed in relation to the number of publicly assisted universities in each province. For instance, Ontario is home to 24 publicly assisted universities, 16 of which host academic library publishing programs. This indicates that two-thirds of Ontario's universities are actively involved in library publishing initiatives. In contrast, Saskatchewan has only two academic library publishing programs; however, these account for 100% of its publicly assisted universities.

**Table 1**

*Share of Publicly Assisted Universities with Academic Library Publishing Programs by Province/Territory*

| Province/Territory    | Universities | With a Library Publishing Program |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ontario               | 24           | 16 (33%)                          |
| Quebec                | 18           | 6 (33%)                           |
| Alberta               | 12           | 4 (33%)                           |
| British Columbia      | 11           | 7 (64%)                           |
| Nova Scotia           | 10           | 2 (20%)                           |
| Manitoba              | 8            | 2 (25%)                           |
| New Brunswick         | 4            | 1 (25%)                           |
| Prince Edward Island  | 4            | 1 (25%)                           |
| Newfoundland          | 2            | 1 (50%)                           |
| Saskatchewan          | 2            | 2 (100%)                          |
| Yukon                 | 1            | 0 (0%)                            |
| Northwest Territories | 0            | 0                                 |
| Nunavut               | 0            | 0                                 |
| Total                 | 96           | 42 (44%)                          |

To further explore the scope and nature of each library's services, the authors constructed an institutional questionnaire, building on and expanding significantly the questions asked in the Library Publishing Directory (see Appendices). This questionnaire included an eligibility question to confirm that the institution provided publishing services for scholarly journals, and followed with questions about the age and maturity of the program, organizational and staffing structure of the program, funding sources, and supported software platforms. It also included detailed questions about the different

services provided by the institution, and about the number and types of journals supported through the publishing program. The questionnaire was translated into English and French, and loaded into the Qualtrics survey software for distribution online. Following a request for a review, the University of Alberta Research Ethics Board determined that study did not require REB review or approval: the information requested from individuals was information ordinarily answered as part of their jobs, and no personal or confidential information was requested.

The authors distributed invitations to the online questionnaire directly to the institutional contacts for each library between August 31 and Sept 22, 2022. Reminders were distributed throughout September and early October, and responses were collected between August 31 and October 20, 2022.

The authors reviewed the collected data and translated French responses in free-text fields into English. They anonymized any identifying information from free-text fields, removed institutional contact information collected only to correspond with the respondents, separated response fields to make the data easier to manipulate, and coded free-text data. The dataset and questionnaire have been deposited into the Borealis data repository (Betz et al., 2023).

### Results

Of the 42 identified publishing libraries who received the survey, 83% or 35 libraries responded with details about their program between August 31, 2022 and October 20, 2022.

#### Publishing Program Maturity

The year of establishment for the 35 publishing programs which responded to our questionnaire ranged from 2001 at the earliest to 2021 at the latest. Journals were asked to self-assess the maturity of their publishing programs, with a majority (25, or 71.4%) of these programs self-identifying as "Established" programs, with a smaller contingency of programs self-identifying as being in the "Early" (6 programs or 17.1%) or "Pilot" (4 programs or 11.4%) stages.

#### Number of Journals Hosted by Type

Each library hosts an average of 22.89 journals, with the median lying at 16 journals. The smallest program had one single journal, while the largest had 78 publications at the time of the survey. Libraries reported total of 801 journals (including scholarly journals, student journals, ceased or inactive or archived publications, as well as "Others", which might include conference proceedings or course journals) are supported across all 35 institutions. Of those 801 journals, there were 792 active journals with a reported type; we see in Table 2 that 399 (50.4%) of these journals are active scholarly publications, while 229 (28.9%) are active student journals.

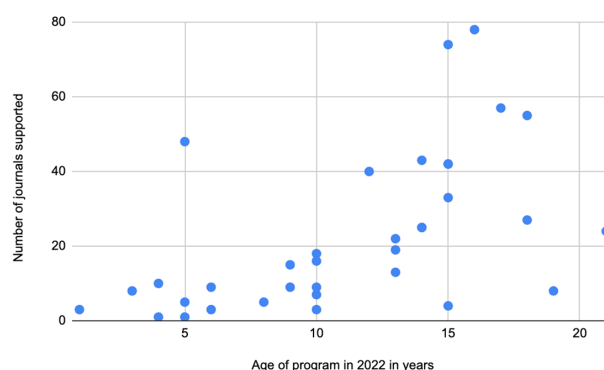
**Table 2**

*Types of Journals Hosted by Institutions Participating in the Survey*

| Journal Type               | Number of Journals |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Scholarly journals         | 399 (50.4%)        |
| Student journals           | 229 (28.9%)        |
| Inactive or ceased journal | 134 (16.9%)        |
| Other                      | 30 (3.8%)          |
| Total                      | 792 (100%)         |

**Figure 1**

*Number of Journals Supported by Each Institution vs Age of Publishing Program*



#### Access Models of Hosted Journals

There is widespread adoption of a Diamond Open Access<sup>1</sup> publishing model across these programs, accounting for 91.5% when considering all types of journals and 83.5% of active scholarly journals. Delayed Open Access<sup>2</sup> comes in at a distant second (11.3% or 45 active scholarly journals), followed by a fully paywalled, subscription model<sup>3</sup> (4.8% or 19 active scholarly journals), followed by a minute number of hybrid model journals<sup>4</sup> (0.5%).

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<sup>1</sup>Diamond OA defined as journals that are free to read and free to publish: all journal content is open access and no fees are charged to authors or readers.

<sup>2</sup>Delayed Open Access defined as journals where the most recent issues are restricted to subscribers, while older issues become fully open access after a defined embargo period.

<sup>3</sup>Subscription journals are fully paywalled, and all journal content is restricted to subscribers.

<sup>4</sup>Hybrid journals are those where authors pay fees to publish open access articles. Other articles in the journal are restricted to subscribers.



**Table 3**

*Access Model of all Journals Hosted by Institutions Participating in the Survey*

| Access Model | Number of Journals |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Diamond OA   | 725 (92%)          |
| Delayed OA   | 46 (6%)            |
| Subscription | 19 (2%)            |
| Hybrid       | 2 (0.2%)           |
| Gold OA      | 0 (0%)             |
| Total        | 792 (100%)         |

**Table 4**

*Access Model of Scholarly Journals Hosted by Institutions Participating in the Survey*

| Access Model | Number of Journals |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Diamond OA   | 333 (83%)          |
| Delayed OA   | 45 (11%)           |
| Subscription | 19 (5%)            |
| Hybrid       | 2 (3.8%)           |
| Gold OA      | 0 (0%)             |
| Total        | 399 (100%)         |

Examining the second-largest contingent of journals, active student journals, 28 of the 35 library publishing programs supported at least one student journal, and of the 229 total student journals, 100% of them employed a total Diamond OA model, as might be expected in the realm of non-commercial student operations.

### Language of Publication

In addition to the types of journals being hosted and their access models, libraries were also asked to report on the publishing languages of hosted journals. 25 (71%) of the programs actively host journals in languages other than the primary working language of the institution. Generally, multilingual support is focused around English and French, although multiple institutions reported Spanish and Portuguese language offerings, with single institutions also reporting Russian, Ukrainian, Italian, Indonesian, German, and a limited offering of African languages. These numbers represent the cumulative of all languages mentioned in the respondents' self-report of languages represented in their journals, and do not constitute an analysis of individual journal policy or actual count of published articles in these languages.

### Services Offered

Our survey also asked participating library programs to indicate which types of services from various broad service

**Table 5**

*Publishing Languages of Journals Reported by Number of Institutions*

| Publishing Language | Number of Journals |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| English             | 34 (83%)           |
| French              | 26 (11%)           |
| Spanish             | 7 (20%)            |
| Portuguese          | 2 (20%)            |
| German              | 1 (20%)            |
| Indonesian          | 1 (0%)             |
| Italian             | 0 (0%)             |
| Russian             | 1 (3.8%)           |
| Ukrainian           | 0 (0%)             |
| Other               | 2 (0%)             |
| Total               | 399 (100%)         |

categories were offered under their publishing programs, including: infrastructure services; training and support services; editorial and administrative services; indexing and discovery services; marketing, sales and distribution services; and other services.

The most commonly offered services were related to infrastructure. Most notably, this includes: provision of platforms for receiving submissions and conducting peer review and platforms for publishing, migrating journals to or from other publishers and other publishing platforms, as well as repository and digital preservation services. A close second is for indexing and discovery services, such as: DOI assignment and registration, support for inclusion in discovery and indexing services, ISSN registration, metadata sharing/content aggregation, and catalogue record creation. Publishing literacy through training and support services was also well represented, including training for using publishing software, publishing practices, copyright and licensing, and provision/creation of documentation and guides.

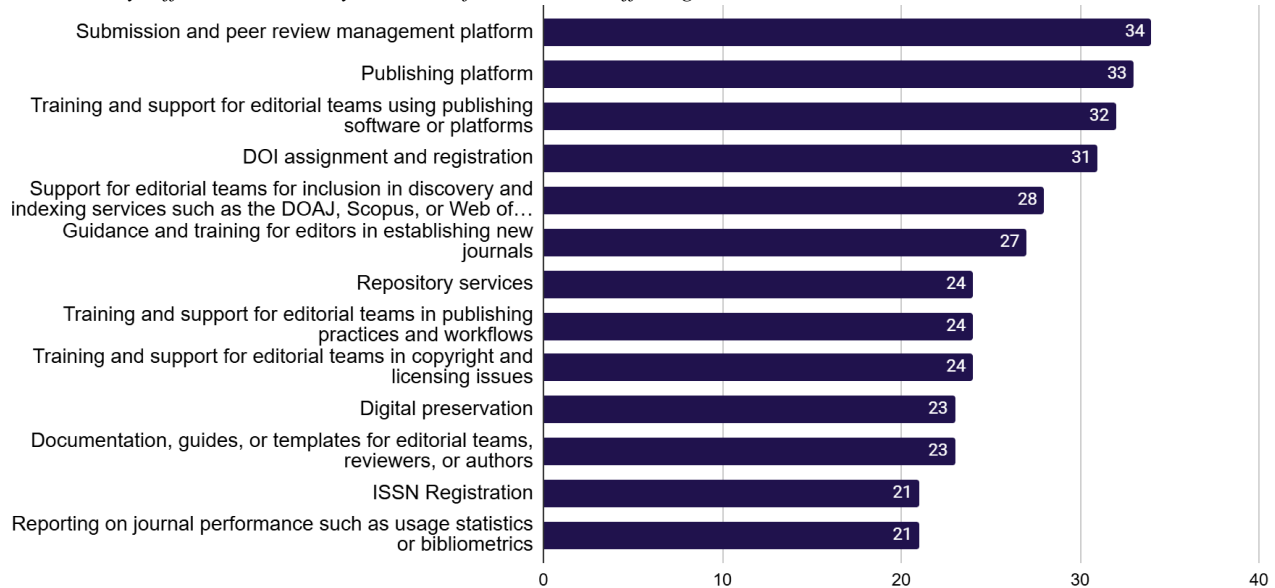
The least commonly offered services tended to fall under the marketing, sales and distribution categories (including printing and mailing services, sales, and subscription management services), as well as services traditionally associated with specialized, dedicated labour, for example, typesetting and layout, graphic design, budget preparation, support for preparing reports for external funders and editorial boards, XML publishing/typesetting, custom software development, and data visualization.

We found a moderate correlation between the maturity of the program, and the number of services being offered.



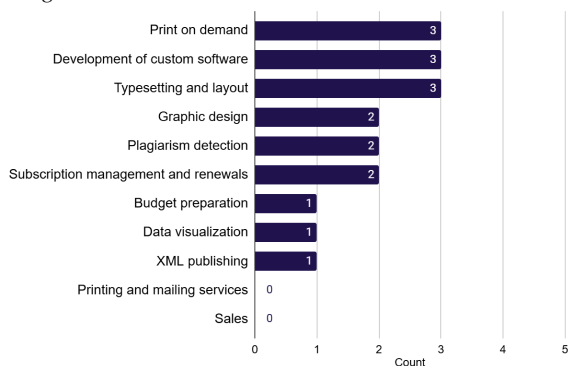
**Figure 2**

*Most Commonly Offered Services by Number of Institutions Offering Each Service*



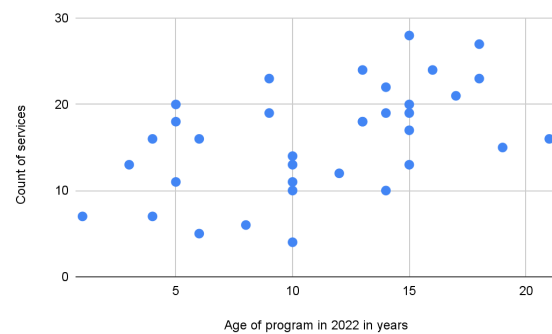
**Figure 3**

*Least Commonly Offered Services by Number of Institutions Offering Each Service*



**Figure 4**

*Number of Services Offered by Each Institution vs Age of Program*



**Publishing Program Labour Availability**

Despite the maturity of many of these programs and the wide variety of services offered, the work of library publishing is being carried out by a surprisingly low number of people. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, including student staff, allocated to these programs are as few as 0.1 to as many as 4, but they average less than one full FTE at 0.9. The total sum of FTE positions reported for all libraries, including student staff, was just 35.1.

We did not find a strong correlation between the number of full-time equivalent positions allocated to these programs and the number of services offered.

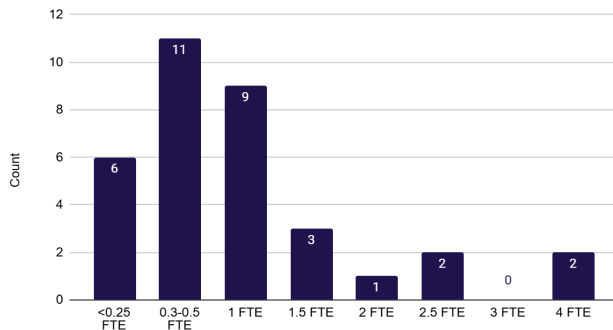
**Location of Programs Within the Organizational Structure**

Participants were asked to identify the organizational structure for publishing and/or hosting services at their institution. They could select multiple organizational models, allowing institutions to report combinations where applicable—e.g., a single staff member managing the program might be supported by a partnership agreement with a larger institution.

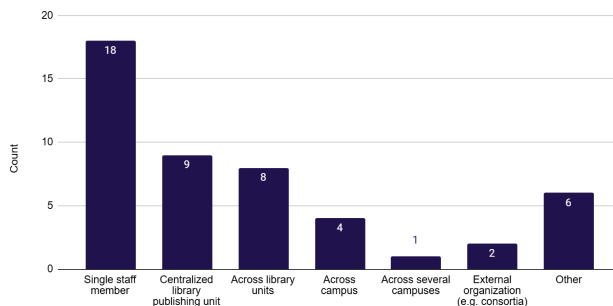
18 or 51% of programs reported being managed by a single staff member. Coupled with the information about labor availability in FTE equivalents, this highlights the limited personnel dedicated to publishing programs.

**Figure 5**

*Number of FTEs Allocated to Publishing Programs in Institutions Participating in the Survey*

**Figure 6**

*Organization Models of Publishing/Hosting Services in Institutions Participating in the Survey*



Answers under “Other” included two staff members (in 3 cases), multiple staff members (in 1 case), 3 staff members (in 1 case), and partnership with a large institution (in 1 case).

### Funding Source

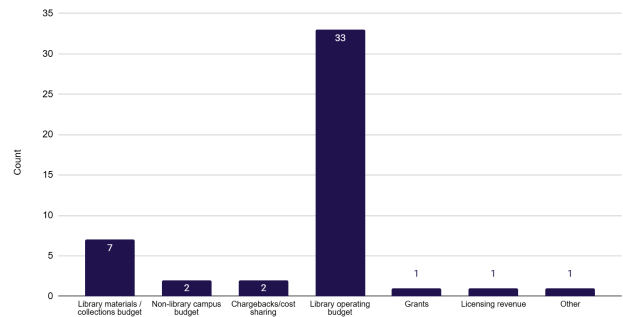
Participants were also asked to identify any and all funding sources for academic library publishing at their institution. They were also asked to provide approximations of what percentage each type of funding contributed to their total funding.

Although charitable contributions, sales revenue, and endowment income were listed as funding options, no institutions reported receiving support from these sources. The only response under ‘Other’ indicated external funding from an affiliated organization.

The library operating budget was the most common funding source, reported by 33 programs (94%). For 21 programs (60%), it was also the sole source of funding. The only other exclusive funding source was the library materials/collection

**Figure 7**

*Funding Sources of Publishing/Hosting Services in Institutions Participating in the Survey*



budget, which supported two programs.

## Discussion

### Libraries’ Involvement in Publishing

Canadian academic libraries’ role in supporting, hosting and publishing journals appears to be more substantial than previous studies indicate, both in the numbers of journals supported and in the range of services supporting those publications. The Canadian libraries who responded to our questionnaire reported collectively supporting 399 active, scholarly, peer reviewed publications, and 229 active student journals. However, the research has not reflected this significant contribution until recently. For example, although Larivière et al. (2021) don’t explicitly identify Canadian library publishing programs in their table of Canadian journal publishing organizations (p. 13), it’s notable that 7 of the 10 publishing organizations in the Humanities and Social Sciences they list appear to be library publishing programs who responded to our questionnaire. Similarly, of the 485 journal titles Lange and Severson (2021a) include in their study, they only identify 170 titles affiliated with libraries. While their inclusion criteria (requiring one third of editorial board members to be affiliated with a Canadian post-secondary institution) would exclude many of the publications that our study includes, this number still represents less than half of the 399 active scholarly publications libraries reported publishing. Van Bellen and Céspedes’ (2024) most recent study estimating 944 active Canadian journals, and van Bellen’s (2024) dataset identifying 426 active “library hosted” publications (including student and scholarly titles), are much closer to our findings, but still significantly lower. Collectively, libraries appear to support more scholarly journals than any other type of publishing organization in Canada, and are bearing a significant responsibility for their ongoing sustainability and viability.

There could be any number of reasons that libraries' contributions as publishers and hosts are under-represented in broader national conversations about scholarly publishing in Canada. At the time of writing, there is no single authoritative and complete list of journals published in Canada, so any research on these journals as a collective relies on combining data across multiple sources, such as the UlrichsWeb Global Serials Directory, the Directory of Open Access Journals, Érudit, and the CRKN Open Access Journals list. Each of these sources uses vastly different criteria for inclusion, and (aside from the CRKN list) none explicitly identify which publications are supported by libraries. Additionally, many small not-for-profit Canadian publishers may be absent from the tools institutions and researchers use to measure and assess publications, such as Crossref, Scopus, and InCites / Web of Science. Journals themselves may not clearly identify support received from their library host or publisher in the metadata they share with other organizations, such as Ulrichs or the DOAJ, or even acknowledge the library's involvement on their own website.

Libraries' involvement in journal publishing is substantial and widespread. It's carried out by institutions of different sizes and supports many types of journals. The publishing services provided align with other programs and services commonly offered by libraries. For example, hosting infrastructure, consulting on indexing, discovery, and copyright, and developing training and support programs are common areas of professional practice for librarians and library workers. This considerable alignment of services could offer interesting opportunities for libraries to build on their strengths and move towards shared or collaborative service models that allow institutions to share resources and expertise to more efficiently support journals.

Given the significant proportion of open access journals published by libraries, it's not surprising that services related to printing, subscriptions and sales are rare. One area that requires further exploration is understanding why some services are infrequently offered by libraries that are often understood to be common with other publishers, for example typesetting and layout, outreach and promotion, copyediting and proofreading, and preparing reports for editorial boards. This could include resource constraints, given the low staffing levels reported by library publishing programs, or a reluctance to engage with services falling outside the scope of what is perceived to be library work.

Despite the significant proportion of journals supported by libraries, these low staffing levels are notable. Our respondents reported a total of just 35.1 full time equivalent (FTE) positions, including student staff, dedicated to supporting 399 active scholarly publications, and 229 student journals. By comparison, Canadian Science Publishing reported 57 staff supporting just 24 journals in its 2018 - 2022 strategic plan (Canadian Science Publishing, 2018). While these numbers

certainly raise some questions about the sustainability and scalability of library publishing programs, they also provide some insight into a very different, and very lean, approach to scholarly publishing. In stark contrast with the staggering costs that libraries, funding agencies and authors pay for full-service prestige publishing with for-profit commercial publishers, library publishers are quietly providing incredible value for enabling the same basic functions of dissemination and validation of scholarly research.

### **Libraries Support Types of Journals Other Publishers Do not**

In addition to their support of a significant number of active scholarly journals, libraries also appear to have an important role in supporting the publication and dissemination of a wider variety of journal types than other publishers.

### **Student Journals**

Over a quarter of the journals hosted by library programs were identified as student journals, which can be attributed to the library's proximity to their institution's student output and their commitment to guiding future and nascent researchers through the scholarly communications cycle. Typically, outside of law journals, student publications, particularly undergraduate-led journals, are excluded (or opting to self-exclude due to a self-perception of not belonging) indexes and directory services (Maistrovskaya, 2021). Perusing the lists or indexes of hosted journals from library publishing programs where available reveals that – while student journals are clearly identified as such – it is one of the rare spaces where student publications are listed *alongside* professional-led journals. Although our study did not inquire to what extent different services are made available to journals in these disparate tiers of scholarship, it would be interesting to explore whether students can receive services equivalent to professional-led journals or if they receive more customized services (for example, additional or specifically student-oriented training and education offerings).

Student journals are generally understood as places of professionalization, training, and education where students can orient themselves and gain essential skills before being thrown into the “publish-or-perish” world of academic research (Arsenault et al., 2021). Outside of law journals, student journals are not generally assessed for potential commercial value. The 100% adoption rate of Diamond Open Access across student journals, a model that generally requires journals to seek out funding from non-profit organizations, research institutions, or government agencies—which are often out of the reach of student journals—further distinguishes the not-for-profit library publishing ecosystem from commercial publishers, and may also prove to be a key opportunity for library educators to invite students to consider factors like journal

sustainability, journal policy, and publishing model selection early in their academic careers.

### Ceased Publications

Similarly, ceased publications provide little opportunity for revenue to host institutions, yet still account for 16.9% of the publications hosted by these programs. The willingness of library publishing programs to continually provide hosting services for inactive journals demonstrates concerted efforts toward not just preserving the scholarly output of hosted journals (via CLOCKSS or Portico), but continuing to support the discoverability of – and access to – those titles beyond digital preservation measures. Many institutions with public mission statements or descriptions of their publishing services identify preservation as a key offering, and with digital preservation services included in 23 of 35 library publishing programs, demonstrates a commitment to safeguarding scholarly content. Library publishing programs can enable smaller (whether in terms of budget or research impact) academic associations and other vulnerable researchers (including students) access to preservation strategies that might otherwise be out of reach.

### Non-English Language Journals

Library publishing programs also demonstrate a willingness to engage with research content in languages other than English. Although this can be attributed in some part to Canada's existence as an officially bilingual country, language offerings are not limited to the official languages of French and English. Scholars whose native language is not English encounter struggles with navigating the Anglocentric field of academic publishing not experienced by native speakers; for example, Pronskikh (2019) writes that papers by non-native speakers are approximately 30% less likely to be accepted than papers native English speakers, while a recent study by Amano et al. (2023) of researchers in environmental sciences found that the frequency of language related rejection was 2.5 - 2.6 times higher for non-native English speakers in those disciplines.

The ability to allow for multilingual publishing or publishing in languages other than English can be dependent on the selected publishing platform, but beyond these technical considerations, actively soliciting and working with non-English research content demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity, diversity, and the promotion of global scholarship, increasingly called for by international organizations (Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication, 2019). By supporting journals in languages other than English, it is possible that library publishers can place themselves in a position to better support international and ESL students and academics, as well as departments and fields of study dedicated to language and culture.

### Diamond OA

Finally, it's important to highlight the significant proportion of diamond open access publishing models across all the journals published by libraries. More than 83% of active scholarly journals, and 100% of student journals, were published with a diamond OA model. Notably, no library reported any of their journals relying on APCs for generating revenue. This aligns with Lange and Severson's (2021a) study finding that Canadian publishers generally operate with a diamond OA model. As APC-based models face increasing and justified criticism, and diamond open access models gain visibility through projects such as Coalition Publica and the DIAMAS initiative, Canadian libraries' extensive adoption of a diamond OA model in their publishing programs presents a working example of how diamond OA publishing can operate on a national scale.

### Limitations and Future Research

Given the scope of our research, we were unable to make more broad comparisons between library publishing in Canada and library publishing abroad. How do services offered by Canadian institutions compare to other schools internationally, for example? Are their services substantively different? Are Canadian staffing compliments equivalent? Additional research in this space would leverage existing data available from the Library Publishing Coalition and a more extensive, comparative review of data from other countries to better contextualize the services of Canadian library publishing programs.

Looking forward, we also consider what other data might be collected to further illuminate the divergent labour of library publishing. Is there something we're missing that we could better quantify or describe? What else can the data we have on hand illuminate about the unique contours of Canadian scholarly publishing, especially libraries' role in supporting and promoting publishing in our uniquely bilingual context?

### Conclusion

Canadian academic libraries play a pivotal yet, often, under-recognized role in the nation's publishing landscape. As earlier research has demonstrated, most journals published in Canada are independent publications leveraging institutional, professional, federal, and community support (Lange & Severson 2021a; Larivière et al., 2015). Our survey reveals that these libraries support a wide array of scholarly journals, embrace principles of open access and diversity in publishing, and provide infrastructure and services for journal types that are traditionally less profitable, such as student journals and ceased-but-accessible publications.

What's more, these libraries are contributing significantly to Canadian scholarly publishing, and to the non-profit and

no-fee open access dissemination of research results, despite a notable imbalance between the services offered for such a large and diverse range of journals and the labour/financial resources available to them. We see that library publishing programs operate with extremely limited resources while relying on small teams and minimal funding allocations. Averaging less than one full-time equivalent position per program, but leveraging a passionate and supportive community of practice, Canadian scholarly publishing infrastructure can be seen as eclipsing the sum of its parts.

Unfortunately, this reality is *highly occluded* by issues created by a global scholarly publishing system dominated by multinational corporations and oligarchical overreach. While many Canadian researchers write in, review for, and read journals published by the largest commercial publishers, the independent journals that almost exclusively comprise Canada's national literature are also hugely important, as Larivière has argued in a 2014 editorial for *University Affairs* (Larivière, 2014). The main issue faced by these publications—the highly precarious nature of their survival—is a problem that is not easily solved by solutions such as the “transformative agreements” entered into by large commercial publishers and libraries.

While libraries and funding agencies focus on addressing the very real problems of ensuring that research produced in Canada by Canadian researchers is openly accessible to the public while *also* controlling costs in the face of unsustainable profit-driven price increases, there is very little recognition of how to support the diverse patchwork of public and not-for-profit agencies publishing the majority of Canada's national literature (CALJ Board of Directors, 2019). In October, 2024, Coalition Publica released a *Statement on Diamond Open Access*. In brief, it both summarizes broader, community concerns and also represents a national call to action.

Commercial models of OA based on costly APCs have been shown to reduce equity and diversity within scholarly communications, on top of opening doors to practices that threaten research integrity. APCs are also an ongoing drain on university and library budgets everywhere. This is equally true of research grants, whenever public funds are allocated to publishing fees imposed by for-profit publishers. The domination of scholarly publishing by commercial actors is a relatively recent phenomenon in the history of research communication and those of us who support Diamond OA see an urgent need to recommit to research as a public good.

We envision a future where OA journals that operate without APCs are adequately supported by the research community, via institutional contributions, public funds, and sound policy. Diamond OA maximizes the value that all stake-

holders invest in the research ecosystem and we at Coalition Publica call on all parties to unite around this truly transformational OA paradigm. (Coalition Publica, 2024)

Crucially, we are left asking if our findings suggest that library publishers across Canada should be pulled into national/international conversations about the health and wellbeing of the titles they support. After all, library publishers contribute significantly to scholarly communications infrastructure in Canada. They both host and assist a significant volume of Canadian research publications. They support and advocate for the diamond open access model. They collaborate nationally and provide not just hosting services but training and literacy support for publishing and publishing platforms. Libraries don't just publish, they're publishers.

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## Appendix A. Invitation to participate in questionnaire

Dear [NAME],

We are inviting your institution to participate in a questionnaire to gather data about the role of library publishing and hosting programs in Canada's journal publishing ecosystem. This is an organizational questionnaire, so please submit only one response per organization. If you are not the best person to complete the questionnaire within your organization, please forward this email to the correct contact.

You can find the questionnaire here: [https://libraryualberta.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e1B1ioAzXO9zLoy](https://libraryualberta.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e1B1ioAzXO9zLoy)

Please complete the questionnaire by September 23.

### About this study

This study is being conducted by:

- Sonya Betz, Head Library Publishing and Digital Production Services, University of Alberta
- Mike Nason, Open Scholarship & Publishing Librarian, University of New Brunswick and Metadata/Crossref Liaison, Public Knowledge Project
- Emma Uhl, Publishing Support Specialist, Public Knowledge Project

### Why are we carrying out this study?

In Canada's independent and not-for-profit journal publishing ecosystem, libraries are important participants. However, a comprehensive picture of the services they are providing, the role they occupy, and their relationship to other stakeholders and supporting entities within this space, does not exist.

By conducting this study, we are seeking to better understand:

- which academic libraries are participating in library publishing in Canada,
- the scope of their publishing programs, and
- how the services offered by library publishing and hosting services compare with those offered by other publishing organizations in Canada.

### About the questionnaire

You can preview the questions here: [https://libraryualberta.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_e1B1ioAzXO9zLoy](https://libraryualberta.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e1B1ioAzXO9zLoy)

This questionnaire should take about 20 minutes to complete. Many of the questions have been repurposed from the [Library Publishing Directory](#), and if your institution participated in the 2022 Directory we have included a link to your Directory entry so you can copy and paste your answers, which you can update if necessary.

[Your 2022 LP Directory entry can be found here [LINK](#)]

Please note that the University of Alberta Research Ethics Board has determined this project to be outside of the mandate of the REB.

### About the data

With the exception of your name and email address, all of the data we are collecting will be shared as an Open Access dataset in the Borealis data repository, and shared widely with the community. We will only use the name and email of the individual who completed the survey for the purposes of clarification or to follow up on responses if necessary, and it will not be shared outside of the research team. Analysis of the data we collect will be shared through conference presentations and publications.

### Attribution

We have reused and modified several questions from the [2022 Library Publishing Directory](#) questionnaire, created by the [Library Publishing Coalition](#) and licensed under [CC-BY 4.0](#).

## Appendix B. Library Publishing Institutional Questionnaire

### Eligibility

1. Thank you for completing this questionnaire about Canada's library publishing/hosting programs! It should take less than 20 minutes to complete. You can leave the survey and return later to the link above, but we recommend previewing the questions before you begin. You can see a preview here:

**Please note:** We plan to share all the data we collect as an open access dataset, with the exception of the name and email address of the person who completes this survey. Please do not include any data you do not wish to share publicly. Your name and email address will remain confidential and will only be used by the research team to clarify or follow up on a response as needed. If you have any questions, please contact Author.

2. Does your library currently provide publishing or hosting services for scholarly journals?

- Yes
- No

### About the program

3. In what year did your publishing or hosting activities start?

4. What stage best describes your institution's library publishing or hosting efforts?

- Pilot
- Early
- Established

5. Does your institution have a publicly stated mission or vision for its publishing / hosting activities? If so, please paste below or include a link where it can be found:

- Yes
- No

6. Which best describes the organization of publishing / hosting services at your institution? Select all that apply.

- single staff member providing services as portion of their workload
- centralized library publishing unit/department
- services distributed across library units/departments
- services distributed across campus services distributed across several campuses
- organization (e.g. non-profit association, library consortia) that provides or supports library publishing activities on behalf of its library members
- Other (please specify)

7. Does your library have an advisory or editorial board for its publishing program (i.e., NOT for individual journals)?

- Yes
- No

8. How are your library publishing activities currently funded?

- Library materials / collections budget
- Non-library campus budget
- Charitable contributions
- Sales revenue
- Chargebacks/cost sharing (Fees which are passed back to the journal itself)
- Library operating budget
- Endowment income (Large monetary donation that is pledged to a specific purpose in an organization. Interest from the endowment is used as funding)
- Grants Licensing revenue (Income earned by a publisher for allowing its copyrighted material to be used or accessed by another company)

- Other (please specify)

9. Please indicate the approximate percentage of funding contributed by each source. Your answers should add up to 100

- Library materials / collections budget:
- Non-library campus budget:
- Charitable contributions:
- Sales revenue:
- Chargebacks/cost sharing (Fees which are passed back to the journal itself):
- Library operating budget:
- Endowment income (Large monetary donation that is pledged to a specific purpose in an organization. Interest from the endowment is used as funding):
- Grants 0
- Licensing revenue (Income earned by a publisher for allowing its copyrighted material to be used or accessed by another company):
- Other (please specify):
- Total:

10. What is your total staffing supporting publishing activities, expressed in Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)?

- Library staff (excluding student staff):
- Student staff:

11. Which software/platform(s) does your library use to support journal publishing / hosting? Select all that apply.

- Dataverse
- Digital Commons (bepress)
- Drupal
- Figshare
- Janeway
- Locally developed software
- Manifold
- Open Journal Systems
- Omeka
- WordPress
- Other (please specify)

12. Please indicate if each of the platforms you use are self-hosted or externally hosted.

- Dataverse
- Digital Commons (bepress)
- Drupal
- Figshare
- Janeway
- Locally developed software
- Manifold
- Open Journal Systems
- Omeka
- WordPress
- Other (please specify)

13. Which of the following services does your library offer in support of **journal** publishing / hosting activities? This can include services you offer in-house or that you provide through third-party providers. Please include services you currently offer, or provide on request.

14. Infrastructure services

- Publishing software or platform that distributes published content online (e.g., OJS, Wordpress, Drupal)
- Submission and peer review management software or platform (e.g. OJS, Janeway)
- Migrating existing journals to or from other publishers
- Migrating existing journals to or from other publishing platforms or software
- Digitization services
- Custom URL/domain management
- Print on demand
- Repository services such as access to an institutional repository, data repository, or AV media repository for hosting files.
- AV publishing Dataset management
- Development of custom software applications to support desired journal functionality
- Digital preservation

#### 15. Training and support services

- Guidance and training for editors in establishing new journals
- Training and support for editorial teams in publishing practices and workflows
- Training and support for editorial teams in publishing ethics
- Training and support for editorial teams using publishing software or platforms
- Training and support for editorial teams in copyright and licensing issues
- Documentation, guides, or templates for editorial teams, reviewers, or authors

#### 16. Editorial and administrative services

- Copyediting and proofreading
- Typesetting and layout
- XML publishing/typesetting
- Plagiarism detection
- Contract / license preparation
- Budget preparation
- Data visualization
- Graphic design
- Support for developing grant applications (e.g. SSHRC Aid to Scholarly Journals)

#### 17. Indexing and discovery services

- Support for editorial teams for inclusion in discovery and indexing services such as the DOAJ, Scopus, or Web of Science
- Submission on behalf of journals to discovery and indexing services such as the DOAJ, Scopus, or Web of Science
- ISSN registration
- DOI assignment and registration
- Article metadata sharing with indexing services, content aggregators, or databases
- Create original bibliographic (catalogue) record for the journal title
- Search engine optimization (SEO)

#### 18. Marketing, sales and distribution services

- Outreach and promotion support
- Reporting on journal performance such as usage statistics or bibliometrics
- Sales
- Printing and mailing services
- Online distribution to subscribers
- Subscription management and renewals

19. Do you provide any other services in support of journal publishing / hosting activities not listed above? Please specify:

20. How does your library provide digital preservation for the content it publishes?

- Amazon Glacier

- Amazon S3
- Archivematica
- Archive-It
- CLOCKSS
- COPPUL
- DuraCloud
- HathiTrust
- In-house
- LOCKSS
- PKP Preservation Network
- Preservica
- Portico
- Rosetta
- Scholars Portal
- Other (please specify)

21. Many libraries leverage consortial support or thirdparty vendors to improve or supplement their services. Which organizations or vendors does your institution utilize or otherwise engage with? Select all that apply.

- Bepress (Digital Commons)
- Borealis (formerly Scholars Portal Dataverse)
- Crossref
- Datacite
- Érudit
- Internet Archive
- Turnitin (iThenticate)
- Library and Archives Canada
- Ontario Council of University Libraries Scholars Portal
- Open Academia
- Public Knowledge Project
- Scholastica
- Ubiquity Press
- Other (please specify)

### About the journals

22. How many journals does your program support, including student journals, scholarly journals, archived publications, and other types of journals?

23. How many of your journals are bilingual or multilingual?

24. In which languages do your journals publish?

25. Which of the following types of journals does your library support?

- Active student journals: publications that are managed primarily by students and publish student work
- Active scholarly journals: peer-reviewed academic publications that disseminate the results of original scholarship
- Inactive or ceased journals: journals that have not published in the last 3 years
- Other

26. For the following questions, please provide information about the access models for the different types of journals your library supports. If a journal fits in more than one category, please choose the best option and only count it once.

We are using these definitions to describe access models:

- **Free to read and free to publish:** all journal content is open access and no fees are charged to authors or readers

- **Free to read and pay to publish:** all journal content is open access. Authors pay fees to publish in the journal.
- **Subscription:** all journal content is restricted to subscribers
- **Hybrid:** Authors pay fees to publish open access articles. Other articles in the journal are restricted to subscribers.
- **Delayed open access:** The most recent issues of the journal are restricted to subscribers. Older issues become fully open access after a defined embargo period.

27. How many of your active student journals (publications that are managed primarily by students and publish student work) are:

- Free to read and free to publish:
- Free to read and pay to publish:
- Subscription:
- Hybrid:
- Delayed open access:
- Total:

28. How many of your active scholarly journals (peer reviewed academic publications that disseminate the results of original scholarship) are:

- Free to read and free to publish:
- Free to read and pay to publish:
- Subscription:
- Hybrid:
- Delayed open access:
- Total:

29. How many of your inactive or ceased journals (journals that have not published in the last 3 years) are:

- Free to read and free to publish:
- Free to read and pay to publish:
- Subscription:
- Hybrid:
- Delayed open access:
- Total:

30. Please describe the other types of journals you support (e.g., conference proceedings, creative publications)

31. How many of your other journals are:

- Free to read and free to publish:
- Free to read and pay to publish:
- Subscription:
- Hybrid:
- Delayed open access:
- Total:

### **Institutional id info**

32. Institutional information

- Institution name
- Library name
- Publishing or hosting service name (if applicable)

**Contact information for person completing this questionnaire**

33. Contact information for the person completing this questionnaire. Please note that we will **only** use this information to follow up with any questions we have about your responses. Your name and email address will **not** be shared outside of the research team.

- Name
- Email