

# Keep@Downsview

Report for PAN Mid-winter 2019



This is the inaugural report to PAN of the Keep@Downsview shared print preservation partnership, although planning for this project began almost 5 years ago and the MOA was signed in 2015.

Keep@Downsview is a partnership of the University of Toronto, the University of Ottawa, Western University, McMaster University, and Queen's University. Our mandate is to preserve the scholarly record in Ontario in a shared high-density storage and preservation facility located at the University of Toronto's Downsview Campus in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. This partnership is part of a larger movement, in Canadian higher education, to collaborate in developing shared print management strategies for long-term access to and preservation of scholarship and to share resources and costs.

The University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) hosts Keep@Downsview shared collections in the storage facility built and operated by UTL since 2005. In 2015, expansion to the facility to house the shared collection was funded, in part, through the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Productivity and Innovation Fund. Some capital and all operating costs are shared among the five universities. Details of our partnership agreement are available in the [Memorandum of Agreement](#).

University of Toronto's Downsview facility is a purpose-built, high-density preservation facility designed to provide a secure, environmentally-controlled space that is optimal for long term preservation. The design of the facility and its operational program is based on other "Harvard-model" facilities in place in North America. The Downsview facility has a capacity for five million items with the potential for further expansion.

We hope that the partnership and shared facility will create exciting opportunities for the development of new services and delivery options that will improve access to collections, including on demand digitization and electronic delivery services for journals currently only available in print.

## Storage and Preservation

With demands on space at universities increasing while research collections continue to grow, we, like other academic research libraries across North America, are striving to achieve the optimal mix of collections, spaces, and services that best serve our communities. To meet this challenge, our libraries

are transferring less frequently borrowed items to Downsview. However, the items in the Downsview collection are selected based on criteria established at each institution. We do not store duplicates of monographs or serial volumes.

## Access/Retrieval

Important but lesser used print journals and books from the five university libraries are kept at the facility. However, everything at Downsview circulates, even if only as far as the U of T Rare Book Library Reading Room or Archives Reading Room. Therefore, we are striving to ensure that locating and requesting materials will be seamless for users at each partner institution, and items will be easily requested from home library catalogues.

## Facts

- 3.3 million volumes and 35,000 archival boxes stored (at end of 2018)
- 34,426 volumes were transferred by partner libraries by June of 2018
- Inventory is managed through the UTL ILS
- Retention commitment is stored in 583 field
- Awarded the 2017 OCUL (Ontario Council of University Libraries) Outstanding Contribution Award: <https://ocul.on.ca/2017-ocul-outstanding-contribution-award-winners-announced>

## Looking Forward

- Keep@Downsview participating in the Partnership for Shared Print Collections
- Keep@Downsview participating the Canadian Collective Print Preservation Strategy Working Group lead by Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL)
- Toronto and McMaster are HathiTrust members, Queens and Ottawa will be soon.
- Start discussion about collaborative collection building in music and government publications
- Submit holdings info. to PAPP

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