



COPPUL SPAN Update for PAN

21 June 2021

Capilano University joins SPAN

[Capilano University](#), in North Vancouver, British Columbia, has become a member of COPPUL and has joined the Shared Print Archive Network (SPAN) family. This brings the total number of SPAN participants to 22.

Phase 5

We have now completed Phase 5, which focused on Western Canadian serials held at 4 or fewer SPAN libraries. SPAN participants committed to retain 6,260 titles, none of which (we believe) had been previously archived in a shared print program. Archive Holders agreed to retain the materials for 25 years (until 30 April, 2045) and were not required to verify their physical holdings. In order to protect their retained titles, Archive Holders were encouraged to transfer them to a closed-stack location, such as high-density storage, special collections or other controlled environment. In situations where a transfer was not possible, Archive Holders were asked to ensure that the materials were treated as non-circulating collections. The final report is available on the [SPAN website](#).

Phase 6

The Phase 6 Working group consists of map librarians from across Western Canada. Its charge is to assist in the development and implementation of an archive of Western Canadian topographic maps. Working Group members have identified two map series of relevance for the first leg of this phase as well as a draft set of inventory procedures and documentation. They are now testing the sheet-level inventory procedures and hope to launch the first leg of this phase in September. You can track the Working Group's progress on the [SPAN website](#).

Indigenous Historical Publications Working Group

Our exploration of COPPUL's potential role in digital collections has led us to form the Indigenous Historical Publications Working Group. The group includes librarians from six COPPUL member libraries. The purpose of the Working Group is to guide efforts to improve discovery of, access to, and preservation of publications by and about Indigenous communities on whose lands COPPUL members live and work. These publications could include newspapers, newsletters and various forms of grey literature. Initial work will focus on identifying publications held by member academic libraries and archives, expanding to include born-digital publications and those held by allied organizations across the national cultural heritage sector as applicable.

Matt Kaufhold, our SPAN Assistant, has been working through the winter to identify and track newspapers from Canadian Indigenous communities. Matt's work will merge into the work of this new Working Group and could form the basis of a shared print archive, collaborative digitization project, or both.

Doug Brigham and his colleague Rebecca Dickson (COPPUL's [Digital Preservation Coordinator](#)) are presenting at the PAN Forum on "COPPUL Digitization and Collective Collections Services"

SPAN Program Evaluation

Members of the SPAN Standing Committee will undertake a 10 year program evaluation this summer and fall. This follows the evaluation done in 2017. The earliest rounds of shared print commitments are set to expire in 2022 and the program evaluation will help with the development of recommendations on whether to extend some or all of those commitments. The Committee has developed a survey for SPAN participants and will follow up with institutional discussions in July and August. The results of the program evaluation are expected in the early fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Brigham
COPPUL SPAN Coordinator
span@coppul.ca