COPPUL SPAN Update for PAN

21 January 2021

Phase 5

Phase 5 focuses on Western Canadian serials held at 4 or fewer SPAN libraries, either published in or concerning the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba. This phase includes nearly 8,000 titles at all 21 SPAN institutions. Almost all Archive Holders have completed their commitment confirmations and we expect to bring this phase to a close in the early spring. An overview of Phase 5 is available on the SPAN website.

Phase 6

We are assembling a working group to assist with the scoping and development of our next phase, which will deal with Western Canadian topographic maps. There are numerous issues to be addressed, including matters of findability and physical validation. The working group is expected to take the next few months to identify materials of interest and to develop the specifications for this phase. We hope to start the physical work in our member libraries this summer.

Digitization

COPPUL is considering what opportunities may exist for collaborative digitization efforts. This would represent a new area of work for COPPUL, although we already have a robust Digital Stewardship Network in place, led by Rebecca Dickson. CDSN is focused on digital preservation, rather than digitization. Doug and Rebecca, alongside their colleague Deborah Lee of the Indigenous Knowledge Standing Committee are working toward articulating projects that focus on the digitization of Indigenous materials, possibly newspapers. Rebecca and Doug conducted a survey of digitization activities within COPPUL institutions last summer and presented their recommendations to the Directors last fall. They also presented their work on a panel Canadian Research Knowledge Network virtual meeting last October, “Making the Connection Between Digitization Strategies and Collective Print Initiatives.”
CRL PAPR Reconciliation

We have been working with CRL to reconcile and update SPAN’s holdings in the PAPR database. There were a number of issues with retentions data from earlier phases, which we are in the midst of resolving.

Respectfully submitted,

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