COPPUL SPAN Update for PAN Forum
24 June 2022

Change in SPAN Staffing

Doug Brigham, the SPAN Coordinator since mid-2017, left this position at the end of January. Matt Kaufhold, the SPAN Assistant, assumed some tasks for a brief period before moving on to a permanent position elsewhere. Without an individual in place with dedicated time to devote to SPAN coordination, much work has regrettably been put on hold for the time being. We hope to have a new SPAN Coordinator in place soon so that normal operations can resume.

Phase 1 Commitment Extensions

Early in the year, work was begun to confer with the libraries that participated in Phase 1 which pertained to low-risk JSTOR journal titles. The original 10 year commitment period is set to expire at the end of 2022, so libraries are being asked to extend those commitments for another 10 year period. Archive Holders are also being asked to retain any additional volumes of included titles published after 2012 that had been added to their collections subsequent to the original Phase 1 work being completed. The number of additional commitments will be few given that all titles were available digitally with most no longer being acquired in print. Confirmation of commitments, and reallocation of a few commitments due to weeding at various libraries, will resume when the new SPAN Coordinator is in place.

Phase 6: Topographic Maps

11 participating libraries have completed a sheet-level inventory of two historical series of topographic maps depicting Western and Northern Canada: the National Topographic System 1:25,000 scale and 1:63,360 scale maps. The new Coordinator will assign Archive Holders, with the goal of archiving two or three copies of each map. We will provide sets of OCLC record numbers to all participants so that they can add sheet-level bibliographic records to their local catalogues.
Indigenous Historical Publications Working Group

The Indigenous Historical Publications Working Group is responsible for guiding efforts to improve discovery of, access to, and preservation of publications by and about Indigenous communities on whose lands COPPUL members live and work.

The group hosted a well-attended webinar in February titled Perspectives on Indigenous Historical Publications Digitization, with panel presentations by Paula Daigle (First Nations University), Taylor Leeal Gibson (Libraries and Archives Canada), Kayla Lar-Son (X̱ wi7x̱ wa Library, University of British Columbia), and Sarah Severson (University of Alberta). The group distributed a survey to develop a better understanding of the barriers to digitizing Indigenous newspapers; the results will be made available later this summer. Work on developing a master list of Canadian Indigenous newspapers continues, with a goal to publish the dataset in the fall.

You can track the progress of the Working Group on its website.

SPAN Program Evaluation

Members of the SPAN Standing Committee completed a 10 year program evaluation last fall. The final report is now available online. Work is underway to develop some communication tools for libraries to use to convey the value of Shared Print and to promote the SPAN program specifically.

Collaboration with North/Nord

COPPUL is one of the four regional consortia in Canada (as well as a few other bodies) that provides funding for the operations of the new national Shared Print program called North/Nord. Now that the program has been launched officially, the COPPUL SPAN Standing Committee looks forward to collaborating with North/Nord to further collective collections nationally. The new SPAN Coordinator will serve as a member of the North/Nord Steering Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Chatterley
Chair, COPPUL SPAN Standing Committee
span@coppul.ca