



FACT SHEET 2009

MEMBERSHIP

- COPPUL is comprised of 21 degree-granting institutions in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.
- AUCC (Association of Universities & Colleges of Canada) status is a criterion for membership.
- See p.2 for a list of members.

COPPUL OFFICE

- Located at Royal Roads University.
- Includes a full-time Executive Director and two part-time staff on contract.

BACKGROUND

- Origin dates back to 1967 when the Council of Western Canadian University Librarians (COWCUL) was created in response to needs identified by university administrators at the time.
- Formalized as the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) in 1991.
- Incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2000.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"Members of the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries collaborate to enrich information resources and services that contribute to the success of our academic communities."

KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

- Information resources.
- Research, teaching and learning.
- Capacity building.
- Current awareness.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND BENEFITS

- Member libraries benefit from a national resource sharing / interlibrary loan agreement with OCU (Ontario Council of University Libraries), CAUL (Council of Atlantic University Libraries) and CREPUQ (Conférence des recteurs et des principaux des universités du Québec):
http://www.coppul.ca/keydocs/COPPUL_OCU_CAUL_CREPUQ.pdf

- Library users benefit from a COPPUL-initiated national reciprocal borrowing agreement amongst university libraries: <http://www.coppul.ca/rb/rbindex.html>
- COPPUL won the 1999 and 2003 Innovation Achievement Awards from the Canadian Association of College & University Libraries for virtual library projects designed to assist students and faculty in locating information and resources.
- Member libraries obtain an average discount of 25% through centralized licensing of over 100 electronic databases and full-text packages.
- COPPUL was a founding member of the Canadian National Site Licensing Project (CNSLP) and is a current member of its successor, the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN).
- Staff development is promoted through involvement in consortium-wide projects.
- Member libraries benefit from collaboration between COPPUL and other Canadian library consortia.

SELECTED INITIATIVES IN PROGRESS

- Developing strategies for acquiring e-books for member libraries.
- Investigating and increasing awareness of digitization needs and preservation strategies amongst COPPUL members.
- Trialing a digital preservation system called LOCKSS as a means to archive collections of local significance to members.
- Investigating linking open access journals and data.
- Investigating career development opportunities for library staff.
- Developing a database for capacity building amongst library staff.

COPPUL MEMBERS

Athabasca University	University of Calgary
Brandon University	University of Lethbridge
Concordia University College of Alberta	University of Manitoba
King's University College	University of Northern British Columbia
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	University of Regina
Royal Roads University	University of Saskatchewan
Simon Fraser University	University of the Fraser Valley
Thompson Rivers University	University of Victoria
Trinity Western University	University of Winnipeg
University of Alberta	Vancouver Island University
University of British Columbia	

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