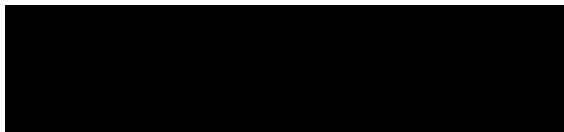
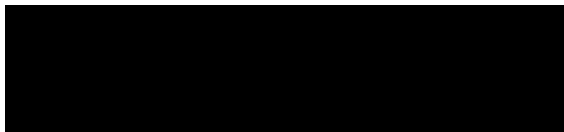

Pan Canadian Panel: The View from Alberta

Christina Wilson,
Director, Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library
The Alberta Library



Overview

- 1. Introduction to The Alberta Library (TAL)**
 - 2. Digitization initiatives to date**
 - LHCADL
 - APLEN
 - Others
 - 3. Moving forward**
 - 4. Opportunities and challenges**
-



Introducing ...

The Alberta Library
(TAL)

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The Alberta Library (TAL)


- **Our Vision**

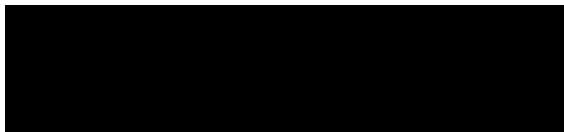
Barrier-free access for all Albertans to information, ideas, and culture

- **Our Mission**

The Alberta Library provides leadership in optimizing resources and services among member libraries in a dynamic model of collaboration.

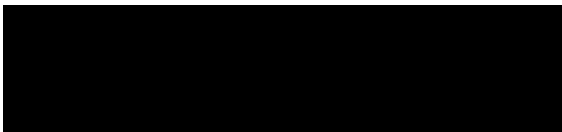
- **Our Values**

- Cooperation and Collaboration
 - Respect
 - Innovation
 - Accountability
 - Learning
- 



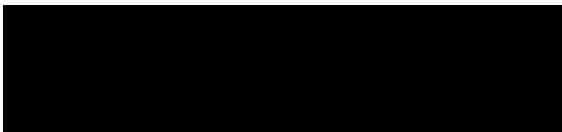
The Alberta Library (TAL)

- Multi-type membership based library consortia
- Members include public, university, college, technical institute and special libraries
- Includes three key funded programs:
 - The **O**nline **R**eference **C**entre (**ORC**)
 - **A**lberta's **P**ublic **L**ibrary **E**lectronic **N**etwork (**APLEN**)
 - **L**ois **H**ole **C**ampus **A**lberta **D**igital **L**ibrary (**LHCADL**)



TAL's Members' Involvement in Digitization

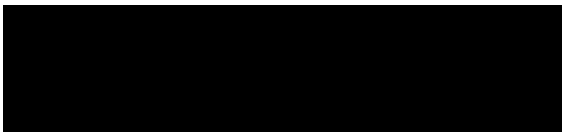
- In 2002, the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN) included digitization in their strategic plan
- Alberta's four universities (Athabasca, Lethbridge, U of Calgary and U of Alberta) had been digitizing collections for some time
 - Peel's Prairie Provinces (University of Alberta)
 - Our Future/Our Past (University of Calgary)
 - Alberta Women's Memory Project (Athabasca University)



The Campus Alberta Digital Library Vision

In 2005, Alberta's government announced funding to expand the digital resources and services available to Alberta learners, including:

- Licensing resources in support of programmatic needs
- Identifying and digitizing material of interest to Albertans
- Building a robust technology infrastructure & establishing electronic repositories
- Developing information literacy & promotion programs

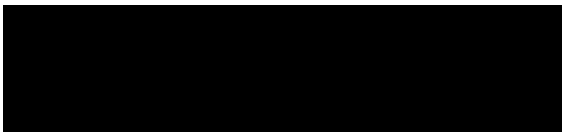


Named after Alberta's former Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Lois Hole



“If I can help people to understand the enormous educational resource each citizen represents, if I can help the parents of today realize the dream of a better life for the children of tomorrow, I feel I will have done my job as Lieutenant Governor.”

The Late, The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole

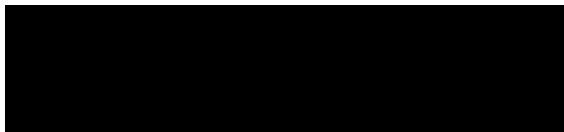


Formally launched September, 2007



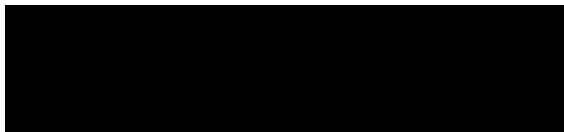
“The Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library will help Alberta move towards a knowledge-based economy. It will enhance research capabilities, foster innovation, give students and faculty a competitive edge and improve the quality of learning in every corner of the province.”

Premier Ed Stelmach, September 28, 2007



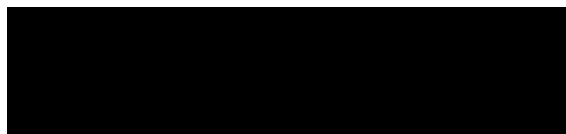
Key Principles of LHCADL's Digitization Projects:

- The four universities continue to select and digitize content of interest to Albertans
 - Apply a strategy that combines
 - using existing onsite capacity
 - outsourcing to commercial agents
 - partnering to leverage funding
 - Adhere to national standards and recognize national digital information strategies
-



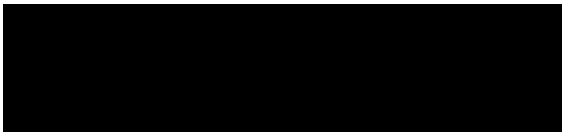
Examples of objects being digitized by the 4 lead institutions

- Theses & dissertations
 - Joint Arctic Weather Stations digital images
 - Fragile audio & video files of Blackfoot Elders
 - Dene crafts collection
 - Botanical and architectural collections
 - Alberta Women's Memory project
 - Rare, surviving runs of Alberta newspapers
 - Local histories/materials
 - Expansion of current initiatives (Peel's Prairie Provinces; Our Future/Our Past)
-



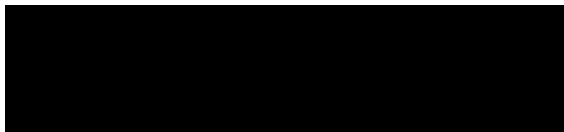
LHCADL Objectives and Outcomes

- an increased number of relevant digital resources
 - digital resources are used to enrich the learning experience and the research enterprise
 - equal and consistent access for learners and faculty at participating post-secondary institutions
 - collaborative licensing and use of technology to maximize the leverage of the investment
 - integrated with national initiatives, AlouetteCanada, now Canadiana.org
-



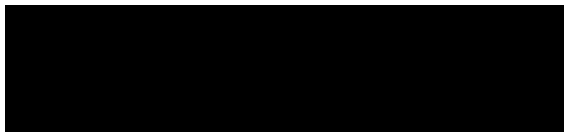
Alberta's Public Library Electronic Network (APLEN)

- Funded through the Government of Alberta's Municipal Affairs Department, Libraries Branch
 - Mandate to provide opportunities for collaboration, co-operation and innovation using information technologies for public libraries
 - Facilitates content & capacity development
 - Assists in co-coordinating SuperNet services – bringing emerging technologies to all of Alberta's public libraries, not just the ones in larger urban centres
 - There are just under 300 public libraries in Alberta, all connected to Alberta's SuperNet broadband network
-



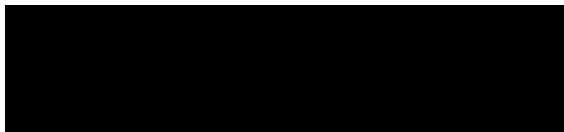
APLEN's Digital Initiatives to Date

- Received provincial funding for a digital readiness project
- Hired Digitization Project Coordinator, Merrill Kemp to determine the status of digitization in the public libraries of Alberta
- Held a full day pre-conference session on digitization at TAL's technology conference, Netspeed (October, 2008)



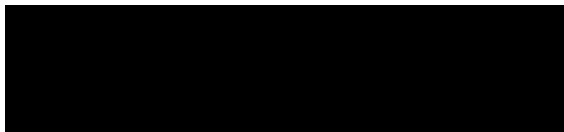
Examples of existing and planned public library digitization projects in Alberta

- Calgary Public Library
 - Home Sweet Heritage Home – biographies of famous Calgarians and their homes
- Edmonton Public Library
 - “Pictures of our Past”- a collaboration between EPL and the City Archives to digitize photos of heritage buildings
- Interest from public libraries in Cold Lake, Didsbury, Lomond to digitize materials



Other Digitization Projects

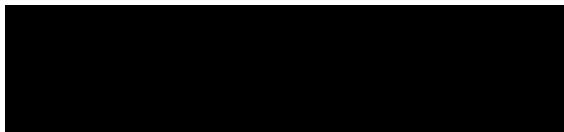
Opportunities for future
partnerships



The Glenbow Museum

- Over 80,000 photographs, cartoons and posters available online
- Beginning to digitize art
- Three dimensional artifacts
- “Impress” collection of over 2,000 prints

Partnerships with the U of A, Alberta College of Art & Design, U of C and Calgary School Board



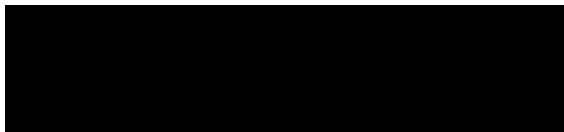
Royal Alberta Museum

- Creature Collection

This site provides direct access to information on over 50,000 records of 1699 different species of animals from collections of the Royal Alberta Museum.

Royal Tyrell Museum

- Creating an image database of specimens
-



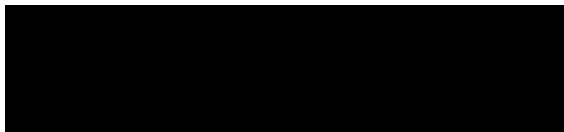
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Archives Society of Alberta

- Alberta InSight – growing database of over 35,000 digital images
- Alberta InWord – growing database of textual records – exceeding 100,000 scanned pages.
- Allows smaller institutions and projects to contribute

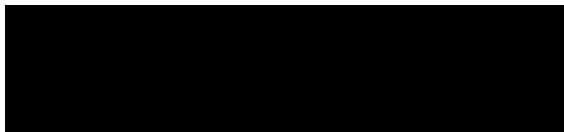
CKUA (Canada's first public broadcaster – founded 1927)

- Sound archives online – over 900 hours of streaming audio



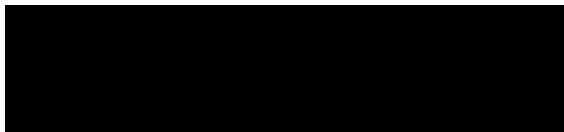
Moving Forward

**... building on the foundation of the
Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital
Library digitization projects**



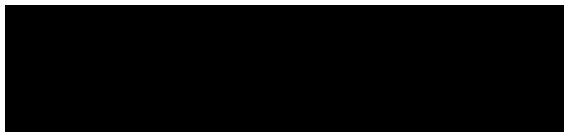
Moving forward

- TAL has taken a leadership role in promoting digitization in Alberta
 - APLEN continues to promote digitization in the public library community, providing information and support as requested
 - The 4 lead universities continue to build their digital collections, assisted by LHCADL resources
 - Accountability is important, to sustain the funding



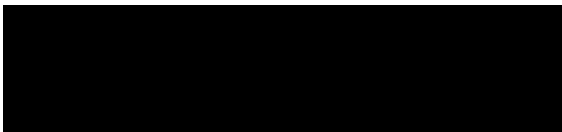
Moving Forward and...

- **Developed partnerships with:**
 - Canadiana.org - TAL has been named an aggregation site for Alberta's digital content
 - Sun Microsystems Inc. – TAL is a member of its Preservation and Archiving Special Interest Group
 - **Developing in-house storage capabilities to host and store digital projects**
 - **TAL will become one of the Trusted Digital Repositories in Canada**
-

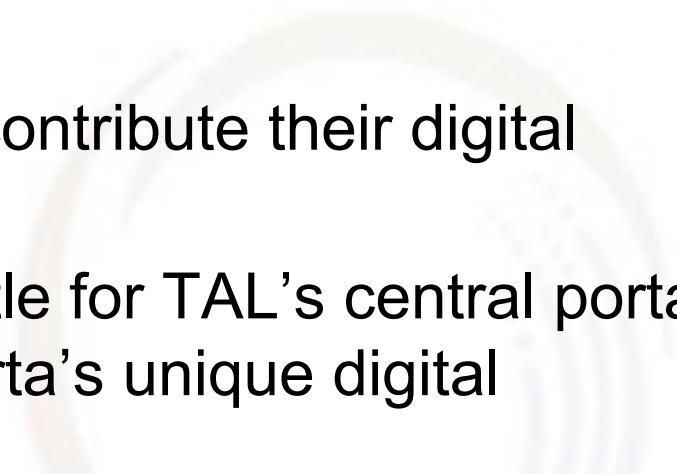


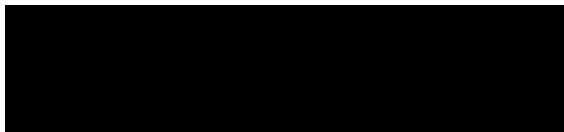
...Beyond: Opportunities

- TAL has implemented the required technologies and is prepared to provide hosting and harvesting services
 - allowing Alberta's digital collections to be discovered through a national portal such as Canadiana.org
 - positioning TAL to lead other memory organizations towards centralized digital projects
 - creating a climate of collaboration among cultural institutions (such as museums, archives, and galleries) interested in exposing their unique collections to the world



A Provincial Portal

- Albertans realize the importance of digitization in today's world
 - Other memory institutions can contribute their digital content
 - “Know Alberta” is the working title for TAL's central portal to gather and disseminate Alberta's unique digital content to the world
- 
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know alberta

Our People. Our Places. Our History.

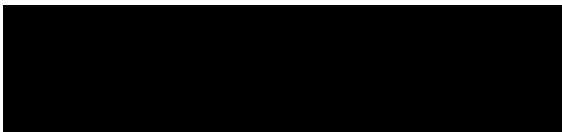


One stop access to digital collections of libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, community groups, government agencies, and private collections in Alberta and across Canada.

SEARCH

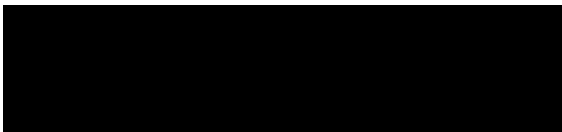
Welcome to **Know Alberta**, your portal to a rich collection of digital images, text, audio and video materials that bring Alberta's history, heritage and culture to life. **Know Alberta** comes out of a partnership between [Canadiana.org](#) and [The Alberta Library](#) - a consortium of Alberta Libraries. This is the development version of this service, the production version will be available later this year. For more information go to the [FAQ](#).

- BROWSE MEDIA TYPES:
- AUDIO
 - IMAGES
 - VIDEO
 - COLLECTION
 - TEXT



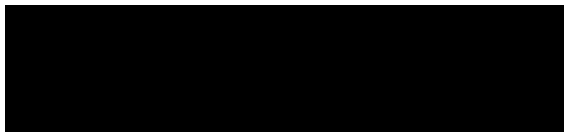
Challenges to Date

- Technology:
 - selecting a platform that meets users' needs
 - is sustainable
 - scalable
 - meets hw and sw standards
 - sufficiently robust
 - Digital content management: standards for storage and exposure, legal issues
 - Building capacity and understanding among members, users and partners
-



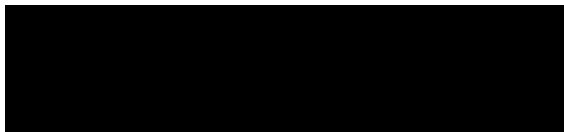
Anticipated Challenges

- Sustaining the digital collections, including migration plans
 - Promoting the value of the collections and their use in Alberta and the world
 - Understanding the needs of other memory institutions to create digital content (need to preserve the original object, for e.g.)
 - Long term preservation of original objects
-



Opportunities

- Albertans realize the importance of digitization in today's world
 - To involve other memory institutions contributing their digital content,
 - TAL is uniquely positioned to develop a digital program that includes preservation and archival components
 - “Know Alberta” will gather and disseminate this content to the world, informing learners, scholars and potential visitors of Alberta's rich heritage
-



Know Alberta

Working collaboratively to ensure that Alberta's
rich heritage is available to anyone who wants to
get to
"KNOW ALBERTA"

