



CHLA/ABSC Conference

Winnipeg, Manitoba

June 11-14, 2024



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Welcome from Conference Chair and Planning Committee / Bienvenue de la présidente et du comité de planification!

On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee, I welcome the health libraries community to Winnipeg.

We recognize the traditional caretakers and stewards of the land on which we gather: the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate and Denesuline peoples. We are on Treaty 1 Territory and the homeland of the Red River Métis, and our drinking water is sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. We invite attendees to reflect on the traditional territories from which they arrive, and to move forward with us and with Indigenous communities across Canada in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

We hope that you come away from this conference with knowledge to share with your networks and colleagues. We hope that what you learn here stays with you and spreads with you through new innovations at your institutions and in your own research and teaching. We invite you to engage with us in this disruption as we celebrate the diversity of what health libraries have to offer.

Nicole Askin

Chair, Conference Planning Committee

Au nom du comité de planification, je souhaite la bienvenue à Winnipeg à la communauté des bibliothèques de santé.

Nous reconnaissons les gardiens traditionnels et les intendants de la terre sur laquelle nous nous réunissons : les Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate et Denesuline. Nous nous trouvons sur le territoire du traité no 1 et sur la terre natale des Métis de la rivière Rouge, et nous buvons de l'eau provenant de Shoal Lake 40. Nous invitons les participants à réfléchir aux territoires traditionnels d'où ils viennent et à aller de l'avant avec nous et avec les communautés autochtones du Canada dans un esprit de réconciliation et de collaboration.

Nous espérons que vous repartirez de cette conférence avec des connaissances à partager avec vos réseaux et vos collègues. Nous espérons que ce que vous aurez appris ici restera gravé dans votre mémoire et se répandra par le biais de nouvelles innovations au sein de vos institutions et dans vos propres recherches et enseignements. Nous vous invitons à vous engager avec nous dans cette perturbation alors que nous célébrons la diversité de ce que les bibliothèques de santé ont à offrir.

Nicole Askin

Présidente du comité de planification



Welcome From the President of CHLA

Welcome to the 47th annual CHLA/ABSC conference! After the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to meet virtually in 2021, it is wonderful to have another chance and finally be able to host our annual conference in beautiful Winnipeg, Manitoba, after 15 years. The 'Disruptive & Diverse' theme, I believe, is representative of our experience and what we aspire to be as health library and information professionals. As we face recent challenges and trends such as recent library cuts, misinformation, and artificial intelligence, we find strength in diverse perspectives and experiences and seek innovative solutions to demonstrate the value and role of health libraries within the Canadian healthcare system.

This conference includes many inspiring and engaging workshops, presentations, posters, and lightning talks, as well as many networking opportunities which will be invaluable. Take this opportunity to learn from your colleagues, seek opportunities for collaboration, and return home inspired to try something new.

For the keynotes, we have the incredible honour of hearing from the following three individuals; Catherine Wreford, a brain cancer survivor, former nurse, Broadway performer, and winner of the *Amazing Race Canada* Season 8; Nora Loreto, a writer and activist, editor of the Canadian Association of Labour Media, host of the *Daily News* podcast and co-host of the podcast *Sandy and Nora Talk Politics*; and Joe Curnow, a community organizer and academic who is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba, and has been instrumental in the efforts to create safety and welcome at Winnipeg's downtown Millenium Library. The inspiring journeys of these speakers will motivate and empower us to continue to strengthen our community and overcome obstacles.

The conference program offers a wide range of sessions on topics related to knowledge synthesis, website design, information literacy and teaching, workplace experiences, subject indexing, literature searching, librarian role in health policy, artificial intelligence, project and data management, marketing, and library service models.

During this conference, I encourage you to take part in as many sessions and social events as you can, and to explore what the beautiful city of Winnipeg has to offer. Be sure to also welcome and thank our industry partners in the Exhibit Hall, learn about their new products, and remember this conference would not be possible without their support.

On behalf of the CHLA/ABSC Board of Directors, I would like to thank the 2024 Conference Planning Committee and its Chair, Nicole Askin, for their dedication, thoughtfulness, and perseverance in planning for this conference!

Lance Fox
President, CHLA/ABSC



Bienvenue de la présidente de l'ABSC

Bienvenue à la 47^e conférence annuelle de l'ABSC / CHLA ! Après que la pandémie de la COVID-19 nous ait contraints à nous réunir virtuellement en 2021, il est merveilleux d'avoir la chance de pouvoir à nouveau organiser notre congrès annuel dans la belle ville de Winnipeg, au Manitoba, après 15 ans. Le thème « Disruptif et diversifié » est, je crois, représentatif de notre expérience et de ce que nous aspirons à devenir en tant que professionnel(le)s des bibliothèques et de l'information dans le domaine de la santé. Alors que nous sommes confrontés à des tendances et des défis récents, tels que les coupes budgétaires, la désinformation et l'intelligence artificielle, nous trouvons notre force dans la diversité des perspectives et des expériences et nous cherchons des solutions innovantes pour démontrer la valeur et le rôle des bibliothèques de la santé au sein du système de santé canadien.

Cette conférence comprend de nombreux ateliers, présentations, affiches et conférences éclair inspirants et engageants, ainsi que de nombreuses opportunités de réseautage. Profitez de cette occasion pour apprendre de vos collègues, rechercher des opportunités de collaboration et repartir avec l'envie d'essayer quelque chose de nouveau.

Pour les discours d'ouverture, nous aurons l'honneur d'entendre les personnes suivantes : Catherine Wreford, survivante d'un cancer du cerveau, ancienne infirmière, artiste de Broadway et gagnante de la huitième saison de *Amazing Race Canada*; Nora Loreto, écrivaine et activiste, rédactrice en chef de l'Association canadienne de la presse syndicale, animatrice du balado *Daily News* et coanimatrice du balado *Sandy and Nora Talk Politics*; et Joe Curnow, organisateur communautaire et universitaire, professeur associé à la Faculté d'éducation de l'Université du Manitoba, qui a joué un rôle déterminant dans les efforts déployés pour assurer la sécurité et l'accueil à la bibliothèque du Millénaire du centre-ville de Winnipeg. Les parcours inspirants de ces conférenciers nous motiveront et nous donneront des moyens pour continuer à renforcer notre communauté et pour surmonter les obstacles.

Le programme de la conférence offre un large éventail de sessions sur des sujets liés à la synthèse des connaissances, à la conception de sites web, à l'enseignement et aux compétences informationnelles, aux expériences de travail, à l'indexation, à la recherche documentaire, au rôle des bibliothécaires dans les politiques de santé, à l'intelligence artificielle, à la gestion de projets, à la gestion des données de recherche, au marketing et aux modèles de services des bibliothèques.

Au cours de cette conférence, je vous encourage à participer à autant de sessions et d'événements sociaux que possible, et à explorer ce que la belle ville de Winnipeg a à offrir. Ne manquez pas non plus d'accueillir et de remercier nos partenaires dans la salle d'exposition, de vous renseigner sur leurs nouveaux produits et de garder à l'esprit que cette conférence ne serait pas possible sans leur soutien.

Au nom du conseil d'administration de l'ABSC/CHLA, j'aimerais remercier le comité de planification de la conférence 2024 et sa présidente, Nicole Askin, pour leur dévouement, leur engagement et leur persévérance dans la planification de cette conférence!

Lance Fox
Président de l'ABSC / CHLA



Conference Planning Committee and Board of Directors

2024 Conference Planning Committee	CHLA/ABSC Board of Directors
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Message from the Mayor of Winnipeg

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2024 Canadian Health Libraries Association annual conference. Thank you for choosing Winnipeg as this year's host city.

This year, Winnipeg celebrates 150 years as a city. As you gather to network and learn, I encourage you to take the opportunity to explore our city.

Winnipeg is an incredibly exciting, vibrant and dynamic city. From museums and galleries to theaters and festivals, there is always something going on in our city that celebrates the rich heritage and traditions of the many diverse communities that call Winnipeg home. The Winnipeg Art Gallery, the Leaf at the Assiniboine Park, the Manitoba Museum, and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights are just a few of the wide variety of cultural institutions.

I would like to thank the CHLA staff and Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication putting together this annual event. I applaud your ongoing work in providing education, resources, and advocacy for individuals in the health sciences library and information field.

My best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Gillingham', written over a light blue grid background.



Scott Gillingham
Mayor
City of Winnipeg



Registration & Hospitality Desk

The registration and hospitality desk is located in the Assiniboia Concourse. Come see our friendly volunteers for help answering your questions about registration, the conference program, the hotel, networking events, attractions around Winnipeg, the dine-around dinners, along with any other questions you may have. We are here to help you find the information you need to make the most of the conference and your stay in Winnipeg!

Registration Desk Hours

Tuesday, June 11	11:00am – 7:00pm
Wednesday, June 12	7:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday, June 13	7:45am – 4:00pm
Friday, June 14	8:00am – 11:00am



Conference Program

Tuesday, June 11

11:00am – 7:00pm	Registration Desk Open	Assiniboia Concourse
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Tour: Winnipeg Trolley Company	
6:00pm – 6:45pm	Tour: Qaumajuq - Winnipeg Art Gallery	Winnipeg Art Gallery
6:00pm – 7:00pm	First Timers Reception	Delta Hotel
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Opening Reception	Winnipeg Art Gallery

Wednesday, June 12

6:30am – 7:30am	Morning Activity	
7:00am – 5:00pm	Registration Desk Open	Assiniboia Concourse
8:00am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Delta Ballroom
9:00am – 10:30am	Opening Keynote: Catherine Wreford	Assiniboia
10:30am – 11:00am	Coffee Break and Exhibits	Delta Ballroom
11:00am – 11:20am	Contributed Papers	

[How One Untamed Hospital Librarian Seized the Marketing Day and Disrupted the Library's Tempo in Order to Promote Its Value](#)

Iveta Lewis

Charleswood A

[Using Meta-ethnography to Disrupt: Under-represented Students' Stories of \(dis\)embodiment and Impossible Professionalism in Medical School](#)

Robin Parker; Paul Cameron; Sarah Burm; Anna MacLeod; Jordin Fletcher; Olga Kits; Victoria Luong

Kildonan

11:20am – 11:40am	Contributed Papers	
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[Undergraduate Involvement in Published Evidence Syntheses: A Preliminary Exploration](#)

Fiona Inglis

Kildonan

[It's Broken, and We Gotta Fix It \(Part 2\): Implementing a New Library Service Model in a Multi-site Hospital Network](#)

Zack Osborne

Charleswood A



11:40am – 12:00pm	Contributed Papers	
	<u>Scaffolded Information Literacy and Student Perceived Confidence Levels</u>	
	<i>Stephanie Sanger; Denise Smith</i>	Kildonan
	<u>Dependable During Disruptions: Ensuring Remote Access to Library Resources, Redeploying Staff, and Offering Relevant Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic</u>	
	<i>Minakshi Sharma; Marie-Hélène Nicol</i>	Charleswood A
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch	Delta Ballroom
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Disrupting Librarians Panel (with presentations)	Assiniboia
	<u>Evidence-Based Activism: The Librarian's Role in Grassroots Challenges to Healthcare Policy and Practice</u>	
	<i>David Gerstle</i>	
	<u>Charting Equity in Scholarship: Strategies for Libraries in Addressing Citation Justice</u>	
	<i>Heather Cunningham</i>	
2:00pm – 3:30pm	Vendor Presentations and Break	Delta Ballroom
3:30pm – 4:45pm	Workshop	Kildonan
	<u>Dedicated Time for Reading, Brainstorming, Writing, or Reworking a Project!</u>	
	<i>Margaret Hoogland; Anna Ferri; Christine Neilson; Gary Atwood</i>	
3:30pm – 3:50pm	Contributed Paper	Charleswood A
	<u>Beyond the Search: Librarian-led Project Management of Evidence Syntheses</u>	
	<i>Leah Boulos; Erin Langman</i>	
3:50pm – 4:10pm	Contributed Paper	Charleswood A
	<u>Data-sharing Practices in Publications Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research: Implications for Health Sciences Librarians</u>	
	<i>David Scott</i>	
4:10pm – 4:30pm	Contributed Paper	Charleswood A
	<u>How Collaborative Learning Promotes Teamwork and Knowledge Sharing: An Overview of the Learning Environment in Academic Institutions</u>	
	<i>Dr. Khurshid Ahmad; Nain Tara</i>	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Dine Arouds and After-Dinner Social Event	



Thursday, June 13

6:30am – 7:30am	Morning Activity	
8:00am – 6:00pm	Registration Desk Open	Assiniboia Concourse
8:00am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Delta Ballroom
9:00am – 10:30am	Keynote: Joe Curnow	Assiniboia
10:30am – 11:00am	Coffee Break and Exhibits	Delta Ballroom
11:00am – 11:20am	Contributed Papers	
	<u>Narrative Medicine in Pre-Medical Undergraduate Education: Humanizing Health Experiences</u>	
	<i>Stephanie Sanger; Shayan Novin</i>	Charleswood A
	<u>Revolutionizing Learning: Emerging Tech Spaces in the Sperber Health Sciences Library</u>	
	<i>Janice Kung; Lisa Tjosvold; Liz Dennett</i>	Kildonan
11:20am – 11:40am	Contributed Papers	
	<u>Information Literacy Research During the COVID-19 Pandemic: a Systematic Literature Review and Bibliometric Analysis</u>	
	<i>Efren Torres Jr; Christine Abrigo; Zipporah Dery-Cruz</i>	Charleswood A
	<u>Green Libraries: Cultivating Well-Being and Food Security in Academic Libraries</u>	
	<i>Heather Cunningham; Glyneva Bradley-Ridout; Mikaela Gray; Catherine Duff; Margaret Nevison; Emily Woehrle</i>	Kildonan
11:40am – 12:00pm	Contributed Paper	Charleswood A
	<u>Navigating the Digital Frontier: Unpacking Strategies and Assemblages in Academic Librarians' Online Teaching Practices for Evidence Synthesis Methods</u>	
	<i>Robin Parker</i>	
11:40am – 12:00pm	Invited Paper	Kildonan
	<u>Learning to Say 'No' and Other Tales from a Tech Turned Librarian</u>	
	<i>Meg Miller</i>	
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch & Learn	Delta Ballroom
	<u>Data Security & Library Access</u> (sponsored by LibLynx)	
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Poster Session	Delta Ballroom
	<u>Are Patrons "Clicking" With the Library's Literature Search Service? Assessing Patron Engagement Using Short.io</u>	



Tyler Ostapyk; Carla Epp; Nicole Askin

[Demonstrating Library Value: Developing a Practical Tool](#)

Nicole Askin; Joanne R. Hodder; Mark Mueller; Jeanna Hough; Brooke Scott; Joan Bartlett

[Exploring Donor Relationship Management in Academic and Health Sciences Libraries: A Pilot Survey on Scale Purification](#)

Amanda Ross-White

[MeSHing Around with Citation Metadata to Explore Patterns in Automatic Indexing: Preliminary Results](#)

Emma Garlock; Joan Bartlett

[Filtering Failure: Use of exp animals/ not humans.sh With Automated Indexing](#)

Nicole Askin; Tyler Ostapyk; Carla Epp

[Social Prescribing: a Tool for Primary Care](#)

Taylor Moore

[Supporting Primary Care Clinicians with Evidence-Based Digital Tools](#)

Taylor Moore

[Advocating for Equitable Access: Using Survey Data to Identify System Wide Strategies for Equitable Access to Library Resources](#)

Benjamin Hoover; Kelly Thormodson

2:00pm – 2:30pm	Coffee Break and Exhibits	Delta Ballroom
2:30pm – 3:30pm	Lightning Talks	Assiniboia

[What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Knowledge Synthesis? A Content Analysis](#)

Christine Neilson

[Bibliometric Analysis: Scale of Canadian Librarian Involvement in Systematic Review Publications from U15 Institutions](#)

Janice Kung; Megan Kennedy

[From Query to Answer: Building a Health Sciences FAQ Space](#)

Sabine Calleja; Eleni Philippopoulos

[Bringing Order to Chaos: How a Work Plan Can Help Librarians Support Users Doing Systematic Reviews and Scoping Reviews](#)

Elizabeth Yates; Kymberly Ash

[Try AI Day: Helping Librarians Get Acclimated to Popular AI Tools](#)

Gary Atwood



[When Lifecycles Collide: Embedding Research Data Management into Knowledge Syntheses Beyond the Search](#)

Angélique Roy; Meghan Goodchild; Courtney Svab

3:30pm – 4:30pm Special Interest Group Meeting: KSIG Fort Garry

6:00pm – 8:00pm Awards Dinner Delta Hotel

8:00pm – 9:00pm After Party

Friday, June 14

8:00am – 11:00am Registration Desk Open Assiniboia Concourse

8:15am – 9:15am Breakfast Delta Ballroom

9:15am – 10:30am Workshop Charleswood A

[Organizing for Power in Your Health Sciences Library: a Workshop to Utilize Labour Organizing Techniques to Engage with Health Library Patrons, and Advocate for Library Workers](#)

Orvie Dingwall

9:15am – 9:35am Contributed Paper Charleswood B

[Barriers and Facilitators Facing Early Career Researchers and Librarians in Health Professions When Conducting Systematic and Scoping Reviews: A Mixed Methods Study](#)

Lindsey Sikora

9:35am – 9:55am Contributed Paper Charleswood B

[Dealing with Disruption: How Generalist Academic Libraries are Grappling with Growing Demands for Evidence Synthesis Support](#)

Fiona Inglis; Elizabeth Yates

9:55am – 10:15am Contributed Paper Charleswood B

[Support and Professional Development Needs for Knowledge Syntheses in Canadian Research Libraries: Results from a Cross-sectional Survey](#)

Robin Parker; Monique Clar; Neera Bhatnagar; Patrick R. Labelle; Zahra Premji

10:30am – 11:00am Coffee Break Assiniboia

11:00am – 12:30pm Closing Keynote: [Nora Loreto](#) Assiniboia

12:30pm – 1:00pm Closing remarks and 2025 presentation Assiniboia

1:00pm – 4:00pm Tour: Canadian Museum of Human Rights



Keynote Speaker Biographies

Catherine Wreford



Catherine Wreford embodies resilience and determination. As a brain cancer survivor, former nurse, and Broadway performer, she has transformed her life's toughest challenge into a source of strength and motivation for others. Her remarkable journey, marked by dedication to her family and career, encourages people to approach life with fullness and contribute positively to their communities.

Winning *The Amazing Race Canada* Season 8 alongside Craig Ramsay showcases her incredible resolve and supports her mission to raise awareness and funds for brain cancer. Catherine's story serves as a compelling example of overcoming obstacles, inspiring individuals to face life's difficulties with bravery and compassion.

Joe Curnow



Joe Curnow is a community organizer and academic whose recent work focuses on building power to address the crises of austerity, securitization, and censorship in public libraries. With Millennium for All, she has worked to replace airport like security screening with community-led and evidence based alternatives to creating safety and welcome at Winnipeg's downtown Millennium Library. Joe's academic work brings learning theory together with community organizing and social movement studies to explore how people become politicized and how they become activists in their communities. Joe is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba.



Nora Loreto



Nora Loreto is a writer and activist based in Quebec City. Her fourth book, *The Social Safety Net* (Dundurn), will be released in August 2024. It is Vol. 1 in a series called *Canada in Decline*. Nora's third book, *Spin Doctors, How Media and Politicians Misdiagnosed the COVID-19 Pandemic* (Fernwood 2021) was Canada's first analysis of how we fared as a country during the pandemic.

Nora is the editor of the Canadian Association of Labour Media and hosts a daily news podcast appropriately titled *The Daily News*. With Sandy Hudson, she co-hosts the popular political podcast *Sandy and Nora Talk Politics*.



Abstracts – Contributed Papers

1. **Barriers and Facilitators Facing Early Career Researchers and Librarians in Health Professions When Conducting Systematic and Scoping Reviews: A Mixed Methods Study**

Lindsey Sikora, University of Ottawa

Introduction: This study delves into the challenges faced by early career researchers (ECRs) and librarians in health professions conducting systematic and scoping reviews. Given the pivotal role of these methodologies in evidence synthesis, understanding the unique experiences of this demographic is crucial.

Methods: A mixed methods approach combines quantitative surveys and semi-structured interviews. The structured survey, administered to a diverse sample, examined methodological expertise, resource access, and time constraints. Simultaneously, semi-structured interviews with a subset of participants provided qualitative depth, exploring personal experiences and uncovering facilitators such as mentorship programs, collaborative networks, and specialized training.

Results: Preliminary survey findings revealed common challenges, including limited methodological proficiency and resource constraints. Qualitative interviews contextualized these challenges, offering insights into coping strategies and nuanced facilitators that contribute to successful reviews.

Conclusion: This research provides actionable recommendations for academic institutions, mentors, and organizations to support ECRs and librarians. By addressing identified barriers and leveraging facilitators, stakeholders can cultivate an environment conducive to high-quality evidence synthesis, advancing research and evidence-based practice in health professions. The integrated findings from both quantitative and qualitative methods offer a comprehensive understanding of the multi-faceted landscape surrounding systematic and scoping reviews in this context-based practice in health professions.

2. **Beyond the Search: Librarian-led Project Management of Evidence Syntheses**

Leah Boulos, Dalhousie University; Erin Langman, University of Saskatchewan

Introduction: Librarians traditionally support evidence synthesis (ES) by refining research questions, designing and executing searches, and providing methodological guidance. However, given the opportunity, librarians can be members of the research team beyond the search stage, and even provide leadership. Two librarians recently provided project management support for rapid living evidence syntheses for the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).



Description: COVID-END, a pan-Canadian COVID-19 evidence network, was commissioned by PHAC to produce eight rapid living evidence syntheses (LESs) on public health and social measures for reducing transmission of COVID-19. Completed by teams across Canada, each LES had three updates due at 6-week intervals. We each supported the LES on the effectiveness of masks and on the unintended consequences/outcomes of masking, respectively. Beyond the search stage, we created citation screening support documents, resolved screening conflicts, designed data extraction forms, led data extraction and verification, managed data, drafted reports, and kept each project running on time.

Outcomes: Our teams each submitted our deliverables on time with appropriate methodological rigour. Lessons learned include the importance of negotiating scope with contractors and funders, handling tight timelines, and tips and tricks for making the most of review software and complementary programs such as Microsoft Excel.

Discussion: By integrating librarians as project managers, our teams benefitted from the organizational skills and ES expertise many of us possess. In turn, we enhanced our project management and ES skills, and we now provide improved support to other ES teams.

3. Data-sharing Practices in Publications Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research: Implications for Health Sciences Librarians

David Scott, University of Lethbridge

Objective: Data sharing in the health sciences is a known challenge as human subjects research prohibits the public sharing of personal identifying information without consent. Because of its private nature, it has been reported in the literature that health research data is difficult to find and access for reuse purposes. To better understand the current state of data sharing in a Canadian health sciences context, this study examines Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)-funded publications that provide evidence of data sharing to identify if, where, and how researchers make their data available. This study is a 3.5-year update to a previously published 2021 project.

Methods: Using PubMed Central, we identified 8,356 articles that were published between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2023, were funded by CIHR, and had associated data. We analyzed a sample of 368 publications (95% confidence interval) to determine if and where data were shared and what documentation was provided to facilitate data reuse.

Results: Preliminary results indicate that 34% of articles made at least some data readily accessible, 22% indicated that data were available upon request or by application, and 44% made no research data available. Overall, 69% of sampled publications included a data availability statement, and only 9% of articles supplied documentation that would support reuse of the data.



Conclusions: This study highlights gaps with respect to how Canadian health researchers share and document their data. This presentation will discuss these gaps and outline how health sciences librarians can support researchers in this area.

4. Dealing with Disruption: How Generalist Academic Libraries are Grappling with Growing Demands for Evidence Synthesis Support

Fiona Inglis, Wilfrid Laurier University; Elizabeth Yates, Brock University

Introduction: The explosive growth of evidence synthesis projects has prompted many institutions to develop or refine their services and staffing models. This presents an additional challenge for institutions without medical schools which often lack trained librarians and resources dedicated to this service and which are seeing increased demand from many disciplines outside health sciences. This presentation will highlight approaches used by two medium-sized universities – one with liaison librarians, another with functional teams - to assess needs and develop sustainable models for supporting evidence synthesis research across diverse non-clinical disciplines. As well, the presenters will share preliminary results from a survey documenting experiences and service models at other generalist institutions.

Methods: Following research ethics clearance, a short survey will be distributed on relevant listservs (e.g. KSIG, CAPAL) to collect information from non-health-sciences libraries about their models for supporting evidence synthesis research.

Results: The presentation will report on expected outcomes including insights into how libraries are building structures and processes to support the growing demand for evidence synthesis research outside the traditional base of clinical health sciences.

Discussion: Sharing the experiences of a diverse range of institutions will provide us all with insights and further questions to consider as we work to develop effective, sustainable and equitable evidence synthesis supports and services.

5. Dependable During Disruptions: Ensuring Remote Access to Library Resources, Redeploying Staff, and Offering Relevant Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Minakshi Sharma, Toronto Public Health; Marie-Hélène Nicol, Université de Montréal

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted access to health library services, spaces, staff and resources. We conducted a bilingual Canada-wide survey in early 2023 to document the experiences of library technicians, librarians, managers, and other health library staff. The objectives of the survey were to document: (1) services provided by health library staff; (2) staffing levels in health libraries; (3) redeployment of library staff to alternate roles or activities; (4) frequently used skills or competencies; (5) challenges faced and (6) lessons learned during the pandemic. Over 280 respondents provided insights on the role of library staff during the pandemic. During the



pandemic, library staff provided services such as environmental scans, literature searches, instruction sessions, and alerts to information on COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 so that hospital staff, public health staff or researchers could implement the most up to date evidence. Meanwhile, staffing levels at health libraries were variable between 2019-2022. In addition, survey data shows that 57% of respondents were redeployed to alternate roles or tasks and 22% of staff who were redeployed continued to perform library work simultaneously. Skills and competencies such as literature searching, project management, networking, or communication were used daily or weekly by over 40% of respondents. Many library staff identified challenges such as reduced or increased service requests, online service delivery, deployment to alternate roles and health concerns. Overall, health libraries ensured remote access to resources, redeployed staff to meet organizational priorities, and provided relevant services during the pandemic. Future considerations to improve service delivery are explored.

6. Green Libraries: Cultivating Well-Being and Food Security in Academic Libraries

Heather Cunningham, University of Toronto; Glyneva Bradley-Ridout, University of Toronto; Mikaela Gray, University of Toronto; Catherine Duff, University of Toronto; Margaret Nevison University of Toronto; Emily Woehrl, University of Toronto

Introduction: Integrating greenery in libraries offers benefits such as stress reduction, air quality improvement, and fostering relaxation. Numerous articles about library programming include workshops on gardening skills. Furthermore, library gardens and seed libraries can also be an innovative approach to mitigating food security.

Description: In Spring 2022, the Gerstein Science Information Centre, University of Toronto, introduced an indoor garden, a seed library, curated monograph collection, and lending services for gardening tools. The herbs and lettuce grown in the indoor units are harvested and quickly claimed by patrons. This project aimed to enhance the well-being of patrons and staff, foster community engagement and partnerships, and align with the library's strategic plan of enhancing physical spaces and promoting health and wellness.

Outcomes: A survey on usage and motivations for using the garden and seed library revealed significant insights into the student population. Most respondents showed a preference for edible plants over ornamental ones in the garden units. Similarly, there was a notable interest in acquiring seeds for growing food. Over 2000 seed packets were distributed to students within a year of the project launch. The responses and comments also indicated the calming effect of gardening as a hobby and for wellbeing.

Discussion: Libraries have the potential to broaden their impact through gardens, not only as a means of psychological uplift but also as a tool to combat food insecurity. This can be achieved through direct provision of greens and herbs, seed distribution, or educational programming in partnership with campus organizations focused on sustainable food cultivation.



7. How Collaborative Learning Promotes Teamwork and Knowledge Sharing: An Overview of the Learning Environment in Academic Institutions

Dr. Khurshid Ahmad, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur Pakistan; Nain Tara, Bahauddin Zakariya University

Collaborative learning is seen as an interesting area of contemporary academic research aimed at improving knowledge sharing, fostering academic participation, developing teacher-student interaction, and enhancing academic achievement. The purpose of this research is to understand whether collaborative learning has a significant impact on knowledge sharing, academic participation, interactivity, and collective productivity in the academic environment. The quantitative research is based on the primary data for which the instrument was developed after a comprehensive literature study. The population of the study consisted of professionals who are sharing knowledge in a collaborative learning environment with the practices of social media in universities. We were able to collect data from 262 professionals in academic institutions in Pakistan. Data were analyzed using structural equation modeling (SEM) software to check the accuracy of the structural model to know the impact of collaborative learning on the associated factors. The findings disclosed that collaborative learning positively impacts improving academic engagement, collective performance, and knowledge sharing. We also found the impact of academic engagement on interconnectivity and the influence of interconnectivity on collective performance. In addition, the hypothetical findings of knowledge sharing highly impact interconnectivity and collective performance improvement. The study is useful for researchers to know the learning outcomes of university professionals through social networking practices in a collaborative environment.

8. How One Untamed Hospital Librarian Seized the Marketing Day and Disrupted the Library's Tempo in Order to Promote Its Value

Iveta Lewis, Holland Bloorview Hospital

Introduction: While fundamental in other disciplines, marketing skills appear unfamiliar to hospital librarians for many reasons. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate that a hospital library does not need massive budgets to promote services. I will show that hospital librarians can painlessly market their services to create partnerships and uphold their values.

Description: When I started at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation hospital library in the thick of 2020, I realized I had an unsurmountable task ahead to unveil the invisibility of the library. I will share tips on marketing a hospital library through the journey from nebulous novice marketer to eventually building a modest marketing plan.

Discussion: Working from home during the pandemic hiatus, the library's spotlight had dimmed but there was actually a plethora of opportunities to take advantage of. I will illustrate how the pandemic ignited the promotion engine where library projects were bouncing off each other;



from providing a library space as a vaccination clinic to collaborating with labs, to creating events for the IDEAA program, and to designing an exhibition for the hospital's anniversary.

Outcomes: From the library being in a fog in 2020 to now, our library's services profile has soared exponentially. Not only does the library continue to maintain its traditional essential services, but it has also introduced many innovative ones, such as the lending devices from our research labs. It is evident that promoting library services is doable even without formal training, and achieved instead with indispensable passion to seize the day.

9. Information Literacy Research During the COVID-19 Pandemic: a Systematic Literature Review and Bibliometric Analysis

Efren Torres Jr, De La Salle University Manila; Christine Abrigo, De La Salle University Manila; Zipporah Dery-Cruz, De La Salle University Manila;

Purpose: The study aims to examine the literature on information Literacy (IL) published during the COVID-19 pandemic over the last four years, focusing on research productivity and its research impact. It also highlights the major themes and emerging trends in IL research.

Specifically, it shall answer the following questions:

Q1: What is the state of research on information literacy in terms of research productivity (i.e. leading countries, authors, and sources) and research impact (i.e., citation counts) during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Q2: What structure can be derived in terms of networks of co-citation, keywords co-occurrence, and co-authorship?

Q3: What are the prevailing themes about information literacy that are being researched during the pandemic?

Design, methodology, and approach: Systematic literature review and bibliometric analysis were employed. Scopus database was used as the primary source of bibliographic data.

Findings: Anticipated findings point towards the results of the synthesis of relevant literature review on information literacy research and map out research and future directions.

Originality/Value: This study is an attempt to add to the body of bibliometric studies on information literacy intended for instructors and librarians to understand IL in depth.

10. It's Broken, and We Gotta Fix It (Part 2): Implementing a New Library Service Model in a Multi-site Hospital Network

Zack Osborne, Unity Health Toronto

Introduction: It can be difficult for hospital libraries to meet increasing service demands, ensuring staff time is occupied offering the services which best serve the organization, and while



supporting competing priorities equitably and consistently. It's crucial for hospital libraries to adapt to the changing needs of their organizations, and to demonstrate they can align their service offerings with the strategic objectives of the organization.

Description: This paper outlines changes made to the scope and limitations of services and activities offered by the library team at Unity Health Toronto, a multi-site academic hospital network. These changes include the introduction of a priority matrix to transparently communicate priority or precedence of service requests, the re-imagining of roles on the library team to focus service offerings on specific under-supported program areas, and the implementation of a fee-for-service model for library "specialized services". From concentrating service delivery on meaningful and intentional uses of library staff time, these changes aim to better support the education, research, and evidence-based decision making for physicians, staff and learners in an academic health network.

Outcomes: High-level outcomes, reflections, and evaluations of success and impact will be shared at the time the paper is presented. It is hoped other hospital libraries considering modifications to how they support their communities will benefit from the approaches and strategies employed in this experience.

Discussion: This builds on a session delivered at CHLA 2023 in which the project's methods and approaches were discussed.

11. Narrative Medicine in Pre-Medical Undergraduate Education: Humanizing Health Experiences *Stephanie Sanger, McMaster University; Shayan Novin, McMaster University*

Introduction: Narrative medicine (NM) is a humanistic approach to the health sciences that values individuals' stories and lived experiences. This framework has been shown to improve various competencies, including communication, perspective-taking and ethical inquiry. Graphic medicine (GM) is a subset of NM that places an emphasis on the visual expression of stories.

Description: GM is one of the topics explored by McMaster University health sciences students in a course known as 'Praxis Pathways.' In a month-long module, students read, reflect on, and present a GM story that they find personally relevant. After a group reflection, students are given the opportunity to create a short GM piece that shares their own health story.

Outcomes: This presentation is centred in the experiences of one recent health sciences graduate who found value in NM. After completing the GM module, this student used GM to share his story growing up as a gay child. He curated his story with the intention to disrupt and bring nuance to reductive and stereotypical narratives around gay youth.



Discussion: His learning experiences and subsequent NM-based initiatives offer insight into the successes and areas of improvement for the GM module offered in Praxis Pathways. This exploration of a student's lived experience may also shed light on the broader pedagogical considerations for NM-oriented programs delivered to undergraduate students.

12. Navigating the Digital Frontier: Unpacking Strategies and Assemblages in Academic Librarians' Online Teaching Practices for Evidence Synthesis Methods

Robin Parker, Dalhousie University

Introduction: Academic health librarians regularly teach students evidence synthesis (ES) search skills through research consultations and group sessions. Increasing demand to support student projects can challenge boundaries regarding librarians' role in ES methods and provoke decisions about how and what to teach. We know little about librarian teaching practices during remote instruction of ES methods so I aimed to untangle the organizational, technological, pedagogical, and methodological aspects of online teaching practices regarding ES methods and make visible the diverse strategies for engaging learners.

Methods: In this digital ethnography using sociomaterial theories, 11 Canadian health librarians participated in two focus groups, eight observations of online research consultations, and five interviews. Analysis focused on tracing actions and disruptions to build relational understandings of the human, non-human, material, and immaterial entanglements in online teaching practices.

Results: Digital learning objects, such as video tutorials and library guides, along with ES methods guidance and review-related technologies mediated librarians' online teaching practices. In response to methodological expectations and learners' demonstrated abilities, librarians calibrated their teaching to balance technical and conceptual learning objectives related to the interconnected steps of ES methods. Librarians teach searching, question formulation, and more using the affordances of various technologies, both to deliver the training and in conducting steps of the review.

Discussion: I propose a model to frame decisions about how technologies, techniques, methods, content, and format influences online ES methods instruction, depending on the audience, setting, and context. This framework can help make explicit the often invisible labour of teaching ES methods.

13. Revolutionizing Learning: Emerging Tech Spaces in the Sperber Health Sciences Library

Janice Kung, University of Alberta; Lisa Tjosvold, University of Alberta; Liz Dennett, University of Alberta;

Introduction: The new Sperber Health Sciences Library at the University of Alberta opened in September 2023 and with it came the opportunity to design innovative spaces and new services.



Featuring a Maker Lab (3D printing), Virtual Reality Lab, and Media Lab, these new spaces are equipped to meet the evolving educational and research needs of students and faculty.

Description: After months of planning, the new technology services have launched and the initial enthusiasm shows that students and faculty are receptive to these technologies being housed in the library. This presentation will discuss the marketing strategies applied to promote the services, early successes, and the challenges.

Outcomes: Preliminary analytics will be shared including usage statistics and user feedback.

Discussion: Since the three technology services are still in their infancy, there is much room to grow and expand the programming. The team will share next steps and lessons learned from running the services for less than one year.

14. Scaffolded Information Literacy and Student Perceived Confidence Levels

Stephanie Sanger, McMaster University; Denise Smith, McMaster University

When considering undergraduate general health sciences education, there is insufficient evidence that speaks to the benefits and challenges of a scaffolded information literacy curriculum. Despite some argument that the impact on students is the same regardless of how information literacy training is delivered, the call for a curriculum-integrated scaffolded training program is on the rise.

This study aims to develop an understanding of the students' perceived confidence levels and skill levels when engaging with health information after four-years of formal information literacy instruction.

The researchers used a mixed-methods survey to learn how students' confidence in their information literacy skills has been impacted by this curriculum. Quantitative survey questions were analyzed using a combination of statistical methods in SPSS software. Qualitative survey questions employed in vivo open coding to identify patterns and categorize themes that emerged in participant responses to open-ended questions.

The survey had a response rate of 25%. 79% of survey participants recalled feeling "unconfident" or "not so confident" about how to find information when they were in their first year of study. By their final year, all participants indicated they felt "somewhat confident" (53%) or "very confident" (47%). Additional findings from the survey and qualitative findings will be discussed during the presentation.

A mandatory curriculum-integrated information literacy program in undergraduate health sciences has been shown to have had a positive impact on students' confidence in searching and



finding information. This study provides evidence of the benefits of integrating information literacy instruction into curricula for undergraduate students.

15. Support and Professional Development Needs for Knowledge Syntheses in Canadian Research Libraries: Results from a Cross-sectional Survey

Robin Parker, Dalhousie University; Monique Clar, Université de Montréal; Neera Bhatnagar, McMaster University; Patrick R. Labelle, University of Ottawa; Zahra Premji, University of Victoria

Introduction: Requests for support regarding knowledge syntheses (KS) have steadily increased and expanded beyond health disciplines. The objective of this CARL quality improvement project was to support professional development (PD) planning through understanding the needs of Canadian library workers interested in KS, regardless of discipline.

Methods: This cross-sectional study used online bilingual surveys open to all Canadian library workers to collect baseline data about KS support and PD needs. Twenty questions were organized into four sections: 1) role at library and with KS support; 2) levels and types of KS services; 3) PD training needs and preferences; and 4) additional desired resources and supports.

Results: 137 library workers responded (101 English and 36 French). Respondents had liaison and KS responsibilities with all listed disciplines, with approximately half working in health. Most respondents provide consultant support and mainly cover aspects related to searching and managing citations, but many also collaborate on and teach KS and cover other steps of the review process. Respondents preferred opportunities to learn about KS through structured PD, although the majority had previously built knowledge through self-directed readings and webinars. Respondents desired more time and human resources and PD on review methodologies and automation tools.

Discussion: KS support in Canadian academic libraries is varied and expanding beyond health. Health librarians report supporting multiple disciplines, suggesting cross-over that can help build capacity into other areas through workshops and other PD. The results of this survey provide insights to guide development of KS support and capacity within and beyond health libraries.

16. Undergraduate Involvement in Published Evidence Syntheses: A Preliminary Exploration

Fiona Inglis, Wilfrid Laurier University

Introduction: We are seeing an increase in undergraduate health sciences students being advised by their supervisors to publish evidence synthesis papers to enhance their medical school applications. This presents many challenges for both the students and the health sciences librarian. As we explored how best to support these students, we started by asking how often students are listed as authors in published review articles. Primary research questions include:



How many review articles have Laurier affiliated authors published? How many included student authors? How do evidence syntheses vary by department?

Methods: Six databases covering multiple disciplines were searched for titles including the word review and our institutional affiliation (n=909). Being a smaller institution, this broad scope was possible and was designed to enable analysis of disciplinary differences. Covidence was used to remove duplicates (n= 478) and support the 2-step screening process. Data extraction (n= 147) included bibliographic information, department, student status, librarian involvement, type of review, type of publication, and methodology.

Results: Data analysis is ongoing at the time of submission, but there are some preliminary results. The most prolific departments were psychology (18%), business (17%), social work (15%) and health sciences (13%). Students contributed to 35% of the articles. The majority were doctoral students (55%) but 23% were undergraduates, mainly health sciences. Students most often wrote scoping reviews (31%). Librarians were acknowledged in 28% of the publications.

Discussion: Understanding undergraduate involvement in evidence syntheses will enable us to develop appropriate policies and resources for sustainable and ethical support.

17. Using Meta-ethnography to Disrupt: Under-represented Students' Stories of (dis)embodiment and Impossible Professionalism in Medical School

Robin Parker, Dalhousie University; Paul Cameron, Dalhousie University; Sarah Burm, Dalhousie University; Anna MacLeod, Dalhousie University; Jordin Fletcher, Dalhousie University; Olga Kits, Dalhousie University; Victoria Luong, Dalhousie University

Introduction: Increasing recruitment of students who are Underrepresented in Medicine (UiM) aims to align representation in medical schools to the broader population, but retention and attainment still lag. We aimed to synthesize the literature to honour the stories of UiM medical students, building a deeper understanding of their complex experiences.

Methods: We followed the seven-step process for meta-ethnography, a critical qualitative synthesis that emphasizes richness and depth over comprehensiveness. We developed MEDLINE and Scopus searches and conducted a synthesis through reflexive team and individual processes, cultivating rich data from included studies. Involvement of a librarian, UiM students and graduates, and PhD scientists with diverse lived expertise brought rich insight into the meta-ethnographic process.

Results: We included 37 studies describing the experiences of UiM students: racial/ethnic minorities, those with disabilities, first in family, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and multiple groups. Synthesis generated four cross-cutting themes: "Working ten times as hard:" highlighting UiM students' additional labour; "Let me control my tone:" addressing the disciplining of UiM bodies;



“I stuck out like a sore thumb:” involving othering, isolation, and visibility; “Sticking together:” exploring coping strategies.

Discussion: Three overarching barriers complicated the stories in the literature: 1. The Disembodied doctor; 2. Impossible professionalism, which creates additional labour for underrepresented medical students in the form of: 3. Hidden work: compensation, masking, and passing. The stories from UIM students disrupt the narrative of a normative, idealized physician identity. Working on this project permitted the librarian to engage with novel methods and a diverse, interdisciplinary team.

Abstracts – Panel

1. Evidence-Based Activism: The Librarian's Role in Grassroots Challenges to Healthcare Policy and Practice

David Gerstle, University of Toronto

Introduction: Evidence-Based Activism (EBA) is the agentive self-determination by patients to interrupt professional discourses on disease, disability, and therapy. In short, it is self-educated patients working to challenge healthcare policy and medical practice. Such commitments were initially identified in the public demands of 1980/90s AIDS activists (e.g. ACT UP), confronting randomized control trials in the face of the epidemic. Since then, researchers have noted (and criticized) efforts by ‘laypersons’ to question policy and therapy in ways typically reserved for professionals. As the name EBA implies, these movements are defined by participants’ efforts to ground their cause in empirical evidence from the health sciences. Politics merges with scholarship, troubling assumptions of expertise; authority; and ownership and creation of knowledge.

Methods: Comprehensively reviewing the EBA literature, I draw out themes elucidating how librarians can support collective action, though this may challenge traditions of professional librarianship.

Results: As champions of evidence-based practice in the health sciences, librarians play a powerful but complicated role supporting causes to transform healthcare. We can engage underserved or silenced communities with our professional toolkits, and bring the needs of activism to discourses on information science. Yet, EBA also throws light on our limitations: our assumed neutrality, and our privileged positions as custodians of information and experts in finding it.

Discussion: Outlining challenges and opportunities, I discuss my own experiences supporting a community-driven health network in Mississauga, Ontario focused on chronic illness, using grassroots efforts toward pop-up screening, health education, and patient empowerment.



2. **Charting Equity in Scholarship: Strategies for Libraries in Addressing Citation Justice**

Heather Cunningham, University of Toronto

Introduction: Citation justice, an emergent discourse in academia, addresses the systematic under-citation of women and people of colour across disciplines including the health sciences. This citation gap, reflecting structural biases rather than quality of work, has cumulative implications for career progression, grant acquisition, and decision-maker diversity in academia and healthcare. This presentation aims to delve into citation justice, review emerging efforts to reform citation practices, and suggest library strategies to mitigate these scholarly communication inequities.

Description: Citation practices significantly influence scholarly discourse, research, and education. Currently no robust framework exists for evaluating citation biases regarding author demographics. While computational analyses attempt to assess author diversity, they have limitations. There's a growing movement among publishers to address these biases, including Citation Diversity Statements, and surveys on author race, ethnicity, and gender identity. Grass root efforts like databases of underrepresented researchers and campaigns such as "Cite Black Women" highlight the increasing commitment to address citation injustice.

Outcomes: Libraries have a proactive role in promoting citation justice through workshops, consultations, and research guides that incorporate discussions on citation biases and diversity. Addressing or reducing bias is essential in medical literature research. Integrating citation justice when teaching comprehensive searching, research impact, and publishing can lead to fostering a more inclusive scholarly environment.

Discussion: Addressing citation inequities requires a comprehensive approach. Libraries are key in advocating gender and racial balance in citations. By understanding the issues and sharing resources and strategies, libraries can champion citation justice, actively contributing to a more equitable scholarly communication framework.

Abstracts – Workshops

1. **Dedicated Time for Reading, Brainstorming, Writing, or Reworking a Project!**

Margaret Hoogland, University of Toledo; Anna Ferri, Colorado State University; Christine Neilson, University of Manitoba; Gary Atwood, University of Vermont

Bring a laptop or an iPad with keyboard to this session.

Target Audience: Everyone is welcome at this interactive but self-directed session. Participants who have in-progress projects, can go directly to the appropriate table. Participants who have



ideas but remain unsure about whether they should do a project, could spend the time determining feasibility of a program or project.

A) Idea Exchange: Develop bullet points of ideas or a 150-200 word abstract for a program, project, or proposal. Then – find someone at your table (or a moderator/session coordinator) to talk through the project or proposal. If your idea requires refinement, you can stay or move to a different table.

B) Keeping up with the Literature/Literature Search: Health information professionals must thoroughly review the literature before developing a new research proposal or designing a project or program. Take time now to read from your previously identified articles or start the literature search.

C) Peer Review: Prospective attendees will spend 30 minutes chatting with and getting feedback on an abstract or manuscript. Note: For this table only, Abstracts or Manuscripts must be supplied to hoogland.margaret@gmail.com (Subject Line “CHLA Conference”) a minimum of one week prior to the conference!

D) Write, Write, Write: Writing is hard work – in this distraction reduced space, take your time to edit, draft, or revise a project proposal, work on a manuscript, or maybe get started on your annual report documentation. Either way, the session coordinators will ensure your time is protected from distractions.

2. Organizing for Power in Your Health Sciences Library: a Workshop to Utilize Labour Organizing Techniques to Engage with Health Library Patrons, and Advocate for Library Workers

Orvie Dingwall, University of Manitoba

Health libraries utilize a wide variety of promotion strategies to reach the broad spectrum of health professionals, faculty, and students who use their services and resources. The tools and strategies of renowned labour and community organizer Jane McAlevey can be applied to identifying, and building strong relationships with, health library patrons. These tools and strategies can also be used by health information professionals interested in advocating for library workers within their union, faculty associations, and the larger library community, to improve working conditions and advocate for social justice.

Using health library case examples, workshop participants will learn how to use organizing techniques, such as mapping and charting, to systematically identify and engage health library patrons.



Abstracts – Lightning Talks

1. **Bibliometric Analysis: Scale of Canadian Librarian Involvement in Systematic Review Publications from U15 Institutions**

Janice Kung, University of Alberta; Megan Kennedy, University of Alberta

Introduction: This is a follow-up study to a previous bibliometric analysis that analyzed the scale of librarian involvement in Systematic Reviews (SRs) at the University of Alberta. The intention of this project is to provide a Canada-wide analysis of health librarian involvement in SRs. There are several implications for this work; 1) training at a national level; 2) mentorship and coaching opportunities; 3) using librarian involvement as an indicator of quality SR publications, it could tell us whether or not Canadian SR publications are rigorously adhering to PRISMA-S and other reporting guidelines.

Methods: Using Web of Science (WoS), we searched for SRs completed in the past five years. Systematic reviews identified through WoS will be screened in two phases: 1) Determining if the paper is a true SR publication (e.g. excluding duplicates, protocols, systematic review methodology papers, etc.), 2) Screening for librarian involvement (co-author, acknowledgement, or no involvement).

Results: Of the 9514 studies retrieved, 7965 records advanced to full-text screening. A random sample of 400 references was pulled for data extraction. Of the 400 publications, 49 (12%) had a librarian co-author, 77 (19%) formally acknowledged librarians in the acknowledgements section, and 132 (33%) mentioned librarian support in the full-text of the paper.

Discussion: This study will demonstrate the great deal of variation of how the work of librarians is reflected in SRs at a national scale. Continuing to educate researchers about the work of librarians is crucial to fully represent the value librarians bring to systematic reviews.

2. **Bringing Order to Chaos: How a Work Plan Can Help Librarians Support Users Doing Systematic Reviews and Scoping Reviews**

Elizabeth Yates, Brock University; Kymberly Ash, Brock University

Librarians who support faculty and students conducting evidence synthesis research can attest to the messiness of the process: these projects often stretch over long periods and there may be significant gaps in between consultation meetings, which make it difficult to stay on track. As well, the foundational steps in this type of research – developing an appropriate research question and designing a comprehensive search strategy – require a significant investment of time and expertise. Juggling multiple versions of separate documents adds to the confusion. To help support our users and enhance our efficiency, we developed a comprehensive work plan document which guides researchers through those key processes and forms a basis for meetings



with researchers. This work plan is licensed for reuse and may be modified and adapted to suit other needs, for example, assisting graduate students with narrative literature reviews.

3. From Query to Answer: Building a Health Sciences FAQ Space

Sabine Calleja, McGill University; Eleni Philippopoulos, McGill University

Objective: Despite best efforts in teaching the basics of health sciences research, librarians receive a high volume of questions on the same topics from their students. To mitigate the repetition in answering these questions, which can take up valuable librarian and student time, a team of health sciences librarians at McGill University put together a health sciences FAQ hosted on the SpringShare LibApps software.

Methods: Consisting of 22 initial questions organized among eight categories, including Knowledge Syntheses, Searching, Databases, Citations, Evidence-Based Practice and others, these FAQs transcend the specific health sciences disciplines. Questions were selected based on consultation with the team of health sciences librarians, and common themes were extracted and consolidated. Draft answers were compiled by the authors of the FAQ page and verified by all team members to ensure accuracy and compliance with library service guidelines. A centralized location for FAQs allows for more efficient searching and information retrieval, alleviating search fatigue.

Results: The benefits of creating a health sciences FAQ allow our colleagues in other disciplines to find high-quality, vetted answers to common health sciences questions during their reference hours. Students are also encouraged to interact with the guide should they have additional questions, and their comments are taken into account when deciding on adding further questions.

Conclusions: Though the FAQ was only launched in December 2023, we expect a high engagement rate with the guide.

4. Try AI Day: Helping Librarians Get Acclimated to Popular AI Tools

Gary Atwood, University of Vermont

Objectives: Many health sciences librarians struggle to keep up with the rapid proliferation of artificial intelligence (AI) technology. Try AI Day provided University of Vermont librarians an opportunity to “test drive” a collection of several well-known AI tools. The primary goal was to discover the strengths and weaknesses of these tools through hands-on experimentation.

Methods: Library faculty and staff were given a quick overview of AI’s growing role in academic life, prompting basics, and the workshop agenda. They then self-selected into groups. Each group was given credentials for a dummy Hotmail account and a Libguide URL



(<https://researchguides.uvm.edu/tryaiday>) containing links to each tool along with some basic instructions. Groups had 60 minutes to explore. The facilitator was available to answer questions. The final 30 minutes were devoted to a debrief about each group's experiences and a brainstorming session about potential AI-related initiatives for the University Libraries.

Results: Try AI Day was held on April 13, 2024, with 21 attendees. Survey results showed very positive ratings for both the format and content. Several suggested offering similar workshops to graduate students and research faculty.

Conclusions: Try AI Day provided a positive, collaborative environment for librarians to begin experimenting with AI tools already being used by patrons. Hands-on exploration allowed attendees to discover tool capabilities and limitations firsthand.

5. What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Knowledge Synthesis? A Content Analysis

Christine Neilson, University of Manitoba

Objective: Knowledge synthesis (KS) has been a major part of many health libraries' day-to-day business for several years. In this lightning talk, I describe a research project in progress that examines the health library discourse surrounding KS, through content analysis of journal articles and conference presentations associated with the Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA) and the Medical Library Association (MLA).

Methods: The methods for this work are guided by Braun and Clarke (2006) and Saldaña (2013). Eligible texts were identified by handsearching issues of JCHLA and JMLA, and conference programs made available online by CHLA and MLA. French texts were translated using the DeepL online translator. NVIVO software is being used for coding and data analysis. A combination of attribute codes and provisional thematic codes are being applied to individual texts during initial coding. During subsequent stages of the project, codes will be refined and themes in the data will be identified and defined.

Results: Results are not yet available.

Conclusions: Conclusions are not yet available.

6. When Lifecycles Collide: Embedding Research Data Management into Knowledge Syntheses Beyond the Search

Angélique Roy, Queens University; Meghan Goodchild, Queens University; Courtney Svab, Queens University

Objectives: With the publication of PRISMA-S (Rethlefsen et al., 2021), there has been an increase in librarians' treatment of search strategies as data. In response to this, strategies are



now being deposited into institutional, open access, and commercial repositories for increased transparency and reproducibility (Rod & Jill T. Boruff, 2024; Cunningham et al., 2023). Additionally, with the advent of open science initiatives and associated funding requirements such as the Tri-Agency Research Data Management (RDM) Policy (2021), researchers across all disciplines are increasingly recognizing the need to manage their data to support these goals. This research examines where and how search strategies as well as data from other stages of the systematic review lifecycle have been documented over the past five years as new trends for RDM have emerged.

Methods: The authors performed a search for systematic reviews published in Canadian journals between 2019-2023 across three databases: Embase (Ovid) and MEDLINE (Ovid). A randomized, stratified sampling approach was used with a fixed number of articles per year (100 articles per year over 5 years).

Results: Preliminary findings will be presented at the time of the conference as this research is currently in progress.

Discussion: This research takes a birds-eye view of the application of RDM within the lifecycle of the systematic review to determine changing practices for sharing and preserving related data outputs. The authors aim to provide role-based recommendations to researchers and students undertaking knowledge syntheses. This research can help determine a practical approach for health sciences and RDM librarians to jointly guide researchers on developing a Data Management Plan by adopting and adapting the Data Management Plan Template: Systematic Reviews (Ganshorn et al., 2021).

Abstracts – Posters

1. **Advocating for Equitable Access: Using Survey Data to Identify System Wide Strategies for Equitable Access to Library Resources**

Benjamin Hoover, Penn State University; Kelly Thormodson, Penn State University

Objective: The Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Health have separate medical libraries and changes have made it difficult to determine who has access to either library and their very different collections. What strategies have other health sciences libraries implemented to provide/ extend equitable access to the library information resources and services to affiliated health system members and which of the identified strategies would be most applicable to the research team's institution?

Methods: This project utilizes survey data collected in 2022 from health sciences libraries across North America. That survey and subsequent publication were focused on the challenges and



opportunities for libraries in relation to fast growing academic health systems. Additionally, an updated literature search will be conducted.

Results: From this survey data set, the research team has identified relevant questions focused on what educational groups and hospital/health systems do the libraries serve and what strategies are used to integrate hospital/health systems to provide services and access to library information resources. The team will focus on these questions and analyze responses to identify patterns in how health sciences libraries provide services to health systems and related academic institutions.

Discussion: The analysis will include reviewing both common and novel approaches that could be applicable to the research team's institutional structure. The final step of this research project is to identify and select up to two service/access models for the library administration to advocate as the best for the users, the library, and the systems.

2. Are Patrons “Clicking” With the Library’s Literature Search Service? Assessing Patron Engagement Using Short.io

Tyler Ostapyk, University of Manitoba; Carla Epp, University of Manitoba; Nicole Askin, University of Manitoba

Introduction: One of the core services the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Virtual Library provides is literature searching for healthcare staff. Results are sent to patrons as a reference list in Word format. These lists contain links to items available freely to the public or through the library's collection. Library staff wanted to track if and how patrons were engaging with items in the lists they received.

Methods: Leveraging the link management tool Short.io and a Visual Basic for Applications macro, an automated process was developed to generate and add trackable links to the reference lists sent to patrons. Click data was automatically collected in Short.io and data for links created from October 17, 2022 – October 17, 2023 was exported into Excel for analysis.

Results: As of October 17, 2023, 169 literature searches were sent to patrons using this method. Patrons clicked at least one link in 54% of reference lists. UpToDate links had a click rate of 42% and JBI EBP links had a click rate of 45%. In contrast, 9% of DOI links, 2% of PMID links, and 8% of PMCID links were clicked. Click counts were highest for lists containing 20-30 references.

Discussion: This data provides valuable insights into the library's literature search service. The results suggest that literature searches best meet the needs of the library's patrons when they contain 20-30 references and include links to quick reference resources. The discovery that 46% of reference lists did not have a single click warrants further investigation.



3. Demonstrating Library Value: Developing a Practical Tool

Nicole Askin, University of Manitoba; Joanne R. Hodder, Nova Scotia Health; Mark Mueller, Saskatchewan Health Authority; Jeanna Hough, Halton Health; Brooke Scott, Fraser Health; Joan Bartlett, McGill University

Background: The Levels of Library Service was a proof-of-concept service visualization originally developed by the Measuring Value task force of the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto as part of their larger Library Value Toolkit. The CHLA/ABSC Standards Standing Committee (SSC) was mandated to develop practical tools to help libraries apply the CHLA/ABSC Standards, building on the Library Value Toolkit.

Description: The SSC reimagined the Levels of Library Service into a dynamic checklist that can be customized to map library services and the associated resource requirements for the purposes of operational and strategic planning. A preliminary draft of this new tool was shared with community members via focus groups and a national survey as part of a broader SSC website.

Outcomes: The SSC is currently in the process of revising the website and tool based on the feedback received. The SSC will create educational materials to support libraries in adopting the tool in their contexts.

4. Exploring Donor Relationship Management in Academic and Health Sciences Libraries: A Pilot Survey on Scale Purification

Amanda Ross-White, Queen's University

Like other nonprofits, health sciences libraries rely increasingly on philanthropic support to fulfill their missions. However, unlike public libraries, limited research exists on how these libraries engage with donors effectively. Using an established conceptual framework for relationship measurement (Hon & Grunig, 1999; Jo et al., 2004; DeVellis, 2012), we seek to identify how the four pivotal dimensions crucial to donor relationship management — trust, control mutuality, commitment, and satisfaction — are applied within the unique context of libraries, in particular health sciences libraries.

Using the validated scales developed by Hon & Grunig, we will employ a meticulous judgmental approach, to assess items for relevance, logic, and inclusiveness, within the field of health sciences libraries. Seeking input from library conference attendees in both Canada and the United States, we intend to pilot-test the survey, using a method called scale purification. Guided by Moore and Benbasat's (1991) three-stage framework, the research progresses through the iterative processes of item pool creation, instrument development, and rigorous instrument testing. The goal is to develop a comprehensive and reliable tool for assessing donor



relationships in academic and health sciences libraries. The study sets the stage for a forthcoming full-scale survey, offering insights that can inform library professionals, administrators, and others on optimizing donor engagement strategies for sustainable support.

This is the first step in a multi-year project to assess donor relationships in health libraries. Further research will include a full-scale survey of library professionals and focus groups of persons engaged with donor relations in academic and health sciences libraries.

5. **Filtering Failure: Use of exp animals/ not humans.sh With Automated Indexing**

Nicole Askin, University of Manitoba; Tyler Ostapyk, University of Manitoba; Carla Epp, University of Manitoba

Introduction: The search string ‘exp animals/ not humans.sh’ is a well-established method in evidence synthesis used to exclude non-human studies in Ovid Medline. However, the shift to automatic indexing of Medline records has raised concerns about the use of subject-heading-based search techniques.

Methods: We conducted a search in Ovid Medline using the Cochrane Highly Sensitive Search Strategy and identified the results excluded specifically by the non-human-studies string. These were divided into sets based on indexing method: automated, curated, or manual. Each set was screened to identify human studies.

Results: The rate of human clinical randomized controlled trials (RCTs) excluded in the automatic set was six times that of the curated or manual sets; non-RCTs relating to humans were also incorrectly excluded. In some cases, this was the result of a single paper describing both human and non-human work, where an animals/ heading was correctly applied but a humans/ heading was absent. However, we also identified situations in which a humans/ heading was absent and an animals/ heading was also incorrect – for example, where a paper briefly mentioned prior animal work as background to the current study, or where an abstract simply used animal-related language (eg. “participants were instructed to click the mouse”).

Discussion: Some records were updated during our project to add absent humans/ headings, but the error rate remains significant. Given our findings, we recommend against continued use of the exp animals/ not humans.sh search string, pending improvements to the automated indexing process.

6. **MeSHing Around with Citation Metadata to Explore Patterns in Automatic Indexing: Preliminary Results**

Emma Garlock, McGill University; Joan Bartlett, McGill University



Introduction: The Medical Text Indexer (MTI) has been incredibly impactful, with a notable decrease in the time it takes a MEDLINE citation to receive MeSH indexing. However, further work is needed to address some well documented issues around the indexing genes and chemical compounds, and their impact on information retrieval. To investigate these issues, this research pursues the following research questions:

RQ1. Is there a relationship between indexing method or journal impact factor (JIF) and how well MeSH terms align with keywords and chemical symbols?

RQ2. Is there a relationship between indexing method or JIF and the term usage frequencies among MeSH, keywords, and chemical symbols?

Methods: The research method analyzed the indexing in a sample of MEDLINE citations. 648 citations published between January 2021 and December 2023 were randomly selected and relevant information fields extracted via NLM's efetch and xtract tools. Journal impact factor data was downloaded from Clarivate. Using R, a n-gram analysis and the relative frequency of each term will address RQ1 and RQ2, respectively.

Results: Preliminary results and interpretation of results for RQ1 using an n-gram word model and relative frequency results for RQ2 will be presented.

Discussion: We will discuss the results of comparing term alignment in the context of information retrieval and term use frequency in the context of MTI performance and optimization. Overall implications for information retrieval and instruction in a health libraries context will be addressed.

7. Social Prescribing: a Tool for Primary Care

Taylor Moore, Centre for Effective Practice

Introduction: In October 2023, the Centre for Effective Practice (CEP) launched a new web-based tool: Social Prescribing: A Resource for Health Professionals. The social prescribing model in primary care aims to address the social determinants of health that can impact an individual's well-being.

Description: While undertaking the scoping work, the content development team discovered that there was limited evidence on the impact and processes of social prescribing in primary care practices across Canada. Instead of relying on evidence, which is typically how CEP tools are developed, the team had to pivot and develop partnerships with leaders in the social prescribing community in Ontario and across Canada, as well as with lived experience experts.

Outcomes: As of January 2024, there have been over 2,800 downloads of the tool. The CEP team presented the tool at a social prescribing conference in October 2023, and is planning future



tools in partnership with external stakeholders including the Alliance for Healthier Communities, the Canadian Institute for Social Prescribing, and others.

Discussion: CEP's tool is the first of its kind to deliver practical social prescribing tips for primary care clinicians. The tool is applicable in a wide variety of primary care settings across Ontario and can easily be adapted to fit the specific needs of clinicians in all types of practices. While working on the tool, the CEP team benefited greatly from partnerships with key stakeholders in the social prescribing community, paving the way for even more opportunities to create other digital tools in the future.

8. Supporting Primary Care Clinicians with Evidence-Based Digital Tools

Taylor Moore, Centre for Effective Practice

Introduction: The Centre for Effective Practice (CEP) is one of the leading independent healthcare behaviour-change partners in Canada, and a trusted source of high-quality, evidence-based clinical supports for primary care clinicians. To assist with the CEP's mission to close the gap between evidence and practice, CEP's in-house medical librarians (the Information Services team) are responsible for the evidence searching, appraisal and curation, as well as critical analysis, synthesis and knowledge translation.

Description: The Information Services team supports CEP projects in a variety of ways, with the scope and depth of team involvement based on the project's stream of work and needs. The team's primary responsibilities are to provide evidence throughout the development of a project, to support knowledge translation, and to provide content for CEP's web-based and EMR tools. CEP's projects are primarily divided into three streams: Knowledge Translation in Primary Care (KTinPC), Evidence2Practice (E2P), and market-based services.

Outcomes: Overall, 98% of clinicians report that CEP's tools improve knowledge while 99% of clinicians say that CEP translates evidence into practical patient care.

Discussion: The Information Services team at CEP is involved in projects that go beyond traditional library roles. The librarians are considered the evidence experts in the organization, and they play an integral part in the development of tools to assist primary care clinicians.



Abstracts – Other Sessions

1. **Learning to Say 'No' and Other Tales from a Tech Turned Librarian** (invited session)

Meg Miller, University of Manitoba

The point where data and libraries intersect is constantly evolving, and entwined with it is the future of those of us who act as its caretaker. In this talk, the presenter will discuss their experience over the last four years of taking on a newly created role at a new (to them) university as a single point of service for GIS & Data Visualization support and how they got there. Focus will be placed on development work, research, instruction, service, early career librarianship, and the importance of community.

2. **Data Security & Library Access** (sponsored session)

Janice Thompson, William Osler Health System / Brampton Civic Hospital; Michelle Urberg, metadata consultant and information architect

The risks to organizations (and individuals!) from compromised data continues to grow, with cyber hijacking being the latest example of a growing list of threats. Organizations and the tech industry in general have responded with new solutions to control network access, and new features to limit browser access. But these solutions can have serious, unintended consequences when it comes to library access to resources.

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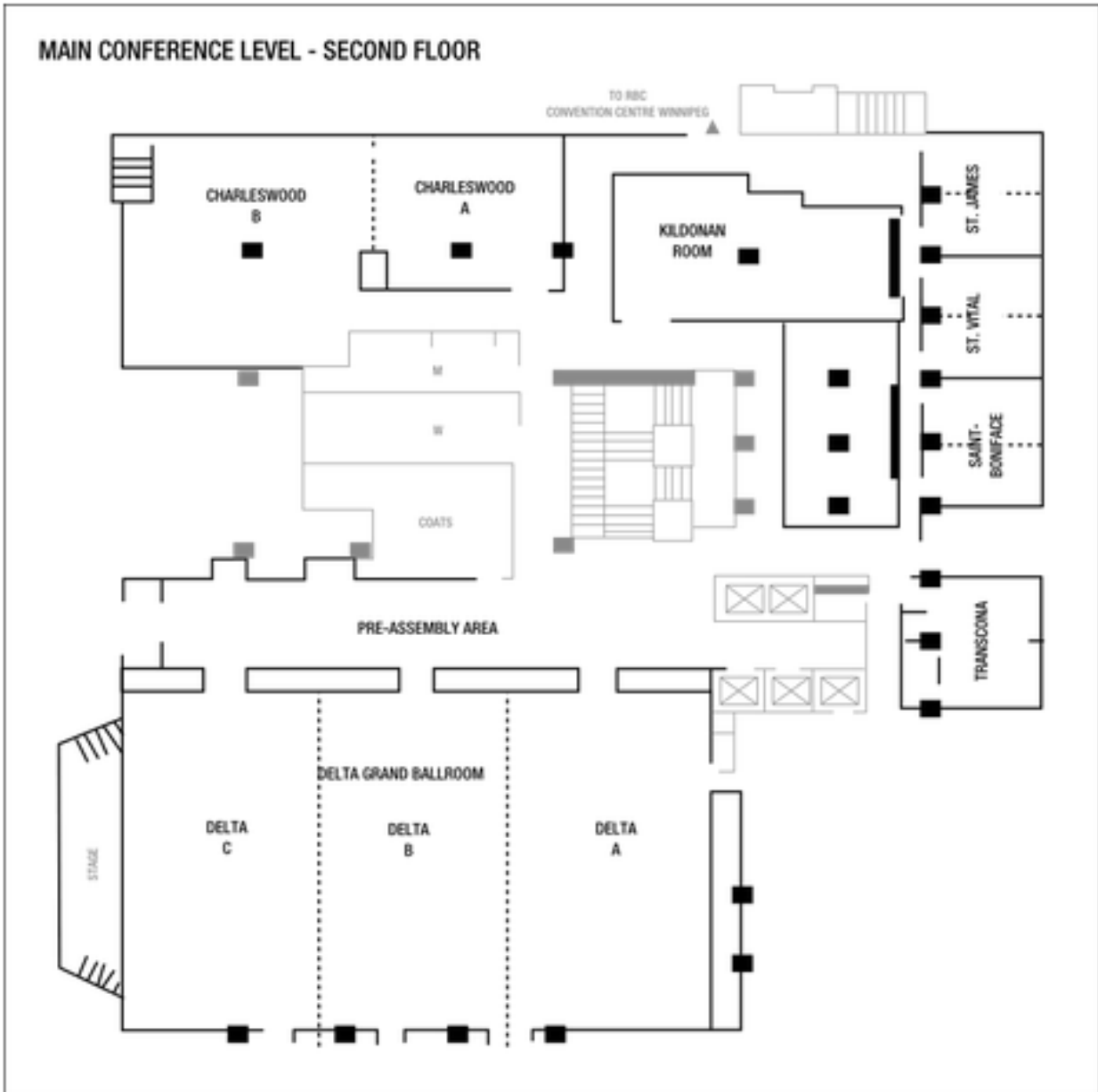
Exhibit Hall Floorplan

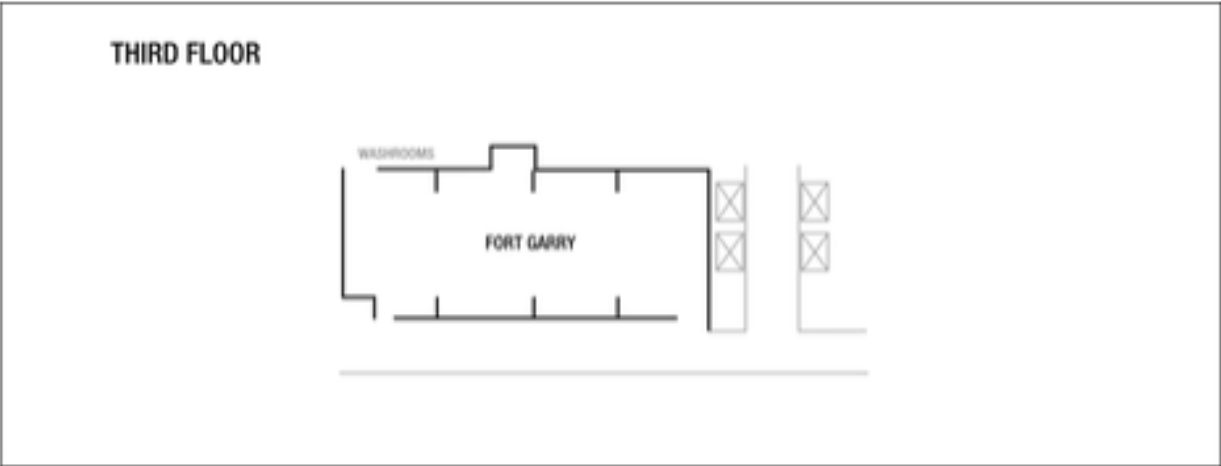
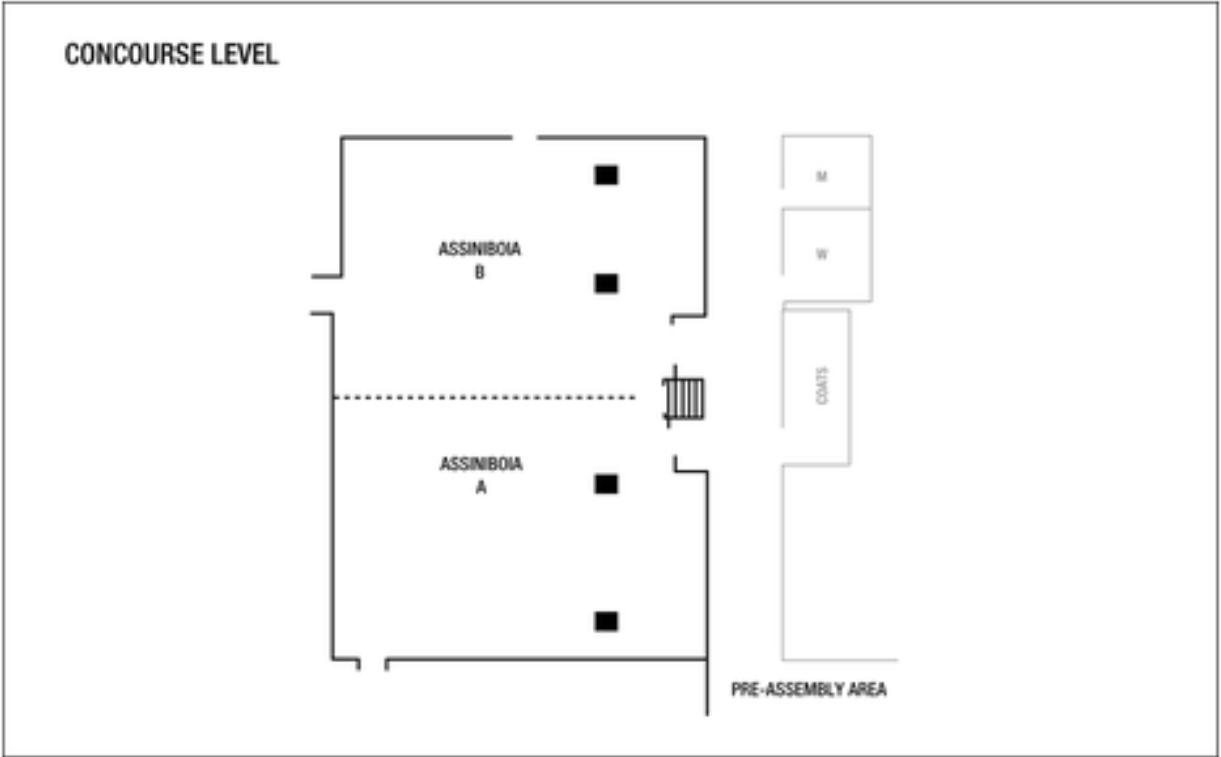
Booth # Exhibitor

To be announced



Delta Hotels Winnipeg Floor Maps







Program at a Glance

Tuesday 11 June	Wednesday 12 June	Thursday 13 June	Friday 14 June
	6:30–7:30 Morning activity	6:30–7:30 Morning activity	
11:00 Registration opens Exhibit Hall setup opens	Registration	Registration	Registration
8:00–17:00 Board Meeting	8:00–9:00 Breakfast / Welcome	8:00–9:00 Breakfast	8:15–9:15 Breakfast
	9:00–10:30 Keynote: Catherine Wreford	9:00–10:30 Keynote: Joe Curnow	9:15–10:30 Contributed content: KS Outreach / Workshop: Organizing for Power
	10:30–11:00 Coffee Break; Exhibits	10:30–11:00 Coffee Break; Exhibits	10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
	11:00–12:00 Contributed content: Undergraduate Education / Library Services & Management	11:00–12:00 Contributed content: Transforming Libraries / Teaching & Learning	11:00–12:30 Keynote: Nora Loreto
	12:00–13:00 Lunch; President's Lunch; Exhibits	12:00–13:00 Lunch & Learn	12:30–13:00 Closing remarks 2025 presentation
Tours 15:00–17:00: Winnipeg Trolley Company 18:00–18:45: Qaumajuq - Winnipeg Art Gallery	13:00–14:00 Contributed content: Disrupting Librarians	13:00–14:00 Posters	Tours 13:00–16:00: Lunch at the Forks, Guided Tour of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights
	14:00–15:30 Vendor Talks and Coffee Break	14:00–14:30 Coffee Break; Exhibits	
		14:30–15:30 Lightning Talks	
15:30–16:45 Contributed content: Partnerships & Collaboration / Workshop: Projects in Progress	15:30–16:30 SIG meetings		
18:00–18:45 First Timers' Reception (Hotel)		14:30–17:30 Exhibit Hall teardown	
19:00–21:00 Opening Reception WAG-Qaumajuq 300 Memorial Boulevard	18:00 Dinearound dinner reservations; after-dinner social events	18:00 Awards Banquet (hotel) Afterparty to follow	



mardi 11 juin	mercredi 12 juin	jeudi 13 juin	vendredi 14 juin
	6h30–7h30 Exercice du matin	6h30–7h30 Exercice du matin	
11h00 Ouverture du bureau d'inscription Installation des exposants	Inscription	Inscription	Inscription
8h00–17h00 Réunion du conseil d'administration	8h00–9h00 Petit-déjeuner / Bienvenue	8h00–9h00 Petit-déjeuner	8h15–9h15 Petit-déjeuner
	9h00–10h30 Conférencière invitée : Catherine Wreford	9h00–10h30 Conférencière invitée : Joe Curnow	9h15–10h30 Contenu contribué : Synthèse des connaissances / Atelier : S'organiser pour le pouvoir
	10h30–11h00 Pause café; Expos	10h30–11h00 Pause café; Expos	10h30–11h00 Pause café
	11h00–12h00 Contenu contribué : Enseignement de premier cycle / Services de bibliothèque et gestion	11h00–12h00 Contenu contribué : Transformer les bibliothèques / Enseignement et apprentissage	11h00–12h30 Conférencière invitée : Nora Loreto
	12h00–13h00 Déjeuner; Déjeuner du président; Expos	12h00–13h00 Déjeuner d'information	12h30–13h00 Mots de clôture, présentation 2025
Excursions 15h00–17h00 : Winnipeg Trolley Company 18h00–18h45 : Qaumajuq - Winnipeg Art Gallery	13h00–14h00 Contenu contribué : Les bibliothécaires perturbateurs	13h00–14h00 Affiches	Excursions 13h00–16h00 : Déjeuner à la Fourche et visite du Musée canadien pour les droits de la personne
	14h00–15h30 Présentations des exposants et pause café	14h00–14h30 Pause café; Expos 14h30–15h30 Exposés éclair	
	15h30–16h45 Contenu contribué : Partenariats et collaboration / Atelier : Projets en cours	15h30–16h30 Réunions de groupes d'intérêt spécial	
18h00–18h45 Accueil des nouveaux participants (hôtel)		14h30–17h30 Démontage des exposants	
19h00–21h00 Réception d'ouverture WAG-Qaumajuq 300 boul Memorial	18h00 Souper aux alentours ; événements sociaux	18h00 Banquet de remise des prix (hotel) Afterparty	



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