



CONVERGENCE ROCKS!

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES and MUSEUMS

**Convergence of Knowledge and Culture
Speaker Series
April 29, 2009
University of Calgary**

**Ingrid Parent
Assistant Deputy Minister
Library and Archives Canada**

**KNOWLEDGE
IS HERE**



Library and Archives
Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives
Canada

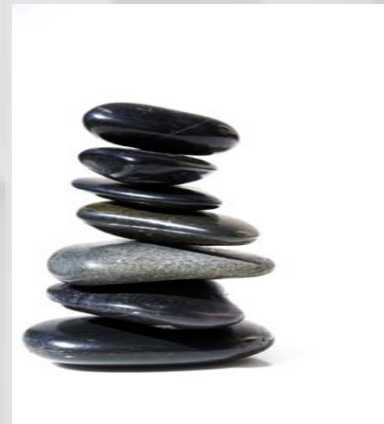
Canada



Johann Reinhold Forster and his son Georg Forster in Tahiti; Source:
<http://hera.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/~zeichnen/Projektvorstellung.htm>; Date 1775-80, Author John Francis Rigaud (1742-1810).

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The Age of Convergence...

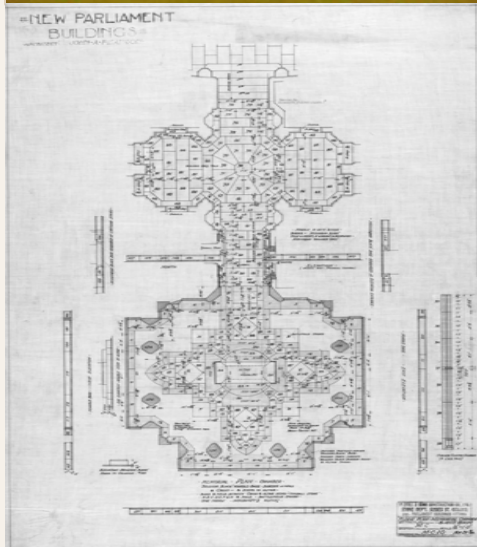


Various disciplines:

- ***archaeology,***
- ***museology,***
- ***library science,***
- ***natural history,***
- ***architecture,***
- ***archives,***
- ***law and the many varieties of history.***

Evidence:

- *its discovery or protection,*
- *the need to inventory and describe it,*
- *the problems of physical conservation,*
- *the importance of interpreting it and presenting it to the general public, and*
- *its value in education and scholarly study.*





Library and Archives Experience: A Single Institution

An Act to establish the Library and Archives of Canada, to amend the Copyright Act and to amend certain Acts in consequence

Preamble

WHEREAS it is necessary that

(a) the documentary heritage of Canada be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations;

(b) Canada be served by an institution that is a source of enduring knowledge accessible to all, contributing to the cultural, social and economic advancement of Canada as a free and democratic society;

Canada be served by an institution that is a source of enduring knowledge, accessible to all, contributing to the cultural, social and economic advancement of Canada as a free and democratic society

NOW, THEREFORE, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

SHORT TITLE

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Library and Archives of Canada Act*.

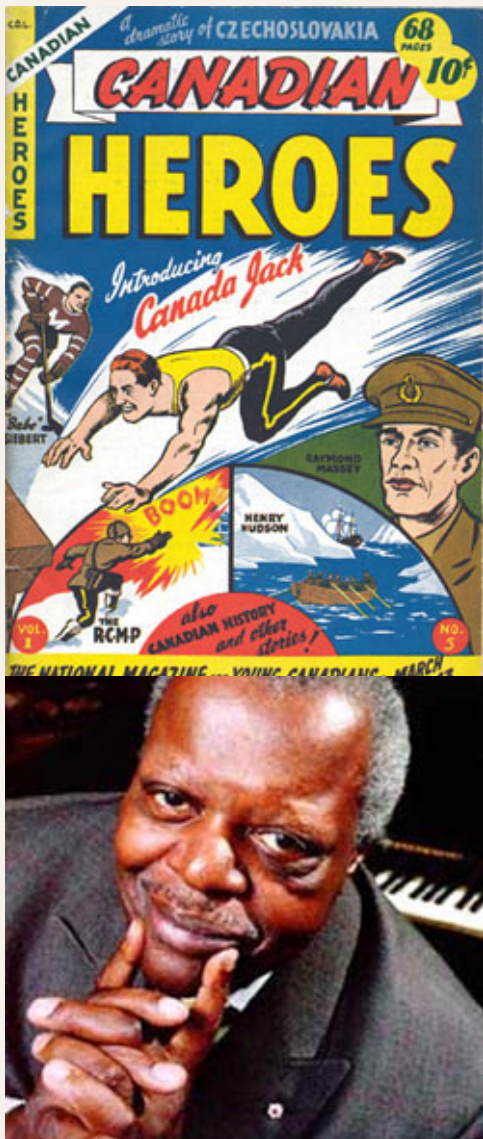


Advantages of a Single Institution

- ***a synergy of collections and skills,***
- ***accessibility to the breadth and depth of Canada's documentary heritage,***
- ***enhanced outreach to Canadians,***
- ***better use of resources,***
- ***a stronger voice in government, and***
- ***leadership across the information professions.***

A Single Institution

The LAC Collection: Relating the Canadian Experience



- **20 million** books, periodicals, newspapers, microfilms, government publications
- **167 km** of unique textual records
- **24 million** photos; **365,000** works of art
- Portraits of Canadians since **1710**
- Canadian theses and dissertations
- Gigabytes of electronic publications & official records of the government of Canada.
- Outstanding collections of Canadian
 - Maps and architectural drawings
 - Film, video, sound recordings & broadcasts
 - Music, stamps, editorial cartoons, posters & pamphlets
- Both traditional and **new** media



Extreme Convergence



Physical, organizational and functional merger of:

- ***archives***
- ***library***
- ***museum (Portrait Gallery of Canada)***
- ***all functions, including:***

- ***collection development***
- ***description***
- ***preservation***
- ***access***

are managed horizontally inside the new organization

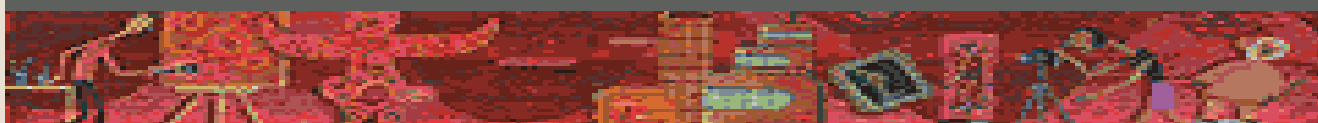




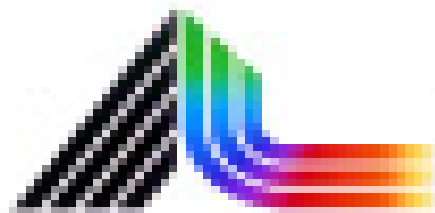
Libraries, archives and museums...



ARCHIVESCANADA.ca
Canadian Archival Information Network Réseau canadien d'information archivistique



Canadian Heritage Information Network



AMICUS

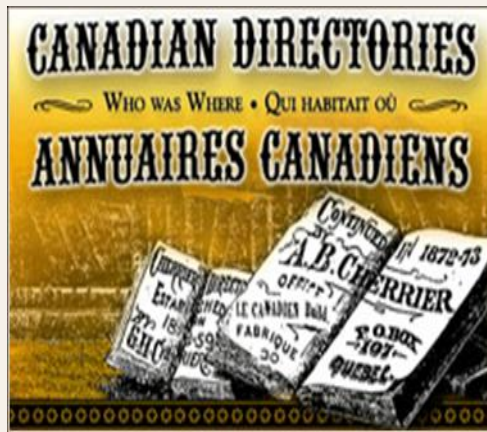


Libraries, archives and museums: commonalities



- ***collection-based,***
- ***service-oriented organizations,***
- ***generally not-for-profit,***
- ***similar mandates,***
- ***infrastructure heavy,***
- ***high demand for information technology and information management, and***
- ***skilled professional and technical staff.***

Libraries, archives and museums: differences



THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency the Honourable William Macdougall, a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council of Canada, and Companion of the most honourable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-west Territories, etc., etc., etc.

To all to whom these shall come, greeting.

Whereas Her Majesty the Queen, by Letters patent under the great seal of the Dominion of Canada, bearing date the twentieth day (21 September) in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, in the thirty-third year of her Majesty's reign, has been graciously pleased to constitute and appoint me, on, from and after the day to be named by her Majesty for the admission of Rupert's Land and the North-western Territory into the union or Dominion of Canada to be Lieutenant-Governor, and over the North-west Territories during her Majesty's pleasure, and did thereby authorize and empower, and require, and command me, on, from and after the day aforesaid, to do and execute all things in due manner that shall belong to my said command and the trust reposed in me, according to the several powers and instructions granted or appointed me by that her Majesty's commission and the act of the parliament passed in the thirty-second year of her Majesty's reign (intituled an act for the temporary government of Rupert's Land and the north-western Territory when united with Canada, and the instructions given me with such commission, or by such further instructions as may hereafter be given in respect of the North-west Territories and the government thereof by her Majesty's Governor-General in Council, under the sign manual or through one of her Majesty's Privy Council of Canada, according to such laws as are now and shall hereafter be in force within the said north-west territories.

And whereas her Majesty has declared and named the first day of December instant as the day for the admission of Rupert's Land and the North-western Territory into the union and Dominion of Canada, and whereas by virtue and in pursuance of the British North American Act of 1867, the Empire's Land Act of eighteen hundred and sixty-eight the said act for the temporary government of Rupert's Land and the North-western Territory when united with Canada, and the said declaration and order of her Majesty's Governor-General in Council, under the sign manual or through one of her Majesty's Privy Council of Canada, and have now become part of the Dominion of Canada, and are henceforth to be known as the north-west Territories.

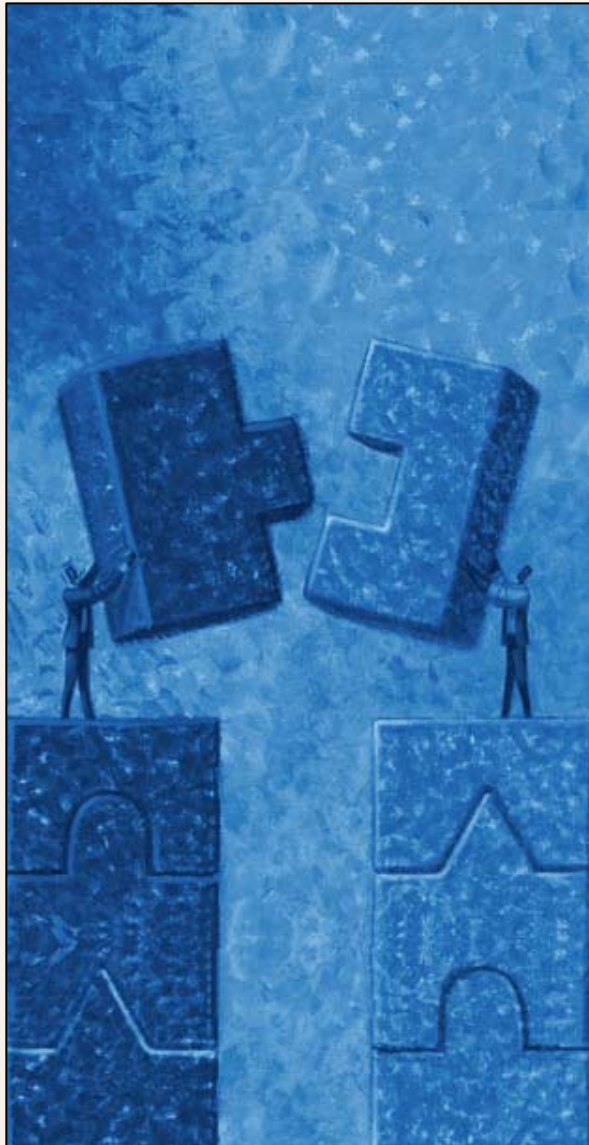
Now know ye that I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation to make known her Majesty's said appointment to all officers, magistrates, ministers and subjects of her Majesty's and others within the said north-west territories, and I do hereby require and command that all and singular the public officers and functionaries holding office in Rupert's Land and the north-western Territory at the time



- **LIBRARIES:** man-made published products of the last several hundred years; focus on description and development of resource-sharing networks and practices
- **ARCHIVES:** man-made records and documents spanning several thousands of years; focus on provenance and context and development of collective documentary approaches to establish authenticity and meaning
- **MUSEUMS:** natural and man-made objects, ranging from several millions, billions of years old to the present; focus on classification, based on physical or social attributes and the interpretation and use of the object in public exhibits



Convergence and Integration or Collaboration and Coordination



- ***Convergence: the merging of distinct technologies, industries or devices into a unified whole***
- ***Integration: the incorporation as equals into society or an organization of individuals of different groups***
- ***Convergence of libraries, archives and museums is in its infancy***
- ***But, new forms of collaborations and partnerships, new ways of describing and interpreting materials and new models of access and retrieval***



Internet Landscape



- ***used for 5 years or more by 89% of those surveyed by Online Computer Library Centre (OCLC)¹***
- ***two thirds of general public surveyed by OCLC who were over 50 years of age have been going online for 7 years or more***
- ***it is estimated that 84% of information searches begin with a search engine, not with a library catalogue***

Digital Landscape

- *internet readers are becoming internet authors*
- *emergence and proliferation of social websites is changing the construction and culture of the web*
- *internet is being built by millions*
- *users want to be participants*





Information Landscape

- *users are drowning in information*
- *43% of users cannot make decisions due to massive data overload₂*
- *challenge for libraries, archives and museums: make sense of this landscape for users*



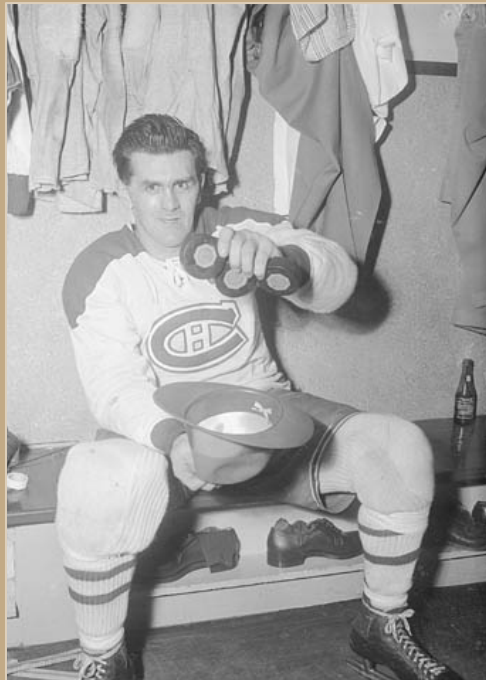
2. Frey, Thomas. "The Future of Libraries: Beginning the Great Transformation." Da Vinci Institute. 2009



LAC and the Web



- ***LAC website one of the most heavily used sites in the Government of Canada, with over one million visitors per month***
- ***through federated search, librarians, archivists, researchers and the public are able to access 38 million records of material held in 1,300 libraries and 7 million archival records in 200 archival repositories***

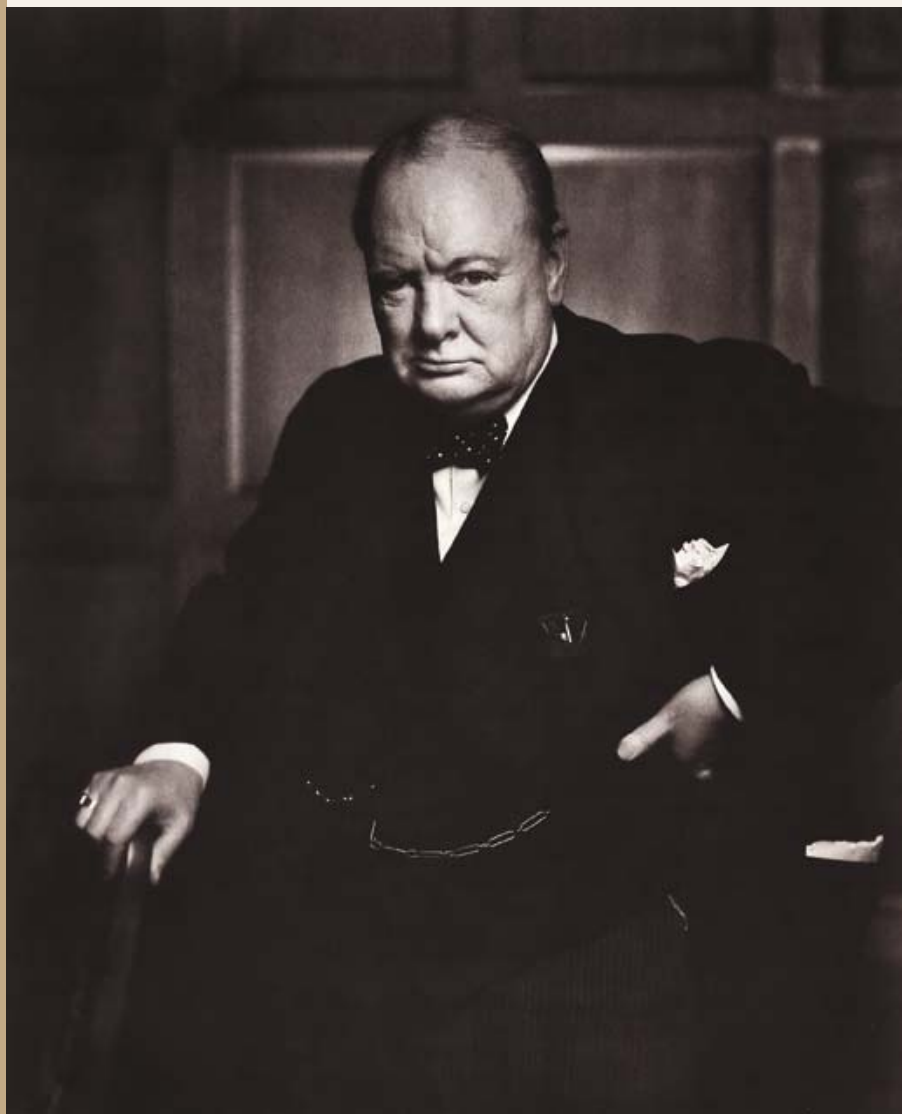


- ***Michael Fox, Minnesota Historical Society, “Hanginttogether, The hangout spot for libraries, archives, and museums”***

“We divide the world. Books, papers, stuff. But users want to bring it together; they want answers and we give them a roadmap...”³



Convergence Projects at LAC

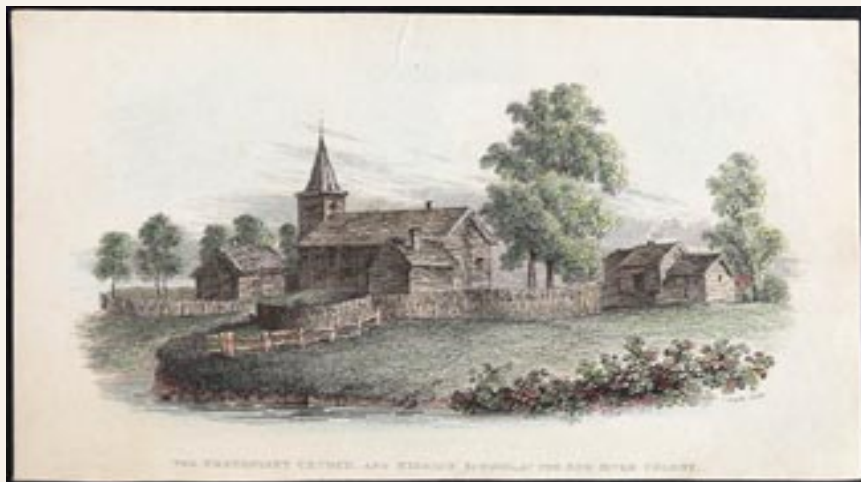


Festival Karsh: celebration of the 100th birthday of Yousuf Karsh, in partnership with Canada Science and Technology Museum and 20 other partners: includes:

- ***touring exhibition 2010 to 2012,***
- ***Flickr site,***
- ***special events and educational programming,***
- ***Karsh trail in Ottawa,***
- ***Karsh website, and***
- ***an independent video biography of Karsh on Bravo TV.***

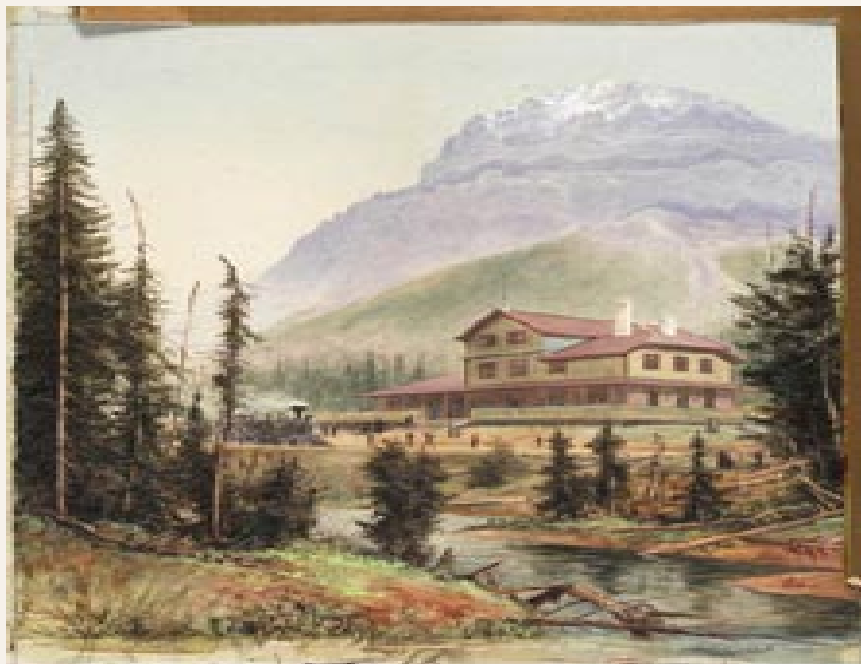


Convergence Projects at LAC



Winkworth Collection:

- ***a nationally significant art collection that documents more than four centuries of Canadian history.***
- ***in 2002, and in 2008, with funds from the Government of Canada, and in partnership with other cultural institutions, LAC purchased more than 5000 pieces of art and cultural objects from Mr. Winkworth's London-based collection***





Convergence Projects at LAC



Dictionary of Canadian Biography

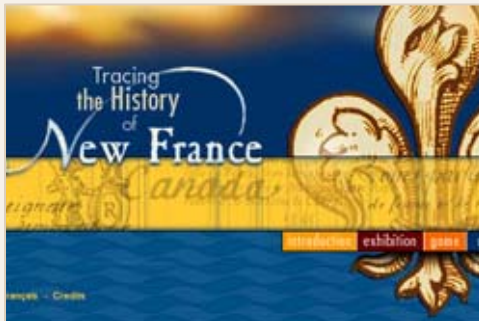
- 14 volumes of DCB online in both official languages
- 8000 biographies
- Link individual biographies to portraits, records, historic sites



Clockwise from top left, R. B. Bennett, Sir John. A. Macdonald, Tommy Douglas



International examples



- ***The Dunhuang Cave Project***

<http://idp.nic.gov.cn> or <http://idp.bl.uk>

- ***MICHAEL Project***

www.michael-culture.org/en/home

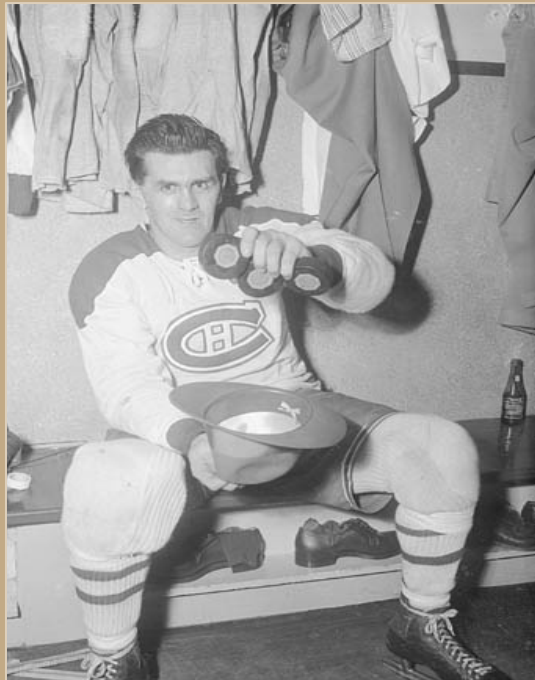
- ***International Federation of Library Associations***

www.ifla.org

- ***Museum Centre for British History***

http://www.mla.gov.uk/news_and_views/press/releases/2009/museum_centre_british_history

Convergence Enablers



- *technology*
- *professions communicating on models of collaboration, training and education, strategies, and best practices*
- *new partnerships*
- *national and international publicizing of joint projects and sharing best practices*
- *a new Library-Archives-Museum professional*
- *guidelines for organizations to ensure converged collections are catalogued and accessible*
- *master full potential of digital technologies*



Convergence Rocks



“I see everywhere hope, calm resolution, courage, enthusiasm to face all difficulties, to settle all problems. We do not anticipate, and we do not want, that any individuals should forget the land of their origin or their ancestors. Let them look to the past, but let them also look to the future; let them look to the land of their ancestors, but let them look also to the land of their children.”

Sir Wilfred Laurier, Edmonton, Alberta, 1905

(http://www.pc.gc.ca/apprendre-learn/prof/itm2-crp-trc/pdf/laurier_e.pdf)



Ingrid Parent

Secteur de la collection du patrimoine
documentaire / Documentary Heritage

Collection Sector

Library and Archives Canada

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

Ingrid.parent@lac-bac.gc.ca