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CNSLP / PCLSN

**Briefing:
The Canadian National Site
Licensing Project
(CNSLP)**

Deb deBruijn • CNSLP Executive Director

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**CNSLP:
Supporting 21st Century Research**

CNSLP / PCLSN

- CNSLP overview
- Progress report & accomplishments
- Where next?

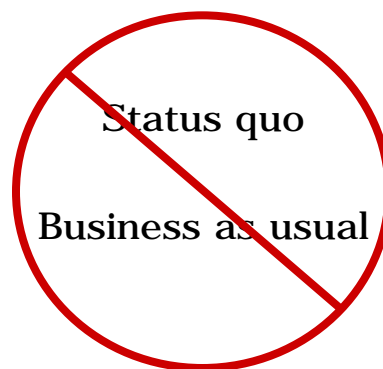
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What's the Problem?

- Changing research environment
 - interdisciplinary, international, informatics
 - researcher needs and expectations are changing
 - Libraries' ability to predict needs is changing
- Economic realities
 - proliferation of publications
 - double-digit price increases
 - decline of Cdn dollar
 - chronic erosion of library collections to support teaching and research
 - Canada has little clout in global market

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Reality Check



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Opportunity

- Canada's national innovation agenda
- Emergence of new players in research funding
- Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

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Canadian National Site Licensing Project (CNSLP)

- Research content *is* infrastructure
- Equitable access to research content is good public policy
- Demonstration project: proof of concept at national scale
- CNSLP is the second largest national award made by CFI

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CNSLP Goals

- **Build capacity for innovation**
 - Increase quantity/breadth/depth of scholarly pubs
 - Lower economic barriers to access
- **Speed transition to digital formats**
 - Introduce critical mass
 - Maximize value to researchers
- **Influence the marketplace**
 - Leverage buying power & influence
 - Reduce market volatility / unpredictability
 - Test and develop new business models

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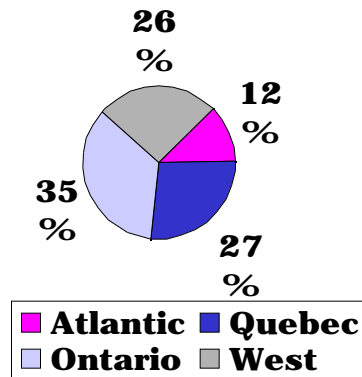
Mechanism

- **3-year demonstration project, 64 Cdn universities**
- **Licensing digital forms of scholarly content**
 - Fulltext, primarily S/T/M
- **\$50 M (Cdn.) - \$47 M of that is content**
- **Prototype – test structures & resources necessary to scale to national level**
 - Gain experience; explore issues
 - Develop means to extend the initiative over time

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Funding

- Project costs (\$50M) distributed on regional basis, using measures of research intensity
- FY 99-00 to 02-03:
 - CFI \$20M (40%)
 - participants \$30M (60%)
- FY 03-04 to 05-06:
 - commitment to sustain, participants 100%
- Stable source of funds and continuing return on funders' investments



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Organization

- National governance & communication structures
- University of Ottawa as administrative home
- “Empowering” agreements
 - Proposal to CFI (April 1999)
 - Inter-university agreement (Jan 2000)
 - Agency agreement with U of Ottawa (Feb 2001)

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Content Licensing Process

- Key considerations
 - Best value per CNSLP \$
 - Fair, thorough, unbiased process
- Procurement strategy
 - Understand the vendor
 - Create a competitive environment
 - Position CNSLP for powerful negotiations
- Formal methodology
 - Pre-qualification bid, RFP, & bid evaluation
 - Structured negotiations in order of Preferred Bidders

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Accomplishments

- Pan-Canadian licenses (2001-2003) with 7 publishers
 - 750+ electronic journals & citation tools
- CNSLP license agreement
 - Cdn jurisdiction, Cdn \$, advantageous usage rights
 - Electronic-based pricing model (unbundled print)
- Excellent return on investment
 - \$45M Cdn investment = over \$300M of content
- CNSLP provides impetus for and adds value to other infrastructure investments
- Formal evaluation underway

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Observations

- Risk reduction is good for all parties
 - Reduce price margins
 - Encourage movement / innovation
 - Allow shifts in business practices
- Building research infrastructure requires long-term commitments, and serious interdependence

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Where Next?

- FY 02-03 is final year of CFI and provincial contributions
- Maintain focus on university research agenda
- Expand content – SS & H, STM
- Broaden participation among AUCC institutions
- Formalize governance and legal structures
- Develop strategies for funding growth, in close cooperation with AUCC, CARL and regions

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More information

Deb deBruijn
debruijn@uottawa.ca
www.cnslp.ca