IMPACT OF FUNDING CHANGES ON MUSIC COLLECTIONS IN CANADIAN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

CAML Annual Meeting, June 2, 2016
University of Calgary
Houman Behzadi & Carolyn Doi
OUTLINE

• Introduction
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• Survey design
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INTRODUCTION

Why did we do this survey?

• Gathering information in a systematic way
• What is getting cut
• what regions are being most impacted
• What institutions are being most impacted?
• Talk about the work of CDIG
‘How important is it to you that your university library provides each of the functions below or serves in the capacity listed below?’

Response scale:
6 point scale, 6 = ‘Extremely important’ and 1 = ‘Not at all important’; Percent of respondents rating each item as ‘extremely important’ (5-6 on a 6-point scale)

Note: Though Go8 participants were asked to rank the library’s information literacy role for undergraduates, post graduates and higher degree students, participants from the US And UK were only asked about undergraduates.
Figure 46: How important is it to you that your college or university library provides each of the functions below or serves in the capacity listed below? Percent of respondents who identified each function as highly important.
Memorial University to cancel thousands of journal subscriptions

Professors say cuts will damage MUN's reputation, hurt student recruitment

Laura Howells · CBC News · CBC News
December 8, 2015
Ryerson University says it must cancel journal subscriptions, like MUN is considering

Many universities struggling with rapidly rising subscription costs

By Laura Howells, CBC News  Posted: Dec 13, 2015 5:30 PM NT  |  Last Updated: Dec 13, 2015 5:30 PM NT

Ryerson University released a statement Friday saying that with a decreasing base budget, rising subscription costs, and a weak Canadian dollar, it would have to cancel some journal subscriptions. (https://www.facebook.com/ryersonur)

Following news that Memorial University is considering cancelling its subscription to thousands of academic journals, the Ryerson University library has released a statement saying that similar cancellations are on the way for its school.

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IS YOUR TEAM IN?

PlayOn!
Impact of a weak Canadian dollar on Western Libraries' acquisitions budget

September 29, 2015

Written by: Harriet Rykse

Western Libraries' has developed a strong collection to enhance teaching, learning and research on campus that serves its academic community well. We have managed and developed our digital and print collections responsibly through thoughtful and responsive purchasing and the adoption of cost effective ways of collecting material, such as the ‘Demand Driven Purchase’ model for e-books and negotiated consortial licensing to reduce subscription costs. We have also benefited from annual increases to the acquisitions budget.

Unfortunately, the drastic decline in the value of the Canadian dollar, along with an ongoing increase in the costs of scholarly publications (exceeding inflation), has significantly impacted the purchasing power of the Western Libraries acquisitions budget, leaving us in the difficult position of a forecasted deficit. It is important note that a high percentage of purchases are made in non-Canadian currency and that journal subscriptions
Dropping loonie squeezes library budgets as costs for materials climb

PHILIP MOSCOVITCH
Special to The Globe and Mail
Published Friday, Mar. 11, 2016 9:27PM EST
Last updated Sunday, Mar. 13, 2016 2:46PM EDT

Every morning, Tom Hickerson turns on the TV and checks for the day’s exchange rate.

He is not a trader, banker or economist. But still, what he sees will have a major impact on the day ahead of him.

As the head librarian at the University of Calgary, Mr. Hickerson has watched in horror over the past two years, as the dropping dollar eats into his library’s purchasing power. Every drop of a penny against the American dollar takes a bite of over $100,000 out of his acquisitions budget.
Conducted an LIS literature search on impact of 2009 economic downturn on academic libraries

Findings:

• Prices of serials
• Redistribution of funds to create equity between subject areas
• Northwestern model
• Fall in the pound affecting purchasing power (2011)
• **Research question**: how are music library collections being affected by changes in academic library funding?

• **Hypothesis**: the fall in the Canadian dollar has caused a decrease in the volume of acquisition for music collections at Canadian academic music libraries.
SURVEY OVERVIEW

- Ethics granted at the U of Saskatchewan and U of Toronto
- Electronic survey distributed by the Social Sciences Research Lab (SSRL) at the University of Saskatchewan
- Survey coded in Qualtrics and distributed in French and English
- Responses were anonymized by SSRL staff before being analyzed by the researchers
SURVEY THEMES

Designed the survey to address the following themes:

- Profile of institutions
- Organization of music collections
- How funds have been affected, if at all by any number of factors
- How funds may be affected in the future
- Strategies that have been used to deal with funding cuts
- Impact of funding cuts on the library or users
RESULTS

• **Participants:** librarians with music acquisitions responsibilities at degree granting institutions in Canada
• Response rate: 30/60 (50%)
• Initial data analysis conducted by researchers
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS

- Western Canada: 27%
- Central Canada: 49%
- Eastern Canada: 12%
- No location indicated: 12%
- Central Canada: 49%
SIZE OF INSTITUTIONS

- Under 20,000: 14
- 20,001 - 40,000: 9
- 40,001 - 60,000: 3
- 60,001 - 80,000: 2
- No size indicated: 6
PARTICIPANTS – LOCATION AND SIZE OF MUSIC PROGRAMS

- Western Canada
- Central Canada
- Eastern Canada
- No location indicated

Size of music programs

- No response
- Over 1000
- 800 - 1000
- 600 - 799
- 400 - 599
- 200 - 399
- Under 199
SIZE OF MUSIC PROGRAM AND MUSIC ACQUISITION BUDGET ALLOCATION

- Less than $9,999
- $10,000 to $29,999
- $30,000 to $49,999
- $50,000 to $69,999
- $70,000 or more
How much have music funds changed overall since 2014?

- **Decreased significantly**: Eastern Canada - 3, Central Canada - 4, Western Canada - 3
- **Decreased somewhat**: Eastern Canada - 1, Central Canada - 6, Western Canada - 2
- **No change**: Eastern Canada - 0, Central Canada - 0, Western Canada - 0
- **Increased somewhat**: Eastern Canada - 0, Central Canada - 2, Western Canada - 0
- **Increased significantly**: Eastern Canada - 0, Central Canada - 0, Western Canada - 1
- **Unsure/don't know**: Eastern Canada - 0, Central Canada - 1, Western Canada - 0
HOW DO YOU ANTICIPATE THE MUSIC FUNDS WILL CHANGE IN THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR?
How do you anticipate the overall music allocation for physical collections will change in the upcoming fiscal year?

- Decrease significantly
- Decrease somewhat
- No change
- Increase somewhat
- Increase significantly
- Unsure/don't know

Atlantic Canada
Central Canada
Western Canada
Has the change in the Canadian dollar impacted music acquisitions practices?

• Yes, 86.67%
• No, 6.67%
• Unsure, 6.67%
How have music collections funds been affected by the change in Canadian dollar?

- Acquisition ceased: 1
- Audio/visual materials: 1
- Scores: 1
- Monographs: 2
- Print materials: 3
- Overall funds: 14
WHICH FORMATS IN YOUR COLLECTION HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE AFFECTED BY CHANGES IN FUNDING FOR MUSIC IN YOUR LIBRARY?

- None affected: 2
- Print serials: 11
- Videos (DVD, Blu-ray, etc.): 11
- eResources: 12
- CDs: 15
- Monographs: 15
- Scores: 17
WHAT COLLECTIONS STRATEGIES HAVE YOU USED TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE OF THE DECLINING CANADIAN DOLLAR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make adjustments to binding and repair instead of...</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change strategies for ordering eBooks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rely on more support from university</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rely more on ILL</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancel eResource</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancel serials</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition based on purchase requests</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requested additional acquisition funds</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rely on other library funds</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavier reliance on donations / gifts in kind</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy for additional funds</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prioritizing selection</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is the greatest challenge you have faced with music collection development in the past due to loss of acquisitions funds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building a current and robust collection</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in overall acquisition</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreased audio acquisition</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreased score acquisition</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to subscribe to important eResources</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to meet needs of users</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do you see as the greatest challenges facing music collection development in the future due to loss of acquisitions funds?

- Building a current and robust collection: 9
- Insufficient funds: 5
- Collaborative collections strategies between institutions: 4
- Inability to meet user needs & impact on relationships: 5
- Maintaining eResources: 2
- Other: 4
LIMITATIONS

- Survey looks at impact on music collections, but not in comparison to other subjects
- Big picture look at the landscape of music acquisition funding and practices in Canada
- A conversation is needed to decide where to go from here
DISCUSSION

- **Hypothesis**: the fall in the Canadian dollar has caused a decrease in the volume of acquisition for music collections at Canadian academic music libraries.
- Little expectation that collections funds will increase. Expecting them to stay the same or decrease.
- Anticipate impact on collections, users. What are the solutions?
- Large variety of strategies, but collaboration with other music libraries wasn’t one of them. Some suspect STEM is prioritized over music/humanities, but how do we know?
FUTURE DIRECTIONS

• Presentation at MLA 2017
• Archiving the data in U of A dataverse
• Further discussion at the Collections Committee