



Shared Print Archive Network (SPAN)

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WHAT IS SPAN?

SPAN facilitates the shared management of physical collections between COPPUL libraries, ensuring that library users have access to a rich collection shared between all members of the network.

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WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF SPAN?

To ensure that the print collections of COPPUL member libraries remain accessible and preserved in a cost-effective way.

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HOW DOES SPAN WORK?

- Participating libraries agree to retain specific print monographs and serial runs.
- Other participating libraries may discard their copies knowing that it will remain available in at least one COPPUL library.

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WHY IS SPAN IMPORTANT?

- SPAN helps to ensure that print resources - particularly rare or unique ones - are available in Western Canada.
- SPAN distributes the work and costs associated with preserving print resources amongst its participants.

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WHAT DOES MY INSTITUTION GAIN FROM SPAN?

- Broadest possible access to print collections regardless of institution size
- Optimize library space to meet student and faculty needs (e.g. creating more study space or teaching labs).
- Increased efficiency in managing and preserving print collections.

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WHAT HAS BEEN ARCHIVED SO FAR?

- 1 million monograph titles
- 12,000 serial titles