**CaMMS Subject Analysis Committee**

**Report on Library and Archives Canada (LAC)**

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**Canadian Subject Headings (CSH)**

[Canadian Subject Headings](https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/services/canadian-subject-headings/Pages/about-csh.aspx#b) is a list of access points in the English language, using controlled vocabulary, to express the subject content of documents on Canada. The scope of CSH is mostly limited to the Canadian cultural, economic, historical, literary, political and social experience, with few subject headings in other fields of study. While the headings in CSH are only in the English language, they have French language equivalents in *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* (RVM), published by the Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval (in Quebec City).

CSH is available to search and export in WMS Record Manager. LAC also makes copies of the complete CSH file in MARC21 freely available via SFTP to libraries and other organizations, to load into their own systems. For information about how to access CSH using WMS Record Manager, you may to contact OCLC directly, and to obtain an account to download CSH, please contact LAC at [servicesauxbibliotheques-libraryservices@bac-lac.gc.ca](mailto:servicesauxbibliotheques-libraryservices@bac-lac.gc.ca).

LAC provides updated versions periodically of the CHS file in MARC21 via marc21.ca web site (mostly recently in April 2023): <https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html>

**CSH Statistics**

Here are the CSH revision statistics from January to May 23, 2023:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Adding New CSH** | 100 |
| **Deleting CSH** | 1 |
| **Replacing CSH** | 83 |

**Classification and Subject Headings related to Indigenous Peoples**

Because the language describing Indigenous materials in CSH is often not reflective of the terminology preferred by First Nation, Inuit and Métis Nation communities in Canada, in 2019, LAC started a review of CSH headings.

LAC is a participant of the [Canadian Federation of Library Associations](http://cfla-fcab.ca/en/home-page/) (CFLA) and their [Indigenous Matters Committee](http://cfla-fcab.ca/en/about/committees/indigenous_matters_committee/) (IMC) and is consulting with this group on changes to CSH to ensure that a culturally appropriate and respectful approach is taken. LAC is also consulting with LAC Indigenous colleagues, the LAC Indigenous Advisory Circle, the CFLA-IMC Red Team on Naming and Classification, and the broader library community.

We are working with the Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval (in Quebec City), which publishes the *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* (RVM), in order to find French language equivalents.

We published the list of CSH related to Indigenous Peoples on our marc21.ca web site so people could see the Indigenous-related terminology in context and track our progress (next update in June). Here is the direct link: <https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html>

As part of our work, we looked to the examples set by others. Many organizations have created their own ontologies and lists of subject headings, like the Manitoba Archival Information Network (MAIN), the X̱wi7x̱wa Library, the CFLA-IMC Red Team’s First Nations, Metis and Inuit – Indigenous Ontologies (CFLA), and the Greater Victoria Public Library. These provided examples from other organizations doing similar work to help inform our own.

Below is a summary of the work completed to date:

**June 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | # of CSH describing Indigenous Peoples |
| Modified | 136 (17.2%) |
| Addition | 548 (69.2%) |
| Work in progress | 15 (1.9%) |
| No change required | 93 (11.7%) |
| Total | 792 |

To date, we have modified 136 CSH out of a total of 792 related to Indigenous Peoples. 548 CSHs were added. We still have 15 CSH to change (and many more to add), but we need and are seeking more input from communities to identify the right vocabulary to use.

We have decided to remove the word “Canadian” as an adjective (**Canadian literature (English)$xIndigenous authors** is now **Indigenous literature (English)**).

In order to replace the LCSH heading “Ind\*ans of North America”, we created the heading **$aFirst Nations** for works on First Nations peoples and subjects.  Geographical subdivisions can be added where appropriate to help specify Canada or Canadian jurisdictions.

From previous CSH we already reviewed, we removed the geographical subdivision **$zCanada** when combined with the terms “First Nations” to eliminate the redundancy.

NIKLA is the National Indigenous Knowledge and Languages ​​Alliance (<https://www.nikla-ancla.com/>). They are officially active since January 2022. Their three executives are well- recognised Indigenous leaders in the library, museum and archives world. They are experts in both subject headings and Indigenous culture. This is the kind of authority we need to move forward with changing subject headings. We are looking forward to working with them and learning from them on appropriate terminologies and practices.

Our next goal is to revise subject headings for the majority of First Nations communities and languages.  This work is currently in progress.

Also, LAC published the 5th edition of PS8000, A Classification for Canadian Literature in May 2023. PS8000 is a supplement to the LC Classification system. An electronic copy is available from LAC’s Aurora catalogue:

English : <https://bac-lac.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1380694875>

French : <https://bac-lac.on.worldcat.org/oclc/1380694973>

Next, we will review the Indigenous terminologies in FC classification schedule (a supplement to the LC Classification for Canadian history), and also we will revise 2SLGBTQ vocabularies in CSH.

**LAC, NACO, SACO and PFAN**

LAC contributes English-language name authorities to the NACO file and French-language name authorities to the PFAN/Canadiana file. SACO contributions also continue.  LAC cataloguers continue to add unique English-language name authorities previously found in the bilingual Canadiana file to the NACO file. Ongoing documentation updates are being made to the Francophone Name Authority Program (PFAN) [bilingual wiki](https://wiki.gccollab.ca/PFAN_-_Francophone_Name_Authority_Program) (English / French) and a summary of [additions and changes](https://wiki.gccollab.ca/PFAN_-_News_and_Updates) on the PFAN wiki is now available.  The current focus is on developing training for Romanization and Name Authorities in Music, and continuing the work on Ambiguous entities and bibliographic file maintenance.

NACO file (January to May 23, 2023):

* New: 1,762
* Updated: 2,904

PFAN/Canadiana file

* New Canadiana records: 206
* Deleted: 282
* Updated: 3,001

**LAC and MARC21**

LAC has published the French translation of English Update 34 (July 2022). Code lists in French have been updated according to the TECHNICAL NOTICES on the Library of Congress Website for the period of December 19, 2021 to August 24, 2022. Update 35 from LC was published in December 2022. The French translation of Update 35 and the Technical Notices for the period September 21, 2022 to January 25, 2023 were published in February 2023.

**LAC and CST**

CST is a thesaurus of terminology that LAC maintains for use by the Government of Canada in its web page metadata.  The Government of Canada [Core Subject Thesaurus](https://canada.multites.net/) (CST) web site terminologies related to Indigenous Peoples were updated in October 2022, and LAC plans to revise 2SLGBTQ vocabularies in the near future.

**LAC and RDA**

LAC continues to develop the new LAC policy statements. The English version of the RDA policy statements for elements under Manifestation, Expression, Work and Place are completed. We are working on finishing the element under Agent and continuing the work on the documentation. Closely with ALA, we have developed the LAC bilingual structure in RDA Toolkit. The next step is to start adding policy statements in RDA Toolkit to confirm the structure.