



Bibliothèque et Archives
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of Canada

Gatineau (Québec)
K1A 0N4

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August 8, 2014
File Number: 25454

Ms. Heather Buzzell
President
British Columbia Library Association
Suite 150-900 Howe Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6Z 2M4

Dear Ms. Buzzell:

Thank you for your letter of July 22, 2014 expressing your concerns over the recent announcement that Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is proposing a contract with the Online Computer Library Center, Inc. (OCLC) to host Canada's National Union Catalogue (NUC).

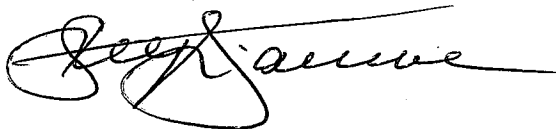
In 2013 LAC conducted a survey of Canadian library associations and almost half of the respondents raised concerns about their willingness or ability to pay for an improved NUC. For this reason, we wish to highlight that we are pursuing an NUC model where costs to users will be minimal. As you are also aware, there are other sources of free MARC records, which can be searched using the Z39.50 protocol. Examples of sources for free MARC records are regional consortia catalogues and catalogues of large institutions such as public and university libraries that are currently members of OCLC.

Regarding intellectual property rights, we have specified in our procurement process that the service provider must certify that it currently complies or will comply with the requirements for specific attribution of data source ownership for individual bibliographic records.

Discussions regarding the replacement of the NUC are currently underway with the Government of Canada's procurement arm, Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC). While these discussions take place we are unable to provide additional information regarding these negotiations. However, you have my assurance that LAC will communicate broadly with the library community as soon as we are in a position to do so.

I hope I have addressed all of your concerns and I look forward to working with the British Columbia Library Association.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Berthiaume". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Guy Berthiaume

Cc: Ms. Marie DeYoung, President, Canadian Library Association