

ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORT TO CDNL 2014

Name of country: Canada-Québec

Name of Library: Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

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The 2013-2014 year was the year of institutional modernization and renewal for Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ): new image, new building layout and new sources of funding.

To celebrate the double 10th anniversary of its lending library, the Grande Bibliothèque, (May 2015), and the entry of the National Archives into the institution's fold (January 2016), BAnQ decided to boost its brand image, give its various components a unified look and redesign its Web site to offer increased user-friendliness.

In the fall of 2013, the institution acquired a new logo. The sleek, modern visual is being used in a variety of colourful ways across all the institution's communication platforms.

In addition to the logo refresh, BAnQ did a thorough overhaul of its Web site. The first phase of the project involved designing a more user-friendly home page and providing easier site navigation through multi-source searching.

As part of the general renewal, BAnQ completed the institutional merger process begun in 2002 by standardizing the names of the eleven BAnQ centres located throughout Québec.

A decade after the Grande Bibliothèque came into being, the need to evolve is also manifested in the ambitious redesign of the main entrance level, which houses the City of Montréal's main public library. Based on the concept of Third Space and inspired by the best practices implemented in northern European public libraries, this new use of space will improve visitor flow and provide access to customized information in a comfortable setting.

This initiative builds on the increasing independence of patrons, who will be able to use self-service check-out and return stations, transactional kiosks and interactive touch screens.

This is the third major renewal project undertaken in 2013-2014. Against a backdrop of decreased public funding and BAnQ's search for new sources of revenue, the Fondation de BAnQ launched its first major capital campaign. The campaign had already reached 75% of its five-year goal by spring 2014. And, like other heritage institutions around the world, BAnQ recently entered into a commercial partnership for the digitization of its archives, primarily for the benefit of genealogists.



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