

**35th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES
(CDNL), QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 13 AUGUST 2008**

TEMPLATE FOR COUNTRY REPORT

(Country reports will be made available on the CDNL website <http://www.cdnl.info>)

Please provide reports in English

Name of Country: Canada

Name of Library: Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Name of Chief Executive: Lise Bissonnette

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2008

In 2007-2008, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec has pursued and developed its traditional missions by focusing on two specific areas of development and by launching a major new institutional endeavour, Bibliothèque et Archives virtuelles du Québec.

The first development focus targeted by BAnQ in recent months has been cultural programming, which, in 2007-2008, has grown spectacularly, with presentations for the public that included 37 exhibitions and 40 other cultural events. This enriching and diversified offering has reached the entire regional network of BAnQ archives centres, and has helped to strengthen and deepen the merger of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and the Archives nationales du Québec that took place in 2006. In addition, the institution has relied on new high-profile international partnerships with cultural and government organizations.

The second focus for development emphasized by BAnQ in 2007-2008 has been the expansion of its scientific mission, illustrated by increased support for preparing exhibitions and international colloquia, and the implementation of a project to launch a scholarly journal, whose first issue will be published in early 2009.

At the end of 2007, BAnQ became committed to the institutional endeavour, Bibliothèque et Archives virtuelles du Québec. Its aim is to completely rebuild the organization's Web portal while improving its virtual offering of collections and services.

This ambitious project gives us the opportunity to seriously rethink the architecture of the content of the institution's portal, while incorporating new search tools and more user-friendly services, especially by taking advantage of Web 2.0 technology. This project falls within the framework of a strong cooperative dynamic that has been forged in the interests of digitizing heritage, both nationally and internationally. In this area, BAnQ is participating in several major projects: setting up the network of digital heritage in Québec, in partnership with the Société des musées québécois; contributing to Project Canada, a vast forum bringing together the main actors in digitization in Canada; designing and developing the Web portal of the Réseau francophone des bibliothèques nationales numériques, which was

created in Paris in 2006 on the initiative of the Bibliothèque nationale de France

In the spring of 2009, the launch of this new virtual cultural space will add a fourth major feature to the original institutional model of BAnQ, which has already taken on the mission and mandate of a national library, a national archives and a large public library.

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Please send your country report to the CDNL Secretariat at the address below by Monday 30 June 2008. Reports may be submitted in the body of an email or as an attachment to an email.

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