



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

University Library

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Open Access Commitment

Research Outputs of Librarians and Archivists of the University of Saskatchewan

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

Preamble

Librarians and archivists at the University of Saskatchewan believe that the free exchange of information and ideas advances the public good, uniting diverse communities around the world in shared intellectual pursuits. We endorse these principles of open access as initially described in the [Budapest Open Access Initiative \(BOAI\)](#) in 2002.

Open access literature is available online at no cost to the reader and free of most copyright restrictions. This reduces barriers to the results of research and increases its visibility, accessibility, and impact. Furthermore, making the products of research open access throughout the research lifecycle has the potential to accelerate science and knowledge creation, contributing to improved transparency and accountability in research and advancing solutions to the human, ecological, and environmental issues of our time.

As researchers, we champion open access and open research practices for the benefit of other researchers, students, practitioners, policy makers, and the public. We believe that the results of publicly funded research should be freely available to everyone.

Finally, as librarians and archivists, we also have the professional obligation to promote and collaborate in the development of an open, sustainable, and robust scholarly publishing system while transitioning away from the unsustainable pricing and anticompetitive business practices of profit-driven scholarly publishing. We can do this by supporting high quality innovative, equitable, and ethical open access venues and models wherever possible

Statement of Commitment

We commit to making all products of our research and scholarship as openly available as possible, such as by:

- Depositing versions of our publications, presentations, reports, and other research products in open access repositories such as [HARVEST](#) and in adherence with copyright restrictionsⁱ
- Publishing our work in open access journals or as open access monographs
- Posting openly the various products of our research throughout the research lifecycle as appropriate (e.g. pre-registering a research plan; sharing research instruments, methods, or protocols before publication; sharing research data; etc.)
- Disseminating our work in other new and emerging open access venues relevant to the discipline

We will also seek to advance open access more broadly by:

- Advocating for open access in our roles as editors, reviewers, and authors
- Encouraging and supporting fellow USask researchers to make their research and scholarship openly available

- Collaborating in the development of a sustainable open access scholarly publishing system

Cultural, Ethics, and Privacy Considerations

This Commitment recognizes that not all research outputs are appropriate to be shared openly.

Review

This Commitment will be reviewed by Librarians in Committee every five years.

History

The intent of this revised statement adopted by Librarians in Committee on December 10, 2020 is to encourage open access dissemination of our research or scholarly works, and to refresh the language of our previous Commitment statement first adopted by Librarians in Committee January 26, 2010.

Subsequently revised: December 5, 2022.

Acknowledgements

Revisions to this Commitment statement were inspired by Brock University Library's [Open Access Resolution](#) and McGill University Library's [Open Access Statement](#).

ⁱ Retrospective deposit is encouraged; co-authored works should be deposited with the permission of other author(s)