Meanwhile, in Canada...
...access is a problem...
Access

• Information is preserved, collected and organized

• Information is deliverable over time

• Information is deliverable at the point of need

• The Tools of Discovery are appropriate and robust
Let’s compare two gateways to “published” government information
FDSys

• GPO’s Federal Digital System

• Automates the collection and dissemination of federal information

• The vehicle for the dissemination of the majority of Executive and Legislative content

• Serves as a gateway, digital archive and a discovery tool
H.R. 2775 (ENR)
Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014

PDF >
XML >
Text >

Health Care Law
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

PDF >
Text >
Government of Canada Publications

- Part of the Publishing and Depository Service web space
- Closely tied to the *Weekly Checklist*
- An acquisitions tool, depository management tool
Basic Search

Search For (required)

Text

Control No. (e.g. Catalogue Number, ISBN)

Language of Publication (required)

- English
- French

Search for other languages

- View only publications available for download or order

Search

Search Help
Any mention of mobile devices?
Access

- The Tools of Discovery are appropriate and robust
Publication Record Permanent Links

Our Publication Information page displays an abbreviated bibliographic record from the Government of Canada Publications database. You can create a permanent link to this page by copying the Persistent URL titled "Permanent Link to this catalogue record".

We recommend that you do not bookmark the relative URL displayed in your browser toolbar as we cannot guarantee the persistence of that URL.

Creating links to serial titles

To link to the Publication Information page for serial titles, use the persistent URL for the Master Record. Records displaying a "Browse Issue Records" link are Master Records for serial titles. Serial issue records can be accessed through the "Browse Issue Records" link and in the case of electronic serials, the electronic edition of the publication can be accessed from the issue record. Records displaying a "View Master Record" link are serial issue records.

What is a Persistent URL?

A Persistent Uniform Resource Locator (PURL) is a Web address that acts as a permanent location for a resource. While the actual location may change over time, the PURL does not, so if you link to the PURL for a resource from your Web site or catalogue, the chances of that link breaking over time are greatly reduced.

Date modified: 2013-03-13
What on earth are they talking about?
Access
Government of Canada Publications

- Clunky
- Cumbersome
- Designed for collection managers and purchasers of printed material
- Not a useful discovery tool
Not doing too well, are we?
Legislation?
“[T]he use of legislative history as a tool for determining the intention of the legislature is an entirely appropriate exercise.”

-*Rizzo [1998] 1 SCR 783, at para. 31*
Legislative Research

- Access to deliberations at all levels and in all venues
- Linkage of ease of movement between sessions
- Quick and easy access to index points
- Seamless
congress.gov

• Library of Congress gateway to congressional information

• Improves on THOMAS

• Provides seamless integration of legislative, congressional tools and resources

• Includes multimedia, educational, reference material all in one place
41st Parliament, 2nd Session
(October 16, 2013)

Today in the House

Next Sitting - Monday, November 4, 2013 (Sitting No. 13)

The House is scheduled to meet at 11:00 a.m. (EST).
Projected Order of Business
Order Paper & Notice Paper

Today in the House - Thursday, October 31, 2013 (Sitting No. 12)

The House of Commons Chamber adjourned at 2:31 p.m. (EDT).
Journals
Debates

Publications for Wednesday, October 30, 2013 (Sitting No. 11)

Debates
Journals
Other publications are available from the side menu.

Speaker’s Permission | Privacy Statement | Disclaimer of Liability
• Fairly good access to current events
• No integration of access by Session or by Parliament
• LEGISINFO works very well
• *Meets the needs of insiders*
• Confusing to outsiders
Statistics and Data?
Administrative Law?
What now?
The Discovery Tools are not ready for the next phase
Coordinated efforts across jurisdictions and sectors are needed.
Potential Partners

• National and parliamentary/legislative libraries (preserve and curate)

• Academic and public librarians (digitize and keep safe, create)

• Library and professional associations (coordinate and advocate)

• Library schools (create and update)
Information professionals from all sectors must build discovery and access tools that meet the needs of those who use them.
Thank You

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