The Outline

- BC Government Documents
- The Docs You Need to Know
- Government Databases
- BC Stats
- My MLA said what?

What are documents?

- Published or made public.
- If it’s on the website, it’s published. Formal publication is not the key criteria.
- Where does the document begin and end online?
- A document is not a personal record, internal communications, advice briefing materials, FOI requests.

Depository Libraries in BC

- BC does not have a broad depository program.
- The Legislative Library and UBC Library were designated depository libraries by OIC in 1935.
- Depository status entails active collection. This is also true of federal depository program.
- Intellectual Property Program
- Queen’s Printer
  [http://www.publications.gov.bc.ca/](http://www.publications.gov.bc.ca/)

Collecting at the Legislative Library

- Publicly released documents that the Library can find and meet collection criteria.
- Find, Download, Print, Catalogue, Distribute.
- The Monthly Checklist
  [http://www.llbc.leg.bc.ca/databases/checklist](http://www.llbc.leg.bc.ca/databases/checklist)
- The Catalogue
  [http://www.llbccat.leg.bc.ca](http://www.llbccat.leg.bc.ca)
- Search ‘Annual Service Plan Report’

Legislative Library Batch Records

- MARC Records Batch Services
  [http://www.llbc.leg.bc.ca/marc_batch/index.htm](http://www.llbc.leg.bc.ca/marc_batch/index.htm)
- Provider neutral records available from ELN
  [http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1876](http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1876)
- Legislative Library, UVic, BCELN, BCCATS

The Docs You Need to Know: Finances

- Estimates
  [http://www.hcbudget.gov.bc.ca/](http://www.hcbudget.gov.bc.ca/)
  - Sorted by program vote
  - Includes some good program information
  - Useful for linking to budget debate
- Public Accounts
  [http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/OCG/pa/09_10/Pd09_10.htm](http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/OCG/pa/09_10/Pd09_10.htm)
  - How the money was actually spent
  - Audited statements with unaudited information on other agencies
  - Check the notes
  - Check the schedules
The Docs You Need to Know: Reports

- Annual Reports
  - Lots of historical information
  - More useful in the past
- Sessional Papers
  - until 1952
  - Bound unofficially at UBC until 1976.
  - Sessional Papers common at medium to large libraries.
  - Digitization?

The Docs You Need to Know: Elections

- Elections British Columbia Website
  - http://www.elections.bc.ca/
- Electoral History of BC
- Political Contributions
  - http://contributions.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/pcs/
- Reports on Political Participation, Legislative Environment and more.

The Docs You Need to Know: Crown Corporations

  - Corporations created and owned by the government
  - Commercial Crown Corporations
  - Service Delivery Crown Corporations
- Crown Agency Registry
  - Information on ministry responsibility and subsidiaries.
- Past Financial Statements and Service Plans are available at the Legislative Library
- Current Websites and Shareholder Agreements http://www.gov.bc.ca/carol/publications/index.html
- Crown Corporations and Agencies included in Government Directory

The Docs You Need to Know: Miscellanea

- Wills and Estates http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/courts/other/wills_estates.htm
- BC Government and Social Networking http://www.gov.bc.ca/keyinitiatives/stay_connected.html
- Labour Relations Board of BC http://www.lrb.bc.ca/ Collective Agreements and Decisions

Government Databases

- Searchable sub-collections of publicly available information
- Legislative Library collects some of the documents, not all of them publicly
- Documents may not be found in google, depending on database configuration

Examples of Government Databases

- Political Contributions http://contributions.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/pcs/
- Government News Releases http://www.news.gov.bc.ca/
- BC Lobbyists Registry http://www.lobbyistsregistrar.bc.ca/
- BC Bid http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca/open.dll/welcome
- BC Court of Appeal and Supreme Court Judgements http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/search_judgments.aspx
- BC Online https://www.bconline.gov.bc.ca/
- BC Human Rights Tribunal http://www.bchrt.bc.ca/
### Damned Statistics

- Very obvious place to go
- Community facts profiles
- Subject browsing
- Analytical Reports database and RSS feed
- Some content and print material needs to be purchased

### Damned Statistics: The SQL

- Ministries and Agencies are excellent sources of their own data
- Crown corporation websites (example ICBC – Road Safety Research)
- Ministries (Solicitor General – Police Services – Crime Statistics)

### My MLA Said What?

- Historical Quotes and Research (Clipping Books)
- Hansard Index (Maiden Speech)
- Question Period
- Constituency Offices
- Political Party Websites
- Twitter/Facebook
- Voice of BC/Constituency Reports

### Following BC Politics

- Major Columnists (Vaughn Palmer, Michael Smyth, Les Leyne)
- Globe and Mail and CBC BC Sections
- Tyee.ca
- Official awareness tools (news releases, Quickscribe alerts)