

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
<http://www.cio.gov.bc.ca/cio/intellectualproperty/index.page>
- Queen's Printer <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>
- The Catalogue <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
- Provider neutral records available from ELN
<http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1876>
- Legislative Library, UVic, BCELN, BCCATS



The Docs You Need to Know: Finances

- Estimates <http://www.bcbudget.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/Pa09_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
 - <http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/PublicationsCatalogue/AnnualReports/Pages/default.aspx>
- 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
<http://www.elections.bc.ca/index.php/resource-centre/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

- Crown Agencies Resource Office <http://www.gov.bc.ca/caro/>
- Corporations created and owned by the government
 - Commercial Crown Corporations
 - Service Delivery Crown Corporations
- Crown Agency Registry
 - http://www.gov.bc.ca/caro/attachments/crown_agency_registry.pdf
 - Information on ministry responsibility and subsidiaries.
- Guidelines and Publications on Accountability Procedures
<http://www.gov.bc.ca/caro/publications/index.html>
- Past Financial Statements and Service Plans are available at the Legislative Library
- Current Websites and Shareholder Agreements
<http://www.gov.bc.ca/caro/publications/index.html>
- Crown Corporations and Agencies included in Government Directory

The Docs You Need to Know: Miscellanea

- Ministry of Forests - Treebook
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/treebook/>
- Core Policies and Procedures Manual
<http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/ocg/fmb/manuals/CPM/CPMtoc.htm>
- BC Government Directory - Independent Officers
<http://dir.gov.bc.ca/>
- Ministry of Environment Compliance Reports
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/main/prgs/compliancereport.html>
- 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/Default.aspx>
- 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
- Publication Ban Notification Project
http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/supreme_court/publication_bans/search.aspx
- BC Online <https://www.bconline.gov.bc.ca/>
- BC Human Rights Tribunal <http://www.bchrt.bc.ca/>

Damned Statistics

- BC Stats <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/>
- 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)
- Public Eye Online <http://www.publiceyeonline.com/>
- Globe and Mail and CBC BC Sections
- Tyee.ca
- Official awareness tools (news releases, Quickscribe alerts)