**CaMMS Subject Analysis Committee**

**Report on Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Published Heritage Branch**

Submitted by Annie Wolfe

Senior Librarian – Information Standards

January 2022

**Canadian Subject Headings (CSH)**

[Canadian Subject Headings](https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/services/canadian-subject-headings/Pages/about-csh.aspx#b) is a list of access points in the English language, using controlled vocabulary, to express the subject content of documents on Canada. The scope of CSH is mostly limited to the Canadian cultural, economic, historical, literary, political and social experience, with few subject headings in other fields of study. While the headings in CSH are only in the English language, they have French language equivalents in *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* (RVM), published by the Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval (in Quebec City).

CSH is available to search and export in WMS Record Manager. LAC also makes copies of the complete CSH file in MARC21 freely available via SFTP to libraries and other organizations, to load into their own systems. For information about how to access CSH using WMS Record Manager, you may to contact OCLC directly, and to obtain an account to download CSH, please contact LAC at [servicesauxbibliotheques-libraryservices@bac-lac.gc.ca](mailto:servicesauxbibliotheques-libraryservices@bac-lac.gc.ca).

LAC provides updated versions periodically of the CHS file in MARC21 via marc21.ca web site (mostly recently in December 2021): <https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html>

**CSH Statistics**

Here are the CSH revision statistics from July 2021 to December 2021:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Adding New CSH** | 93 |
| **Deleting CSH** | 5 |
| **Replacing CSH** | 306 |

**Classification and Subject Headings related to Indigenous Peoples**

Because the language describing Indigenous materials in CSH is often not reflective of the terminology preferred by First Nation, Inuit and Métis Nation communities in Canada, in 2019, LAC started a review of CSH headings.

LAC is a participant of the [Canadian Federation of Library Associations](http://cfla-fcab.ca/en/home-page/) (CFLA) and their [Indigenous Matters Committee](http://cfla-fcab.ca/en/about/committees/indigenous_matters_committee/) (IMC) and is consulting with this group on changes to CSH to ensure that a culturally appropriate and respectful approach is taken. LAC is also consulting with LAC Indigenous colleagues, the LAC Indigenous Advisory Circle, the CFLA-IMC Red Team on Naming and Classification, and the broader library community.

We are working with the Bibliothèque de l'Université Laval (in Quebec City), which publishes the *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* (RVM), in order to find French language equivalents.

We published the full list of CSH, as well as the list of CSH related to Indigenous Peoples, on our marc21.ca web site, so people could see the Indigenous-related terminology in context and track our progress. Here is the direct link: <https://www.marc21.ca/CSH/index-e.html>

As part of our work, we looked to the examples set by others. Many organizations have created their own ontologies and lists of subject headings, like the Manitoba Archival Information Network (MAIN), the X̱wi7x̱wa Library, the CFLA-IMC Red Team’s First Nations, Metis and Inuit – Indigenous Ontologies (CFLA), and the Greater Victoria Public Library. These provided examples from other organizations doing similar work to help inform our own.

Below is a summary of the work completed to date:

November 23, 2021

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | # of CSH |
| Modified | 113 (27.9%) |
| Addition | 167 (41.2%) |
| Work in progress | 31 (7.7%) |
| No change required | 94 (23.2%) |
| Total | 405 |

June 17, 2021

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | # of CSH |
| Modified | 98 (33%) |
| Addition | 58 (20%) |
| Work in progress | 50 (17%) |
| No change required | 90 (30%) |
| Total | 296 |

To date, we have modified 113 CSH out of a total of 405 related to Indigenous Peoples. 167 CSHs were added. We still have 31 CSH to change, but we need and are seeking more input from communities to identify the right vocabulary to use.

We have decided to remove the word “Canadian” as an adjective (**Canadian literature (English)$xIndigenous authors** is now **Indigenous literature (English)**).

In order to replace the LCSH heading “Ind\*ans of North America”, we created the heading **$aFirst Nations** for works on First Nations peoples and subjects.  Geographical subdivisions can be added where appropriate to help specify Canada or Canadian jurisdictions.

Our next goal is to revise subject headings for the majority of First Nations communities and languages.

**LAC, NACO and PFAN**

LAC contributes English-language name authorities to the NACO file and French-language name authorities to the PFAN/Canadiana file. SACO contributions also continue.  LAC cataloguers continue to add unique English-language name authorities previously found in the bilingual Canadiana file to the NACO file. The Francophone Name Authority Program (PFAN) continues to develop the PFAN documentation in a bilingual wiki space by adding new instructions.

**LAC and MARC21**

LAC has published the French translation of English Update 33 (November 2021). Code lists in French have been updated according to the TECHNICAL NOTICES on the Library of Congress Website for the period of April 15 to December 7, 2021.

**LAC and CST**

There have been no updates to the [Core Subject Thesaurus](https://canada.multites.net/) (or CST) web site since December 2020. CST is a thesaurus of terminology that LAC maintains for use by the Government of Canada in its web page metadata.

**LAC and RDA**

LAC continues to develop the new LAC policy statements about the elements under the Manifestation entity for the new Toolkit.