That’s a pretty big job, eh?
Supporting Open Infrastructure in Canada
Lessons from Coalition Publica

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Presentation Outline

1. Introduction
2. Technical Infrastructure
3. Human Infrastructure
Introduction
What is Coalition Publica?

→ Coalition Publica is a partnership between Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project to advance research dissemination and digital scholarly publishing in Canada.

→ We are developing a non-commercial, open source national infrastructure for digital scholarly publishing, dissemination, and research—combining Open Journal Systems and the erudit.org platform.
What we offer

**Partnership for Open Access**
- Support for OA content
- Collection of Canadian SSH research
- Financial support for journal sustainability

**Services**
- Publishing
- Dissemination
- Preservation
- Usage stats
- Support & Professionalization

**Infrastructure**
OJS + erudit.org
Technical Infrastructure
National Open Infrastructure

Distributed Environment

OJS

OJS Hosting Provider

OAI+XML

Centralized Dissemination Platform

erudit.org

Research corpus
Libraries & Coalition Publica

OJS @ Library

- author
- journal
- article
- metadata
- DOI
- dissemination
- preservation
- OAI + XML
- metadata curation
- (DOI)
- dissemination

ÉRUDIT

- Access to library users
- Preservation (Portico/Scholars Portal)

OJS Hosting & Technical Support

Training
Best practices
Support with indexing

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One example: Canadian Journal of Higher Education

- OJS hosted at SFU Library
- Submission and publication workflow in OJS
- Issue metadata & full-text transferred to Érudit automatically
- DOIs minted in Érudit platform; resolve to Érudit.org
  - (OJS can also mint DOIs and provide them to Érudit)
- Content now packaged & disseminated to CRKN members & others
- Journal receives revenues from Partnership for OA
- Content is preserved in Portico
- POA revenues are disbursed to journal
Human Infrastructure
Communication is the key

- Technical infrastructure is used by humans (imperfect)
- Relationship building for buy-in and ongoing cooperation
- Clear documentation for understanding
- Prioritize opportunities to connect with stakeholders (even when time is a scarce resource)

(Rinse and repeat!)
Partner Engagement

Lessons learned:

● Don’t take partner engagement for granted
● Acknowledge partner contributions
● Prioritize addressing partner concerns
Know Your Limit(ation)s

- Multiple demands on time
- Dedicated staff = $$$ = funding
- Transparency