Information session intended for technical services employees of Quebec university libraries
Québec and Montréal, November 16-18, 2010

RDA
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION AND ACCESS

Introduction to the RDA standard

presented by Laura May, Library and Archives Canada

RDA, the standard

- new cataloguing code that replaces AACR2
- removal of Anglo-American bias
- informed by FRBR and FRAD
- designed for use in digital environment
- consistent, flexible and extensible framework
- compatible with international principles, models and standards
- focus on organizing information for the benefit of the user
- useable outside the library community

Rick J. Block, Columbia University

About RDA

RDA is:

- designed for describing all types of resources
- designed to be more flexible in an international setting
- designed to make it easier for library data to interact with other bibliographic data

RDA is not:

- a display standard
- an encoding standard

RDA Timeline

- First release: June 2010
- U.S. national libraries testing and evaluation: 2010-2011
- Other national libraries: preparing for implementation
- Translation: September 2010-
- Earliest implementation: mid-2011
- LAC's full implementation is dependent of availability of French translation

Who is responsible for the development of RDA?

Members of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (JSC) :

- American Library Association
- Australian Committee on Cataloguing
- British Library
- Canadian Committee on Cataloguing
- Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
- Library of Congress

http://rda-jsc.org/rdafaq.html

Goals of RDA

- The guidelines and instructions will be designed to:
  - Provide a consistent, flexible and extensible framework for both the technical and content description of all types of resources and all types of content.
  - Be compatible with internationally established principles, models, and standards.
    - **FRBR**, **FRAD**, and **ICP (International Cataloguing Principles)**
  - Be usable primarily within the library community, but be capable of adaptation to meet the specific needs of other communities.

Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009

Goals of RDA (2)

- Records created with RDA will:
    - enable users to find, identify, select and obtain resources appropriate to their information needs
    - be compatible with records created with AACR2
    - be independent of the format, medium or system used to store or communicate the data
    - be readily adaptable to newly-emerging database structures

Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009

Goals of RDA (3)

- RDA will be developed as a resource description standard that is:
  - optimised for use as an online tool
  - written in plain English, and able to be used in other language communities
  - easy and efficient to use, both as a working tool and for training purposes

From Panizzi to AACR2

- 1841: Panizzi's Rules for the Compilation of the Catalogue
- 1876: Cutter's Rules for a Dictionary Catalog
- 1961: "Paris Principles"
- 1967: AACR, British and North American versions
- 1969: Lubetzky's Principles of Cataloging
- 1971: International Standard Bibliographic Description
- 1978: AACR2 with revisions in 1988, 1998 and 2002

Origins of RDA

- International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR (Toronto, 1997)
- Strategic plan for AACR3 first developed in 2002
- Editor appointed in 2004
- Draft of part 1 of AACR3 issued in late 2004
- RDA conceived in 2005
- Drafts between 2005-2009
- Published June 2010

Influences on RDA

- Anglo-American cataloguing tradition
- International cataloguing principles, developed by the IME-ICC (IFLA Meeting of Experts on the International Cataloguing Code)
- FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records)
- FRAD (Functional Requirements for Authority Data)

From AACR2 to RDA

- changing cataloguing environment
  - new types of resources
  - new types of publications
  - changes how we work (online, networked environment)
- different user expectations
- different forms of media and methods of publishing
- collaboration with other communities
- inherent problems with the rules
- needs for principle-based guidelines

Translation: Roles and Responsibilities

- Author of English text – JSC
- Co-Publishers - ALA, CLA and Facet Publishing, the publishing arm of CILIP (Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals)
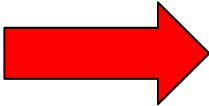- Copyright holders – 3 Co-Publishers

AACR2 Translation Model

- Translation rights granted by copyright holders
- Royalties paid to AACR Revision Fund

★ AACR2 = 25 translations

The past: Règles de catalogage anglo-américaines

- License granted to Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED) by copyright holders
- Collaboration between ASTED, National Library of Canada (now Library and Archives Canada) and Bibliothèque nationale du Québec (now Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec)
- *RCAA2* published and sold by ASTED

RDA Translation Model

- RDA Toolkit ➡️ New Model
- Single multilingual product allowing users to switch to different language versions
- ALA to seek partners to undertake translation (e.g. ASTED)
- ALA Publishing to manage online subscriptions and provide support for RDA Toolkit, from anywhere in the world

RDA
RESSOURCES : DESCRIPTION ET ACCÈS

- Coordinated by ASTED
- Collaboration between ASTED, BAnQ, BnF, LAC and others

* LAC's full implementation of RDA is dependent on availability of a French version

Translation Issues

- Technical issues:
  - XML
  - integration into RDA Toolkit
  - content + interface
- Resource issues:
  - availability of financial/human resources

Terminology Issues

- Sources to aid translation:
  - FRBR, International Cataloging Principles and ISBD available in French from IFLA site
  - Existing French translation of AACR2
  - Existing French translation of MARC 21 formats

Terminology Issues

Complex language, context dependent, e.g.:

- Preferred name
- Preferred sources
- Unmediated

Implementation Plans at Library and Archives Canada

- Full implementation of RDA at LAC is dependent on the availability of a French version of RDA.
- Decisions on which RDA options and alternatives LAC will follow will be made in conjunction with the other Anglo-American national libraries to minimize differences in practice.
- LAC will not deliver training but will make any documentation that is developed freely available to any interested institutions.

Implementation Plans at Library and Archives Canada

- Library of Congress Policy Statements (LCPS)
- Reviewing LAC's existing rule interpretations for relevancy and revise as necessary
- Decide which options/alternatives to follow
  - Collaboration with CCC and BAnQ as well as with other JSC national libraries

Implementation Plans at Library and Archives Canada

- Preparing AMICUS to accommodate new MARC fields
- Impact for Canadian Union Catalogue reporting
- Evaluate impact on products
- Plan for conversion of legacy access points

Canadian Committee on Cataloguing

- Create workflows
- Develop training documentation for LAC and Canadian library community
- Reviewing the list of deferred issues
- Assist in deciding which options/alternatives to follow

Technical Services Interest Group

- Maintain roster of trainers
- Maintain online archive of documentation and training materials
- Sponsor workshops
- Survey to assess training needs

Canadian Union Catalogue on AMICUS

- Records created using RDA are intended to integrate with AACR2 records in existing databases.

Towards the future

- Experimentation with RDA element set by other communities
- Registry – schemas
- Integration with systems
- Move to relational/object-oriented database structure
- FRBR displays

RDA post-implementation

- Deferred issues + new issues
- RDA Toolkit: schedule for updates, how?
- Change to governance model