



# **RDA**

# **Resource Description and Access**

June 2008  
presented by Christine Oliver



# Overview

1. What is RDA?
2. Developments at the international level
3. RDA goals
4. Alignment with FRBR/FRAD models
5. RDA structure
6. What is new in RDA?
7. Preparation for Implementation



# 1. What is RDA?

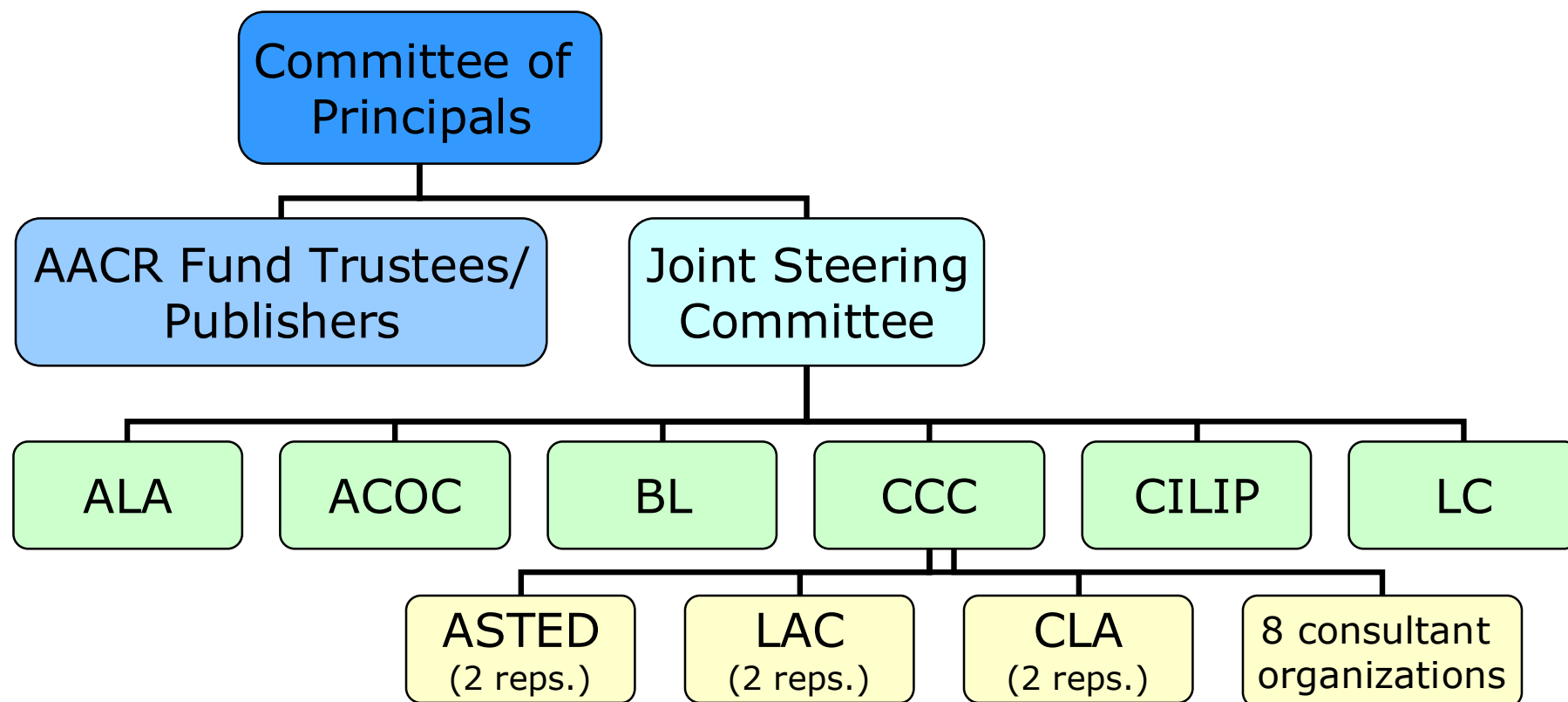


## What is RDA?

- new standard
- designed for use in digital environment
- supersedes AACR2
- international scope
- not just for libraries
- focus on organizing information for the benefit of the user



# Who develops and supports RDA?

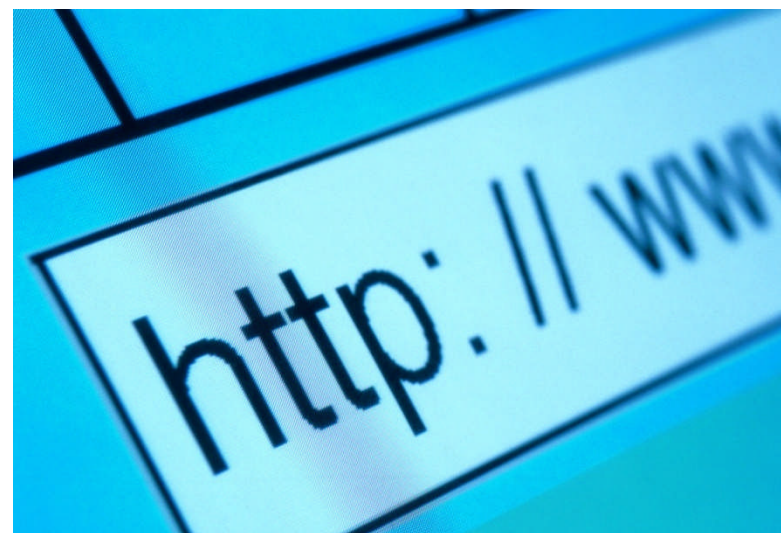
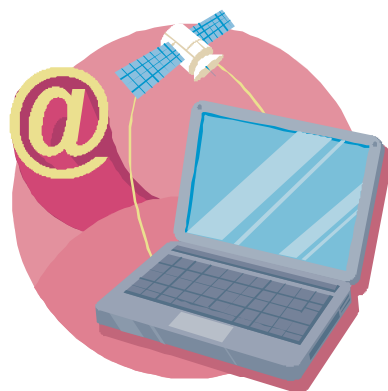




# Why a new standard?

Cataloguing environment is changing:

- electronic resources
- increase in types of information carriers
- new types of publications





# Why a new standard?

## Problems with AACR2

- written in the context of card catalogues
  - e.g. space-saving limitations (rule of 3, abbreviations)
- inadequate rules for the description of new types of resources
- lack of theoretical framework to act as reference point when dealing with new situations



# 1997 Conference

Toronto, 1997:

International Conference on the Principles &  
Future Development of AACR, Toronto

Experts identified key issues:

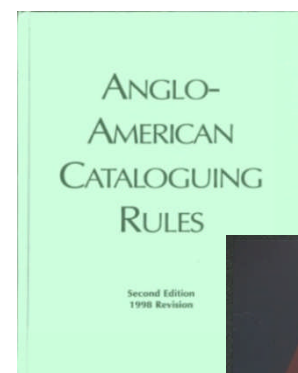
- Principles
- Content vs. carrier
- Logical structure of AACR2
- Seriality
- Internationalization





# Revisions are not enough

- revisions only give partial solutions
  - e.g. revision of rule 0.24
  - e.g. new chapter 12
- issues not resolved
  - e.g. logical inconsistency
- remains difficult to adapt rules for new media and publication types





## **2. Developments at the international level**



# FRBR

Development of a conceptual model:

## **FRBR**

## Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

- final report of the IFLA Study Group on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records
- approved by the Standing Committee of the IFLA Section on Cataloguing in 1997; published in 1998



# FRAD

Development of an extension to **FRBR**:

## **FRAD**

### Functional Requirements for Authority Data

- draft report of the IFLA Study Group on Functional Requirements and Numbering of Authority Records
- work began in 1999; currently in its 2<sup>nd</sup> world-wide review period



# International Cataloguing Principles

Development of international cataloguing principles:

IME ICC

Statement of International Cataloguing Principles

- 5 regional meetings between 2003 and 2007 (one per continent)
- final version submitted for world-wide review
- anticipate approval at the 2008 IFLA conference



# Development of Theoretical Framework

- developed by international cataloguing experts
- world-wide reviews
- strong foundation of international consensus and support for the theoretical frameworks embodied in these documents





# AACR2 ➡ (AACR3) ➡ RDA

- in 2004, plans for a new edition:

## *AACR3: resource description and access*

- change the structure
  - add theoretical framework
  - maintain content of AACR2 rules
- 2005: **go further!!!**



*a new standard for resource description and access, designed for the digital world*



## RDA replaces AACR2

- 2005 : final AACR2 amendments
- RDA builds on the strengths of AACR2
  - AACR2 is used around the world
  - translated into 24 languages
  - constantly evolving
  - based on common usage and real publication practices





# RDA supersedes AACR2



RDA goes beyond AACR2

- new standard
- designed for the online environment
- theoretical framework gives a new perspective on cataloguing
- developed in dialogue with other metadata communities
- flexible for use beyond the traditional library application



## **3. Goals for RDA**



# Framework for Development of RDA

- RDA Strategic Plan
  - statement of purpose
  - long-term goals
  - strategies for attaining goals
- RDA Objectives and principles
  - design and functionality
- RDA Scope and structure



## from Strategic Plan:

Statement of purpose:

- enable users to

find

identify

select

obtain

resources appropriate to  
their information needs



## Strategic Plan: Goals for RDA

- consistent, flexible and extensible framework for description of all types of resources and all types of content
- compatible with internationally established principles, models, and standards
  - alignment with **FRBR** and **FRAD** models
- adaptable for use beyond the library community



# Strategic Plan : Goals for RDA

- records that focus on user needs
  - **find**, **identify**, **select**, and **obtain**
- compatible with legacy data (AACR2)
- content standard
  - independent of data presentation
  - independent of data storage and communication
  - adaptable to new database structures



## Strategic Plan : Goals for RDA

- designed for use as an online tool
- worldwide use
  - able to be used in non-English language communities
- ease and efficiency of use



## from Objectives and Principles:

Objectives for functionality of records produced using RDA:

- responsiveness to user needs
  - user needs as defined in the **FRBR/FRAD** models
- cost efficiency
- flexibility
- continuity





## from RDA Scope and Structure:

This document defines scope and structure of *RDA* in relation to:

- its two underlying conceptual models (*FRBR* and *FRAD*)
- two related metadata models (the *DCMI Abstract Model* and *The <indecs> Metadata Framework* )



# Key to understanding RDA



**FRBR**  
+  
**FRAD**  
**models**

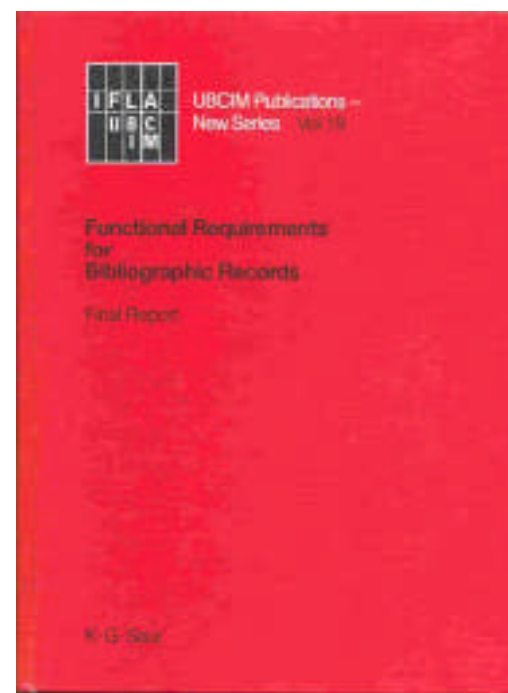


## **4. Alignment with FRBR and FRAD models**



# RDA aligned with FRBR + FRAD

- entity-relationship models
- IFLA task forces
- world-wide consultation
- based on the analysis of bibliographic and authority records





# FRBR and FRAD models

- entities
  - in bibliographic or authority records
  - important to the user
  - FRAD builds and extends from the FRBR model
- attributes of the entities
- relationships -- between the entities



## FRBR user tasks

- Find
- Identify
- Select
- Obtain
- Navigate



## FRBR entities

- **Group 1** : products of intellectual or artistic endeavor  
work, expression, manifestation, item
- **Group 2** : responsible for group 1 entities  
person, corporate body (+ family)
- **Group 3** : subjects  
concept, object, event, place (+ group 1 & 2 entities)



## Example of Group 1 entities

**w** = idea for Hamlet story (in Shakespeare's head)

*is realized through*

**e** = original English text as he wrote it

*is embodied in*

**m** = Oxford : Oxford University Press, 1998.

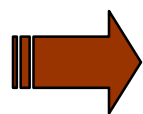
*is exemplified by*

**i** = copy owned by McGill with  
barcode no. 3102507871T





## Group 1 entities



4 entities

- work *abstract*
- expression *abstract*
- manifestation *physical*
- item *physical*

= 1 bibliographic resource



# Examples of attributes (group 1)

work:	title, genre, medium of performance, coordinates (map) ...
expression:	form of the expression, language of the expression, type of score ...
manifestation:	publisher, date of publication, form of carrier, dimensions ...
item:	identifier (e.g. barcode), provenance, condition, inscriptions ...



## Example: Group 1 entities (same work)

work	expression	manifestation	item
Hamlet	# original text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• London, 1603</li> <li>• New York, 1998</li> </ul>	RBD
			MCL
			BIRK
	# French trans.		
	# (Gide)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paris, 1946</li> <li>• Neuchatel, 1949</li> </ul>	EDUC
			MCL
	# (Bonneyfoy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paris, 1978</li> </ul>	MACD
	# German trans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hamburg, 1834</li> </ul>	MUSIC
	# audio-book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paris, 1983</li> </ul>	REDP



# Example of work to work relationships

Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. Hamlet.

*subject*

**Modern Hamlets & their soliloquies**

Critical responses to Hamlet, 1600-1900

*imitation*

**Hamlet travestie**

*transformation*

**Hamlet : opéra en cinq actes**

musique de Ambroise Thomas;

paroles de Michel Carré et Jules Barbier

*adaptation*

**Hamlet : the young reader's Shakespeare :**

a retelling / by Adam McKeown



# Familiarity with Group 1 entities

- I have read Shakespeare's Hamlet?
- I need an Italian translation of Shakespeare's Hamlet?
- I need an audio version of Shakespeare's Hamlet
- I'd like to buy the 1998 Oxford edition of Shakespeare's Hamlet
- I spilled coffee all over the library copy of Hamlet that I borrowed



# Examples of attributes (groups 2 + 3)

person: names, dates, titles ...

corporate body: name, number, place ...

concept: term e.g. economics

object: term e.g. ships

event: term e.g. Battle of Hastings

place: term e.g. Ottawa



# Relationships

- show the links between entities
- assist the user to navigate through the catalogue or database
- support collocation



## Examples of relationships

work	<i>created by</i>	person
expression	<i>performed by</i>	person
manifestation	<i>produced by</i>	corporate body
item	<i>owned by</i>	corporate body
concept	<i>subject of</i>	work
expression	<i>translation of</i>	work
manifestation	<i>embodiment of</i>	expression





## FRAD

- analyzes the kind of authority data that supports authority control
- extension and expansion of FRBR model
- work of the IFLA group called FRANAR:  
Working Group on Functional Requirements  
and Numbering of Authority Records



## FRAD user tasks

- Find
- Identify
- Contextualize
- Justify



## FRAD entities

- all the FRBR entities
- name = by which FRBR entity is known
- identifier
- access point control
  - based on name or identifier
  - formulation of access point governed by rules
- rules
- agency



# Basis of FRAD model

bibliographic entities

*are known by*

names and/or identifiers

*which are the basis for*

controlled access points



## FRAD attributes + relationships



- similar to FRBR ones but **not identical**  
focus on what is important in access point control

*example of attributes for identifier:*

type of identifier	ISMN	LCCN
identifier string	M001035200	n
2001000036		
suffix		



# FRAD attributes + relationships

- similar to FRBR ones but not identical

*examples of relationships:*

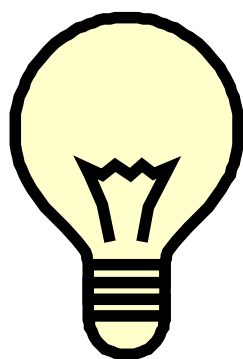
person entity      *is known by*      name entity

person entity      *is member of*      corporate  
body entity

corporate body A      *is successor of*      corporate  
body B



# Impact of FRBR & FRAD models



- same bibliographic universe but look at it in a new light
- conscious awareness of how data helps user complete user tasks



# Simple FRBR application: Place a hold

**Now** most library systems: only item level

**Future** put hold at level that user wants –  
work *I need 1st available copy of the  
work, any language, any format, etc.*

expression *I need 1<sup>st</sup> available French  
translation*

manifestation *I'll take 1<sup>st</sup> available copy of  
this 1998 Oxford edition*

item *I need that particular copy*





## **5. RDA structure**



# RDA Outline

- General introduction
- Recording attributes
- Recording relationships
- Appendices
  - capitalization, abbreviations, initial articles, data presentation, controlled vocabulary lists (relationship designators)
- Glossary



# RDA Organization

## Recording attributes:

*Section 1.* Recording attributes of manifestation and item

*Section 2.* Recording attributes of work and expression

*Section 3.* Recording attributes of person, family, and corporate body

*Section 4.* Recording attributes of concept, object, event, and place [placeholder]



# RDA Organization

Recording relationships: (to)

*Section 5.* Recording primary relationships between work, expression, manifestation, and item

*Section 6.* Recording relationships to persons, families, and corporate bodies

*Section 7.* Recording relationships to concepts, objects, events, and places associated with a work

[placeholder]



# RDA Organization

Recording relationships (con't): (between)

*Section 8.* Recording relationships between works, expressions, manifestations, and items

*Section 9.* Recording relationships between persons, families, and corporate bodies

*Section 10.* Recording relationships between concepts, objects, events, and places

[placeholder]



## Section 1

### Recording attributes of manifestation & item

*Chapter 1:* General guidelines

*Chapter 2:* Identifying manifestations and items

*FRBR task = Identify*

*Chapter 3:* Describing carriers

*FRBR task = Select*

*Chapter 4:* Providing acquisition and access information

*FRBR task = Obtain*



## Section 2

### Recording attributes of work & expression

*Chapter 5:* General guidelines

*Chapter 6:* Identifying works and expressions

*FRBR task = Identify*

*Chapter 7:* Describing additional attributes of works and expressions

*FRBR task = Select*



## Section 3

# Recording attributes of person, family, and corporate body

- Chapter 8.* General guidelines on recording attributes of persons, families, and corporate bodies
- Chapter 9.* Identifying persons *FRBR task = Identify*
- Chapter 10.* Identifying families *FRBR task = Identify*
- Chapter 11.* Identifying corporate bodies  
*FRBR task = Identify*





## Section 5

# Recording primary relationships between work, expression, manifestation, and item

- Chapter 17.* General guidelines on recording primary relationships between a work, expression, manifestation, and item
- single chapter providing guidelines and instructions on recording the primary relationships between work, expression, manifestation, and item



## Section 6

### Recording relationships to persons, families and corporate bodies associated with a resource

*Chapter 18:* General guidelines

*Chapter 19:* Persons, families and corporate bodies  
associated with a work *FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 20:* Persons, families and corporate bodies  
associated with an expression *FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 21:* Persons, families and corporate bodies  
associated with a manifestation *FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 22:* Persons, families and corporate bodies  
associated with an item *FRBR task = Find*



## Section 8

### Recording relationships between works, expressions, manifestations and items

*Chapter 24:* General guidelines

*Chapter 25:* Related works

*FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 26:* Related expressions

*FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 27:* Related manifestations

*FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 28:* Related items

*FRBR task = Find*



## Section 9

# Recording relationships between persons, families and corporate bodies

*Chapter 29:* General guidelines

*Chapter 30:* Related persons

*FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 31:* Related families

*FRBR task = Find*

*Chapter 32:* Related corporate bodies

*FRBR task = Find*



# Design

- what am I describing
  - decision about the type of resource
    - how is it issued: single or multipart, ongoing, integrating, etc.?
  - decision about the type of description
    - comprehensive
    - analytical
- within chapters, arranged by data elements and sub-elements
  - element=attribute or relationship



# Design

- data elements
  - core or optional
  - purpose and scope
  - where to look for the information to record
  - how to record it
  - how to deal with changes in that element



## **6. What is new in RDA?**



## What is new?

- most guidelines are not actually different
  - expressed with updated vocabulary
  - given within the context of the user tasks identified in the FRBR and FRAD models
  - new arrangement to match a more logical decision process



# RDA new vocabulary

- leave behind vocabulary tied to the card catalogue
  - heading → access point
  - area → element
  - uniform title → preferred title  
name of the work
- FRBR and FRAD terms
  - work, expression, manifestation, item



# **RDA**

## **6.2.1.1 General guidelines**

**6.2.1.1.1** For works created after 1500, choose the title or form of title in the original language by which the work has become known through use in resources embodying the work or in reference sources as the preferred title.

# **AACR2**

## **25.3 WORKS CREATED AFTER 1500**

**25.3A** Use the title or form of title in the original language by which a work created after 1500 has become known through use in manifestations of the work or in reference sources.



## What is new?

- conscious awareness of the user
  - record data to fulfill user tasks
  - in each chapter, reminder why we are recording this data:

*functional objectives and principles*



## 5.2 FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

5.2.1 The data recorded to reflect the attributes of a work or expression should **enable the user to**:

- a) **find** information on that work or expression
- b) **identify** the work or expression represented by the data ...
- c) **clarify** the relationship between the title used to represent the work and another title by which that work is known ...
- d) **understand** why a particular title, or form of title, has been recorded as a preferred or variant name
- e) **select** a work or expression that is appropriate to the user's requirements with respect to form, intended audience, language, etc.



## What is new?

- convenience of the user
  - more access points
    - no more “rule of three”
  - make the relationships between entities clear to the user
    - e.g., use relationship designators  
compiler, engraver, former owner, sponsoring body
  - reduce abbreviations, Latin terms



## What is new?

- content standard
  - can be used with many display options
  - can be used with many metadata encoding schema
  - can be used with traditional communication formats, e.g. MARC21, and traditional display options, e.g. ISBD



# Example: online video

## RDA elements with instruction number

<i>RDA element</i>	<i>Data recorded</i>
Media type (3.2.0.2)	computer
Carrier type (3.3.0.2)	online resource
Extent (3.4.0.3 / 3.4.0.7.1e)	1 online resource (1 video file)
Colour (3.12.0.3)	coloured with black and white sequences
Sound (3.17.0.3)	sound
File type (3.20.0.4)	video file
Encoding format (3.20.0.5)	Windows media
Content type (4.2.0.2)	moving image
Duration (4.12.0.3)	27 min.

## RDA elements in ISBD presentation with MARC 21 coding

300 ## \$a1 online resource (1 video file (27 min.)) :\$bsound, coloured with black and white sequences



## What is new?

- internationalization
  - remove Anglo-American bias
  - accommodate languages, scripts, numerals and dates other than those used in English
  - aim to remove religious and cultural bias





## What is new?

- standard for the digital world
  - designed for use as a web tool
  - designed to describe and give access to physical and electronic resources
  - designed to take advantage of the digital environment
    - allows for automated data capture/re-use of data
    - “Take what you see”



## What is new?

- not just for libraries
  - intended to accommodate a broad range of resources
  - archival material
  - metadata communities
    - Dublin Core
    - IEEE LOM
    - expand dialogues with other metadata communities after first release



## **7. Preparation for implementation**



## RDA in 2009

### Projected timeline:

- August 2008: complete draft of RDA for review
- early 2009: first release
- first release as a **web** tool
- 2009: testing and training
- implementation during 2010



## RDA and MARC21

- RDA data elements mapped to MARC21 *(2006)*
- MARBI discussion paper no. 2008-DP04 *(issued Dec. 2007)*
  - encoding RDA using MARC21
  - changes that may be required in MARC21 bibliographic and authority records formats to support scenario 2 RDA implementation
- RDA/MARC Working Group *(announced March 2008)*



## RDA and Dublin Core

- DC application profile for RDA data
  - development of RDA element vocabulary  
*(like "fields")*
  - disclosure of RDA value vocabularies on the web  
*(content of "fields")*
  - make RDA metadata interoperable with other semantic web initiatives



# RDA Implementation

- role of national libraries and other bodies  
e.g. OCLC, Program for Cooperative Cataloging, etc.
- coordinated national application profile
- documentation



# RDA Implementation

## Areas of training

- learning FRBR/FRAD concepts
- learning new vocabulary
- guidelines that are new (few)
- navigating RDA





# RDA Implementation

## Delivery of training

- preparation
  - learn FRBR/FRAD concepts and vocabulary
  - read and comment on consolidated draft
- focus on training after first release of RDA
- testing and training – will use RDA online
- different models under consideration:
  - e.g., web seminars, “train the trainer”



# RDA Implementation

- easier to use, easier to teach
  - consistent
  - logical
  - extensible
  - web tool



# RDA Implementation

## **RDA Online**

- web tool
  - keyword and browse
  - save searches
  - bookmarks
  - use “workflows” that are step-by-step guides
- customized views in web tool
  - institution level, department level, consortium level
  - create special workflows for different types of resources
- possible integration with ILS cataloguing modules



# RDA Implementation

- “crosswalk” to AACR2
  - “where did that AACR2 rule go?”*
- compatibility with existing records
  - intention to maintain compatibility for access points



We're getting there!





# RDA

JSC web site:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jsc/rda.html>

- access to drafts
- FAQ
- general and background information
- working documents
- news and meeting outcomes
- how to comment

Presentation based on information from: Joint Steering Committee, Canadian Committee on Cataloguing, RDA Outreach Group, and presentations on the RDA website