EDUCATION COLLECTIONS IN CANADIAN LIBRARIES

by
Marlene Lloyd

Abstract

This article serves as a pertinent complement to the previous paper on special collections in education in the United States. It focuses on the contents of collections in education found in selected Canadian provinces. Summarized are the locations, subject areas, descriptions of educational resources, and listings of the holdings in these education libraries.

INTRODUCTION

The following is a selected list of Canadian libraries that hold special collections in the discipline of education. The World Wide Web was a very useful tool and through the National Library of Canada's database, I was able to select and retrieve a majority of these special collections. Furthermore, using this hypertext format, I was able to link to other sites that provided me access to the requested information. These collections are comprised of materials relating to Canadian resources in fields listed below:

- curriculum and textbooks
- teaching and research
- elementary, secondary, college, university and adult education
- distance education
- history about education

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

ALBERTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Alberta Education Library
4th Floor, West Devonian Bldg.  Tel.: (403) 427-2985
11160 Jasper Ave.  Fax: (403) 427-5927
Edmonton, AB  T5K 0L2
Reference Librarian: Charlotte Landry: (403) 427-6149
URL: http://www.augustana.ab.ca/neos/neosedu.htm#collection

- Description
Collection strengths include the many subject areas related to the field of education, including special education, currently authorized resources (textbooks, etc.) for schools in the Province of Alberta, current Canadian curriculum guides, Alberta Education published documents, Department of Education annual reports from 1901 to the present, and Statistics Canada statistics related to education.

- Holdings
More than 20,000 volumes and 600 periodical titles.

ATHABASKA UNIVERSITY
Athabasca University Library
Edward Checkland Distance Education Collection
1 University Drive,  Tel.: (403) 675-6254
Athabasca, AB  T9S 3A3  Fax: (403) 675-6477
E-mail: library@admin.athabasca.ca

- Description
The collection is a working collection of materials to support research, course design, and course development in distance education. It contains material on distance education, open and innovative learning, adult and continuing education, and the application of telecommunications and audiovisual technology in distance education. Also included is source material related to Athabasca University and material on the Open University (U.K.). The collection covers the period after 1960 during which time distance education became popular. The geographic emphasis of the collection is on the Commonwealth, but some western European material is included. The collection is being developed further.

- Holdings
5000 monographs; 30 serials currently received; 200 items in vertical files; 200 course packages
1) Curriculum Audio-Visual Collection

- **Subjects**
  - school curriculum materials, Alberta; school curriculum materials, Canada

- **Description**
  The Audio-Visual Collection is part of the library’s Curriculum Collection consisting of almost all of the media formats, with the exception of 16mm film. The collection includes maps, globes, charts, filmstrips, flash cards, pictures/slides, transparencies, machine-readable files, kits, dioramas, games, models, realia, sound recordings, and video recordings. The bulk of the collection consists of material published since 1960.

- **Holdings**
  approximately 25,000 titles

2) Historical Curriculum Collection

- **Subjects**
  - curriculum guides, Alberta; curriculum guides, Canada; textbooks, children’s literature

- **Description**
  This collection of historical curriculum materials is part of the library’s larger Curriculum Collection and represents the most comprehensive record of historical educational resources available in Alberta. It includes textbooks, curriculum guides, programmes of study, and children’s literature. Represented are the primers, readers, and general texts used in Alberta schools from the early territorial years up to the present. Titles in the collection include: *The Alexandra Readers* (1908), *The Alberta Public School Speller* (1910), and *A History of the Canadian People* (1930).

- **Holdings**
  approximately 3500 volumes (Note: the entire Curriculum Collection contains 82,015 titles and 41 serials)

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**

**Doucette Library of Teaching Resources**

2500 University Drive, NW  
Calgary, AB T2N 1N4  
Tel.: (403) 220-5637  
Fax: (403) 220-8211  
E-mail: libweb@acs.ucalgary.ca  
URL: http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/tflander/doulib.htm

- **Description**
  This library holds Alberta curriculum documents, curriculum resource materials, including most student textbooks and teacher’s guides authorized by Alberta Education for ECS to grade 12. Also included are related support resources such as videos, kits, children’s literature, professional support materials, French language materials, and a historical collection consisting of government documents and textbooks used within the Alberta education system since the early 1900’s, as well as a thesis collection.

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**PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Education Library**

6335 Thunderbird Crescent  
Vancouver, BC V6T 2G9  
Tel.: (604) 228-7999  
URL: http://www.library.ubc.ca/edlib/aboed.html

- **Description**
  Serving as the foundation for teaching and research in the Faculty of Education, this collection comprises children’s books, school texts, and multimedia for K-12, as well as professional monographs, serials, microfiche, electronic resources dealing with teaching strategies, ideas and research in education. The relationships between practice, theory and research result in the building of a unique collection. A high priority is placed on materials that reflect Canadian content and approach, plus materials pertaining to BC Education.

- **Holdings**
  180,000 monographs; 10,000 bound periodical volumes (750 separate subscriptions); 7,000 historical textbooks; 15,000 French curriculum, textbook and literature volumes; 600,000 microfiche
THE SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
Curriculum Collection
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6

Description
The collection includes selected textbooks prescribed and authorized for use in BC schools. They range from kindergarten through Grade 12. The collection also includes Integrated Resource Packages (IRPs) which describe the recently implemented prescribed curriculum for specific courses, and the provincially recommended learning resources. The curriculum guides describe the courses taught in BC schools. There is a children's and juvenile literature collection.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
D.S. Woods Education Library
100 Education Bldg.
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Tel.: (204) 474-9976
Fax: (204) 474-7541
URL: http://www.umanitoba.ca/academic_support/libraries/units

Description
The scope of the collection covers all aspects of education, especially themes represented in the programs of the departments of the Faculty of Education. Covered in the curriculum of the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty are: theory and practice of educational aspects of arts, English language arts, French language arts, heritage languages, music and social studies, the study of reading and literacy, school librarianship and general curriculum theory and development. Theory and practice of educational aspects of business, health, home economics, industrial arts, mathematics, natural sciences and sport recreation, as well as educational media, educational computing and the study of teaching are found in the curriculum of the Faculty of the Humanities and Natural Sciences. In Education Administration and Foundations Faculty are: educational aspects of anthropology, economics, history, law, philosophy, politics and sociology, adult and continuing education, educational administration, and comparative and cross-cultural education studies. In the Educational Psychology Faculty are: career development, child and adolescent development, counseling, educational measurement, educational research, learning disabilities, psychology of instruction and learning, and special education.

Holdings
Approximately 55,000 volumes of books and bound serials are housed here. Additionally, 450,000 volumes are held in microform, notably in the ERIC Research Collection, Microlog Education Collection, and W.S. Gray Research Collection in Reading. Approximately 380 journals are currently received.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK
NEW BRUNSWICK DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Audio-Visual Bureau
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
E-mail: wbmaster@nbed.nb.ca

Description
Audio-visual aids materials are generally available to responsible organizations as well as to schools, universities, hospitals, churches, etc.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
Harriet Irving Library
Box 7500, Fredericton, NB E3B 5H5
Tel.: (506) 453-4748

Description
This collection of 1909 New Brunswick items includes: curriculum guides, readers, and textbooks. Some are pre-1900; most are 1901-1930, and 1931-1960.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
LEARNING RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY
Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture
3770 Kempt Rd.
Halifax, NS B3K 4X8
Tel.: (902) 424-2462
Fax: (902) 424-0633
E-mail: jeffremg@gov.ns.ca
URL: http://www.EDnet.ns.ca/educ/program/lrt/

Description
This collection provides support for classroom resources in video, computer, multimedia and distance education formats. The department oversees more than 2,000 software titles. A catalogue, which includes a detailed report of software evaluation, is published.
annually, listing programs approved for use in Nova Scotia schools. An on-line database of curriculum video resources available to Nova Scotia schools is also contained here.

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PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

METROPOLITAN SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD
Historical Collection - Library Department
80 Sheppard Ave. E
Toronto, ON M2N 6E8 Tel.: (416) 229-5324

-Description
Readers and texts from the 19th century to the present.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
R.W.B. Jackson Library
252 Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1V6 Tel.: (416) 926-4718

1) Canadian Association for Adult Education (CAAE) Library

-Description
The collection includes material on adult education and related topics such as cooperatives, community development, literacy, and university extension. The collection reflects the programme directions and information services of CAAE from 1935 to 1970. Canadian, American, British and international documents, including UNESCO publications, are available. The collection is not being expanded.

-Holdings
- approximately 2000 monographs, 9000 items in classified vertical files

2) Ontario Textbook Collection

-Description
The collection includes textbooks approved for use in Upper Canada/Ontario from 1846 to 1970. Texts used prior to 1846 are also represented. Variant editions and printings are held. Texts approved by the Irish National Board of Education are represented. Supplementary material includes answer keys, manuals, guides and workbooks. The collection also includes extensive reference material on curriculum guidelines and textbook publishing.

-Holdings
- 3600 titles

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UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH LIBRARY
Lillian Davies Memorial Collection
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1 Tel.: (519) 824-4120

-Subjects
literature, French Canadian; Canada, history, 17th - 18th century; education, Quebec (Province)

-Description
The collection contains material on French Canadian history, religion, literature, law, education, philosophy, politics, and economics. Most of the monographs in the collection date from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and feature the works of well-known French Canadian poets such as Emile Nelligan and Louis Frechette. Some non-French Canadian items are also present. Among the rare items of French Canada is l'Abbe Provancher's *Flore Canadienne*, printed in 1862 by Joseph Darveau; an 1864 Paris edition of *L'Ecole Sainte* by Mere Marie de l'Incarnation, founder of the Ursuline Convent in Quebec City in 1639; and a Huron language grammar book, attributed to a missionary, Father Chaumonot. The collection also includes the bulk of the Library of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec. The collection is not being developed further.

-Holdings
- 5000 monographs; 150 serials; 3 manuscripts

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ONTARIO SCHOOL TEXT COLLECTION

-Subjects
school texts, Ontario

-Description
The collection includes spellers and readers as well as arithmetic, language, and history books from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The emphasis of the material is the 1840s to the 1920s. The collection provides source materials for the study of the history of education and social development in Canada.

-Holdings
- 400 titles (900 volumes, including variant printings)
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

UNIVERSITE LAVAL
Quebec Textbook Collection
Quebec, QC G1K 7P4
Tel.: (418) 656-3333
E-mail: scom@scom.ulaval

-Subjects
  exams, Quebec (Province), reading, literacy, Catholic Church, catechisms, etc.

-Description
  The collection contains various editions of almost all the textbooks from the primary level, and to a lesser degree those used in the public schools and teachers' training colleges. Books in this collection were published in Quebec prior to the educational reform of 1964.

-Language
  mostly French textbooks

-Holdings
  4800 textbooks

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
Campion College Library
Jesuitica Collection
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Tel.: (306) 359-1234
E-mail: truscott@max.cc.uregina.ca

-Subjects
  Jesuits, Canada; Jesuits, history; Jesuits, biography; Jesuits, education; Jesuits, missions

-Description
  Jesuit history, philosophy, biography, and social and cultural analysis of the Jesuit order from 1600 to the present day are emphasized. The geographic emphasis is on Canada and, to a lesser extent, North America and other areas of the world. The collection includes many important source documents such as the Jesuit relations as well as important serials such as Archivum Historicum Societatis Jesu, Monumenta Historia S.I., Bibliographicus S.I., etc. The present acquisition policy is to acquire all recent publications and rare and out-of-print works on Jesuit history in Canada.

-Holdings
  1000 monographs, 24 serials; 33 microforms, including some rare material on Canadian Jesuit history

MC GILL UNIVERSITY
Education Library Collection
3700 McTavish St., 1st Floor
Montreal, QC H3A 1Y2
Head Librarian: Marilyn Cohen
Tel.: (514) 398-4687
E-mail: marilyn@libl.lan.mcgil
Url: http://www.education.mcgill.ca/edlibrary/default.html

-Description
  The collection focuses on the teaching and research concentrations of the faculty: Educational Administration and Policy Studies, Educational and Counseling Psychology; Special Education, Second Language Education; Elementary and Secondary Education; Curriculum and Instruction; Philosophy of Education; Catholic and Protestant and Jewish Studies; Education in Music, Art, Drama; Vocational Education and Educational Technology. An area of particular strength is the collection on giftedness education. Other special collections include the Reavis Reading Collection of fastbacks provided by Phi Delta Kappa; the ERIC RIE collection of conference papers, reports, lesson plans and other instructional materials on microfiche; and the collection of Canadian Curriculum Guides on microfiche.

-Holdings
  100,000 monograph volumes, 700 periodical titles, microforms, government documents, non-print materials and CD-ROMS

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