RDA:

a cataloguing code for the digital age

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Acknowledgment

This presentation is based in part on presentations prepared jointly with Chris Oliver.
Plan of presentation

- Origins of RDA
- FRBR and FRAD models
- Differences with AACR2
- Record examples
ORIGINS OF RDA
What is RDA?

- New standard for resource description and access
- Designed for the digital world
- Built on foundations established by AACR, which it supersedes
  - Last amendments to AACR2 were published in 2005
  - Keeps the best of AACR2 but goes forward
Who develops and finances RDA?

Committee of Principals

AACR Fund Trustees/Publishers

Joint Steering Committee

ALA
ACOC
BL
CCC
CILIP
LC

ASTED (2 reps.)
LAC (2 reps.)
CLA (2 reps.)
8 other organizations
Why a new standard?

- Cataloguing environment has changed
- Problems with AACR2
IFLA documents

- *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* (FRBR; 1998)
- *Functional Requirements for Authority Data* (FRAD; 2009)
- *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (ICP; 2009)
From AACR2 to RDA

- 2004: plans for a new edition

  *AACR3 : resource description and access*

- 2005: new approach and new title

  *RDA: resource description & access*
Long term goals for RDA
(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- The guidelines and instructions in RDA 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
    - e.g. FRBR, FRAD and ICP
  - Be usable primarily within the library community, but be capable of adaptation to meet the specific needs of other communities
Long term goals for RDA 2
(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- Descriptions and access points produced through the application of RDA guidelines and instructions will:
  - Enable users to find, identify, select, and obtain resources appropriate to their information needs
  - Be compatible with descriptions and access points devised using AACR2
  - Be independent of the format, medium or system used to store or communicate the data
  - Be readily adaptable to newly-emerging database structures
Long term goals for RDA 3
(Source: Strategic plan for RDA, 2005-2009)

- RDA will be
  - 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
FRBR & FRAD MODELS
FRBR & FRAD models

- Based on the analysis of bibliographic and authority records
- Entity-relationship models
  - Entities
  - Attributes of entities
  - Relationships - between entities
- They are the key to understanding RDA
FRBR entities

- **Group 1**: Products of intellectual or artistic endeavour
  - Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item
    - abstract, tangible

- **Group 2**: Entities responsible for the intellectual or artistic content, the physical production and dissemination, or the custodianship of the group 1 entities
  - Person, Corporate body (+ Family)

- **Group 3**: Subjects of works
  - Concept, Object, Event, Place (+ group 1 and 2 entities)
Examples of Group 1 entities

\[ w = \text{Kamouraska} \]

\[ e = \text{French text as written by Anne Hébert} \]

\[ m = \text{Montréal, Art global, 1977} \]

\[ i = \text{copy at BAnQ} \]
FRBR & FRAD MODELS

- Attributes of entities
  - E.g.: title, language, date, publisher, gender, profession, etc.

- Relationships
  - Links between entities
  - Assist users in navigating a catalog or a database
  - E.g.: adaptation of, translation of, illustrator, librettist, etc.
User tasks

**FRBR**
- Find
- Identify
- Select
- Obtain

**FRAD**
- Find
- Identify
- Contextualize
- Justify
DIFFERENCES WITH AACR2
Structure of AACR2

General introduction

Part I: Description
1. General rules for description
2. Books, pamphlets, and printed sheets
3. Cartographic materials
4. Manuscripts
5. Music
6. Sound recordings
7. Motion pictures and videorecordings

Part II: Headings, uniform titles, and references
21. Choice of access points
22. Headings for persons
23. Geographic names
24. Headings for corporate bodies
25. Uniform titles
26. References

Appendices A-D

8. Graphic materials
9. Electronic resources
10. Three-dimensional artefacts and realia
11. Microforms
12. Continuing resources
13. Analysis
Structure of RDA

Introduction
Attributes
   Section 1. Recording attributes of manifestation & item
   Section 2. Recording attributes of work & expression
   Section 3. Recording attributes of person, family, & corporate body
   Section 4. Recording attributes of concept, object, event & place [placeholder for concept, object and event]

Relationships
   Section 5. Recording primary relationships between work, expression, manifestation, & item
   Section 6. Recording relationships to persons, families, & corporate bodies
   Section 7. Recording relationships to concepts, objects, events, & places [placeholder]
   Section 8. Recording relationships between works, expressions, manifestations, & items
   Section 9. Recording relationships between persons, families, & corporate bodies
   Section 10. Recording relationships between concepts, objects, events, & places [placeholder]

Appendices A-L
Glossary
Structure of RDA 2

Section 1. Recording attributes of manifestation & item

Chapter 1. General guidelines on recording attributes of manifestations and items

Chapter 2. Identifying manifestations and items

Chapter 3. Describing carriers

Chapter 4. Providing acquisition and access information

Section 2. Recording attributes of work & expression

Chapter 5. General guidelines on recording attributes of works and expressions

Chapter 6. Identifying works and expressions

Chapter 7. Describing content
Standard for the digital world

- Designed as a web tool
- Content standard independent from display and data structure standards
  - Instructions on presentation of data (order of elements, punctuation) provided in appendices
  - Goal is to make RDA more attractive to other metadata communities and facilitate exchange and reuse of metadata
- Set of metadata elements
  - More adaptable and extensible
  - Element = FRBR/FRAD attribute or relationship
  - E.g.: Dissertation note (AACR2) = 3 sub-elements in RDA (Academic degree, Granting institution or faculty, Year degree granted)
Example of instruction: element

9.16 Profession or Occupation

**CORE ELEMENT**

Profession or occupation is a core element for a person whose name consists of a phrase or appellation not conveying the idea of a person. For other persons, profession or occupation is a core element when needed to distinguish a person from another person with the same name.

9.16.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Professions or Occupations

9.16.1.1 Scope

Profession or occupation is a profession or occupation in which a person works or has worked.

9.16.1.2 Sources of Information

Take information on the profession or occupation of the person from any source.

9.16.1.3 Recording Professions or Occupations

Record the profession or occupation in which the person works or has worked.

Indicate the source from which the information on profession or occupation was derived applying the instructions given under 8.12 RDA.
Option to transcribe the element as it appears on the source of information, without modification, to facilitate automated capture and reuse of data

Makes use of controlled vocabularies which can be recorded as terms or as codes

Relationships can be recorded using identifiers and/or access points

Persistent identifiers and URLs are mentioned

Concept of “main entry” only used in the context of access points for works
  
  Option to include all the creators in access points for works
New terminology

Obsolete AACR2 terms
- Collection
- Heading
- Main entry
- See reference
- Uniform title

New terms
- Compilation
- Authorized access point
- Authorized access point for a work (i.e. preferred title + authorized access point for the creator if applicable)
- Variant access point
- Preferred title (+ other distinguishing elements); conventional collective title
Better description of resources

- GMD is replaced by 3 elements
  - Content type (MARC field 336)
  - Media type (optional) (MARC field 337)
  - Carrier type (MARC field 338)
- Closed list of terms
- Using more than one term is allowed
A categorization reflecting the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived. For content expressed in the form of an image or images, content type also reflects the number of spatial dimensions in which the content is intended to be perceived and the perceived presence or absence of movement.

• Examples of terms
  – Cartographic image
  – Computer program
  – Notated music
  – Performed music
  – Spoken word
  – Text
  – Two-dimensional moving image
Media type

A categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.

• Terms
  – Audio
  – Computer
  – Microform
  – Microscopic
  – Other
  – Projected
  – Stereographic
  – Unmediated
  – Unspecified
  – Video
Carrier type

A categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.

• Examples of terms
  – Audio disc
  – Computer disc
  – Microfiche
  – Microfilm reel
  – Object
  – Online resource
  – Slide
  – Videodisc
  – Volume
## Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AACR2</th>
<th>RDA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GMD</td>
<td>Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book and compact disc including spoken word with musical accompaniment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid disc (CD/DVD video)</td>
<td>sound recording or videorecording (depending on the content deemed predominant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaming video</td>
<td>electronic resource</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Better description of resources 2

- New elements to better describe the technical aspects of electronic resources. E.g.:
  - Digital file characteristics (File type, Encoding format, etc.)
- Online resources identified as such. E.g.:
  - 1 online resource
- Description of both the original and the reproduction when the format of the reproduction parallels that of the original (e.g., microform or pdf). E.g.:
  - 3 microfiches (1 score (118 pages))
Internationalization

- RDA aims at eliminating religious and cultural biases, especially the Anglo-American bias
- Designed for English-speaking users but option to use other languages
- Option to use scripts, numerals and dates other than those used for the English language or in the Western world
- Metric units of measurement, with option to use another system instead
- Books of the Bible entered directly under ”Bible”
  - “O.T.” or “N.T.” omitted before the title of the book
More user-friendly

- Errors and inaccuracies no longer corrected in transcribed elements
  - No more “[sic]” or “[i.e.]”
- Fewer abbreviations in general. E.g.:
  - volumes : illustrations (some coloured) ; 29 cm
    - **not**: v. : ill. (some col.) ; 29 cm
- Abbreviations no longer used in transcribed elements if not present in the source. E.g.:
  - Second edition
    - **not**: 2nd ed.
  - Wiley Publishing, Inc.
    - **not**: Wiley Pub.
- Copyright dates identified by © or ”copyright”
More user-friendly

- Latin abbreviations are abandoned
  - “et al.” replaced by description of information omitted. E.g.:
    - [and four others]
  - “i.e.” in physical description becomes “that is”
  - “S.l.” becomes “Place of publication not identified”
  - “s.n.” becomes “Publisher not identified”
  - “ca.” becomes “approximately”

- Conventions replaced by explanations. E.g.:
  - “[44] p.” becomes “44 unnumbered pages”
  - “+ p.” in physical description becomes “(incomplete)”
Fewer limitations

- No limits on the number of elements transcribed for the following elements:
  - statement of responsibility
    - Option to only transcribe the first and to indicate the omission, e.g. “[and four others]”
  - parallel title
  - place of publication
  - publisher

- No limits on the number of access points for works contained in compilations

- No limits on the number of access points for creators of works
Rules simplified

- List of core elements replaces the 3 levels of description in AACR2
- Instructions generalized as much as possible
  - Apply to all contents and carriers
  - Exceptions for some categories of resources remain but are fewer in number
- Pseudonyms: authorized access point established for each identity (except if only a pseudonym is used)
### Rules simplified 2

#### Works of shared responsibility

| AACR2: Main entry is under title if responsibility is shared among more than three persons or corporate bodies and principal responsibility is not attributed to any one, two, or three | RDA: Main entry is under the first-named person, family, or corporate body with principal responsibility for the work (or the first-named if principal responsibility is not indicated) |

#### Collections of works by different persons or bodies

| AACR2: Main entry is under the first named work if a collective title is lacking (with added entries for the other works if the item includes 2 or 3 works) | RDA: Access points for each work in the compilation (and/or devised title for the compilation) |
New elements for persons, families and corporate bodies

- Examples of new elements:
  - Form of work (MARC field 380)
  - Gender (MARC field 375)
  - Profession or occupation (MARC field 374)
  - Place of residence (MARC field 370)
  - Prominent member of the family (MARC field 376)
  - Date associated with the corporate body (MARC field 046)
Example of authority record for a person (current practice)

040 ## $a DLC $b eng $c DLC
100 1# $a Ondaatje, Michael, $d 1943-
Example of authority record for a person with RDA elements
(source: LC documentation for RDA test)

040 ## $a DLC $b eng $c DLC $e rda
046 ## $f 1943
100 1# $a Ondaatje, Michael, $d 1943-
370 ## $a Colombo, Sri Lanka $v Wikipedia
370 ## $c Canada $e Canada $2 naf $s 1962
372 ## $a novelists $a poets $2 lcsh $s 1976 $t 2010 $v Wikipedia
373 ## $a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters $s 1988 $t 2010 $u http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ondaatje
374 ## $a professor of English
Example of authority record for a person with RDA elements

(cont’d)
670 ## $a HighBeam encyclopedia, via WWW, Oct. 11, 2007 $b
  (Ondaatje, Michael, 1943-, Canadian writer, b. Colombo, Sri Lanka
  (then Ceylon). Emigrating (1962) to Canada, he attended the Univ.
  of Toronto (B.A., 1965) and Queen’s Univ., Ontario (M.A., 1967)
670 ## $a Wikipedia, Oct. 11, 2007 $b (Michael Ondaatje; Philip Michael
  Ondaatje, OC, b. 12 Sept. 1943; Sri Lankan Canadian novelist and
  poet; in 1954 he moved to England with his mother; after
  relocating to Canada in 1962, Ondaatje became a Canadian
citizen)
Potential use of new elements in catalog displays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AACR2</strong></th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hudson, David</td>
<td>Hudson, David (Author of juvenile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson, David, 1937-</td>
<td>Hudson, David (Didjeridu player)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson, David, 1977-</td>
<td>Hudson, David, 1937-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson, David, didjeridu player</td>
<td>Hudson, David, 1977-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Potential use of new elements in catalog displays

AACR2

Hudson, David
Hudson, David, 1937-
Hudson, David, 1977-
Hudson, David, didjeridu player

RDA

Hudson, David (Author of juvenile books)
  Country: France
  Field of activity: Author of juvenile books

Hudson, David (Didjeridu player)
  Country: Australia
  Field of activity: Didjeridu player

Hudson, David, 1937-
  Affiliation: University of Iowa Libraries
  Profession: Reference librarian

Hudson, David, 1977-
  Affiliation: Department of Political Science & International Studies, University of Birmingham
Greater importance given to relationships

- adaptation of
- sequel to
- supplement of
- etc.

- author
- donor
- translator
- etc.

- descendants
- employee
- founder
- etc.

Works, Expressions, Manifestations, Items

Persons, Corporate Bodies, Families

Concepts, Objects, events, Places
Implementation of RDA

Timeline:

- **June 2010**: First release
- **July 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011**:
  - U.S. National Libraries RDA Test
  - Other national libraries get ready for implementation (translation, training, etc.)
- **2011**: Implementation
EXAMPLES OF RECORDS
**Call Number**: TK 5105.875 I6P47 2011

**Author**: Perran, Amanda

**Title**: Beginning SharePoint 2010 : building business solutions with SharePoint / Amanda Perran, Shane Perran, Jennifer Mason, Laura Rogers

**Publisher**: Indianapolis, IN : Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2011, ©2011

**Location**: Webster 4th Floor

**Call Number**: TK 5105.875 I6P47 2011

**Availability**: IN LIBRARY

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**Series**: Wrox beginning guides

**Note**: "Wrox programmer to programmer"--Cover

**Bibliography**: Includes index

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**Subject Heading**: Microsoft SharePoint (Electronic resource)

**Alternate Author**: Mason, Jennifer

**Alternate Author**: Rogers, Laura

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Media Type: unmediated
Carrier Type: volume
For more information

- Presentations on RDA: [http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdapresentations.html](http://www.rda-jsc.org/rdapresentations.html)
QUESTIONS?