



Discover BC's Digital Treasures with Arca

With Arca, institutions are able to:

- Comply with Federal Grant Funding Policies
- Coordinate Digital Resource Management efficiently
- Avoid costs through Centralized Coordination
- Reinforce Institution Brand Position & Prestige
- Build for the Future

What is Arca?

Arca is a province-wide network of digital repositories providing access to faculty and student research output, supporting the management of institutional digital resources, and showcasing BC as a hub for knowledge creation across Canada and around the world.

Meeting a Critical Need

The need for Arca is driven by a number of social and environmental changes, including:

Tri-Council Open Access Policy: By the end of 2014, the Tri-Council Agencies (CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC) will require articles flowing from grant-funded research to be freely accessible online within 12 months of publication.

Shared Services Focus: BC's 25 public post-secondary institutions, with the support of the Ministry of Advanced Education, are increasingly focused on creating efficiencies through shared services.

Provincial Digital Library: Initial investment in Arca will be leveraged to other library sectors as it will form the foundation of a provincial digital library for all British Columbians.

"Academic institutions will benefit enormously from the investment that the BC government is making in institutional repositories. By working together through BC ELN, Arca will ensure the best use of resources, including sharing of expertise, best practices and limited funds, while making the results of publicly funded research at our many institutions available to all British Columbians."

Debbie Schachter, Douglas College

With Arca, learners, educators, and researchers are able to:

- Search across all BC scholarship from one portal
- Access digital repositories at institutions that might not otherwise be able to afford them
- Access resources otherwise only available locally or in-person
- Experience consistent user search and discovery across multiple digital repositories
- Expose their research to a wider audience
- Rely on stable access through intentional preservation architecture and stable URLs
- Assess impact with comprehensive metrics on number of downloads, views, and citations