



## Public Domain Registry Update

In 2006, Access Copyright announced a partnership with Creative Commons and the Wikimedia Foundation on the creation of a Canadian Public Domain Registry.

Access Copyright's role in this project has been to provide bibliographic information on Canadian published works contained in its Rights Management System (RMS). This list of over 300,000 works, including works that are currently in the Public Domain and those that will enter the Public Domain in the future, was provided to Creative Commons and the Wikimedia Foundation in September 2007. Since that time, both organizations have used this list to build the registry's database.

A Beta version of the Public Domain Wiki is now being tested by all three partners. The organizations also have external testing teams in place to ensure that the Wiki is an accurate and user-friendly resource. All parties will continue to work together to ensure that this resource is successfully launched to the public.

Once testing is complete, the registry will look similar to the online encyclopedia Wikipedia. It will be a globally searchable database of Canadian works, including those in the Public Domain. It will allow users to search and edit records in the registry to provide additional information about individual creators, the history of the registry's works and to add additional works to the system. The hope is that it will be a model for similar public domain registries around the globe.