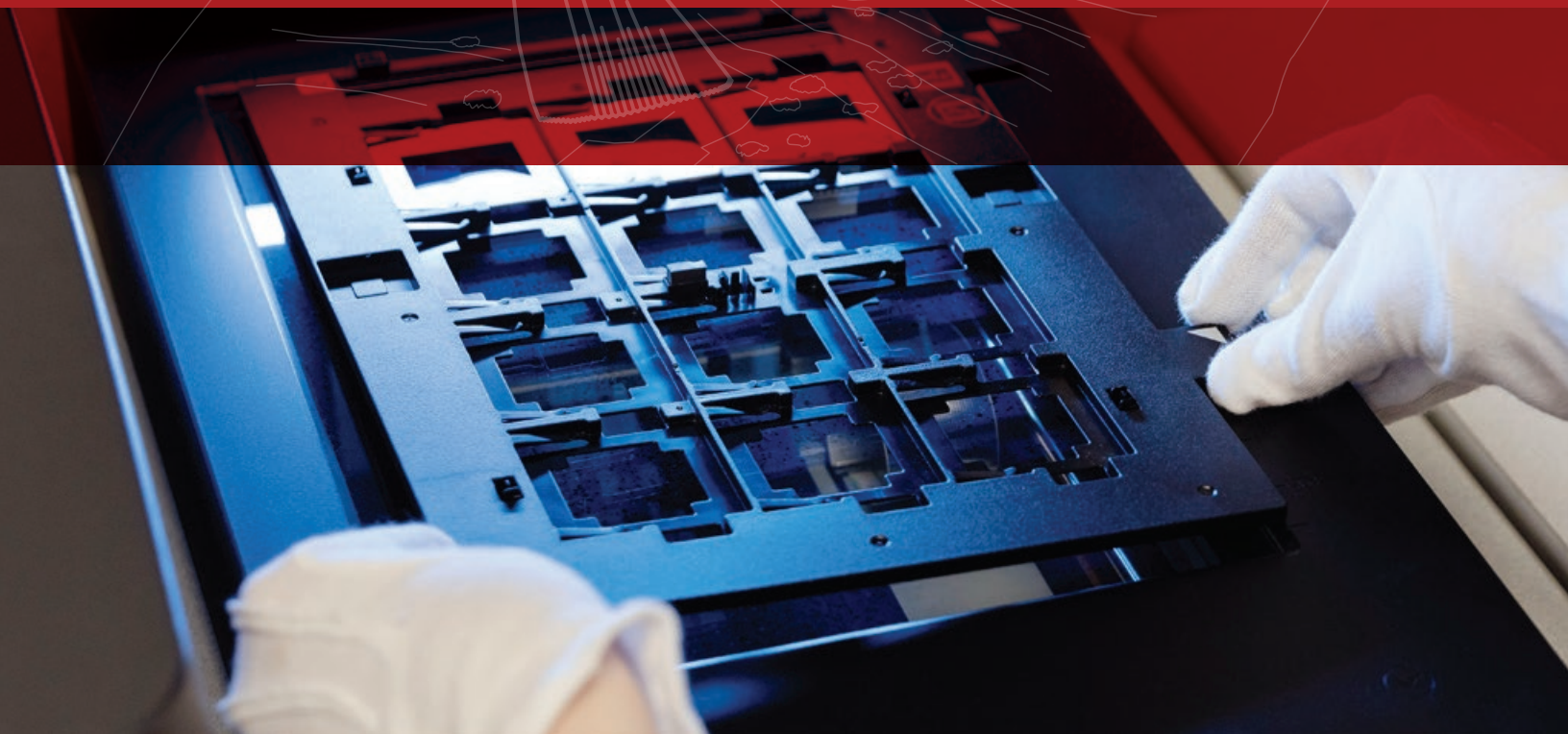




archives  
SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

# 2024

## Annual Report



# President's Report



**“ There is a lot of work ahead for the ASA. Strategic planning will continue in the coming year.”**

– Philip Pype



**Philip Pype**



The Archives Society of Alberta had a very busy 2023-2024. Many thanks must be expressed to the ASA's secretariat, led by Executive Director and Archives Advisor Rene Georgopolis, our volunteer committees, and my colleagues on the Board.

Between April 1, 2023 and April 3, 2024, the Archives Society of Alberta Board of Directors met five times. These meetings were completed over Zoom.

Efforts continued in building diversity in Alberta's archives. Addressing Truth and Reconciliation remains a focus of the ASA. Collaborations with Blue Quills University and the Edmonton Heritage Council have allowed for the Indigenous Archives Project to get underway. A main goal is to build capacity within Indigenous communities to preserve records and start archives programs. Our Executive Director continues to play an active role with the Archives Advisors' Working Group in the development of the Reconciliation Toolkit for non-Indigenous Archives. She also represented the ASA in the federal Museum Policy discussions which, despite the name, also address archives.

The ASA was successful in receiving a Young Canada Works Internship grant in 2023. A student was hired to assist the ASA and our member institutions in getting up-to-date with our institutional reviews. A backlog had formed during COVID. Thus, the ASA offices were very busy

throughout the year as the secretariat, with some board assistance, brought on three temporary staff people.

As President, I attended the Canadian Council of Archives Annual General Meeting virtually on February 22, 2024.

The ASA's various committees had many successes, which are covered in other reports. Funding from the Government of Alberta has remained consistent, although it is eroding due to inflation. Efforts were made to increase our ongoing funding so that previous programs such as grants could be resurrected. Although a meeting occurred with the Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women (as well as the Deputy Minister), no additional funding materialized for the ASA in the most recent budget.

There is a lot of work ahead for the ASA. Strategic planning will continue in the coming year, and work is underway to ensure that the ASA's policies and bylaws are up to date.

We shall continue to advocate for improved funding, whether through the Government of Alberta or other sources, hold to the ideas of Truth and Reconciliation through action, and provide support for our members and the broader Alberta community.

“ The work of the consultants has also reshaped our language regarding the work of the ASA”

– Rene Georgopolis

# Executive Director’s Report



**Rene Georgopolis**

The ASA's 2023-2024 year included several extra projects as well as new staff. These extra projects are as follows:

**1. Institutional Reviews:**

Thanks to a Young Canada Works grant, we were able to hire an intern to address the Institutional Membership Reviews that had accumulated during the pandemic. Our intern completed 20 Institutional Membership Reviews.

- 2. Website redesign:** The ASA continued to work on its website redesign project. We spent a lot of time editing content and determining the best flow for ease of finding information about the ASA. The website was launched at the end of the fiscal year.

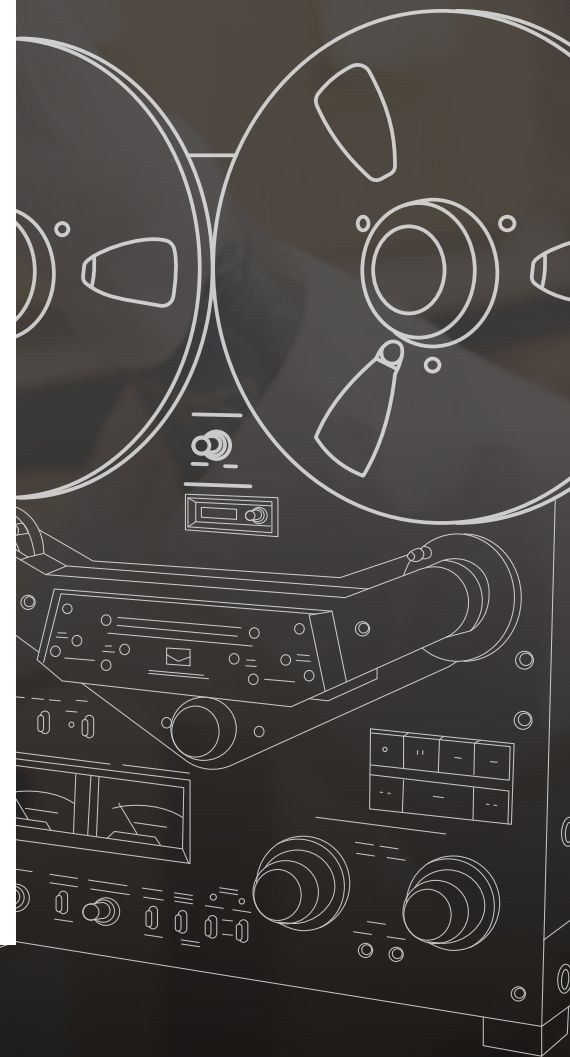
**3. Advocacy and Communications**

**Consultant:** In 2022-2023, the ASA hired a consultant to help with our advocacy efforts. For 2023-2024, the Advocacy and Communications committee worked on creating a toolkit. The work of the consultants has also reshaped our language regarding the work of the ASA, and these changes are reflected on our new website.

**4. Indigenous Archives**

**Project:** For 2023-2024, we hired two staff members to work on an Indigenous Archives Project, which began this year. This project includes a needs assessment survey to determine the needs of Indigenous archives in the province and a pilot course for Indigenous archives. The project will be completed during the 2024-2025 year.

I would like to thank our temporary staff from this year: Reis Pouliot, Institutional Member Review intern; Adrienne Larocque, Indigenous Community Researcher; and Jesse Carson, Curriculum Developer/Instructor. These staff members have been essential in helping the ASA carry out its work. Additionally, Ericka Chemko assisted us with another conference this past year. Bronwyn Burlingham and Jia Jia Yong continue to support the ASA with their work as well. Our usual meetings, programs, and professional development opportunities are highlighted in this report.



## Values

### Leadership

We help to build a strong archival community by working in service to our members, supporting and responding to their needs.

### Compassion

We meet members where they are and consider their needs in our actions.

### Community

We develop, foster, and champion our community of archivists and archives.

### Growth

We are forward thinking, adaptable, and optimistic in our relationships with the individuals and organizations that we serve.

### Accountability

We answer to the provincial archival community: our members are responsible for working within established best practices.

# Strategic Framework

## Vision

Alberta archives are championed in their communities.

## Mission

We build resilient archival professionals and organizations that meet the needs of their communities.

## Goals

### Capacity

Archivists have the tools to successfully address challenges.

### Advocacy

The value of archives is promoted and cultivated.

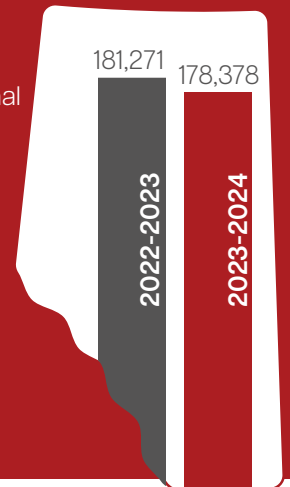
### Communication

Members benefit from services through effective communication.

## Alberta On Record

➔ **Alberta On Record (AOR)** is a database showcasing the archival collections of all our institutional member archives. As a benefit of membership at the ASA, this database allows the province's archives to make their collections publicly available online. Due to a transition in Google Analytics, we do not have accurate statistics for the 2023-2024 year. Our archival description amount decreased due to updates to archival descriptions in the database – some outdated descriptions were removed.

Year	Page Views	Users	Archival Descriptions
2022-2023	380,267	100,536	181,271
2023-2024	no data	no data	178,378



## Professional Development

To support archival work in Alberta, the ASA offered several professional development opportunities over 2023-2024, **with a total of 128 people attending these events.** The focus of our conference and workshop was trauma-informed archival practice and the mental health needs of those engaged in archival work.

### Compassion Fatigue Workshop

**Date:** May 25, 2023

**Instructor:** Megan Hunter, Canadian Mental Health Association

**Location:** Virtual

**Cost:** \$60 members; \$75 non-members

**Participants:** 30

### Conference 2023

**Dates:** May 25, 2023 to May 27, 2023

**Theme:** Care for the People in the Archives

**Location:** Edmonton (hybrid model: in-person and virtual)

**Cost:** \$300 members; \$350 non-members

**Participants:** 59

### Records Management Refresher for Archives and Museum Professionals Workshop

**Date:** September 15 and 29, 2023

**Instructor:** Shamin Malmas, Records Management Archivist, SFU

**Location:** Virtual

**Cost:** \$50 members; \$65 non-members

**Participants:** 21 (plus 1 waitlisted)

### Archives Institute

**Dates:** October 23, 2023 to January 8, 2024

**Instructor:** Rene Georgopolis

**Location:** Virtual

**Cost:** \$800 members; \$850 non-members

**Participants:** 18



○ **128**  
**Total Attendees**



## Grants and Bursaries

A total of 6 members received professional development grants, as outlined below:

### Professional Development Travel Assistance

#### Recipients

**Alice Albarda**, University of Alberta Archives  
Association of Canadian Archivists Conference,  
Charlottetown (\$750)

**Maryna Chernyavska**, University of Alberta Archives  
InterPARES Summer School, Italy (\$750)

**Michael Gourlie**, Provincial Archives of Alberta  
Association of Canadian Archivists Conference,  
Charlottetown (\$750)

**Karen Langley**, Athabasca University Archives  
Association of Canadian Archivists Conference,  
Charlottetown (\$750)

### Bursary

#### Recipients

**Kira Vandermeulen**  
MASLIS Candidate, UBC (\$750)

**Jesse Carson**  
MAS Candidate, UBC (\$750)





# Advisory Services

The ASA offers advisory services to provide professional support to archives and aspiring archives in the province. We answer questions related to all aspects of archival work and provide recommendations and site visits.

The ASA offered 9 site visits during the 2023-2024 year. These include:

## 7 Site Visits to Members:

- Alberta Health Services Archives
- SAIT
- Military Museums/University of Calgary
- Musée Héritage Museum
- Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives
- Hinton Coal Mine Archives
- City of Calgary Archives

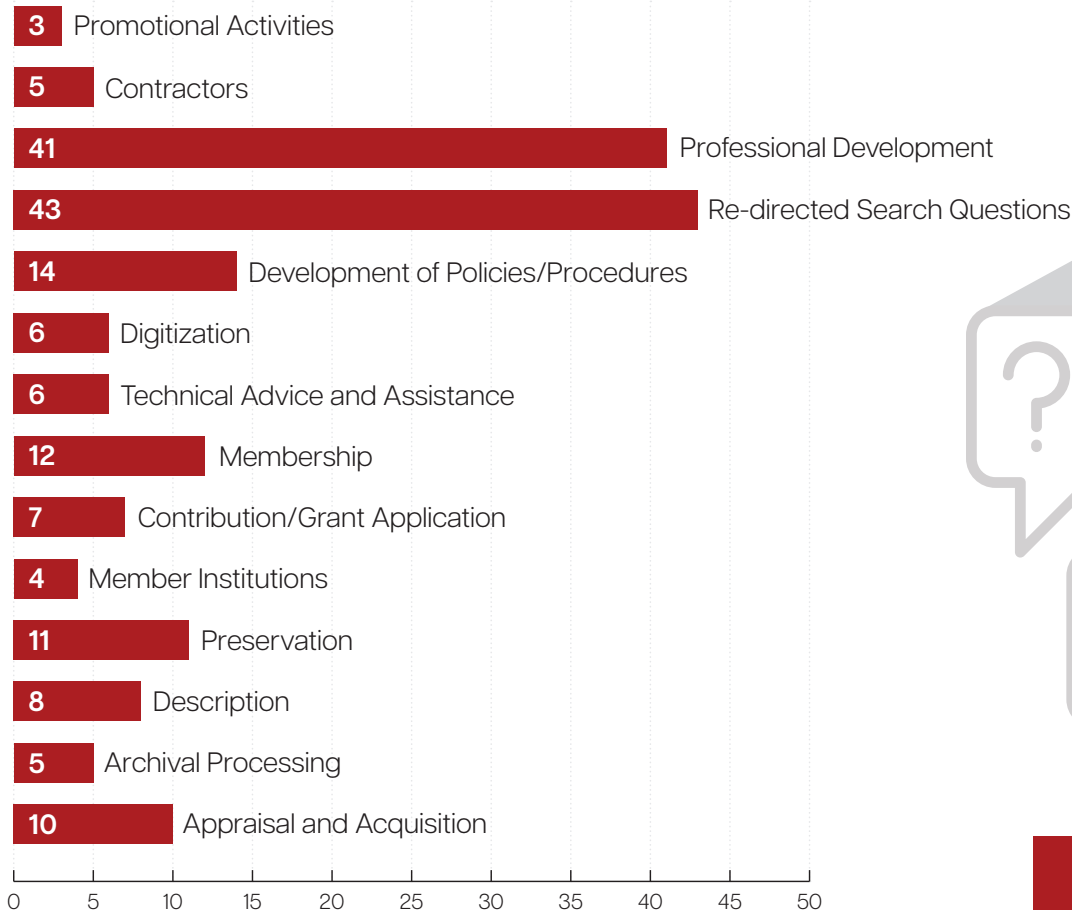
## 2 Site Visits to Non-Members:

- Spruce Grove
- St Anthony's Ukrainian Orthodox Church



The subjects of questions we answered via advisory services are outlined below:

## Advising Questions by Subject



# Advocacy and Outreach

## Archives Week

For 2023, we had 7 members participate in Archives Week initiatives. We provided our institutional members with resources to support outreach initiatives during the week and we funded some of the programming at two member sites to support public awareness work.

## Government Relations

The ASA met with the new Minister of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women and the Deputy Minister in October 2023. We introduced them to the ASA and discussed how additional funding would allow us to reintroduce the Access to Holdings grant.

The ASA attended various events with government officials to raise the profile of Alberta archives. We attended the Alberta Museum Association's awards gala with representatives including an MP and MLA. We also attended the Opposition Critic's networking event.

## Museum Policy

We attended a number of meetings with Canadian Heritage representatives and were consulted regarding federal programming for archives.

**The ASA met with the new  
Minister of Arts, Culture,  
and Status of Women and  
the Deputy Minister**

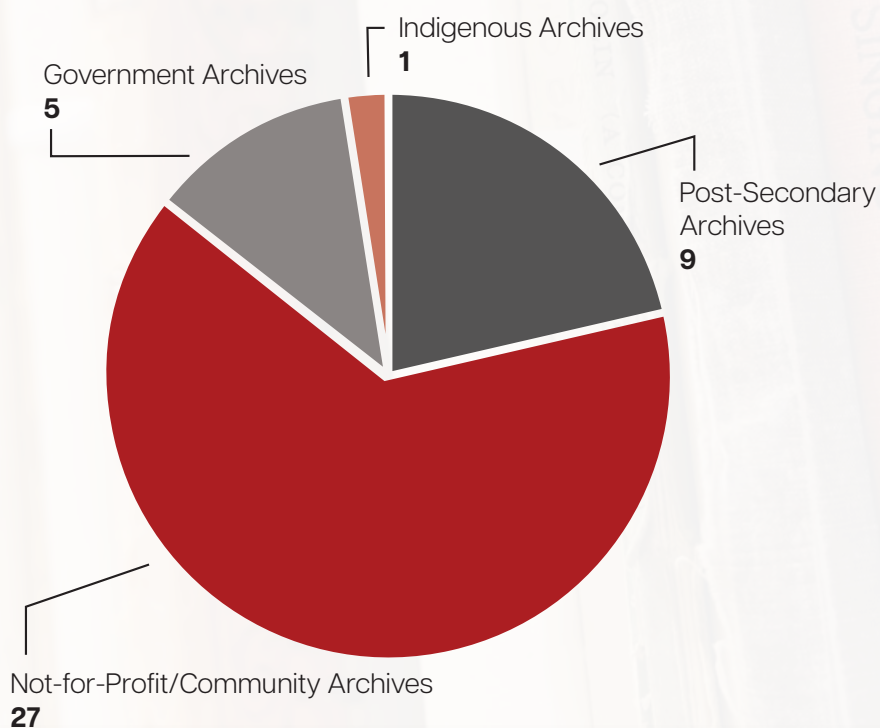
# People

## Membership

Member Type	2022-2023	2023-2024
Individual	88	99
Associate Institutional	9	10
Institutional	42	42
Honourary	12	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>159</b>

Our institutional members include the following types of archival organizations:

### Institutional Membership – Types of Archives



## Volunteers

Year	Number of Volunteers	Number of Hours
2022-2023	24	413
2023-2024	18	280



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