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Worst Case Scenario: Preparing Alberta's Archives for Future Disasters

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Project Details

Flooding across Alberta, Canada in June 2013 affected many archival institutions

- Archives Society of Alberta (ASA) received a grant to help with salvage, recovery and future disaster preparedness
- Lead Conservator and Lead Archivist hired to assist institutional members with conservation treatments, contextual recovery of damaged records and disaster planning

ASA Institutional Members

63% of members require assistance with preventative conservation, disaster planning and archival principles

The Lead Team is conducting site assessments of all ASA institutional members to determine their needs

14% of membersaffected by June2013 floods

23% of members located on a floodplain

Disaster Salvage and Recovery

• Contract conservators and archivists hired to conduct the work planned by the Lead Team, such as treating the archival records and reuniting the descriptions with the damaged records







Disaster Preparedness

- Provide advice on writing disaster plans
- Purchase supplies for disaster kits
- Create disaster scenarios for staff training
- Offer online resources for disaster preparedness and remediation

Collaboration

- Interdisciplinary Lead Team bring expertise from both the conservation and archival science fields
- Provide institutional members with best possible advice and support

Next Steps

- Continue to conduct site assessments
- Continue to build online resources
- Offer workshops and educational resources on disaster recovery and preparedness

Acknowledgements



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