



For Immediate Release

Canadian Research Knowledge Network celebrates the grand opening of new administrative offices

Ottawa, April 4, 2008 – The Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) was delighted to welcome members and guests from across the nation to the official opening of its new facilities, in Preston Square Tower II, in Ottawa on March 31, 2008.

Ms.Carolynne Presser, Vice-chair of the CRKN Board of Directors and Director of Libraries, University of Manitoba, offered insightful perspective on the genesis and evolution of CRKN. “Today’s office-warming is a milestone event for CRKN, as these walls represent much more than new facilities. They represent a coming of age for an organization that began in 2000 as a project that fit in one room at the University of Ottawa. They represent the achievement of a key strategic objective for CRKN, providing much-needed room to work and room to grow. And, most importantly, they represent our enhanced capability to serve the Canadian university community, now and for many years to come.”

Ms. Leslie Weir, Chief Librarian, University of Ottawa, President of the Canadian Association of University Libraries, and member of the CRKN Board of Directors, spoke on behalf of the University of Ottawa as both former home to CRKN and as host institution to CRKN’s Digital Content Infrastructure for the Human and Social Sciences (DCI) project, currently funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). Ms. Weir reflected on the success of this longstanding association, and looked forward to continued strong collaboration with CRKN in its new premises.

Dr. Ronald Bond, Chair of the CRKN Advisory Board and Provost Emeritus, University of Calgary and Chair of the Campus Alberta Quality Council, was pleased that the event coincided with the semi-annual meeting of the Advisory Board, which took place in Ottawa on April 1, 2008.

The Advisory Board is a panel of distinguished experts drawn from CRKN’s external stakeholder communities, and it plays a key role in advising the Board of Directors on emerging trends, strategic planning and program development. “As an Advisory Board, we assist the Board of Directors with long-term strategic planning and the identification of new opportunities for collaboration – all within a rapidly changing environment.” said Dr. Bond. “Through CRKN’s clearly articulated set of strategic objectives; with excellent leadership and governance; with strongly committed membership who drive the volunteer committees and working groups; with outstanding management and dedicated and capable staff; CRKN is shaping the very marketplace in which it operates.”

CRKN Executive Director, Deb deBruijn, closed the festivities by thanking members for their well-wishes, and those who came from near and far to share in the celebration.

The Canadian Research Knowledge Network is a partnership of Canadian universities, dedicated to expanding digital content for the academic research enterprise in Canada. Through the coordinated leadership of librarians, researchers and administrators, CRKN undertakes large-scale content acquisition and licensing initiatives in order to build knowledge infrastructure and research capacity in Canada's universities.

For photos of the event, [please click here](#)

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