

1 February 2022

## Transformative Agreement signed between the Microbiology Society and four Canadian consortia

The Microbiology Society and four academic consortia across Canada are pleased to announce a three-year transformative agreement starting in 2022. The Society's Publish and Read model will allow affiliated researchers to publish an unlimited number of Open Access (OA) articles in hybrid and fully OA titles, as well as having full read access across the portfolio. 15 institutions have initially opted in to the deal signed by the four consortia:

- The Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL)
- The Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI)
- The Council of Atlantic University Libraries – Conseil des bibliothèques universitaires de l'Atlantique (CAUL-CBUA)
- The Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL)

Vivian Stieda, Executive Director, COPPUL: "The Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries is very pleased to be part of this historic agreement. We celebrate the success of working with the Microbiology Society to support our strategic priority to advance open and sustainable access."

Peter Cotgreave, Chief Executive of the Microbiology Society: "Support for the Society's move to OA from the four Canadian consortia, who have come together in this coordinated initiative, helps and encourages us to drive forward our mission to transform our portfolio as quickly as possible. We are delighted that our OA strategy and journey aligns with that of our customers and that this deal will work to benefit Canadian research."

The number of institutions worldwide under the Society's Publish and Read agreements has more than doubled year on year since 2020, accelerating the pace of change to an Open Access future. The Society's publishing representative in the region, Accucoms, helped broker the arrangement, the first consortia transformative agreement signed in North America, and a blueprint for more.

Affiliated authors with Publish and Read Institutions are entitled to:

- **Unlimited OA publishing:** any article published in Society journals where the corresponding author is from a Publish and Read institution will be OA by default.
- **Unlimited usage:** any user associated with a Publish and Read institution can access the entire archive of Society content, back to 1947, for reading and for text and data mining.

Authors can check if their institution is eligible [here](#).

Publish and Read will be across all the Society's six journals, including hybrid titles *Microbiology*, *Journal of General Virology*, *Journal of Medical*

*Microbiology*, *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology*, and fully OA titles *Access Microbiology*, *Microbial Genomics*.

**About COPPUL [coppul.ca/](http://coppul.ca/)**

The Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) is a network of university libraries working together to leverage collective expertise, resources and influence in order to enable enhanced learning, teaching student experiences and research at institutions across Western Canada.

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**About CAUL-CBUA [caul-cbua.ca](http://caul-cbua.ca)**

The Council of Atlantic University Libraries - Conseil des bibliothèques universitaires de l'Atlantique (CAUL-CBUA) is a vibrant regional network of 19 of Atlantic Canada's public university and college libraries leveraging community and collaboration to advance scholarship, innovation, diversity, and accessibility in teaching, learning, research, and student experiences.

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**About OCUL [ocul.on.ca](http://ocul.on.ca)**

The Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) is a consortium of Ontario's 21 university libraries. Our strength lies in our commitment to work together to maximize our collective expertise and resources. We enhance information services in Ontario and beyond through collective purchasing and shared digital information infrastructure, collaborative planning, advocacy, assessment, research, partnerships, communications, and professional development.

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**About BCI [bci-qc.ca](http://bci-qc.ca)**

The Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI) promotes the interests and common positions of Québec universities and their diversity while respecting the institutional autonomy, their respective missions and their distinctive characteristics. As an entity within the BCI, the Partenariat des bibliothèques universitaires du Québec (PBUQ) promotes joint development of the Québec university libraries' collections and services in order to support the Québec universities' mission of teaching and research. The PBUQ members are the directors of Québec's university libraries.

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**About the Microbiology Society**

The Microbiology Society is a membership charity for scientists interested in microbes, their effects and their practical uses. It is one of the largest microbiology societies in Europe with a worldwide membership based in universities, industry, hospitals, research institutes and schools.

Our principal goal is to develop, expand and strengthen the networks available to our members so that they can generate new knowledge about microbes and ensure that it is shared with other communities. The impacts from this will drive us towards a world in which the science of microbiology provides maximum benefit to society.

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