

BAnQ

One step *beyond* collaboration

Wikiwhat?

- BAnQ were already hosting monthly workshops for Wikipedia
- In October 2014, we present Wikisource during one of the workshops... Nobody had ever heard of this project...

Generating curiosity...

- Large institutions needs more than words :

We then select basic PDF already scanned by BAnQ, Google Books and Internet Archives so we can show the results : available online, searchable, could export to free epub.

The first steps...

BanQ selects 2 hand-written documents and 3 printed documents to see how they will be accepted by the Wikisource community...

Will the enthusiasm remain?

These first books showed a lot of interest, they wonder if it will continue... So they offer us to add content... We can select whatever is already available or send request for scanning specific books.

Going a step further

As the government decided to inject big money for scanning the archives, they include us to the discussions :

Quality, scanning books, OCR

A simple goal

Free distribution of our national collection

No big promises

We never know how the community will respond to the selection... Small objectives are more easy to fulfill.

Beyond collaboration

- Offering an office in the National Archives building in Montréal so we can work hand-in-hand on specific projects
- Gave us a booth at La Foire numérique, a yearly event to present the digital archives they're offering to the public.

New things for 2016

- BAnQ offered us access to computer labs to give new monthly Wikisource-related workshops to the public.
- They want their staff to be trained on Wikisource so they can help people to contribute outside the workshops.

Dedicated time

- Some archivists are working to retrieve « lost » literature so we can revive them on Wikisource...

Our goals :

- Diversity of text
- Make it fun and interesting for the contributors
- Retrieve as much « lost » literature as possible

Problems we're facing

- Public domain rules are different in Canada than in USA & Europe.
- Many multilingual facsimile : English, French, Cri, Algonquin, Inuktitut, etc.
- Different character sets...