

Conversations on the Journey to the Newmal

University of Johannesburg International Virtual Conference:
07 & 08 September 2021

Donna Bourne-Tyson

Dean of Libraries



Photo credit: Nick Pearce, Dalhousie University

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.



Photo credit: Danny Abriel, Dalhousie University

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada - <https://www.dal.ca/>

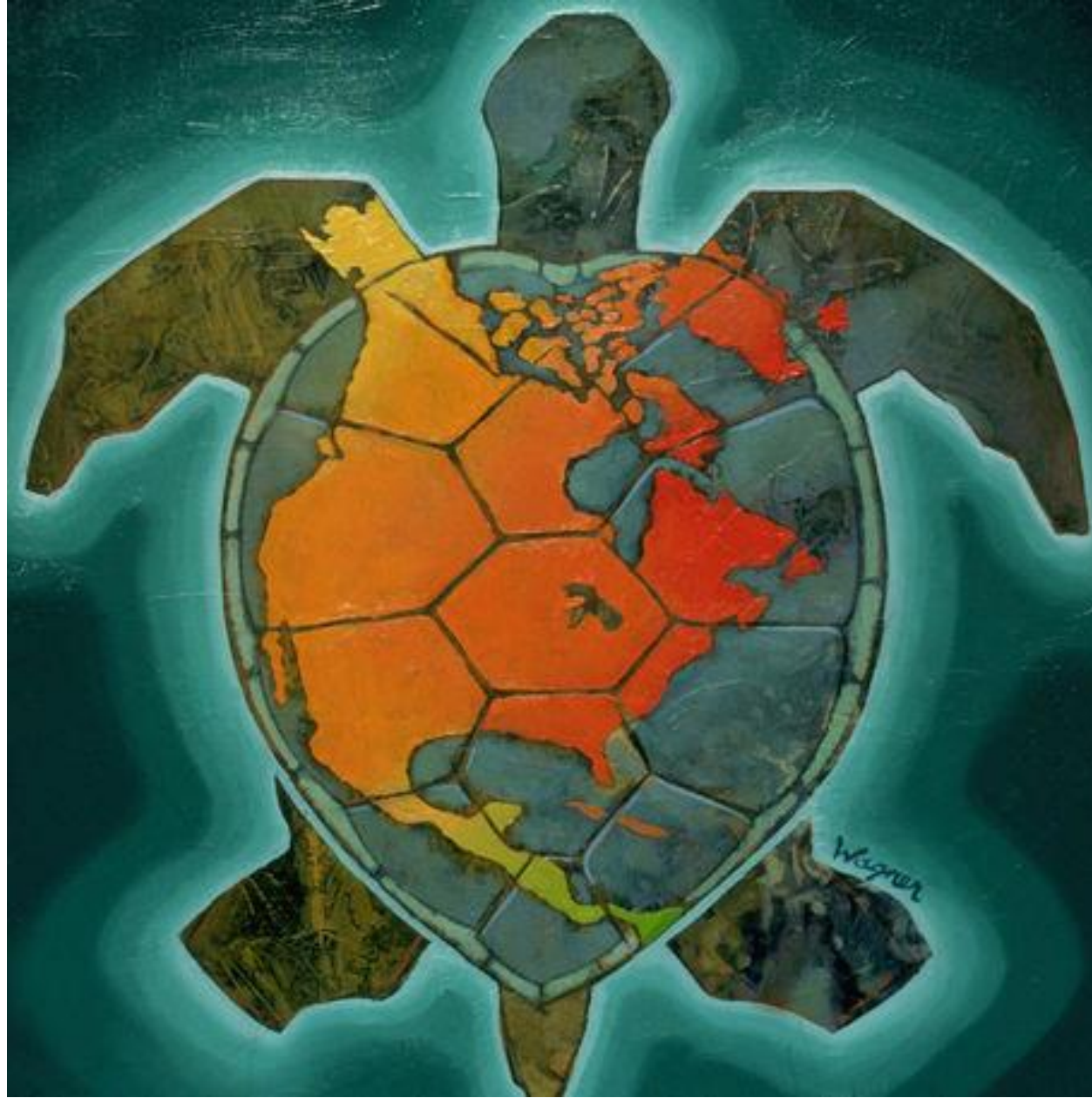




Canada



Slide courtesy of: Vivian Lewis, University Librarian, McMaster University (CANADA, lewisvm@mcmaster.ca)



Turtle Island – image by Mark Wagner

The Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) is the voice of:

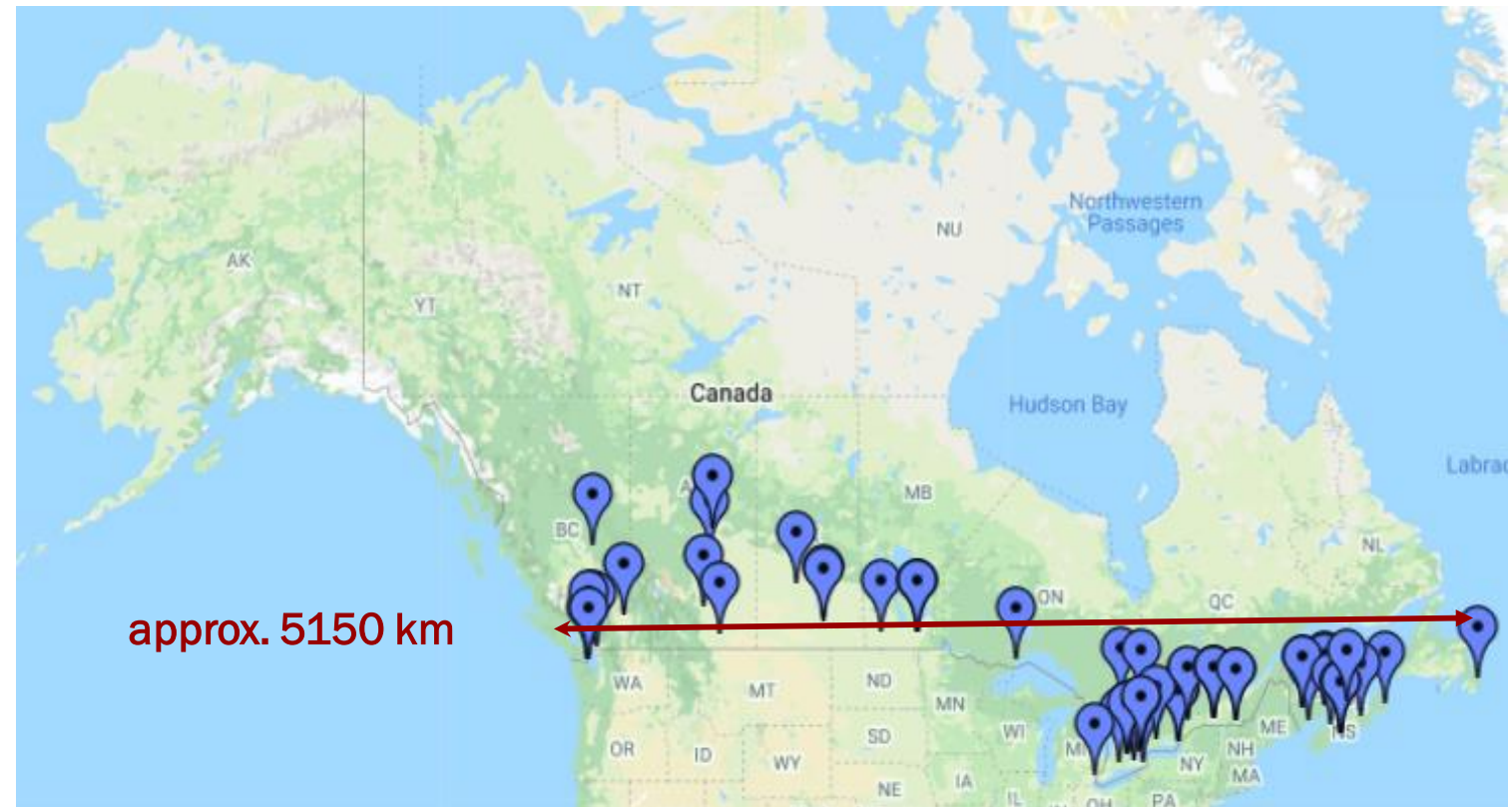
29

of Canada's
largest research
libraries

AND

2

National
Libraries



Slide courtesy of: Vivian Lewis, University Librarian McMaster University (CANADA, lewisvm@mcmaster.ca)

Source: Carl.ca

Framing from the Organizing Committee

“Amid the numerous changes and challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, all spheres of work, learning, and research have been affected and have had to evolve. One of the few things we know about the future is that it will be very different from the world before COVID.

During this period, libraries have become fully integrated virtual and physical spaces. How libraries have been building additional capabilities, innovating new services, and offering the support needed by users in these unusual times is an important conversation for librarians to have.”

Return to Normal

- Definition of *normal*
- Conforming to a type, standard, or regular pattern: characterized by that which is considered usual, typical, or routine
- normal working hours
- under normal circumstances
- It was just a normal, average day.
- He had a normal childhood.
- Their reaction to the news was normal and expected.
- The noise made it impossible to carry on a normal conversation.
- Challenges are a normal part of life; remind yourself of that—and keep going.— Gabrielle Gayagoy

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/normal>

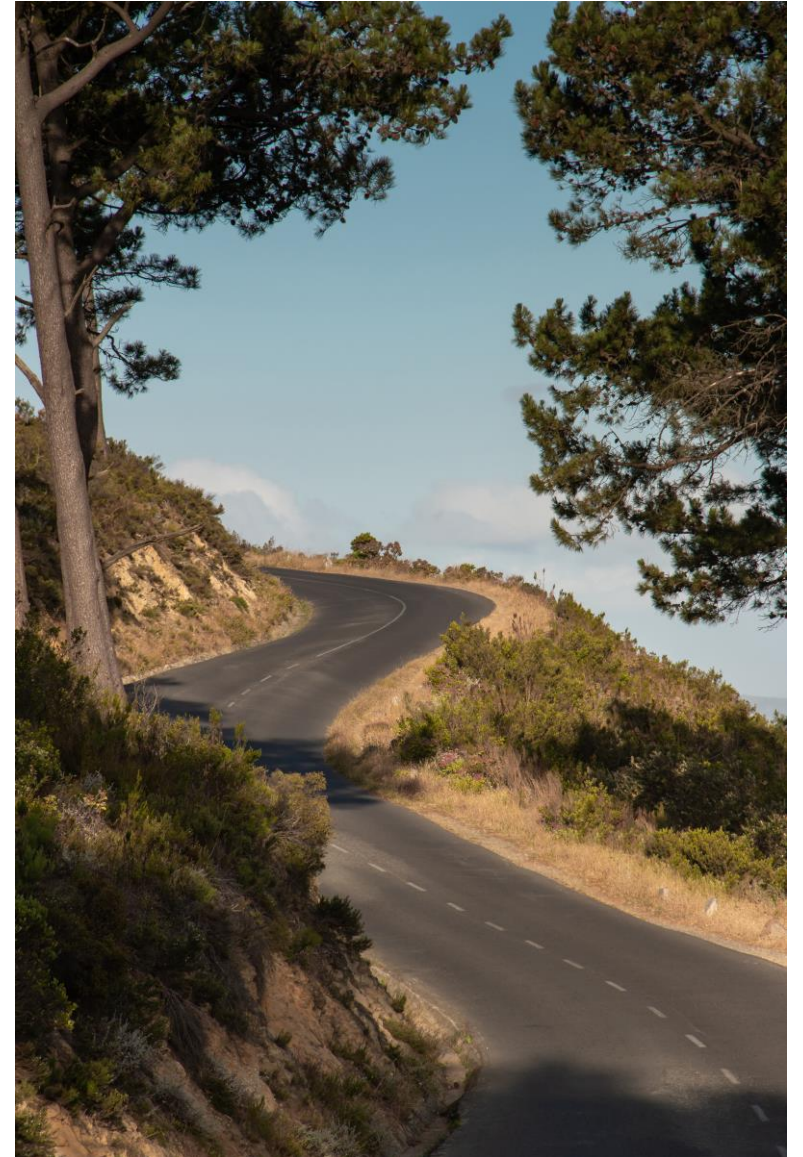


Photo by [Brent Ninaber](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Photo by Rodger Bosch / AFP / Getty Images

Firefighters work to extinguish a blaze at the University of Cape Town's Jagger Reading Room on April 2021



Photo: Evelyn Milagros Rodríguez

Flooding damage to a reading room at the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao, September 2017.

Better than Normal

- Equity
- Diversity
- Inclusion
- Accessibility
- Sustainability



Photo by Mark Strosberg on Unsplash
<https://unsplash.com/photos/AGIYSE6-WgE>

LIBRARY SERVICES DURING COVID-19



ASK US!



CURBSIDE PICKUP





Visualization Studio, University of Calgary Library

Spaces as Services, Separate from Collections



Dempsey, Lorcan (2021): Pandemic effects and collection directions. figshare. Presentation.
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13670698.v1>



Photo credit: Nick Pearce, Dalhousie University

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have become a key concern worldwide, particularly for universities who can potentially play a critical role in the research and education needed for societies to achieve these goals.

What role could libraries play in helping universities, NGOs and governments reach these goals?



Future-fit Library Jobs

COVID has shown that a variety of working models are possible and that some jobs may no longer be needed.

How do we ensure that all library jobs are future-fit jobs and staff have the skills and expertise needed in this new world?

Digital Fluency

In the era of fake news and conspiracy theories, the role of librarians in helping users understand how to access, critique and use reliable and valid information is more important than ever.



Photo credit: Nick Pearce, Dalhousie University



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Digital Dexterity - the new skills for learning and research excellence

Program director: Carmel O'Sullivan

Related topics: Collections, Digital Literacy, Learning and Teaching

Digital Dexterity is important for success in education, in the workforce and in life. It includes digital and information literacy, but also encompasses a range of capabilities including ICT proficiency, digital learning and creation, digital collaboration, media and data literacy, and digital identity. Universities and their libraries are ideally placed to equip Australians and New Zealanders with the skills and higher-order knowledge required to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

CAUL's Digital Dexterity program developed a range of resources to encourage digital dexterity:

1. [A position statement on digital dexterity outlining principles and goals.](#)

<https://www.caul.edu.au/programs-projects/digital-dexterity-new-skills-learning-and-research-excellence>

New CARL Competency Statement 2020

- Vision & Innovation
- Active Learning & Adaptation
- Collaboration
- Consultation & Communication
- Curation & Preservation
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
- Engagement & Participation
- Evaluation & Assessment
- Leadership & Facilitation



<https://www.carl-abrc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Competencies-Final-EN-1-2.pdf>

IATUL Research Impact Things

A self-paced training program for IATUL libraries

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<https://iatulimpactthings.info/>

Libraries as a “Space of Certainty” and a Locus of Innovation

In the midst of all the innovations and changes that have been taking place, how can libraries remain cutting-edge in the innovations they offer but also be a space of certainty in a world that has become so uncertain?



Photo credit: Calgary Public Library



Core Library Values in the Digital World

Technology and the online platform has radically changed libraries during the COVID pandemic.

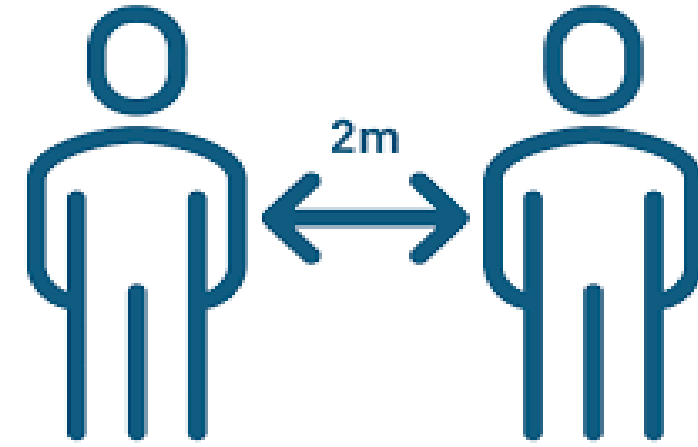
What are best practices and lessons learnt from this experience that can be shared among libraries to enable the whole library community to use technology most effectively?



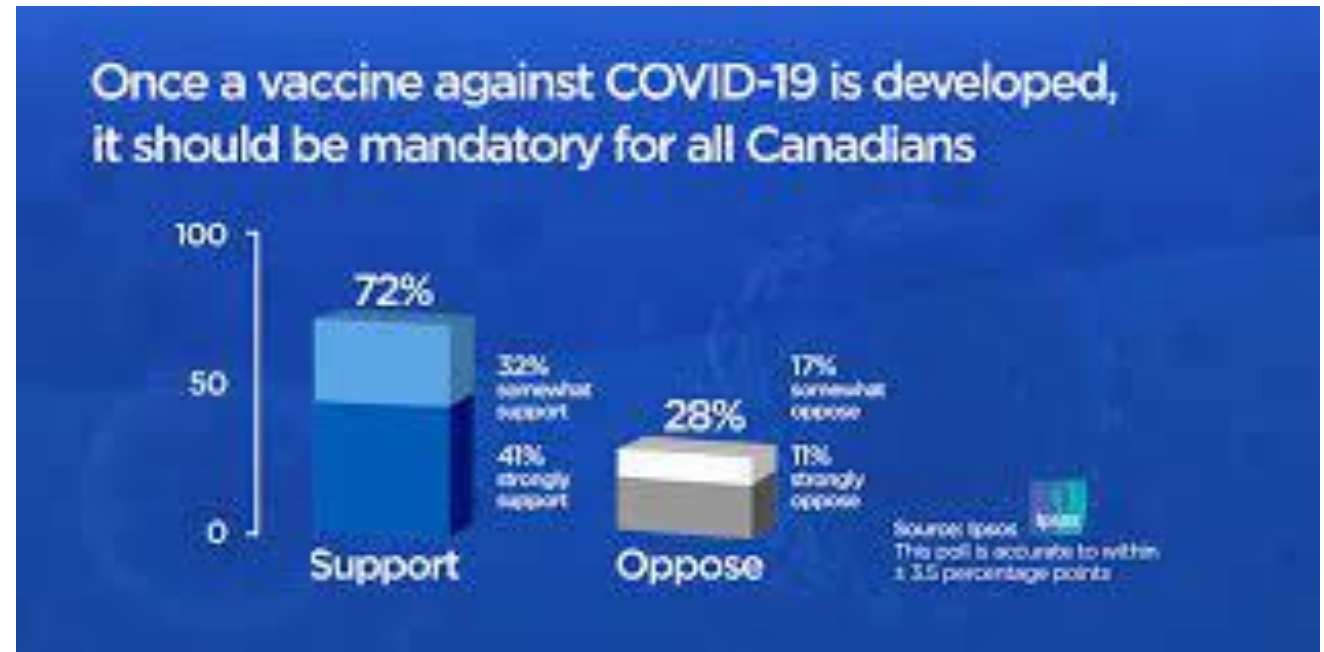
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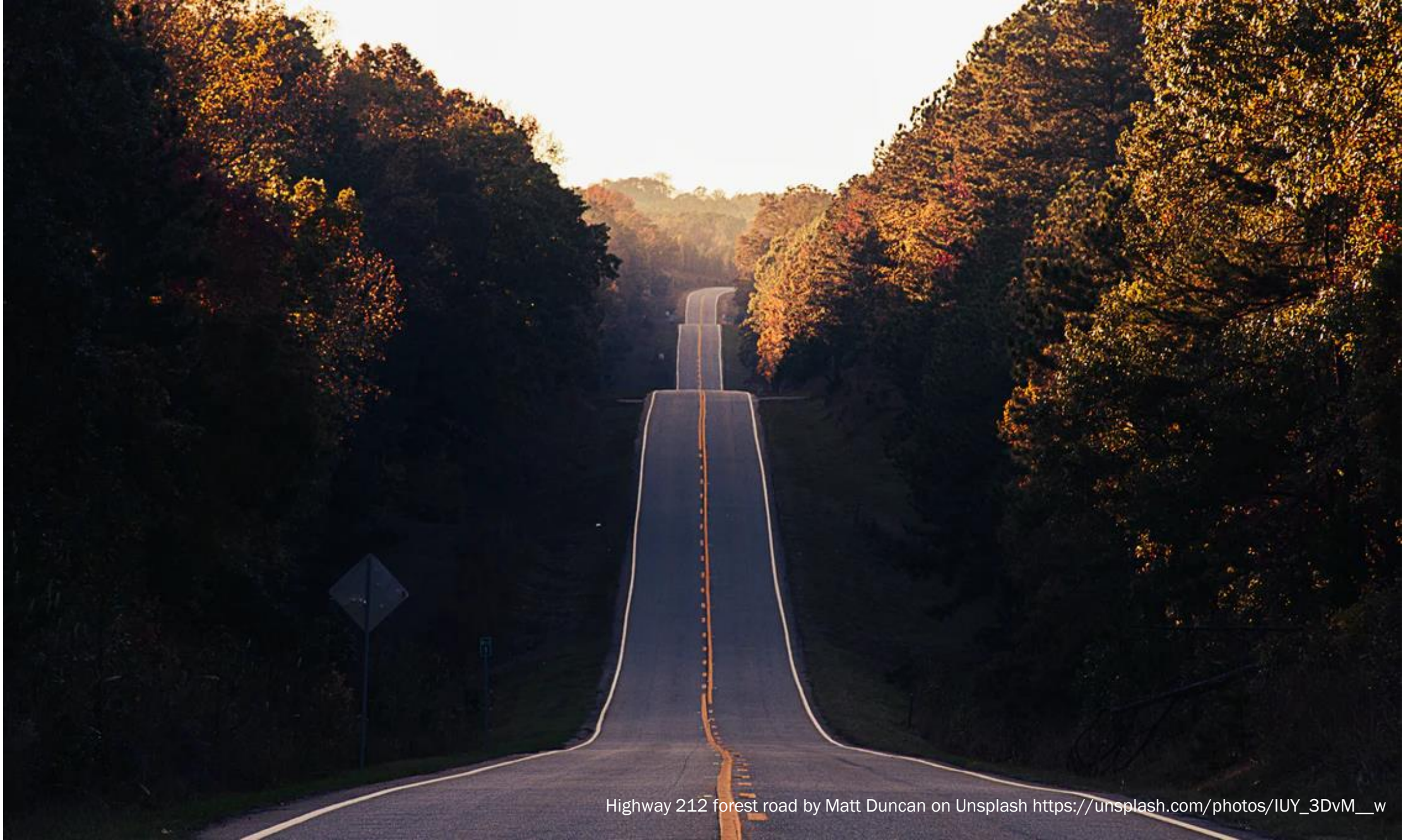


Photo by Senning Luk on Unsplash https://unsplash.com/photos/5_VeCZMBEH8



novascotia.ca/coronavirus | novascotia.ca/coronavirus/fr





Highway 212 forest road by Matt Duncan on Unsplash https://unsplash.com/photos/IUY_3DvM__w



DR. BONNIE HENRY
& LYNN HENRY

Be Kind, Be Calm,
Be Safe


**KEEP
CALM
AND
ASK A
LIBRARIAN**

keep-calm.net

Thank you! Questions?



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