

BookNet Canada

Year in Review



BOOKNET
CANADA



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Introduction

In this report we're sharing a look at what the BookNet team accomplished in F2026 as well as what we're planning on achieving in the next year.

The accomplishments the BookNet staff achieved this past year allowed us to further our mission to support our stakeholders with the information and education needed to navigate and adapt to the changing needs of readers and the book market. We have always believed that an efficient and informed book supply chain plays a pivotal role in ensuring that books reach the hands of eager readers. And we will continue our drive to optimize the supply chain through strategic partnerships, data collection and analysis, and the use of standards. We aim to create a more efficient, accessible, and sustainable system that empowers publishers, retailers, libraries, and readers.

BookNet staff collaborates with industry organizations to achieve an efficient and informed industry through representation on boards and committees. These include the boards of the Book and Periodical Council, the Green Book Alliance, and EDItEUR.

We remain grateful to our member organizations and partners: Association of Canadian Book Wholesalers, Association of Canadian Publishers, Canadian Publishers' Council, Canadian Urban Libraries Council, Canadian Independent Booksellers Association, Indigo Books & Music, and the Government of Canada for generously providing ongoing support to BookNet through the Canadian Book Fund. These partnerships help us continue to provide the services and support necessary to our stakeholders in the Canadian book industry.



Lauren Stewart
President and CEO

Guiding Principles

Short- to medium-term benefit

The projects selected by the BookNet Canada Board of Directors reflect an interest in providing a tangible return on investment within the short- to medium-term. Projects are designed to deliver benefits throughout their lifecycle with clearly defined performance objectives and deliverables.

Facilitation during technological change

Each project is designed to address a key area of technological change, ensuring that book industry participants remain adaptable and capable of meeting new demands in publishing, retailing, wholesaling, and distribution.

Benefit to all stakeholders

BookNet Canada focuses on project areas designed to provide consistent benefits to all participants in the Canadian industry, whether they are large corporations or small businesses.

Focus on Canadian cultural producers

Each project also has components designed to “level the playing field” for Canadian cultural producers, providing them with tools, best practices, education, and services.

Empower process improvement

BookNet Canada provides tools, services, and knowledge to help our stakeholders make process improvements related to supply chain and technological innovation within their organizations.

Collaboration and partnerships

Whenever possible and appropriate, BookNet Canada looks to partner and collaborate with other associations and organizations to provide coordinated benefits to the Canadian book industry.



SalesData & LibraryData

In F2026, the SalesData & LibraryData team was pleased to focus on new features to aid in the day-to-day workflows of both SalesData subscribers as well as BookNet employees. To start with, earlier this year we spent time improving our internal Bibliographic Corrections tool. We now have better insight into when the displayed bibliographic data in SalesData is coming from a manual correction via the “Report bibliographic error” feature on Single ISBN reports, thereby improving our ability to manage bibliographic data.

Single ISBN Report

This report will give you weekly sales for a single ISBN over a selected reporting period. For more details on how to use this report, please see our [Help guide](#).

Jane Eyre 9780141441146

▼ Bibliographic Data

<p>Contributors</p> <p>Author: Bronte, Charlotte Editor: Davies, Stevie Introduction by: Davies, Stevie Notes by: Davies, Stevie</p> <p>BNC Format Paperback / Trade paperback Publication Date Aug 15, 2006 List Price \$12.00 BISAC Subject FICTION / Classics Page Count 624 Publisher Penguin Publishing Group Imprint Penguin Classics Distributor Penguin Random House Canada Ltd.</p>	<p>More bibliographic data</p> <p>Report bibliographic errors</p>
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“I am a tiny bookshop but I find it really helpful! ... I enjoy finding interesting titles that others aren’t selling!”

– Lindsay Casey,
The Wandering Albatross

Changes include:

- Insight into whether the data displayed in SalesData came from the regular biblio feed or from a manual correction reported by a user.
- Insight into whether or not a biblio record is currently locked (meaning it won't be replaced by the regular biblio feed until a certain date) and, if so, we can now see when the record will become unlocked.
- Complete history of past manual changes and any past lock dates for a bibliographic record.

While these improvements are not user-facing, they were all made with our subscribers in mind. Having better visibility into corrections allows us to provide better metadata support for our users and to make sure that data corrections are always made at the source of the problem.

SALES DATA & LIBRARY DATA



“It is a great tool to find books circulating well at other libraries that my library system may not have yet and that our patrons could be missing out on.”

– Customer Satisfaction Survey 2025

We also made some small fixes to our Media Bestseller List Tool. These changes include adding column sorting options to the Merge Request and Suppression Request tables. We also increased the table row count of the Merge Request table so that users can see all past merge requests, not just the most recent.

Finally, in our most recent SalesData release, we added new features to the Quick Search results page, which were designed to help users narrow down their results even further and to use those results to directly build other reports in SalesData & LibraryData.



To support this, we added:

- additional column options: Cover Image, Distributor, Current List Price, Subject, Page Count, Lower Age, Upper Age, and Languages;
- the ability to customize and save any column options;
- updated column sorting logic, to make it more consist with other SalesData & LibraryData reports;
- new column filters across all columns; and
- functionality that allows users to select any ISBNs from their Quick Search results and use them to either create other reports in SalesData & LibraryData or to copy and paste for use outside of SalesData.

Search Results for *jane eyre*

Results are based on sales in the All Markets and are sorted by units sold in the current week. Start selecting ISBNs to copy or to run a report. For more details on how to use this page, please see our help guide.

ISBN	Cover Image	Title	Subtitle	Series	Contributors
9780140411466		Jane Eyre			Brents, Charlotte
9781400146262		Jane Eyre		Harper: Mass Classics: Padded Edition Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9780203211400		Jane Eyre			Brents, Charlotte
9780143196159		Jane Eyre		Prepagan Classics Deluxe Edition	Brents, Charlotte
9781607209565		Jane Eyre		Prepagan Classics Deluxe Edition Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9781404522916		Jane Eyre (Special Edition)		Word Cloud Classics Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9781404522916		Jane Eyre (Special Edition)		Signature Edition Editions Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9780670283329		Jane Eyre		Modern Library Classics Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9780138884800		Jane Eyre		Oxford World's Classics Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9781847932736		Jane Eyre		Annotated Edition (Mass Classics Evergreen)	Brents, Charlotte
9780141338809		Prepagan English Library Jane Eyre		Evergreen Ser.	Brents, Charlotte
9780141338809		Prepagan English Library Jane Eyre		The Prepagan English Library	Brents, Charlotte

For F2027, the SalesData & LibraryData team is looking forward to exploring the ability to add new features commonly requested by users, including adding a language filter in SalesData reports and supporting digital circulation data in LibraryData.

- Users ran over 280,397 reports in F2026 — over 1,100 per day!
- Subscribers received over 1,387 scheduled reports each week saving a combined 46 hours a week
- We added over 19 new reporting retailers this year bringing our total up to 308
- 5 new library systems started reporting into LibraryData this year
- We now accept library reports from 6 different ILS types



BIBLIOSHARE



“Tim Middleton was EXTREMELY helpful in figuring out some data issues earlier this year. (Thank you, Tim!)”

—Customer Satisfaction Survey 2025

“We’ve been really liking using the Biblioshare Bookstore Builder application on Shopify. It’s certainly made the receiving process for new books quite a bit more expedient.”

— Kenny Lam,
Secret Planet Print Shop

BiblioShare

F2026 for the BiblioShare team was a year of migrations. We continued to juggle the competing demands of supporting both ONIX 2.1 and ONIX 3.0 version data, but the supply chain got serious about migrating to ONIX 3 and the BiblioShare team leaned in to support a number of companies as they shifted their metadata feeds and required QA to ensure their new feeds met the needs of the industry.

The team also undertook a major migration of the physical infrastructure that supports all of the BiblioShare ecosystem. This migration was undertaken to address our dependency on American hosting services. BiblioShare is now being hosted on an all Canadian platform!

The BiblioShare dataset continues to grow. It’s always exciting to welcome new users to the marriage of metadata and the supply chain we call BiblioShare and in F2026 we added 103 new accounts.

Development work for a replacement of the BiblioShare system got well underway in F2026. The new system is designed to process data more quickly and handle ongoing changes to the ONIX standard with ease, as well as give clients better visibility into the status of their data as it moves through system processing. Aspects of this project will be rolled out using a phased approach starting in mid-F2027.

- Adoption of ONIX 3 is gaining ground, with 375,000 new ONIX 3 records added in the last quarter of the year alone. That represents a 23% increase in the number of total ONIX 3 outbound records.
- 103 new accounts added in F2026



CATALIST



CataList

The CataList team implemented several updates over the course of the F2026 period.

My Page actions

One of the major improvements centres around the My Page section of the site. My Page is where publishers, sales agents, retailers, and librarians can find catalogues that they created or received from other CataList users.

On My Page, accounts can use the new checkboxes in each catalogue table to select multiple catalogues and perform actions on their selections, which can help publishers and buyers organize their catalogues more efficiently.

We updated the actions that can be performed on multiple catalogues at once:

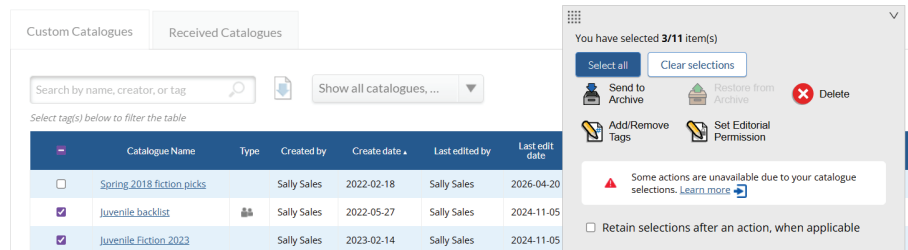
- The Archive action is now available for seasonal and custom catalogues of any status, where it used to only be available for published seasonal catalogues.
- The Delete action is now available for published seasonal catalogues, where it used to only be available for draft seasonal catalogues and custom catalogues.
- The Edit Tag action is new and available for seasonal and custom catalogues.
- The Edit Permissions action is new and available for custom catalogues.
- The Mark as Complete action is new and available for received catalogues.

The catalogue filters have also been updated to support the new actions. Users can choose to show or hide catalogues based on a more fine-tuned list of catalogue properties, such as the type of custom catalogue and the catalogue's archived or completed status.

“I appreciate you and your team’s hard work to always make CataList an ever essential tool to the book trade!”

– Duncan Harris-Janz,
McNally Robinson
Booksellers

Manage Catalogues



The screenshot shows the 'Manage Catalogues' interface. It has two tabs: 'Custom Catalogues' and 'Received Catalogues'. Below the tabs is a search bar and a 'Show all catalogues...' button. A table lists catalogues with columns for Catalogue Name, Type, Created by, Create date, Last edited by, and Last edit date. Three catalogues are listed: 'Spring 2018 fiction picks', 'Juvenile backlist', and 'Juvenile Fiction 2023'. A right-hand panel shows a dropdown menu for actions on the selected items, including 'Send to Archive', 'Restore from Archive', 'Delete', 'Add/Remove Tags', and 'Set Editorial Permission'. A warning message states: 'Some actions are unavailable due to your catalogue selections. Learn more'.

	Catalogue Name	Type	Created by	Create date	Last edited by	Last edit date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spring 2018 fiction picks		Sally Sales	2022-02-18	Sally Sales	2026-04-20
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile backlist		Sally Sales	2022-05-27	Sally Sales	2024-11-05
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Juvenile Fiction 2023		Sally Sales	2023-02-14	Sally Sales	2024-11-05



CATALIST



“CataList is a majorly helpful tool for our libraries to view catalogues and make selections. Seriously makes all our lives much easier. I really love the incorporation of full previews of children’s materials.”
 – A Marigold Library System librarian

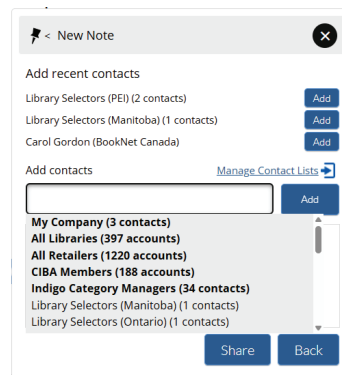
A voting tool for CIBA’s The Booksellers’ List

In F2026, CataList and the Canadian Independent Booksellers’ Association (CIBA) worked together to introduce a voting mechanism in CataList for CIBA’s marketing program, The Booksellers’ List. The CataList team receives a regularly updated list of CIBA members, which is used to identify CataList retailers who are also CIBA members. These CataList retailers can recommend titles for The Booksellers’ List directly in CataList, and the results are sent to CIBA.

Pre-set groups for shared notes

The list of CIBA members is reused in another new CataList feature that benefits CIBA members, as well as other CataList retailers, all CataList librarians, publishers, and sales agents: Publishers and their sales agents can now share notes with pre-set groups that are automatically updated by the system. CIBA members make up one such group.

The notes that publishers share for a title often include additional information that can help a buyer make a more informed purchasing decision, or they can be notes that a publisher wishes to share internally amongst their staff. With the addition of pre-set groups to the note recipients list, these notes become available to accounts and users who are currently in the group, as well any users who may be added in the future; the group is automatically updated when new users who meet the group criteria are created, ensuring that the publisher’s shared note is always available to the right people.





CATALIST

Other improvements

- A list of the user's most recent contacts now displays in the Notes feature's sharing options, allowing sales reps to easily share new notes with their usual buyers.
- Suggested quantities can now be uploaded to CataList so that sales agents no longer need to enter the quantities manually.
- Clearer feedback is offered to users about the ISBNs that they are adding to new catalogues, which helps users understand what to do when an error occurs.
- Cover images now load faster in search results and catalogue views.

For F2027, the CataList team will conduct research which will inform a plan to integrate Pubnet EDI into CataList. This integration will be done in stages with the aim of improving the order management feature in CataList. The CataList team will continue to work alongside the BiblioShare team to transition the source of metadata display from ONIX 2.1 to ONIX 3 on a publisher-by-publisher basis.

- 135 new retailer accounts added
- 10 new school / library accounts added
- 3,052 full book previews viewed
- 8 joint releases with Memento
- Publishers representing 40% of the data in CataList transitioned to prioritizing their ONIX 3 data for display



LOANSTARS

Loan Stars

The Loan Stars program continues to use LibraryData on order numbers to find and showcase the most anticipated books published monthly, as ordered by libraries across Canada. The program publishes two lists per month: the top 10 adult titles each month and the second alternates between a juvenile top 10 and either a Canadian adult list or a Canadian juvenile top 10.

In F2027, the Loan Stars program will be turning 10, we will be implementing a design refresh for the posters and newsletter.

The November 2025
LOANSTARS
Canadian top picks!

THE 10 MOST ANTICIPATED BOOKS AS ORDERED BY LIBRARIES ACROSS CANADA.

Place your holds on one of these future favourites today, or check out loanstars.ca for more info.

Loan Stars is powered by IBC LibraryData

- 12 Adult Top Picks lists and 6 Junior Top Picks lists
- 3 Canadian Adult Top Picks lists and 3 Canadian Junior Top Picks lists
- 240 books promoted in total, including 86 Canadian titles



Pubnet EDI

In F2026, BookNet added 12 new retailers and two suppliers (one new, one returning) to the Pubnet EDI network. The team worked with select suppliers to enable D2C fulfillment / dropshipping for their downstream retail partners. The platform underwent general system security and stability improvements, including security updates to crucial core components.



- 12 new EDI retailers
- 1 new and 1 returning EDI suppliers
- 23 SANs issued for the Canadian trading community



STANDARDS & CERTIFICATION



Standards & Certification

In F2026, BookNet Canada and la Société de gestion de la BTLF (BTLF) joined together to release two new bibliographic standards Best Practices documents, published by international standards organization EDItEUR and produced in association with BookNet, BTLF, and the Australian Publishers Association. Building on efforts begun in 2023, the two documents outline ways to highlight Indigenous content and contributors using ONIX and Thema.

BookNet continued its standards guidance with the final recommendations on defining Canadian publishers in the metadata using BISAC merchandising themes to identify Canadian and Indigenous publishers.

The team made updates to BookNet's BISAC to Thema translator tool to align with the newest BISAC release.

The standards team created many resources and blog posts to help inform the Canadian book industry about the ever-changing European Union (EU) regulation impacts, including creating a comprehensive reference document to support Canadian publishers selling into the EU. And work continued from F2025 on updating Canadian publishers on the European Union Deforestation Regulations (EUDR). The EUDR requires businesses who sell certain products in Europe to maintain information that shows they have completed due diligence with regard to their use of forestry products and they must be able to provide this information to other players in the supply chain, who, in turn, have the same regulatory obligation of due diligence. BookNet published several blog posts with up-to-date information for the supply chain about how to prepare for the impending regulations. The BookNet standards team also partnered with the Green Book Alliance (GBA) to run an EUDR Essentials for Publishers webinar and authored a report for Livres Canada Books, and ran a carbon accounting workshop at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

“Without BookNet, honestly, I have no idea what any of us would do.”

– Amanda Lee,
Bibliographic Metadata
Consultant

- Contributed to two Best Practices releases relating to aspects of Indigenous identity and content in product metadata
- 4 ONIX codelists and 1 new version released
- 8,495 reads of the 30 standards blog posts published in F2026 (36% increase from F2025)



RESEARCH & EDUCATION



“BookNet’s research reports have provided incredibly useful reader behavioural insights!”

– Customer Satisfaction Survey 2025

“As a team member of an indie publisher, I think we have a fairly good sense of which business forces affect our own operations, but the meta-level perspective that this research offers is something that would be hard to come by in any other way.”

– Matt Chan,
House of Anansi Press

Research

In F2026, BookNet released three public reports, five subscriber-only reports, and five custom reports. In addition to the long form reports, the team also wrote 31 public blog posts on research topics.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Canadian Leisure & Reading Study



BOOKNET
CANADA

The F2026 research reports included:

- [Canadian Book Market 2025](#)
- [Canadian Book Consumer Study 2024](#)
- [Canadian Leisure & Reading Study 2024](#)

The top three most popular research blog posts of F2026 were:

- [Tracking banned books in Canada](#)
- [Most circulated Canadian books of 2025](#)
- [Bestselling books of 2025](#)

In F2027, we will be releasing some format- and stakeholder-specific reports using our consumer survey data, as well as our biannual State of Publishing in Canada study put together from a survey fielded to publishers operating in Canada. We’ll also be collecting and publishing data about AI use across the North American book industry (in partnership with the Book Industry Study Group (BISG)).

- 30,494 reads of the 31 research blog posts published in F2026
- 3,890 research report reads and downloads



RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Education

During F2026, the Tech Forum team hosted 14 non-BookNet focused sessions. Over 1,500 industry professionals registered for our webinars, and of those over 1,100 attended them live with many more watching the presentation recordings and accessing their accompanying materials on the Tech Forum website post-event.

These sessions covered timely topics such as tariffs, sales trends, AI, as well as areas that continue to be a top priority for BookNet: sustainability, accessibility, and diversity.

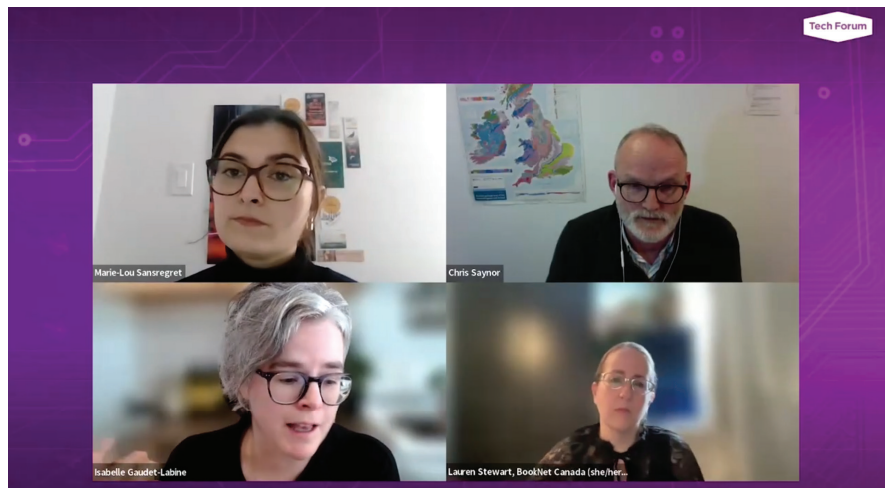
This year, we also hosted two bilingual events, in French and English, in partnership with the Société de Gestion BTLF, about the recently developed best practices for the book industry standard, ONIX, and the global subject classification system, Thema, focused on supporting the discoverability of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis publishing and books by Indigenous authors.

“Thank you for including me and organizing everything! It’s always a pleasure to work with BookNet on events, and my colleague was very impressed with the accessibility of the production.”

– Tech Forum speaker, Brendan Flattery, HarperCollins Canada

“This is actually one of my favourite webinars of the year. I always look forward to it.”

– Attendee of the “Trendspotting: Book subjects on the move in the Canadian market” Tech Forum webinar





RESEARCH & EDUCATION



BookNet’s commitment to providing educational opportunities on timely topics that impact the industry continues to be demonstrated throughout its programming. For example, the session presented in partnership with the American organization, the Book Industry Study Group (BISG), on tariffs. It was an informational session that allowed attendees to get much-needed clarity during a time of turmoil and uncertainty.

Tech Forum continues to offer the most accessible experience possible to its attendees. Not only in terms of affordability — all Tech Forum events are free — but also in terms of enhanced access for those who need it. This includes hiring ASL interpreters and human captioners for most sessions, as well as providing accurate captioning for recordings, a full transcript, and access to slides, when applicable.

Beyond Tech Forum, BookNet continues to collaborate with other organizations and higher education institutions. Throughout the year, our staff presented at Simon Fraser University and Humber College in addition to engaging with industry associations and organizations like the Book Industry Study Group, Australian Publishers’ Association, BiblioCommons, EDItEUR, Canadian Urban Libraries Council, Canadian Independent Booksellers Association, and the Association of Canadian Publishers.

“I learned a lot, and generally feel less in a panic. Zoe’s ‘4 things’ to minimize risk were helpful in the attempt to feel a little less ‘out of control.’”

— Attendee of the
“Bridging the divide: A conversation on tariffs today in the book industry”
Tech Forum webinar

- 1,545 people registered for our educational webinars
- 1,156 people attended our live educational webinars
- 3,940 views of our content on YouTube

Board of Directors

The BookNet Canada Board of Directors comprises a cross-section of representatives from firms across the publishing supply chain and the industry's professional associations.

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Executive Director
Association of Canadian Publishers

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Executive Director
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BookNet Staff

Nataly Alarcón

Marketing & Events Manager

Lily Dwyer

Product Manager

Mickey Fontana

Financial Administrator

Tom Gerrard

Senior Software Engineer

Carol Gordon

Director of Product Development

Madeleine Griggs

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Bill Holt

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Shuvanjan Karmaker

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Tom Richardson

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UI/Web Designer & Developer