

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLASSIFICATION
CALL ACCESS SERVICES AND RESOURCE SHARING (SIG)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2019-2020

Over the year 2019-2020, the Subcommittee on Classification has been helping users with the use of KF Modified and other classification schedules in the process of organization and classification of their library collections. In accordance with the CALL KF Modified Committee recommendation and decision to update the KF8210+ with additional topics from the LC's new subclass KIA-KIX for Indigenous peoples, we had edited and added topics extracted from the the LC's exhaustive expansion of KIA-KIX schedule, adding new areas in the LC section KF8210+ to make it compatible with the LC expansions. This required adding new topics to the span of cutter numbers under KF8210+ as well as ample cross references ('See' and 'See also') to cover terminology and concept variations assigned with particular cutter numbers.

In the second half of 2019-2020, we had to deal with another LC expansion in the area of Environmental Law since LC had decided to split up old section into two separate subject areas, namely 'Public Health' and 'Environmental Law'. The difficulty is how this will be applied and affect our current collections in Public Health and Environmental Law which were already classified in one area. The section on Environmental law. Public Health' begins with KF3775 and ends with KF3819.9, and the two subject areas were merged together under one caption. Now if we follow LC and separate the two areas the way LC had done, our law library collections will be split up into two entirely different span of numbers e.g. 'Pubic Health' in KF3775-KF3816, and 'Environmental Law' in KF3817-KF3820. As a result, what will happen to our Environmental law and Public health collections, currently in KF3775-KF3819.8. Practically speaking, we will have to reclassify those items and move to the new subject areas. Are we ready for this? That's where membership needs to be consulted, and their opinions and unanimous consensus secured before undertaking work on this project. We were planning to commence work on this project, and in the process of consultation with the membership on various logistic issues when unfortunately due to Covid-19, the CALL Conference'2020 in Hamilton was cancelled. Again, my only concern is will our law libraries accept and adopt it? This is a huge membership decision that must be addressed before undertaking any work on this project.

One last note to the membership! I am stepping down as Chair, Subcommittee on Classification as of 2020-2021 since I am retiring on June the 30th this year following forty years of lengthy career at the Bora Laskin Law Library. I hope I had made creditable contributions to the profession of law librarianship in Canada and the Canadian Association of Law Libraries. In the end, I would urge all members to address any questions, comments, queries, suggestions or concerns with regard to classification issues, including subject analysis or newly proposed headings to Mr. Tim Knight, Chair of the CALL KF Modified Committee who will be able to answer queries in appropriate manner.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Rashid

(Outgoing Chair, Subcommittee on Classification,

CALL Access Services and Resource Sharing SIG)

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HR/DOC: APRIL 29, 2020

As mentioned earlier, I am currently working on this project that will be realistically completed before the CALL Conference scheduled in the last week of May in Edmonton. In the end, I urge all members to address any questions, comments, queries, suggestions or concerns with regard to classification issues, including subject analysis or newly proposed headings to Chair of the Subcommittee. The queries will be channelled to the appropriate persons or agencies for appropriate timely resolution. Finally, I plan to stay as Chair, Subcommittee on Classification for the year 2019-2020.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Rashid

(Chair, Subcommittee on Classification,
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HR/DOC: APRIL 11, 2019

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Respectfully submitted,

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