

## Newsletter - October 2011

### Greetings!

We're very excited in this issue to profile our first project built using the VuFind open-source discovery interface. We hope you will enjoy [reading more below](#) about how the Energy Resources Conservation Board of Alberta, and the Alberta Geological Survey, published their library catalogues online in a new, innovative, search interface.

We also feature [other projects we think you'll be interested in](#), a back-to-school [DB/TextWorks Training schedule](#), new [search and discovery tools](#), a [tip for gathering comments and other feedback](#) from your users, [posts from our Twitter feed](#), and more...

### Latest Andornot Projects

In each newsletter, we feature projects we've worked on recently that we think you'll be interested in. These projects either use the products we sell in new ways, offer users new benefits, or provide new online resources that may help you in serving your users.

If you've completed any projects of your own that you'd like to share, we'd love to hear about them.

### Energy Resources Conservation Board and Alberta Geological Survey Catalogues Now Online

The [Energy Resources Conservation Board](#) of Alberta (ERCB) has launched its library catalogue online at <http://ercb.andornot.com>. The catalogue contains the combined holdings of the ERCB library in Calgary and those of the [Alberta Geological Survey](#) (AGS) library in Edmonton.

The catalogue is built upon [VuFind](#), an open-source [discovery interface](#) for libraries. VuFind provides users with an intuitive and productive search experience using features such as:

- fast, relevancy-based keyword search results;
- spelling corrections and did-you-mean suggestions of alternate terms;
- links to related resources;
- faceted browsing to easily narrow down results; and
- tools for saving and sharing searches and records.

Both libraries use [DB/TextWorks](#) for in-house management of records in these and other databases, and [WebPublisher PRO](#) for internal publishing of data. Andornot hosts the online catalogue as part of our [managed hosting service](#).

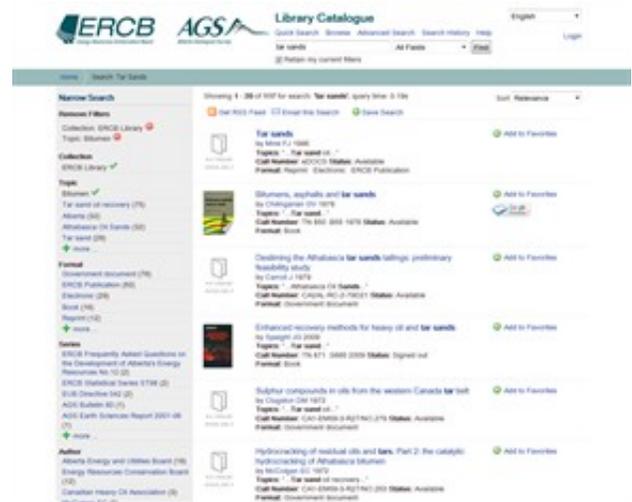
Angela Burns, Leader, Library & Record Services at the Energy Resources Conservation Board, says:

*"The library staff in Calgary and Edmonton are very excited for our customers to begin using our new online catalogue! This new experience in researching with intuitive linking features will enable our customers to easily search both of our collections and find the information they need. We are sure that ERCB staff and the Library community will enjoy the new catalogue as much as we do."*

Learn more about discovery interfaces in [this blog post](#), or [contact us](#) to discuss using VuFind with your library or similar collection.

### Discover gospel, jazz, blues, and rock and roll gems in the newly amalgamated Center for Popular Music textbase

Looking for the words to the popular late nineteenth century song and dance ditty [All among the roses](#) ?



Just what is the name of that song by George Pope Morris with the first line that goes like this: [The young stars are glowing, their clear light bestowing](#) ?

Are you looking for photographs of women musicians, such as group called the [Bostonia Orchestra](#) ?

Check out the textbase on the long-time [Inmagic](#) software user website at Middle Tennessee State University's (MTSU) [Center for Popular Music](#) (CPM) to find all those answers and more.



Andornot worked with fellow [Inmagic Partner](#) Ann Stringfield from [InfoCrofters](#) in North Carolina to amalgamate 9 unique Inmagic textbases into one combined textbase of almost 90,000 records. You can now search in one user friendly interface for manuscripts, periodicals, photographs, posters, playbills, programs, rare books and scores, sheet music, song broadsides and trade catalogues.

Learn more about how we did this in [this blog post](#).

## Canadian Jewish Heritage Network Launches

The [Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives](#) (CJCCNA) and the [Jewish Public Library Archives](#) (JPL-A) are proud to announce the launch of a new website, **The Canadian Jewish Heritage Network**, at [www.cjhn.ca](http://www.cjhn.ca) .

As two of the major organizations involved in Canadian Jewish historical research, both located in Montreal, CJCCNA and JPL-A preserve the memory of Quebec and Montreal's poets and politicians, its artists and activists, its builders and teachers, its families and philanthropists. Their users can now visit the collections from the comfort of their own desks, searching the online catalogue for archival collections dating from the 18th century onwards. Using the site's selection cart, users can select, e-mail, print or order archival material directly from the web.

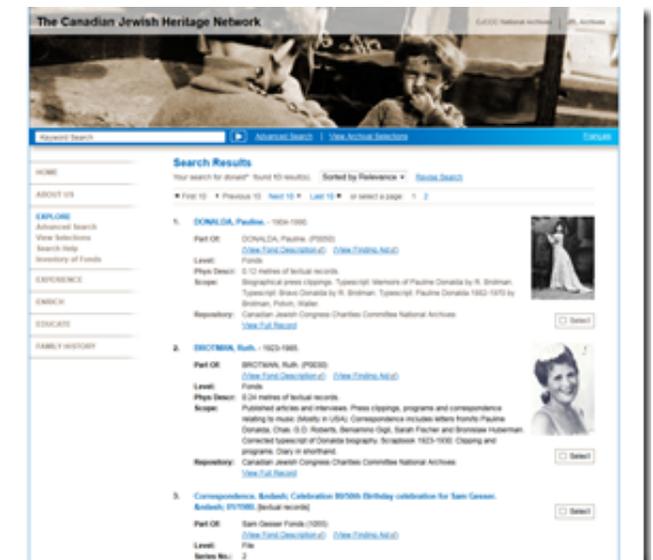
More than 25,000 database records from these archival collections are currently online, as well as over 1,500 digitized historic photographs and archival documents. Many complete multi-page documents are available in PDF format. The digitized documents currently online include minutes, annual reports, anniversary publications, sermons, and ephemeral material.

Users of the site can also delve into the CJHN's genealogical research database, which already contains close to 50,000 genealogical records and over 5,000 associated images.

*"Archives are not really about the past, rather we must constantly plan for the future: how will we preserve this for another five hundred years; who is going to use this archive fifty years from now; what will they need and why and so on. With this in mind we know that we will continue to push the limits of the CJHN site. With the help of Andornot's services we are assured that CJHN will grow not just in digital content but also in partners, in use, relevance and profile."*

*Shannon Hodge, Archivist, Jewish Public Library Archives*

Learn more about how Andornot approached this project in [this blog post](#).

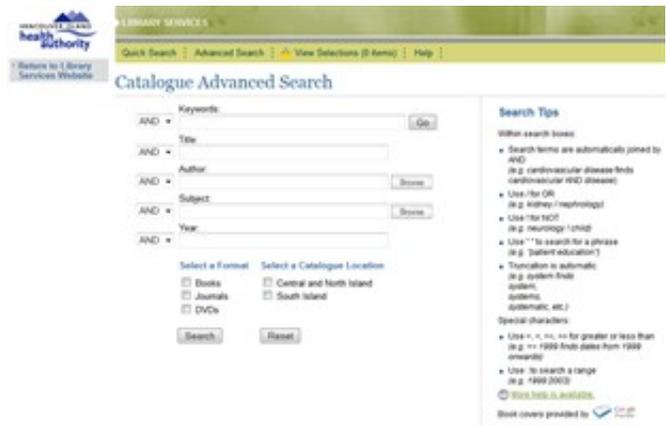


## Vancouver Island Health Authority library launches new catalogue interface and joins HLABC OneSearch

The Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) Library recently switched from an in-house built library catalogue system to Inmagic's [DB/TextWorks](#) and [WebPublisher PRO](#), becoming the fifth British Columbia health authority to do so. The new system provides staff in all the VIHA hospitals and health-related offices (and from their homes and elsewhere, too) access to more features than were previously offered.

**VIHA Library Catalogue:** <http://viha.andornot.com>

The VIHA library catalogue is based on the [Andornot Starter Kit](#) and features Quick and Advanced search screens, a few popular topic searches - using canned searches. The search results include Google book covers, which add both colour to the site and links to more details about each book; icons for quick material type identification; Permalinks to provide a link that remains unchanged over time (for sharing and bookmarking); and functions for Ordering requests and Email, Save and Print for sharing or personal use. The online catalogue is hosted by Andornot as part of our [managed hosting service](#).



VIHA joins other BC Health Authorities, including Fraser Health, Northern Health, Vancouver Coastal Health, and Interior Health, and similar health organizations in using the same backend Inmagic software. As a result, the VIHA catalogue is now available in the popular **Health Libraries Association of BC (HLABC) OneSearch**, where search terms can be entered into a single search box and all the catalogues can be searched quickly at the same time.

**HLABC OneSearch:** <http://hlabc.andornot.com/Default.aspx>

Cliff Cornish, Regional Manager, Library Services, comments: *"It is wonderful to finally have a modern OPAC, and it is great to be able to participate with the other Health Authority Libraries in the HLABC search."*

## Andornot News

### New Search and Discovery Tools

We have been working for the past year on incorporating new products into our toolkit, especially those focussed on searching and resource discovery. For many years we have developed document indexes and search engines using [dtSearch](#). Recently we have added VuFind and Solr as options we recommend to clients wanting to provide the best possible experience for their users.

[VuFind](#) is an open-source discovery platform well suited to libraries, offering a robust keyword search system with relevancy ranked search results and faceted browsing to help users easily narrow their search.

[Solr](#) is a fast, powerful search engine, incorporated into VuFind and many other search applications. It powers the search engines on countless leading websites, including the Internet Archive, the Smithsonian Institution, Netflix, and Ticketmaster, to name but a few.

These tools work well with database systems such as

[Inmagic DB/TextWorks](#) and integrated library systems such as [Inmagic Genie](#).

You can learn more about these tools in this blog post, and on this new [Search and Discovery Tools page](#) on our website. We believe that websites built with these tools can improve the service you provide to your users, by providing a more intuitive and productive search experience. Please [contact us](#) to discuss options for your organization.



### Budget time?

Fall is often budget time so just a reminder to make sure you have included the cost of your Inmagic maintenance subscription. If you need pricing information, please [contact us](#). Or, you might want to plan for some support or training time from Andornot. We have various [billing options](#) or can give you an estimate based on past usage. And of course, if now that you've read about our latest projects, you'd like to update your own system or have an idea that you'd like to discuss, don't hesitate to [contact us](#).

for a quote!

## New Training Schedule

[Denise](#), our resident trainer, will be offering the following training sessions:

**Inmagic DB/TextWorks - Introductory Training: Nov 3, 2011, Nov 24, 2011**

**Inmagic DB/TextWorks - Advanced Training: Nov 10, 2011, Dec 1, 2011**

**Inmagic DB/TextWorks - Refresher Training: Nov 17, 2011, Dec 8, 2011**

See our [training page](#) for more information and for a [registration form](#).

## Andornot on the Road

The next conference Andornot is attending is right in our home town, so is just a very short road trip for us.

### Access 2011 Conference

October 19-22, 2011

Vancouver, BC

Andornot is pleased to be a [Bronze sponsor](#) for this library technology conference. [Peter Tyrrell](#) will be giving one of the Lightning Talks Thursday afternoon, while [Jonathan Jacobsen](#) will be attending the Hackfest on Wednesday. If you're coming to the conference, please look for us, or drop us a note to find a time to meet up.



## Tweets of Interest

As we come across news, projects, resources and other items we think might be of interest to our clients, we tend to post a quick tweet on our [Twitter page](#), rather than a longer blog post. We've included a selection of recent tweets in this newsletter, but encourage you to follow us on Twitter or subscribe to the RSS feed of our tweets.



**The Mythical Paperless World: Why Print Will Stick Around** <http://sixrevisions.com/web-technology/the-mythical-paperless-world-why-print-will-stick-around/> via [@sixrevisions](#)

**Screencasting Tips and Best Practices** by [@dstrom](#) <http://rww.to/navcUw> - Jing is a good free tool to start with as well.

**What IT Professionals Can Learn from Librarians** <http://bit.ly/nBCBJM>

**7 Best Practices for Improving Your Website's Usability** <http://mashable.com/2011/09/12/website-usability-tips/> - useful tips to remember.

**User Generated Content and the Law** <http://www.slaw.ca/2011/09/13/user-generated-content-and-the-law/>

**A Cloudy Forecast for Libraries by Marshall Breeding** - cloud computing gains momentum in library software market  
<http://bit.ly/nFQUKr>

**HathiTrust's Growth Strategy: Full-Text Search Coming to WorldCat and EBSCO Discovery Service:**  
<http://bit.ly/mRSwOy>

**What are mobile friendly library databases offering? A survey** - <http://bit.ly/oPpDqU> - Musings about librarianship blog.

**PDFs in Google search results** <http://googlewebmastercentral.blogspot.com/2011/09/pdfs-in-google-search-results.html?spref=tw> - Official Google Webmaster Central Blog. FAQ on how Google handles indexing PDF's

**Who cares about libraries? Canadians apparently.** Far from being under siege (except in Toronto), they're thriving....<http://bit.ly/p1Fe9m>

**The Joy of Wildcards (And Boolean Operators)** <http://www.slaw.ca/2011/09/01/the-joy-of-wildcards-and-boolean-operators/>

## Tips and Tricks

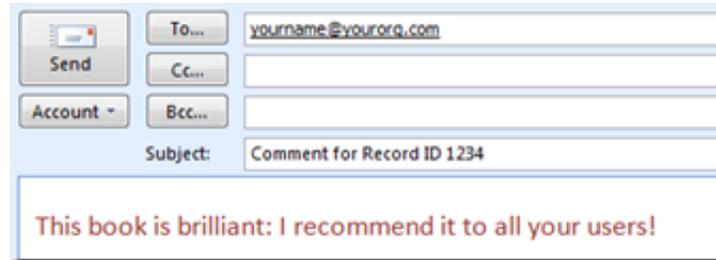
### Gather User Feedback with a Simple Comment Link

You've put your database on the web, yeah! It is searchable! You have a brief and a full display for the records. But you want more! You want to give your users the ability to add comments to your database records, or help you identify people in photos, or let you know if your records have any typos or other errors.

Here is a very quick database record commenting system, using email. It looks like this in a record on the web:

*Comment on this record:* [yourname@yourorg.com](mailto:yourname@yourorg.com)

When a user clicks on the email link in the record, their email program will open with your email address in the email TO line and "Comment for Record ID ###" in the Subject line. They can then add whatever comment they want to the email text area and send it to you.



Once you receive the email you can vet it and add it to the record's Comment field, if you have added one to your data structure. The Comment will also show on the web if you have added the Comment field to the web form. Of course if you are just using this feature for feedback, you can correct the error in the record, if that was what was suggested by the user.

You should not receive too many spam messages with this technique since the spam bot would have to search the database first before clicking on the email link. To make it even more obscure, we suggest you only add this link to the full record display.

You can see this in action on a live site: <http://archives.newwestcity.ca/permalink/19414/>

Read more about how to easily add this feature to your database in [this blog post](#). If you would like help setting this up, please [contact one of us](#).

## Cool Tools

### Utilities to Simplify Common Tasks

Do you find yourself in a rut - using the same old tools or even the same old hardware - over and over again and wondering if there is a better way to do that multi-step task? Denise has written a [blog post](#) about three utilities that will help you out of that ditch and onto higher ground.

