



Collection Development Tips

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**Learn with LiRN Conference
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Where to begin?

OCLA Core List of Materials

Check your holdings against this list which is found on the OCLA website

<https://www.oclanet.com/publications/>



Read the LiRN policy on Collection Development

It is available on the LiRN website (<https://lirn.ca/>)

- Is the title being considered available electronically?
- Do your clients prefer print or electronic?
- Maybe both?

A large, ornate library with multiple levels of bookshelves, a central staircase, and hanging lamps. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

Which titles on the Core List are missing from your shelves?

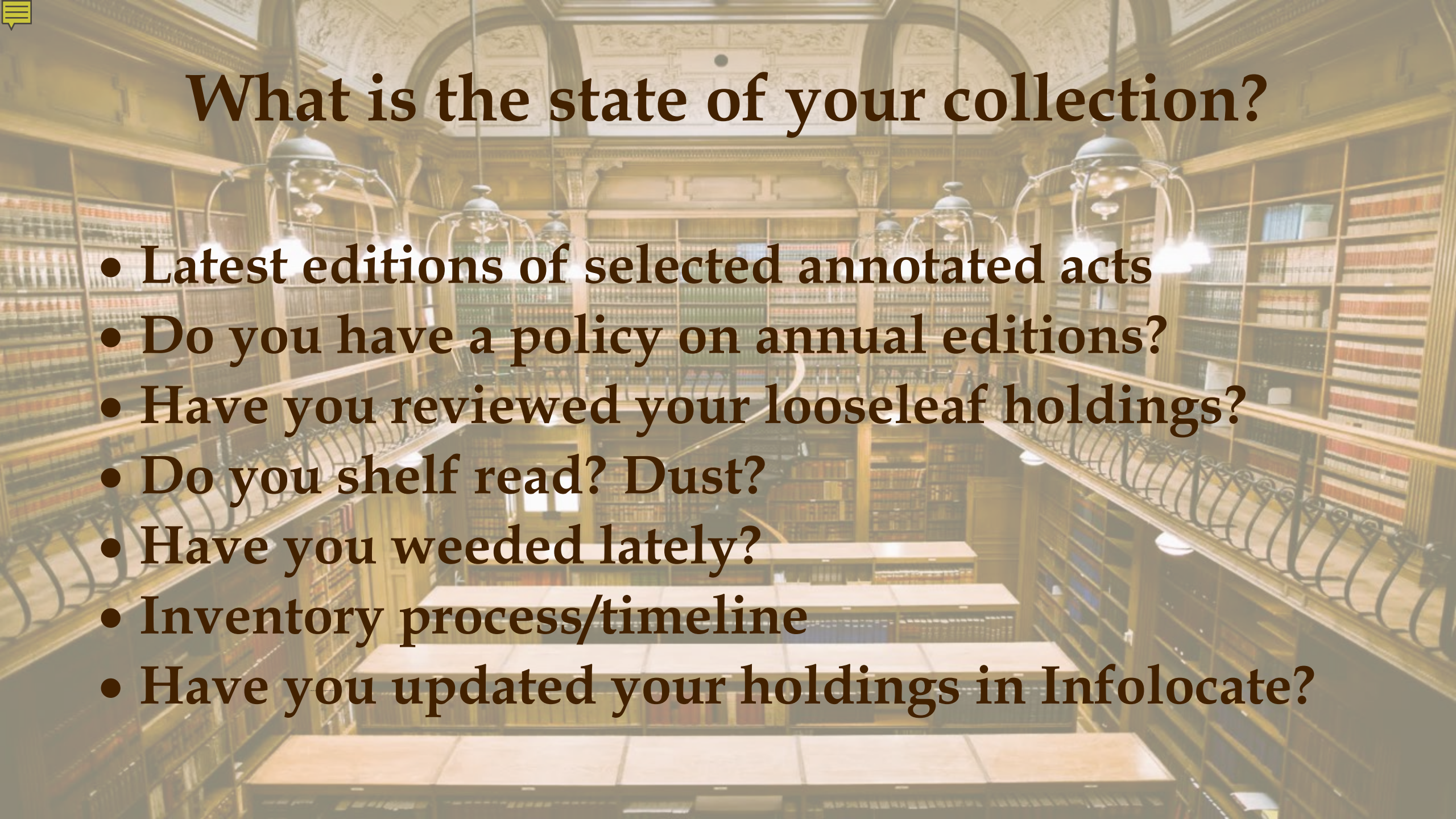
Is the subject area important to your clients?

Do you have the budget to purchase?



Budget Priorities

- Annuals, standard titles to purchase
- Texts, new editions
- Looseleafs – annual updates, subscriptions
- Serials
- Special purchases



What is the state of your collection?

- Latest editions of selected annotated acts
- Do you have a policy on annual editions?
- Have you reviewed your looseleaf holdings?
- Do you shelf read? Dust?
- Have you weeded lately?
- Inventory process/timeline
- Have you updated your holdings in Infolocate?



Do you work with a Library Committee?

TBLA's Library Committee mandate:

“Committee approves Library policies, reviews holdings, and provides guidance in collection development to meet TBLA members' needs. Library Chair represents the TBLA on the FOLA Library Committee if required.”

- Helpful to have 3 to 4 practising lawyers from various areas to give input in purchases
- We meet twice a year, mainly to review text purchases (via Zoom since Covid)

Are your shelves browsable?



These shelves are pleasing to eye – shelves at same height and that draws your eyes along.



These shelves do not look appealing – too crowded, shelves at different heights

Is there room to shelve new materials?

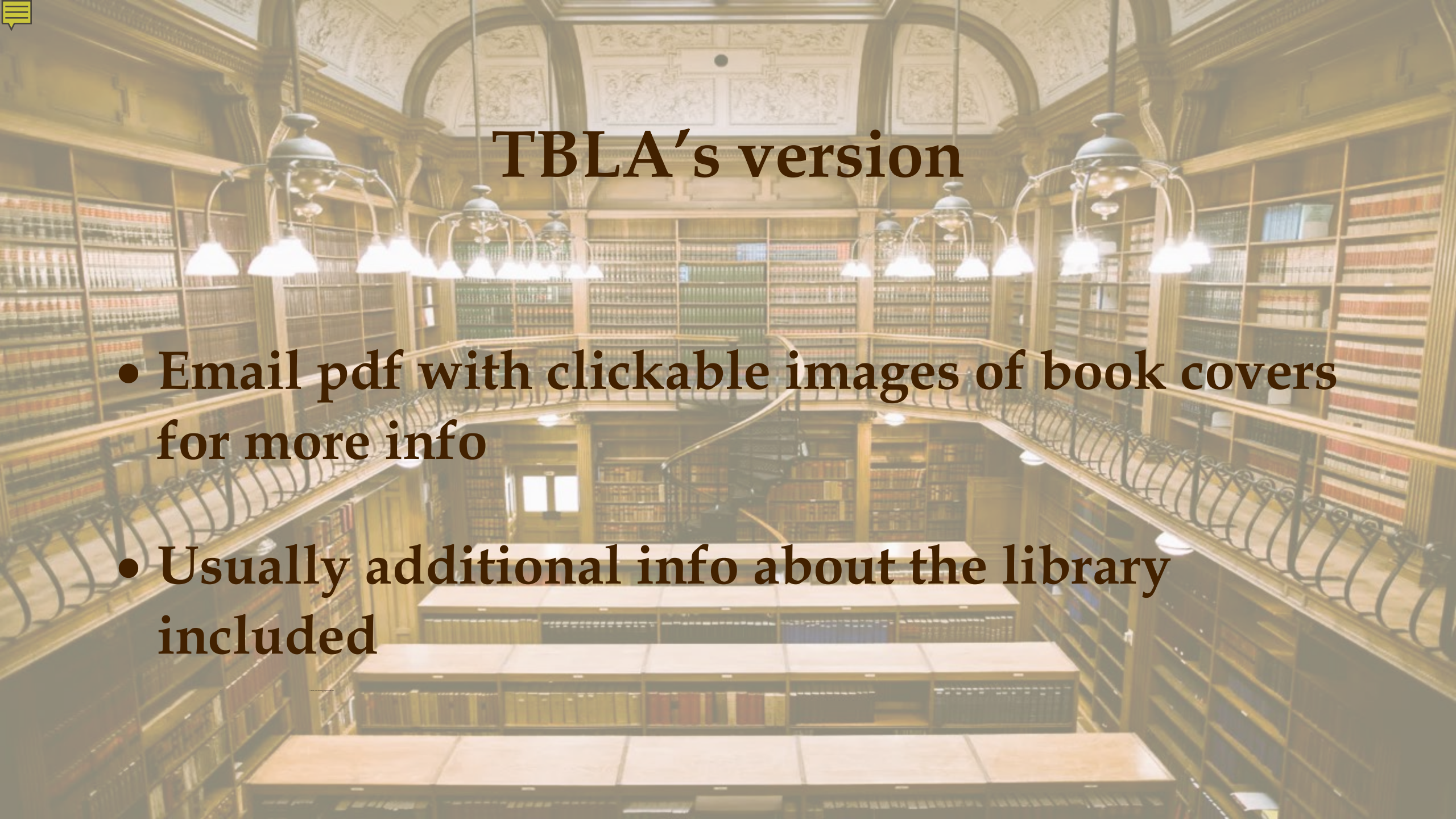


**Shelves after
shifting have
plenty of space
for new books!**



Promoting your collection

- Email
- Newsletter
- Bulletin board
- Social media
- Website



TBLA's version

- Email pdf with clickable images of book covers for more info
- Usually additional info about the library included

A few photos of the TBLA Library



Room for new materials

And room to open a text, looseleaf in the stacks





Special Collections?

- Are they shelved separately?
- Are they of interest to the membership?
- Are they being used?
- Do you need space for your main collection?

Our Special Collections





Bibliography

GUIDELINES

OCLA Core Titles List - <https://www.oclanet.com/publications/>

LiRN Collection Development Policy - <https://lirn.ca/wiki/collection-development-maintenance/>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

[AALL - Collection Development resources](#)

[BC Courthouse Libraries – Collection Policy](#)

[Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador Collection Development Policy](#)

[Nunavut Court of Justice Law Library – Collection Development Policy](#)

[Osgoode Hall Law Library Collection Development Policy](#)