



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

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**58,221 active journals**  
**157 countries**  
**11.5M+ articles**  
**60+ languages**

# WELCOME

“ Each year, the Public Knowledge Project (PKP) advances its vision of “a world where everyone can access and meaningfully contribute to open knowledge, for the benefit of all.” These words, drawn from the opening lines of [PKP’s newest strategic plan](#), point to one of the organization’s most significant milestones this fiscal year.

[This plan, developed under the leadership of Kevin Stranack, who retired after 25 years of dedication to the project, will guide the organization into its 28th year.](#)

Alongside this development, another stands out: **John Willinsky, founder of PKP, was made a [Member of the Order of Canada](#) for nearly three decades of work advancing knowledge as a public**



good — work that has succeeded ‘[...] as the result of scholars, librarians, knowledge workers, developers, funders, and institutions across the globe.’

**PKP continued to play an active role in major international initiatives, including the [Open Research Europe \(ORE\)](#) and the [ALMASI](#) projects. PKP contributes technical expertise, platform development, and community support to strengthen open scholarly publishing infrastructure globally, while also bringing international visibility as a [Core Research Facility](#) of Simon Fraser University.**



Most significantly, [PKP welcomed Teresa Lee](#) as Managing Director who will guide PKP into the next fiscal year. A seasoned librarian, Teresa joins PKP following her time at York University Libraries, where she served as Associate Dean for Research and Open Scholarship (not to mention her lengthy track record otherwise).”

**Trevor Davis**  
Executive Director,  
Research Operations Office of the Vice-President,  
Research and Innovation,  
Simon Fraser University

“ I joined PKP in the middle of a transition and what I found was a community that already knew where it was going with software development, advocacy, membership, research, and projects. None of that happens without a team that cares deeply about what it’s doing, and a wider community willing to contribute their time, knowledge, and trust.

**That grounded sense of purpose is what drew me here, and it is what I hope to serve.**”

**Teresa Lee**  
Managing Director  
Public Knowledge Project

## GOVERNANCE

“ The **Advisory Committee** guides PKP on strategy, priorities, and the responsible use of its resources, drawing on the international expertise of its members to offer a perspective that sits outside day-to-day operations.

This year's discussions centred on the ORE collaboration, supporting membership growth, the evolving role of research within PKP, and our close involvement in the Managing Director transition.

PKP's strengths are real: OJS has been in active use for more than two decades and **continues to grow**. The financial foundation is solid, and current grants are enabling both software development and research. These are assets worth protecting, and the committee's role is in part to ensure they are. We will support PKP in actioning its strategic plan, strengthening its values, and helping it continue to serve open publishing worldwide. ”

**Marco Tullney**  
Advisory Committee Chair

## MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Sonya Betz (Head, Open Publishing Services, University of Alberta) stepped down as Chair and Stephanie Savage (University of British Columbia) took on [the role](#).

The committee also welcomed three new members: Shelby Thaysen (Scholarly Publishing Librarian, University of Toronto), Landis Grenville (Digital Publishing Librarian, Florida State University), and Tim Ribaric (Scholarly Publishing and Platforms Librarian, Brock University).

The committee worked closely with the [Technical Committee](#) to strengthen the connection between user experience and development priorities.

Other substantive discussions covered the [Publication Facts Label](#), feature requests, strategic messaging for libraries, and the groundwork for a biennial user survey.

The committee also reviewed its own terms of reference, the first step toward establishing a new [Learning Resources Interest Group](#).

# 01 BUILDING A DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS FUTURE

Diamond Open Access – free for readers and authors and supported by institutions – has been central to PKP’s priorities for more than 25 years. PKP has advanced this priority through international collaborations, a growing publishing partnership, and tools that help journals demonstrate integrity.

## OPEN RESEARCH EUROPE

The [European Commission](#) selected [OJS to power Open Research Europe \(ORE\)](#), endorsing PKP’s infrastructure and launching a two-year project shaping OJS / OMP / OPS 3.6.0.

Features like open peer review, continuous publishing, and built-in typesetting will be included and shared globally.

That is, version 3.6 is not just for ORE, but will benefit the PKP user community as a whole.

## THE ALMASI PROJECT

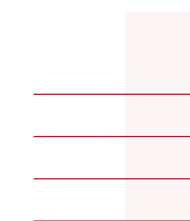
PKP joined [ALMASI \(Aligning and Mutualizing Nonprofit Open Access Publishing Services Internationally\)](#), an initiative working to strengthen Diamond OA publishing across Africa, Europe, and Latin America. PKP is leading a work package focused on learning, and training materials; identifying priority learning topics, mapping existing resources, and developing new materials to address gaps. This connects directly with [PKP’s work in Indonesia](#) and further multilingualism work.

## COALITION PUBLICA

Coalition Publica, the partnership between [Érudit](#) and PKP, continued its support of sustainable open access for Canadian scholarly journals. Six journals moved from subscription to Diamond OA through the [Partnership for Open Access](#), bringing the total to more than 40. Coalition Publica also published a detailed [open inventory of historic and active Canadian research journals](#), developed a strategic [planning tool](#) for journals preparing for the 2028 Aid to Scholarly Journals competition, and launched a [new website](#) and [bilingual resource portal](#) with the Canadian Library Publishing Community.

## CROSSREF COLLABORATION

PKP and Crossref have entered into a new phase of partnership in a formal agreement to [collaborate on three major initiatives](#) led by Erik Hanson, Famira Racy, and Emma Uhl: improving PKP metadata plugins, supporting community transitions to the Long-Term Support (LTS) version of the software, and developing a self-paced PKP course for system administrators.



## THE PUBLICATION FACTS LABEL

The [Publication Facts Label](#) (PFL) shows how journals operate, including peer review, editorial structure and policies, directly on article pages. **Journals using the PFL went up by 100, totaling 758. DOAJ and ORCID endorsed the PFL, with plans for integration.**

**A pilot study of 130 journals found 22% of viewers were from the public, rating it 4.8/5, while researchers rated it 4.4.**

PKP has discussed it with 28 organizations as a potential industry standard and, with support from an anonymous Stanford donor, is now sharing it with thousands of OJS editors.

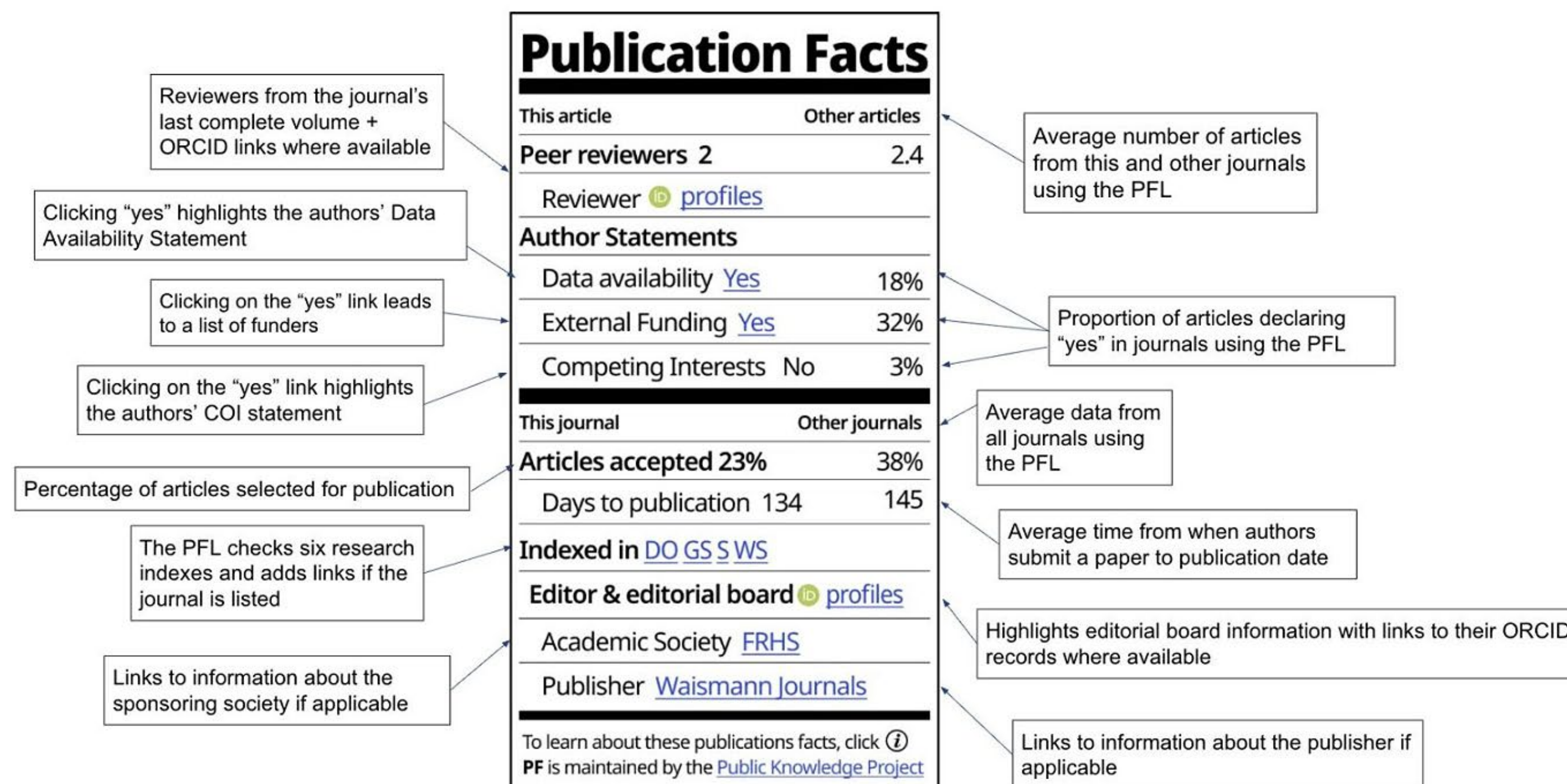
## STANFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

A [publishing partnership](#) with Stanford University Press (SUP) supports [4 open](#)

[access journals](#) using the Subscribe to Open model, all edited by scholars who left positions at commercial publishers. **For SUP, in operation for 132 years, these are**

**its first journals. For PKP, this partnership is an early example of how the open approach to research and scholarship can reach university presses, scholarly**

**societies, and faculty editors in new ways.**



# CHAMPIONING OPEN SOURCE CITIZENSHIP

PKP's software works because of a community that contributes to it: **translating interfaces, writing documentation, testing releases, answering questions on the forum, and bringing local expertise into global conversations.**

**This section is about the people and structures that make that possible.**

## COMMUNITY FORUM

The [PKP Community Forum](#) remains a very active open scholarly publishing space. **It recorded over 13 million page views, with 5,152 new posts and 304 posts from first-time contributors.** Regional-language categories (including Spanish, German, Italian, and French) reflect the forum's role as a genuinely multilingual space.



## DOCUMENTATION AND MULTILINGUAL SUPPORT

The most significant documentation project was a holistic and comprehensive revision of [Learning OJS for version 3.5](#), the most-used guide in PKP's documentation hub, accounting for nearly a third of all page views. The structure was rebuilt using community activities, and organized around OJS role-based logic instead of menu navigation. Work also began on Learning OMP and Learning OPS.

PKP also began developing a new documentation platform to address usability issues: **cleaner connection between the translation platform and documentation, real-time edit updates, and a contribution workflow that no longer requires GitHub knowledge to participate.**

Five OJS languages reached 75% or greater translation completeness: **Aragonese, Basque, Kyrgyz, Lithuanian, and Marathi.** Hebrew, Pashto, and Rusyn saw new contributions and continue to grow.



**Top 5 countries** visiting the documentation hub

**Total: 269,046 visits**

## EVENTS AND OUTREACH

PKP organized five [webinars](#), co-hosted the [Student Journal Forum](#), participated in [Coalition Publica events](#), and contributed to 14 [international events](#). The Oslo Sprint brought together 50 PKP community participants from across disciplines around the world to work through shared problems in the same room. **PKP also held 2 first-ever events: a Virtual Sprint for plugin upgrades, and [OMP Fest](#), showcasing and celebrating real-world OMP use.**

## WEBSITE USAGE

Website visits increased by

**17.6%**

Pageviews by **22.3%**, and average visit duration by **15.9%**

## SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH SNAPSHOT

**3,699**  
Followers (+ 1,207)  LinkedIn

**11,798**  
(+ doubled)  Facebook

**4.9K / 360**  
Videos  Youtube

**1,563**  
(likes +312%, replies +420%)  BlueSky

**1.2K**  Mastodon

## CONTENT GROWTH SNAPSHOT

**66**  
Published Blog Posts

**4**  
Issues of [Archipelago](#), its Bimonthly [Community Newsletter](#)

**50+**  
External Media Mentions and Partner Publications

## EDUCATION

[PKP School](#) course content was made fully open with no registration required to access materials – a small but deliberate choice to remove a barrier despite fewer

metrics. **Certificates, discussions, and evaluations were temporarily paused while PKP works toward reinstating learning environs in a better form. Two updated courses, [Setting up a Journal and Editorial Workflow in OJS](#), are in production to accompany the OJS 3.5 release.** A new course map for Becoming an Editor was drafted by UBC iSchool student Esther Zhou. Finally, the Documentation Interest Group and Education Interest Group were merged into a single [Learning Resources Interest Group](#) – a structural change that allows for more coordinated, community-directed planning across all educational materials.

# DRIVING CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT WITH MINDFUL INNOVATION

PKP's commitment to improvement is slow by design. The software serves communities with widely varying infrastructure, expertise, and resources. This year's work reflects that: **a major release cycle completed, a funded development partnership that will shape the next one, and services that continued to grow in both reach and quality.**

## OJS, OMP, AND OPS 3.5

OJS, OMP, and OPS 3.5.0 [were released in June 2025](#), completing a two-year development cycle.

**The 3.5 branch is moving toward Long-Term Support (LTS) designation, which means it will be the maintained version**

**that institutions with limited upgrade capacity can rely on for an extended period.**

The team released 8 builds across each application while maintaining 3.3 LTS, 3.4, and 3.5.

## OJS 3.6 AND OPEN RESEARCH EUROPE

Work on OJS / OMP / OPS 3.6.0 is underway, funded by the European Commission through the ORE project.

**The features in development – open peer review, continuous publishing, built-in typesetting, and improved JATS / XML support – are among the most requested by the community and are expected to materially lower the barrier to high-quality journal**

production for publishers without dedicated technical staff. PKP expects these to be released as part of 3.6.0.

**Also a result of this funding, the development team added a Project Manager and a Quality Assurance Analyst to help make the 3.6 cycle more structured and testable.**

## OPEN MONOGRAPH PRESS

OMP received [sustained attention](#) including an "OMP Under the Spotlight" [review](#).

**The highest-priority item is chapter handling, a core need for the scholarly book publishing**

**context in which OMP operates;** specifications are complete, and funding is being pursued through [collaborations](#) with Thoth Open Metadata, the Open Book Collective (OBC), and OMP users in Europe. **The OBC relationship also led to a planned commitment to a comprehensive accessibility audit, led by Israel Cefrin, of OMP that will inform ongoing accessibility efforts across all PKP software with particular urgency given the implementation of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title II in Spring 2026.**

## PKP PUBLISHING SERVICES

[Publishing Services](#) expanded globally, adding clients in new regions and now supporting a large, distributed network of journals and installations. **Retention improved significantly due to better onboarding, communication, and upgrade support.** The team also contributed open tools to replace proprietary services and make platform migrations easier. **The team now supports over 500 installations, 800 domains, and 1,000 journals worldwide, with staff working across 6 time zones.**

**Client retention rose from 87% to 95% year-over-year, driven by improvements to onboarding, more regular client check-ins, and clearer communication around upgrade timelines, particularly for the transition to OJS 3.5 LTS.**

68 NEW CLIENTS FROM  
**29 COUNTRIES**  
NEW CLIENTS IN **MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AND FIJI**  
95% RETENTION **↑ UP FROM 87%**

The systems team also contributed an **open source CAPTCHA alternative (ALTCHA)** to replace Google reCAPTCHA, and expanded the CSV import toolset to simplify migration from other platforms.

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Technical Committee welcomed a **new chair (Emily Hopkins)** and a **new member (Carolina Tanigushi)**, and said farewell to Alex Mendonça and Joey Takeda after their service.

Work included practical resources to help users with limited technical support navigate 3.5 LTS and non-LTS versions. **The committee also developed a PKP Survey Framework for organizational coordination to coordinate surveying efforts across the organization, worked on a technical roadmap built from community environmental scans, and ran a low-key project that demonstrated that OJS is designed to work in environments where high-powered infrastructure is not available (e.g., OJS running on a Raspberry Pi).**

# STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

PKP is a small organization working on problems that affect scholarly communication globally. That gap between size and scope requires internal structures that work well: clear processes, equitable practices, and a team that has what it needs to do the work sustainably.

## LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Kevin Stranack's retirement after 25 years with PKP leaves [a legacy of trail-blazing](#) and an organizational culture of adaptation and resilience. His tenure helped shape how the organization works, from its financial model to its relationship with the community.

This year [PKP welcomed Teresa Lee](#), joining from York University Libraries, where she served as Associate Dean for Research and Open Scholarship, now returning to British Columbia where she began her career at UBC. Teresa is excited to carry on Kevin's legacy, bringing her well aligned passion, strengths, and experience to PKP.

## MOVING TOWARDS OPEN PRACTICES

The Communications and Systems Teams completed a transition of key web and communication infrastructure to open source tools this year, moving further away from proprietary systems and more closely aligning PKP's operations with its own stated values.



## RESEARCH

**Research is not a complement to PKP's software work, it is the foundation of it. [PKP is a research-led organization: the questions it pursues shape what gets built, what gets prioritized, and how PKP engages with the broader field of scholarly communication.](#)**

[This year's work](#) spanned metadata quality, business models for open access journals, and the growing role of preprints in research dissemination.

## METADATA AND INDEXING

[Work on metadata quality](#) continued this year, building on the Collaborative Metadata Initiative (COMET), which completed half a dozen pilot projects demonstrating community curation of metadata at scale. COMET has moved from a taskforce into an ongoing collaborative, with a focus on the opportunity that inclusive databases like OpenAlex offer to journals using OJS.

## DIAMOND OA BUSINESS MODELS

A survey of business models, governance structures, and staffing practices at OJS-using journals was completed this year, with results expected to be published in the coming months.

The findings are intended to inform conversations around what sustainable Diamond OA publishing actually looks like in practice, beyond the policy level, at the level of individual journals and their communities.

## PREPRINTS AND OPEN PEER REVIEW

Multiple publications came out in 2025 based on interviews with preprint server staff, examining how preprint moderation, visibility, and media coverage are evolving. A 3 year award from the Gates Foundation will extend this work into preprints and open peer review, connected

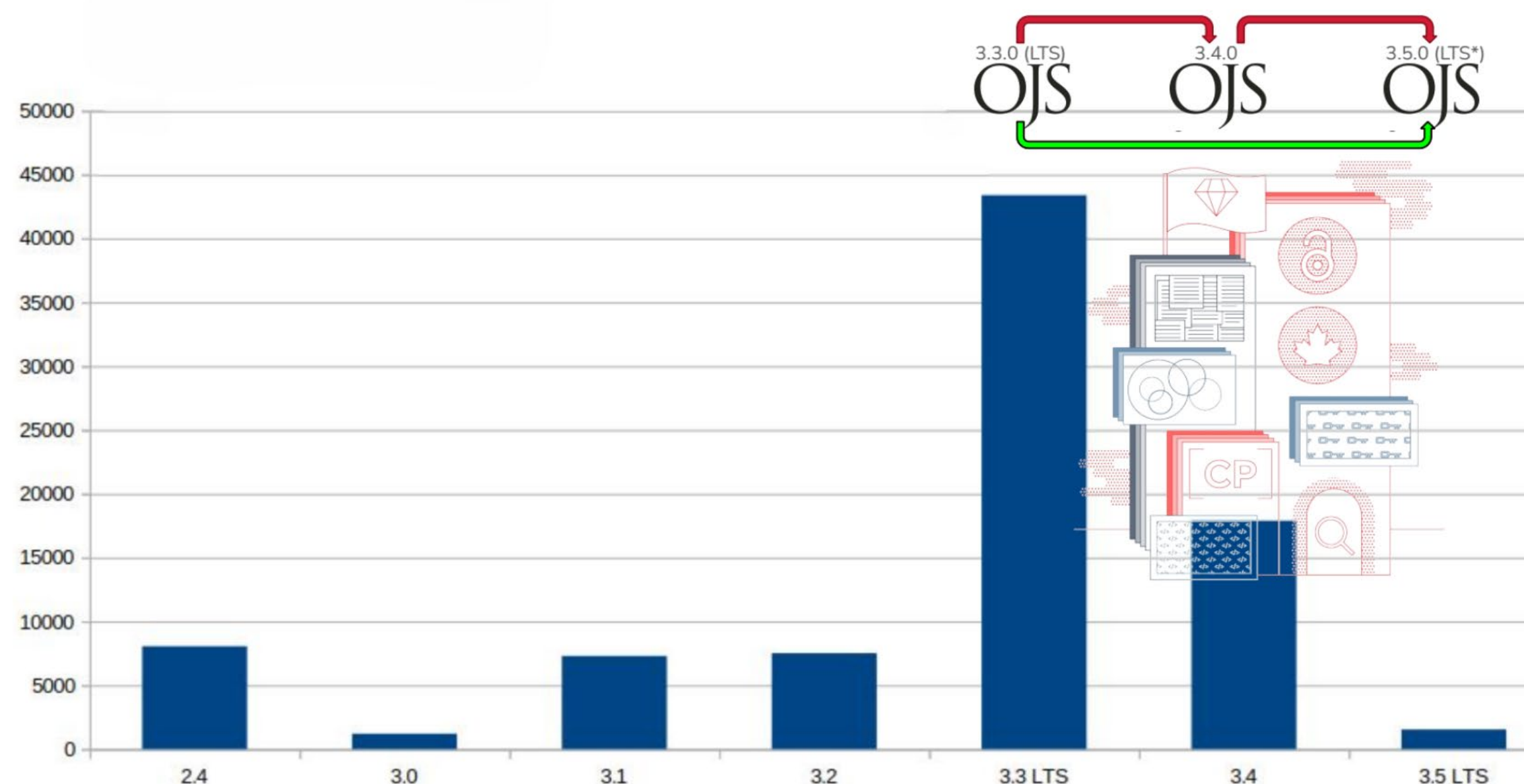
directly to the workflow features being developed for OJS 3.6.0.

## RESEARCH AFFILIATES

PKP's Research Affiliate Program, launched the previous year, continued to bring together researchers working

on intersecting questions in scholarly communication. This distributed research community, working in connection with the [ScholCommLab](#), allows PKP to engage with a wider range of questions than a single in-house team could address.

**Worldwide  
à une échelle  
mondiale**



OJS versions use graph by Alec Smecher with graphic by [Coalition Publica](#) overlaid.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

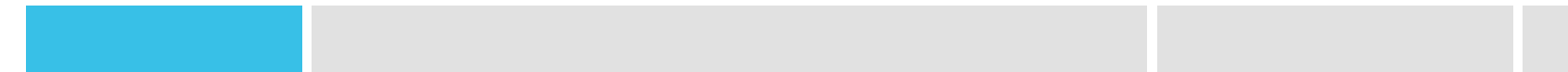
Fiscal Year April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026.

All figures in Canadian dollars.

## REVENUE

**Total Revenue** **\$4,174,017**

Community Memberships **\$755,248**



Publishing Services **\$2,287,321**



Grants **\$1,051,915**



SFU **\$79,533**



## EXPENSES

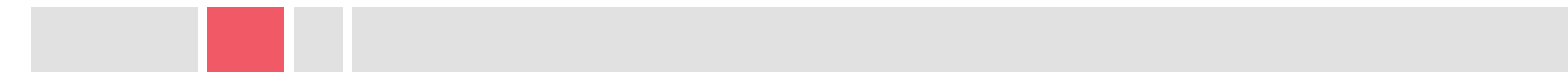
**Total Expenses** **\$4,188,650**  
(Deficit) (\$14,633)

**Accumulated Surplus** **\$982,932**

Infrastructure **\$396,149**



Outreach **\$148,974**



Administration **\$27,514**



Personnel **\$3,616,013**



## REVENUE SOURCES

PKP's financial model is built on multiple revenue streams: **publishing services revenue from hosted clients, community memberships and development partnerships, research grants, and institutional support from Simon Fraser University.**

**This mix has provided stability over many years and continues to do so.**

Membership revenue saw growth of more than 30% this year, driven by 44 new individual member institutions and 4 renewed or [new consortial agreements](#): with Deutschland OJS Consortium, Sikt, Couperin, and Jisc. Two institutional MOUs were also signed, with Max Planck Digital Library and SLUB-Dresden. PKP's Membership includes representation from 18 countries!

## PKP MEMBERS FROM 18 COUNTRIES

Austria | Belgium | Brazil | Canada | Colombia | Denmark | Finland | France | Germany | Hungary | Indonesia | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States

[FULL MEMBER LIST](#) 

# THANK YOU



Photo © Martin Liebethuth. Originally published by CRAFT-OA in "[Crafting the Future of Diamond Open Access: Impressions from the CRAFT-OA Final Conference in Göttingen.](#)"

PKP exists because of the people and institutions who choose to sustain it through financial contributions, volunteer time, translations, code, documentation, and the quieter forms of participation.

This year's growth in journals, countries, languages, and members reflects that collective commitment. It is not the result of a particular strategy or product decision; it is the result of a community that believes that scholarly knowledge should be freely accessible, and that the infrastructure to make that possible should be accountable to the people it serves.

As PKP moves into the first year of its **2026–2030 Strategic Plan**, the foundations are solid. The work continues.

With thanks to our Development Partners, Institutional Members, Consortia, and Community Contributors.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS 

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS 



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

**This report has been written with contributions from:**

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**Designed by:**

Only A Studio

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**We invite you to be  
part of this journey.**