

MLA WORKS CITED: GREY LITERATURE / LAWS

How to reference laws, press releases, codes of ethics, grants, policy briefs, etc.

Grey literature refers to information that is not published or distributed in the same way as normal books, articles, and reports. Such sources are referenced most often in disciplines such as sociology and law that typically use **APA style** (see handout: **APA References List: Grey Literature / Laws**). However, it is still possible to refer to them in MLA style.

A REPORT BY A GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR OTHER ORGANIZATION:

- Provide the title of the report first, followed by the name of the organization in place of the publisher.

What We Heard: Summary of Key Findings: 2013 Canada Council's Inter-Arts Office Consultation. Canada Council for the Arts, 2013, publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2017/canadacouncil/K23-65-2013-eng.pdf.

- If the author is a governmental organization, but the publisher is a separate entity, then write the name of the publisher after the title of the report.
- Sometimes, the publisher is the agency's **parent agency** or department. In such cases, list the parent agency/department (the higher governmental level), followed by the child agency/department (the lower governmental level).

National Pollutant Release Inventory. Canada's National Pollutant Release Inventory: Data Highlights 2018. Natural Resources Canada, Pollution and Waste Management, 2020, www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/national-pollutant-release-inventory/tools-resources-data/fact-sheet.html.

- **Press releases, codes of ethics, and annual reports** are referenced using essentially the same format as the examples above.
- In general, reference governmental documents just as you would reference an online article written by a corporate author.

A GRANT:

- List the **principal investigator** as the author.
- List the funding agency as the publication source.
- Some agencies call grant numbers 'project numbers'; use the appropriate terminology for the grant in your reference.
- Write the project start and end year(s) as the date.

Patel, Vikram, principal investigator. *Analyzing the Effects of Carbon Pollutants on Canada's Wetlands* (Grant No. 3T02KS07288492). National Institute of Ecological Research, 2016–2020, projectreporter.nier.ca/project_info_details.cfm?aid=938495821&icde=4929295.



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LAWS:

- Examples from Canadian law are given here. Conventions for citing laws from other countries vary.
- For most laws, use the standard legal citation style provided in the law book or document.

A bill:

- Write the name of the bill (italicized) in place of the author.
- Write the date of the bill's first reading in Parliament in the format shown, followed by the number of the Parliament, and the number of the session.

Bill C-15: An Act Respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. 1st Reading, Dec. 3, 2020, 43rd Parliament, 2nd session, 2020, www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=11007812.

A government regulation:

- If the regulation is Canadian, you can list "Government of Canada" as the author, followed by the title of the regulation in quotation marks and the rest of the source information.
- The *Canada Gazette* is a publication that lists enacted government regulations. In this case, the volume and issue numbers are provided exactly as if it were an article in a journal.

Government of Canada. "Regulations Amending the Sulfur in Gasoline Regulations: SOR/2020-277." *Canada Gazette Part II*, vol. 154, no. 26, 16 Dec. 2020, www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2020/2020-12-23/html/sor-dors277-eng.html.

A Canadian Supreme Court case:

- After the title of the case, use the citation as given by the court, followed by the year.
- Italicize the names of cases in your text but not in your Works Cited.
- Court cases often have several years, each of which reflects a specific stage in the case's history. Include all years in your citation.

Morasse v. Nadeau-Dubois, 44 Supreme Court of Canada, 2016, scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/16202/index.do.

An act or a statute:

- Write the name of the act or statute as given.
- Titles of acts or statutes are not italicized.

Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, Statutes of Canada (2001, c. 27), 2001, laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-2.5/index.html.

For more information, consult the *MLA Handbook* or contact the Academic Skills Centre.