Let’s Talk about #Empowering Archives!

#EmpoweringArchives builds on ICA’s Strategic Plan ‘Empowering Archives and the Profession 2021-2024’ released in November 2020 and it also plays on the ICA Abu Dhabi Congress theme of #EmpoweringKnowledgeSocieties.

What were the topics discussed during #EmpoweringArchives?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PILLARS</th>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY  | • What does accountability mean for you as an archives and records professional?
                                      • As an archivist, how do I/your organisation contribute to accountability and transparency?
                                      • What projects or initiatives do you think best demonstrate how archivists and records professionals support the accountability of other institutions? |
| COLLLABORATION AND NETWORKING     | • What does cooperation and networking mean for you as an archives and records professional?
                                      • What projects or initiatives do you think best demonstrate collaboration between archives and records professionals within their sector and other sectors or professions?
                                      • Is it important for archivists and records professionals to work with other disciplines to enrich their work? If so, why? |
| DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY        | • What does diversity and inclusivity mean for you as an archives and records professional?
                                      • How can we support inclusion and diversity in our profession?
                                      • What are examples of diversity and inclusivity in the profession? |

Between March and June of 2021, the ICA launched its second social media campaign #EmpoweringArchives. This social media campaign was the prelude to IAW2021 and it was an invitation to archivists, records professionals and organisations to have a virtual conversation on how as a community we can contribute to Empower Archives and the Profession in 2021.

“...”

David Fricker - ICA President

We asked to our virtual community the following questions to expand the idea of #EmpoweringArchives. These questions were based on three pillars, which were connected to the ICA’s Strategic Plan and the ICA Congress’ theme.

#EMPOWERINGARCHIVES ON THE ICA SM CHANNELS

Facebook and Twitter were our main platforms for our second social media campaign.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO. OF POST</th>
<th>NO. OF ENGAGEMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>494+ Tweets were published in English, French and Spanish</td>
<td>6.4k ENGAGEMENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272+ Facebook posts were published in English, French and Spanish</td>
<td>10.3k ENGAGEMENTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who joined us?

68+
approx. countries were represented in a virtual conversation where we talked more than

38
languages

What were some of the answers of our community?

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

- Right of access to information
- Access to information by citizens
- Memory
- Empower citizens
- Challenges of digital transformation and transparency
- Need for interdisciplinarity in the archival paradigm to improve its positioning and presence in the public and private spheres
- Undeniable relationship between archives, transparency and the right of access to information
- Transparency and archives to fight corruption
- Citizen intervention in administrative decision-making and social control

Empowering Archives

#IAW2021 #EmpoweringArchives

International Archives Week
What were some of the answers of our community?

**COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING**

- Collaboration with other areas to diversify archival practices in approaching documentary collections
- Diversification of work and collaboration networks that include other professions and other academic fields to enrich the current archival paradigm
- Collaboration as an instrument to revitalize the role of the archives in society
- Collaboration with other professional branches to make our profession more visible
- Cooperate from within to achieve external synergies

**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY**

- Implementation of diversity strategies in archives as forums for education, communication and professional development
- Reinterpretation of documentary collections
- Decolonization and diversification of archives
- The archives as a reflection of the diversity of society
- Inclusion of society in document cataloguing or transcription projects
- Proactive and educational role of archivists as an integral and dynamic part of society
- Re-signification and importance of descriptive language
- Reinterpretation of documentary collections
- Inclusion and visibility of LGBTQ documentary collections

WATCH MORE TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ON THE ICA YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

What’s next?

In 2022, we will be keeping talking with you about archives, the profession, and their role in the 21st century. Stay tuned!