Publicly Funded Research and Knowledge Mobilization: An Examination of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council’s Community Engagement Mandate

Tami Oliphant, University of Alberta

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council’s definition of knowledge mobilization raises a number of questions. In what ways is knowledge defined, reified, and mobilized? By what processes do “knowledge users” acquire knowledge? Who are “knowledge brokers” and what is their relationship to library and information professionals? What are the implications of SSHRC’s knowledge mobilization mandate for librarians and information professionals? These questions are explored by interrogating and critiquing the concepts of knowledge mobilization, knowledge broker, knowledge user, and research outcomes, and by examining the role of academic librarians in knowledge mobilization. Alternatives that expand upon SSHRC’s knowledge mobilization framework are suggested.