

Context

Library & Archives NT (LANT) is a branch of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture, created in September 2019 by bringing together the Northern Territory Library and the Northern Territory Archives Service. This Strategic Plan sits within the Department's broader strategic planning framework.

LANT has four main responsibilities:

- Under the *Information Act Part 9* we appraise, collect, transfer and preserve archives and permanent records; provide access to Territory Archives; maintain a register of records retention and disposal schedules; prepare, promote and monitor compliance with archives standards; and provide advice (including training) to enable compliance with archives standards to public sector organisations.
- Under the *Publications (Legal Deposit) Act* and through our connections with the community we collect, preserve and share the documentary heritage of the Northern Territory.
- In partnership with local governments we develop public library services to meet the needs of the Territory's diverse communities. *Connected Communities: Vision for Northern Territory Public Libraries 2017-2023* sets a strategic direction for LANT's engagement with public libraries and the services we deliver to achieve this are documented in the Public Library Funding Agreement 2018-2023.
- We provide a Parliamentary Library Service to Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory through a Memorandum of Understanding.

We provide services to the public through the NT Library at Parliament House; the NT Archives Centre in Millner; at Hartley St Alice Springs; and through a range of online channels.

We work in close collaboration with professional networks such as National and State Libraries Australia (NSLA), Council of Australasian Archives and Records Authorities (CAARA), the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and Australian Society of Archivists (ASA).

Our mission

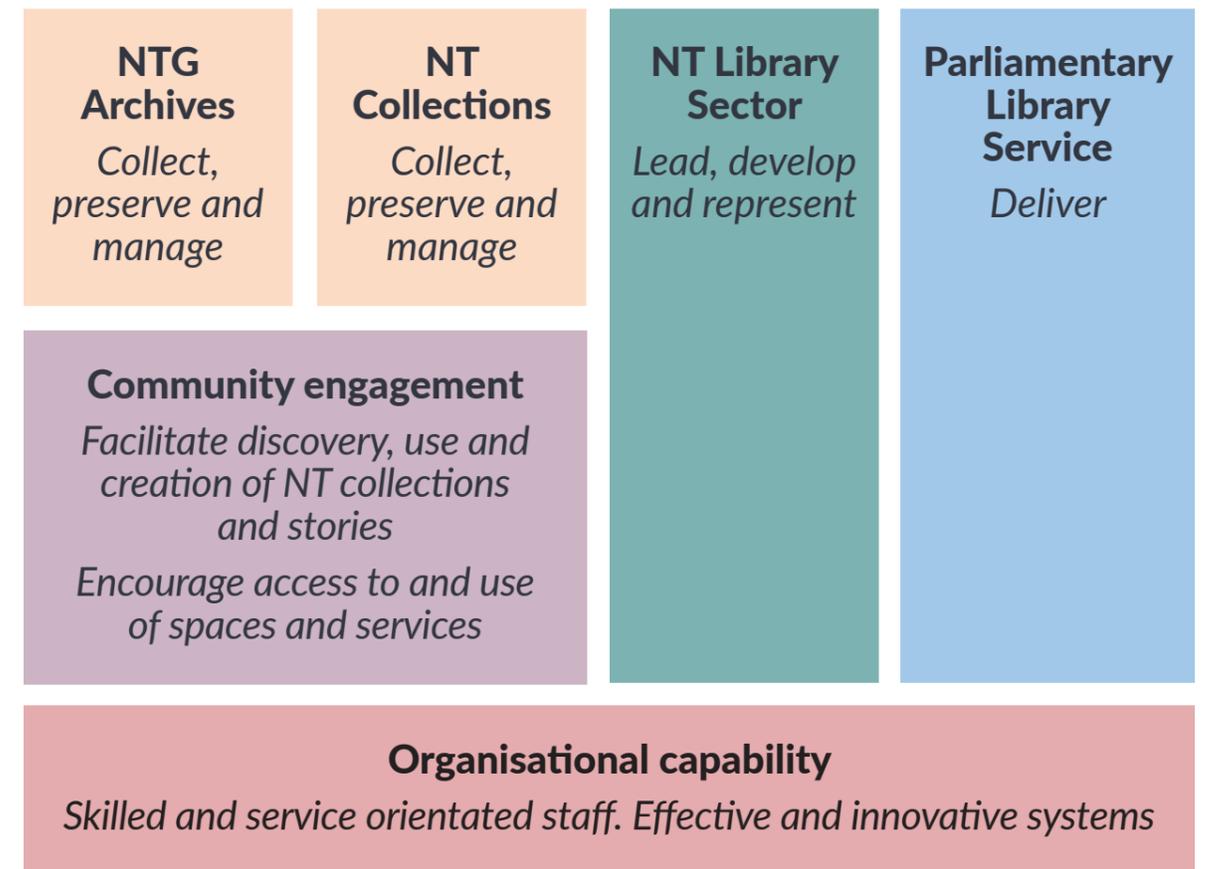
- **Collect, preserve and share Territory history, culture and stories.**
- **Lead, develop and represent the NT library sector.**
- **Support accountable government and democratic decision-making.**

Who we serve

- **All Territorians, and all those with an interest in the Territory – its past, present and future.**
- **NT government agencies and public sector organisations – including provision of archives services.**
- **NT library sector – in partnership with local government.**
- **NT Legislative Assembly – through provision of a Parliamentary Library Service.**

The things we do

LANT performs a range of complementary statutory, customer-focused and leadership functions. Access to government archives and NT collections is enhanced through continual development of our digital infrastructure and our knowledgeable and skilled staff.



The difference we make

LANT works toward achieving the following outcomes for NT communities.

- NT government, public, historical and cultural information is collected and preserved for current and future generations.
- Increased awareness and understanding of the richness and diversity of NT history and culture, both within the NT and beyond.
- Public libraries are a vital community resource that support literacy and learning, community building, entrepreneurship, and the lifelong development of knowledge and skills.
- The creation of new knowledge and artistic expression through purposeful information seeking and learning.
- Accountable government, informed citizenship, democratic decision-making and truth-telling.

Strategic priorities 2019-2023

LANT will best achieve these goals in the next four years by focusing on five strategic priorities.

1. Creating connections

Establish ourselves as the place to go for Territory history by connecting our growing audiences to our collections through responsive service delivery and programming.

2. Enhanced collections

Strengthen and sustain our capacity to collect, preserve and manage NT archives and collections.

3. Library leadership

Support the NT library sector to realise its potential through leadership, development and representation.

4. Digital transformation

Transform delivery of digital library and archives services to meet statutory obligations and clients' needs through innovative people, policies, processes and platforms.

5. Capable organisation

Build our organisational and individual capability to deliver quality library and archives services for now and into the future.

Priority actions

Strategic Priority	Actions	DTSC Priorities Alignment
1. Creating connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Grow and diversify audiences, including regional, Aboriginal and young people b) Raise profile of LANT to be recognised as the first port of call for NT historical information and the home of Territory Stories c) Improve onsite visitor experience to enhance access to collections and services d) Increase capability of other NT collecting organisations to organise, preserve and share their collections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and enable communities to engage and participate in activities we provide. • Raise awareness and community connectedness and engagement with the assets. • Strengthen our relationships with the community and grow strategic partnerships.
2. Enhanced collections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Integrate Library and Archive collections through the review of collection development and management frameworks and practices b) Build collections that are representative of the diversity of Territory history and experience with a particular focus on growing digital collections c) Increase availability of collections by reducing backlogs and improving timely processing of new acquisitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and provide access to the Territory's assets so they are available now and for future generations. • Collaborate and share information with NTG agencies to ensure a whole of government perspective in formulating decisions and activities.
3. Library leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Work collaboratively with local government to realise Connected Communities Vision for Public Libraries 2017-2023 b) Increase capability of the library sector to enable libraries to serve and respond to local community needs c) Represent the NT library sector locally and nationally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and deliver quality programs and initiatives to support life-long learning and quality of life of Territorians. • Actively work with local businesses and industry partners to strengthen their capacity and capability across relevant sectors.
4. Digital transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Develop and support appropriate and effective digital archive and library infrastructure b) Increase online discoverability of and access to collections and services c) Develop and implement standards for NTG digital records and publications d) Build digital preservation capacity through an enhanced digitisation program and focus on obsolete carriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and provide access to the Territory's assets so they are available now and for future generations. • Deliver our services efficiently so opportunities can be capitalised on by Territorians.
5. Capable organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Build a collaborative and forward thinking culture for the new LANT organisation b) Bring Library and Archives collections, expertise and processes together to improve services and programs c) Strengthen staff capability in digital dexterity, partnership development and collaboration, cultural safety and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a positive, high performing and inclusive culture. • Increase the cross-cultural competency of our staff. • Create the right environment for people to perform at their best. • Nurture a workforce that is diverse and inclusive and reflective of the community we serve.