

CoSA is a trusted voice for the work and needs of state and territory archives. In order to educate and advocate effectively to elected and appointed officials, allied organizations, the media, and the general public about the critical issues facing government archives, CoSA asked its members to identify their top issues for 2025. This list will guide CoSA's advocacy, research, and education programming.

ELECTRONIC RECORDS INFRASTRUCTURE

Build/expand/manage capabilities - Budget and resource requirements, implementation strategies for technology upgrades and replacement, innovation, training, access, privacy/security concerns

BROADENING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Budget and resource requirements, implementation strategies, advocacy, cultural competency, impacting trust, improving access, increasing stakeholder satisfaction

DISASTER PLANNING AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Creating/reviewing/updating policies and procedures, building/maintaining inter-agency relationships for response, environmental monitoring, training

PRIVACY CONCERNS RELATING TO THE DISCLOSURE OF SENSITIVE INFORMATION IN ELECTRONIC RECORDS

Policies, procedures, education and training, access controls

BACK-TO-BASICS RECORDS MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Budget and resource needs, processing backlogs, developing/updating policies, procedures, and controls across the records lifecycle; advocacy with records producers and custodians

EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Guidance, communications, policies and procedures

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Skills and experience, the state of the current talent pool for archives staff and leaders; strategic planning, diversity, succession planning, budget and resource requirements

ADMINISTERING RESTRICTED RECORDS

Access control, policies and procedures, privacy/security, service delivery

NAVIGATING POLITICAL LANDSCAPES

Advocacy, education and training; coalition building, budgeting and resource allocation

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION AND PROGRAMMING

Training and awareness, improving access, increasing stakeholder satisfaction

MANAGING PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS ABOUT ONLINE ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Education, increasing access and stakeholder satisfaction, FOIA, copyright/ownership of original records, budget and resource requirements

RESEARCHER SUPPORT FOR DISTANT ACCESS AND SERVICES

Increasing access, responsiveness, and stakeholder satisfaction; service delivery
