

To: Renate Behrens, RSC Chair
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Chris Holden, Technical Team Liaison Officer
Subject: Resource-to-resource digest, review, and critique elements

For the theory and background on the soft-deprecated elements, please see [RSC/TechnicalWG/2026/1](#).

RDA contains the following elements¹:

- digest of expression
- digest of work
- digested as expression
- digested as work
- RDA entity critiqued by
- RDA entity reviewed by
- work reviewed by
- work critiqued by
- review of work
- critique of work
- review of manifestation
- critique of manifestation
- review of expression
- critique of expression
- critique of RDA entity
- review of RDA entity
- expression critiqued by
- expression reviewed by
- manifestation critiqued by
- manifestation reviewed by

Each of these elements represents an extremely granular way to relate RDA entities to one another, using the labels “digest,” “critique,” and “review.”

The current prerecording instructions guide the cataloger to use “abridgement” elements instead of “digest” elements, and to use “evaluation” elements instead of “review” and “critique” elements. In these cases, the extreme granularity of the “digest,” “review” and “critique”

¹ Direct links to each is provided at [Recommendation 1](#), below.

elements is not helpful. For example, the definition of Work: [critique of work](#) (“a work that is critically evaluated by a work”) is very similar to Work: [review of work](#) (“a work that is briefly evaluated by a work”). In this case it is easier to use Work: [evaluation of work](#) (“a work that is examined or judged by a work”) rather than ask the cataloguer to determine if a work is a critique or a review.

Similarly, the definition of Work: **digest of work** (a work that is a systematic and comprehensive condensing of a related work) is similar to Work: **abridgement of work** (a work that is shortened as a related work without changing the general meaning or manner of presentation). While both elements are narrower elements of Work: **source work**, Work: **digest of work** asks the cataloger to make a qualitative judgement, and it is otherwise unclear how this differs from Work: **abridgement of work**.

Because of the extreme granularity of these elements and because their definitions are extremely similar to those of other elements, these elements are proposed for full deprecation.

Impact:

Fully deprecating these elements would have a relatively minor impact on cataloguing practice and policy statement writers, although this impact will differ by cataloguing agency, and is dependent on whether that agency followed RDA’s recommendations to use other elements instead of the soft-deprecated ones. Because each of these elements is aligned with a broader element of similar definition, cataloguing agencies could move policy statements and cataloguing practices to the broader element with little disruption to current practice.

Recommendation 1:

Fully deprecate the following elements in the RDA Registry and remove them from the Toolkit. Remove these elements from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry, and add them to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements, to be included in the Registry.

- [digest of expression](#)
- [digest of work](#)
- [digested as expression](#)
- [digested as work](#)
- [RDA entity critiqued by](#)
- [RDA entity reviewed by](#)
- [work reviewed by](#)
- [work critiqued by](#)
- [review of work](#)

- [critique of work](#)
- [review of manifestation](#)
- [critique of manifestation](#)
- [review of expression](#)
- [critique of expression](#)
- [critique of RDA entity](#)
- [review of RDA entity](#)
- [expression critiqued by](#)
- [expression reviewed by](#)
- [manifestation critiqued by](#)
- [manifestation reviewed by](#)

Recommendation 1.1

[Expression: **digest of expression**](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Expression: **digest of expression** as a narrower element of [Expression: **expression of source work**](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.2

[Work: **digest of work**](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **digest of work** as a narrower element of [Work: **source work**](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.3

[Expression: **digested as expression**](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Expression: **digested as expression** as a narrower element of [Expression: **expression of derivative work**](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.4

[Work: **digested as work**](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.
Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.
Remove Work: **digested as work** as a narrower element of [Work: derivative work](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.5

[RDA Entity: RDA entity critiqued by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.
Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.
Remove RDA Entity: **RDA entity critiqued by** as a narrower element of [RDA Entity: RDA entity evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.6

[RDA Entity: RDA Entity reviewed by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.
Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.
Remove RDA Entity: **RDA entity reviewed by** as a narrower element of [RDA Entity: RDA entity evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.7

[Work: work reviewed by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.
Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.
Remove Work: **work reviewed by** as a narrower element of [Work: work evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.8

[Work: work critiqued by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.
Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.
Remove Work: **work critiqued by** as a narrower element of [Work: work evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.9

[Work: review of work](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **review of work** as a narrower element of **[Work: evaluation of work](#)** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.10

[Work: critique of work](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **critique of work** as a narrower element of **[Work: evaluation of work](#)** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.11

[Work: review of manifestation](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **review of manifestation** as a narrower element of **[Work: evaluation of manifestation](#)** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.12

[Work: critique of manifestation](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **critique of manifestation** as a narrower element of **[Work: evaluation of manifestation](#)** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.13

[Work: review of expression](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **review of expression** as a narrower element of **[Work: evaluation of expression](#)** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.14

[Work: critique of expression](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **critique of expression** as a narrower element of [Work: evaluation of expression](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.15

[Work: critique of RDA entity](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **critique of RDA entity** as a narrower element of [Work: evaluation of RDA entity](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.16

[Work: review of RDA entity](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Work: **review of RDA entity** as a narrower element of [Work: evaluation of RDA entity](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.17

[Expression: expression critiqued by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Expression: **expression critiqued by** as a narrower element of [Expression: expression evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.18

[Expression: expression reviewed by](#)

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Expression: **expression reviewed by** as a narrower element of [Expression: expression evaluated by](#) in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.19

Manifestation: **manifestation critiqued by**

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Manifestation: **manifestation critiqued by** as a narrower element of Manifestation: **manifestation evaluated by** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.

Recommendation 1.20

Manifestation: **manifestation reviewed by**

Fully deprecate this element in the RDA Registry and remove it from the Toolkit.

Remove the element from the alignment of soft-deprecated elements in the RDA Registry and add it to a new alignment of fully-deprecated elements to RDA elements.

Remove Manifestation: **manifestation reviewed by** as a narrower element of Manifestation: **manifestation evaluated by** in the Toolkit and the RDA Registry.