Public and non-public archiving

When it comes to archiving content, a few questions need to be asked: Who will have access to the content? Can the archive be used for other initiatives? Do we have the rights to make the data publicly available? Answering these questions requires reflection and assessment of the needs and purpose of the content. For example, if the goal is to inform and transmit a particular cultural practice, then it would be more appropriate to make the content public to benefit a greater amount of people. It is important to reflect on these issues while taking into account the consent forms that will have to be signed and the project's other ethical parameters.

There are several types of archiving. Some offer access to the general public (such as the archives of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ)), while others have limited or restricted access (company archives). It does not mean that these archives are inaccessible, but rather that a request must be made to gain access.

It is also possible to create a private archive to store the raw data collected for a project and gradually grant access once the content is processed and presentable. Another way to limit accessibility is to compile the data without classification on a Google Drive folder or on YouTube for audiovisual content. The access link is later shared with those who want to access the content.