# EPUB and the Open Web Platform

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Liam Quin, W3C

# About W3C:
# "Leading the Web to its Full Potential"
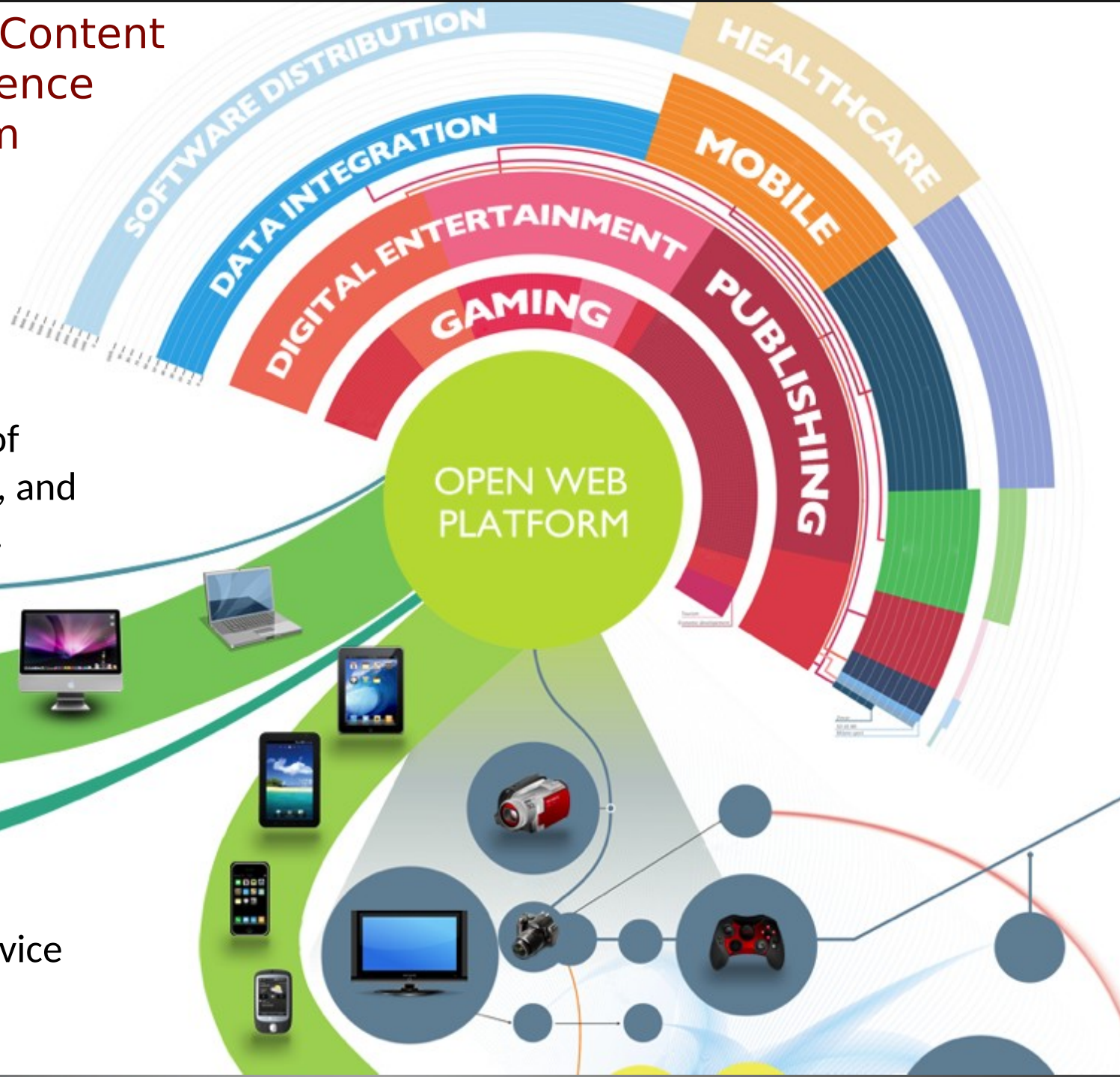
- Founded 1994, now 400+ organization members

- W3C standards include HTML, CSS, SVG, MathML XML, XSL-FO, XSLT, ...

- 70+ staff in US (MIT), China (Beihang), France (ERCIM) and Japan (Keio)

- Focus on advancing the overall Open Web Platform, as well as meeting specific industry requirements

- International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF) merged into W3C in February, 2017 - EPUB ongoing development is now under W3C

Tim Berners-Lee
WEB INVENTOR AND
W3C DIRECTOR

# The Universal Content and Experience Platform

For all types of content, data, and experiences...

...on every device

# Publishing@W3C Strategy

- Continue to develop and promote EPUB as the packaged accessible interchange and delivery format for digital publications

- Continue to advance the overall Open Web platform to meet publishing industry needs

- Pursue an ambitious vision to realize fully Web-native Web Publications: online/offline, packaged/distributed, browser/app

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# Web Accessibility

- **WCAG** (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) – rich suite of documentation and resources, WCAG 2.0 globally adopted

- **WAI-ARIA** (Accessible Rich Internet Applications) – adds semantics to user interfaces via @role and @aria-*

- Accessibility is one of the key horizontal review criteria for **ALL** proposed W3C Standards (along with security and internationalization)

# Building Blocks of EPUB Accessibility

- **Structural semantics** at content level (HTML) and publication level (machine-readable navigation, logical reading order, …)

- **Discovery and capability enablement** via accessibility metadata at publication and content levels

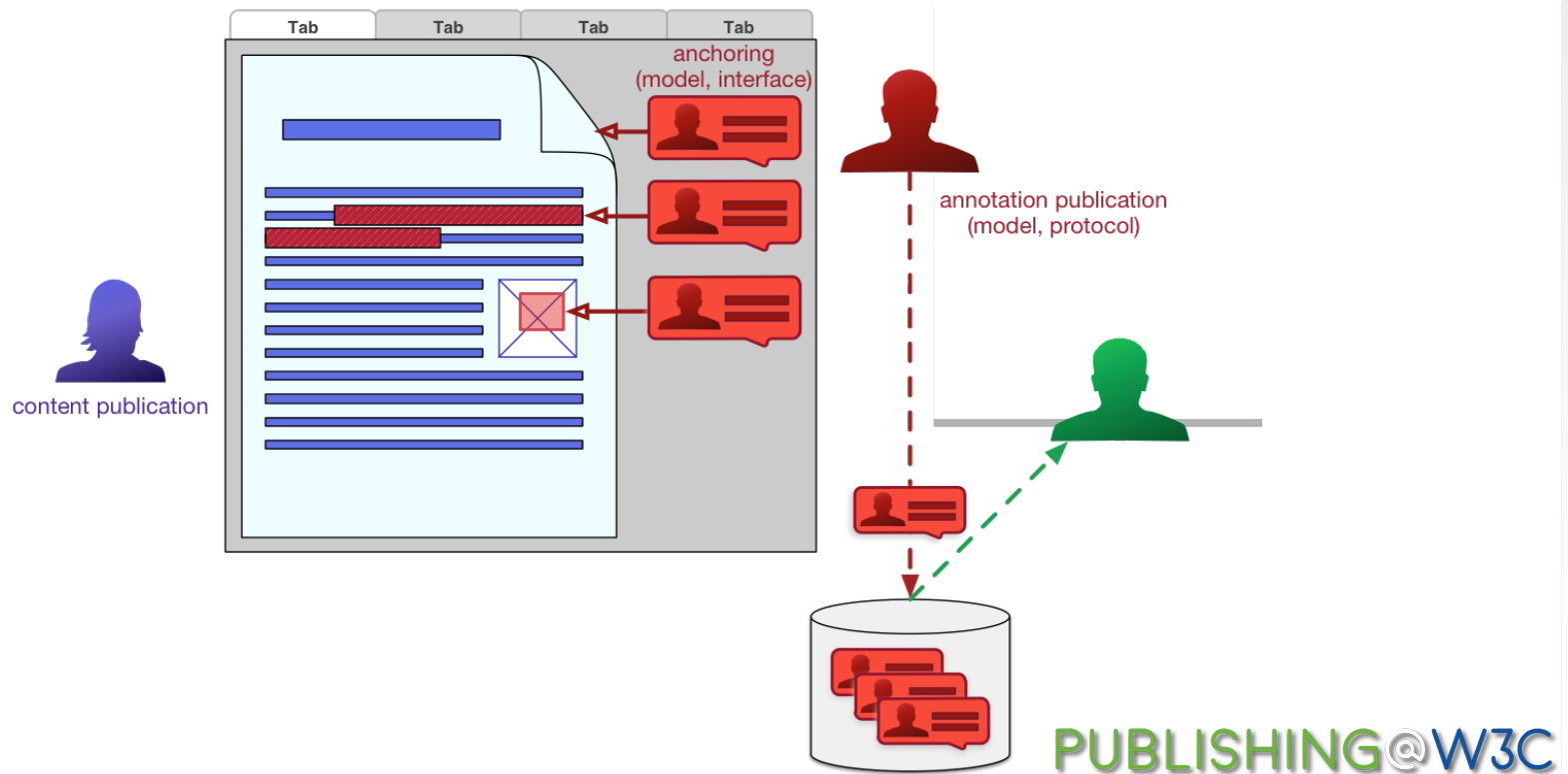- **Accessibility features** such as Media Overlays and TTS hints

# Convergence Vision: Portable Web Publications

Publications on the Web, and packaged for offline use, share a fully unified technical architecture in which the same tools and techniques are applicable

Publishing requirements are fully and consistently supported throughout the Open Web Platform for packaged publications as well as online Web pages

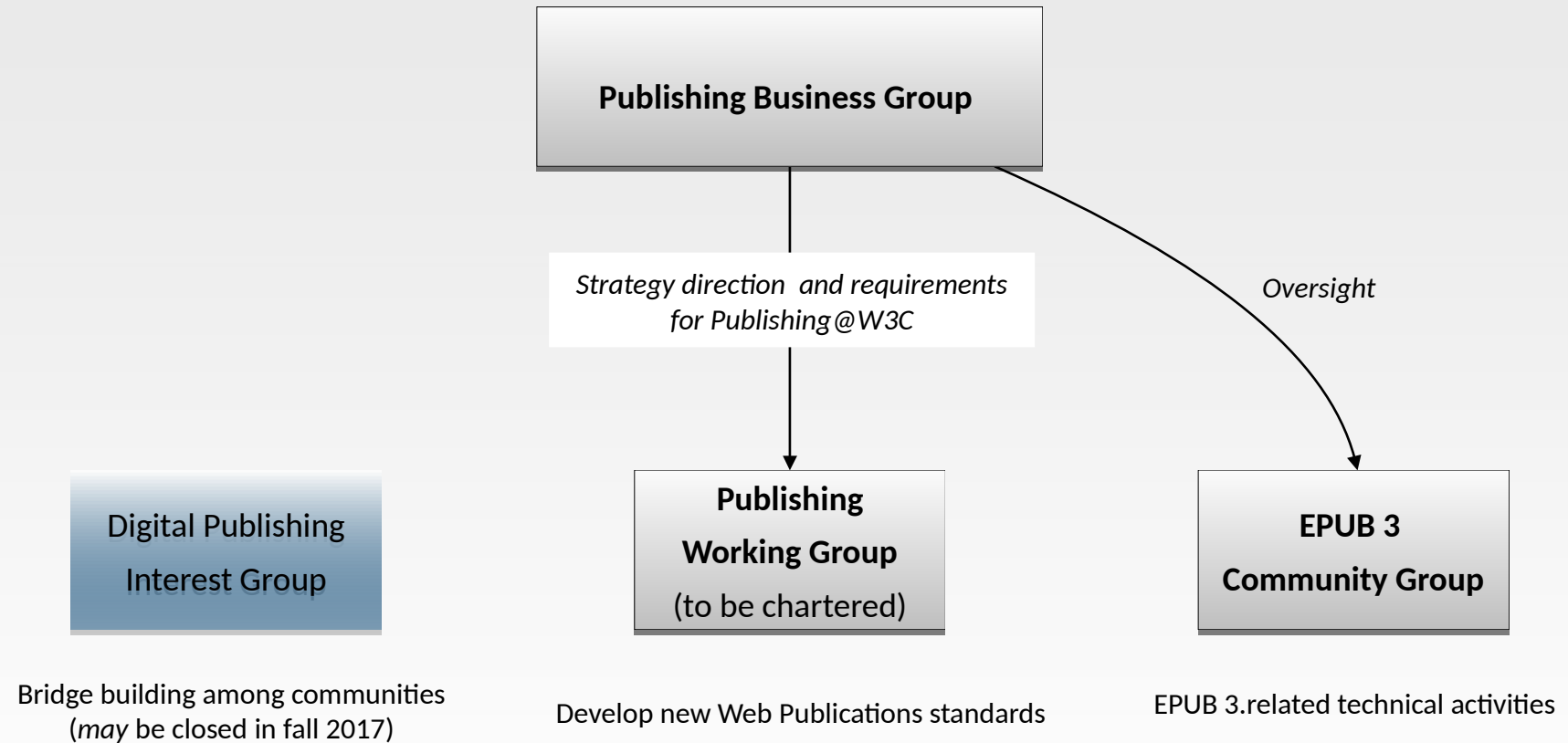PUBLISHING@W3C

# W3C Web Annotations

# Publishing@W3C 2017 Focus Areas

- Build and broaden community

- Accelerate EPUB 3 adoption via increased visibility and W3C "megaphone"

- Continue to advance Web for publishing needs (see:
  https://www.w3.org/TR/dpub-css-priorities/,
  https://www.w3.org/TR/dpub-accessibility/ ,
  https://www.w3.org/TR/dpub-aria-1.0/ )

- Refine roadmap for the fully converged future (see:
  https://www.w3.org/TR/pwp/) and begin executing on it (see:
  https://w3c.github.io/dpubwg-charter/ )

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# Publishing@W3C Groups



**Publishing Business Group**

*Strategy direction and requirements for Publishing@W3C*

*Oversight*

Digital Publishing Interest Group

**Publishing Working Group** (to be chartered)

**EPUB 3 Community Group**

Bridge building among communities (*may* be closed in fall 2017)

Develop new Web Publications standards

EPUB 3.related technical activities

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# Publishing@W3C: Getting Involved

| Type of Group | Group's Focus, Scope | Eligibility | Fees |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Transitional Publishing Industry (TPI) Membership** | Participation in Publishing Business Group and new Publishing Working Group | Available to former IDPF members in good standing | Equal to former IDPF fees for first two years, based on revenue of organization |
| **Publishing Business Group  (PBG)** | Strategic feedback between publishing industry and W3C. Shape new WG and oversee  EPUB 3 CG | Open to any organization and to unaffiliated individuals | Small organizations, associations: $2K /year Large organizations: $10K /year |
| **Regular W3C Membership** | Participation in all W3C Business, Interest, and Working Groups | Open to any organization | Fees based on size of organization: start-up, affiliate, full and >$1Billion |
| **EPUB 3 Community Group** | Ongoing development of EPUB 3 specification family | Open to anyone | Free |

# Summary

- **EPUB** and the overall **Open Web Platform** are foundations of accessible publishing

- **EPUB 3.1** is well-aligned with overall Web Accessibility initiatives and will continue to evolve and grow in adoption and mindshare under W3C stewardship

- Future **Web Publications** functionality will further converge online/offline, packaged/distributed paradigms, with accessibility front and center in its driving requirements

- There's a lot more work to do to build on our successes and fully realize the goal that **all publications and documents should be born accessible**

- W3C needs your help and engagement to **lead accessible publishing to its full potential with the Web**

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# Thank you

**Liam Quin, liam@w3.org**
**twitter: @barefootliam**


**http://w3.org/publishing**
**http://w3.org/accessibility**