

Issue 4 - Spring 2016

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The APLA Bulletin (ISSN: 0001-2203) is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.



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2016 APLA First Timer's Grant

- 747 reads

On behalf of the First Timer's Conference Grant Committee and the APLA Finance Committee, we wish to congratulate Samantha Delaney, from Cape Breton University Library, on being selected as the successful recipient of the 2016 APLA First Timer's Grant. We look forward to meeting Samantha at the conference!

APLA Advocacy Award

- 823 reads

Submitted by CATE CARLYLE

After much deliberation, and many outstanding entries (a record number of entries this year), the winner of the 2016 APLA Advocacy Award has been selected. The award will be presented to Memorial University for their "Check it Out!" program which celebrates culture at the Queen Elizabeth II Library with the following objectives in mind:

- To advocate for the importance of libraries in communities, and the unique role they fill in bringing people and information together.
- To attract people, from inside and outside Memorial University, to the library and to engage the users already there.
- To promote library collections creatively, especially through scholarly conversation and the performing arts.
- To highlight librarian expertise and services available through MUN Libraries
- To create meaningful interactions with our academic partners (thus faculty members have been an essential part of all of the events).
- Bolster broader strategic communications goals of Memorial University Libraries and shaping a new and evolving story of what libraries mean in a modern context.

- To use library space in innovative ways.

<http://www.library.mun.ca/qeii/happening/checkitout/>



Thank you to Jeannie Bail for her winning submission and to all those who participated in the contest. The Advocacy Committee had a difficult decision to make owing to the quality of the submissions received and we hope to see even more participants next year! Library advocacy is so important in these unsettled and changing times, and it is heartening to see the commitment and creativity of our members in getting the word out about the continuing value of libraries to society.

Photo from a December 2015 “Check it out!” event, *Winter Words: A Poetry Reading by Anna Swanson and John Barton*. Poet and librarian Anna Swanson of Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries, who was shortlisted for the prestigious CBC 2015 Poetry Prize, is in the photo.

Education Institute

- 679 reads

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International Librarians Network

- 616 reads

Want to build your professional network and learn about librarianship around the world? Love the idea of professional travel but just don't have the budget? The International Librarians Network (ILN) is for you.

The ILN peer mentoring program is a facilitated program aimed at helping librarians develop international networks. Participating in the ILN brings wider professional awareness, an international perspective to your work, new ideas, and increased professional confidence. We know this because many of our participants tell us – and we've had over 3500 librarians from 120+ countries take part so far.

The ILN is open to anyone working (or studying) in the library and information industry around the world. The program is free and the only requirements to participate are an internet connection, fluent English skills, an hour each week and a desire to build professional connections and learn from colleagues.

Get involved now! Find out more at <http://interlibnet.org/> and contact Cate Carlyle, your Canadian Ambassador, if you have any questions.

News from Cumberland Public Libraries

- 652 reads

Submitted by CHANTELLE TAYLOR

March Break!

This year's March Break attendance was back up with a vengeance with nearly 500 kids ages 5 to 18 attending programs in 7 locations across Cumberland County. Our attendance more than doubled from last year, which can largely be attributed to the great weather this year. Programs included Jedi Academy, Stuffie Sleepover, Hide and Seek, Science Day, Iron Chef and many more.

Four Fathers Library is piloting a new program with the Cumberland YMCA. During the month of March, families with a library card could get a free swim pass for the YMCA. Passes are given out on a first-come, first-served basis, and families without a Library card could sign up to get one.

April Events

April will be another busy month in Cumberland! Our 5 week Community Classes will be starting April

4th in both our Amherst and Springhill locations. Classes include crochet, rug hooking, painting, card making and knitting.

Youth Services Librarian Jenn Atkinson will be hosting our second StoryMob in partnership with the Maggie's Place Family Resource Centre on April 16. *Green Eggs and Ham* will be StoryMobbed as part of Hammin it up with Dr. Seuss! Jenn had 120 participants for *The Paper Bag Princess* StoryMob during the Summer Reading Club in 2015.

Cumberland Public Libraries will also be taking part in Canadian Film Day on April 20th. Amherst, Springhill and Advocate will be showing *Men with Brooms*, *New Waterford Girl* and *The Grand Seduction*, respectively.

Cumberland's 2016 Hackmatack author is Sharon Mckay. Sharon will be visiting Parrsboro, Amherst, Springhill and Oxford, talking about her Hackmatack-nominated book *The End of the Line* to grades 4-6 students.

Donation

The Cumberland Public Libraries has received a \$10,000 donation from Paul Christie of Halifax, Nova Scotia in memory of his late mother, Thelma Christie. This donation will be dedicated to purchasing new books for CPL, with a focus on CPL's large print collection, for which there is a high demand among library users.

News from Dalhousie University Libraries

- 808 reads

Submitted by MARLO MACKAY

[New Dalhousie Archives project: Holdings of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1928](#)

The University Archives has secured the support of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 1928, in the processing of their archival holdings which we have been acquiring since 1988. Since then, the collection has grown to occupy 157 Bankers Boxes and approximately 80 linear metres of shelf space. The records date from the Local's founding in 1955 and include financial, legal, administrative, human resources, and collective bargaining materials.

In March, the IBEW Local 1928 provided the Dalhousie Archives with a cheque for \$25,364 to purchase archival supplies and to hire two students to process the collection.

The processing project will involve an appraisal of the entire collection to identify records possessing archival and historical value as well as flagging records that need to be restricted for privacy or other legal considerations. The records will then be organized into series or categories determined by how the records were used and maintained by Local 1928, and then described at a file level.

At the same time, the records will be rehoused in acid-free folders and archival boxes. Detailed information

about the entire collection and each file will be published in the Archives' online catalogue AtoM (about 5,000 new descriptions). Records of significance or particular historical interest will be flagged for inclusion in a later digitization project. The processing project will take place over 16 weeks from May 9–August 26, 2016.

"This is only the latest effort undertaken by the Dalhousie University Archives to more actively engage our community of donors and to involve them in the ongoing management and preservation of their records, which they have entrusted to the University," says Dalhousie University Archivist, Michael Moosberger.

Thank you to the **International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1928** for their significant contribution to this project.

"The IBEW Local 1928 executive and its members are pleased to be able to contribute to the archival records for labour history in Nova Scotia and as we look to the future we anticipate a fruitful partnership with Dalhousie Archives," says Jim Sponagle, IBEW Local 1928 Business Manager.

Author Reading with Binnie Brennan

On Tuesday, March 1, the Dalhousie Libraries hosted a reading with author and musician Binnie Brennan.



Binnie has written three books of fiction. She has made long and short lists for several awards, winning the Ken Klonsky Novella Contest award in 2009. In addition to her books, she has been published in several literary journals and one of her stories, *A Spider's Tale*, was adapted for the stage. Binnie plays the viola in Symphony Nova Scotia.

In this reading, Binnie talked about the creative process and read from her book, *Like Any Other Monday*.

This public reading was sponsored by the Canadian Literary Collections Project.

Leah Boulos, Winner of the Dalhousie Horrocks National Leadership Award

Leah Boulos, MLIS student and Kellogg Library intern, was selected to receive the Dalhousie Horrocks National Leadership Award. The annual scholarship is awarded to an MLIS student who "demonstrates leadership potential in information management, specifically in libraries. The goal of this award and associated lecture series is to help promote librarianship and publicly acknowledge individuals whose active leadership in relevant professional associations has made a difference locally and internationally."

In addition to her great work at the Kellogg Library, Leah has co-chaired the *Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management* for the past two years. "Winning the award has given me the confidence to discover my potential as a leader. Since then, I've taken on a teaching assistantship in the School of Information Management, and presented at the Information Without Borders conference February 10. I am so honoured to have been chosen as the winner of this award, especially considering all of the wonderful things I've heard about the late Dr. Norman Horrocks, whose life and



career serve as a great inspiration to many of us within the field. I wish I could have met him,” said Leah.

Exhibition Co-Curated by Dalhousie Libraries’ Creighton Barrett



Creighton Barrett, the Digital Archivist for the Dalhousie Libraries, and Peter Dykhuis, Director/Curator of the [Dalhousie Art Gallery](#), have curated an exhibition about artist-run culture in Halifax. The exhibit, called “Why are we saving All these artist publications + Other Galleries stuffs?” will run in the Dalhousie Art Gallery (6101 University Avenue) from January 22 until April 17.

Mariah Blackmore, a Dalhousie Libraries’ intern who is based in the Dalhousie Archives, will be providing archival reference service in the gallery on Fridays from 12–4. Brennan Dempsey, a graduate student in the History Department, will be providing reference services on Tuesdays from 12–4.

Special thanks to Dalhousie Libraries staff members Dianne Landry and Kelly Casey who have provided assistance throughout the project, and to Shirley Vail who scanned a variety of material from both of these archival fonds.

More information about the exhibit can be found here: <https://blogs.dal.ca/libraries/2016/01/exhibition-co-curated-by-dalhousie-libraries-creighton-barrett/>

University Archives adds almost 70,000 records to the Archives Catalogue and Online Collections

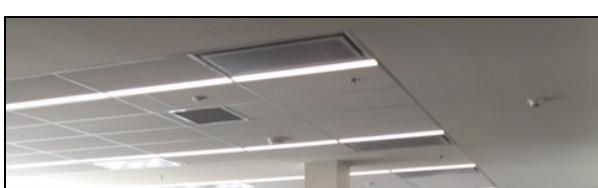
The Archives Catalogue is a new online tool for searching the Libraries’ rich archival collections. The catalogue provides fully-searchable “finding aids” to over 650 archival fonds and collections held in the University Archives. Plans are underway to add finding aids to archival material at the MacRae Library.

Many of the finding aids have detailed descriptions of individual files and items and, with the new batch of descriptions, there are now over 237,000 records in the catalogue. New finding aids include:

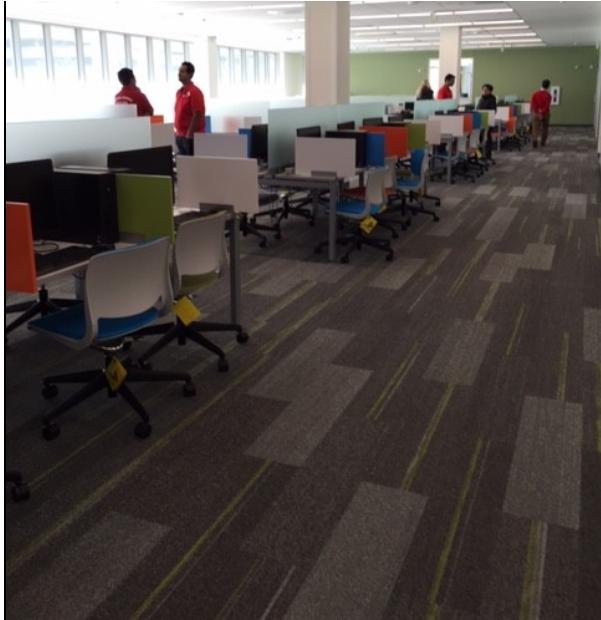
- [Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company fonds](#)
- [Dalhousie University Photograph Collection](#)
- [Wamboldt-Waterfield Photograph Collection](#)
- [Waldren Studios Photograph Collection](#)
- [Peter B. Waite fonds](#)

The Archives Catalogue also includes hundreds of new digital objects, including digitized material from the [Centre for Art Tapes fonds](#) and the [Eyelevel Gallery fonds](#) that will be featured in an upcoming exhibition at the [Dalhousie Art Gallery](#).

Kellogg Library Learning Commons Now Open



The Kellogg Library Learning Commons in the Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB) opened January 4. The new learning commons holds 400 students in individual and group settings for personal study, research, group discussion, collaboration, and social



interaction. Library staff, librarians, and IT navigators can be found there, assisting students and providing library services.

The Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB) is a state-of-the-art learning facility for Dalhousie students in Dentistry, Health Professions and Medicine. Its goal is to improve patient care and prepare graduates for team-based health workplaces.

Dalhousie Libraries Welcomes New Staff

Over the past several months, the Dalhousie libraries have welcomed a number of new staff members.

In the position of Clerk 5, we welcomed Echo Dyan, Mollie Thompson, Gina Coates, Andrew Wood, Seungkyoo Lee, and Jason Lee

In the position of Copyright & Digital Humanities Librarian, we welcomed Roger Gillis.

“We are delighted to welcome these talented individuals to the Dal Libraries,” said Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian.

News from New Brunswick

- 778 reads

Submitted by MATHIEU LANTEIGNE

The Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick is pleased to announce the 6th edition of Brains On Tap!, the annual bilingual literary trivia contest held in partnership with the Frye Festival. Made possible by the collaboration of librarians across New Brunswick, the event will be held on April 25th at 7:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Cultural Centre in Moncton.

News from Prince Edward Island

- 781 reads

Submitted by TRINA O'BRIEN LEGGOTT

PEI Public Library Service

In late 2015, the PEI Public Library Service launched two new initiatives with Island food banks and soup kitchens. In December, all of the PLS' 26 public libraries collected donations of new or gently-used children's books. Donated books were included in the CBC Christmas Hampers distributed by the Foodbank. Also in 2015, the PLS started a new partnership with the Upper Room Food Bank and Soup

Kitchen in Charlottetown through the installation of “Library Corners.” These corners include a display of program guides, brochures on library services and library card applications. Food Bank/Soup Kitchen volunteers were provided with FAQs to help assist clients with completing the library card applications.

In recognition of the significant contributions of farms and farmers to life in our province, the PLS participated in [Canadian Agricultural Literacy Week | Semaine de sensibilisation à l'agriculture canadienne](#) (February 28-March 6, 2016). To celebrate CALW/SSAC, all branches were asked to host a special farm-themed story time during the week of February 28 to March 5. This program involved inviting a local farmer to visit the branch library to read a story and talk with families and answer questions about farm life. Farmers spoke at story times or to childcare or early learning centre groups by arrangement, and brought in examples of their work. The bunnies at Confederation Centre Public Library in Charlottetown were very popular!

As part of [Canada Reads](#), CBC P.E.I. partnered with the PEI Public Library Service, Reading Town PEI and the PEI Literacy Alliance to bring five new tiny libraries to five communities across the Island. CBC P.E.I. and Canada Reads paid for tiny Libraries to be built, and for a set of this year's Canada Reads books in each. Members of the Girl Guides in the Souris area, the Boys and Girls Club in Montague and the Fox Club Society in Charlottetown all decorated tiny libraries for later installation in their communities. CBC *Island Morning* host Matt Rainnie hosted an evening with [Canada Reads author Anita Rau Badami](#) at the Confederation Centre Library in Charlottetown March 10, 2016.. The projects were on display during this event.

For Black History Month PLS partnered with the newly formed Black Culture Society for a series of programs in several locations. Programs included historical lectures, arts and crafts for the whole family, and musical events,

From April 30th to May 8th 2016, the National Reading Campaign, in partnership with Reading Town PEI, the PEI Literacy Alliance and the Public Library Service, will turn PEI into a Reading Island! The weeklong festival, a legacy project of last year's Reading Town Canada event in Charlottetown, aims to inspire curiosity about the stories and storytellers that shape our community, to recognize the accomplishments of our artists, educators and literacy champions and to integrate reading into the everyday life of Islanders.

UPEI

Mark Leggott's official last day as University Librarian was February 5, 2016. He leaves to take on a new role as Executive Director of Research Data Canada in Ottawa. Prior to Mark's departure, an institutional reorganization aligned the Library with the Office of Skills Development and Learning (OSDL). OSDL includes Cooperative Education, Career Services, ELearning, and Professional Development units. Donald Moses has started an interim appointment as University Librarian and Director of the Office of Skills Development and Learning.

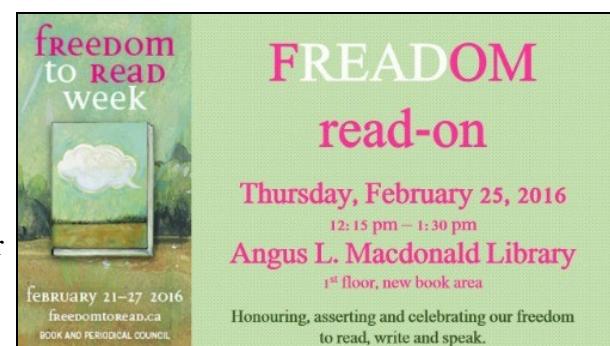
News from St. Francis Xavier University Library

- 780 reads

Submitted by RITA CAMPBELL

StFX fREADom read-on.

On February 25, 2016 St. Francis Xavier University held its second Freedom to Read fREADom read-on. Twenty one individuals read from banned or challenged books, each person providing a brief description of their connection with the book and/or the reason it was challenged before reading from the book for 2 minutes. Participants included students, faculty, librarians, and other University members. The readings took place on the busy first floor of the Angus L. Macdonald Library, enticing students who were passing by to pause and listen.



Access to Education Lies at the Heart of Library Futures

- 781 reads

Submitted by Christina Neigel

There is plenty of evidence that people in the library field are wrestling with the future. For example, the 2015 March/April issue of *American Libraries* is dedicated to the future of libraries, featuring a range of articles that highlight “hot topics” including libraries as community hubs, robotics and other technologies, the school librarian, and, even, discussion around the redesigning of the MLS. Many of these mainstream publications emphasize the disruptive nature of technology in relation to the future of libraries. More specifically, technology is considered in relation to the provision of service. While absolutely integral to the shape and direction of libraries, there are fewer discussions that focus on libraries as *workplaces*.

There are a number of possible reasons for this. It is difficult to contemplate an uncertain future when we find ourselves struggling to contend with the work of today. Further, access to discussion is limited, often occurring at senior levels by employers and some educators. While it can be argued that we depend on library leadership to navigate libraries into the future, more inclusive discussions are important and necessary, if libraries hope to maintain (or develop into) inclusive work environments that reflect the very values that libraries, supposedly, champion (have a look at ALA’s Core Values of Librarianship: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/corevalues>).

We generally trust that the policies and processes that organize our work serve our institutions’ best interests and, hopefully, most of our own. However, there is a need for a distinction between what serves *us*, as individuals, and what serves our *institutions* when we contemplate change, education, and the future. Through inclusive and, preferably, democratic discussions, we can better probe into the prevailing assumptions that shape our work.

The changing nature of library work, combined with the unmitigated growth of information and technology, creates incredible tension in our daily lives. For example, James, Shamchuk, and Koch’s (2015) survey of librarians and library technicians in Canada reveals that library employees experience a notable expansion of roles and work complexities in their workplaces. At the same time, there is a significant increase in precarious work. This is partially illustrated in a CUPE (2014) membership study that shows 55% of their members are in precarious and vulnerable positions. Further, younger members find themselves in more temporary and uncertain work situations. This leads to problems with the distribution of power and control over our workplace and, more significantly, our own lives. The gendered work environment, for instance,

goes largely unacknowledged in published discourse. “The experience of women operating in a world of men’s making generally goes unaddressed in LIS literature.” (Neigel, 2015, p. 527).

Keeping abreast of change by staying informed and thinking about our professional roles is critically important to our well-being and success. It is also necessary for creating healthy and relevant libraries. In a recent study of undergraduate library programs in the U.S., Kim Reed argues, “education is critical not only to the success of individual staff members’ success and career progression, but also to a library’s ability to rely on its core team for knowledgeable and creative contributions” (Reed, 2016. p. 318).

While education remains one of the tenets of library and information work, we are often remarkably silent on how this operates within our own field. For many of us, the process begins with a credential(s) that helped us to gain entry into the field. Once this is achieved, education becomes an interesting mix of choice and non-choice. On-site training, for example, is not a replacement for deeper educational pursuits but we are sometimes limited to only that which is free or directly organized by employers. Conferences, workshops, and various webinars, may not offer us the kind of deep, critical, and reflective learning we need to address the profound changes that we face in our personal and professional lives.

There is a need to talk about power, politics, gender, technology, and, even, competencies that are woven into our work. Without such opportunities we find ourselves reacting to change, rather than leading it. The introduction of RDA standards serves as an excellent example. There was a notable absence of any meaningful and analytical dialogue with practitioners at the grassroots level. Once introduced, practitioners found themselves scrambling to catch up to a standard that makes profound intellectual shifts in cataloguing. Access to training and, even more expansive explorations of RDA is limited and sporadic. This is not an effective way to ensure that there is cohesion between standards and actual practice. This, in turn, has implications for communities that rely on library services, including accurate, efficient, and user-friendly access to resources.

The question is then how are we to cope?

The first step is recognizing that there is a problem. Many folks in this field face structural barriers in achieving the kind of education and professional development that is truly required for a resilient library community. We need to avoid the cat-and-mouse game of reacting to change, rather than enabling it – both in ourselves and in others. We also need to devise ways of retaining control over our work. “Practices to increase the application of business principles, including outsourcing, performance measures, and finding workflow efficiencies through the re-engineering of departments (particularly that of technical services), removes the locus of control from library service workers to administrators” (Neigel, 2015, p. 529).

The next step is endeavoring to support educational opportunities that may not, at first blush, appear to be directly linked to a certain job outcomes. I have had library trustees admit to me that they have not supported professional development applications that don’t directly align with tasks in a particular job. This is not often done to purposely obstruct education. Rather, it is a response to rationalized decision-making that is less flexible and fluid. The outcome, however, is rigidity that hampers innovative and creative thinking that can actually support change.

There is also a need for education programs that create space for deep thinking. This is just not something that can be easily achieved in conference sessions and single-day workshops. Such programs have to be accessible, affordable, relevant, and sensitive to the pressures of practitioners as adult learners. Further, such offerings need to acknowledge the often sophisticated backgrounds of participants, while simultaneously pushing learners into new realms of self-reflection and critical practice.

The rhetoric around the future of libraries rarely encompasses discussion around the actual people who work in them. This is strange as it is the very people that anchor libraries in communities. We need stronger

investment in the intellectual capital of library practitioners. We need to make it part of a national library agenda. However, it should not be a project designed exclusively by employers. Rather, it should encompass organic initiatives that are based in genuine and grass-roots interests that recognize the importance of diversity in the shaping of ideas and skills. We also need to think about what the *people* working libraries require in the ongoing evolution of library services. This actually extends beyond the notion of “competencies” and into the realm of less deterministic knowledge and skills. Competencies, while helpful in framing basic job skills, can box actually limit our ability to participate in the imagining of a world that is so profoundly uncertain.

Christina Neigel is Associate Professor at the University of the Fraser Valley in Abbotsford, British Columbia. She has designed an online post-diploma certificate program for library technicians in the hopes of inspiring practitioners to explore issues relating to leadership, promotional planning and information rights. Those interested can look at program details at: http://www.ufv.ca/continuing_studies/certificate_programs/library-technicians-post-diploma-certificate/

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James, N., Shamchuk, L., & Koch, K. (2015). Changing Roles of Librarians and Library Technicians. *Partnership*, 10(2), 1-29.

Neigel, C. (2015) LIS Leadership and leadership education: A matter of gender, *Journal of Library Administration*, 55(7), 521-534, DOI: 10.1080/01930826.2015.1076307

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OGM 2016 Reports

- 918 reads

APLA executive reports submitted for the OGM to be held during the annual conference on June 1, 2016 in Halifax.

1. [President's Report \[pdf\]](#)
2. [Vice President / President Elect Report \[pdf\]](#)
3. [Past President's Report \[pdf\]](#)
4. [VP New Brunswick Report \[pdf\]](#)
5. [VP Newfoundland and Labrador Report \[pdf\]](#)
6. VP Nova Scotia Report (Not yet submitted)
7. [VP Prince Edward Island Report \[pdf\]](#)
8. [VP Membership Report \[pdf\]](#)
9. [Treasurer's Report \[pdf\]](#)
10. [Year End Financial Statement \[pdf\]](#)
11. [Financial Examiner's Report \[jpg\]](#)
12. [Webmaster's Report \[pdf\]](#)
13. [Communications Coordinator Report \[pdf\]](#)

14. [Bulletin Co-Editors' Report \[pdf\]](#)
15. [Copyright Advisory Committee Report \[pdf\]](#)
16. [Dalhousie School of Information Management Report \[pdf\]](#)
17. [NSCC Library and Information Technology Report \[pdf\]](#)
18. [Memorial Award Committee Report \[pdf\]](#)
19. [2016 Conference Progress Report \[pdf\]](#)
20. [2015 OGM Draft Minutes \[pdf\]](#)

Contributors

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CHANTELLE TAYLOR – Deputy Chief Librarian, Cumberland Public Libraries

Join the APLA Discussion List

- 668 reads

APLA-L is an un-moderated discussion list for people who are interested in library issues in Atlantic Canada. The APLA list is:

- a place to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events
- a source of current information about the actions of the APLA Executive
- a forum for sharing questions, comments and ideas about library services
- a place to post job advertisements.

To subscribe to the APLA list, send the command sub apla-list to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

To send a message to everyone on the list, use: apla-list@lists.dal.ca.

To stay on the list but suspend your messages (while on vacation, for instance), send the command set apla-list nomail to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

When you want to receive message again, send the command set apla-list mail.

To unsubscribe from the list, send the command unsub apla-list.

If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster:

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