

News from New Brunswick

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News from New Brunswick Public Libraries

- The New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) released a new three-year strategic plan in July. The *NBPLS Strategic Plan 2017-2020: Connect, Learn, Read, Play, Create, Succeed* is [available on the NBPLS website here](#).
- In celebration of Canada 150, NB public libraries expanded upon their established partnership with Kings Landing, where patrons could use their library card to check out passes to the historical settlement. In March, patrons could check out passes to the *Village historique acadien*, in May, to the New Brunswick Museum, in September, to Kings Landing, and in October, they will be able to check out passes to the newly renovated and expanded Beaverbrook Art Gallery. Patrons can check out one pass per library card. The passes automatically expire after a certain date, meaning they do not have to be returned to the library. The passes are available from any public library in New Brunswick.
- NBPLS has developed a new provincial policy to support libraries that have the space and resources to supply temporary art and artisan exhibition spaces. This aims to support artists and artisans and enhance the cultural and creative vitality of the community.

News from UNB Libraries

Three book launches have marked the start of the academic year at UNB Libraries:

- On September 15, *Tappan Adney and the Heritage of the St. John River Valley*, authored by Keith Helmut (Chapel Street Editions, 2017). Adney (born 1868 in Athens, Ohio ; died Woodstock, N.B. 1950) was a linguist, ethnographer, natural history scientist, wildlife illustrator, journalist, historian, writer, and pioneering legal defender of Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) treaty rights. He is credited with saving the Indigenous knowledge of how to build birch bark canoes, considered one of the most significant projects of cultural preservation in the history of Canada.
- On September 21, *Whispers of Mermaids and Wonderful Things: Atlantic Canadian Poetry and Verse for Children*, edited by Sheree Fitch and Anne Hunt (Nimbus, 2017). The first-ever anthology of Atlantic Canadian children's poetry, the book had its beginning in the Eileen Wallace Children's Literature Collection at UNB and took years to

research and assemble. This is a landmark event in the history of Atlantic Canadian publishing.

- And on October 5, *Settling Twice: Lessons from Then and Now* by Maine author Deborah Joy Corey (Islandport Press, 2017). A New Brunswick native, Corey has chosen UNB Libraries as the repository of her archival collection, which currently consists of material from her award-winning first novel, *Losing Eddie*.

UNB Libraries' Centre for Digital Scholarship (CDS) has been engaged in a multi-year project of digitizing New Brunswick newspapers. The CDS digital imaging team reached 2 million scanned newsprint pages this past summer. The online archive (which includes the *Telegraph Journal*, *Times & Transcript*, and *Daily Gleaner*) was launched and made available to BNI's online subscribers earlier this year, and is now available for use within UNB Libraries.

The Library Systems Group has completed and launched an extensive upgrade to the Passamaquoddy-Maliseet Language Portal, which combines captioned documentary film, spoken-word recordings, and a bilingual language dictionary into a unique electronic resource. In late May, developers Jake Sanford and Jeremy McDermott demonstrated the portal to a group of educators, linguists, and Passamaquoddy speakers (several of whom appear in portal videos) at the Wabanaki Cultural Centre in Calais, Maine.

The Harriet Irving Library at UNB will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a program of special events beginning this fall.

News from Mount Allison Libraries and Archives

The Mount Allison University Libraries & Archives had an eventful end-of-term and summer. Below is a round-up of our activities over the past several months:

- Music Librarian Laura Snyder was invited to speak in the Mount Allison Interdisciplinary Conversations series in the spring of 2017. The topic of the year was "circles" and Laura's talk was entitled "Circles of Knowledge."
- Public Services Librarian Jeff Lilburn began his term as president of the Mount Allison Faculty Association (MAFA) in May. Jeff has served for a number of years on the MAFA executive, and on its negotiating teams during the last two rounds of collective bargaining.
- Laura Landon will be filling in for Jeff Lilburn as the subject librarian for Sociology in the 2017-18 academic year. Laura served as a Public Services Librarian at Mount Allison for two separate sabbatical replacements in 2013 - 2015, and has been Head of Access Services since July 2015.

- Music Librarian Laura Snyder is a member of the Music Library Association Working Group on Information Literacy. This group will be discussing a possible Music Library version of the new ACRL Framework for Information Literacy and working toward a proposal of an information literacy plenary session for the 2019 MLA annual meeting.
- Librarian Jeff Lilburn presented the following paper at the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians conference at Ryerson University in May 2017: “Sociopolitical Barriers to Information and Community Well Being: Implications for Librarian Teaching Practice”. Jeff’s paper deals with information that is missing, modified or suppressed, and how librarians’ teaching practice can help students and communities contend with circumstances in which political or corporate power creates conditions where reliable information is not made available. His paper looks at the 2015 firing of New Brunswick’s Chief Medical Officer of Health and the fate of her investigation into aerial herbicide spraying. It examines the implications that missing information and evidence can have on public knowledge about important health issues, and considers the role librarians can play in contesting sociopolitical barriers to information.
- Librarian Anita Cannon presented her sabbatical research at the Environmental Studies Association of Canada Conference in Toronto in June 2017. Her presentation, “The State of Access to Government Information on the Environment in New Brunswick,” showed deficiencies in public access to environmental information. Drawing on recent reviews, audits, academic studies, and government reports, Anita’s paper examines key Canadian government information disclosure mechanisms and how well they meet the requirements of the Aarhus convention in ensuring access to environmental information, with a focus on New Brunswick.
- Librarian Jeff Lilburn and Sociology professor Erin Steuter gave a presentation titled “Fake News on the Rise: Tips for Savvy Media Engagement” at the University of New Brunswick in September.
- Systems Librarian Elizabeth Stregger had an article published in September in the Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication. The article, co-written with University of Saskatchewan librarian Crystal Hampson, examines a method and discusses the limitations and implications of using article-level metrics to calculate cost per use for Open Access (OA) article processing charges (APCs). Citation (from the website): Hampson, C., & Stregger, E. (2017). Measuring Cost per Use of Library-Funded Open Access Article Processing Charges: Examination and Implications of One Method. Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication, 5(1). DOI: <http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2182>
- Librarians Elizabeth Millar and Elizabeth Stregger launched the library’s Truth & ReconciliACTION Film Series in October. It aims to help students, staff, faculty and community members deepen their understanding about Indigenous issues and the truth & reconciliation process. [The library will screen six documentaries in October and November.](#)

- Librarians Anita Cannon and Laura Landon launched a survey in October on the use of government information and freedom-of-information (FOI) requests among academics in Atlantic Canada. The survey focuses on New Brunswick, but asks questions related to academics' use of government information federally and in all provinces. They hope to gain information about how many academics make use of government information and FOI requests, and how effectively they are able to get access to government information. The survey, [available here](#), is open until Nov. 26.