

APLA 2009 Halifax

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Conference News & Updates

Submitted by Sara Gillis

Workshops are being confirmed, exhibitor prices have been set, the website is being tweaked, and an array of social events are in the works! Here are a few things the Conference Planning Committee has been up to...

New Committee Members

The APLA 2009 Conference Planning Committee would like to welcome the following new members. Beth Gerstenberger (BGerstenberger@astheology.ns.ca) is the Local Arrangements/Social Committee Chair, and Catherine Kelly (kellycw@gov.ns.ca) and Carol Morris (morrisc@gov.ns.ca) will co-chair the Registration Committee. The committee would like to thank Denise Parrott, who has stepped down as Registration Chair, for all of the work she has done.

Conference Website

The APLA 2009 website will be up and running in early January. The launch will be announced to the listserv.

Facebook

APLA Conference 2009 is now on Facebook. Check it out at <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/event.php?eid=44733865228>.

Don't Forget Your Dancing Shoes!

Local Arrangement/Social Committee Chair Beth Gerstenberger has confirmed that the JP Ellis Trio will be providing entertainment following the Merit Awards Banquet on Friday night, June 12th. Pianist, organist and singer JP Ellis, drummer Patrick Ellis, and bassist Mike Lee

entertained APLA at the 2005 conference and we're thrilled to have them back!

Conference Facilities

The Conference Planning Committee recently toured the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel and checked out the very the impressive meeting and banquet facilities. If you think you'll be looking to relax after a presenting a session or after a night of dancing to the J.P. Ellis Trio, check out the hotel's spa, *The Interlude* (<http://www.interlude.com>).

As always, if you have questions or comments please contact us at info@apla2009.ca.

Sara Gillis
Promotions/Marketing Chair
APLA 2009 Halifax
June 10 – 13, 2009



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JOIN THE APLA DISCUSSION LIST

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 listserv@lists.dal.ca. To unsubscribe from the list, send the command "unsub apla-list" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster, Sarah Gladwell, at sarah.gladwell@qnb.ca.



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**INTERESTED IN
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APLA 2009 CONFERENCE?****It's never too early to let us know!**

APLA conferences run smoothly thanks to the assistance of dedicated volunteers who carry out an array of tasks including

- staffing the registration desk,
- convening sessions,
- setting up IT and A/V equipment

And many more

If you are interested in helping out next June send your name and contact information to

Debbie Costelo
debbie.costelo@nscc.ca

APLA Conference 2009

**Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 10 – June 13, 2009**



From the President's Desk

Season's Greetings!

APLA has also been busy and I would like to tell you about some of the things the Executive has been doing on your behalf.

The APLA Executive met in Halifax at the end of October for our annual Fall meeting. It was wonderful to get the Executive together and discuss face to face the many programs and services we offer. The meeting lasted the entire day! While everyone was tired, I think everyone was also satisfied with what we accomplished. I would like to thank Lynn Somers, APLA Secretary, who hosted the meeting at the beautiful Keshen Goodman Library in Halifax.

I need to report to the membership that we neglected to vote on a Financial Auditor for next year at our 2008 OGM. As you know Peter Glenister has graciously served APLA in this capacity for many years and has agreed to serve in this capacity for 2009. But we needed to make it official. Our outgoing Parliamentarian, Norman Horrocks and our incoming Parliamentarian, Lloyd Melanson, suggested the way forward: ask Peter if he would agree to serve (he agreed); have the Executive vote at its Fall meeting to accept Peter as Financial Examiner (we did) and to report back to the membership that we have done this (I am now doing.) The Executive apologizes to the membership and Peter for our mistake and extend our thanks to him for agreeing to serve APLA as Financial Examiner for 2009.

The mood of the meeting was very positive. The reason? APLA is now an association that is in the black – we presently have some money to offer new initiatives to the membership. This is the result of several things, such as transitioning the Bulletin from paper to electronic, Ruth Cordes' excellent work to move our advertisers over to the Bulletin's new electronic format and the positive revenue realized from the APLA 2008 conference. Financially, APLA is on very positive footing. Stay tuned to hear more about new opportunities from your provincial VPs and directly from the Executive in the New Year.

The Conference Planning Committee is doing a tremendous job getting ready for the 2009 conference. I would like to thank Debbie Costello and her team for all their work. I know you all have the dates June 10th – 13th marked in your calendars. It is going to be a great time!

As we get closer to the end of year holidays, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and relaxing holiday. This has been an exciting year for APLA. And I am convinced that 2009 will bring many more positive happenings. Take this time to relax with family and friends and take a break from all things library. While we will all hit the ground running in January (because that's what we do), now is a time to rest and reflect. Enjoy!

All the best, Su

Su Cleyle, scleyle@mun.ca
APLA President



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Announcing – the ALISE/Norman Horrocks Leadership Award

This award recognizes a new ALISE member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ALISE activities. This award addresses a number of concerns relevant to the Association, including: the need to attract new members and retain their membership as a lifelong commitment; the need to develop and recognize those new members with outstanding leadership qualities as future leaders of ALISE at the highest levels; and, the need to recognize newer members for service to the organization rather than limiting recognition at this stage to academic achievements.

What: One annual award of \$500 (plus a certificate). In years when there is no qualified and/or worthy applicant, the award will not be given.

When: The award will be given annually starting with the 2009 ALISE Conference.

Who: This award is open to any ALISE member who has been a member for no more than seven years (including years as a student member, if applicable), at the time the award is given. An individual may only receive this award once.

How: The award will be administered by the ALISE Awards Committee. Nominations of eligible applicants should be made directly to the Awards Committee by July 15, 2009. Nomination packages must include: a letter of nomination (no more than one page, single-spaced), describing the ways in which the nominee has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ALISE activities (e.g., participation in SIG activities; organization of ALISE conference events; service on ALISE committees; recruitment or retention of other new ALISE members; etc.) and noting the date that the nominee first joined ALISE; and, supporting documentation, including the nominee's current CV and letters of support that address the criteria listed above. Nominations will be adjudicated by the ALISE/Norman Horrocks Leadership Award Committee. Results of the competition will be announced on or before October 1.

Nominations for the 2010 ALISE/Norman Horrocks Leadership Award should be submitted electronically (as attached PDF, Word or Rich Text files) no later than *July 15, 2009* to James M. Matarazzo, Chair of the ALISE/Horrocks Award Committee, at james.matarazzo@simmons.edu

SCHOLARSHIP, AWARDS AND GRANTS

Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association administers the Carin Somers Scholarship Trust. The trust provides an annual scholarship, valued at approximately \$2,000, in her name to assist a Canadian citizen who is an Atlantic Provinces resident needing financial assistance to undertake or complete the academic requirements leading to a degree in Library and Information Studies.

Selection of the recipient will be recommended by a committee of the four Provincial Vice Presidents and the President-Elect to the Executive Committee.

The successful applicant will have been accepted in a School of Graduate Studies as a candidate for a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies accredited by the American Library Association. The award will normally be announced at the Annual Atlantic Provinces Library Association Spring Conference.

Application forms are available online in both [English](#) and in [French](#).

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

Don Moses
Librarian
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Holland College
140 Weymouth St.
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Tel: (902) 566-9635
Fax: (902) 566-9522
Email: dmoses@hollandc.pe.ca

First Timer's Conference Grant

To be eligible, an applicant must be a personal member of APLA, residing in Atlantic Canada, and planning to attend her/his first APLA annual conference. Grants are allocated, consistent with general APLA guidelines, to help meet conference related expenses. If more applications are received than can be met by the fund, money will be awarded by drawing from the names of all eligible applicants. Recipients will be expected to write a short report, for the Executive and the APLA Bulletin, summarizing their conference experience. Applicants should include name, business address, chosen means for contacting (mail, e-mail, telephone, fax) estimated costs (travel, accommodation, meals, registration), and a signed compliance with eligibility requirements.

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

Su Cleye
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APLA MEMORIAL AWARDS

The APLA Memorial Award provides financial assistance for study or research in the field of librarianship. While there will be no award for 2008-09, donations to the Trust are always welcome as a means of assisting the professional development of future members and for honouring past members.

For more information about the award, or to make a donation to the trust, please contact:

Erin Alcock
Convener, APLA Memorial Awards
Committee
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APLA MERIT AWARD

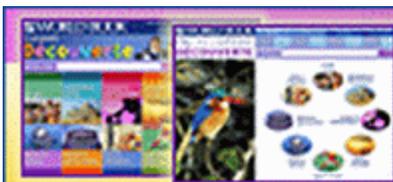
The APLA Merit Award is presented at the Banquet during the Annual Conference. This award honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library services in the Atlantic Provinces.

Some of the contributions that might be considered in selecting a person for this award are: leadership in library associations at the local, regional and provincial levels; contributions to the development, application and utilization of library services and library systems; significant contribution to library literature.

Here is the list of Past Recipients of Merit Award.

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

Donna Bourne-Tyson
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TEENS AND PLEASURE READING

By Vivian Howard

As a self-confessed avid reader, I've long been fascinated by the topic of reading for pleasure. Why do some people find such satisfaction and fulfillment from reading while others regard reading as a chore? What factors make a difference in establishing lifelong reading habits? What factors influence a reader's choice of reading materials? These questions have not been much discussed in the information science research literature although a few recent surveys have raised the profile of reading for pleasure as a subject for research investigation.

Recent Surveys on Pleasure Reading

A 2004 poll conducted by the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts, the *Reading at Risk* study, tracked a steady decline in literary reading by adult Americans over the past twenty years, with the steepest decline among the youngest age group surveyed, 18-24 year-olds. In Canada, a similar study, *Reading and Buying Books for Pleasure*, was conducted by the department of Canadian Heritage as a national telephone survey in January 2005, but with dramatically different findings. *Reading and Buying Books for Pleasure* was the first major national survey of Canadian reading and book-purchasing habits since the survey *Reading in Canada* (1991) and asked almost two thousand Canadians aged 16 and over about their reading behaviours and preferences, their reading skills, their attitudes towards reading, their use of the public library, and their book-buying habits. In contrast to the American *Reading at Risk* study, this survey concluded that, in Canada, reading for pleasure is a "solidly established and widespread habit with little or no change over the last 15 years."

While these two surveys raise some intriguing questions about national differences in attitudes towards reading, neither examines the reading habits of young teens, an unfortunate omission since much previous research tracks the beginning of the decline in pleasure reading to early adolescence. In 2003, the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) began a series of literacy assessments to determine how well students are developing the strategies needed to meet the outcomes in the Atlantic Canada English Language Arts Curriculum in grades 2 and 9 (Literacy Assessment Results, 2006). The 2006-2007 HRSB Literacy Assessment results reveal that only 55 per cent of the grade 9 students, in comparison with 72% of grade 2 students, self-identified as "readers" even though 98 per cent were able to read a text at grade level. Thus, it appears that in Halifax Regional School Board as elsewhere, reading for pleasure declines rather dramatically as students enter junior high school.

My Research Study

With these surveys as context, I decided to conduct my own investigation of the role of reading for pleasure amongst junior high school students in the Halifax Regional Municipality, and designed a research study to investigate the following questions:

1. Why do young teens (aged 12-15) read for pleasure?
 - i. What role does reading for pleasure fill in their lives?
 - ii. What are the main barriers to reading for this age group?
 - iii. What are the main motivators to reading for this age group?
2. What strategies do 12-15 year olds use to select leisure reading material?
3. What do 12-15 year olds think of the public library?
 - i. What role does the public library play in their lives?
 - ii. What are the main barriers to public library use for this age group?
 - iii. What are the main motivators to public library use for this age group?

I was very fortunate to obtain funding from the APLA Memorial Fund as well as from the Dalhousie University Faculty of Graduate Studies Research Development Fund to launch my investigation. This funding was invaluable in allowing me to hire an MLIS student, Megan Fitzgibbons, as a research assistant. Data collection included a survey of a sample of 900 grade 7 to 9 students in all twelve geographic districts of the Halifax Regional School Board (distributed in October 2006 and January 2007) and a series of nine focus group discussions with 68 volunteers drawn from the survey participants, which took place between March and June, 2007. Participants were drawn from rural, suburban, and urban locations within the Halifax Regional Municipality. Both phases of this research project were designed in consultation with a research officer at the Halifax Regional School Board; anonymity and confidentiality of survey respondents was assured, and the names of individual students, schools or school districts were not identified in the data collection.

Findings

Teens and Reading

Halifax teens are reading!

This study suggests that reading for pleasure is a fairly well-established leisure pastime amongst young Halifax teens. A substantial number of respondents, 28.9%, report reading for pleasure daily and only 14.2% of respondents report that they never read for pleasure. Fiction is the most popular recreational reading material, with 69.4% of respondents reporting that they spend time reading fiction for pleasure every month. Magazines are also a popular format and almost half of all respondents, 49.4%, report reading them monthly. In short, young Halifax teens view reading positively and 78.2% of survey respondents consider themselves "active readers." This finding contrasts positively with the HRSB finding of 55% perhaps because this survey included a very inclusive definition of reading, specifically encouraging teens to consider formats such as magazines, comics, graphic novels, etc., whereas the HRSB assessment did not include a definition of "reading" and simply asked students "How

much do you read outside of school?" In the HRSB survey, respondents were left to formulate their own interpretation of what was meant by "reading" and may have defaulted to a narrow definition of "reading novels" or "reading literature."

Self-defined reading status: what does it really mean?

In the survey, teens were asked to self-identify as "active" or "inactive" readers. Self-identified inactive readers reported spending more time watching television, using the computer and playing videogames and less time reading than did active readers but, interestingly, despite their self-identification, most of these teens apparently are doing some reading in their leisure time. While there is a strong statistically significant difference in the time spent by active and inactive readers reading books (especially fiction), magazines, and poetry, there is no statistically significant difference in the amount of time they spend reading comic books, graphic novels or websites. Clearly, most inactive readers are reading, they just aren't reading the same things as active readers and their choice of reading material makes them self-identify as non-readers. Have they internalized a message from their teachers, their parents or their peers that their reading choices do not constitute "real" reading?

Time to read

Participants indicated that their favourite time to read for pleasure is in the evening, particularly just before bed. Interestingly, self-identified "inactive" readers are significantly more likely to have television sets in their bedrooms and significantly less likely to have bookshelves. It appears that if teens have television sets in their bedrooms, the likelihood is increased that they will watch television before bed rather than read. Is having a television set in the bedroom a cause or a result of inactive readers' lower reading frequency?

The gender gap

Also of note is the apparent reading gender gap in reading habits. While this survey suggests that there is little actual gender difference in levels of active reading, girls have a significantly more positive attitude to reading overall and read significantly more fiction books, magazines and poetry whereas boys spend much more time reading comics and graphic novels.

Peer friendship and reading

Girls and boys also report dramatically different perceptions of personal influences on their reading: girls are much more likely to feel that their friends are an important influence on their reading choices whereas boys feel that their mothers are the most important influence on their reading. Many girls describe a cyclical relationship between friendship and pleasure reading: these teens read the same materials as their friends and are then able to participate in conversations about their reading and in book and magazine exchanges, which further strengthen the friendship bonds and firmly establish group membership.

Adult mentorship and reading

Girls and boys appear to respond differently to a lack of adult reading mentorship: while adult encouragement appears to be a critical factor in turning young boys into active teen readers, it may be somewhat less critical for at least some girls. Several teen girls who describe a lack of family encouragement (or even outright discouragement) of early reading experiences are self-described avid readers. However, girls who lack early positive reinforcement for their reading habit within the family seem to be less likely to use their pleasure reading as an opportunity to make social connections later in life. The solitary nature of their early reading experiences appears to persist into their teens years; for these teen girls, reading has always been and continues to be something they do for pleasure, but in isolation, and is not a habit to be shared with either friends or family.

Teens and Public Libraries

Buying, not borrowing

Respondents report a strong preference for buying their pleasure reading material rather than borrowing it from the public library. While the vast majority, 87.5%, of respondents have a public library card, most only use the public library occasionally. Twenty-eight percent visit the public library monthly to borrow books for pleasure reading and half that number, 14%, visit the public library monthly to borrow other types of reading material (magazines, comics, newspapers).

Attitude toward the public library

Why do teens only use the public library occasionally, preferring to buy rather than borrow their reading material?

1. Most participants indicated having little rapport with public library staff, rating them amongst the least important of personal influences on their pleasure reading habits. Only 8% of respondents state that they think public librarians are an important influence on their choice of pleasure reading material, in contrast with mothers/female guardians, rated as a very important influence by 31.6%, and friends, rated as a very important influence by 33.2%.
2. A substantial number of respondents indicated that the public library does not offer programmes that are interesting for their age group: 47% of respondents stated that the library does not offer interesting programmes for teens and 22.4% indicated that they don't know about library programmes. During focus group discussions, teens acknowledged that they usually don't know about events at their local library branch and don't think of the library very often. Currently, library programmes are promoted on the library website and in the library's seasonal print in-house newsletter which is freely available within the library. However, teens rarely scan either of these sources and so frequently remain uninformed about relevant library programmes and services. More targeted and personalized promotion of library events and services could be an effective strategy to raise the profile of the public library with teen patrons.

3. Several teens complained that the teen book collection is too dated and "run down," with incomplete runs of popular series books.
4. Teens reported never or seldom using the public library website to help them find books for pleasure reading, preferring the "value added" features provided by commercial sites such as Amazon, which allow them to track what others have found (or bought) to help in their discovery process.
5. Teens frequently complained that the physical space provided for teens in their local branch was inadequate and offered many ideas (too many to report here!) for what they would like in a teen library space.

The challenges of choice

Many teens report feelings of frustration and confusion when choosing reading material. Teens, particularly those with less confidence and experience in book selection, report relying almost exclusively on elements of the book itself (title, cover art, spine) when choosing reading material. These teens often make unsatisfactory choices, which further discourages their reading habit. Many teens described feeling overwhelmed by the number of books on the library shelves and suggested that a genre-based organization would make it easier for them to find books by browsing, their normal book selection strategy.

Conclusion

This was a fascinating opportunity to learn more about the role of reading for pleasure in the lives of young teens. While many of the findings of this research project are encouraging, dispelling the myth that pleasure reading has been replaced by the internet, videogames, and a wealth of other multimedia options, participants also provided many useful suggestions for how public library services could be more relevant and helpful to their age group. In conclusion, I would like to thank all the participating junior high schools, the teens who chose to take part in the study, and APLA for providing funding that made this project possible.

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NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES

NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

Submitted by Nadine Goguen

PUBLIC LIBRARIES Fundy Library Region

The 10 libraries in the **Fundy Library Region** offered a variety of programs and contests during this year's Canadian Library Month.

Author **Melynda Jarratt** launched and read from her new book *Captured Hearts: New Brunswick's War Brides* at the **St. Croix Public Library** in October.

The **East Branch Library** in Saint John held a special celebration on October 15th with its 40th anniversary event. Mayor **Ivan Court** and MLA **Roly McIntyre** paid tribute to the library's years of valuable service to the community. Regional Director **Ian Wilson** said those present were moved when "a longstanding patron presented a heartfelt tribute to staff and the services provided, emphasizing the important role the East Branch has played in her life."

At the **Saint John Free Public Library**, Cape Breton author **Brian Tucker**, recent nominee for the 2008 [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) First Novel Award,

read from his work *Big White Knuckles*. Accompaniment of live Cape Breton music added extra atmosphere to the program. Sci-fi and fantasy author **K.V. Johansen** also read from her works, as well as offered a writing workshop for teens, as part of the Canadian Library month activities.

New signage on the library's brick façade overlooking the Atrium at Market Square is now catching the eyes of Saint John residents. Huge bold letters indicate it is the public library, while the book shelves framing the windows are enhanced with bright graphics of giant library books. The goal of the Library Board, said Director **Joann Hamilton-Barry** is to have "everyone in the greater Saint John area know that there is a public library in Market Square." The addition of new street signs offering directions to the City's three public libraries will also aid in reaching this goal.

Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region

The **Moncton Public Library** held its successful annual fundraiser on October 26th, **Magnum Opus**. The event included the very popular author and forensic anthropologist **Kathy Reichs**, a silent auction and a local artists' art auction which all raised over 20,000\$ to help the library buy new books.

All staff in the region participated in the annual **Regional Training Day** on November 28th. Strategic planning was the main theme of the day. All libraries are presently working on developing their 5 year plans. This is fostered by a New Brunswick Public Library Service initiative and its five library regions.

A-W-K said goodbye to **Thérèse Arseneault**, the Head of Reference Services at the Moncton Public Library who retired on November 29th. Thérèse began work in our region in 1974, fresh out of McGill Library School and her name became synonymous with reference services in New Brunswick. We also said farewell to **Yolande Thivierge**, a well-loved library assistant at the Shediac Public Library since 1992.

We welcomed new employees: **Nicole Bourque** at the Shediac Public Library and **Marianne LeBlanc** at the Dieppe Public Library, both library assistants.

Haut-Saint-Jean Library Region

This fall has been busy with training, Canadian Libraries Month activities and celebrating important milestones.

Staff in the region attended training sessions on Microsoft Excel, Outlook and Publisher and picked up some great new tips and tricks to make their work easier. **Pierre Van Eeckhout**, Head of Reference Services, trained staff on the new information literacy toolkit for New Brunswick Public Library Service, called **Info Savvy**. This toolkit is customizable for different ages, group sizes and topics of interest.



La **Bibliothèque publique Mgr-Plourde à Saint-François** a fêté son 25e anniversaire le 3 octobre. La communauté a participé en grand nombre.

Libraries celebrated Canadian Libraries Month by launching the new **Adult Literacy Collection**, offering special family activities, information sessions and workshops based on the theme "Your Library, Your World". More than 1725 people attended activities in the region throughout the month!

Nous avons dit au revoir à **Lucille Pineault**, aide-bibliothécaire à la Bibliothèque Dr-Lorne-J.-Violette de Saint-Léonard qui a pris sa retraite le

31 octobre après 30 ans de services. Nous lui souhaitons nos meilleurs vœux pour le futur.

Avec le départ de Lucille, nous sommes contents d'accueillir **Lore-Anne Carroll** comme aide-bibliothécaire à Saint-Léonard. Bienvenue dans la région !

York Library Region

The York Library Region enjoyed a very successful Canadian Libraries Month. Our central resource library, **Fredericton Public Library**, celebrated with a focus on the 100th anniversary of the publication of *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery. Authors **Budge Wilson** and **Elizabeth Epperly** introduced their new books, *Before Green Gables* and *Imagining Anne*, at a special book launch and afternoon tea. As well, an adult puppet show entitled *Anne and Gilbert Remember When* was performed. Five of the library's active book clubs also read and discussed the work. Most importantly, there was plenty of raspberry cordial for everyone!

The official opening of the newly renovated **McAdam Public Library** was held on November 4th. The event was a true community celebration: a choir from the McAdam Elementary School performed, the Rev. Kevin Cross officiated and volunteers from the Legion provided refreshments and snacks. The opening was well attended by McAdam residents with every seat in the audience full. Special guests included Senator **Marilyn Trenholme Counsell**, **Carl Urquhart**, MLA, York South and **Sylvie Nadeau**, Executive Director, New Brunswick Public Library Service.

The York Library Region and the Fredericton Public Library participated in the **Literacy Fair** held at Old Government House on November 6th. The event was a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Literacy Coalition of New Brunswick. We enjoyed the opportunity to promote the new provincial Adult Literacy Collection and public library services available to all New Brunswickers.

NBPLS - SBPNB

The **New Brunswick Public Library Service Provincial Office** (NBPLS) has had a busy fall and we are happy to report that some major initiatives are well underway!

Public libraries throughout the province are launching their comprehensive computer literacy tool, **Compy Savvy**. Compu Savvy is a toolkit focusing on computer-based training sessions including basic keyboarding and mouse skills, email, the internet, and Microsoft Office Word and Power Point. The toolkit consists of a series of modules that facilitate self-instruction, one-on-one tutorials, and group learning seminars. Compu Savvy is available to the public through workshops offered by reference librarians.

A training session was recently held for Regional Staff on using **LibPAS**, a statistics gathering tool developed by Counting Opinions. The new tool will allow NBPLS to automate the collection and publication of statistics.

In November, the integrated library system was upgraded to the most recent version, **Symphony 3.2.1**. The Director's Station module, a reporting tool, was implemented this year, and we are currently engaged in piloting and rolling out additional modules, including Inventory, Selection Lists, and the Outreach module.

Also on the technology front, NBPLS Provincial Office was pleased to enhance its online catalogue, **Vision**, with cover art and other content enrichment via Google's free tool, the Google Book Search Viewability API. Now, when patrons view the details of a book that is included in Google Books, they also see the cover art of the book and a link to more information.

NBPLS Provincial Office is in the midst of a special project to catalogue Canadian content in **Project Gutenberg**. By linking to these free e-books from cataloguing records in Vision, we hope to enhance patrons' awareness of these resources.

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Submitted by Louise McGillis

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

<http://www.npl.ca/>

The Provincial Information and Library Resources Board is conducting a review of the services offered by the St. John's Public Libraries. In order to get input from Library users the Board carried out a town hall meeting December 1, 2008 at the St. John's City Hall. What did users tell the Library Board? Stay tuned, we will report back in the next bulletin.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Memorial University

<http://www.library.mun.ca>

The Standing Committee on Research at Memorial University Libraries presented its annual Research Fair on November 27. Twenty people attended to hear two presentations. Lisa Goddard, Division Head for Systems and the Emerging Services Librarian at Memorial University of Newfoundland Libraries gave a presentation entitled, "Getting to the

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Université de Moncton

Publication d'un article du bibliothécaire Joë Bouchard sur l'imaginaire du Nord

Un article de Joë Bouchard, bibliothécaire à la Bibliothèque Champlain, a récemment été publié dans l'ouvrage *Les Nord(s) imaginaire(s)* (Presses de l'Université du Québec, 2008). Amorcé dans le cadre d'une maîtrise en études littéraires, l'article analyse la déconstruction de l'imaginaire nordique à l'œuvre dans une série de courtes fictions de l'auteur danois Jørn Riel, intitulée les *Raconters arctiques*.

Le collectif *Les Nord(s) imaginaire(s)* regroupe les articles de plus de vingt universitaires originaires notamment du Canada, d'Espagne, de Finlande, de France, d'Israël et de Suède. Il témoigne de l'émergence de la nordicité comme domaine de recherche en littérature, mais aussi en arts visuels et en études cinématographiques.

Source: a Survey of Quantitative Data Sources Available to the Everyday Librarian". Gillian Byrne, Division Head for Circulation and Document Delivery at Memorial University of Newfoundland Libraries, presented an interactive talk on "Demystifying Stats: a Primer on Basic Statistics". Both presentations were based on their articles published in the journal Evidence Based Library and Information Practice, Vol 2, No. 1 (2007)..

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association

<http://staff.library.mun.ca/nlla/>

This year the NLLA is very busy with the development of several new committees. The first is the Library Support Staff Interest Group to give library support staff a stronger voice in our Association. The second is the Website Committee who will develop a new site for the Association. We also have a Logo Committee who is organizing a contest for a new logo design with a \$500.00 cash prize (details on our website if you want to participate): <http://staff.library.mun.ca/nlla/logo.html>

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NOVA SCOTIA

Submitted by Darlene Beck

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

<http://www.valleylibrary.ca/>

Internet Connectivity

All of the Internet connectivity upgrades to our branches have been completed. Most branches in our region are enjoying a high speed line as a result of the newly awarded connectivity contracts through the Department of Education.

Equipment

A lab of eight computer workstations and an instructor station have been set up at library headquarters for the fall months using CAP equipment. This lab is being used to deliver training workshops to both branch and headquarters staff. One workshop focuses on multi-media functions, editing pictures, burning CDs, creating graphics, using scanners, photo printers, etc. The second of the workshops is on the Microsoft Office 2007 suite of software and includes, Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Publisher.

Community Access Program (CAP)

CAP funding for the 2008-09 fiscal year has arrived. Sites have been anxiously awaiting this much needed funding. In each of the past three or four years we have enjoyed a Fall/Winter youth program. It does not look like this will be available to most sites this year. Funding sources for this program have changed their focus, leaving CAP with a limited youth program this year. A few youth will be hired across the Province for regional projects.

A CAP Summit took place in Scotsburn in September. This was a great opportunity to reflect on CAP on its purpose and focus in the coming year. The Provincial Broadband initiative can be a good focus for CAP. CAP will be able to assist their communities in making the most of this service. Businesses will be able to offer more sophisticated services on-line while users will have the tools needed to take advantage of these services.

Automated Library System

We are working with the Provincial Library on enhancements to our web catalogue. Their programming staff has been able to add some third party content to our test catalogue. We will evaluate these additions for use in our live catalogue.

Branch Services Report

October was **Canadian Library Month** and it was celebrated through various special programs and events. In Wolfville, an afternoon of music

and song featuring local musicians and refreshments was enjoyed by library users. At the Kentville Library, the author/illustrator team of Ron & Sandra Lightburn were on hand for a reading from their new book *The Pumpkin People*. Berwick Library held their annual Pumpkin Painting event, and new sessions of "Babies and Books" began in Kentville, Wolfville and Windsor. In addition, we held a "Teen Read Week" featuring programs targeting 12-18 year olds. They included: Anime Nights, a Twilight Party, craft programs and an online contest.

A number of branch staff attended professional development workshops at the joint conference of the Library Boards/Nova Scotia Library Associations in October. AVRL was the hosting region of the 3-day event at Old Orchard Inn in Greenwich. Several public author presentations were part of the conference thanks to support of Canada Council for the Arts. They included authors Budge Wilson, Hadley Dyer, Frances Dixon, Marie-Louise Gay and Pamela Hickman.

The Bridgetown Friends of the Library received a bequest of slightly more than \$75,000 from the estate of Joyce DeVenney. This came as welcome news to the Friends group and the Town of Bridgetown whose joint efforts will see the library move from its basement home to the Revere Building on the main street. The money will be used for the renovations, and new furniture and shelving.

Fall used book sales were popular once again. The Kentville Friends held their second annual book sale, raising about \$1,000, and the Annapolis Royal Friends group also hosted a sale at the Farmers' Market, netting about \$450. Proceeds will be used to improve new or existing facilities.

Berwick Library, in co-operation with the Berwick Recreation Department, is offering a fall program called "Tots Storytime". Parents and little ones are invited to share in the fun and joy of reading, followed by a Moms & Tots activity session in the gymnasium. We are pleased to re-offer the popular preschool program "Popovers" at the Kingston Library. This is made possible by sponsorship from local community groups and private donations.

Staff is contributing to a new Staff Picks section on our website. For those who like to know what library staff is reading or recommending, please check it out!

Cape Breton Regional Library

<http://www.cbri.ca>

McConnell Library showcasing Celtic Culture

We've had a busy Fall at the McConnell Library in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Aside from our regular adult evening programs and afternoon Seniors' Cafés, we provided entertainment and education to our patrons with two great program series: a Gaelic Culture Series, and the Celtic



Tara MacNeil performing at the Gaelic Series Ceilidh in October

Conversations Series in association with the Celtic Colours International Festival.

The Gaelic Culture Series introduced interested patrons to Gaelic language, song, and storytelling, history

of the Highland Clearances, and of course included a milling

frific. We closed off the series with a Ceilidh where patrons got the chance to learn how to dance a Cape Breton square set. Our in-house talent showed when Programming Coordinator Tara MacNeil picked up the fiddle to play for the dancers!

During the Celtic Conversations Series, musicians visiting Cape Breton for the Celtic Colours International Festival come to the library to talk to patrons about their country, their culture and their music, and also to perform for them. This is a free lunchtime series

generously provided by the Celtic Colours organizers as one of the many educational events during the Festival. It is great to meet the artists in a relatively intimate atmosphere. We are never disappointed with the presentations. Our favorite this year was a group of young bag pipers from Cuba who were exploring their Spanish Celtic roots.



Cuban Bag Pipers at the Celtic Conversations

Lillian Murray Retires from Main-a-Dieu Branch



Head Librarian Faye MacDougall presents Lillian Murray with a retirement gift after almost 30 years at CBRL

Lillian Murray has retired after almost 30 years as library clerk at the Cape Breton Regional Library branch in the picturesque coastal village of Main-a-Dieu on the Marconi Trail northeast of Louisbourg. This small library branch is situated in the Coastal Discovery Centre, the old school converted into a centre for the community. Lillian moved with the library into this new facility in 2004

after many years in a tiny space in the Credit Union building. Many well wishers attended a party in Lillian's honour at the Coastal Discovery Centre to thank her for her many years of service and dedication to the

library and to the community. Diana Furlong will be taking over the reins in early December.

More Subject Guides on CBRL Website

Librarian Rebecca Boulter has developed several subject guides to assist patrons in locating information on a specific topic at CBRL. The guides are found on our website and include resources found in various parts of the library including: Adult Non-Fiction, Children's Collection, Reference, Vertical Files, Government Documents, and Websites. Rebecca has recently added subject guides on the Fortress of Louisbourg, Mi'kmaq History and Culture, and Using the Internet. These are a great resource for patrons and librarians alike, providing an easy way to start looking for information on popular topics.

Unfortunately, we are losing Rebecca as returns to her home turf in PEI in December. The PEI Library system will be gaining a great asset in Rebecca. We thank her for all she has done for the CBRL in her brief stay in Sydney. Her move follows the loss of another dynamic young librarian, Alison Black, who made the move to Estevan, Saskatchewan earlier this fall. We will miss Alison's smiling face, and both of their acting talents in our next theatrical fundraiser in the spring!

Eastern Counties Regional Library

<http://ecrl.library.ns.ca/>

The Petit de Grat Library partnered on October 18 with Nimbus Publishing and Volume One Book store in Port Hawkesbury to host a book launch for Petit de Grat native H el ene Boudreau. Boudreau's first novel, *Acadian Star*, written for middle-grade children, featured a mix of a contemporary "Acadian Star" competition with the element of the main character trapped in time during the Acadian deportation. The launch drew a large crowd of supporters and many library users who were pleased to welcome Helene back to the community as an author.

Following on the heels of that success, another Petit de Grat native, Shelley LeBlanc, returned to her home library to do a Book Talk on *Faith, Fate and Friendships*, a true story she wrote based on inspiration and miracles. LeBlanc spoke of her belief that people will discover their own inner power to change the course of their lives and "allow miracles to happen." The Petit de Grat Library is a fully bilingual branch that serves a large Acadian population.



ECRL staff welcomed author H el ene Boudreau to the Petit de Grat Library for her "Acadian Star" book launch. On hand to greet her were (left to right) Cathy Samson, Kenneth David, H el ene Boudreau, and Mary Landry.

Effective January 1st, 2009, the library is going to decrease the loan period for DVDs from 3 weeks to 1 week. Boxed sets will be excluded from the change and will continue with the 3-week period. This also will

not affect patrons using the Libr@ry Link services that are visited on a bi-monthly and monthly basis, or those receiving materials through household deliveries on a 6-week rotation.

ECRL management are now looking at ways to increase and improve the Gaelic titles in the library's collection following attendance at a recent workshop entitled *Gaelic Nova Scotia, Language, Culture, Continuity and Renewal*. The workshop, sponsored by the Nova Scotia Economic Development, provided networking opportunities for library staff and members of the Gaelic community with a focus on future growth. There is a growing resurgence in Gaelic language and culture in the region served by ECRL to which the Library has responded favorably and quickly in recognizing this growth. There are currently over 130 titles in the Library's collection with plans to increase this as the budget allows.

Western Counties Regional Library

<http://www.westerncounties.ca/>

A Decade of C@P Has Broadened Library Services

Training, technology and employment are part of the C@P package

For nearly a decade, the Community Access Program (C@P) has helped push Western Counties Regional Library beyond its doors, extending the library's services and network, and provided employment. "The impact of C@P on the library has been significant. It has broadened the library's reach," says library regional director Trudy Amirault. "We have attracted new patrons and different kinds of people than we did before."

All 10 branches of Western Counties Regional Library are C@P sites, providing Internet and computer access to more than 60,000 people in Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth counties and area visitors. The program has shaped the library and helped the regional library follow the trend of libraries becoming technology centres in addition to providers of reading material, movies, and music. Western Counties Regional Library is a major partner in C@P, working with both federal and provincial governments. Amirault is the vice chair of Nova Scotia Community Access Program Association.

C@P started in 1995 as a project of Industry Canada to bring Internet access to rural Canada and make the Information Highway accessible to all. In 1998, the provincial government became involved. Communities could apply to have C@P sites, but the impetus fell on the community to request a site and present a solid business case for it.

Because of the various approaches taken by communities, C@P developed in different ways. In this region, the regional library and the South West Shore Development Authority, the region's economic development agency, teamed up to bring C@P sites to the region. The regional library was the first public library in Nova Scotia to have all of its branches become C@P sites.

C@P has brought training opportunities. The library has offered a wide range of skill development course over the last 10 years. People come into the library to work on, send off their resumes, and research online. It has also been a big employer – especially among students. C@P at the library has created hundreds of jobs over the years, providing great experience for the young interns in the field of information technology.

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Tiffany d'Entremont was the C@P intern at the Pubnico Branch Library in Pubnico Head from June through August. A nursing student, d'Entremont appreciates the chance to find a decent job that helps improve her abilities on computers while allowing her to help others. It didn't hurt that she is also a regular user of the Pubnico library, making her familiar with the library, its staff and patrons.



Pubnico Branch Library C@P youth intern Tiffany d'Entremont spent the summer assisting patrons with e-mail, basic computer functions, the Microsoft Office suite and browsing the Internet.

"I like it," said d'Entremont.

She helped library visitors with e-mail, basic computer functions, the Microsoft Office suite, and the Internet.

The regional C@P coordinator Ryan McKenzie works out of the Gates Computer Lab at the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library in Yarmouth. McKenzie oversees the whole show, but during the summer months, he works with a coordinator of C@P's youth interns. Under his guidance, the intern coordinator made good use of the technology available to help the interns do their jobs.

This year's youth intern coordinator Jamie Spates said the group is geographically isolated, but the use of tools such as the MSN chat program and Facebook social networking site kept the interns connected and active. The interns could exchange ideas instantly, she said, adding the intern is never truly alone. Despite all of the project's successes, the future of C@P remains murky, Amirault says. "We're not really sure what is going to happen," she says. Federal funding for the program is never secure, but she believes the province is on board for the long haul.

Regardless of the future of C@P, the regional library will continue to provide public access to computers and the Internet, and computer training. "It's become a library mandate," Amirault says.

Halifax Public Libraries

<http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca>

Another Step Toward a New Central Library

Following many years of public consultation, the Halifax Regional Municipality Council has taken another step toward the realization of a new Central Library. On November 18, Council approved funding principles to support construction of a new Central Library, and options to finance the project are currently being examined. The funding plan is expected to be completed in spring 2009 and will allow Council to make key decisions about how best to finance a new Library. Once that plan is endorsed by Council, the timing of the Library design and construction will be better defined. Council previously approved construction and the

site in principle. Regular updates on the Central Library project, as well as background information, can be obtained at www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca.

Captain William Spry Library Getting a Facelift

The Captain William Spry Public Library is about to get a makeover. The 10,016 sq. ft. branch of HPL has been in its current location since 1983, and serves the Purcell's Cove - Armdale and Spryfield - Herring Cove districts of HRM. Among the planned changes, the branch will be getting a brand new Imagination Station to provide educational play for little ones, more public-access computers, a new space for teens, more seating and reading room for adults, and self-check out technology. Work is expected to be completed in the winter of 2009.

Reaching Out to the Community

Library staff at two HPL branches, Cole Harbour and Musquodoboit Harbour, are breaking new ground in community development. Both branches have started a comprehensive program that will allow branch staff to respond to the identified needs of their community members. The process is the first of its type in a rural setting in Canada, so the Library is very excited about undertaking this endeavour, and looks forward to building more community-based initiatives by actively engaging with current library users and under-served community members.

New Environmental Titles at the Library

Thanks to a generous grant from the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, the Library is now able to offer over 330 new titles on environmental issues. The books are aimed at children at the elementary and junior high school level and cover a wide range of subject areas including climate change, wildlife conservation, hybrid cars, animal rights, and solar energy. The new titles are available at all 14 branches of the Library.



Walking Proud!



Pictured, from left to right: Heather Lally, Denis Cunningham, Doug Woumell, Carrie Muller, Kevin Croft, Tanya Delorey, Robert Crowe, Sharon Haley-Mancini, Tracey Stone, Matthew McCarthy, Chance Husbands, Helena Sergakis, Alison Ambi and Sarah Evans.

Staff from Halifax Public Libraries braved the rain and put on a great show for the 75,000 spectators who gathered to watch the 13th annual Chronicle-Herald Parade of Lights in downtown Halifax on November 15. Dressed as storybook characters, the Library staff had a great time making fairy tales come to life. Even

the driving rain couldn't dampen their enthusiasm, and it showed: the Library was rewarded with the award for best walking group! Everyone had a great time, and next year's entry is already being planned.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Dalhousie University

<http://www.library.dal.ca/>

GIS Day 2008

Geography matters! The Killam Library, home of Dalhousie's [GIS Centre](#), hosted an open house to celebrate GIS Day 2008 on November 19, with a full day of special events. This was the 10th anniversary of this exciting event. 74 countries on seven continents held nearly one thousand events to showcase real-world applications of geographic information systems.

Here at Dal, GIS Day featured special guests from ESRI Canada, from GeoNova and from HRM. Events included a poster display/contest, a



James Boxall (left) and Bill Maes cutting the GIS Day cake.

geography trivia contest, a treasure-hunt/geocaching event and two workshops: an introduction to the basics of GIS and a more in-depth "So You Want to Make a Map" session. Organizer and GIS Analyst Jennifer Strang set up a fascinating display of large satellite images of locations around the globe and challenged visitors to identify "Where in the World" they were. These included the Great Barrier Reef, the city of Montreal, the Great Wall of China and the island of Santorini. A huge cake decorated with the GIS Day logo was ceremonially cut by James Boxall, Head of the GIS Center, and Bill Maes, University Librarian. GIS Day 2008 was such a great success that plans are already underway for next year's event!

Kellogg Health Sciences Library

<http://www.library.dal.ca/kellogg>

Health Information Session Planned for APLA Conference

The [Pew Internet and Health Project](#) has revealed large gaps between the accessibility and reliability of health information on the internet. 80% of Americans have searched for health information on the web, but only 25% have bothered to check the source and date of the info sometimes if at all. (http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/190/report_display.asp)

This gap is a worry for health care providers and librarians.

Recent cooperative library ventures in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia (incorporating health, public and academic libraries) have made the Cochrane Library available to all provincial residents via their public

libraries. The purpose of the Cochrane Library is to identify reliable health information for consumers and health care providers and hopefully closing that gap studies such as the Pew Project have identified. With brief plain word summaries along with clinical evaluation, the database targets both health consumers and providers.

The *Cochrane Library* is gradually being made available to whole nations. Along with being made freely available to the poorest countries in the world, the Cochrane is now available to all citizens of:

- Australia,
- England,
- Finland,
- Ireland,
- India,
- New Zealand,
- Northern Ireland,
- Norway,
- Poland,
- Scotland,
- Spain,
- Sweden
- Wales

The European Union is investigating a subscription for its 25 member nations.

In Canada the *Cochrane Library* is currently available to all citizens of:

- Nova Scotia
- New Brunswick
- Saskatchewan
- Northwest Territories
- Yukon
- Nunuvut

As with most health knowledge delivery in Canada, there are a lot of gaps. There is an effort underway by the Canadian Cochrane Collaboration, with the support of the Canadian Health Libraries Association to get a national license for the *Cochrane Library*: <http://nlcl.epetitions.net>

At this year's APLA Conference a panel will be discussing health information, what it is and how to find it. We hope to discuss the Cochrane Library and beyond.

“New” Medical Schools in New Brunswick, Brave New Library Services

Medical Schools across Canada are embracing a new educational model called “Distributed Medical Education.” The purpose of distributed medical education is to recruit and train physicians where they are needed. The distributed model achieves this through multiple campuses delivering the same curriculum via videoconferencing and other broad band platforms. This trend has landed firmly in New Brunswick with a francophone curriculum delivered for two years now by Universite de Sherbrooke with its partner Universite de Moncton. The New Brunswick

anglophone curriculum, to be delivered by Dalhousie and University of New Brunswick (Saint John) is scheduled to begin in September 2010.

For libraries, the distributed curriculum is a variation on a theme played out locally and abroad. Multi-site curricula and library support are old hat but for the changes wrought by new technology. Electronic collections are the no brainer part of the equation. The complications are the familiar issues around consortial buying, which is at least familiar territory. But questions arise such as:

- Whose server holds the electronic collection
- How do you sort out a viable acquisition model

User support issues are one of the largest challenges:

- Planning for online Bibliographic Instruction
- Building up the competencies of faculty and staff at a distance
- Real time reference support
- Where's the help desk, etc.

For libraries these are early days. But even as things shake out, the staged introduction of new classes year by year give the libraries some confirmation of the differing needs of medical students as they progress through the curriculum. Anecdotal experience still needs to be confirmed but assumptions are being adjusted and should help develop better use support both on site and remotely.

Three other Canadian examples:

Northern Ontario Medical School (Sudbury and Thunder Bay)
<http://www.normed.ca/>

University of British Columbia
Northern Campus, Island Campus + Fraser Valley Campus
http://www.med.ubc.ca/education/distributed_programs.htm

University of Western Ontario (Windsor and London Campuses)
<http://www.uwindsor.ca/units/medicalbuilding/construction.nsf/inToc/24CB8F79500D27F>

Sexton Design & Technology Library

<http://www.library.dal.ca/sexton>

Helen Powell Appointed Design & Technology Librarian



Helen Powell, recently appointed the Design & Technology Librarian, Sexton Design and Technology Library, Dalhousie University

Helen Powell has been appointed the Design & Technology Librarian, Sexton Design and Technology Library, Dalhousie University.

Helen brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position and is well known and respected in both the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Architecture and Planning. In the past year she has been instrumental in reshaping the Library to focus predominantly on public services, preparing it for an expanded role on the Sexton

campus. She has already begun planning for the possibility of a new library / Learning Commons to be an integral part of a proposed new Engineering building.

Helen has the skills and determination to grow the influence and value of the Sexton Design & Technology Library on the Sexton Campus and will be a valuable asset to the Library's administrative team.

Saint Mary's University

<http://www.smu.ca/administration/library>

These past few months have been hectic ones here at the Patrick Power Library. Among the things keeping us busy:

The Atrium Project

This new 3-storey complex being built adjacent to the library is well under way, with a scheduled completion date of September, 2009. The main floor will include a student-centred global learning commons which will flow into the Library's Reference Room. Details of the administrative relationship between the library and the new space are still being ironed out. But we do know is that it will mean a new orientation for visitors to the library, with new circulation and reference desks moving into the entrance area and a reconsideration of how the *former* lobby and other areas of the library can be best utilized

Space Planning

As part of our ongoing evaluation of the Library's public and staff environments, a space planning committee has been created to critically assess the impact of the Atrium. We will need to accommodate changes to the reference area, the loss of our conference room and the relocation of some staff, among other things. Improvements to the third floor continued with the addition of new study carrels and seating.

LibQual

The library's first foray into the LibQual user survey was in 2006 so we feel it is time to once again ask our users how they feel about us: our resources, services and space. LibQual is a very effective means of gathering such important information and we look forward to doing it again this winter (it's easier the second time).

New Web Site – we are just about ready to launch a brand new library web site. It will be considerably different than our current one, with a closer affinity for the Saint Mary's brand. We have spent many, many hours developing it and we are hopeful it will prove popular (and effective) with our researchers.

United Way

The Library was the lead group on campus for this year's Saint Mary's University United Way Campaign. Many of us pitched in to make it the university's most successful fundraising campaign to date.

Congrats to Peter Webster!

The Library was pleased to be able to congratulate Systems Librarian Peter Webster on the publication of his new book. *Managing Electronic Resources: new and changing roles for libraries* has just been released by Chandos Publishing and is available from fine bookstores (or vendors) everywhere. Peter had an opportunity to talk about his research with the students of Dalhousie's School of Information Management and a special launch event was held here at Saint Mary's.

New Staff

The library welcomes Nancy Wilson to our midst. Nancy will be dividing her time and talents among Access Services and the University Archives.

ARCHIVES

Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/>

Young Canada Works Internship at Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management

Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management (NSARM) is currently sponsoring a six-month internship (Oct/08 to Mar/09) under the federal program, 'Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage.' The internship will enable NSARM to carry out a rationalization strategy for Nova Scotia's Heritage Newspaper Collection. The collection (1752-2007; 750+ titles; 1375 metres; 9371 microfilm reels) has been managed by NSARM since the 1930s and includes some of Canada's earliest newspapers. Active acquisition ceased in 2000, but the Archives continues to provide public access, day-to-day maintenance, and long-term archival preservation.

Rationalization activities now underway include the transfer of all non-Nova Scotian titles in the collection to appropriate libraries and archives elsewhere in Canada or internationally. A stakeholder consultation is also being planned for March 2009, in collaboration with the Legislative Library and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, to identify current acquisition activities for dailies and weeklies around the province; and to explore opportunities for strategic, ongoing management of and access to both current newspapers and the Historical Collection. For more information, please contact:

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Director, Public Services,
Phone: (902) 424-6068
E-mail: yorkelk@gov.ns.ca

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NSALT (Nova Scotia Association of Library Technicians)

Conference 2008 - *Libraries and Learning: the Missing Link*

Our first annual conference was a great success. We had 75 delegates from all parts of the province and all types of libraries descending on Baddeck. The conference was hosted by the Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board. Sessions included censorship, blogging, the Big 6 research model and diversity in libraries.

The Library Technician Reunion 2009 committee is busy planning the March 2009 reunion. This event is open to all those affiliated with a library technician program from anywhere across Canada. The NSCC Waterfront Campus will be the backdrop for this great event. For more information about the reunion or to register please contact Erica Smith at elmsmith@staff.ednet.ns.ca or Patricia Madden at maddenp@staff.ednet.ns.ca.

Nova Scotia Library Association

Nova Scotia Library Association Annual Conference

<http://nsls.ns.ca>

Contributed by Katharine McCoubrey

The Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) held its annual conference in October. The conference was held jointly with the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia and was hosted by the Annapolis Valley Regional Library. Approximately 120 library workers and supporters from across Nova Scotia attended the conference, which included author presentations, a keynote speaker, and a variety of workshops related to this year's theme, "Sharing Resources, Building Communities."



Outgoing Nova Scotia Library Association President Lynn Somers (left) presents the 2008 Recipient of the Nova Scotia Library Association's Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership to Penny Logan (Manager of Library Services, Capital District Health Authority).

Awards were presented at the banquet. Congratulations to this year's recipients: Penny Logan (Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership), Peggy Hiscock (Emile Theriault Library and Information Technology Award),

Dawnita Butler (NSLA Award for Library and Information Technology Student), Amanda Horsman (NSLA Award for School of Information

Management Graduate), and Kate Oland (NSLA Conference Bursary).

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Submitted by Dawn Hooper

Provincial Library Service

Contributed by Nichola Cleaveland

Staff Changes

Rebecca Boulter has been appointed to the new position of Literacy and Public Services Librarian in the Provincial Library Service. Rebecca holds a Bachelors degree from UPEI and a Masters in Library and Information Studies from Dalhousie University. Most recently Rebecca was Assistant Chief Librarian at the James McConnell Memorial Library in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Rebecca will be coordinating literacy and public

service initiatives for the PLS and also assumes responsibility for Summerside Rotary Library where her office is located. Rebecca will start in her new position on December 15. Welcome, Rebecca! Systems Librarian Larry Tweed will be on secondment to Holland College Library Services for the next eight months. We wish him well during his time with our colleagues at Holland College.

New Library under Construction

Construction of the new Montague and Area Wellness Centre (or as we think of it, the new location for the Montague Public Library!) is well

underway. The facility is scheduled for completion next summer, in time for the 2009 Canada Summer Games.

TD Canadian Children's Book Week

Visiting author Cora Taylor was very busy during the week, holding readings at four public libraries and visiting 10 schools. Everywhere she went, she greeted her audience with enthusiasm, and they responded in kind. She encouraged questions at every stop, and was deluged with questions from her audiences. Cora had never been to PEI before, and with her visit here can now say she has been to every province in Canada. The early winter weather was a challenge, but did not stop Cora from visiting all 14 destinations on her tour. Her return home was delayed by one day, the first time in 20 years that a visiting CCBW author has had to "stay over" in PEI.



Visitors to help with the launch are (left to right): Janice MacEachern from the TD Bank, author Cora Taylor and Harry Holman, Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, Department of Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour.

In conjunction with TD Canadian Children's Book Week, Grade One students will receive a copy of Gilles Tibo's *Too many books! / Des livres pour Nicolas!* under the TD Grade One Book Giveaway Program. The books are forwarded to each of our branch libraries. Library staff contact local grade 1 class(es) and invite them to visit the library to pick up their books. The free book is also available to grade one students who are home schooled.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

UPEI Robertson Library

Contributed by Suzanne Jones

The Library is participating in its usual Food for Fines whereby overdue fines are forgiven with a donation of foodstuffs to the student food bank.

Donald Moses has returned to the Robertson Library on a nine-month contract. Donald will be supervising the IslandLives project – which will

begin digitizing community histories dating from the mid-1800's to the present day. The search interface for IslandLives will allow users to search content by name, community, time period, and keyword.



On December 2nd, the Library and the Office of the Vice-President of Research & Development jointly will launch the IslandScholar Repository. This repository is built on open source software allowing faculty publications to be more easily accessible. Initially, this digital repository will contain faculty-deposited publications with the ability to also add theses and research data later. You can see our early efforts at: <http://islandscholar.ca>

Our digitization technology capacity also continues to grow dramatically, with three new scanning units -- a large-format "overhead" scanner, a book scanner, and a microfilm scanner -- all installed in the past six months.

The Library has recently completed the digitization of all six decades (1909 - 1969) of *The Red & White*, the St. Dunstan's University campus magazine, and of the full print back-file (1976 - 2007) of *The Island Magazine*, an internationally acclaimed journal of PEI heritage and culture.

Holland College

Contributed by Andrea Stewart

Holland College launched a new and improved website this fall which included a whole new look for the Library Services web pages (<http://www.hollandcollege.com/library>). We have incorporated SubjectsPlus into the website which allows us to dynamically manage our subject guides, A to Z list of databases, staff lists, and Library FAQs. On the database front, we have recently added the Conference Board of Canada e-Library to our complement.

The College's digital archives continue grow as library staff add more and more documents (<http://archives.hollandcollege.com>). The collection now contains 512 objects [over 8000 images and 9 media clips]. We are very pleased with the progress and the positive reviews.

Holland College Library Services wishes Donald Moses the best of luck in his secondment to UPEI Robertson Library as the Coordinator of the

Island Lives project. We are pleased to welcome Larry Tweed as our new Librarian at the Charlottetown Centre campus. Larry is taking a

secondment from the Provincial Library Service where he has worked as the Systems Librarian for the past seven years.

LIBRARY EDUCATION

Dalhousie School of Information Management

<http://sim.management.dal.ca/>

Upcoming Student-led Conference

The students of the School of Information Management (SIM) at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Management will be hosting the third annual **Information Without Borders** conference on Monday 16 February 2009. This year's conference will examine the influence of information technology on our lives. What benefits are to be gained by using new information technologies? What are the disadvantages? How do businesses, government, the health sector, the humanities, sciences, and social sciences engage with information technology changes and developments? Issues will be addressed by a combination of panel discussions and the keynote speakers Dr. B. T. Boadway, medical advisor and former Executive Director of Health Policy for the Ontario Medical Association and Mark Leggott, University Librarian at UPEI.

Information Management Public Lecture Series

The School of Information Management's Information Management Public Lecture series welcomed three speakers during the fall term.

In September, Ilga Leja, 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award Recipient and retired Director of Library Service at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (now NSCAD University) presented her talk *The Library as Place: Observations from the Field*. Drawing on more than 30 years' experience as librarian in both special and academic libraries, Leja explored the enduring role and character of the library. According to Ilga, despite the

impact technology has had on the delivery of services, the library continues to play a vital role in building community and in protecting our democratic freedoms. Calling upon her own work within government and art libraries, Ilga presented the evidence that libraries, although evolving, still maintain responsibilities within the social, cultural, and political spheres.

Sharron Smith, Ontario Librarian of the Year and Manager of the Kitchener Public Library Readers' Advisory Services, spoke in October about how she followed her passion to develop her perfect job through readers' advisory service for adult readers.

In November, Peter Webster, Systems Librarian for the Patrick Power Library at Saint Mary's University, addressed some of the key issues raised in his recent book *Managing Electronic Resources: Changing Roles for Libraries*. He touched on how individuals are changing the library environment through the professional literature, and other means.

Professional Partnering Program

The CLA Student Chapter recently launched this year's Professional Partnering Program. This year once again saw great interest in partnerships between MLIS students and professionals working in the field. Thirty-three partnerships were forged at this year's Meet & Greet, held on November 18th in the Rowe Building.



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APLA Conference 2009

Submitted by Sara Gillis

Mark the Date! Join us for APLA 2009 Conference, June 10 – 13, 2009, taking place on Halifax's busy waterfront at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel. The conference theme for 2009 is *Sharing – The Library Experience | Partager - L'expérience en bibliothèque*. We will be in touch once more details are finalized and the conference website is up and running. In the meantime you can get in touch with us by emailing info@apla2009.ca or contacting members of the Conference Planning Committee.

Meet the Conference Planning Committee: Planning is well underway and we would like to take this opportunity to introduce the APLA 2009 Conference Planning Committee:

Conference Chair

Debbie Costelo

Email: debbie.costelo@nsc.ca

Program Chair

Peter Webster

Email: peter.webster@smu.ca

Conference Registrar

Denise Parrott

Email: parrotdf@gov.ns.ca

Exhibits Chair

Elaine MacInnis

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Promotion/Marketing Chair

Sara Gillis

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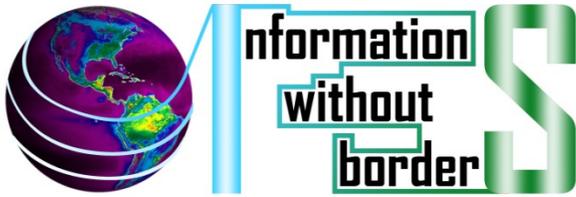
Email: lou_duggan@cbu.ca

Graphic Design/Print Materials

Heather Gardner

Email: heather.gardner@nsc.ca

Interested in volunteering for the 2009 conference? It's never too early to let us know! APLA conferences run smoothly thanks to the assistance of dedicated volunteers who carry out an array of tasks including staffing the registration desk, convening sessions, setting up IT and A/V equipment, just to name a few. If you are interested in helping out next June send your name and contact information to Debbie Costelo (debbie.costelo@nsc.ca) and we will contact you prior to the conference.



I.M. Easy Tech:
Information Technologies Transforming Professions

HOLD THE DAY

MONDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2009

FOR

The 3rd Annual IWB Conference Series

I.M. Easy Tech: Information Technologies Transforming Professions

This year's student-led conference from Dalhousie's School of Information Management will provide insight into the benefits and challenges of using IT in information management work across all disciplines. This one-day event will include presentations, technology displays, panel discussions, and an expo of student work.

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. B.T. Boadway, former Director of Health Policy at the Ontario Medical Association. He will be speaking about the Illness Cost of Air Pollution (ICAP) program that has recently been released nation-wide by the Canadian Medical Association and its influence on various sectors.

Mark Leggott, University Librarian at the University of Prince Edward Island. Mark is a strong supporter of open technology, including open source, open access and open science and this is reflected in some of the new projects he is spearheading at UPEI, including the Virtual Research Environment.

For more information visit our website <http://iwbconference.informationmanagement.dal.ca/iwbconference/>
Or Email iwb@dal.ca

JOURNALS: CALLS FOR ARTICLES -

Evidence Based Library and Information Practice

The journal, *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, seeks papers on all areas of EBL/EBLIP including, but not limited to:

- ✚ EBL application
- ✚ Qualitative and quantitative research
- ✚ Management and administrative issues related to EBP
- ✚ Research tools (statistics, data collection methods, etc.)
- ✚ Research education in library schools
- ✚ Collaborations with other disciplines
- ✚ Evidence based practice from other disciplines applicable to EBL
- ✚ Harnessing evidence to support new innovations
- ✚ Developing and applying evidence based tools

Papers may be submitted to the following sections:

1. Research Articles (peer reviewed, original research)
2. Commentaries (non-peer reviewed, opinion-based)

Submission deadlines for 2008:

September 1st (for December 15th issue)

December 1st (for March 15th, 2009 issue)

Further information regarding author guidelines and the online submission process can be found on the Submission section of the EBLIP web site:

<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/EBLIP/index>.

Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science

I recently have taken on the Editorship of the Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science / La Revue canadienne des sciences de l'information et de bibliothéconomie. The Journal is published by the Canadian Association for Information Science through the University of Toronto Press, and contributes to the advancement of information and library science by serving as a forum for discussion of theory and research. The journal is concerned with research findings, understanding of issues in the field, information practices of individuals and groups, and understanding of the history, economics, and technology of information or library systems and services.

Although the Journal has not been published regularly for the past two years, I am delighted to announce that volume 29, issue 4 is expected to be in print very soon. Volumes 30 and 31 will be out by year's end, as well. We're catching up, and moving forward.

With the Journal rapidly getting back on track, I am inviting submissions in either English or French, from academics, students, and practitioners in the field. Instructions for contributors are outlined in the Submission Guidelines (<http://www.cais-acsi.ca/journal/guidelines.htm>).

If you have any questions, or would like your manuscript considered for publication in the Journal, please get in touch!

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Looking to get involved in your professional association?

INTEREST GROUPS

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

No Convenor at this time.

If you are interested in convening this interest group please contact

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NEWSPAPER

No Convenor at this time.

If you are interested in convening this interest group please contact

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YOUTH SERVICES

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