



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

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Publication Information

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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@gnb.ca.

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From the President's Desk

APLA has been moving along on several fronts since my last report. The major advance, of course, is that we have moved our website to its new home at the University of Prince Edward Island. Many thanks to UPEI for hosting our website and special thanks to incoming President Donald Moses for making that transition happen.

Our old home was the library at Mt. Saint Vincent University and I would like to thank Stan Orlov and Donna Bourne Tyson for taking care of APLA's site for so long.

I know you will all enjoy the new site found at the same address, which is <http://www.apla.ca>. With its modern look, it is full of the information you need from the APLA site - news items, RSS feeds and other resources for the informed Atlantic Provinces Library Association member! Be sure to check it out.

At the end of January, I represented APLA at the Partnership meetings held in Toronto. Hosted by OLA, this was a meeting of Canadian provincial, regional and territorial library associations. I served as Chair for this meeting and I feel it was a very productive session. As you may know, the Partnership is responsible for many of the newer Canadian library initiatives including the Education Institute, the Partnership Journal, and Job Board. One of the new initiatives on the horizon will be a certification program, headed by Sandy Campbell of the University of Alberta. This program will allow librarians and library staff to be recognized for their ongoing professional development. More on this will be forthcoming as the Committee responsible works through a pilot being hosted by the Library Association of Alberta.

Kelly Moore from the Canadian Library Association was invited to the afternoon portion of the meeting and brought an update on the happenings of CLA. She is relatively new in her position but showed a commitment to working with the Partnership on future endeavours. She also recognizes the important role that CLA plays nationally in terms of advocacy and lobbying.

The meetings of the Partnership are tremendous events that show how many committed librarians there are in this country. At the beginning of the meeting, each association did a "rapid fire" session where they discussed which issues were affecting their membership. Some general themes have emerged including membership recruitment, rejuvenation and new initiatives.

We are in the "home stretch" now heading into the APLA conference in June. I know you are all anxiously awaiting the program and the registration. This year's conference is going to be awesome and I hope as many of you as possible can attend. It is one of the biggest events in the Atlantic region, where librarians and library staff can come together to talk about issues that affect all of us. It is a time to reflect, to consider and to act. To adapt a quotation from one of our airlines: "At APLA we know you have a choice for your professional development. Thanks for including the APLA conference in your plans."

[Susan E. Cleyle](#), APLA President and Associate University Librarian
QE II Library, Memorial University, St. John's, NL

Awards, Scholarships 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:

Donald Moses
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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:

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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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ekalcock@mun.ca

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:

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166 Bedford Highway
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Halifax NS B3M 2J6
Tel: 902.457.6108
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Report from the Information without Borders Conference

submitted by Katharine Hall

I was lucky enough to win free registration from APLA to the Information without Borders Conference held by the School of Information Management on February 23 at Dalhousie University. While I found much that was interesting at the conference, here are some highlights:

Opening Speaker: Dr. B.T. Boadway – ICAP: A Tool for Quantifying the Health and Economic Costs of Air Pollution - The morning opened with the speaker, Dr. Boadway, one of the developers of the Illness Cost of Air Pollution (ICAP) program. The ICAP program combines different data from the census, air quality measures and admissions statistics from the Canadian Institute for Hospital Information to estimate the health care costs of diseases caused by air pollution. The program was released on a Web-based Open Source model so that it may be downloaded and used for specific geographic locations and other inquiry subsets. By making ICAP open source, the program has reached a much wider user group than originally anticipated. ICAP has been used by government, community groups, medical health offices, environmental groups, students and universities. Boadway concluded that due to this open access program, the nature of policy and environmental debate has been changed.

Morning Panel Discussion: Information Technologies and Professionals - The panel featured librarians from different fields, including legal, health informatics, and public, who discussed the effect information technologies has had on their work. Legal librarian Kate Greene Stanhope stated that while new information technologies allow for increased flexibility to work from various locations, it comes with greater user expectations, which can be challenging. Particularly challenging is the assumption that, as everything is available freely online, what is the function of the librarian? Grace Patterson discussed the promise and pitfalls of Electronic Medical Records and Drug Information Systems, e.g., e-prescriptions, which allow for easier interface between different communities of practice. Kelli WooShue from the Halifax Public Libraries discussed how information technologies have transformed how the public library can operate in terms of equitable access, civic space, collection development and user service.

Afternoon Panel Discussion: Geographic Information Systems Applications - This panel featured two speakers from private companies, including Paul Boudreau from the Coastal and Ocean Information Network Atlantic as well as Rebecca Bartlett of the Parrsboro School Board. The panelists provided an overview of how GIS functions in the public health and business fields. Also demonstrated was a device for tracking ocean conditions. Bartlett presented a specific case study in which she used GIS as a method to inform a collections decision at a public library branch. She effectively demonstrated that GIS can be used for other investigations, e.g., patron analysis or branch location planning.

Keynote Speaker: Mark Leggott – Building a Library Transmogripher: Technology and Change –Mark Legott, University of Prince Edward Island Librarian, advocated the adoption of open source integrated library systems and promoted the use of technology to change organizational structure. In his view, pre-existing hierarchical structures are of little benefit to libraries and libraries ought not to be afraid of change, which should be more proactively pursued. Adopting open source is not a way to save money, he stated, but rather a way to spend it more wisely.

Transforming the APLA Bulletin

submitted by Ian Gibson

The Bulletin has had many different incarnations over its 73 year history. In 2007 the decision was made to move the Bulletin away from print to an electronic-only format. The question soon arose over what that electronic format should look like. The editors at the time tried two approaches simultaneously. First, the Bulletin was released as a single file PDF, which was essentially the same in most respects as the former print edition. Next, the Bulletin was set up on [Open Journal System](#) (OJS), a journal publishing system developed by the Public Knowledge Project at Simon Fraser University. OJS was selected because it was used for other journals familiar to APLA members, specifically *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice* (EBLIP) and *Partnership: the Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*, and was relatively easy to use.

OJS quickly turned out to be more complicated than expected. The features that made it great for running a peer reviewed journal, e.g. the automation of the submission and peer review process, did not incorporate easily into the Bulletin's existing workflow. This might have been overcome but the editors did not have the time to fully investigate ways of streamlining the OJS workflow. Consequently, OJS was put on the back burner and the Bulletin continued to be published solely as a PDF.

When the new editorial team took over in fall 2008 it was suggested by the outgoing editors that we examine the OJS situation and see what could be done with it. Further impetus came from the impending move of the APLA website to a new home at the University of Prince Edward Island and it had to be decided whether OJS would be making the move or consigned to the cyber dustbin. The APLA website was also being redesigned using the Drupal content management system and it was suggested that we may be able to publish the Bulletin using Drupal's Book feature, thereby eliminating the need for OJS.

Several outstanding issues with OJS needed to be addressed if it was going to serve as our future publication platform. The most important of which was the amount of time it took to produce an issue as opposed to simply making a single-file PDF version. OJS allows articles to be posted in many different formats. The first experiments of the previous editors used PDF files but most journals offer both HTML and PDF files to their readers. Using the workflow created by the previous editors to create an issue in OJS using either format required considerable work on the part of the editor. Each article needed to be made into a PDF or HTML file which the editor then had to push through the system.

Before any attempt was made to fix this process I contacted the layout editors of the other journals to ask about their workflow and to see if OJS could do some of the conversion work for me. The reply I got was somewhat disappointing. OJS was unable to do any of the messy conversion work for me and their work flow seemed to be as time consuming as that of the previous Bulletin editors.

Having to convert each article was time consuming and annoying but in the final analysis didn't require much more time than producing a single-file PDF issue. The problem was that once the article was in the proper format it then had to be pushed through the peer-review module, which was time consuming. Still, the editors would have been willing to put in the time this process required if it produced a product that the membership was happy with. The feedback on the test issues put up by the previous editors suggested that people wanted to be able to read straight through the Bulletin like a magazine and not read an article then go back to the index to click on the next article like OJS forced you to do. Clearly, OJS was not suitable for our needs.

We decided that I would test Drupal to see if it would suit our needs. In the interim we would publish the Bulletin as a single file PDF as the previous editors had done.

Drupal offers many different options for publishing content. The “collaborative document” type has many obvious organizational advantages for the Bulletin. A collaborative document is organized like a book, so that there is a cover screen and a series of ‘children’ pages. Each article is provided with navigation links to adjacent articles. This makes the reading experience much more like reading a book (or a PDF). Most importantly, it eliminates the constant back and forth flow problems experienced in OJS. Using this document type has allowed The Bulletin to be arranged as if it were a bound volume; for example, one can read the last article of Volume 72 Issue 1, and then click right into the table of contents of Issue 2.

There were some initial hiccups with the setup and organization of the pages. These were quickly overcome with some timely help from Donald Moses. Drupal has proved to be easy to use and, more importantly, easy to mesh with our current workflow. Content can be cut and pasted from word with a minimum amount of modification. The only major difference between the Drupal and old PDF versions is that Drupal requires pictures to be uploaded as separate files. Though the pictures require a bit of time to touch up, the layout is so much simpler in Drupal that putting together an issue is actually faster than assembling the old PDF version.

Going forward, the Bulletin will primarily use Drupal to publish content. A PDF version will be released after the Drupal version, and will be linked from the main [Bulletin page](#). The PDF version is being retained both for those who prefer to read/print in that format, and also for preservation purposes. The PDF version will continue to be deposited in the APLA archives to ensure the continuity of the preserved record.

If you have any questions about the new Bulletin layout please contact me:

Ian Gibson, MIST

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Conference Update



Conference Program Now Available!

The APLA 2009 Conference Planning Committee is pleased to announce that the Conference Program is now available and registration for this year’s conference is now open. Please visit our website, www.apla2009.ca.

From social cataloguing to plain language writing, from the next generation of web technologies to literacy based storytimes, this wide range of programs balances the cutting edge with the practical, and is sure to satisfy the diverse needs of conference delegates. Program speakers hail from the Atlantic Provinces, across Canada, and the United States and award winning documentarist and journalist Paul Kennedy, host of CBC Radio’s Ideas, is our Keynote Speaker. We anticipate a dynamic trade show with up to 50 exhibitors participating. You will be able to take advantage of our superb location in the heart of downtown Halifax, only steps away from the city’s top attractions, shops and restaurants.

Important Dates & Information

The conference will take place Wednesday, June 10 - Saturday, June 13 at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, 1919 Upper Water Street. Pre-conference workshops take place on Wednesday, June 10 and the regular conference program begins Thursday, June 11th.

The Early Bird registration discount runs until May 1. Regular conference registration rates are available May 2 – June 3, and online registration will be closed from June 4-9. Beginning June 10th you will be able register in person on-site at the conference.

To take advantage of our discounted hotel rate at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel don't forget to mention that you are registered with the Atlantic Provinces Library Association 2009 Conference.

Other News

The APLA 2009 Conference Planning Committee recently bid adieu to Local Arrangements/Social Events Convenor Beth Gerstenberger. Beth is heading off to the United Arab Emirates, and we thank her profusely for her tremendous contributions to the committee and wish her all the best. We would like to welcome new committee members Lori McCay-Peet, Local Arrangements/Social Events Convenor, and Bill Slauenwhite, Treasurer. For a complete list and contact information for the APLA 2009 Planning Committee please see the website, www.apla2009.ca.

Sara Gillis

APLA 2009 Conference Promotions/Marketing Chair

info@apla2009.ca

Le programme de la conférence est maintenant disponible!

Le comité organisateur de la conférence APLA 2009 a le plaisir de vous annoncer que le programme de la conférence est disponible et que vous pouvez vous inscrire dès maintenant. Pour en savoir plus, consultez le site Web www.apla2009.ca.

Le programme varié saura certainement répondre aux besoins des délégués que ce soit le catalogage social ou l'écriture en langage simple, la nouvelle génération des technologies pour Internet ou l'heure du conte comme outil pour promouvoir la littéracie. Les conférenciers proviennent des provinces atlantiques, du Canada et des États-Unis. Le journaliste et documentariste primé Paul Kennedy, animateur de l'émission Ideas à CBC Radio, est le conférencier invité cette année. Nous prévoyons un salon interprofessionnel fort dynamique avec la participation d'environ 50 exposants. Vous vous retrouverez au cœur du centre-ville d'Halifax, à quelques pas des attractions, boutiques et restaurants les plus populaires.

Dates à retenir et informations

La conférence se tiendra du mercredi 10 juin au samedi 13 juin à l'hôtel Halifax Marriott Harbourfront, 1919 rue Upper Water. Les ateliers pré-conférences auront lieu le mercredi 10 juin, tandis que le programme de la conférence débute le jeudi 11 juin.

Le rabais pour l'inscription anticipée est seulement disponible jusqu'au 1er mai. Les frais d'inscription réguliers sont valides du 2 mai jusqu'au 3 juin. L'inscription en ligne ne sera pas disponible du 4 au 9 juin. À compter du 10 juin, vous pourrez vous inscrire en personne, sur place.

Pour profiter des taux réduits sur les chambres à l'hôtel Halifax Marriott Harbourfront, n'oubliez pas d'indiquer que vous êtes inscrit à la conférence 2009 de l'Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

Autres nouvelles

Le comité organisateur de la conférence APLA 2009 a récemment souligné le départ de la coordonnatrice des arrangements

locaux et des activités sociales, Beth Gerstenberger. Beth part en direction des Émirats arabes unis. Nous la remercions pour son importante contribution au comité et nous lui souhaitons la meilleure des chances. Nous souhaitons la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres du comité, soit Lori McCay-Peet comme coordonnatrice des arrangements locaux et des activités sociales et Bill Slauenwhite comme trésorier. Pour une liste complète des membres du comité organisateur de la conférence APLA 2009 et leurs coordonnées, consultez le site Web www.apla2009.ca.

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News From New Brunswick

submitted by Nadine Goguen

Public Libraries – Bibliothèques publiques

The **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region** held many festive activities in their public libraries during the holidays. **Family Literacy Day** was also celebrated on January 27th. The Moncton Public Library, as well as many others, tried to break the World Record of the number of adults reading to children, as promoted by ABC Canada. This raised popular awareness on programs such as “Storytime” and “Read to me”, regular offerings at the public libraries. The region said farewell to **Alice Caissie**, the Richibucto Public Library Manager, after 28 years of service. She retired at the end of December.

Management staff in the region were consulted for a school library renovation project at the **Clément-Cormier High School** in Bouctouche. Creating a “Teen Lounge” concept was a dream come true for two local public librarians who snagged swatches of colors and talked carpet, floor plans and traffic flow with gusto for weeks.

Plusieurs activités reliées au temps des Fêtes ont eu lieu dans la région. La Journée de l’alphabétisation familiale fut soulignée dans toutes nos bibliothèques. La région a dit au revoir à la gestionnaire de la Bibliothèque publique de Richibucto qui a pris sa retraite en décembre après 28 ans de service. La bibliothèque scolaire de la **polyvalente Clément-Cormier de Bouctouche** a eu un coup de pouce dans l’élaboration d’un nouveau plan, de décors modernes et de la création d’un coin pour adolescents.

Deux bibliothécaires de notre région de bibliothèques publiques ont eu beaucoup de plaisir à partager leurs idées avec la direction de l’école.

Five of the 10 libraries in the **Fundy Library Region** offered extra programming for Family Literacy Day by taking part in the Guinness World Record for “Most children reading with an adult - multiple locations.” **Heather McKend**, Children’s Librarian for the **Saint John Free Public Library** took the program to the Saint John Boys and Girls Club where 75 youngsters were read the Robert Munsch books. She and the children’s staff also hosted the program in the library, which attracted 48 participants. **Jodi Osicki**, Reference Librarian in the same library was interviewed by CTV’s “Live at Five” television program about book clubs and how to instil a desire to read. His “Book Club for Men” was also mentioned by Rick Mercer in his CBC television program “The Mercer Report.”

Stephanie Milbury, manager at the **Campobello Public Library**, reported that the Library is now going through its final steps of the last phase of a three-year plan for outside building repairs, which when completed will see the picturesque building having new cedar shingles, four new windows replaced and new asphalt shingles on the roof. The library, which also houses a small museum for the community, is situated next to the water on Campobello Island.

Leslye McVicar, director of the **Kennebecasis Public Library** reported that one of their volunteers, Jennifer Burnham is an avid geo-techer, so she approached Leslye about hiding a “cache” in the library. Jennifer explained how it could work, and that the cache would be a “book” complete with call number. So it went forward. The staff was very surprised by the number of people who found the item, and now everyone agrees that it was a “novel” idea!

Speaking of a romantic “novel” idea, Leslye also reported that while shopping for new materials in a local bookstore she encountered a student who mentioned that she had worked at the Library in the summer of 1999, and had met and eventually married another student from that year. Ahhh, another story of kindred spirits and love in the Library!

Staff in the **Haut-Saint-Jean Library Region** have been busy over the past few months working on their operational plans for their libraries and for the region. Following the strategic plan of New Brunswick Public Library Service, staff have planned for the future of their libraries over the next five years and are looking forward to achieving these goals.

Staff had several training opportunities this fall, including hands-on sessions for Microsoft Office Outlook, Excel and Publisher



Family Literacy Day event at the Dr. Walter Chestnut Public Library in Hartland.

software. Library staff also participated in training sessions for the new information literacy package produced by NBPLS, **Info Savvy**. Staff members will now be able to offer various training modules to the public including how to use Google, how to evaluate information, and how to search our online catalogue, Vision.

Finally, **Family Literacy Day** was a success in libraries across the region with special Story Hours, an author visit with Marie-France Comeau, and many participants for the Guinness World Record Attempt for the Most Children Reading With An Adult, Multiple Locations. We're waiting to find out if we helped to break the record!

The **New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) Provincial Office** has been busy in the past few months.

The look of our main website, <http://www.gnb.ca/publiclibraries>, has changed slightly to include the VRL Top Five Picks. This new feature is meant to showcase the excellent resources found in our Virtual Reference Library. Every month, one of the regional Heads of Reference Services picks five links to promote that correspond one of our monthly web ad themes. These links are authoritative websites on topics ranging from everyday knowledge, to online services, to research.



Volunteers reading to a group of children, all members of the Woodstock Slammers hockey team, a local Junior A team, who read to the children on Family Literacy Day.

New Brunswick Public Library Service also had the exciting opportunity to participate in a meeting gathering representatives from numerous New Brunswick library and archive institutions. At this meeting, subcommittees were formed to investigate a potential collaboration on two main issues: electronic resource licensing, and the digitization of historical and special materials held in New Brunswick collections.

Le Bureau provincial du Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick (SBPNB) n'a pas été inactif au cours des derniers mois.

Nous avons changé légèrement l'apparence de la page principale de notre site Web (<http://www.gnb.ca/bibliothequespubliques>) afin d'y inclure le Palmarès mensuel des 5 meilleurs sites de la BRV. Grâce à cet ajout, nous souhaitons mettre en évidence les ressources de haut niveau de notre Bibliothèque de référence virtuelle. Chaque mois, un chef régional des services de référence choisit cinq liens recoupant l'un des thèmes couverts par nos annonces Web durant cette période. Ces liens renvoient à des sites faisant autorité et dont les thèmes recouvrent tout autant le savoir de tous les jours que les services en ligne ou, encore, la recherche.

Le Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick a aussi eu la chance de participer à une rencontre avec les représentants d'organismes archivistiques et de bibliothèques du Nouveau-Brunswick. Lors de cette rencontre, des sous-comités furent mis sur pied afin de collaborer à deux projets : l'achat de licences pour les ressources électroniques et la numérisation de documents provenant de collections spéciales ou historiques qui se trouvent dans la province.



NB Provincial Archives

The New Brunswick Provincial Archives launched on November 18, 2008 a new website that invites people from all over the globe to explore a virtual encyclopaedia of community names in New Brunswick – places where people live or have lived - dating as far back as 1784 and earlier.

Called "[Where is Home? New Brunswick Communities Past and Present](#)", the website lists 4,513 place names of communities, each accompanied by a description of the community's origins and its precise geographic location. Viewers will also be able to access digitized photos, maps, and documents that relate to each community as well as links to related sites such as published works on that community's past and present.

A highlight of the site is the opportunity for the public to contribute additional information and content to the site through a feedback form.

"This is a fantastic and innovative new project at the Provincial Archives," said Ed Doherty, Minister responsible for The Archives. "Never before have we built a website such as this that brings information and content on this scale."

The addition to the Archives website is its 40th anniversary project. The Archives was officially opened in 1968 and was the newest archives in Canada at the time.

"From an archival and historical perspective, the individual documents that make up this website are spectacular and the range of content will be sweeping," said Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist. The public will be amazed at the depth of the materials they will be able to access on this website."

From cadastral maps to manuscript maps to documents, users of the site are offered outstanding primary sources. Then there are the photographs, from the major 19th and 20th century photographers such as Isaac Erb, Ole Larsen, Jacob Mersereau and George Taylor and dozens of others, that accompany the community place names. There are links to diaries, memoirs, land petitions, and correspondence, to round out the history of as many communities as there is historical material available. A search function allows users of the site to dig deeper or select communities in various ways including by proximity. This website will be a standard reference work for people from ages 10 to 100 who wish to conduct an inquiry into the history of communities in New Brunswick, from a casual interest to scholarly research. This product is a result of the participation of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick in the Archival Community Digitization Program of Library and Archives Canada, the Department of Canadian Heritage, and the Canadian Council of Archives.

News from Newfoundland and Labrador

Submitted by Louise McGillis

St. John's Public Library Town Hall Meeting

Submitted by A.A. Cameron

One phase of the Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries' present Review of Library Service in St. John's is a stakeholder consultation. The Review's purpose is to provide recommendations for service enhancements that could be implemented within the current funding limits, and additional changes that could be achieved if increased funding was available. To determine the public's needs and thoughts, a number of methods have been used including an in-house and a community survey, individual interviews, focus groups, and a public or 'town hall' meeting held on 1 December in City Hall. Library management consultant Sandy Cameron, who is conducting the Review, facilitated the meeting attended by some 50 people. He explained the purpose: to provide a forum for all interested residents to bring to the Review their ideas on public libraries in the City, and to hear others' thoughts. All comments were noted for study and summary in the review document. The scheduled completion date is spring 2009 - in time to present the findings to the Provincial Library Board for consideration at its annual meeting.

The great majority of the participants were regular library users and approximately half were familiar with library services in other cities and provinces. The most common needs expressed were for a downtown library and for improvements to the A.C. Hunter (Main) library, but commentary and suggestions were wide-ranging. An increased role in the literacy movement (traditional and information literacy), as well as the recognition of the essential importance of reading to help society to maintain broad-based comprehension of complicated issues were reinforced by the contributions of two speakers with learning disabilities. Their courage in bringing their needs forward was appreciated. The public library's social and socializing role for all, from pre-schoolers to seniors, was noted, as was its support of the arts, small businesses, and informal and formal education. In that regard the need for longer hours, the desire for volunteer opportunities, and the advisability of putting the deep resources of the professional librarians to maximum use were also expressed.

The need for improved budgets for the library came up frequently, as did the corresponding roles of the Board and of the City. There was agreement among those present that social pressure on all levels of government was wanted. There was some skepticism expressed about the effectiveness of "yet another study" but Cameron was confident that there was a strong desire at the management level to make library services more responsive to users. This was supported by the St. John's Board Chair, Alan Goodridge in his summary.

Final questions arose regarding the accessibility of the consultant's report. Cameron could not be explicit



but was certain that a Review document would be made publicly available in some form. He thanked those present, whose numbers may not have been great but whose level of participation and thoughtfulness had exceeded expectation.

Newfoundland Public Libraries

With files from Patricia Parsons

A new website committee has been formed to create a more user-friendly and welcoming online presence. The committee's work will be ongoing so check back often to see changes. The web address is: <http://www.nlpl.ca/>

The **Corner Brook Public Library** has been very busy expanding its program / event offerings. Events recently held include a "Rock Around the Christmas Tree Party"; a visit from children's author Rukhsana Khan and participation in the "2009 Family Literacy Day - Robert Munsch World Record Event". In January, the library launched its afterschool movie program and plans are in the works for a library related Winter Carnival event, a Super Hero Day and activities to celebrate the Freedom to Read week.

The **St. John's Public Libraries** has launched a "Book Club to Go Kit" and currently has over 30 kits for users to check out. The program has been up and running for two months and is already proving extremely popular with library users. Public Libraries in Central Division are currently hosting a variety of special events and programs to help patrons while away the winter blues! Many branches participated in Family Literacy Day by holding local celebrity readings, story telling sessions, literacy game shows, "book nic's" (you bring food for the mind!) and Cyber Camps. Events were well attended in all locations.

Central Division Library Board is planning some training for volunteer trustees, as a followup to that held for library staff in September 2008.

Pat Parsons, Regional Manager, says: "The Provincial Library Board has a training plan in place to ensure that all staff and volunteer library board members receive adequate training in the next 2-3 years. Central Division was fortunate to hold the first staff conference in the Fall of 2008, and next October we will hold another one for our local board trustees. Funding was approved for many capital needs for Central Division Libraries, and several branches are receiving an "extreme makeover" - new carpet, shelving, furniture, interior painting and exterior signage". Parsons says, "It's a good year for Central Division Libraries".

Memorial University of Newfoundland Libraries

Appointments

Alison Farrell has been appointed as the new Public Services Librarian at the Health Sciences Library and Erin Alcock has been appointed as the Science Research Liaison Librarian (Biological Sciences) at the Queen Elizabeth II Library. Patrick Warner returned from sabbatical in January and has taken up the position of Special Collections Librarian.

Retirements

Michael Lonardo, a collections librarian at the Queen Elizabeth II Library who started with Memorial in 1982, will be retiring at the end of April. The Information Services Division of the QEII Library will be losing two long serving Reference Librarians this year. Both Karen Lippold, who joined Memorial in 1973 and Bernie Conran, who joined Memorial in 1980, will be retiring this year, Bernie in May and Karen in early September.

First Space Gallery at the QEII Library

"All Night Long" featuring works of the Class of 2008, Visual Arts Department, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, MUN, Corner Brook will be on display from January 9 to April 22, 2009. In addition to this exhibit, later this month First Space will be showing some of the work from MUN's Artist-In-Residence, Peter Wilkins.

News from Nova Scotia

Submitted by Darlene Beck

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

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

Equipment

The reference express terminals in each branch are being replaced with newer equipment as well as with a new look to the screens. Some refurbished equipment has been received through the Provincial Library and is being used to refresh some of the older equipment currently being used by staff.

Registration with TechSoup, a company that facilitates the distribution of software to non-profit organizations, is complete. The region is able to purchase software at a minimal fee that have been provided to TechSoup by participating software companies. This will allow us to upgrade the software on public computers at a minimal cost.

Community Access Program (CAP)

Two fall/winter youth are being hired for branches in Annapolis County. These youth will be working with our Head of Youth Services on a special project, as well as offering computer tutorials for all ages.

A Broadband Rural Nova Scotia Workshop - Planning for a High Speed Future, was held in the Windsor Regional Library on December 10, 2008. This was hosted by the Kings-West Hants CAP Association. Another session will be hosted by the Association of Western Valley CAP Sites on January 28, 2009 in the Digby Library. These facilitated workshops give stakeholders an opportunity to discuss their community's readiness for the use of high speed Internet. At the end of the session there will be some clear areas where improvements will be needed as well as the identification of areas where that community excels.

Automated Library System

There have been some enhancements in the web catalogue as a result of the Provincial Library's work with custom programming. There are now readily accessible links within the catalogue to our subscription databases. It is hoped that this will increase the use of these very comprehensive tools. Staff at the Provincial Library continue to work with us on other improvements.

During the consolidation of the two bookmobile offices, the Provincial Library used customized programs to change the location of the items in our catalogue. This saved many, many hours of work for our staff, who were then able to dedicate their time to the physical move of the collection.

Branch Reports

The **Wolfville Memorial Library** hosted an excellent weekly art program for school-age children ages 9-12 during November. **The Art of Illustration** provided participants the opportunity to explore art with various local and celebrated guest artists. The young people worked with clay, watercolour, collage and drawing.

Later in the month, we were fortunate to have author Dian Day as guest at the Wolfville Library where approximately 30 people enjoyed the reading from her novel *The Clock of Heaven*.

Once again, **Berwick Library** played a part in the Town's annual Santa Claus festivities. The public was invited to the library after the tree lighting ceremony for a reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

On a Saturday afternoon in December, Berwick Library asked the public to join local author Thomas Schultze to share insights and images from his recently published book *Frances Anne Hopkins: Images From Canada*. Hopkins was a female artist of the 19th century whose husband was an official with the Hudson's Bay Company and she accompanied him on some of his inspection tours during the last days of the fur trade. Traveling by canoe, she recorded her impressions in sketches, watercolours and oils.

The **Windsor Regional Library** offered several Christmas programs throughout December. Those included a crafting workshop, special sessions of **Fun & Fables** with stories, songs & crafts for preschoolers, and a Puppet Show for the whole family, with an Anne-of-Green-Gables twist. In addition, each Wednesday the activity room in the library was made ready with tables and chairs for anyone who wished to wrap presents away from prying eyes at home.

The Windsor library has been without a book drop since mid-December, due to public safety concerns.

Middleton and Wolfville Libraries held special Christmas Crafts programs for children.

The Revere building, which is to become the new home of the **Bridgetown Library**, suffered an act of vandalism which resulted in an oil spill in late November. It is unclear at this time how the damage might affect the project.

All AVRL branches are looking forward to participating in the Family Literacy Day World Record Attempt in late January – "Most children reading with an adult, multiple locations"!

Cape Breton Regional Library

www.cbri.ca

The Main-a-Dieu Branch Library

The Main-a-Dieu Library, one of our smallest and quietest branches, is located in the Coastal Discovery Centre in the old Main-a-Dieu elementary school. With the recent retirement of library clerk Lillian Murray, the reins have been passed to Diana Furlong who used to visit the library at its previous location as a child. Diana has been actively reaching out to citizens in nearby areas to raise awareness of the library, and to ensure that the library is a vital part of the community. Many patrons have rediscovered the services provided by the library and circulation has increased dramatically.

Special programs and events began around Christmas and have continued into the New Year with participation in the Family Literacy Day World Record Attempt for the Guinness World Record for "Most children reading with an adult – multiple locations". Along with the North Sydney, Baddeck and McConnell Libraries, at the end of January, Main-a Dieu hosted 3 readers (Scott Boyd of 101.9 the Giant, Rob Calabrese and Jennifer Ludlow of 89.7 the Coast) and over 30 children who enjoyed 5 Robert Munsch stories together. In total, 206 children and readers participated at CBRL.



Linda LeJeune with recent retiree Donnie Ward

Plans are underway this winter for a Writer's Circle, a program on shipwrecks and an evening of Ghost Stories. The branch may still be small, but it isn't that quiet anymore!

Linda LeJeune Retires

CBRL is saying adieu but not goodbye to our intrepid ILL clerk, Linda LeJeune. After many years of exemplary service, her great sense of humour and penchant for celebrating all our milestones (even the one's we'd rather forget!), she will be sorely missed. We hope to see Linda and Phonse at our Seniors Cafés! Barb MacLean has moved from the Sydney Mines Branch to take over Linda's duties.

Subject Guides on CBRL Website

Librarian Rebecca Boulter has moved on to the PEI library system, but not before developing yet another subject guide to assist patrons in locating information on a specific topic at CBRL. The new subject guide on the Fortress of Louisbourg joins the other guides on African Heritage in Canada, Canadian Law and Genealogy, Mi'kmaq History and Culture, and Using the Internet, as a valuable research tool. 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. Take a look!

Health and Wellness Library Resource Guide for Seniors

With support from a New Horizons grant to McConnell Library in Sydney, our Seniors' Café Co-ordinator, David Newton, and library assistant Chris Thomson have produced a resource guide for seniors that will help support them in their quest for information about health and wellness issues. Divided into two main sections, Staying Healthy and When You Need Help, the guide lists a sample of CBRL's current holdings on topics ranging from Volunteering, Travel, and Gardening, to Arthritis, Diabetes, and Medications. The section on Staying Healthy covers general health information, staying active (with sections on getting out and about, exercising body and mind, and keeping your brain active), staying connected, and eating well. In the When You Need Help section, resources on most health disorders that people might be challenged with are covered. There is a final section on good health websites for those who are comfortable with computers. Each section is accompanied by an informative (and sometimes witty) introduction by David Newman. The booklet's beautiful design is by recent NSCC graduate Robin M. Bradley.



Health & Wellness Library Resource Guide

Individual citations are becoming popular requests, but just as important is the ability for patrons to find resources on a desired topic by using the call numbers listed. This is especially useful for patrons who are not comfortable with the on-line catalogue and who may be shy to ask a librarian for help. Copies of the Guide are available free at CBRL branches, or by contacting Chris at cthompson@nssc.library.ns.ca.

KnitFit Community Knit-a-thon Take Two

CBRL is repeating its hugely successful fundraising/charity event, the KnitFit Knitathon. Last February two dozen knitters braved a snowstorm to come to the library to knit and crochet warm accessories for needy families. With donations of yarn, needles, and finished goods from patrons, we ended up with 250 hats, scarves, mitts etc to donate to the Every Women's Centre. Pledges also raise much-needed funds to support children's programs at CBRL.

This year we will donate our work to the Clothe-a-Family program of the Salvation Army and again raise funds for CBRL children's programs. The event will take place at the McConnell Library, and this year also at the Baddeck Library, from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday February 21st. We are hoping for better weather and a big turnout!

Eastern Counties Regional Library

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

The library's Share a Book-Build a Community campaign, sponsored by EnCana Corporation, raised a total of \$13,658 which will go towards the purchase of books, audio books and materials for the library. The annual 6-week campaign received an initial donation of \$4,000 from EnCana, who then matched the community donations of \$4,849. The matching program has been well received by library supporters with an increase this year in the number of individual donations. In addition to community support, 101.5 The Hawk radio station donated daily air time to the value of \$1500 and three weekly community newspapers, *The Inverness Oran*, *The Guysborough Journal*, and the *Strait Area Reporter* contributed space for ads which ran throughout the campaign.



Eastern Counties Regional Library Board members (left to right) Mayor Frank Fraser, Vice-Chair Myles MacPherson, Treasurer Elaine Durling, Chief Librarian Petra Mauerhoff, Susan Mallette, Chair Shirley McNamara, Gail Johnson, and James Harpell. Missing from the picture are Lester Wood and Ally MacKenzie

Eastern Counties Regional Library Board met in December 4 for the first time since the Municipal elections were held in the fall. The Board is comprised of councillors or community members representing the 7 municipalities served by ECRL and 2 provincial appointees. There are 4 new representatives joining the Board including Cllr. Elaine Durling, Town of Mulgrave; Cllr. Susan Mallette, Inverness County; Deputy Warden Gail Johnson, Municipality of Richmond County; and Mayor Frank Fraser, Town of Canso. Returning members include Shirley McNamara, Provincial Appointee, Cllr. Myles MacPherson, Municipality of the District of Guysborough; Cllr. James Harpell, District of St. Mary's; Ally MacKenzie, community representative, Town of Port Hawkesbury; and Lester Wood, Provincial Appointee. Elected to the Executive were Chair Shirley McNamara, Vice-Chair Myles MacPherson, and Treasurer Elaine Durling. Secretary to the Board is Chief Librarian/CEO Petra Mauerhoff.

The EnCana Energy Collection for Families, launched in the Fall at the Cyril Ward Memorial Library in Guysborough, continues to move from branch to branch for a 3-week period showcasing the books and materials purchased for children and their families through an EnCana donation of \$4,000. Over 170 titles have been added to this collection on topics that foster an interest in science and technology including the oil and gas industry. The display has traveled from Guysborough to the Drs. Coady and Tompkins Memorial Library in Margaree Forks, the Port Hawkesbury Library, and is currently at the Petit de Grat Library.



Kelsey Clarey looks over the EnCana Energy Collection at the Drs. Coady & Tompkins Library in Margaree Forks.



ECRL staff listen to the presentations during the December staff day.

Eastern Counties Regional Library hosted a mini-staff day at Library Headquarters in Mulgrave in December. Staff representing all the Branches in the region joined with Headquarters staff for a 1-day workshop. The morning session included updates from Chief Librarian Petra Mauerhoff and managers Mary Landry and Trish McCormick, while Garfield Moffatt of MacLellan and Moffat Financial, was on hand in the afternoon providing information about the ECRL pension plan.

Halifax Public Libraries

<http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/index.php>

Halifax Public Libraries project wins Ontario Library Association's President's award

The *Working Together* project of Halifax Public Libraries has won the prestigious Ontario Library Association's Presidents' Award for Exceptional Achievement. The award is given to an action or project that has enhanced or furthered librarianship in a major or unique way. Since 1990, it has been awarded 9 times.

The goal of the *Working Together: Library-Community Connections* project was to connect and work with socially excluded working-age community members, such as those living in poverty, the homeless and transient, visible minorities, recent immigrants and those with lower literacy. It was a four-year project operating in four urban public library systems: Halifax, Toronto, Regina and Vancouver.

In Halifax, the *Working Together* project engaged residents of an isolated public housing development. Project and branch staff at the Captain William Spry Library went door-to-door to connect with residents and engage them in discussions about library services. Staff worked with residents to help them get a library card. Many residents were unfamiliar with the library's collection and didn't realize the library offered free computer and literacy classes.

"The *Working Together* project gave Halifax Public Libraries the opportunity to engage non-traditional library users. By talking with them, we heard their stories and learned their needs. Working together with community members, the library provided services in their community and in the library," said Tracey Jones, Literacy, ESL and Diversity Services manager of Halifax Public Libraries, who will go to Toronto to accept the award on the library's behalf January 31.



Photo of the Working Together team from a flyer used to promote the program to the community.

Staff learned many of these community members weren't able to make full use of the library due to a number of barriers such as transportation and library fines. As a result of the library's outreach and relationship building, residents are now more likely to approach staff with their needs. The library responds by creating programs and services to meet the needs of those community members. One example is the book drop housed in the community so residents with limited mobility and transportation options can return library books closer to home.

"The library is an inclusive environment for everyone. The *Working Together* project is an example of how we achieve that every day at Halifax Public Libraries," said Jones.

Halifax Public Libraries celebrates 25 years of African Heritage Month

Halifax Public Libraries is recognizing 25 years of African Heritage Month (AHM) at the library. Halifax Public Libraries, a founding member of the Black History Month Association, is proud to recognize this important milestone. AHM has grown from its beginnings as Black History Week in 1984 to a month-long celebration of African culture and history.

The first Black History Week was declared by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in February, 1926. Dr. Woodson was one of the first African-Americans to receive a PhD. He chose the month of February because the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass both occurred in February.

Halifax Public Libraries has more than 24 programs planned to celebrate this year's milestone of 25 years of AHM, including African drumming, dance, film presentations, musical guests and puppet shows.

Project Home

This spring, Halifax Public Libraries is featuring a series of programs focused on building or enhancing your living spaces to create or imagine the home you desire. The series, called Project Home, is offering programs on a variety of home-related topics, such as green living, old home restoration, decorating small spaces and more. The series is a complement to the many home improvement materials found on the shelves in the libraries.

Western Counties Regional Library

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

Corporate support helps ensure Library Card Month success

VOLUME 72



Logo for the 25th anniversary of African Heritage Month.

On Oct. 31, 2008, Western Counties Regional Library concluded a solid Library Card Month campaign that focused on attracting new patrons. The library welcomed 526 new members during Library Card Month, 26 patrons more than our goal of 500 new members.

The library maximized its publicity with blanket distribution of a special news insert in the *Trading Post*, weekly editorial and advertising coverage in newspapers and on radio, a strong Web presence and a series of special events. The library exceeded its goal of registering 500 new library cardholders and maintained its profile at regional elementary schools. As of Oct. 30, the library's membership stood at 19,904 or 33 per cent of residents of Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth counties.

Transcontinental Media provided the grand prize of a laptop computer and three secondary prizes of six-month subscriptions to regional newspapers, *Digby Courier*, *Shelburne Coast Guard* and *Yarmouth Vanguard*.



Joanne Head, Western Counties Regional Library deputy director, right, explains what the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library has to offer players from the Yarmouth Mariners junior A hockey team on Thursday, Oct. 2. After receiving their new cards, the players explored the library, borrowing DVDs, music CDs and books. Many of the Mariners are students and were unaware of the databases, homework helpers and other services available through the library.

This year, the library continued to reach beyond our elementary schools, setting up a one-day blitz at Wal-Mart in Yarmouth. It teamed up with the Yarmouth Mariners Junior A hockey team. The entire coaching staff and team arrived at the library to sign up for library cards on Oct. 2 to kick off the campaign. The month solidified partnerships between the two organizations throughout the hockey season. Public response was positive in large part due to the provision of a grand prize of a laptop computer. Scholastic Library Publishing provided the library with two large boxes of books, one French and one English, as prizes for the two schools that had the highest percentage of library card holders among students and staff by the end of the month. These books become part of the winning school's library.

Library staff works hard to promote the library and increase library card registrations during Library Card Month, but the sponsorship provided by Transcontinental Media in the form of printed materials was vital to get that

message out to the public. Transcontinental Media provides the Library Card Month insert in its *Trading Post* weekend publication delivered to every home, a Web banner ad on NovaNewsNow.com, contest prizes and advertising support. This support is complemented by radio public service announcements and weekly air time provided by CJLS and Tusk Sales and Service which helps drive the message home.

Working with the materials provided by Transcontinental Media, library clerks and library coordinators continue to go into the schools during Library Card Month to encourage reading and library card use among elementary students. The goal is to attain 100 per cent registration of staff and students and this was assisted by providing bookmarks (provided by Transcontinental) for students as rewards. We had 100 per cent registration in three schools.

Regional library celebrating 40 years

Western Counties Regional Library is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2009 with displays, a contest and other events. One of the youngest regional library systems in Nova Scotia, the formation of the regional library in 1969 brought library services to an area that had never had it outside of communities such as Yarmouth, Digby and Shelburne. "There wasn't a strong tradition of public libraries in the region," says Trudy Amirault, the library's regional director who has been with the library for 34 years. "Forty years ago, we started from scratch."

To mark the anniversary, displays containing old newspaper articles chronicling the struggles to bring the regional library into existence and its eventual launch, and a variety of photographs are on display at all 10 branches. The library has set up a contest to find the oldest regional library card. People are asked to dig through their shoe boxes under the bed or other storage areas to see if they can come up with the oldest card. Initially the cards were paper stock and listed the branch along with a two or three digit card number – the lower the number, the older the card.

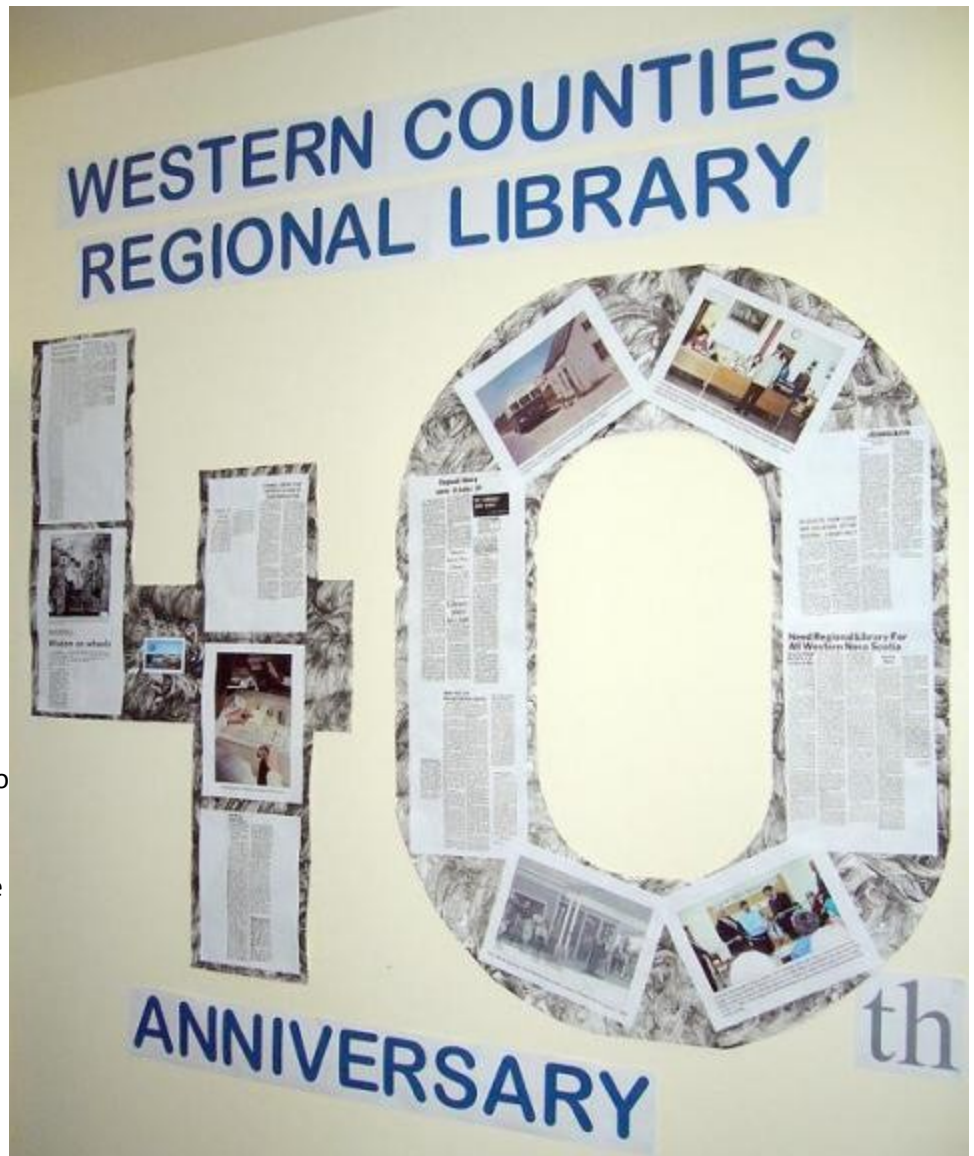
"I'm looking forward to seeing some of the old cards," says Amirault, adding there have been at least four or five versions of the card over the past 40 years.

Every branch will mark the official launch anniversary of Oct. 29, 1969 on Oct. 29 by serving cake, offering tours of the branches.

The staff at the Shelburne branch of Western Counties Regional Library has set up this clever display of old newspaper articles and photographs to mark the regional library's 40th anniversary.

Regional library needs help naming newest librarian

Western Counties Regional Library needs help naming its newest librarian. The newest staff member is a puppet who will be introducing programs and making appearances at the library's 10 branches.



The staff at the Shelburne branch of Western Counties Regional Library has set up this clever display of old newspaper articles and photographs to mark the regional library's 40th anniversary.



Joanne Head, right, coordinator of Children's Services at Western Counties Regional Library, hopes children under the age of 12 will come up with a name for the library's newest staff member. The new librarian was helping Joanne prepare for the Family Literacy world Record Attempt on Jan. 23-24.

The library is inviting children under 12 years of age to submit a name at any of the library's branches in Lockeport, Shelburne, Barrington, Clark's Harbour, Pubnico, Yarmouth, Meteghan, Weymouth, Digby or Westport. The child whose name is selected for the newest librarian will receive a special honour. Participants are asked to include their name, phone number and library card number when submitting their librarian name suggestion. Entries will be judged and the winner will be announced on Tuesday, March 3.

Christmas Cheer at the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library

Members of the Yarmouth Community Chorale brought a little Christmas cheer to the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library on Wednesday, Dec. 10. The singers performed Christmas carols as part of the last Mid-Week Break before the New Year.



The Yarmouth Community Chorale



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ACADEMIC LIBRARIES**Acadia University**

<http://library.acadiau.ca/>

In July 2008, Acadia's Vaughan Memorial Library welcomed Mike Beazley as their new librarian to the School of Business. Mike completed his MLIS at the University of Western Ontario. Mike hails from Cole Harbour, NS and is happy to be back in the Atlantic region.



Mike Beazley



Katharine Hall

The Vaughan also welcomes Katharine Hall, a student currently enrolled in the Library and Information Science program at the University of Western Ontario. Katharine will be spending four months at Acadia on a co-op work term before returning to Ontario to graduate in August. She is currently assisting librarians with a variety of projects and services, from digitization of the Acadia Alumni Bulletin to reference.

From November 3 - 14, 2008, the Vaughan Memorial Library partnered with the Acadia University Art Gallery to present the exhibition 'Living with Landmines' by Toronto-based artist V. Tony Hauser. The exhibit, displayed throughout the main floor of the library, included 16 life-size portraits and personal stories of Cambodian children who have been affected by landmines. For more information about the artist and this

moving exhibit please visit: <http://www.vtonyhauser.com>.

**Dalhousie University****Sexton Design & Technology Library**

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

New Initiatives for Sexton Library

The recent transfer of Sexton Design & Technology Library technical services operations to the Killam Library has provided an opportunity for the Sexton Library to broaden their public services. Consequently, two of the Sexton librarians are expanding their public services roles.



Allison Fulford, Digital Initiatives Coordinator and Engineering Librarian

Allison Fulford is adding digital initiatives to her responsibilities, with a number of projects planned. First up is digitizing, indexing, and providing free online access to the Journal of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada. The Sexton Library was approached by Steve Mannell from the School of Architecture, on behalf of the Society, to take on this digitization project. Sexton staff will carry out the digital imaging, create the metadata, and be responsible for the completion and for the long-term management of the project. Other digitization projects being planned include creating a digital collection of architect Andrew Randall Cobb's architectural postcards of Europe; digitizing 4th year Mechanical Engineering student design projects; and collaborating with Dalhousie's School of Architecture to provide a digital home, as well as a collaborative editing environment, for architectural 'green sheets'— student research into green and sustainable building materials and systems.

Sarah Jane Dooley is adding library promotion and outreach to her portfolio, with plans to expand the Sexton's web presence, improve library signage, develop displays and partner with the Architecture, Planning and Engineering Schools to promote the library's unique collections and services.

These initiatives represent another critical development in the Libraries' Strategic Direction #2, which is to optimize access to our collections and research materials for both the Dalhousie community and the general public.

Mount Saint Vincent University

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

Avatars on the MSVU Library Website

Two talking avatars -- Sarah and Suzie SitePal -- were recently added to the MSVU Library website. By adding the avatars to the site, the Library hopes to make the site more interactive and fun for new and returning students. The avatars are used to welcome students to the Library, to highlight Library resources and services, and to relay information about Library events. The SitePal software was installed by Denyse Rodrigues, and the avatars were designed and scripted by Hilary Skov-Nielsen, the Library's new term librarian responsible for public services.

To highlight the launch of the avatars the Library hosted a contest for MSVU students to draw attention to Sarah and Suzie's presence on the website. Students were asked to find Suzie SitePal on the MSVU Library website and listen to what she has to say, fill out an online ballot, and enter to win a prize. Go to www.msvu.ca/library to check out the new MSVU Library avatars.

LIBRARY PARTNERSHIPS

Nova Scotia Library / Libraries Nova Scotia November 2008 Update

In early October, the Nova Scotia Library Steering Committee planned and delivered a pre-conference session in Wolfville at NSLA 2008. The purpose of the session was to inform the library community about the emerging Nova Scotia Library initiatives and to involve participants in shaping projects and plans for the future. Similar initiatives have bolstered the infrastructure of library systems in other provinces and substantially enhanced province-wide library service delivery, and now this opportunity is developing in Nova Scotia. For those who were unable to attend, the report on discussions from the session as well as a copy of the PowerPoint presentation will soon be found on the Novanet website at www.novanet.ns.ca and on the NS Provincial Library web site <http://www.library.ns.ca/>. This session was generously sponsored by Gale Cengage and the committee would like to thank Salvy Trojman in particular for this support.

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Sarah Jane Dooley, Reference & Liaison Librarian/Promotion & Outreach Coordinator



The afternoon's activities included opening remarks from Dr. William Barker, President of the University of Kings College, and Wayne Doggett, Senior Executive Director of Higher Education, with the Department of Education. This was followed by an overview of the initiative to date by NSL Steering Committee co-chairs Marie DeYoung and Jennifer Evans. The final activity of the day was a lively 'thought builder' exercise ably facilitated by Denise Parrott, exploring six potential initiatives for NSL. The group also voted on for the new name for the NSL (which was a working title) from five finalists and the winner is **Libraries Nova Scotia** (LNS).

Based on the feedback from the pre-conference session and the excellent work done by the One Card Committee this past year, the Steering Committee has begun the process of implementing the One Card project. The Steering Committee is recommending that two pilots be conducted to determine the impact on our library operations before rolling out province wide. Regions identified for the two pilots are Halifax Regional Municipality and the combined Pictou/Antigonish and Eastern Counties regions. Members of the One Card Policy Development Committee are Judith Hare (HRL), Bill Maes (Dal), Ken Clare (SMU), Eric Stackhouse (Pictou/Antigonish), Petra Mauerhoff (Eastern Counties) and Lynne Murphy (St. FX). Members of the One Card Technical Implementation Committee are Denise Parrott (NSPL), Beth Gerstenberger (AST), Bill Slauenwhite (Novanet) and several others to be named. The One Card Communications Committee will include Jennifer Evans, Marie DeYoung, Ken Clare (SMU) and one or two others.

The mission of Libraries Nova Scotia (LNS) is to contribute to the development of sustainable communities in Nova Scotia through providing all Nova Scotians with seamless, barrier-free access to the world's information sources. LNS will result in benefits such as: province-wide access to full-text digital journal and book collections; the coordinated creation of digitized materials important to Nova Scotians; seamless linking to full-text content across libraries; management of a province-wide authentication system and one-card service; improved inter-library loan services; coordinated information literacy programs; expanded virtual reference services.

News from Prince Edward Island

Submitted by Dawn Hooper

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

Contributed by Nichola Cleaveland

Name Change

The Provincial Library Service has changed its name to Public Library Service. The new name better reflects who we are and what we do, which is the delivery of public library service to residents of Prince Edward Island. Our patrons already regard us as a system of public libraries, so the new name will make perfect sense to them! This change is also intended to better reflect the partnership between the Public Library Service and Island communities.

Nora Bateson Award for Excellence in Library Service

2008 marked the 75th anniversary of the Carnegie Demonstration Project establishing a province-wide, public library system on Prince Edward Island. The success of this project was largely due to the efforts its Director, and our province's very first librarian, Nora Bateson.

In 1933, Ms. Bateson crisscrossed the province convincing Islanders of the need for a public library service. From Women's Institutes to school boards to parish halls to individuals on the street, she passionately championed community libraries. Her efforts paid off. The first library opened in Oct 1933 in Montague. By the end of the year five branches were open and within

three years 22 branches were operating across the island.

Ms. Bateson did everything from recruiting and training staff to ordering materials to operating the province's first bookmobile out of the trunk of her car! Her initiative and commitment to libraries and to the people of Prince Edward Island were exemplary.

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Public Library Service, the Nora Bateson Award for Excellence in Library Service was created. On December 2, 2008 the inaugural Nora Bateson Award for Excellence in Library Service was awarded to Mary Lou Hansen, manager of the Children's Loft at Confederation Centre Public Library.

The Award was presented to Mary Lou by Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Minister of Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour. "Mary Lou exemplifies the initiative and commitment to excellence that Nora Bateson stood for," said Minister Bertram. "Thanks to Mary Lou, the Children's Loft is a vibrant, active destination for infants, toddlers and children. She has also been involved in the creation of an area within the library for teens, and she always demonstrates enthusiasm and dedication to public library service." Congratulations, Mary Lou, on being the first recipient of this Award!
Family Literacy Day



Hon. Carolyn Bertram, Minister of Communities, Culture and Labour recently presented Mary Lou Hansen, manager of the Children's Loft at Confederation Centre Public Library, with the 2008 Nora Bateson Award for Excellence in Library Service.

A number of activities were held in public libraries across the province to celebrate Family Literacy Day (Tuesday, January 27th). The activities included "Family Fun Word Games", "Family Scrabble", and Read-a-thons. Five public libraries participated in a Canada-wide attempt at a new Guinness world record for "Most Children Reading With an Adult, Multiple Locations."

Great Maritime Achievers Exhibition

Confederation Centre Public Library in Charlottetown is currently hosting an exhibit called Great Maritime Achievers. This is a traveling exhibition created by Science East in Fredericton. Eleven great Maritime achievers in science and technology (including two from Prince Edward Island) are featured in individual displays with hands-on exhibits. The units offer insight on the ingenuity, early discoveries and important scientific contributions of our scientific pioneers.

The exhibition is sponsored by Heritage Canada's Museum Assistance Program, the New Brunswick Culture and Sport Secretariat, the University of New Brunswick and the Association of Professional Engineers & Geo-scientists of New Brunswick. For further information on Science East, visit their website at <http://www.scienceeast.nb.ca>.

AWE Early Literacy Stations™

The Public Library Service has recently purchased four AWE Early Literacy Stations™. These self-contained units are intended for use by toddlers through second graders, with the added bonus of use by new English language learners. Each Early Literacy Station™ includes more than thirty-seven educational software packages spanning seven curricular areas and is top rated by Children's Technology Review. The Early Literacy Station™ has an imaginative interface that encourages exploration and comes complete with a colorful keyboard and tiny mouse.

UPEI ROBERTSON LIBRARY

Submitted by Suzanne Jones

We are in the process of changing our virtual reference *Crafty Syntax* software for *LibraryH3lp* software which will allow us to embed a chat widget in our home-page as well as identify the "track" our patrons are using to chat with us (from a Moodle

course, our website or through the catalogue). It's slightly more complicated than Crafty to set up but since it uses instant messaging, virtual reference questions can be sent to us from mobile phones, etc. It'll be ready for February.



The Information and Circulation functions are now sharing one Desk in the Library. The former Information Desk has been dismantled and a coffee shop is being built with an expected up-and-running date in mid-February. Different coffees have been tested by eager library patrons who have submitted their coffee reviews. New carpeting in the Lobby has also replaced the existing carpeting -- giving the Lobby a fresh new look.

As the main floor of the Library is undergoing renovations both current (Coffee Shop) and planned (Learning Commons), there was some discussions as to how we still provide an environment for those students requiring/wanting a quiet study space. Current thought is that we "split" the Library into zones; the second floor will be the quieter zone. More on this as we see how things progress.

Renovations in the Special Collections area continue -- especially to accommodate the L. M. Montgomery Institute.

The Robertson Library now offers SMART Board technology in two of its bookable group study rooms and early reports from our users are quite positive. Now, if we can just hide those permanent markers!

The posting for the Collections & Digital Resources Librarian position closed on December 15, 2008. The Library Appointments Committee (LAC) has been struck and is in the process of evaluating submissions.

Many Library staff members are now using MACs and a new Language Lab, Collaboratory and Learning Commons, using Mac computers, are planned with installation/implementation this summer.

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Library Education

Dalhousie School of Information Management

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

Upcoming student-led conference

The Information Without Borders (IWB) Conference will be held on Monday February 16 2008 from 8:30 – 5:00pm at the McInnes Room, Dalhousie Student Union Building. It is a student-lead initiative of the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University.

The theme of the 2009 IWB Conference is I.M. Easy Tech: Information Technology Transforming Professions, providing insight into the benefits and challenges of using IT in information management work across all disciplines. The day will include presentations, technology displays, panel discussions, and an expo of student work. Keynote Speakers are: Dr. B.T. Boadway,

former Director of Health Policy at the Ontario Medical Association, and Mark Leggott, University Librarian at the University of Prince Edward Island. For more information visit the conference website:

<http://iwbconference.informationmanagement.dal.ca/iwbconference/>

Information Management Public Lectures

In January, Ken Roberts and Annette DeFaveri visited SIM and presented talks in the Information Management Public Lecture series. Ken Roberts, President of the Canadian Library Association and Chief Librarian of the Hamilton Public Library, spoke on Revolutionary versus Evolutionary Change. According to Roberts, libraries have become exceptionally good at managing evolutionary change but are less comfortable when faced with the need to manage revolutionary change. Ken also discussed the role that library associations play as our profession morphs to address new realities.

Annette DeFaveri was the National Coordinator of the Working Together Project and was the first Community Development librarian at the Vancouver Public Library. She is currently the Manager of Children's Services at the Vancouver Public Library. Ms. DeFaveri's presentation, Community Development and the Role of Information Professionals, provided an overview of the traditional role of community in library-based policy making, and the present role that communities play. According to Ms. DeFaveri, public libraries are becoming more relevant to the communities they serve as they work to include collaborative community-based approaches to library service planning and policy decision making,

SIM Student Wins George Atiyeh Prize

Our students win a wide array of awards and prizes. We applaud them all! The following is a recent example. Sean Swanick, a second-year student in Dalhousie's MLIS program won the 2008 George Atiyeh Prize. This prize was founded by the Middle East Librarians Association (MELA) in 1999 to honor George N. Atiyeh, retired Head of the Near East Section of the Library Congress, for his many contributions to Middle East librarianship and scholarship. The George Atiyeh Prize offers financial aid to attend the annual meetings of MELA and of the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA). Sean attended the annual MELA meeting November 21st -22nd at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.



2008 Atiyeh Prize Recipients



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Booking hotel reservations are the responsibility of individual conference delegates.

When making reservations, delegates should identify themselves as attending the **Atlantic Provinces Library Association Conference 2009** to receive the special conference rates.

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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.caais-acsj.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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No Convenor at this time.

If you are interested in convening this interest group please contact

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