

## News from New Brunswick

### News from Mount Allison University Libraries & Archives

Laura Landon, Head, Access Services, R.P. Bell Library, Mount Allison University

Despite ongoing and ever-changing COVID procedures in New Brunswick, the Fall 2021 term has restored some level of “normalcy” at Mount Allison as many classes have returned to in-person delivery and students are back on campus. The Library is fully open and back to regular hours, with extended hours starting in mid-November. Masking policies and social distancing remain in place. Gate counts show we are experiencing roughly half the traffic we would welcome in a regular school year, with numbers slowly rising.



#### **Staff News:**

**Wendy Witzak** joins the Library in a four-year term as Interlibrary Loans & Copyright Coordinator. Wendy worked as our term ILL Coordinator in 2020-21. She has more than 15 years’ experience in academic libraries, most recently as an Interlibrary Loans Specialist at Mount Royal University. Wendy also has experience with Alma and will provide valuable assistance as Mount Allison and Novanet migrate to the Alma ILS.



Acting Archivist **Renée Belliveau** launched her historical novel, *The Sound of Fire*, on November 4 at an online event organized by Mount Allison University. Set in December 1941, the book tells the tragic story of the Mount Allison men’s residence fire, which killed four students and left others injured and traumatized. Belliveau based her book on extensive archival research. Read more in [The Newsstand](#), the Library’s blog.

*Photo: Renée Belliveau in the Mount Allison Archives with her book.*

An article by librarian **Anita Cannon** appears in the Fall 2021 issue of the [Journal of New Brunswick Studies](#). Anita's article, "The Right to Government Information in New Brunswick and its Use by the Scholarly Community," uses government sources, interviews, and survey results to explore the state of access to government information in New Brunswick. It examines the province's right to information legislation and its use by academics.

**Keagan Hawthorne**, who works with Access Services in the R.P. Bell Library, has won the 2021 [John Lent Poetry/Prose Award](#) for *The Barnyard Book of Common Prayer*. Keagan is a poet and printer who runs a small letterpress, The Hardscrabble Press, from his home in Sackville, NB. His poetry has appeared in several journals. He also won the 2020-21 Alfred G. Bailey Prize for poetry from the Writers' Federation of New Brunswick.

The Libraries & Archives welcomes **Jakob Roberts** as our new Music Library Assistant in the Alfred Whitehead Music Library. A Mount Allison Music alumnus, Jakob is a recent graduate of the Library and Information Technology program at the Nova Scotia Community College. His professional experience includes working with the NSCAD University Archives and the Anchor Zine Library in Halifax. He also worked on student work placements in the Mount Saint Vincent University Library and the music library of the Canadian Music Centre. As a Mount Allison music student, Jakob worked in the Music Library, where he says he developed his interest in a career in libraries.

University Librarian **Dianne Keeping** has accepted a position as Dean of Libraries at Memorial University of Newfoundland, beginning in January 2022. Dr. Keeping came to Mount Allison in August 2019 from Mount Royal University, where she served as Manager of Library Collection Services. Before that, she worked for 10 years as a Collection Development Librarian at Memorial University. She has provided outstanding service and guidance in her role as Mount Allison's University Librarian, and we will miss her greatly. We congratulate her on her exciting new role with MUN. Work is underway to launch a search for a new University Librarian at Mount Allison. An acting UL will be appointed in the interim.