

News from Newfoundland and Labrador

News from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador Libraries

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University News:

Memorial's Human Rights Policy has been updated by the Human Rights Policy working group after a consultation process held across Memorial University in 2024. [Read more.](#)

Memorial University's new president **Dr. Janet Morrison** began her tenure on August 11, 2025. [Read her welcome message.](#)

In July, Memorial University's Board of Regents approved a \$468.6 million operating budget for 2025-2026 that includes \$13.68 million in investments and a base expenditure reduction of \$20.85 million. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Stuart Carney was appointed Dean of Medicine. Dr. Carney will begin a five-year term effective Jan. 1, 2026. [Read more.](#)

Research:

The Libraries migrated its Research Repository to [Scholaris—a national shared repository](#). This will increase the accessibility and discoverability of Memorial research. Scholaris is hosted by Scholars Portal and was developed by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), University of Toronto Libraries (UTL), regional consortia, expert working groups, and members of the Canadian institutional repository community.

In early July, music librarian **Becky Smith** attended the International Association of Music Libraries (IAML) Congress, which took place in Salzburg, Austria, the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Canada was well represented with at least 20 Canadians in attendance, many of whom also presented. In the attached picture, you can see Music Librarians from Newfoundland, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. For Becky, this was the first-time meeting some of these colleagues in person! Also pictured is the mascot of the Canadian Association of Music Libraries (CAML), Helmutt the camel. Such an enjoyable and informative conference!



Health sciences library staff member **Katie Kehoe** gave a presentation to the Faculty of Medicine about the use of AI in everyday life on July 23. It was well attended and garnered a great discussion.

The Education Library received a donation from the estate of **Dr. Elizabeth Strong**, a beloved professor of children's literature in the Faculty of Education. Dr. Strong was deeply passionate about her collection, which features original editions, beautifully inscribed hardcovers, and signed copies by celebrated authors. The donation totals just over \$30,000.

Chelsea Humphries published "[Reeling them in: using TikTok and video content to leverage engagement between academic librarians, libraries and students](#)" in *UKSG Insights*.

Employee News:

In July, Memorial University Libraries welcomed **Kelly Hatch**, Associate Dean of Libraries for the QEII, Music, and Labrador Campus.

Louise White recently completed her role as interim ADL, QEII Library, MRC and Labrador Campus Library. Louise's continued contributions are steeped in wisdom and seasoned experience and we will miss her. You can now find her in the Collections Division in the QEII.

This spring we had a number of milestone service awards in the QEII Library. Congratulations to the QEII Library's **Donna Doucette** and **Chrissy Glavine** for their 20-year service award. **David Mercer** received his 25-year service award. **Colleen Field** received her 35-year service award and **Bryan Russell** received his 30-year service award.

Grenfell Library's **Kit Stone** graduated and crossed the stage at Convocation, receiving her Bachelor of Arts. And QEII Library's **Cindy Cranford** received a Bachelor of Business Administration.

Congratulations to the QEII Library's **Nicole Cahill** and HSL's **Dion Fowlow** who recently completed the Gardiner Centre's Supervisory Management Skills Program.



Other Cool Stuff:

Team members of both the Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) and Archives and Special Collections (**Colleen Quigley**, **Linda White**, **Donna Doucette** and **Karen Darby**) were recently given special credit in the recent production of "[Don't tell the Newfoundlanders](#)" - a film created by CODCO alumnus and author **Greg Malone** and directed by **Brad Gover**. The series is available on Bell Vibe TV.

The CNS displayed materials on the 1977 Canada Summer Games in the lobby of the QEII Library during the period of the Games.

QEII Library Cataloguing & Metadata's **Heather Pretty** attended the Royal Newfoundland Regiment June 30th dinner as a board member of the Trail of the Caribou Research Group. The annual Beaumont-Hamel dinner is a time to commemorate those who fought on July 1, 1916, and to offer toasts to the military units and other organizations who have supported the Regiment or are otherwise part of the Regimental family.

A huge shout-out to the Memorial Library Launchers Dragon Boat team, who recently took part in the Paddle in Paradise Dragon Boat Festival—a fantastic fundraiser event. Team members include: **Donna Doucette (ring leader), Kate McClintock, Stacey Penney, Monika Stephenson, Jae Jin, Heather Pretty, SK Maston, Colleen Quigley, Patsy Campbell, Elliot Mason, Katie Skanes, Joanne Cole, Rob Ball, Kristine Power, Martin Nolan**, and—unable to participate due to injury—**Lindsay Alcock**. The Paddle in Paradise Festival proudly supports the Avalon Dragons, a Breast Cancer Survivors Dragon Boat Team, which includes our very own **Colleen Field**. Her team brought home a silver medal, finishing just one second shy of gold.



When the QEII Library's **Dr. Kathryn Rose** is not strategizing about library collections, she is in the pool winning medals with her master's swim team. They recently competed at the 2026 Masters Swimming Championships in Ontario and Kate won silver for the 200 free, bronze for the 800 free and 2 gold and a silver for team relays.

The CNS, in partnership with WritersNL, hosted another successful writer's workshop event "Where Winds Blow on Shore: Historical Texture, Historical Fiction, and the Centre for Newfoundland Studies" on June 19.

Library IT employee **Dennis Flynn** dropped off his 5000th pair of donated glasses to the St. John's Lions Club on May 14, 2025. All the glasses he has collected have been from MUN over the last 25 years. The St. John's Lions club sorts, processes, and ships the donated glasses to the Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre where staff and inmates have been trained to do repairs, cleaning and further sorting and batching donated glass by lens strength. These glasses are then sent free of charge on various humanitarian missions with trained medical personnel to places around the world where the donations can be put to good use.

The Libraries' fundraising committee hand-delivered a cheque for \$5,200, bags of donated goods and \$70 dollars in Dollar Store gift cards for the guests of the Gathering Place. The fundraising committee is: **Donna Doucette, Nicole Cahill, Katie Skanes, Krista Delaney, Terri Lynn Condon, Heather Kinsella, Lesley Squires, and Laura Baggs**. They deserve a special shout out for the work they do! And thanks to everyone who supports and contributes all year. Memorial University Libraries has donated over \$32,000 dollars to the Gathering Place since 2015.

Local author (and Memorial employee) **Heidi Wicks** [was interviewed about her new collection of short stories](#) and credited Memorial University Libraries' Digital Archives Initiative as a research source for her book.

The Archives and Special Collections took part in an event on May 17, 2025, for a live, continuous reading of **Cassie Brown's** 1972 book "On The Ice" hosted by Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. The archives showcased the Cassie Brown fonds (Coll-115). St. John's Mayor **Danny Breen, Petrina Bromley, Joel Thomas Hynes, MHA Jim Dinn, Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, Bob Hallett, MHA Helen Conway Ottenheimer, Ted Blades, Sheilagh Guy Murphy, Perry Chafe, Ryan Cleary** and many more were on hand to read. The CBC's Fisheries Broadcast did a recap of the event and our very own **Colleen Quigley** was interviewed. [Have a listen here](#).

A couple of auctions will be hosted online by Bartlett Auctions for NL books donated to the Centre for Newfoundland Studies by the late **Hon. Dr. Edward Roberts**. His directive was to sell the books not needed with proceeds going back to CNS for future purchases. In total they raised over \$22,000.

Head of the CNS **Colleen Field** and public services librarian **Bonnie Morgan** were on the nominating committee for the Dublin Literary Award that successfully nominated prize winner Michael Crummey for his novel *The Adversary*. The Award celebrates outstanding achievements in global literature and was worth 154,000 Canadian dollars.

On May 6, the CNS hosted **Ida Linehan Young** for Roots Side Up, the first in our creative writing workshop series delivered in partnership with WritersNL. This series is made possible with support from the Office of Public Engagement. The next workshop, led by **Michelle Butler Hallett**, is scheduled for June 12.