

News from Newfoundland and Labrador

News from Memorial University Libraries

Kristine Power, Communications Advisor

University News

The search committee for the role of director of the Office of Faculty Relations has concluded its work and has recommended **Scott Kelly** for the position. Mr. Kelly holds a master of employment relations and a bachelor of commerce from Memorial University. His appointment began Oct. 27. [Read more.](#)

Memorial University launched an employee engagement survey on Nov. 24 to better understand the experiences of faculty and staff. The survey will remain open until Dec. 12, 2025. [Read more.](#)

Research

A partnership between the Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) and NL Public Libraries has led to an exciting addition to the collection of Newfoundland newspapers digitized on the DAI. *The Royal Gazette and Newfoundland Advertiser* (sometimes titled *The Royal Gazette*) was Newfoundland's first newspaper. **John D. Ryan** established a press in St. John's in 1807, and the first issue was printed in August of that year. Until recently, the earliest surviving issues dated from 1810, with originals housed at the A.C. Hunter Public Library. Microfilm copies from 1810 have long been available to researchers at CNS. The recent acquisition of issues from 1807–1809 has generated great excitement, and an agreement was reached to loan the volumes to CNS for scanning and inclusion in the DAI. Thanks to the purchase of a new scanner and the dedicated work of **Don Walsh** and **Heather Kinsella** of the DAI, these rare issues are now [readily accessible](#) in their original form.

CNS is hosting a Creative Writing Workshop in partnership with WritersNL on Sunday, Nov. 30, from 2–4 p.m. The workshop, *The Work Work Work of Art: Poetry as Work/Play*, will be facilitated by St. John's award-winning poet **Mark Callanan**.

Bonnie Morgan of the CNS was an invited panelist for the session "Women, Spirituality, and Community," being offered as part of [Up She Rises! A Public Forum about Women and Gender in Newfoundland & Labrador History](#). She presented "Sensory Anglicans: Women, Textile Making and Faithfulness in 20th-century Newfoundland."

The First Space Gallery in the QEII Library is currently exhibiting *Sustainable Nunatsiavut Futures (SNF)* curated by **Jessica Winters** and **Melanie Zurba**. The exhibit will remain on display until December 2025 and features artists: **Belinda Shiwak**, **Katelyn Jacque**, **Emelia Angnatok**, and **Sid Ford**. [Read the catalogue and learn more about the art/artists.](#)

The fifth annual Farm Fun Day at the Pye Centre for Northern Boreal Food Systems, held on October 5, was a resounding success for the Labrador Campus. Campus staff and the Centre's three farmers hosted 1,200 people – out of a town of 8,600! – for a day of celebrating the harvest. Lead farmer **Lem Seaward** led hundreds of people of all ages by tractor and trailer on tours of the research infrastructure and land plots to highlight the microbial, elemental, soil, and crop research sites. One experimental crop this year was sweet corn, and due to the extreme heat this summer there were only 50 cobs grown. An auction of these cobs, with the highest bid over \$23 for a single cob, with proceeds donated to the food bank. This engagement event is interconnected with the monthly Farm Fridays, **Sarah Papple**, librarian, leads at the Library. It is the augmentation of the Farm Collection, and a roster of experts to add to the human library that is our most thriving collection in Labrador. Pulling off such a successful day involves many hours of work and some volunteering time in the potato field.



(Heather Angnatok, Sarah Papple, Lem Seaward in the potato patch. Sarah is holding a heart-shaped spud, which she says is very lucky and will make good fries.)

Reconciliation, decolonization, and Indigenous-led research and education are the guiding principles written into the Constitution of Labrador Campus. Observing the National Day for Truth and

Reconciliation at the Campus is a careful combination of remembrance and respect for the community and working together to find new paths forward. In the Library, people had an opportunity to sit privately with their memories and experiences of colonialism and were invited to adorn a birch tree with an orange shirt ornament. During the month, the messages accumulated and presented an ongoing memorial to the losses our community still feels today. **Heather Angnatok**, Elders, Aunties and Uncles Coordinator, led a sealskin orange shirt workshop in the Library for staff, students, and the wider community. Copies of the Calls to Action were available for people to keep, and at least a dozen were handed out over the course of the month.

Dr. Patrick Gamsby, Scholarly Communications Librarian, QEII Library, published his fourth book *Henri Lefebvre, Metaphilosophy, and Modernity*. You can read more in the MUN Gazette.

Memorial University Librarians **Courtney Crocker, Janet Goosney, Kathryn Rose and Louise White** collaborated with librarians from the school system, CNA, and NLPL to make a submission to the Education Accord NL

Employee News

Philip Baluk has returned to Library IT, QEII Library.

Becky Smith is on sabbatical as of Nov. 1, 2025, for the next year.

Congratulations to Archives and Special Collection's **Paulette Noseworthy** who retired this September after 20 years here in the QEII Library.

Archives and Special Collection's **Colleen Quigley** will be away from October 3 until the Christmas break on a combination of research and annual leave. She is attending the Harlow portion of the Theatre, Film and Social Justice program. Safe and fun travels, Colleen.

Christa Newhook from the CNS is providing some additional support to the Archives and Special Collections unit in the QEII Library.

The Libraries would like to recognize and thank **Jamie Steadman** for his contributions to the Music Library over the past 2.5 years. His contract ended in September.

Crystal Rose has returned from administrative leave and resumed her role as Associate Dean of Libraries (Grenfell & Harlow campuses). Following a successful review at the end of her initial three-year term, the

committee recommended renewal for a 5-year term effective September 1, 2025. Crystal will also serve as the administrative lead for Copyright and for Accessibility services at Memorial University Libraries.

Sarah Papple accepted an appointment as Division Head, alongside her role as Labrador Campus Librarian. This three-year term began on July 1, 2025, and is renewable upon review.

Courtney Crocker accepted a Division Head appointment on August 1, 2025, in addition to her role as Education Librarian at the Education Library.

Dan Duda was recommended for a one-year appointment as Division Head for Archives and Special Collections, QEII Library, effective September 1, 2025.

Other Cool Stuff:

The Commons staff in the QEII Library did pop-ups with Student Wellness (Oasis in the UC + Thrive Week this week) offering polymer clay crafting, button making, etc.



(Commons student employee Maxwell Bursey)

The Commons also had a Halloween pop up in the lobby featuring spooky 3D prints and scary VR games, as well as a “I Love MUNDays” green screen event on Oct 10.

Map enthusiasts: **Dan Duda** and **David Mercer**, Archives and Special Collections, were recently part of a social media podcast about cool and interesting maps in the Libraries' Collections. Keep an eye on the QEII Library [Instagram](#) account to see more.



On October 17, the Grenfell Library hosted its Archives and Special Collections Grand Opening and High Tea Reception. Librarians **Crystal Rose** and **Chelsea Humphries** facilitated tours of our new historical map collection and rare book room, showcasing hidden gems in the Grenfell Library's collections. Over 50 members of the community came out, explored our displays, and enjoyed some tea and treats! [The event received local media attention.](#)

The Marine Institute Library hosted a special day, 100 Years of Careers, for high school students on November 6th. **Anne Bowden** and **Jessie Cahill-Bouzane** pulled together photos of students training for and practitioners working in marine careers.

"In the 100 years since Memorial University began, so much history has occurred, and part of that history is when the College of Fisheries now known as the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland (or MI) joined Memorial University in 1992. The Marine Institute Archive has photos of the College of Fisheries from its beginning in 1964, and we have scanned many of them and put them on the [DAI which you can see here.](#)" - Jessie Cahill-Bouzane



Courtesy of the Marine Institute Archive, (Coll. 001-06.06.001)

On Wednesday, October 29, the Education Library hosted a heartfelt reception in memory of **Dr. Elizabeth Strong**, a retiree of the Faculty of Education who passed away on January 10, 2024. In a generous act of legacy, Dr. Strong's estate donated \$30,000 worth of children's literature materials along with a newly designed reading corner to the Education Library. Her gift will enrich the learning environment for generations of Education students, offering a space where stories come alive and future educators find inspiration.

Congratulations to Archives and Special Collections' **Linda White** and to the Greenspond Historical Society on their successful submission to the Provincial Historic Commemorations Program. The program recently recognized **Louise Maud Saunders** of Greenspond as an Exceptional Person. **Louise Maud Saunders** was the first woman lawyer in Newfoundland. [Listen to the CBC interview with Linda White as she does a deep dive through history to share more about this incredible historical figure.](#)

We had several [Cape to Cabot](#) runners from Memorial Libraries. Congrats and a big shout-out to **Jessie Cahill-Bouzane**, **Nicholas Diamond**, and **Dennis Flynn**. Cape to Cabot is locally known by runners as "The Beast" at 20 kilometers.

The Archives and Special Collections received a special shout-out in **Dennis Flynn's** November Downhome article, "Iron Skull to Iron Cross," about Frances Cluett, a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurse during the First World War. The Archives hold a collection of correspondence written by **Frances**

Cluett to her mother, a photograph album taken by Cluett, and five watercolours painted by Cluett during her stay in France.

Grenfell Library partnered with the Corner Brook Public Library to host a NL Public Libraries card drive in the Grenfell Library on October 28. Eleven new library cards were made, and many more students stopped by to learn about resources in the public library, like popular ebooks and audiobooks that can be accessed remotely from campus.

Chelsea Humphries, public services librarian, Grenfell Library, published two poems in [Horseshoe Literary Magazine](#): “Another Sunset” and “Like This.”

Health Science Library’s **Melissa Hefford** recently completed an online course from Library Juice Academy called Archival Outreach and Advocacy. Library Juice Academy offers several courses geared toward various aspects of archival studies.

HSL’s **Melissa Hefford** also created a display honoring **Dr. Ian Rusted**, first Dean of Medicine, Memorial Medical School. Dr. Rusted is a Memorial University Centennial 100 inductee. The display is located on the second floor in the Faculty of Medicine and will remain up for a couple of months.

HSL’s **Katie Kehoe** and **Lori Flemming** also created displays: one on air pollution for the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies (UN), and another on weird and wacky illnesses and their cures that included illnesses from chocolate cysts to the man who mistook his wife for a hat.

The Education Library had another successful Tales to Teach, Tales to Reach author event this September with over 50 attendees. The featured author **Erin Snow** talked about her new self-published book *What Can You See From A-Z Under The Labrador Sea*.

The Tales to Teach author series also went on the road in July to Grenfell Library and provided the perfect opportunity to work with some of our colleagues on the West Coast. The event showcased author **Judy Doucette** who read *Poppa and His Drum* and shared a reconciliation song.

The Education Library received \$500 in funding from the Faculty of Education to enhance their Indigenous Collection this September.

The Grenfell Library participated in Academic Prep Week from September 2-5, welcoming 75 incoming students and helping them get a head start in learning the skills needed to succeed at university. Librarians **Chelsea** and **Crystal** taught five different library instruction sessions, exploring everything from

how to search for books and articles in the library, citing sources, tracking down course reserves, and understanding generative AI. The library also hosted a well-attended movie night for students, complete with popcorn!

Grenfell Library yoga is back. It started this September with librarian and yoga instructor **Chelsea** leading some mindful movement.

Grenfell Library had another successful board game night on Sept. 19. The candy buffet was a huge hit.

Labrador campus Librarian **Sarah Papple** had the opportunity to partner with a local youth film production for the "Lecture on a Bus" series that she provided with faculty and staff from Labrador Campus. The purpose of the activity was to introduce information literacy and research possibilities and tips, bring recruitment information and highlight library materials (including the upcoming donation of film equipment) and services to the Youth." More than 20 youth signed up, including 8 from Sheshatshiu Innu Nation.

Marine Institute Library's **Jessie Cahill-Bouzane** participated in a student support fair at MI on September 11th highlighting library services to students.

The Centre for Newfoundland Studies participated in the Welcome 2025 Cultural Fashion Show. In honour of Memorial's 100th anniversary, Memorial-branded clothing was also on display as well as some archival gems from the Libraries' CNS collections.

QEII Library and Commons student employee **Rafika Rahman** was featured in the MUN Gazette feature "From classroom to campus job."

Keep an eye out for an upcoming Netflix Sea Creature Limited Series (starring **Josh Hartnett**) that was filmed here in the province. Look closely to see if CNS's copy of an issue of the Newfoundland Quarterly makes the cut for a scene! CNS staff member **Donna Doucette** has been in close contact with the props person and fingers crossed that all that time and effort leads to the magazine making an appearance!

A fine crowd turned out for the inaugural "Fall Semester Coffee Break" for the Memorial University Libraries Team hosted at the QEII:



(From left to right: Donna Doucette, Linda White, Martin Nolan, Michaela Doucette, Christa Newhook, Paulette Noseworthy, Heather Kinsella, Rob Ball, Nicole Cahill, Krista Delaney, Kelly Hatch, Lesley Squires, Katie Skanes, Jae Jin, Chrissy Glavine, and Sheri Coombs)

Keeping the water/sea creature theme going – the CNS's **Colleen Field** and her team, the Avalon Dragons, participated in the Calgary Dragon Boat Festival in August and brought home a bronze medal for the Breast Cancer Survivor Division. Next August she will be going to the International Breast Cancer Dragon Boat Festival in Aix-les-Bains, France – a festival that is held in a different location every four years.

The CNS drop-in craft circle, Livyers' Loops, has resumed every Friday from 1-2pm.

The first meeting of the CNS Nonfiction Book Club for 2025-26 was held on Wednesday, September 24 at 6:30pm. This year, they are reading on the theme of "Labrador," starting with a discussion of **Elizabeth Goudie's** *Woman of Labrador*.

The CNS hosted "Get in the Zone: A Fiction Workshop with **Sharon Bala**" on October 5. This was the third in their "Imaging History" series presented in partnership with WritersNL and made possible with support from the Office of Public Engagement. The event sold out!