

## News from Newfoundland and Labrador

### News from Memorial University Libraries

**Kristine Power, Communications Advisor**

#### Research:

**Sarah Papple**, (Labrador Campus) and **Crystal Rose** (ADL, Grenfell, Labrador, Harlow) presented at a [CAAL-CBPA Dialogue Exchange \(AiDiEX\) on Indigenous Data Sovereignty](#) with a selection of other speakers on April 28.

**Dr. Patrick Gamsby** recently published a book chapter (Henri Lefebvre's Sociology of Time) in [The Anthem Companion to Henri Lefebvre](#). He is also the Chair of the peer mentor team for this year's [CARL Librarians' Research Institute](#), which will take place in Fredericton, NB from June 22-25.

**SK Maston**, QEII Librarian and team member of the Cataloging and Metadata Division, shares her experiences about cataloging a rare and unusual book:

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/roadkill-and-art/>

Memorial's student newspaper recently interviewed Grenfell's **Chelsea Humphries** in the article "[AI and You: Mun Libraries AI Strategic Project Team](#)."

**Sarah Papple**, Labrador Campus librarian, engaged as an instructor in teaching in a more traditional way – in classroom – this spring. As the instructor for the Bachelor of SASS course “Narratives of the North,” she led the full credit course in a three-week daily classroom block. Calling on all formats of narrative, she invited colleagues **Dan Duda** and **Heather Angnatok** to share stories of maps and land histories, as well as the Inuit Circumpolar Council archivist **Lisa Mullins**, illustrated note-taker **Libby Dean**, and others. As they worked further into the class together, her understanding of reconciliation was expanded. She was guided to see many opportunities for working to provide a safer, inclusive library experience for Indigenous students in the North through academia. She was grateful for this opportunity and the trust the students had to share their stories with her.

The Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) hosted its annual Celebrating Research and Creative Works event on March 25, 2026. The event is designed to celebrate recent book publications and creative works (not including journal articles). Congrats to library authors who had work features at the event: **Dr. Patrick Gamsby**, **Dr. Bonnie Morgan**, and **Sarah Papple**.

On May 2, Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) Librarian, **Bonnie Morgan**, led a "NL Music Traditions" workshop at the Study and Stay NL SEED Conference. She was joined by two undergraduate student

volunteers, **Liam Clancy** and **Sara Benoit**, who sang some traditional songs and taught participants "A Great Big Sea Hove in Long Beach."

The CNS Creative Writing Workshop series will continue with a visit from award-winning author **Trudy Morgan-Coles** on June 16th. Registration will be available through WritersNL, with event details to follow.

The CNS will host its first "Write-In" session, presented in collaboration with WritersNL on June 24th. This program invites emerging and established writers to come together for a shared time of independent writing in a quiet and creative space.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association is hosting its [annual conference](#), "Overdue, but not lost: renewing our community" on June 5 at the McCann Centre, Education Library, Room ED 2030. A special shoutout to the conference steering committee for their hard work getting this hybrid and virtual conference off the ground. (**Janet Goosney, Stacey Penney, Crystal Rose, Courtney Crocker, Amanda Tiller-Hackett, Emily Blackmore, and Andrea Hyde**).

As part of the Grenfell Campus 50th anniversary celebrations, the Library held a special "Grenfell Authors" event on March 20th, honouring more than 100 authors and nearly 400 publications, all of which were on display, along with materials from their archives and special collections about the history of their campus. We welcomed back many retirees and alumni at the reception (see [recap video](#)). Crystal Rose was [interviewed about the event on CBC Radio](#).

LITS' team member **Dennis Flynn** was part of [St. John's Storytelling](#) event held on March 17, called "Tea and Tales" at the A.C.Hunter Library in St. John's. The place was packed for the event.

The last intensive week on campus as part of School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies (SASS) was the culmination of a year of academic, experiential and land-based instruction for the scholars, and included an opportunity to learn to drive a Labrador dog sled. Months of readings and research cannot advance learning as much as suddenly standing on dog sled runners, hearing the instructor say, "keep the brake on hard until you're ready because these dogs are ready!" The visceral tug of an energetic team against a foot just learning how to brake hard is something that needs to be embodied to understand. The quiet of the runners gliding over snow and dogs quiet while running with their mouths smiling pulled the entire cohort into a new level of understanding, confidence, and belonging in Labrador. Of course, land-based experiences are never complete without the campus librarian riding in kamatuk for impromptu research consultations and reference work. A perfect opportunity to explore new strategies of approaching research in Labrador for the students, and a memorable experience for Labrador Campus Librarian **Sarah Papple**.

## Employee News:

**Matthew Keels's** last day with Archives & Special Collections, QEII Library, was on May 1, 2026. Matthew has been the Accessioning Archivist for ASC since 2022 and has been an instrumental part of the team ever since. We are very sad to see him leave but wish him all the best in his new role at the Rooms!

The one-and-only Marine Institute Library staff member **Jessie Cahill-Bouzane** has been through many changes in her time at the library! Marriage and degrees and babies, oh my (and plenty of work)! The team will miss her as she takes on her newest adventure! Jessie has started as the Archivist with the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

The Health Sciences Library welcomes **Doyle Stone**, a summer practicum student from Dalhousie. Doyle will be working on a library research support module and taking a deep learning dive into knowledge syntheses. There will be scheduled visits with various units so that she can develop a more fulsome picture of the Libraries and how we operate.

## Cool Stuff:

QEII Library's Serials & Acquisitions **Ian Gillies** is currently in first place in the international art contest "The People's Artist" with the [Art of Elysium](#). You can vote for him [here](#). The prize comes with \$25,000, an article in *Artforum*, and a show at the The Art of Elysium's Salon in Los Angeles, U.S. Listen to [Ian talk to the CBC's Martin Jones](#) about his art and what inspires him to create.

Memorial's president, **Dr. Janet Morrison**, dropped by the QEII Library and got in an in-depth behind the scenes experience of some of the archival resources connected to World War One in preparation for her upcoming trip to France to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel. She will be presenting the recently completed Danger Tree replica — created by Memorial University's Department of Technical Services in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada as a permanent memorial. While visiting the QEII Library, she also got to experience two student projects that were a unique partnership between the Commons and the Map Library. **Merrin Winter** and **Ashton Stoodley** both got to showcase their 3D printed and virtually recreated Beaumont-Hamel landscapes.

The QEII Library was recently the venue for "Building from Memory: Recreating the Danger Tree." The event was designed to reaffirm and deepen Memorial's commitment to its founding purpose as a living memorial. Memorial University President **Dr. Morrison** was on hand, as well as **Chancellor Earl Lulow**, and **Justin Ladha**, Chair, Board of Regents. Member of Parliament **Tom Osborne** also addressed the filled QEII Library lobby. The Royal Newfoundland Regiment Band provided musical accompaniment to the event. Some highlights include: **Merrin Winter**, a mechanical engineering student at Memorial, who

displayed a 3D printed Beaumont Hamel battlefield as part of a project she worked on with the QEII Library's map library and the Commons' Makerspace.

Members of ASC, CNS, & Library Admin had an impromptu visit from visiting historian, **Dr. Julia Laite**, on May 1, 2026. Dr. Laite is a Professor and researcher at Birkbeck University of London and visited the Centre for Newfoundland Studies to view the, recently restored and returned, Buchans map (more promos around that in the near future).

The Grenfell Library received a donation from **Richard Cowdell**, from Leicestershire, England. His father was an Engineer who worked on the construction of the dam at Deer Lake from 1923-1925, and he donated blue prints, photos and negatives of the construction, and a rare book of Corner Brook Ballads.

The Grenfell Library also received a donation from **Ted Lemieux**, whose parents purchased a cottage in the Laurentian area of Quebec that, unbeknownst to them, was home to a substantial collection of private and family documents connected to **Sir Wilfred Grenfell** and his legacy in Labrador, including family letters, photographs, books, and various pieces of memorabilia. The Lemieux family reached out the Grenfell Campus to make a donation to the Grenfell Campus Archives and the Ferriss Hodgett Library. Ted and his wife, **Cathy Lemieux**, visited campus in February to deliver a few items and meet with members of the campus community.

The First Space Gallery (QEII Library) Faculty and Staff Show Opening will be held on June 5, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

May 5 was Red Dress Day. A national day of awareness and remembrance in Canada for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people (MMIWG2S). A display of red dresses has been put up in the main lobby of the QEII in memory of MMIWG2S of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Michaela Doucette**, Indigenous Archivist with Memorial University Libraries, was in Labrador for two weeks, and this time was very different. At this point, Michaela is no longer new to campus, and the community is beginning to get to know who she is, and what she does. **Sarah Papple**, librarian, Labrador Campus, imposed a mandatory Learning Labrador day-long class on one of the Sundays, with her own understanding of the vastness and unique geography of Labrador as a valuable informant in her work. Therefore, they found themselves driving to Churchill Falls and back for a sight-seeing adventure. Micheala experienced the cold, the snow, the sun, and a deeper understanding of the impact that Churchill Falls had on the Land and therefore people of Labrador. A culmination of a two year's planning was held when Michaela was in town. Memorial University's Folklore and Language Archive (MUNFLA), in collaboration with the Labrador Campus Library and The Research Centre for the Study of Music, Media, and Place (MMaP) held an evening of music exploring connections between place, environment,

and traditional culture. Featuring performances by Eastern Owl, Port-aux-Poutines, and special guest appearances by members of Labrador's Silver Wolf Band and Ptarmageddon. You can catch the concert on [MMAAP's YouTube channel](#) if you missed it!

The Marine Institute Library has held another successful year of providing space to the volunteer community tax clinic. About 200 attended the clinic, with about 88 of them being MI or MUN students.

Education librarian **Courtney Crocker** recently visited the MUN Daycare as a community helper to do a read-along of *Dear Zoo* and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

The HSL was successful in obtaining a community garden plot behind Queen's College. They are germinating seeds in the library for planting after the last frost. They are thrilled to be joined by students who have also expressed an interest in getting their hands dirty.