

News from Newfoundland

Becky Smith, APLA VP Newfoundland

News from Newfoundland

The early summer months were quite active with the Newfoundland and Labrador provincial government's announcement that there would be significant cuts to the Public Library system. Over a couple of months, various rallies were organized to stop the cuts. Myself, and APLA VP Kathryn Rose were able to attend a few to show our support. On June 30, 2016, the day before many governmental budget changes were to come into effect, the government announced that it would suspend the closures pending a review. Although this is good news, the relief is temporary because there is still much advocacy needed to prevent closures. Public consultations have been scheduled to seek feedback from the public. However, the scheduled meetings do not include locations where library closures are imminent.

The Margaret Williams Trust Fund has been established to promote the development of librarianship in Newfoundland and Labrador. It gives an annual award to applicants seeking funding for library-related projects or assistance in pursuing graduate studies in librarianship, archival studies, or teacher librarianship. This year's winner was Jane Hawco. She received \$1500 in May.