

Announcements

APLA 2019 Conference: The Tip of the Iceberg/Le sommet de l'iceberg

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The APLA 2019 Conference is fast approaching! The Conference Committee is excited to host this year's event in historic St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador at The Emera Innovation Exchange at Signal Hill Campus. Attendees will be able to look out over the St. John's Harbour and the Atlantic Ocean, while enjoying the conference sessions, and will be able to explore other areas of this great city.

The conference theme this year is the *Tip of the Iceberg/le sommet de l'iceberg*, speaking to the evolving and growing library landscape of which we're all a part. We have seen the tip of the iceberg but it's important to recognize and address what's below the water's surface. We face challenges and threats, such as budgetary restrictions, that often leave libraries short-staffed and short on funds, resulting in the possible restructuring of roles, workflows, activities, and priorities. Despite this, libraries always endeavor to ensure our users have the best experience, and that includes being quick to adapt to new trends. Libraries are becoming more inclusive, offering more unique programming and services than ever before, and with the unique needs of specific users in mind. In Canada, our libraries are striving to advance reconciliation with our diverse indigenous communities and ensuring everyone feels welcome and safe.

Our Opening Keynote Speaker this year is Ashley Glassburn: A Presidential Indigenous Peoples Scholar and assistant professor of women's and gender studies at the University of Windsor. Her book manuscript "Settling the Past: Epistemic Violence and the Making of Indigenous Subjectivities" draws on Miami historical narratives and contemporary political projects to explore the dynamics of race, land, and historical evidence in constituting Indigenous subjectivities. Her research appears in scholarly journals such as *Settler Colonial Studies* (2015), *Biography* (2016), and *Feminist Studies* (2018). The Woodrow Wilson Foundation named her a 2017 Nancy Weiss Malkiel scholar for her dedication to working toward racial justice as junior faculty. She is a member of the Miami Nation of Indiana and serves on the language committee designing Myaamia language programming and research support for the tribe. Her language revitalization work emphasizes models for teaching Algonquian Grammar, which open up possibilities for developing multi-lingual Algonquian language programming. Her research into the making of Miami history involves working closely with a variety of collections from major research libraries like the Newberry Library of Chicago, city and county museums, various tribal archives, state records, and private family collections. Her work between tribal and public libraries forces her to wrestle with the tensions between democratic ideals of open source materials and the coloniality of Indigenous collections.

Our Closing Keynote is by Kelly Brownbill, an Indigenous educator and facilitator and a proud member of the Flat Bay community of the Mi'kmaq Nation in Newfoundland, and of the Three Fires Midewin Lodge. She will be speaking on Ensuring Authentic Indigenous Content. As well as these great speakers, we have an excellent program packed full of interesting sessions on topics that range from Sensory Storytime, Diversity in Children's Books, University and Public Library Partnerships, Digital Identities, Virtual Reality, and Open Access.

In all things library-related, we are on the cusp of great change. As we break with many of our traditional operations and structures, this change can be both challenging and exciting, but always promising. Who knows what's next? What we currently see is really just the tip of the iceberg! The future of our libraries is in our hands, and we have lots to discuss!

We look forward to seeing you in St. John's June 5 – 8, 2019!

For more information, check out the APLA 2019 website [here](#).