

## "The Lobby That Won't Go Away"

[Editor's note: The following report, submitted by David Hunt, National Coordinator of the Don't Tax Reading Coalition, was sent from CLA Headquarters and distributed on the APLA listserv. Since many APLA members do not have access to the listserv, we are reprinting the report, so that members can take action to remind the new Liberal Government of its campaign promises regarding the GST on books and related materials.]

The Coalition has been active on a number of fronts in recent months. During the election campaign, we worked successfully to extract promises from individual candidates to support immediate removal of the GST from reading material. With the election of a Liberal majority government, our focus has switched to pressuring the Liberals to implement—as soon as possible—their

long-standing promise to remove the GST from reading materials on forming a government.

The job at hand now is to impress upon the Liberals just how seriously we take this issue, and how strongly we feel they should carry out what is not only a Party promise but a promise made individually by more than half of their caucus: to zero-rate reading materials under the GST. It is not for nothing that the Coalition is known in Ottawa as "The lobby that won't go away".

"We want all of our supporters to aggressively press every Liberal in the country over the next six weeks," said Coalition Chairperson Jacqueline Hushion. "The Liberals took a strong position on this issue and we want them to carry out their promise as soon as possible."

### PARTY POSITIONS

The Liberal Party has a long-standing (and often repeated) promise to remove the GST from reading. The motion, passed at the Liberal Policy Conference in the summer of 1992, reads:

*"Whereas for the first time since Confederation the Conservative government has placed a tax on magazines, books and newspapers;*

*Whereas this is the first time in 125 years that Canadians have had a tax on reading, on learning, and on knowledge;*

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT a Liberal Government would reaffirm the historic principles embodied in tax free status for the printed word and remove the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on reading materials."**

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## Curious George Drops In for a Visit

October 27 began as a fairly ordinary day at the Moncton Public Library. City Librarian, Jeanne Maddix, checked the morning's schedule—a Grade 4 tour group at 9:30 and a Daycare for stories at 10:30. Nothing unusual and no staff were sick. It would be an ordinary day. Oh, how wrong could one individual be?!

Shortly after 10:30, Jeanne's phone rang. It was Thérèse Arseneault, the Reference Librarian. "Come quick, there's a monkey in the Library."

"Sure," thought Jeanne. "We've had our share of strange and unusual visitors, but calling one of them a monkey verges on the impolite." A quick check of her day book confirmed that the Magnetic Hill Zoo was due to visit—next spring.

"Really," came the voice at the other end of the line, "a real monkey. It's in the entry way."

"A real monkey? How did it get in? Where did it come from? Never mind, I'm coming down."

By now Jeanne's mind was fully focused on the situation. "I should let the Regional Librarian know. No. Wait! I'll call the Transcript first."

She soon discovered that the monkey had already been spotted downtown and the photographer (among others) was in hot pursuit. On her way out of the office, Jeanne grabbed the camera, saying to herself, "We might as well have a picture for our 'archives'."

The monkey's name was George, soon dubbed Curious George by book-conscious library employees. George was

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## Success Story In Wolfville

On September 11, 1993, several hundred people met in the brilliant sunshine of a lovely Nova Scotian autumn day to witness the official opening of the new quarters of the Wolfville Branch of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library.

The new branch is located in the former Dominion and Atlantic railway station, which was purchased by the Town of Wolfville. Negotiations between the Town and the Canadian Pacific Railway began in October 1990, but were not finalized until October 1992 when the federal government, through the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, approved the sale of the federally-registered heritage railway property.

The opening marked the culmination of efforts which started in December 1988 when a delegation of members of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), Wolfville Branch, made a presentation to the Wolfville Town Council requesting a new and expanded Wolfville Branch Library. In February 1991 a group of residents formed the Wolfville Memorial Library Foundation. A registered charitable organization, the Foundation was made up of members of the community who had an interest in creating a new library facility, or saving the railway heritage



Borrowing and membership at the new Wolfville Memorial Library continues to increase three months after its opening.

building, or both.

Chaired by Mayor Gwen Phillips, the Foundation organized and carried out a fund-raising campaign which began in April 1992, with a goal of \$275,000 to renovate the railway station and furnish it as a library. Over 500 individuals or families donated to the campaign. While the majority of donations came from people living in Wolfville, a number of memorial donations came from people living in other provinces and several states of the United States. The campaign reached its objective just six months later,

in October 1992. The organizers of the campaign credit its success in large part to the fact that donor categories (e.g., benefactors, patrons, etc.) were created and people were encouraged to donate money for areas or furnishings in memory or recognition of past or present members of the community.

The restoration of the station began in December 1992 under the guidance of retired restoration architect Ron Peck. The Library Operations Committee, comprised of Board members and the Branch staff, with the help of the Regional Library staff, planned the interior of the building, which included a children's area, adult book room, a reading lounge and reference area, and a community room on the upper level, all furnished with oak and restful fabrics.

At the end of May 1993 the library moved from its former location on Main Street to the new facility. Two local landscaping firms donated their time and talents and together with the Town's park crew, landscaping around the building was completed. The building opened for public use on June 2.

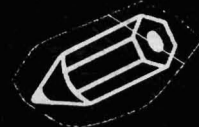
At the official opening, invited dignitaries included the Honourable Robbie Harrison, MLA Kings South

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# From The Editors' Desk



A few months ago, when the APLA *Bulletin* Editors were searching for a new graphic designer for the *Bulletin*, it came to me that what we were paying for was a service. This exercise started me to muse on the fact that libraries are chiefly a service industry as well, an industry which does not pass its costs on to the consumer.

In a reference situation, often a product is seen: an answer to the patron's request. However, for many of us who toil in the backrooms of technical services or the frontrooms of administration, what we chiefly produce is a service. Services, which up to now have been free, might well have to be re-thought. With talk coming from Government quarters about rationalizing costs and the possibilities of privatization, institutions are being

pressured to generate income.

The costs of providing service per unit, if a very large clientele is being served, are negligible. However if one is serving a small population of users, costs climb. In a recent *LJ* article, it was estimated that the cost of LC's Congressional Reference Service budgeted out to over \$100,000 per elected official. The article went on to comment how LC and the U.S. Government must rethink LC's role: broadening it to include the public as part of its clientele.

The future might yet hold the spectre of a "user pay" scenario in libraries. At present, we are getting closer to such a model in royalty payments and ILL services. When we use services which search commercially produced databases, such as UnCover and those available from

Dialog, we do not blink when we are faced with real costs. In Great Britain, the Public Lending Right is a real cost in circulating material. It might be only a matter of time until a librarian's time is factored into the formula. Freelance librarians must calculate their work days into "billable" time, much as lawyers do. Even telephone directory assistance is now being operated on a user-pay basis. At every turn, a consumer wanting service is stung with a pay per use fee.

It is ironic that at the same time that tollbooths are going up, both in the private and public sectors, the public is demanding better and more complete access to information. Newspaper and magazine articles trumpet the "information highway" and access to information, without mentioning that

there are intervening costs. Patron approach the reference desk want instant full-text just as they saw on television. It comes to the user as a shock that nothing is instant, and that there might well be a charge for reproducing material.

The "free" library model of service established in the last century might well have to be redefined in this information age. With so many of our information sources which we as librarians access now charging a service fee, and with tax-based revenues shrinking, libraries are being squeezed. The definition of "service" may well have to be reconsidered in the near future.

-Chris Bull  
Advertising Editor

## Publication Information

The APLA *Bulletin* is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. The Association seeks to promote library service in the provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to serve the professional interests of librarians in the Region, to serve as a focal point for all those in library services in the Atlantic Provinces, and to cooperate with library associations and other organizations on matters of mutual concern.

Personal membership in the Association costs \$25 and includes a subscription to the APLA *Bulletin*. Institutional membership costs \$75. Institutions may subscribe to the *Bulletin* only for \$25. Single issues cost \$4.25. Subscriptions and claims for missing issues should be sent to the Treasurer of the Association. For more information write to the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, c/o The School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 4H8.

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Assistant Editor, Betty Jeffery, Acadia University Library, Wolfville, NS BOP 1X0; by Internet to HALIBURT@ADMIN.ACADIAU.CA or BJEFFERY@ADMIN.ACADIAU.CA; by Envy to ILL.NSWA; by Fax to (902) 542-2128; by telephone (902) 542-2201 (Ext.1528 or 1403).

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# From The President's Desk



The APLA Listserv is up and active. I would like to encourage people to post notices, discussions, questions, and any amazing potential for further development. One of the notices you would have read, if you were able to access the listserv, was the letter from Mary Dykstra indicating that it looks as if the School will survive, and even as a separate entity. The integration of the School even more closely with other Schools in the Faculty will need to continue and more change will be required to make the School work with a very small staff component. The quantity and quality of letters sent by the library and information service constituency, as well as other support engendered, was very positive and definitely contributed to the survival of the School. If one were to look at the past record of library school closures over the last few years, you would see that very few schools have survived an announced closure.

The other news is that Mary Dykstra will step down as Director effective July 1, 1994. The School is, of course, in a

very vulnerable situation, and there is no further news as to who will fill the Director position.

The 1995 joint conference planning team is now in place with Susan Collins as co-chair of the program committee to work with Marilyn Lutz of the University of Maine Library.

There is another move to lobby on behalf of removal of the GST on books being sponsored by the Don't Tax Reading Coalition. It is very important that everyone lobby Liberals on this position to ensure that they carry out their election promise of reviewing the GST. Make sure your voice is heard. The press release was put on the APLA Listserv and appears in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

I have just received more information about the National Information Rights Week that is being held the week of April 11-17, 1994. The idea is to have your governing body proclaim this week and have all parties recognize its importance. A press conference or media event is encouraged. It is a country-wide

awareness about the importance of access to information. To be successful, we will need all libraries to get behind this event and organize activities. Posters are being prepared to be distributed as a part of an information kit and will be broadly advertised. Please write, call or email me if you would like more information. This was discussed at the APLA Executive Meeting in January and you will be given further notice about our activities.

The last big item that is currently up for discussion concerns the library rate program that is due to cease on March 31, 1996. This program allows for the payment of a postal subsidy to facilitate costs for Interlibrary Loan, Books-By-Mail, and other similar services for moving library materials around. Several scenarios have been presented in a consultation document and submissions relating to these options are due March 1, 1994. APLA will hopefully have a presentation/discussion on library rate made by the National Library at its 1994 conference in Baddeck. I would be pleased to distribute information if

members would like to make a response.

I would like to alert readers to a new professional book titled *Survival of the Imagination, the Mary Donaldson Memorial Lectures* edited by Brett Balon and Peter Resch and published by Coteau Books in Regina. This book is a treasure trove of lectures presented annually at the Saskatchewan Library Association Conference since the establishment of the lecture series in 1967. Many eminent librarians are represented, among whom are Marion Gilroy of Nova Scotia and Alberta Letts, former Provincial Librarian of Nova Scotia. Other notable lectures include Adrienne Clarkson on the multicultural make-up of Canadian society, Stephen Lewis on the struggle for literacy abroad and at home, Patrick Lane's "The Liberal Vision and the Death of Culture", and many more. The book is marvellously readable and eclectic in the ideas covered. A must read for anyone who wants to have a broad view on the profession and friends.

- Marion L. Pape

## Curious George

### or: Just Another Day at the Moncton Public Library

•From Page 1

an escapee from the Magnetic Hill Zoo and had been at large for eleven days before dropping in to see if the Library had a copy of "his" story. That he was already being pursued helped to explain the quick arrival of the newspaper photographer and the Community Services Director. Unkind souls have been heard to state that neither gentleman had ever been known to be so prompt.

By the time Jeanne arrived on the scene, Building Security were already "guarding" the entrance and exit to the vestibule where George was holed up. With the exception of the aforementioned Grade 4 tour group who were preparing to leave, all staff and patrons were asked to move to the second floor in case George made a break for it. However,



he had decided to take a nap on top of the automatic door mechanism—the means of his entry in the first place. He was startled by the sudden hiss when the mechanism was shut off, but otherwise remained calm.

Discussion now revealed that George had been "herded" toward the Library by an alert young man who first spotted the Community Services Director leaping over a fence and then saw George heading

toward the river. Being a library user, the young man knew the Library was a safer place for George than the mud of the infamous "Chocolate River". And, of course, George's own story was there in the Library.

In short order, all necessary officials were on hand—Community Services Director, Building security, Magnetic Hill Zoo personnel, Police, and of course, the photographer. Jeanne had taken up a post by the Library's entrance to explain to patrons why they would have to wait a bit before entering. One preschooler was very worried that George was hurt, especially after she saw him tranquillized. Uttering reassurances, Jeanne made a mental note to admonish the photographer to be sure the newspaper stated clearly that George was okay.

At this point, the Grade 4 tour group marched out, all edging over for as close a look as possible. Jeanne bid them farewell, encouraging them to "come back again for more excitement." Came the quick response from one lad, "You couldn't beat this."

George was soon tranquillized (using an Amazonian blowpipe, no less) and safely on his way home. Gradually, everyone drifted off about their business,

still talking about George and his "curious" visit to the Library. Library staff began to speculate about the possible chaos if George had actually made it inside the library. Anyone who was not on hand during George's short but memorable visit was not easily convinced that it really happened. In fact, the mother of one of those Grade 4 students called the library to determine whether or not her child's imagination was working overtime.

To George, the Moncton Public Library says "thank you for dropping by. You've left a legacy of golden publicity possibilities." George's visit garnered coverage in all local media, ATV news, the *Telegraph Journal*, and on Peter Gzowski's *Morningside*. Future plans being discussed include "adopting" George, having a George costume for various events and, of course, featuring the already much loved stories of George's escapades—the *Curious George* books. Naturally, George will be issued his own library card. And, who knows, maybe he can be convinced to come by for a few "scheduled" visits.

-Ruth Mitchell  
Albert-Westmorland-Kent  
Regional Library

## Success Story in Wolfville

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(who had been one of the 100 voluntary canvassers), Dr. Margaret Conrad, member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, Mayor Gwen Phillips, Marion Pape, Provincial Librarian, and Campaign Chairperson Curtis Chipman, who cut the ribbon. Dressed in a DAR conductor's uniform, master of ceremonies Stephen Slipp greeted the last train ever to come from Kentville, marking the transfer of the train station to its new role as a library. Following the official opening ceremonies, children's author Sherri Fitch entertained a large and enthusiastic audience of children, parents, and interested citizens with spirited readings from some of her own works.

Circulation has increased 28%, while membership has increased by a whopping 125% since the move to the new facility. The Wolfville Memorial Library has become a welcome stopping place for many citizens, young and old alike.

-David Witherly  
Annapolis Valley Regional Library

# Report from the Don't Tax Reading Coalition, November, 1993

## •From Page 1

This resolution was presented to the Convention by the Liberal Parliamentary Caucus and passed unanimously. The fact that it was presented by the Caucus should give it added clout within the Government. Ninety-two Liberal MPs are individually on record as calling for the immediate removal of the GST from reading. The new Minister responsible for Literacy, Senator Joyce Fairbairn, led the 1990 Liberal Senate campaign to amend the GST to zero-rate reading materials.

The Bloc Quebecois wrote to the Coalition during the campaign to support our position, and to commit their MPs to work for zero-rating. The New Democratic Party has long advocated zero-rating reading, and wrote to the Coalition during the campaign to re-commit their Caucus to press for zero-rating as soon as possible. Although the Reform Party has not taken a party position on the issue, six of the new Reform MPs promised during the campaign to support immediate zero-rating for reading, including Reform's Caucus Chair (and only veteran MP), Deborah Grey.

## ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The Coalition's election campaign was a success. We sent kits to the Canadian Booksellers Association member bookstores and to selected librarians, including a list of all candidates in the local riding(s) and their campaign headquarters. Participating bookstores and librarians asked each candidate:

*"The GST on reading material has reduced reading in Canada and harmed Canadian writers, publishers, bookstores, libraries and students. If elected, will you vote during the first session of parliament to remove the GST from books, magazines and newspapers?"*

Each kit included a poster with space for each candidate's name and party affiliation, and the answer (Yes/No/Won't Tell Us) to this one question. Booksellers and librarians were asked to fill in the poster and post it by the cash or checkout desk.

The Coalition also wrote to each candidate from the six main parties, asking the same question. A total of 58 MPs elected in October replied "yes" to this question, either to a bookseller or directly to the Coalition.

## GST BRINGS IN SIGNIFICANTLY LESS REVENUE THAN PROJECTED

Total GST revenue from sales of reading materials, net of rebates, is significantly less than originally projected and much less than figures quoted by the former Progressive Conservative Government, new figures collected by the Coalition in August prove.

Net GST revenues from sale of books, magazines and newspapers is only \$161

million annually. The higher figures fail to take into account three factors, the Coalition said: GST rebates to schools and libraries, the fact that much GST goes uncollected on magazines directly imported by subscription, and the fact that most of the GST collected from publishers is on advertising revenues rather than sales.

The fact that much GST from foreign-based publishers is uncollectible creates very high compliance costs for Revenue Canada and a serious price disadvantage for Canadian-based publishers, the Coalition pointed out. Zero-rating sales of reading materials would solve both these problems, and the savings in compliance costs would go a long way towards compensating the Government for the small revenue loss.

## UK STUDY SHOWS MANY BENEFITS TO REMOVING READING TAX

A study in the UK earlier this year demonstrated that the Government would reap immediate financial benefits from removing the GST from reading materials, compensating for the small loss of revenue. The National Book Committee study showed that up to 60% of the tax revenue foregone would return to the Government, through reduced compliance costs and higher personal and corporate income tax returns from the labour-intensive publishing and printing industries.

## CANADIAN STUDY SHOWS READING TAX HITS POOR HARDEST

A Statistics Canada study released in October proves that lower-income households are hit harder by the GST on reading materials. The 1993-94 *Marriot Research Handbook* shows that families with a household income of \$20,000 spend an average of 0.8% of income on reading materials—about \$160 per year; families with annual incomes over \$35,000 spend an average of 0.5% of income on reading material.

Poorer Canadians have also been hurt by the shrinking of library collection budgets due to the GST. The Toronto Public Library System released a report this summer showing that the first two years of the GST resulted in the equivalent of 10,000 books being lost to the library collections. At the other end of the scale, the Colchester-East Hants Library in Nova Scotia calculates the GST this year cost their acquisitions budget \$3,300 or 165 books.

## EDITORIAL SUPPORT

The GST on reading materials became a hot issue over the summer, as the Conservatives floated the idea of zero-rating reading. As a result, a large number of newspaper articles and a number of

editorials appeared in newspapers across the country. Anyone wanting copies of the coverage or wishing to browse through the eight-inch-thick file, please contact David Hunt at the Coalition office.

The Coalition has received ringing editorial endorsements from the *Ottawa Citizen*, *Vancouver Sun*, *Montreal Gazette* (3 separate editorials), *Edmonton Journal*, *Toronto Sun*, *Halifax Chronicle-Herald*, *Thunder Bay Chronicle-Journal*, *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*, *Hamilton Spectator*, *Moncton Times Transcript*, *Truro (NS) Daily News*, *Brantford Expositor*, *Peterborough Examiner*, *Lethbridge Herald*, *North Bay Nugget*, *Woodstock (Ont.) Daily Sentinel Review* (2 separate editorials), *Orleans (Ont.) Star*, *Smith's Falls Record News*, and *Huron-Midland (Ont.) Sunday*.

The *Globe and Mail* published an editorial strongly opposed to zero-rating, under the heading "No more GST Tinkering". The *London Free Press* weighed in with an editorial supporting most of the Coalition's arguments, but arguing for targeted tax breaks for selected publishers to "improve the products" rather than across-the-board zero-rating.

The Canadian Association of Broadcasters called for the removal of GST from reading material in August. The CAB asked that sales of reading material be zero-rated, but that advertising sales continue to be subject to GST, which is the Coalition's position as well. The CAB represents the majority of private over-the-air television and radio stations and networks in Canada.

## "THE WORD ON THE STREET"

The Coalition had a prominent booth at the Toronto Book and Magazine Fair, "The Word on the Street", in late September. We sold almost a thousand DTR buttons, and collected thousands of signatures on postcards addressed to Prime Minister Campbell saying, "I want to see the deficit reduced, BUT I don't want reading taxed in my country!" These cards were hand-delivered to Prime Minister Chretien's office the week after the election.

We received prominent media coverage, which we hope had some impact on the Liberal candidates who swept Ontario three weeks ago.

## INTERNATIONAL TRENDS

International trends continue to favour the Coalition's work.

The UK government's November 1993 budget confirmed that reading material will remain zero-rated under Value-Added Tax. Reading material has been free of all taxes in the UK since the repeal of the Stamp Acts in the 1860s. Although the UK government is facing its highest-ever budget deficit, the Chancellor of the Exchequer decided

against applying tax to books, magazines or newspapers.

The European Parliament earlier this year called on all European Community countries to zero-rate reading material under value-added taxes. Finland and Spain have since announced that they are removing sales taxes from reading materials.

Canada has the highest tax on reading materials of the Group of Seven industrial countries, and taxes reading at a higher rate than all but six of the 24 countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The most common tax rate on reading material within the OECD is 0%.

The International Publishers Association in January singled out Canada, South Africa and New Zealand in calling for removal of taxes from reading materials.

## MUNICIPAL AND PROVINCIAL SUPPORT

On the municipal level, in Ontario, the cities of North York, St. Catherine's, Markham, and Pakenham have joined the Canadian Federation of Municipalities call for the GST to be removed from reading material. This position had already been adopted by the municipal governments of Toronto and Scarborough, and in Nova Scotia, in the towns of New Glasgow, and Westville and in Cumberland and Pictou Counties, as well as in Hinton, Alberta.

Copies of a report written by the Coalition on the economic and cultural impact of the tax on Toronto and other Canadian cities is available from the Don't Tax Reading Coalition, 2 Gloucester Street, #301, Toronto, ON M4Y 1L5.

On the provincial level, the provinces of Ontario, BC, Nova Scotia and PEI, and the Government of the Northwest Territories, have all called on the Federal Government to remove the tax from the reading material. Quebec has criticized Ottawa for taxing reading material, and Alberta and Saskatchewan have stated that they will not tax reading provincially.

The Coalition has written to all Premiers asking that they do the same, citing the damage the tax is causing to education, culture, libraries, and publishers in each respective province.

The provinces are under pressure to harmonize provincial taxes with GST. The Federal Government has agreed to allow provinces to continue to exempt books from provincial tax under harmonization, but the Coalition continues to press the provinces to refuse to tax magazines and newspapers.

Letters should be sent to your local MPs and copies may be sent to the APLA President, Marion Pape, at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kemp Road, Halifax, NS B3K 4X8.

ap  
la**MEMORIAL  
AWARDS**

Travel and Study Funds are Available. Do you need financial assistance to study or do research? Awards are available from the APLA Memorial Trust. To apply, send a letter outlining your proposed programme and estimated costs and a copy of your curriculum vitae by **March 31, 1994** to:

Marguerite Jones  
APLA Memorial Awards Committee  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University  
St. John's, NF A1B 3Y1  
Fax: (709) 737-3118

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la**USE THE  
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- \* to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events;
- \* to get information about APLA Executive actions;
- \* to share questions, answers, and ideas about library service; and
- \* to post job advertisements.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE APLA-LIST:

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la**FIRST TIMERS  
CONFERENCE GRANT**

**Never been to an APLA annual conference?  
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Any person applying for the First Timers Conference Grant must be:

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2. Residing in an Atlantic province.
3. Planning to attend her/his first APLA annual conference.

Applications should include name, business address, chosen means for contacting (mail, phone, Fax, electronic mail), estimated costs (travel, registration, accomodation, meals), and a signed statement acknowledging compliance with eligibility requirements.

Recipients will be expected to write a short report, for the APLA Executive and the *Bulletin*, summarizing their conference experience.

Grants will be allocated, consistent with general APLA guidelines, to meet conference related expenses: travel, general registration fees, accomodation, and meals. If more applications are received than can be met by the Fund, then money will be awarded by drawing from the names of all eligible applicants received by **February 28, 1994**.

Interested members should submit applications to:

Marion Pape  
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la**CALL FOR  
NOMINATIONS**

The Executive offices requiring nominations for 1994/95 are:

Vice President, President Elect  
Vice President (Newfoundland)  
Vice President (Nova Scotia)  
Vice President (Membership)  
Treasurer

**Guidelines:**

1. No member of the Nominations and Elections Committee is eligible for nomination.
2. Any APLA member may nominate any other member for elective office.
3. Every person nominated shall be a personal APLA member in good standing and shall file a letter of acceptance with the Secretary of the Association.
4. The Treasurer shall reside in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Please send nominations, postmarked no later than **February 28, 1994**, to:

Suzanne Sexty  
APLA Nominations and Elections Committee  
92 Old Topsail Road  
St. John's, NF A1E 2A8  
Fax: (709) 737-3118

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## HOMOLKA CONTROVERSY SURFACES IN HALIFAX

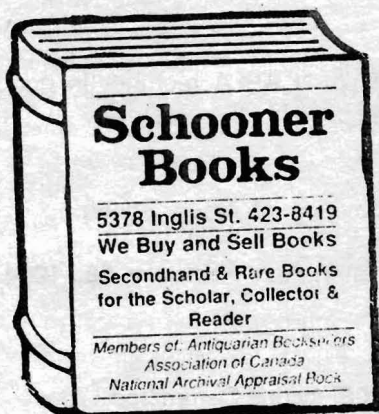
In a news release dated December 17, 1993, the Halifax City Regional Library announced that it was returning a controversial issue of the *Boston Globe*, which contained an article with information on the Karla (Teale) Homolka manslaughter case in Ontario, to its shelves. Publication or distribution of material on the contents of the case had been prohibited by a nation-wide publication ban.

By returning the issue to its shelves, the Library had decided to follow normal procedures for incoming periodicals in the Reference Department.

The Halifax Library had previously removed pages from its copy of the *Boston Globe* under legal advice. The Library was now acting on the basis of new information—legal advice provided to the McGill University Library. The advice stated, in part, that "Merely placing the newspapers on the shelves of the periodicals room would not constitute a prohibited act." The same legal opinion later noted that "It is virtually impossible for the University to monitor the content of each and every periodical and newspaper it receives each day."

Laura Jantek, Co-ordinator of Reference Services at the Halifax City Regional Library, agrees with the McGill legal opinion. "Library staff cannot and do not read everything we put on our shelves," she says. "We are neither publishing nor distributing anything by having this newspaper in our library."

The Halifax City Regional Library subscribes to the Canadian Library Association's Statement on Intellectual Freedom, which states, "It is the responsibility of libraries to guarantee and facilitate access to all expressions of knowledge and intellectual activity, including those which some elements of society may consider to be unconventional, unpopular, or unacceptable."



The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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WELCOMES  
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M. Catherine Keeping  
Library/Resource Centre  
Westviking College  
P. O. Box 760  
Port aux Basques, NF  
A0M 1C0

Gwendolyn MacNairn  
6011 Willow St.  
Halifax, NS B3K 1L8

Emile Theriault  
55 Eagle Lane  
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2B9

Muriel Zimmer  
Teacher-Librarian  
King's-Edgehill School  
254 College Road  
Windsor, NS B0N 2T0

Patricia McCormick  
Dogrib Division  
Board of Education  
Bag #1  
RAE-EDZO, NT

Harry Holman  
Acting Director  
Archives & Libraries  
P. O. Box 1000  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

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## NEWSPAPER INTEREST GROUP

Our Interest Group presently has 12 members. Any readers interested in receiving our Terms of Reference (personally signed by the Convener) or wanting further discussion, please phone, write, FAX or electronically transmit to my attention.

For this year's Conference, we will be requesting the usual time slot for a Business Meeting, and preliminary discussion was held with the Conference Programme Convener concerning possible programme sponsorship. In the meantime, I would like to share news of some major progress in the ongoing battle of newspaper preservation, particularly from the retrospective front.

In **Newfoundland**, a report from the Provincial Reference and Resource Library indicates that filming of *The Lewisporte Pilot* (1962 - 1990) was completed earlier this year. Also, sleuths are now on the trail toward complete backfiles for the *Harbour Grace Standard* and the *Twillingate Sun*. Just about ready for the click of the camera is the *Clarenville Packet* and concurrently, filming is continuing with the current weekly newspapers in the Province.

From **Nova Scotia**, the Provincial Archives (PANS) has taken on a major retrospective in the ongoing filming of the *Lunenburg Progress Enterprise* (1901 - 1961). Sources close to the action report that this is a lot of pages to turn! This project is also exemplary of the cooperative nature of many such projects in that the original issues for this title are loaned by the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic. Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia is also preparing update reports for the National Library's newspaper database with locations. With regard to currency, it should be noted that PANS collects original issues (complete file) for 80 Nova Scotia newspaper titles as published. For the information of those with a particular interest in *The Daily News of Halifax*, Katrina Judge reports that the publisher preserves that title as follows: Microfilm, September 25, 1974 - June 1993; Bound Originals, January 1985 - April 1992. Up-to-the-minute originals are retained for the binding and microfilming programme.

In **New Brunswick** several institutions participate in the newspapers microfilming programme with areas of concentration specified in the Masterplan adopted by the Council of Head Librarians of New Brunswick. (Yes, this group does include the Provincial Archivist in its membership.) For this first report, I will concentrate on news from the Harriet Irving Library, University of New Brunswick. This library, together with the Provincial Archives, has taken on responsibility for microfilming currently published English language weeklies. Janet Phillipps also reports considerable retrospective activity recently completed or "in the works". Several short runs of late 19th century titles have been finished off: *Fredericton Globe*; *Albert Star*, one year of the *Christian Visitor* (1884, the rest having been filmed by Acadia University) and *Weekly Herald* of Fredericton (1881- 1882). *The Gleaner*, a predecessor of the currently published daily in Fredericton has been filmed, and targeted for completion in the fall of 1993 is *The Herald* (1889 - 1895 ; 1902).

Since the APLA Conference '93, the news from **Prince Edward Island** is more current-issue oriented. The Public Archives and Records Office is continuing its programme to microfilm all currently published Island newspapers that are not filmed commercially.

-Jan A. Wilson, Convener

Mailing Address: c/o Saint John Free Public Library  
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# Join us in Baddeck, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

## APLA 1994 PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Thursday, May 26, 1994  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Internet Nuts and Bolts — Putting it All Together

The Internet and other network systems are rapidly becoming an integral part of what we do as librarians and citizens of the rapidly evolving "cyberspace". This full-day session will provide a detailed introduction to the Internet, concentrating on practical advice for accessing and using this powerful information resource. Topics will include:

- General history of the Internet and the technologies that shaped it.
- How to hook into the Internet (SLIP, PPP, TCP/IP, BBB's).
- Understanding, installing and using standard Internet applications; (WorldWideWeb, Gopher, Archie, Veronica, ftp, telnet, etc.).
- Examples of new and outstanding Internet resources/databases.
- Keeping track of new developments.
- Suggestions for integrating the Internet into traditional library settings (e.g. reference, cataloguing).

Recent versions of the major Internet client software packages and examples of Internet literature will be made available at the workshop.

**Facilitator:** Mark Leggott, Cybrarian, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, NS. Mark Leggott's experience in the field of libraries and systems makes him an excellent facilitator. He is responsible for developing Xel, St. F.X.U.'s "electronic library". Prior to his work at St. F.X.U., he worked as production manager with OPTIM Corporation, responsible for various aspects of CD-ROM publishing projects, including product and software development.

The cost of this pre-conference workshop will be \$100 per person. Registration forms will be included with the APLA 1994 Conference information which will be mailed to members in early 1994.

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## Intellectual Freedom Committee

The Intellectual Freedom Committee's mandate was a major focus for discussion at the APLA Executive's Fall Meeting, held September 25-26, 1993 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Discussion centred on a written presentation prepared by the Convener of APLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, Stephen Field. The presentation was accepted with some amendments. The following is a summary of the major points agreed upon as a result of the presentation and the subsequent discussion:

### Specific Points Raised About the Role of the Intellectual Freedom Committee

1. *Should the Committee restrict its activities primarily to challenges to intellectual freedom in the Atlantic Provinces or not?*

*Decision:* While intellectual freedom issues across the country are of interest to APLA, challenges to intellectual freedom occurring in the Atlantic Provinces should have first claim to the Committee's attention. As well, issues occurring nationally which have direct and immediate repercussions for the Atlantic Provinces (e.g., the passage of a federal law which is in contravention of the CLA Statement on Intellectual Freedom) will also be given priority. With challenges of this sort, the Committee should continue to take a political position which is sanctioned by the APLA President. As well, the Committee should play an informational and educational role within APLA and the external community, utilizing such organs as the *APLA Bulletin* and press releases to convey its message. Challenges to intellectual freedom not having direct or immediate repercussions for the Atlantic Provinces will certainly be part of the Committee's educational and informational activities. The Committee, through the APLA President, should serve in an informational or advisory capacity with CLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee for issues not specifically or directly affecting the Atlantic Provinces.

2. *Is it desirable or necessary for the Committee to interpret the CLA Statement on Intellectual Freedom broadly and without necessarily restricting its work to challenges affecting libraries?*

*Decision:* Of prime importance to the Committee should be challenges affecting libraries. We should report on and take political action on any challenges affecting typical materials found in libraries (e.g., books, serials, audio-visual materials). As well, other forms of challenges affecting libraries would also merit prime consideration (e.g., the censorship of electronic sources of information available to libraries). Of lesser importance would be matters not directly affecting libraries (e.g., bans on court trials, the importation of Serial Killer Bubble Gum cards, the banning of Neo-Nazi groups, the closure of sex shops). For matters such as these, the Intellectual Freedom Committee might act as reporter, with the APLA President having the option to contact and co-operate with other bodies concerned with matters of freedom of expression (e.g., the Civil Liberties Association of Canada). The Intellectual Freedom Committee will have a less significant political role to play in these cases.

3. *Should the Committee be concerned with anticipating problems associated with intellectual freedom, rather than reacting to issues as they arise?*

*Decision:* Responding to challenges should be based on adequate knowledge of the situation involved. If such knowledge exists at an early stage, then one should act earlier rather than later. Better communication between the Intellectual Freedom Committee members, APLA members, and other related bodies is the key to a more speedy and informed response to situations.

### Proposed Goals for 1993-1994

In accordance with APLA's organizational goal of enhanced communication, as outlined at the May 1993 annual meeting,

1. The most basic goal of the Committee should be to enhance communication, both amongst its members and between the Committee and other APLA members through:
  - regular communication between the Convener and Committee members.
  - articles on Committee activities in every issue of the *APLA Bulletin*.
  - organizing an Intellectual Freedom session for every annual APLA conference.
2. Our second goal should be improved communication with other organizations outside APLA through:
  - ensuring that at least 50% of regional newspapers in Atlantic Canada receive press releases during "Freedom to Read Week."
  - establishing closer links with CLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee.
  - establishing contact with regional School Boards, Departments of Education, Public Library Agencies, writers' groups, and so on.

-Stephen Field  
Convener

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## LIBRARY TECHNICIANS INTEREST GROUP

The article below is the second in a series of articles, sponsored by the Library Technicians Interest Group, describing each of the paraprofessional education and training programs available in the Atlantic Provinces. The series will culminate in a forum discussion at the 1994 APLA Conference which will focus on how these programs might cooperate to better meet the needs of the Region's paraprofessionals. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be addressed to Susan Lovenburg, Convener, Library Technicians Interest Group, Department of Extension and Summer Session, University of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5A3, telephone: (506) 453-4646.

## Cours d'aide-bibliothécaire au Nouveau-Brunswick

Depuis plusieurs années, le besoin de cours en formation et en perfectionnement pour le personnel non professionnel de nos bibliothèques francophones se faisait sentir. C'est à Jocelyne LeBel, du Service des bibliothèques du Nouveau-Brunswick, et à Cécile Ouellet, alors conseillère en moyens d'enseignement et en français au ministère de l'Éducation du Nouveau-Brunswick, que revient l'initiative d'offrir un cours d'aide-bibliothécaire en français.

Depuis 1985, Jocelyne LeBel était déjà très active au niveau de la planification du cours en anglais. Quant à Cécile Ouellet, elle avait préparé en 1983 l'ébauche d'un certificat en moyens d'enseignement dont un des objectifs était de métamorphoser la bibliothèque traditionnelle en un Centre multimédia intégré à l'apprentissage et à l'enseignement. Ce projet ne put se réaliser faute de fonds. À l'automne 1987, grâce à la collaboration de divers ministères et bibliothèques, un cours fut mis sur pied et offert pour la première fois.

Ce cours, d'une durée de 110 heures, comprenait 15 modules et six ateliers de fin de semaine. Le but premier était de donner une formation de base afin que les participantes et les participants puissent ensuite s'orienter dans tout genre de bibliothèque. L'expérience fut d'abord tentée à Moncton où les ressources étaient plus disponibles. Les coûts d'implantation du cours furent défrayés par le ministère du Tourisme, des Loisirs et du Patrimoine et par le ministère de l'Éducation.

À la fin de chaque module et atelier, les participantes et les participants évaluaient le contenu du cours et les personnes-ressources. Dans l'ensemble,

ces évaluations furent très positives. Suite aux suggestions apportées par les participantes et les participants, certains réajustements furent apportés dans les modules et les ateliers. Le nombre d'heures fut réduit à 108 et le nombre d'ateliers, à cinq au lieu de six. Dès l'automne 1988, en plus de Moncton, le cours s'offrait au Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet d'Edmundston et l'année suivante, au Centre universitaire de Shippagan et à Bathurst.

Chaque année à l'occasion des évaluations, les participantes et les participants recommandaient la préparation de modules qui traiteraient plus en profondeur certains aspects déjà couverts dans le cours du premier niveau. Un cours plus avancé, d'une durée de 45 heures intitulé «Catalogage et classification» fut offert parallèlement à Moncton et à Bathurst durant l'hiver 1990 et l'année suivante, «Animation».

Plus de 165 personnes ont reçu une attestation d'étude lors des cérémonies qui ont clôturé les cours de premier niveau aux trois centres universitaires, 45 pour le cours «Catalogage et classification» et plus de 50 pour «Animation». Il faut souligner l'excellente collaboration des quelques 40 personnes-ressources qui ont collaboré au succès de ce programme. Leur préoccupation concernant la qualité du travail de nos aide-bibliothécaires a contribué à maintenir l'enthousiasme malgré la matière parfois ardue et les distances à parcourir.

-Berthe Boudreau  
coordonnatrice  
du cours aide-bibliothécaire



Dalhousie University  
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

### CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University has announced the following upcoming sessions. Unless otherwise noted, all sessions will be at 10:45 a.m. in the MacMechan Auditorium, 1st floor, Killam Library.

#### February 18 FRIDAY LECTURE

"Value-Added Online Database of Government Assistance Programmes to Business," by ANDREW PEACOCK, Business Development Information Incorporated. A discussion and demonstration of CANLOC, BDI's database of incentives information for Canadian business. BDI is a joint venture of EPRIC Ltd., a company of the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, and the School's own Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University.

#### March 11 FRIDAY LECTURE

"Copyright Protection or Copyright Sharing: Two Alternative Legal Models for Management of and Access to Electronic Journals," by JENNIFER BANKIER, Faculty of Law, Dalhousie University. Professor Bankier's longstanding interest and expertise in the legal and social aspects of information technology make this a "not-to-be-missed" session.

#### March 18 ALL-DAY WORKSHOP

"Questionnaire Design for Information Professionals," conducted by JOAN CHERRY, Associate Professor, University of Toronto and currently the School's Researcher-in-Residence. (contact the School for a separate brochure for information and registration)

#### March 25 FRIDAY PANEL

"Information Policy and Information Services in Canada in the 1990s: Challenges for Development and Delivery." The School is very pleased to provide the opportunity for our professional community in Nova Scotia to discuss this critically important topic with two key people from Ottawa. The panelists are GWYNNETH EVANS, Director, External Relations, National Library of Canada, and MICHAEL NELSON, Group Chief, Information and Security Policy, Treasury Board Secretariat.

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# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

## NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU- BRUNSWICK

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The public library community mourns the passing of **Frank Jean** in November. Mr. Jean served with great dedication on the York Regional Library Board as the representative of the Bibliothèque Dr Marguerite Michaud from 1988 to 1993 and was Chairman of the Regional Board from 1991 to 1993. He also served the province as Chairman of the New Brunswick Library Trustees Association (NBLTA) for 1992-93. He was re-elected as Chairman of the NBLTA for 1993-94 but, due to ill health, had to resign his office early in the term.

The annual statistical report entitled *Regional and Public Library Statistics 1992-93* was published in November. Copies are available from New Brunswick Library Service, P. O. Box 6000, Fredericton, NB E3B 4X9.

Les commissaires de bibliothèques publiques de la péninsule acadienne, située dans la Région de bibliothèques **Chaleur**, ont entrepris une vaste campagne de conscientisation de la population par la création de brochures et la tenue de réunions dans le but de se doter d'un bibliobus. Des lettres d'appui et des pétitions furent envoyées aux élus à cette fin.

La Commission régionale des bibliothèques du Haut-Saint-Jean soulignait le 4 décembre dernier la contribution de **Bertin Nadeau** de la Bibliothèque publique Mgr Plourde de Saint-François et de **Mariette St-Pierre** de la Bibliothèque publique de Kedgwick qui ont tous deux complété 10

ans de service à son emploi; de **Lucille Pineault** de la Bibliothèque publique Dr Lorne J. Violette de Saint-Léonard qui a complété 15 ans de service; et de **Jocelyne Ouellet** du Service du bibliobus qui a complété 20 ans de service.

The **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library** now has its own theme song. The lively song, conveying the fun to be found in libraries and in books, has caught the attention of the French CBC-TV who may use it as the basis for public service announcements.

After 15 years without one, the **Hillsborough Public Library** has a newly-established library board. The Board's first priority is to work with Village Council to provide larger, more accessible space.

The **Petitcodiac Public Library** narrowly escaped a Halloween fire that totally destroyed neighbouring buildings.

In November, children's author/illustrator **Robin Muller** visited the **Sussex Public Library** and the **East Branch** of the **Saint John Free Public Library**.

**Frances Corbett**, **Nick Barfoot** and **Henry Mienhardt** of the Saint John Free Public Library Board have been appointed to the Regional Board; and **Mary Speake** is the new Chair of the **Kennebecasis Public Library Board**.

### ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Sous la direction du recteur, **Jean-Bernard Robichaud**, l'Université de **Moncton** a adopté il y a un an son plan stratégique 1992-1995. Dans le cadre de cette planification, la Bibliothèque Champlain a emboîté le pas à l'Université en juillet 1993 et vise à terminer son travail de planification stratégique à l'été 1995.

Parmi les outils dont la Bibliothèque veut se doter pour faciliter sa tâche est la mise sur pied d'un questionnaire visant à connaître les besoins et le degré de satisfaction des usagers. Le Groupe d'intérêt pour l'initiation à la bibliothèque

qui fonctionne pour une deuxième année à partir de **Moncton** s'intéresse de près à la mise sur pied de ce processus de consultation des lecteurs et veillera à ce que des comptes rendus réguliers soient publiés dans le *Bulletin de l'APLA*. Une membre du Groupe d'intérêt pour l'initiation à la bibliothèque, **Lucienne Lanteigne**, fait d'ailleurs partie du comité responsable du questionnaire aux usagers.

Le questionnaire devrait être administré en février-mars et le compilation des résultats dévoilée en septembre 1994.

### SCHOOL LIBRARIES

**School District 16 (Chatham)** hosted a one-day workshop on November 29 led by **Dr. Ken Haycock** entitled *School Libraries: Resource Based Learning and the Role of the Administrator*. Topics covered in his presentation included an overview of resource-based learning, the role of the teacher-librarian and the implementation of change. Delegates attending the session included District 16 supervisors, coordinators, principals and vice-principals, as well as representatives from **Fredericton High School**, **School District 2 (Moncton)** and **School District 15 (Bathurst)**. Invited guests came from the **University of New Brunswick's Education Committee (Faculty of Education)**, **Mount Allison University**, and the **Department of Education**.

The **Library Council of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association** will hold their **Spring Professional Development sessions** on May 4, 5 and 6 at the **Université de Moncton**. One featured guest speaker will be **Jean Brown** who will deliver sessions on **Transformational Leadership** as well as **Newfoundland's Department of Education** position paper on resource-based learning entitled *Learning to Learn*.

### ASSOCIATIONS

**Premier Frank McKenna** attended the annual reception for the Members of the **Legislative Assembly** hosted by the **New Brunswick Library Trustees Association (NBLTA)** on December 7. The Premier assured the trustees that automating the public library system is a "high priority" of his government. **Jane Beaumont** of **Beaumont and Associates** was also present at the reception and was able to speak to the Premier about her current study of public library automation in **New Brunswick**. The tenor of the meeting was very positive and the trustees came away confident that their concerns had been heard.

-**Jocelyne Thompson**  
Vice President (New Brunswick)

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Minister of Education and Human Resources, **Keith Milligan**, has announced the establishment of a working group to study the future of the public library service in the Province. The study will be undertaken by officials of the Department, with information sought from groups and individuals interested in the public libraries of the Province. The mandate of the Working Group is to examine the present library environment, the role of the Provincial Library Service, and the effectiveness of the institution in meeting that role.

Based on the examination and information provided by others in the library community, the Working Group will develop recommendations for the Government regarding changes to the role of the Provincial Library Service, opportunities for greater harmonization within the Province's library community, the increased use of technology, partnerships, and resource sharing, and areas where the Provincial Library Service should play a more active role which would (among other things) better support the Government's interest in improving life-long learning and literacy. Recommendations of the Working Group will provide the basis for the development of a strategic plan for library development and management for the next five years. Members of the Working Group are **Harry Holman**, Acting Director of the Provincial Library Service, **Dawn Hooper**, Western Library Services Supervisor, **Nichola Cleaveland**, Government Services Librarian, **Sandra Richardson**, School Library Consultant, and **Ian Scott**, Adult and Continuing Education. The group will hold public meetings, interview resource people, and receive briefs during January and February, and will present their final report by March 31, 1994.

Celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the public library system in the Province are continuing. A display of photographs from the early years of the System has been mounted, and is travelling from library to library as each anniversary is noted.

The Branch library in **Cornwall** has moved from its former location in a stand-alone structure to the newly renovated community centre.

Branch library technicians **Frances Cobb** and **Kathleen Poole** have retired after many years of service.



In October, the Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick elected its new executive for 1993-94. From left to right are: **Muriel Morton**, President; **Sylvie Nadeau**, Vice-President; **Jeanne Maddix**, Member; **Jean-Claude Arcand**, Treasurer; **Marthe Brideau**, Past-President; **Kenda Clark**, Member. Absent from the photo is **Marilynn Rudi**, Secretary.

Plans are underway for the annual Winter Workshop for Branch Library Technicians. Separate workshops will be held for branch staff in the Eastern and Western Regions.

## ASSOCIATIONS

At the Annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Professional Librarians' Association, a new executive was installed. President is Sandra Richardson, School Library Consultant in the Department of Education and Human Resources; Vice-President is Brenda Brady, Librarian at Holland College, and Secretary is Jennifer Taylor, Reference Librarian at Robertson Library, U.P.E.I. Norine Hanus, Board Office Librarian at Unit 3 Board Office, is Past-President.

-Nichola Cleaveland  
Vice President (Prince Edward Island)

## NOVA SCOTIA

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Staff at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library have been Ngrossed in their training on how to use NcompasS. Everyone is Nthusiastically awaiting the start-up date for the new online catalogue. Progress on the selection of a software package for general e-mail communications, Internet access, and the interlibrary loan operation has been slow, though the capabilities of the final product sound very Nticing.

Provincial Librarian Marion Pape is a member of a committee formed to set up one-stop business information centres around the Province. Ms. Pape, Andrea John and Donna Bourne-Tyson are also active on a committee setting up a prototype Freenet in the Metro Area.

As part of an ongoing Strategic Planning process for regional libraries in Nova Scotia, a Multi-Stakeholder Assembly was held December 4 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. The event was attended by 68 people from across the Province. The question facing delegates at the assembly was, "What should be the direction of public libraries for the next five years?" A major theme that emerged was the need to identify core services essential to libraries and to ensure their free delivery to the public. The challenge of delivering quality services throughout all regions of Nova Scotia should be met in part by the application of new technologies. In January, the final Strategic Plan will be drafted, and the final document will be ready by the beginning of March. This plan will set the new direction for the provision of essential library services in Nova Scotia.

More than 50 workers for the Western Counties Regional Library will have their working hours reduced by 10 per cent. The cut is the result of a \$50,000 budget shortfall and affects everyone from the chief executive officer to students working part-time after school. Hours at the ten library branches

will not be affected, but staff assistance to the public and certain programs will be curtailed. The cuts will remain in effect for five months until the end of the 1993/94 fiscal year, at which time library officials hope a provincial funding review committee will address funding inequities in the System.

Cumberland Regional Library Board agreed to a closure of all branches and the bookmobile service from December 23 through January 3 in order to survive financially.

The six branches in the Halifax County Regional Library System were closed from December 20 to January 17. All employees of the System were laid off during this period. This was done to deal with a \$187,000 shortfall.

In an effort to put 1,000 new books on its shelves, the South Shore Regional Library is running an "adopt-a-book" program. This is being done so the Library does not have to shut its doors or lay off staff. Lists of books will be posted in branches and bookmobiles. Patrons are asked to choose a book they want to adopt and pay the purchase price. Tax receipts will be issued, donors' names will go on book plates, and donors will have the first chance to read the adopted book. The Library also hopes groups will pool their resources to adopt books. Books can also be adopted in someone else's name as a gift or memorial. Seven-year-old Roan Haysom of Mahone Bay was the first person to "adopt-a-book" at the Bridgewater Branch.

### ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

The first part of *The Nineteenth Century: General Collection*, a major Victorian-era collection that is considered indispensable for research into 19th century history, politics, philosophy, medicine, law, and science is now available at Dalhousie University's Killam Memorial Library. Microfilming of the first five-year series was completed last year. The whole collection will be on

microfilm by 2017. This collection was acquired as the result of a gift in 1987 from Mrs. Kathryn Stanfield Davies.

Dalhousie University Libraries has also acquired a collection of 19th century nautical drawings by Reynolds Beal, a New England seascape artist. The acquisition was made possible by a contribution from the Government of Canada under the terms of the Cultural Property Export and Import Act. Sketched during his steamer trip of 1891, the 212 drawings document the major ports in Atlantic Canada. The Beal collection will further enhance the strong collections of historical prints and shipping records held by the Killam Library.

The United States Information Agency has made a grant of \$23,000 US to Dalhousie to increase library holdings in American studies. The award will allow for the purchase of books, journals, and government documents in the areas of American business, Black and Native studies, History, Literature and Politics.

Dalhousie University Libraries has received special University funding to subsidize, for a trial period, an online article delivery service. UnCover enables patrons to view online the tables of contents of more than 14,000 journals, access over 4 million articles by title keyword and author name, and order articles for fax delivery using their major credit card. UnCover is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from office or home, or during library hours.

Ian Young, formerly with the University College of Cape Breton Library, has joined the staff of the Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University, as Science Librarian.

### LIBRARY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Kingstec Campus has just graduated its first accelerated status library technicians. Having previous

university education, these students qualified to follow an adjusted schedule to complete the program in 16 months, instead of the regular two-year period.

For more information about the Kingstec Library Technician Program, contact Laura Draper, Program Coordinator, Kingstec Campus, P.O. Box 487, Kentville, NS, B4N 3X3. (902)-678-7341.

On November 24 an information session was held at the Library Technician Program, NSCC Halifax Campus. The focus of this session was on the merits of belonging to professional associations and particularly to library associations. This was well attended by current and graduate library technicians.

## ASSOCIATIONS

The newly-elected officers of the Nova Scotia Library Association Executive are: Donna Bourne-Tyson, President; Michael Colborne, Vice-President; Don Goss, Treasurer; Elizabeth Johnson, Secretary.

- Chris Bull  
News Editor

## NEWFOUNDLAND

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The only news from the Public Libraries right now is the recent announcement that the Public Libraries Services have been transferred to the Department of Education. No further information about what changes this might entail has been received. In an article which appeared in *The Western Star* of December 9, the new Minister, Chris Decker, has indicated that there "won't be any immediate closures" of libraries. There had been a recommendation in the Report of the Review Committee appointed by the previous Minister, James Walsh, that "some be closed, especially in smaller locations". According to Decker, "We have decided not to accept the recommendation of closing these libraries until the (Education Department) has had a few months to size up what we can do." He said he would like to "look at alternatives, including the possibility of perhaps combining small community libraries with school libraries as a money saving initiate"[sic]. According to the article, "The review committee report on libraries will probably be released publicly within the next few days." As of December 16, no release had been announced.

Newfoundland's guest this year for Children's Book Week was Cora Taylor, author of *Julie, Julie's Secret*, *The Doll*, and *Ghost Voyage*. Ms. Taylor bore with remarkable aplomb the indignities of Air Canada's delaying her flight into Newfoundland and losing her luggage. Her first reading, scheduled for Sunday afternoon in Pasadena, had to be rescheduled for Monday night. While in the air from Toronto to Halifax, she



The Minister of Education, John MacEachern, congratulates Bryan Savage of Shelburne, N.S. on winning the Provincial Library's Name The System Contest. The winning name is "NcompasS"

overheard a fellow passenger, Karen Brake, on the Skyphone, calling her mother in Pasadena, with instructions to "Get the children over to the library for the Cora Taylor reading. I'm stuck in the air." Taylor and Brake were reunited the following evening at the re-scheduled reading, and Brake and her children were able to attend it together. The rest of the tour ran smoothly and all reports are that the readings were "hits" in all locales.

**ACADEMIC LIBRARIES**

The Cataloguing Division of the **Queen Elizabeth II Library (QEII), Memorial University**, has been chosen by the Library of Congress as a beta test site for LC's new "Cataloguer's Workstation." This is a multi-tasking, PC-based workstation that allows a cataloguer to access LC cataloguing tools on CD-ROM without having to exit from their local cataloguing system. The CD-ROM disc contains MARC formats and code lists, the Library of Congress Rule Interpretations, and manuals for classification, subject cataloguing, and so on.

The **Health Sciences Library (HSL)** is now running a beta test of WinSPIRS, the windows version of SilverPlatter's Information Retrieval Software. This test will not only introduce the system to users, but the completion of the WinSPIRS questionnaire will also aid SilverPlatter's development team to fix problems and to improve the system before general release. The test started in December and will run to the end of January.

Two grants have been received by the QEII Library from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada under its Support to Specialized Research Collections programme. A \$14,000 award will be used by Martin Howley to purchase backruns of two twentieth century Irish newspapers, the *Leader* and the *Irish Press*. Michael Lonardo will use a \$20,000 grant to purchase materials in support of the Library's maritime history collection, including the *North and South Shields Daily Gazette*, a series of late nineteenth century annual reports from the Boston

Record Commissioners, the *Customs Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Boston, Massachusetts, 1820-1891*, and to add to the Library's existing collection of nineteenth century manuscript census schedules for parts of New England.

A number of library staff members were recently honoured for long-time service to Memorial University. **Shirley Cooper (HSL), Betty Wong (HSL), Alice Boland (QEII Cataloguing), Karen Lippold (QEII Information Services), and Derek Dunn (QEII Circulation)** received their twenty year pins. **Barbara Eddy (QEII Collections and Past President of APLA)** received a pin for thirty years of service.

**SPECIAL LIBRARIES**

Some librarians in St. John's have expressed concern over the recent news that **Statistics Canada** will be closing its Advisory Service Centre. While Statistics Canada documents are available in the Government Documents Section of the QEII Library at Memorial, which is a federal depository library, the main

concerns are the loss of expertise that was provided by Statistics Canada's on-site staff and the anticipated increase in QEII's workload at a time when the staffing level is already "delicate". Three librarians from QEII have spent time at the Stats Can Centre working to familiarize themselves with the sources in order to be in a better position to serve the Centre's previous clients.

**ASSOCIATIONS**

The **Newfoundland Library Association** met on October 19 in St. John's. The guest speaker was **Stephen Field** of the QEII Library. He has just completed a study project on law resources in St. John's libraries. His presentation, "This is the Law: Law, Libraries and Legal Materials in the St. John's Area", conveyed the results of his study to the members.

The Association has also just published a new edition of *The Directory of Libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador*, the first in several years.

-Elinor Benjamin  
Vice President (Newfoundland)



Karen Brake (left) thought her children were going to miss Cora Taylor's (right) reading at the Pasadena Public Library so she called her mother on the Skyphone and asked her to take the children there. She was surprised to find Cora on the same plane. The reading went ahead the following evening.

John White, (right) President of Newfoundland Library Assoc., thanks Stephen Field of QEII Information Services for his presentation.

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## APLA 1994 PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Thursday, May 26, 1994  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### *Energize Me! Building a Flexible Library Team*

Have you ever wished to hire a consultant for your library? Now is your chance! You can avail yourself of the expertise of Judy Johnson of People Development Ltd.

This one day session (10 minimum - 25 maximum) will provide an interactive, participatory environment for exploring the skills and approaches to solving problems as a library team. Learn how to negotiate reasonable compromises with co-workers and patrons, assess your own style as a team member, handle change, combat resistance to change and deal with professional vs non-professional staff issues.

**Facilitator: Judy Johnson, People Development, Halifax, NS.** Judy Johnson is a Human Resource Development Consultant and Trainer. During her five years with People Development, she has conducted workshops in libraries as well as other organizations. Her workshops are conducted in a relaxed manner, providing good practical knowledge and helpful tips specifically relating to working in the library environment.

The cost of this pre-conference workshop will be \$100 per person. Registration forms will be included with the APLA 1994 Conference information which will be mailed to members this month.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (Making Connections/Créer des liens), May 18-20, 1994, Ottawa, University of Ottawa.** Keynote speaker will be Richard Rancourt of the University of Ottawa on "Learning and Teaching Styles". Other sessions will include "Educating the Educators", "Theory of Communication", "Designing and Implementing the Teaching of Internet in Libraries", and "Students' Needs and Wants: Who Should Judge?" Estimated cost of registration is \$160.

Contact: Janice Crichton Patterson, Bladen Library, University of Toronto, 1265 Military Trail, Scarborough, ON M1C 1A4.

Phone: (416) 287-7502

Fax: (416) 287-7507

Internet: crichton@macpost.scar.utoronto.ca

**APLA '94 (Back to Reality: Serving Users in a Virtual World), May 26-29, 1994, Baddeck, Cape Breton.**

**Bibliographical Society of Canada Conference (Bibliography and Western Canada), June 7-8, 1994, Calgary, University of Calgary.** Contact: Bibliographical Society of Canada, P. O. Box 575, Postal Station P, Toronto, ON M5S 2T1.

**CLA 49th Annual Conference (Delivering Quality in Tough Times), June 14-18, 1994, Vancouver, BC.**

**Canadian Networking Conference (Networking '94), June 21-23, 1994, Saskatoon, University of Saskatchewan.** Contact: Heather Friesen, Dept. of Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0W0. Phone: (306) 966-4836  
Fax: (306) 966-4938  
Internet: NEt94@Usask.ca

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