



Bulletin

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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MacDonald Appointed Director of the School of Library and Information Studies

Dalhousie University's Dean of Management, Philip Rosson, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Bertrum H. MacDonald to the position of Director of the School of Library and Information Studies. MacDonald, an Associate Professor in the School, has been a faculty member at Dalhousie since 1987.

In making the announcement Dr. Rosson noted that the School of Library and Information Studies fills an ongoing strategic role in the development of the Faculty of Management. The Faculty, containing the Schools of Library and Information Studies, Business Administration, Public Administration, and Resource and Environmental Studies, is uniquely configured to meet educational requirements well into the twenty-first century. The intersection of all four Schools promotes active consideration of critical issues concerning information technology, the economy, public policy, and the environment, both in the classroom and in research.

Over the past twenty-five years the School of Library and Information Studies has gained a distinguished international reputation for graduating students with the knowledge and flexibility to meet rapid changes in the information economy.

MacDonald, a widely respected teacher and researcher, is an honours graduate of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and holds a B.Sc. in Biology from Acadia University, an M.A. in History of Science, an M.L.S., and Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario. During his studies he received a number of awards including the Ontario Graduate Scholarship and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship. Prior to joining Dalhousie University he was employed at the University of Western Ontario.

MacDonald has taught several courses at Dalhousie including Research Methods, Information Sources in Science and Technology, Government Information Resources, Archives, History of the Book, and Bibliography, and in 1993 he taught an innovative Research Methods course which included graduate students from the Schools of Library and Information Studies and Resource and Environmental Studies.

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Better Quality Library Service for Less Cost?

Excerpted from a report on the CLA conference

As a public librarian attending a conference in Ralph Klein's Alberta, right after the election of Mike Harris in Ontario, this session was for me 1) the scariest and 2) the most thought-provoking session I attended. According to Ross Shimmon (Chief Executive of the Library Association) "public libraries are exciting, subversive, educational, informative, democratic and civilizing." They serve as the "classic example" of a collective enterprise offering ideas and works of imagination for the benefit of all. Even non-users "benefit vicariously from public libraries in society."

Shimmon described the British experience with instituting commercial sector standards through "service charters" with public library customers. Known as the Charter Movement, this development has been controversial. In the words of John Major, "privatization of choice...the message of the reforms which make up the Citizens' Charter." No one is quite sure what this means, said Shimmon, but in its crudest sense, the philosophy is that services provided by the private sector, being subject to competition are necessarily efficient. Consumers of private sector services have choice and can therefore take their custom elsewhere if service is bad. On the other hand, services offered by the public sector face no competition and are, therefore, inherently ineffi-

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NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES



PUBLIC

The first CD-ROM version of the **N.B. Public Libraries Union Catalogue** was released in June. Full implementation of the catalogue will not occur until September when all library staff have received training and all libraries are equipped with the necessary hardware. Acquisition of hardware is a municipal responsibility. Branch staff and patrons are excited about the new CD-ROM catalogues. The microfiche readers are now in limited use - computers have taken over!

Eunice Stringer has been appointed Assistant Director, Technical Services at **N.B. Library Service**, replacing **Joyce Waterhouse** who retired in January. Prior to her appointment, Eunice was head of cataloguing at NBSL.

Thanks to special funding through the Canada/New Brunswick agreement on promoting official languages, the Diocese of Saint John donated an important collection of recent documents (books and audio-visual materials) for adults and children to the two French branches of the York Regional library located in community centres: the **Bibliothèque Père-Louis-Lamontagne** in Newcastle and the **Bibliothèque Dr Marguerite-Michaud** in Fredericton. Documents will be available for consultation and/or loan in September 1995.

York Regional Library will work with CBC Mainstreet for a second year in a row in order to present the library story time. Last year, stories for children (and adults) were read at 4:55 p.m. as a lead-in to the five o'clock news from September to June.

York Regional Library had much help during the summer months through the Jetstream student employment program (24 students region-wide for a total of 241

weeks), as well as workers through a variety of other programs. The Youth Exchange Program was sponsored by a number of government departments (the departments of Municipalities; Culture & Housing; Advanced Education and Labour; and the Department of Canadian Heritage, Intergovernmental Affairs) and was coordinated through the N.B. Library Service. It pairs off young people from English and French communities in a cultural and work exchange. The three York Branches participating are the **Oromocto Public Library**, **Nashwaaksis Public-School Library**, and the **Bibliothèque Dr Marguerite-Michaud**, each with two students. The province-wide literacy program (Literacy Program for Kids at Risk) has enabled York to have five education students at 16 weeks each in four different libraries: **Fredericton**, **McAdam**, **Plaster Rock** and **Chipman**. The program offers children an opportunity to maintain and improve their reading skills through one-on-one tutoring during the summer months.

Meredith MacKeen, formerly of Souris, Prince Edward Island, has become **Upriver Supervising Librarian** for York Regional Library, working out of Woodstock and Fredericton.

Upon learning that the National Film Board was closing its Moncton office, Regional Librarian Claude Potvin approached them concerning giving their collection of videos to the **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library**. As a result, the Regional Library will receive their entire collection of 2500 videos and will automatically receive all new releases, free of charge. In addition, some equipment will be given to the regional library. This gift has an approximate value of \$80,000 and is most welcome. It will enable the regional library to place about 100 to 150 videos in each library in the region.

The recon project has been progressing steadily. In June, a celebration was held at **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library** headquarters in Moncton to commemorate the completion of the recon of the French catalogue.

ACADEMIC

The **Ralph Pickard Bell Library** and

Archives at Mount Allison University was broken into and vandalized over the weekend of July 21 and 22. Glass walls were broken and desks were ransacked. The worst damage occurred in the serials collection where the ranges holding the A to PZ collections were pushed over. Many periodicals have been irretrievably damaged and the shelving has been scrapped. Much credit goes to the Library staff who cleared up over 50,000 books in a day and a half. The Library was closed to the public for one week. The Library hopes to have access to the serials for Interlibrary Loan purposes by the fall and will notify all libraries as to the status of this service as work progresses. The Library will be circulating a want list in hopes of replacing the damaged periodicals as soon as possible. University Librarian Sara Lochhead would like to thank those who have already heard about the calamity and sent along their best wishes.

Anne Crocker, Law Librarian of the Gerard V. LaForest Law Library, University of New Brunswick, was elected president of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries/Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques de Droit (CALL/ACBD).

SPECIAL

St. John Ambulance, in conjunction with the New Brunswick Healthcare Association and the Department of Health and Community Services, has announced the arrival of the **New Brunswick Emergency Medical Technician Library** service. The collection is housed at the New Brunswick Healthcare Association in Fredericton. The collection of books, videotapes and journals has been compiled to provide a valuable resource to prehospital care providers throughout the province. Material is available for loan to prehospital care educators, students and providers. Copies of the catalogue have been distributed to more than 2000 New Brunswick ambulance attendants. Borrowers can get more information by calling 1-800-499-1033.

LIBRARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Level One of the **Library Assistant Program** will be offered again this fall.

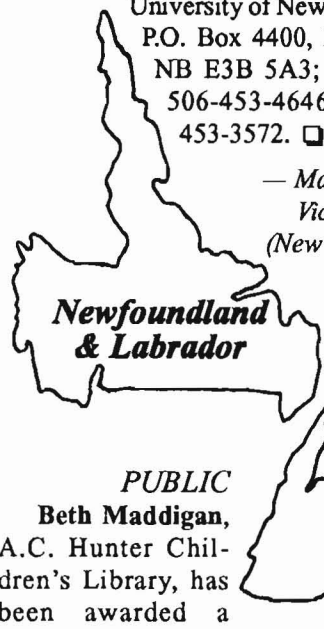
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Classes begin September 4. Tuition fees are \$520. For more information, contact: The Library Assistant Program, Department of Extension and Summer Session,

University of New Brunswick,
P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton,
NB E3B 5A3; Telephone
506-453-4646; Fax 506-
453-3572. □

— *Marilynn Rudi*
Vice President
(New Brunswick)



PUBLIC

Beth Maddigan, A.C. Hunter Children's Library, has been awarded a \$2,000 H.W. Wilson Scholarship by the Canadian Library Association. She will attend the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario.

The **public library system** and **Westviking College** have been awarded a \$75,000 literacy grant by the Federal Government. The grant is to facilitate access to literacy resources in the Port-aux-Basques, Burgeo, and Port-au-Port community resource centres. Some of the money will be used to purchase computers for the three centres.

A Writer-in-the-Library Program for young people is being sponsored by the **Provincial Information and Library Resources Board** and the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador. The first workshops in the program were in June at Goose Bay. Under the guidance of writer Bonita Slunder, the participants published *Bits and Pieces by the Scribbling Scribes*. Money made through the sale of the book will go to a teen literacy fund.

The St. John's City Council gave a grant to the **A.C. Hunter Children's Library** for the Writers-in-the-Library Program. The grant was used to sponsor eight creative writing workshops for 12 to 16 year-olds by writer Kathleen Winter.

The Summer Reading Programme in

the **libraries of St. John's** is "Monster Madness". Reading monsters, created by the children at the beginning of the summer, are decorating the public libraries during the program. Children who read all the books they pledged to read will receive a kit of goodies. The kit materials and promotional material for the program were developed by the **A.C. Hunter Children's Library** staff.

The National Literacy Secretariat awarded a grant of \$43,400 to the **Provincial Reference and Library Resources Board** to pilot a family literacy project in St. John's. The project will be aimed at expectant and new parents. A researcher/coordinator will be hired to develop materials and run the program.

Staff training in Internet access for **Public Library staff** is part of the joint community-school information centres initiative announced in the May/June 1995 issue of the *APLA Bulletin*. Twenty-four library staff will be trained in network access by STEM~Net, the ACOA/Enterprise Network and library staff with network experience.

A new microfilm reader printer in St. John's and a microfilm/microfiche reader printer in Corner Brook are both making a positive difference to library users.

There have been a number of changes to improve service in the **Public Library Service**. Streamlining measures have resulted in the largest library materials budget in many years. Books are being shipped out to libraries faster than in the past. This is the result of full computerization of Technical Services, a doubling of the number of positions for cataloguing, and the direct delivery of books to the local library rather than to the regional library.

At the urging of local boards, substitute coverage for vacation time in one person libraries has been significantly expanded.

The **St. John's Library Board** is investigating putting pc's with modems in every library with local calling rates to the St. John's InfoNET.

The Public Library system is getting computer expertise with the secondment of two staff from the provincial government. **Dennis Maher** has been seconded for one year as full-time Computer Sup-

port Specialist. In September, **Bill Jameson** will start a secondment as Systems Manager.

ACADEMIC

Elizabeth Behrens has been appointed Associate University Librarian (Sir Wilfred Grenfell College) effective September 1, 1995. The move has been completed from the original library at the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College to the new **Ferriss Hodgett Library**. The telephone numbers and address of the library are unchanged.

Pamela Morgan is the new Systems Librarian at the Health Sciences Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Prior to her appointment, she had worked on contract with the Health Sciences Library.

Martin Howley has been appointed Acting Head of the Collections Division, Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland. At the end of August, **Brian Hancock** will start a one year contract in the Collections Division. He will be replacing **Michael Lonardo** who is on sabbatical.

Anne Hart has been reappointed to a further three year term as Head of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, Queen Elizabeth II Library. **Alberta Auringer Wood** has been reappointed to a further three year term as Head of the Map Library, Queen Elizabeth II Library. **Joy Tillotson** has been reappointed Acting Head of Information Services, Queen Elizabeth II Library.

The **Memorial University of Newfoundland** administration is attempting to replace the *Collective Agreement for Faculty and Librarians* with a *Handbook for Academic Staff Members*. The *Handbook* covers issues of salary, layoffs, and work loads. These were the issues discussed before conciliation talks broke off between the University and the Faculty Association.

Librarians at **Memorial University of Newfoundland**, are pleased with the results of the survey, *Undergraduate Experience at Eight Canadian Universities*, carried out by Walker Associates for student affairs departments at the universities. The library at Memorial scored

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NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES

highest with its students in the categories: university contribution to personal growth, effective use of library resources, and in satisfaction with library resources.

SCHOOL

Allister Dyke, a learning resources teacher at Bishop's College high school (St. John's), has headed the implementation of computer technology and expertise at the school. The school was able to get assistance under the Canada-Newfoundland Cooperation Agreement on Human Resource Development. The major businesses involved in the project are Northern Telecom, Paragon Information Systems and Newfoundland Telephone. Allister has also organized a series of summer training sessions for teachers on computer hardware, software and the Internet.

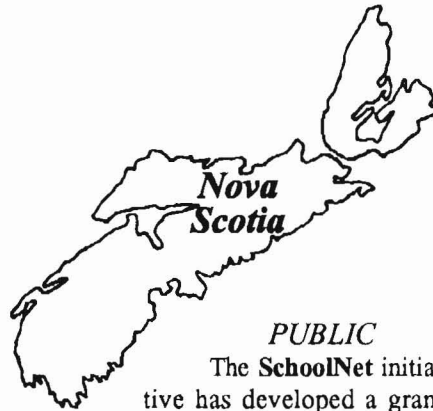
ASSOCIATIONS

The **St. John's InfoNET** now has 910 members. All members receive a manual and take a one hour class that introduces them to the system. The classes focus on e-mail, news groups and access to other freenets. In June, the **St. John's InfoNET** got 15 nearly new terminals from Forestry Canada. The terminals had not been used since Forestry Canada switched to personal computers. The group working to establish a freenet in **Corner Brook** hopes to launch it next April.

A volunteer library is taking shape in **Hant's Harbour**, Trinity Bay, at the town hall. A federal government grant of \$3,000, plus \$100 for materials, was the catalyst for the library. Posters and a door-to-door campaign have resulted in hundreds of books being donated to the library.

The Newfoundland branch of **Performers for Literacy** has mounted a 40 show tour in rural Newfoundland this summer. Funding from Health Canada is paying for 15 of the shows. Co-operation between the Performers for Literacy and the Laubach Literacy Centres throughout the province let them extend their tour. □

— *Karen Lippold*
Vice President (Newfoundland)



PUBLIC

The **SchoolNet** initiative has developed a grant program to fund libraries that want to put information relevant to SchoolNet users on the World Wide Web. There is a pot of about \$2 million dollars to fund initiatives this year, and the grant committee would like to see a large part of that spent by October. Contact **Andrea John** (ajohn@nshpl.library.ns.ca) for more information.

Leslie Foster left the Provincial Library on July 7. Leslie had filled the Coordinator of Technical Services position for 11 months. A farewell also goes to **Carole Compton-Smith** who returned to her position as an instructor in the Library Technician Program at the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC). Carole worked at the Provincial Library during her sabbatical from the NSCC. **Ping Xu**, who has been working on the recon project, will be leaving in July to move to Timmins, Ontario. **Gillian Webster**, previously with the Cultural Affairs Library, has started her training period in User Services in preparation for filling the Librarian 1 position. **Sue Hunter**, who has been filling that position on a casual basis since November 1993 left June 7. **Dean Mantley** is a welcome addition to the shipping services unit which has been shortstaffed for some time.

The **Provincial Library** has commenced training for regional libraries covering computer basics: Windows, Netscape, and the NcompasS OPAC. Two days of training for staff of the New Glasgow branch of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library took place on May 25 and 26. This intensive staff training will be of benefit to the users of the New Glasgow Library as they begin to take advantage of the public access computers.

Training in other libraries will follow as systems are installed.

Work is continuing on the **Provincial Library's** WAN installation. The library segment will have 53 sites connected in 1995. Two of the sites, New Glasgow and the Provincial Library, were connected before the G7 Summit this summer, while six others have recently had lines and routers installed. They are: Sydney, Truro, Amherst, Annapolis Valley HQ, South Shore HQ and Yarmouth. The next round of installations should be completed by the end of August. The remaining public library sites will be connected by the autumn of 1996. Each public library site will be receiving a public access computer as part of the connection. The computers will be set up at the Provincial Library and installed in the branches with the help of Provincial Library staff where necessary.

The Minister of Education and Culture recently approved four automation grants for 1995-96. The grants have been awarded to the **Annapolis Valley, South Shore and Western Counties Regional Library** boards to implement MultiLIS using the Provincial Library system.

The T-shirts and sweatshirts for the **Summer Reading Programme** were so popular that the Provincial Library has ordered more. The T-shirts will sell for \$10 and the sweatshirts for \$15, with profits going to the Ann Conner Brimer Award.

Some staff changes have taken place in the **Halifax County Regional Library** system. **Denise Parrott**, Youth Services Librarian, Bedford Branch, left to take a position at **Capt. William Spry Branch**, Halifax City Regional Library. **Janice Fiander** has been hired to replace her. **Sharron Davis**, Library Assistant II, **Bedford Branch**, retired after 20 years at the branch. **Martha Langille**, **Hubbards Branch Librarian**, left to take a position in Kenya. **Paige Rockwell** has been hired to replace her. **Robin Phillips**, Library Assistant, **Hubbards Branch** has resigned after 16 years with the Library to take a position in Connecticut. She has been replaced by **Cathy Jennex**. **Susan Ross**, Youth Services Library Assistant, **Sackville Branch**, has decided not to return following her maternity leave.

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A new **Sackville Branch** is in the planning stages. The current branch was established in 1976 and has undergone several expansions over the past twenty years. Despite this, the branch is woefully undersized for the population it serves. The new branch will be 15,000 square feet and will be in the former Acadia School in Lower Sackville, which is being renovated and expanded to accommodate the new library branch and community offices.

Due to the legislated amalgamation of the four metropolitan Halifax municipalities, the boards and staff of the **Halifax County, Halifax City and Dartmouth Regional** libraries are in the process of planning the merger of the three regional systems into one regional library serving the entire area. Planning includes adding Halifax County's collection locations to the provincial MultiLIS database. The three metro libraries have just received notification of a \$157,000 automation grant from the Department of Education to assist in the joint automation project.

As part of the Nova Scotia Auditor-General's audit of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, the **Halifax County Regional Library** has been chosen as one of the two regional libraries that will participate in the audit.

The **Sheet Harbour Branch** received an Operation Bootstrap Grant from the Province to set up a small business multimedia training centre.

The **South Shore Regional Library** is crawling with prehistoric critters! Over 275 kids have entered the Library's Be A Readasaurus summer reading program and are reading their way to great prizes and lots of summer fun. Each "Readasaurus" has a chance to read, complete activity sheets, win prizes, meet dinosaur experts and have fun. Prizes include T-shirts, posters, dinosaur gadgets, Canada Post Stamp packs, and a trip to the Fundy Geological Museum in Parrsboro. The program ends September 9.

Dozens of loyal borrowers gathered in Caledonia on June 3 to welcome the **South Shore Regional Library's** latest addition - a new mobile branch. After a wet (it began to rain just as the festivities started) but grand entrance, Library Board Chair **Elaine Murray** and Queens County Deputy Warden Russell Hirtle welcomed the new mobile branch and invited borrowers to enjoy it.

The **South Shore Regional Library's** GIGANTIC Book Sale was a success. Library staff and volunteers raised over \$1,500 at the June sale. The Library holds the sale annually to 'recycle' books that are worn out, outdated or multiple copies of best sellers that are no longer in demand and to raise money to purchase new books.

The **South Shore Regional Library** will celebrate the South Shore Festival of the Arts in September by hosting a workshop for those interested in honing their skills as storytellers. Instructor Marthanne Williamson is a teacher and storyteller with much experience who will help adults fine tune their skills.

The **Annapolis Valley Regional Library** received a \$7,000 grant from the National Library for adaptive technology. Four Vview software packages will be purchased to enable persons with visual disabilities to read computer screens.

The **Annapolis Valley Regional Library** accepted delivery of a new mobile branch in late May. It is wired to accept automation when the time comes.

The **Digby Library** will be moving, in the near future, from its present location above the town hall on Sydney St. to the former Children's Training Centre on Warwick St. Digby Town Council reached a decision in early July to cost share the move with the Municipality of Digby. Relocating will provide the Digby Library with additional shelving space, an adequate area for computer hook-ups, and a much needed program room.

The **Western Counties Regional Library Charitable Association** and the Banks family were pleased to announce the electronic launching of "The H.R. Banks Collection of Novascotiana: a catalogue" on Sunday July 16 (see Cyberspace column for the URL). With the launching of this catalogue, researchers worldwide will have Internet access to the listing of the contents of the Banks collection. The collection, which consists of 3,000 books and approximately 500 periodicals, was donated to the Western Counties Regional Library Charitable Association in 1983 by H.R. Banks and his wife Kathleen. The lengthy process of cataloguing began with financial support from the Windsor Foundation. Included in the collection are works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, political works, literary criticism and an outstanding accumulation of materials on arts and antiques. Virtually

every aspect of Nova Scotia is touched by this remarkable collection. Herbert Robert Banks, born in Barrington Passage in 1908, began collecting Novascotiana in 1933. The Banks Collection has significant research value for universities, schools, colleges, historians and the general public. Unless items are too fragile to lend, materials are available through ILL.

Western Counties Regional Library headquarters staff member **Verna Deviller** was recently appointed Automation Technician.

Western Counties Regional Library recently received notification from the Dept. of Education of the approval of a grant to fund the second phase of its automation project. The funds will be used to automate the library system using DRA/MultiLIS software as a subset of the Provincial Library database Ncompass.

ACADEMIC

The **NOVANET** consortium is well into the conversion from their old GEAC GLIS integrated system to GEAC Advance. The conversion process is a significant one. Aside from the usual system migration issues, most institutions are implementing new PC technology for accessing the system (requiring additional training and support), and NOVANET is also moving to an in-house private data network for communications. The new system will provide some significant improvements in functionality, as well as the new MS Windows-based client-server programs from some of the modules. It is anticipated that the system will be ready for the new academic year this September.

The **University College of Cape Breton (UCCB) Press's** Executive Director **Penny Marshall** is happy to announce three new publications: *Tracks across the Landscape: The S & L Commemorative History* by Brian Campbell and John Johnston; *Louisbourg: From Ruins to Reconstruction* by Terry MacLean; *Port Morien: Pages From the Past* by Ken MacDonald.

The **UCCB Library** welcomed **Catherine Cino** to its staff on June 5. Catherine is a recent graduate of the University of Western Ontario. She entered the student essay contests sponsored by the Special Library Association and the Canadian Library Association and won first prize in

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both. Watch for her essay on librarians and leadership in the August issue of *Felicitier*.

Information Services Librarian, **Ann Barrett, W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library**, Dalhousie University, has accepted a six-month secondment to head the National Research Council of Canada's Institute for Marine Biosciences Library in Halifax. **Janet Bangma**, a 1995 graduate of Dalhousie's School of Library and Information Studies programme, has been hired to replace her for the six months (July-December).

Tim Brown and **Michelle Fiander**, second year SLIS students, completed an internship in the **W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library**. The library intern programme provides SLIS students with full-time employment during the May-August period. These students then provide evening and weekend reference service during the academic term.

The **W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library** will implement a non-circulation policy for its journal collection, effective September 5. As with library policies worldwide, there will be some exceptions to this policy.

The **Killam Memorial Library** at Dalhousie University opened its doors in October 1970. This fall, students, faculty and staff will celebrate the Library's twenty-fifth birthday. Events will kick-off in mid-October with cake and prizes.

The Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) has extended its distribution of electronic data from the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) to include two Atlantic Provinces' universities - **Dalhousie University** and the **University of New Brunswick**. Coordinated by the libraries in each university, the federated membership, called ACCOLEDS (A COPPUL Consortium of Library Electronic Data Services), provides access to ICPSR data resources. These resources currently consist of over 30,000 machine-readable files, covering all areas of the social sciences, as well as studies in some areas of the life sciences such as health care and aging. In addition, training opportunities in social science research methodology, statistical techniques, and data library management are available. COPPUL, a consortium of thirteen university libraries located in the four provinces of Western Canada, cooperates to enhance information services through resource sharing, collective

purchasing, document delivery, and other reciprocal activities. For further information, contact Dr. William Birdsall, University Librarian, Dalhousie University Libraries by e-mail at birdsall@ac.dal.ca or at (902) 494-3601.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) has awarded \$35,000 to the **Killam Memorial Library** for the acquisition of archival resources for the social history of West and Southern Africa. Funds will purchase microforms of newspapers, pamphlets, missionary papers and government documents from the 19th and 20th centuries, and other related materials. The grant builds on a significant African Studies collection held by the Killam Memorial Library. The Library already has an impressive microfilm collection of primary materials on Africa. This collection includes the largest number of 19th century West African newspapers in Canada and also British colonial government documents, says Jane Parpart, Professor of History and Coordinator of International Development Studies. However, Parpart points out, the holdings for Southern Africa and 20th century West Africa are inadequate. Funds will acquire these essential resources. For more information, please contact Holly Melanson, Assistant University Librarian (Collections and Development) by e-mail at hmelanso@ac.dal.ca or at 494-6684.

ASSOCIATIONS

The 1995-96 CASLIS Atlantic Chapter executive is: President: **Mary Veling**, Nova Scotia Research Foundation Corporation; Secretary: **Kelly Campbell**, Nova Scotia Department of Community Services; Treasurer: **Christine Corston**, Nova Scotia Women's

Directorate, Nova Scotia Department of Human Resources; Past President: **Kathryn Arbuckle**, Nova Scotia Department of Education Library.

OTHER NEWS

The first meeting of the **Nova Scotia Federation of Community Networks (NSFCN)** was held July 7 and 8, 1995 at the Provincial Library. Representatives were on hand from Wolfville, Windsor, the Strait area, Cape Breton, Annapolis Valley, Antigonish and the Halifax region. Discussions ranged from the policy paper of the Economic Renewal Agency to the Department of Education and Culture's request to provide e-mail access for its various WAN sites. There was also discussion of a joint effort on submitting a proposal to Industry Canada's Community Access Project (see Cyberspace for more info). The meeting was chaired by Bernie Hart, now retired from Education Media Services and the Membership Chairperson for the Chebucto Community Network (e-mail nstn2380@fox.nstn.ns.ca). If you are interested in community networks in Nova Scotia you can join the NSFCN listserv by sending an e-mail message to:

listserv@rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca

in the body of the message type "subscribe nsfcn <your first name><your last name>"; for example, subscribe nsfcn Mark Leggott.

Norman Horrocks, an APLA Merit Award recipient, received CLA's 1995 "Outstanding Service to Librarianship Award." Norm has returned to Nova Scotia where he will continue to work part-time for Scarecrow Press. □

— Mark Leggott
Vice President (Nova Scotia)



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CHLA Meets in St. John's

"Old World, New World," was the theme of this year's annual conference of the Association des Bibliothèques de la Santé du Canada/Canadian Health Libraries Association (ABSC/CHLA) held in St. John's, during the first week of June. The Association's membership of 400-450 encompasses librarians working in hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, and academic libraries.

Total attendance was 130, with 11 exhibitors. Many attendees from away took advantage of the conference to make their first trip to Newfoundland. Besides the conference, they were treated to clement June weather, a grand iceberg lodged at the mouth of the harbour, boat tours, ferocious walks, and incomparable hospitality.

The conference theme addressed where we're headed, tying together traditional practice with current fiscal, technical and community developments. Things got lively right from Mary Dykstra's opening address. Her call for a major rethinking of what and how we do whatever it is we do certainly set the fox among the chickens at the subsequent coffee break. Some of the highlights thereafter included:

- Bert Riggs, Archivist, Memorial University, who spoke on the development of health care in Newfoundland;
- Dr. A.M. House, Memorial University, who spoke about telemedicine, distance education, and the role of the library in such;
- David Stewart, Oxford Radcliffe Hospital, England, who gave a view of librarianship under the National Health Service;
- Marie-Lise Shams, whose introduction to OHIOLINK, a consortia of 41 libraries (20+ committees, 41 members each) that provides over 460,000 students with both database and catalog access, but no authority control, made one wonder if all innovation leads to committee-bound purgatory.

Words that began or ended in "net" buzzed about like blackflies, as did something called a "cybrarian." Yet, the tenor was still down-to-earth and practical, with presentations on family resource libraries and a study comparing library use to academic achievement among medical students that was so elegantly simple you couldn't help wondering why it had never been done before.

Continuing Education courses were offered by:

- Dianne Pammett, CISTI, on Medlars, DOCLINE/Loansome Doc and Grateful Med;
- Barbara McDonald and Louise McGillis, Memorial University, on the Internet as a reference tool;
- Susan Cleyle, Memorial University, on evaluating new technologies in libraries;
- Susan Murray, Toronto, on consumer health information services.

A common subtext to the conference was resource sharing. ABSC/CHLA initiated a Task Force on Resource Sharing last year. Part of its mandate is to facilitate the implementation of DOCLINE in Canada (see below). One way or another, resource sharing wouldn't go away. First, the task force (of which I am a member) had an open meet-



OLD WORLD - NEW WORLD

ing. Then, a panel discussion on "Ownership versus Access," had dwindling resources as its underpinnings. Finally, on the last day, a special Forum on Resource Sharing was held:

- Cameron MacDonald, CISTI, spoke on the Canadian experience with Docline;
- Nancy Press, from Seattle, gave an overview on the U.S. experience;
- Vivian Ludwin, Health Sciences Librarian at Queens University, reported on the ACMC ARIEL trial;
- Lois Wyndham, Librarian at Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals in Hamilton, outlined the resource sharing model her region has developed.

That, in turn, was followed by round table discussions.

The Planning Committee outdid themselves. With a membership of 17, the Newfoundland and Labrador Health Libraries Association can fit in a minivan. Thirteen of the association took part in the planning, with ten volunteers from outside the association. Between them they hauled in speakers, presenters and exhibitors from Antwerp, Dublin, Oxford, the U.S. and all over Canada. Their program was well balanced from beginning to end. The food was excellent. The music of Sweet Absalone (what's an absalone?) was superb. The Planning Committee are to be congratulated on their patience, good humour and unflappability.

— Patrick Ellis

W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library

NOTE: What's DOCLINE? DOCLINE is a system developed at the National Library of Medicine (NLM) in the United States that, through accurate and timely reporting of journal holdings to a union list called SERHOLD, creates an automated interlibrary loan system for participating libraries.

The pun happy boffins at NLM have created two compatible programs for end users, Grateful Med (a menu driven version of Medline) and Loansome Doc (a document delivery package for the end user that depends on DOCLINE and SERHOLD). The implementation of DOCLINE in Canada has been working gradually from the left coast over to the right coast. With it has come much discussion and a new focus on union list reporting and document delivery standards. □

USE THE APLA-LIST



- 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.
- To post job advertisements.

Send the message

"subscribe APLA-List" to mailserv@ac.dal.ca

Better Quality Library Service for Less Cost?... (continued from cover)

cient and consumers must put up with poor service. This philosophy is crude because, "for one thing, it ignores the reality of private monopoly." Supporters of the Citizens' Charter movement hail it as a revolution in controlling big government, but according to an article in the *Journal of the Royal Society of the Arts*, "it enfeebles the society."

Under existing legislation, public libraries must provide "comprehensive and efficient service." They are governed, in part, by elected local officials, which one assumes would provide some mechanism for ensuring this mandate is defended. However, 80% of local money comes from central government and there is a strong trend toward tighter central control. At the same time, the political balance has turned toward the right. Polytechnical, Further Education Colleges and even secondary schools are being encouraged to opt out from under local government control, and "central functions are devolving towards privatization." Public libraries "cannot be immune" from this shift, even though there has been no public support for their privatization, or for removal from local authorities. A recent study showed that 60% of citizens use the library. They come from a broad range of the population with the heaviest use being among 16-19 year olds, the unemployed and those who work from home. Government response to the survey has been "lukewarm."

Cuts to UK libraries have been "savage" - 300,000 UK pounds in one county alone, which then chose to purchase no adult fiction for a year. The Library Association contends that such decisions (this library was not alone) disregard the "comprehensive" component of the legislation. A recent capital needs audit of libraries in the UK indicated that it would take one billion Canadian dollars to bring buildings up to standard in addition to the input needed to do technology. A rigid primary/elementary school curriculum now requires even greater library resources, but these resources are not being provided. This sounds suspiciously like experiences closer to home.

Under the Citizens' Charter credo, the principles of public service call for:

- explicit published standards, frequently quantitative
- openness and accountability
- information readiness (whatever that means)
- choice (Shimmon speculated on whether this meant that if the library in your [poor] neighbourhood was not meeting the standards, you would then have the "choice" of moving into a different [rich] neighbourhood?)

- non-discrimination
- access
- a system of complaint and redress

There will be more privatization, more contracting out, more performance related pay, publication of performance standards. The Charters are meant to cover government departments and agencies, the few industries that are still nationalized, local government authorities, health care, courts, police forces, utilities, railways, and the phone company.

Services can earn "charter marks" if nominated by the public. The marks are awarded based upon assessments "alleged to be independent."

This has met with some cynicism and scepticism; there is a tendency for targets and standards to be based upon "what is achievable" rather than "what is desirable," since the publication of ideal standards does not guarantee that resources will be provided to ensure compliance with those standards.

The term "customer" is central to the concept of the Citizen's Charter. Britons are no longer travellers, readers, students, etc. They are customers, a concept that the government says "emphasizes service and choice." Shimmon dislikes this view, since the analogy is based upon a "short-term, monetary relationship," and "de-emphasizes the stake-holder relationship" that is fundamental to the traditional public service. The public library is a classic public service. Redress has always been available through the democratic process; the relationship is not the same as the one in a shop.

"What is ignored," said Shimmon, "is that quantitative statements do not indicate whether or not the service provided is good or bad." Standards tend to be based on averages. There will unavoidably be instances in which circumstances will dictate otherwise. And what happens if you exceed the targets, e.g. if you have a standard that states no one has to wait more than 3 minutes at the circulation desk and business increases, will you get more staff as you would in a supermarket? Unlikely. Are the standards "minimal" or are they "helpful guidelines"? Do they reflect local conditions and requirements? Does the community have input into the balance of services cut and services provided when funding necessitates decisions?

In 1991, the Minister of Arts challenged the Library Association to produce a charter for libraries, and the Association took up the challenge, since it was better "to do it ourselves than to have it imposed upon us." Three interesting documents have been produced by the Library Association in response to the challenge of operating in the current environment: *The Public Library Service: Information for Elected Members* (April 1995); *A Charter for Public Libraries* (November 1993, ISBN: 1-872088-05-8); and *Model Statement of Standards* (March 1995). Contact the Library Association by e-mail at info@la-hq.org.uk or by Fax at 0171- 436-7218. □

— Elinor Benjamin
Western Region Libraries (Newfoundland)

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Resolutions From CLA '95

The following resolutions were debated during the Canadian Library Association's annual conference in Calgary.

RESOLUTION 1

Whereas public libraries in Canada are facing static or diminishing resources while public demand for library services is increasing; and whereas public libraries are often forced to accept corporate donations to make up the gap between public demand and government support;

and whereas the primary concern of public libraries must be to maintain a tax-supported public information service widely recognized as objective and impartial;

and whereas there is a significant difference between corporate donations which are publicly recognized and corporations that use libraries as commercial advertising vehicles that jeopardize the public's perception of a free, politically-neutral public library;

and whereas such commercial advertising compromises the objective and impartial standards of free public library service and uses the popularity and integrity of public libraries as an advertising vehicle and violates the public trust;

Resolved, That the Canadian Library Association take the position that while corporate donations are valuable and will be acknowledged, that advertising space not be provided on library cards.

MOVED: Jacqueline Van Dyk

SECONDED: Sylvia Crooks DEFEATED

RESOLUTION 2

Whereas the CRTC is currently holding hearings to establish new local telephone rates for individual telephone companies across Canada;

and whereas the current hearings could result in local telephone rate increases being as high as 33% over 3 years and could also result in the introduction of Local Metered Service;

and whereas local telephone rate increases are a result of the deregulation of the telephone systems and the introduction of competition in long distance rates;

and whereas telephone access is an important tool for the public to access libraries, information centres, Freenets, and health and emergency services;

Resolved, That CLA oppose local telephone rate increases beyond the rate of inflation;

and be it further resolved that the CLA Executive Council and the CLA Information Policy Committee work with provincial/regional/territorial library associations and other community organizations to oppose these increases.

MOVED: Brian Campbell

SECONDED: Karen Harrison CARRIED

RESOLUTION 3

Whereas the CRTC has indicated the need for preferential tariffs for education and health;

and whereas Stentor (the alliance of Canada's telephone companies) has indicated that it will approach the CRTC in Fall 1995 to get permission to allow preferential tariffs for education;

and whereas a restrictive definition of education is being used which excludes public libraries;

Resolved, That CLA Executive Council and the CLA Information Policy Committee work with public libraries, provincial/regional/territorial library associations, provincial directors, and public library trustees, to lobby local Stentor companies to include public libraries

as institutions eligible for preferential tariffs.

MOVED: Brian Campbell

SECONDED: Karen Harrison CARRIED

RESOLUTION 4

Whereas the 2nd annual national Information Rights Week has increased the visibility of information policy issues and activated many local library organizations, libraries, and community organizations to publicize these information and telecommunication access issues; Resolved, That CLA proclaim an Information Rights Week for 1996.

MOVED: Brian Campbell

SECONDED: Rowena Lunn CARRIED

RESOLUTION 5

Whereas the Government of Canada is presently examining the role and function of the Canada Communication Group (CCG) as a federal agency responsible for much of the publication and dissemination of government publications;

and whereas there is a likelihood that most functions within the unit will be privatized;

and whereas there currently exists within the department a publicly recognized and accepted centre of publishing expertise and information dissemination;

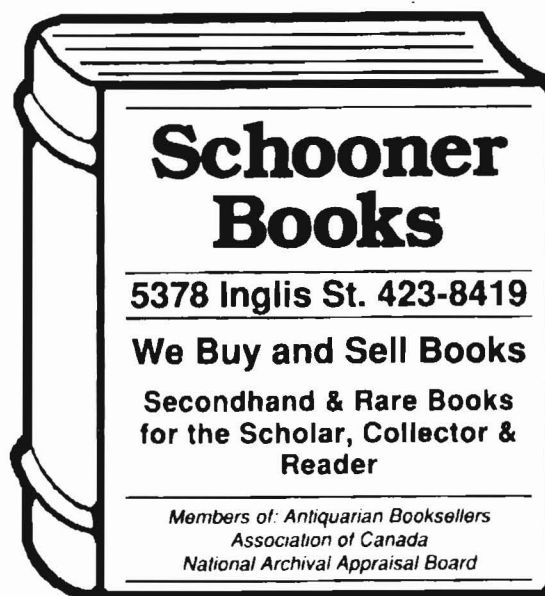
and whereas the documents published are an essential catalyst for enhancing Canadians' knowledge, culture and wealth creation;

and whereas the dissolution of this publishing capability would negatively and dramatically impact on the creation and availability of publications;

Resolved, That the CLA is opposed to the dissolution of a common or central publishing function within the federal government and supports the continued existence of such a capability.

MOVED: Ernie Ingles

SECONDED: Murray Genoe CARRIED □



Atlantic Profiles: Denise Parrott

Denise Parrott has been a youth services librarian since graduating from Dalhousie in 1989. She began her career in the Halifax County Regional Library. She worked at the Sackville Branch from 1989 - 1993 and at the Bedford Library from 1993 - 1994. This year she accepted a position with the Halifax City Regional Library at the Captain William Spry Library.

Bulletin: I know that you were raised in a small, rural Newfoundland town. Were there libraries in your childhood?

Parrott: Not really. Our school had a small collection from the travelling library and we would get shipments once or twice a year. Although there weren't libraries in my childhood, there were always books. We were lucky growing up - there was not a lot of money, but there were always books in the house. My mom made sure of that. Other readers (like teachers) were always willing to lend us books, and I read what mom brought home for her university courses. It made me realize that readers will always find books.

I saw my first real library when I was eight or nine and a cousin took me to the public library in St. John's. The first book I ever took out was a biography of Louisa May Alcott, and I immediately decided to be a writer when I grew up. As a librarian looking back on that experience, I realize how important books are as a source of role models for kids. My mother tells me that, after that trip, I went home and drew "date due" grids in the backs of all the books in the house.

Bulletin: Why did you become a librarian?

Parrott: Growing up, I didn't realize that libraries existed. It wasn't until university [Memorial] that I discovered what libraries were all about. The librarians there were wonderful - helpful and extremely knowledgeable. I never considered becoming a librarian myself, though. In my last year at MUN I had no plans for my future - other than to sign on with SWAP [Student Work Abroad Programme] as a bar maid in a London pub for the summer. Then a professor whom I admired suggested that I would make a good librarian and I started to think about it seriously. The rest, as they say, is history.

Bulletin: Did you know when you went to library school that you wanted to become a children's librarian?

Parrott: Actually, I wanted to be an academic librarian - to experience the thrill of the chase in tracking down answers to reference questions. Instead, I fell into children's librarianship and realized that I was drawn to it. It offered me the chance to be the person who helps kids fall in love with books and reading.

Bulletin: What are your thoughts on how children's librarianship is viewed within the profession?

Parrott: The hierarchy of librarianship is, unfortunately, very ingrained. Although an academic librarian can move "down" to public librarianship, the opposite rarely happens. Even within public librarianship, children's librarians tend to have lower status positions. It's unfortunate that this is the case. I used to beef about this a lot; now I take it all much more with a sense of humour.

Slotting librarians into specialties reinforces our differences, instead of emphasizing our similarities. Librarians share a core of things. At heart, we are all information/learning/book junkies. How we put that into practice depends on where we work. When we branch off into different areas of librarianship, we do ourselves a disservice by not interacting more with all types of librarians.

Children's librarianship is one of the oldest forms of librarianship and, I think, is now being rediscovered and acknowledged in a

more positive way by the profession as a whole. Let's face it - if I don't do my job well as a children's librarian, it makes your job as an academic librarian even more difficult.

In my experience, children's librarians are a dynamic group. I am grateful for role models like Linda Hodgins and Hope Bridgewater, who have successfully demonstrated how to make a difference in young people's lives.

Bulletin: What do you like best about your job?

Parrott: Meeting Canadian authors like Monica Hughes.... Like most people, I grew up thinking that all writers were dead! I also really enjoy working in a branch library because it gives me the opportunity to work with the whole family - children, parents, and caregivers.

Bulletin: What are you reading at the moment?

Parrott: What am I NOT reading? I read like crazy. I need a storehouse of authors and stories at hand because you never know when you'll get a chance to spark a reader's interest with a 'hook' to a particular book. I just finished a Minette Walters and the newest Monica Hughes. I try to read all the Canadian children's and YA literature that I can. And I just started a book club with some friends. We meet as often as we can to share our love of reading.

Bulletin: If you were made national librarian tomorrow, what would you do first?

Parrott: Two things. First of all, I would work to set national standards for library services to young people. Each province has a different mix - in some, the school libraries are strong; in others the public libraries play a larger role in children's lives than the school libraries do. I'd like to see some consistency of service across the country.

The second thing I'd do would be to set up a PR office - to launch a really neat public campaign to tell people what wonderful places public libraries are and to promote public libraries as the vanguards of free information provision in this country. □

— Barbara McDonald, for the Bulletin
Memorial University of Newfoundland



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 curriculum vitae to:

Sheila Pearl
APLA Memorial Awards Committee
Nova Scotia Teachers College Library
Truro, NS B2N 5G5
Envoy: ILL.NSTT
Fax: (902) 893-5610

Public Libraries and Freenets

Freenets are springing up all over and, often, public libraries are involved. We asked three public library people who volunteered with the freenet in their community to tell us a bit about their experience. They are Laura Jantek (LJ) from the Halifax City Regional Library and Chebucto Community Network, Gail Malone (GM) from the Provincial Resource Library in St. John's and the St. John's InfoNET, and a person from elsewhere in Canada who prefers to be cited as a "freenet volunteer from the library community" (FV).

Bulletin: What effect has the freenet had on the public library?

LJ: This is a hard question to answer but I think I can easily say that it has provided the library with a tremendous public relations tool—to say to our public—look here is the electronic public library cheek to jowl with the loved and cherished standard items one expects in a public library (like books and magazines)!

Through our community services department we have trained many freenet users and developed a whole new clientele and relationship with our regular patrons.

GM: Being able to offer our library patrons access to the St. John's InfoNET network has helped raise the visibility and status of the library within the community. New users are now recognizing the library as a source of information, not only in print form, but also online. As new users were registered for the InfoNET, those without library cards were issued cards, in the hope that they would become library users. We are also in the process of improving the collection to support both the novice and experienced computer users. Several popular titles on the Internet and software options have recently been added.

The libraries board supported the training of all staff on the InfoNET network, which, for many, gave them their first exposure to the Internet. Using the InfoNET to reach other freenets helped us see how relevant a freenet can be to a community and what interesting things they have to offer.

The library staff now have additional responsibility. They facilitate the registration of all new users and provide support and guidance for InfoNET users. Being new users ourselves the partnership between the library and the network was promoted as, "Learn about the InfoNET at the Library." We did not want to claim expertise we could not support. This approach has been appreciated by InfoNET users, who continue to be pleased with the InfoNET's services and the

library's participation.

FV: Officially, I would say that the freenet has raised the library's profile in the community as a forward thinking organization. We are now clearly more than just a place to get books. The freenet has also provided contacts with other government organizations and with private industry that have provided us new perspectives on services and new opportunities for partnerships. In fact, the effect has been quite modest, as the freenet has been seen as a "special project" and has been marginalized to some extent. Very little in the way of library resources have been made available, and the results are what I see as a missed opportunity to a great extent. On the other hand, just having to deal with a bunch of new issues has been very beneficial. I am thinking of things like the information demands of a broader and more demanding segment of the public than those who walk through our doors; access to "controversial" material such as the "alt." usenet newsgroups; and general content issues in the electronic age.

Bulletin: What effect has the public library had on the freenet?

LJ: The public library helped to shape what our community network looks like. The public library volunteers saw it as a chance to support the ideals of intellectual freedom and access to information which are dear to our hearts. Two of us from the Halifax City Regional Library have been with the community net since its first days and had the CLA statement on intellectual freedom incorporated into the business plan and goals for the then Freenet.

Our expertise with community groups has helped in shaping the focus and coming on of new information providers.

GM: Since the InfoNET association is a volunteer group, the library is the one permanent place for people to contact for access and help with questions. It serves as a friendly, hospitable environment in which people can use the equipment to explore the InfoNET on their own. The public library has also provided space for regular public meetings for the St. John's InfoNET Association and for the introductory classes that are required for all new InfoNET users.

Providing the launch site and staff support has given the InfoNET a great boost. The Public Library Board support includes covering the cost of four phone lines, the use of two high speed (14.4) modems and free public InfoNET access in the province's largest public library. As the InfoNET network

grows, the library system hopes to maintain the strong connection by providing more branch libraries as public access sites.

FV: The public libraries have been quite beneficial for the freenet in terms of lending them support and credibility. The credibility issue was, I think, crucial in the beginning. They also all provided technical and/or organizational expertise to a greater or lesser extent.

Now all the libraries are providing some level of public access, so that people without a computer or modem can get onto the freenet.

Bulletin: Would you recommend that public libraries and freenets work together?

LJ: Yes!!! it is critical that the library be part of this work.

GM: Emphatically YES! The public library exists to serve a public good. The library is a place to provide citizens with the books and information to learn, to grow, to expand their thinking, to study and evaluate history and new ideas, judging their relevance to each individual and to society in general. Freenets have many shared and similar goals. Both the library and freenets seek to provide information in an egalitarian environment and both can serve the information needs of a community. For example, the library can provide books on native species and bird watching while the InfoNET helps keep bird watchers up-to-date on what rare bird species are in the vicinity. Information is not only a commodity, it is a part of who we are and what is important to us.

FV: Yes, I would. I think a freenet offers opportunities for a public library that are very difficult for us to grasp on our own. I am very happy to be able to offer our patrons access to the freenet to maintain their Internet e-mail accounts and provide a basic level of user support so we can concentrate instead on information services (both electronic and traditional).

I think there is a real opportunity for public libraries to take a leadership role in the provision of free or low cost access to electronic information by offering their management and organizational skills to freenet organizing committees.

I say this in spite of the fact that our relationship with the freenet has not gone as I would wish. I think it is more than just beneficial for librarians to get involved, I think it is essential if the process (and the resulting organization) is not to be dominated by the "techies." □



From St. Jerome's Den

Thanks to everyone who sent in items for this column - keep them coming.

— St. Jerome

More films featuring librarians or libraries:

It and Shawshank Redemption - both are from stories by Stephen King.

See Coming Events. St. Jerome isn't the only one interested in films.

If you are interested in library quotes visit IFLANET at

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/admin/humour/subj.htm>

Seen on IFLANET:

Censorship, like charity, should begin at home; but, unlike charity, it should end there.

— Clare Booth Luce

You see, I don't believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that's been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians.

— Monty Python skit

True incidents from an Atlantic provinces librarian who should, and will, remain anonymous:

"A student asked me to check his footnote page which included four citations to that famous American work *A Stretcher Named Desire*. Another student was searching for info on the Persian Golf crisis - even Arnold Palmer doesn't design sand traps that big!"

And here is something to keep in mind:

Librarians are the secret masters of the universe. They control information. Don't ever piss one off.

— Spider Robinson,
The Callahan Touch □

Public Libraries and Literacy, Toward a Front Line Strategy

An audience of approximately thirty very interested people from across the country - Newfoundland to the Yukon - was led through a day of discovery by Don Caplan of Edmonton and Thomas Quigley of Vancouver. We discovered how much we were doing in the literacy field nationally, how little we knew about what others were doing, and who was doing what. It was a pleasure to be a representative of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, along with Andrea John, Coordinator User Services, N.S. Provincial Library, at this CLA preconference session.

The group looked at innovations and successes across the nation, common themes, and the broader vision for the program. Cooperation at all levels was stressed again and again with a perceived need for a public library "face" in the area of literacy. As well, there is a need for a national strategy based on a common understanding. There should be stronger communications between all stakeholders emphasizing the need for communications to be a two-way street. By sharing, we would use models that have proven to be effective.

Technology was also looked at with the eye to not letting it be something else to marginalize people. Raising community awareness is essential, and could create a greater understanding by the trustees, leading toward setting literacy as a priority in our libraries. It was determined that we must show that literacy is an integral part of libraries and their services.

A major vision was discussed which would find a way to disseminate information from national levels to the grass roots, to form a concrete link between libraries and literacy, and to make every Canadian a reader! In order to do this, many perceptions must change including the use of statistics from quantitative to qualitative, and there must be a breakdown of structural and political barriers.

Through staff training, community contracts, resource sharing and a "G-6" (CLA and the 5 national literacy groups), libraries can be the link to break the barriers between the 38% of the people who face a literacy problem and their use of library services.

In order to continue the work begun at the Summit, a group of five regional representatives was selected to work with Thomas Quigley to find answers to the questions raised during the day. Members of this group are: Joy Wickett, Yukon Public Libraries; Sylvain Lavoie, Bibliothèque Père Louis-Lamontagne (NB); Gail Douglas-Brehm, Regina Public Library (Sask.); Brenda Livingston, Ontario Library Association; Edel Toner-Rogala, Prince George Public Library (BC). A report on the Summit is due in September for feedback. □

— Judy Heron

Trustee, New Brunswick Library Trustees Association



General Activities Fund

- Provides funds for projects or activities which will further the aims and objectives of APLA.
- Applications will be considered based on availability of funds.
- Applications should state topic and date of activity, relevancy to the Atlantic library community and APLA, sponsoring bodies, estimated costs and revenues, and a contact person.
- Send applications by September 15, 1995.

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Atlantic Provinces Book Review Society ANNUAL REPORT

The past year has been a busy one for the Board members, with the unsure state of Canada Council funding for Atlantic Books Today and cost increases in overhead. The following issues have been addressed:

- APLA List questionnaire regarding ABT bulk distribution to libraries: out of twelve respondents, 67% felt that its free availability in libraries was important to library users and should not be cut. Those who expressed confusion about where ABT is now distributed may consult the list on the first page of each issue. It is also distributed as an insert in Atlantic copies of the *Globe & Mail*.
- A focus group of readers to review the publication is in the planning stages.
- The Board met in March to discuss future directions and will continue at the annual general meeting in July.

The present APLA representatives, Linda Hodgins and Holly Melanson will be leaving the APBR Board after the July meeting, to be replaced by two new APLA representatives yet to be named. □

*Respectfully submitted,
— Holly Melanson*

1994/1995 Report of the Financial Examiner TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:

I have examined for completeness and accuracy the financial records of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association as at 31 March, 1995, including the statements of operations, functional expenses, changes in fund balances and changes in financial position for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures present fairly the financial position of the organization as at 31 March, 1995, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the notes to the Statement applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

I have also examined the financial records of the APLA Memorial Awards Trust Fund and, in my opinion, the Revenues and Expenditures and Balance statements present fairly the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December, 1994.

In choosing to adopt the accrual basis of accounting for reporting the condition and movement of the Association's finances, there is now an opportunity to observe significant adjustments in the effect of such variables as memberships, the concomitant fee structure, interest rates and market trends for the purposes of planning. □

*Halifax, Nova Scotia, 17 May, 1995
— Peter Glenister*

1994/1995 Treasurer's Report

This year the library association embarked upon a number of cost-saving and revenue generating measures. The goal was to produce a balanced budget in two years and to try and figure out a way to add to the capital so that we could fund special projects and give better awards and grants. We held only one executive meeting, used generic envelopes, changed the publication format of the directory, and raised fees. As well, the *APLA Bulletin* generated more revenues than originally expected, and the organizers of APLA '94 raised \$8,835! Well done!

Of special note, the Association purchased a new computer to be used to maintain the membership database, and sent out Information Rights Week information packages to our members. □

— Caren Mofford

National Library of Canada Launches Electronic Demonstration Project on Canadian Confederation

On April 5, National Librarian Marianne Scott announced at a press conference in Sutherland's River, Nova Scotia, that the National Library of Canada is playing an active role in the creation of an "electronic library" by initiating efforts to digitize Canadian material and make it available on the Information Highway.

The announcement marked the launch of a demonstration project involving both the National Library of Canada and the Library of Congress. Two schools, East Pictou Rural High School in Sutherland's River, Nova Scotia and Hammond Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia, participated in a week-long demonstration of the project by accessing information on Canada's Confederation and the U.S. Civil War through Internet links to both libraries.

The project is based on the idea of using the Internet to provide wider and more immediate accessibility of information. As Marianne Scott explained, "This project allows us to share the resources of the National Library with a greater audience and to promote the study and appreciation of Canada's published heritage." The National Library's long-term objective is to provide electronic access to a much greater volume of Canadian material, both in Canada and around the world.

The Stentor Alliance, represented by Mr. Colin Latham, President and CEO, Maritime Telephone & Telegraph (MT&T), made a commitment of \$450,000 to the Friends of the National Library. Accepting on their behalf, the National Librarian said: "We are grateful to the members of the Stentor Alliance for their contribution. We hope that this is the first of many corporate contributions that will support the National Library's efforts to promote and increase Canadian content on the Information Highway."

Editor's note: This article was excerpted from *National Library News*, June 1995, vol. 27, no. 6, p. 23. Canadian Confederation will be available (English and French) on the National Library's Web service (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca>) in October. For more information on the project contact Mary Jane Starr, Director General, Research and Information Services, National Library of Canada; Internet mary-jane.starr@nlc-bnc.ca; Telephone 613-996-0680; Fax 613-947-2706; TTY 613-992-6969. For information on the Library of Congress' digital/electronic library, including the Civil War collection, see the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin*, June 12, 1995, vol. 54, no. 12. □

CYBERSPACE

Future versions of this column will highlight some of the useful new resources on the Internet for librarians. If you have any suggestions for such sites, please drop me a note.

NEWS

The new Windows/Macintosh interface to the **UnCover** database, **PUN**, is now ready for shipping for a \$49.95 single-user price. I saw the system at CLA this summer, and think it will be a very useful tool for librarians and end-users (particularly the latter) in managing their UnCover accounts. However I think the company would have been smarter to give PUN away, and maybe generate more requests for their document delivery service. Time will tell! For more information contact the UnCover offices, by e-mail (uncover@carl.org), by fax (303-758-5946), or by phone (1-800-787-7979 or 303-758-3030).

The most comprehensive source of links to news sources on the Internet is available from the **NewsLink** site at:

<http://www.newslink.org/>

There are over 1,700 links here, including newspapers, magazines, and other sources of journalism information. One of their most useful features is the list of Top-10 sites.

OCLC's InterCat Project now has a WWW searchable/browsable interface to the Internet resources catalogued to date. As one would expect the resources themselves are available with the click of a mouse (or press of the enter key in Lynx!). The full MARC record can also be viewed. For those libraries looking at including Internet resources in their integrated system, this is a good place to learn how. InterCat can be reached at:

<http://www.oclc.org:6990/>

The **National Library of Canada** recently announced its World Wide Web site. The Uniform Resource Locator (URL) of this new Web service is:

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/>

The **Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies** has a new WWW site available at:

<http://quasar.sba.dal.ca:2000/slis/slis.html>

The site contains a wealth of information for prospective students, plus summaries of the Friday lectures for the 1995 Winter Term (this will be updated as lectures occur this Fall).

The **N.S. Department of Education and Culture** has released the document "Expanding Horizons: New Roles and Re-

sponsibilities to Support Student Services". It has also been mounted on the Department of Education and Culture's home page on the WWW:

<http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca/deptofed/horizons.html>

Regional Libraries will receive printed copies of this document.

The **Canadian Internet Awards** were recently handed out with several salutes to Nova Scotia! David Trueman, co-chair of the Chebucto Community Net, was named Internet Person of the Year. The Chebucto Community Net was also named winner of the Best Community Site award while other local winners were Dalhousie University, who won for Best Academic or Education Site, and the Dalhousie Computing Centre who won the award for Best Development Team or Collaboration for their work on the Chebucto Site. You can see a full list of the winners on the WWW at:

<http://info.ic.gc.ca/~will/net95/cia/net95win.html>

The electronic launch of the "**H.R. Banks Collection of Novascotiana: A Catalogue**" was held at Western Counties Regional Library (NS) headquarters in Yarmouth on July 16. Over 130 people attended the launch. Researchers now have Internet access to the listing of the Banks Collection. The 3000 fully catalogued books are on NcompasS, the Provincial Library database, and approximately 500 uncatalogued serials, pamphlets and other materials are on the WWW. The Banks website address is:

<http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca/~smacmull/banks/homepage.htm>

FREENET is a new listserv for the discussion of the creation, organization and management of public access nonprofit networks (aka Freenets). To subscribe to the list send e-mail to:

listserv@cespivm2.unlp.edu.ar

with the text:

subscribe FREENET your_first_name
your_last_name

in the body of the message (e.g. subscribe FREENET Mark Leggott).

The **Community Access Project** has been initiated to assist rural communities with affordable public access to the Internet, as well as the skills to use it effectively. The aim of the project is to establish up to 300 centres across Canada each year for three years. Funding up to a maximum of \$30,000 per site, not exceeding 50% of the total cost, will be available to successful ap-

plicants for a period of up to 18 months (the average cost that is expected, given competition and innovation at the local level, is \$5,000). The balance of the cost can be provided by any other non-federal public or private source. The recipient's share of the costs can also include "in-kind" contributions such as telecommunications services donated by carriers or equipment donated by the private sector.

Eligibility: Rural communities of 50,000 people or less, having an above average unemployment rate (persistently above the national average), and suffering from a major disadvantage in acquiring access to the Internet at affordable rates (this may be due to long distance from an Internet node, economic or other constraints).

In Nova Scotia, a provincial committee is being established to direct the project. Patricia Williams of Newfoundland will oversee the operation in Atlantic Canada while the regional liaison from Ottawa will be Winnie Pietrykowski. If you would like to receive information about levels of funding, criteria and eligibility, please contact Andrea John at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library by e-mail at ajohn@nshpl.library.ns.ca; by phone at (902) 424-2481; or by fax at (902) 424-0633. Also available are two reports: "Community Access Future Development Guide" and "Developing a Community Access Application" which can be obtained through Andrea. The deadline for the first round of project proposals to Industry Canada is October 31, 1995. For further information please contact Industry Canada by e-mail at comaccess@istc.ca or by calling 1-800-268-6608.

ATLANTIC INTERNET SERVERS/ACCESS

The complete list of Atlantic Internet Servers/Access is now maintained on the APLA WWW server at:

<http://libwww.stfx.ca/APLA/welcome.html>

If anybody has servers or ILL addresses to add to this list, please let me know, and I will add them for the next column. Any Atlantic Internet server (gopher, World-WideWeb, LISTSERV, etc.) with content of interest to libraries would be a valid entry. ☐

— Mark Leggott

St. Francis Xavier University
MIME mleggott@juliet.stfx.ca
<http://libwww.stfx.ca/mleggott.html>
NeXT mleggott@sandnc.stfx.ca

Regional Authors Honoured, and Promoted, by Atlantic Province Booksellers Association

Since its conception in 1973, the Atlantic Provinces Booksellers Association (APBA) has grown to represent approximately sixty college and trade bookstores from across Atlantic Canada. As an association, our objectives are:

- To act as a representative organization of booksellers in the four Atlantic Provinces.
- To address the business concerns of our members.
- To voice regional trade concerns to our national association - the Canadian Booksellers Association (CBA).
- To foster an atmosphere of learning and co-operation among member booksellers.

- To engage in such activities and services as are complementary to and will promote the above objectives and are in the best interest of the Association.

For the past several years, the APBA has held two trade fairs every year. One is held in February in Halifax and is organized by a committee of publisher's representatives. The other is held in July. The July fair is held in Halifax on a biannual basis and is hosted by other members in the alternate years. The 1995 APBA summer trade fair was held in Newfoundland for the first time. Pat Hayward of H.H. Marshall (St. John's) organized the event this year. It was held at the Battery Hotel, overlooking the beautiful St. John's harbour. The consensus is that it was a GREAT SUCCESS! The people of St. John's have a wonderful sense of humour and tell marvellous stories. Eve-

ryone there seems to know their local history and delight in educating their guests.

Registration began on Saturday, July 27. All registrants received a package which included information on the fair, as well as on local attractions, plus a lovely pictorial book on St. John's. The opening event was the annual Author's Luncheon. All present were seen tapping their feet to the fiddlin' sounds of Kelly Russell, local performer and historian who later spoke to the group about his work of transcribing local folk songs. Noted educator Frank Galgay and Anita McGee, President of the Newfoundland Writer's Alliance, also spoke at the event.

The seventh annual APBA Booksellers Choice Award was presented during the luncheon. The nominations for 1995 were **Murder at McDonalds** by Phonse Jessome (Nimbus Publishing); **Republic of Nothing** by Lesley Choyce (Goose Lane Editions); and **Waiting for Time**, by Bernice Morgan (Breakwater Books), with the award going to Phonse Jessome. Members were brought up-to-date on regional and national activities at the annual general meeting. The Saturday evening reception gave booksellers and publishers a unique opportunity to view local works and speak one-on-one with the suppliers.

The serious business of buying from the fall lists began on Sunday morning and continued through 8-10 hour days until the following Wednesday. Of course, our hard work was broken up on occasion! Publisher-sponsored receptions, an evening of "surf and turf," more local musical entertainment, and a whale watching tour assured that all had a grand time. □

— Sharon Fillmore
President, Atlantic Provinces
Booksellers Association

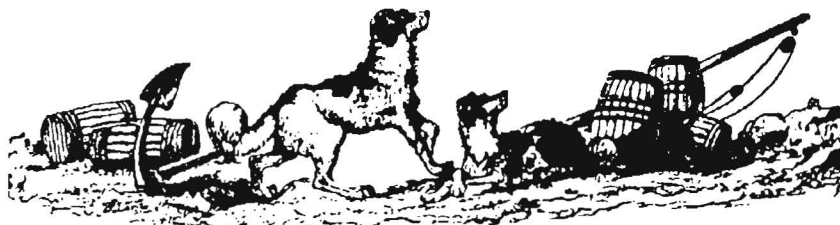
THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM PROJECT

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or Email : cameron@morgan.ucs.mun.ca
ahart@morgan.ucs.mun.ca



APLA 95: CONFERENCE REPORTS

Libraries on the Information Highway: Throughway or Traffic Circle

Nick Barfoot, Saint John trustee extraordinaire, moderated the Trustee Interest Group's presentation. "Public library trustees have had to come face-to-face with the impact of new telecommunications upon both library staff and budgets. We as trustees, and you as librarians, need to get the broadest possible understanding of how to use the new technology to help the library carry out its role in the community," said Mr. Barfoot in setting the tone for the two-part session.

Mr. Barfoot then went on to introduce guest speaker Dr. Teresa MacNeil, Director of Special Projects, St. Francis Xavier University and author and researcher in the field of community development.

Dr. MacNeil spoke of the learning society and its ability to sustain and promote lifelong learning and how she sees "community" as the place in which the learning society operates. "The library is a community learning centre and a community in itself," Dr. MacNeil said. She suggested a network of libraries working together to plan, share and distribute resources to the best advantage of the broader learning society where any library can serve as access to the individual specialized information on the network.

In Dr. MacNeil's words: "The Information Highway is simply the coming together of electronics and communications. It's about transmitting, storing and networking of knowledge/information in new ways. It's an information medium. The immediate challenge is a common purpose - connecting users with the information needed regardless of format or ownership."

Dr. MacNeil concluded that libraries should provide the widest possible sharing of resources to meet the widest possible service to assist both individual and community development - a place that promotes the common good.

Part II of the trustees' presentation consisted of a three-member panel discussing the current and upcoming status of technology in our libraries today, in light of Dr. MacNeil's comments. The panel consisted of Penny Marshall, University College Librarian of the University College of Cape Breton, a free-net advocate and incoming CLA President; Andrew Poplawski, Coordinator of Library Services, Halifax County Regional Library, who has been heavily involved in setting up CD-ROM stations and automating and merging the county library with Dartmouth and Halifax city public libraries; and Susan McLean, Coordinator of Adult Lending Services, Halifax City Regional Library and past president of APLA.

The panel discussed the growing use of the technology used in library services today. Penny Marshall discussed the expanding freenet and how it allows and encourages users to take advantage of information, common education and life-long learning. Andrew Poplawski spoke on the effectiveness of using CD-ROMs and noted that, "we are selling the expertise, experience and education of existing staff to track down information in a different format." Susan McLean spoke on the opportunities presented by technology saying, "it's not technology versus tradition. It's a matter of integrating the two. It's a new opportunity to serve as never before."

The panel then discussed the traditional roles and values of the public libraries which Dr. MacNeil had introduced - life-long learning, cooperation, emphasis on community, social responsibility, the library as a connecting/learning place and the importance of personal service.

"The challenge will be to integrate these values into the changes we must manage in the future," said Susan McLean. "New technology offers us an opportunity to use it as a tool to strengthen our services."

It was the consensus of both the panel and the audience that libraries historically have done what everyone is expected to do today - share information, cooperate, and effectively and efficiently manage resources. "Careful collective thought, teamwork, and a willingness to let go and move forward are necessary. We must stand back and remember what it is that our users want and how will be the best way to utilize the resources available to us to meet those needs," said Ms. McLean. □

— Martha Edwards
Trustee, Saint John Free Public Library Board

Links With the Community: Providing Adult Education and Community Information on Public Access Terminals

Joan Brown Hicks, Coordinator of Community Services, Halifax City Regional Library (HCRL) and Bruce MacMillan of the Community Services Office (HCRL), outlined how HCRL's long time role as a provider of adult education and community information has been enhanced through the acquisition of computer technology.

The work the library is doing in this regard is not new. A long history of cooperation has existed with Dartmouth Regional Library. Together they produce an annual directory of Halifax/Dartmouth clubs and organizations. The libraries share the work of searching out groups and keeping the information up-to-date, a task made more challenging by the growth of self-help groups. With municipal amalgamation, it is hoped that this very popular publication can be expanded to include Halifax County information. The library has also worked for many years with the Metro Council on Continuing Education to annually produce two brochures on adult education courses. The library provided a subject index to the brochure and the educational institutions bought ads. There has also been a great proliferation of these types of courses.

Four years ago, the library received funding from Human Resources Development Canada to develop a database of this information, as part of HRD's mandate to provide funding for educational opportunities for the unemployed. The City of Halifax's management information department developed the first database program but it soon became too slow. HRD provided further funding and the library has now acquired the STAR software package to manage both the community information and adult education databases. HRD's level of funding has decreased over the last four years so that the database maintenance costs are now part of the library's budget.

(Continued on next page)

Links With the Community...cont'd

STAR software allows the information to be loaded on to the library's online public access terminals and the public can then search for this information at the same time as they search for books or other materials. The courses and clubs are indexed by subject and name of organization. Some information is cross-listed under both adult education and community information. The library felt it was important to use the same search mechanism as the library catalog so that this information would not be seen as "separate" but rather as an integral part of the library's role in serving adult learners.

The adult education information is updated weekly and, because many courses begin in the fall, the Metro Council gives funds to hire a student for data entry in August/September. Many agencies now submit their information on disc. Updating has been made easier because of this and a program developed by Bruce. The program converts the information to STAR.

The library also played a major role in the development of the Chebucto Community Network (CCN) with Joan, and other staff members, being on the CCN Board of Directors. The library's catalog is not yet available on CCN, but it does have a home page with information on programs and services. The library was the first public access site for the CCN and believes in the importance of local groups becoming information providers so that CCN is truly a reflection of the community.

The message that one took away from this very interesting and lively session was that libraries can, and should, control information technology to enhance access to educational, recreational and cultural opportunities, both in terms of library materials, services and programs. Libraries have been serving adult learners in many ways for many years; technology is not an end in itself, but rather is the means by which these services can be improved and made accessible to an even wider audience. □

— Heather MacKenzie
Halifax City Regional Library

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Coming Events

Killam Memorial Library Mini Film Fest during the 1996 winter term. The tentative line-up of films includes *The Name of the Rose*, *Desk Set*, and *Storm Center* - all of which are set in libraries. To confirm dates and times of events, call (902) 494-3601.

CLCP Public Reading Series. Public readings at the **Killam Memorial Library** feature novelists, poets, playwrights and story tellers with Maritime connections are featured regularly during the academic year. This fall, Halifax writer/performer Walter Borden will launch the new season with a reading on September 21. "An Evening with Thomas Raddall," a tribute to the late Nova Scotia novelist and story teller, will take place on October 26. Deborah Joy Corey, author of *Losing Eddie*, will read on November 23. Readings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Special Collections Reading Room, fifth floor, Killam Library. For more information, call (902) 494-3615.

Learning Resources Council of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association annual meeting, October 19-21, 1995, in Grand Falls-Windsor, NF.

Nova Scotia School Libraries Association Annual Conference, October 26-28, 1995, Cole Harbour, Auburn High School. The theme will be technology and its application in the school. Contact Jane Thornley at jthornle@fox.nstn.ca

ACCESS '95 - World Wide Web Conference on Gateways and Publishing, October 23-25, 1995, Fredericton, University of New Brunswick. For information see the conference home page at <http://www.hil.unb.ca/library/conference/> or contact Alan Burk at 506-453-4740 voice, 506-453-4595 fax, Burk@unb.ca

Fall Internet World 95 Exhibition/Conference, October 30 - November 2, 1995, Boston, World Trade Center. Five conference tracks bring you sessions on the business; technical/security; legal; utilization; political issues as well as an array of tutorials on the World-Wide Web. For Seminar Program, contact Amy Fillmore at iwconf@mecklermedia.com

Internet World Canada '96, January 9-12, 1996, Toronto, Sheraton Centre. Simultaneous tracks in the Internet, electronic publishing, and multimedia. For more detail, see <http://www.mecklermedia.com>

CLA 51st Annual Conference, June 6-9, 1996, Halifax, N.S. For information, see <http://www.uccb.ns.ca/cla96> □

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