



# Bulletin

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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## SCHOOL LIBRARIES FOR TOMORROW SYMPOSIUM, OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 19-22, 1997

Several individuals from Nova Scotia attended this conference including Marion Pape (Nova Scotia Provincial Library) and Holly Gunn (Nova Scotia School Libraries Association). This symposium will hopefully be a spark for developing significant support for school libraries. The following report was distributed by conference organizers listed below.

The school library is a unique idea in our educational system. It is seen as a critical resource for literacy and curriculum support; a place for collaboration and discovery and an integral part of the instructional program all students need in order to fully take part in Canadian society. Almost every school in the country has a space that is called the "library" or the "resource centre", but their educational role has withered as other priorities push aside the perception that students need school libraries.

A unique meeting was called in Ottawa, November 19-22 to consider how best to sustain these institutions in the face of change wrought by the coming of the computer and its information highway, and new calls to reduce the overall cost of schooling. Sixty five individuals representing a diverse range of interests gathered at the National Library of Canada for "Forging Forward: the National Symposium on Information, Literacy and the School Library in Canada". Created by the two groups who represent school libraries in Canada: the Canadian School Library Association (CSLA) and the Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada (ATLC), and supported by the Quebec based Library Association - ASTED, this meeting marked a significant moment in public education in Canada.

At its simplest level, the school library is a collection of materials of interest and value to students and teachers in that school, coupled to systems that permit and encourage access to that information. The group gathered in Ottawa saw the school library as a vehicle for offering a wide range of materials related to the instructional programs in the school, supporting both instruction in the use of the new information tools, and in the critical use of information skills across the curriculum. This instructional use requires the expertise of a teacher-librarian as a "knowledge navigator" in this information-intense world, who with his or her

special training, is able to relate the objectives of the school and classroom curriculum to the rich variety of learning resources assembled in the school. Ironically, it is the teacher-librarian who is under fire everywhere as priorities shift, as resources (especially human ones) are reduced and as the school moves away from developing truly independent learners.

There is a new myth floating in Education: "The Internet and the Web can replace the old library in the school. The Internet can replace those boring books and stuffy ideas and costly specialists with lively, colorful, interactive action through the ether." Just who will bring that wealth of information into play in the curriculum? Who will teach our young people how to discern propaganda from truth? Who will choose the best quality resources for use by our students and teachers? Who will help students and teachers connect information technologies with the skills associated with information literacy?

For many at the Symposium it seemed ironic that we are having this discussion in the public system when private schools have expanded their view of the teacher-librarian

*(continued on next page)*

### *Inside This Issue...*

From the President's Desk .....	2
APLA Executive 1997-98 .....	4
Publication Information .....	5
Directory of Convenors, 1997-98 .....	5
News from the Provinces .....	7
Surfing for Oil... ..	14
Friday Lecture Series .....	17
Halifax Gets Big Box .....	19
DalSLIS-Grad Mailing List .....	20
St. Jerome's Den .....	21
Coming Events .....	21

## From the President's Desk

I hope the holiday season was happy and joyous for everyone! On behalf of the Executive, best wishes for a successful 1998! The APLA Executive held its fall meeting on the 8th and 9th of November at the Université de Moncton. Our thanks to Charlotte Dionne for making all the meeting arrangements. Membership became a major topic of discussion. Membership has decreased significantly since 1994; and the situation is of serious concern. The health and strength of any association is its membership, and we must act in ways to stabilize and promote membership in APLA. I ask all members to discuss APLA with your colleagues and to encourage those who are not members to join. Even with our busy personal and professional schedules, our Association provides many benefits and deserves a

commitment of our time.

The Provincial Vice Presidents reported a very positive response to the Copyright Workshop that was held in Moncton, Charlottetown, Halifax, and St. John's last November. The discussion on the topic of continuing education led to general agreement that a similar topical session be planned and delivered in each province in the fall of 1998. It was felt that participants appreciated having a high quality continuing education session without having to travel out of province.

Information Rights Week was also discussed. This year Information Rights Week is March 30-April 5, 1998. If your Library or other local group are planning events in support of Information Rights Week, please send details to John Neilson, Editor of the *APLA Bulletin*.

In this issue of the *Bulletin* you will find calls for nominations for positions on the APLA Executive for 1998/99. APLA needs you, and Sara Lochhead will be pleased to hear from volunteers. Serving on the Executive is a rewarding experience. You learn about your association while gaining a very positive personal and professional experience. There are also calls for First Timers Awards, applications to the Memorial Awards, and for Merit Award Nominations.

The highlight of the year is always the annual conference and planning is well underway for the 1998 APLA Conference in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. The preliminary programme looks excellent! So mark your calendar and plan to be in Wolfville May 22-24, 1998.

- John Teskey

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### School Libraries for Tomorrow (Continued from page 1)

and the school library. Research on the effectiveness of the school library was shared by keynote speakers and it was shown that there is a strong correlation between student achievement and the quality of the school library programs in their schools. For parents in attendance at the Symposium this was particularly important since their concerns centred on how their children will be prepared for the future cultural, social and economic conditions.

School libraries have been on the forefront in their recognition of the electronic realities of our new society. Educational leaders have embraced the necessity of providing access to the new technologies and they must now recognize the fact that these technologies enhance and confirm the essential values provided by the school library. There is no longer room in the school for a quiet, bookish place caught in its standard stereotype. The new school library has embraced the new tools of learning as critical components in meeting the needs of citizens in this new world. The school library is an excellent symbol for the concept of self-directed learning, the notion of reading as an essential skill in our society, the recognition that visual and other literacies must be taught and nurtured through experi-

ence, and that "information literacy" may well be the a new curriculum in the "information age".

The Symposium set many objectives and goals for its three day meeting in Ottawa. The agenda carried with it all the accumulated trials and anguish that have touched the specialty over the years. Across Canada, there is wide variation in the quality of service, the scope of collections, the provision of personnel and the training of specialists among provinces and regions. While the participants were unable to resolve all the problems, they did strongly reaffirm the fundamental values that our society still holds for the education system: that every child should have the opportunity to engage the best learning material we produce; that every child should leave the school equipped with skills -the literacies - that will open doors to a continuous learning process; that every child should be able to use the computer to connect with a wealth of information from which he or she can find the information needed, and that every child should realize that the school is only a part of a learning environment that is the world.

(continued on next page)

**School Libraries for Tomorrow...***(continued from previous page)*

The school library is not driven solely by teacher-librarians, administrators, teachers, technocrats, or budget balancers. It belongs to everyone. It is an integral part of the fundamental quality of our schools, and a fundamental right of all children in Canada.

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- Marion Pape  
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES



### Public

It is expected that all twenty-three branches of the **Provincial Library System** will be connected to AbbeyCat by the second week of January. The automation project has been three years in progress and it is with a feeling of satisfaction that the staff anticipates seeing the last of the libraries come online. **Harry Holman**, Director of Archives and Provincial Libraries, reports that approximately one-third of the province's libraries now have Internet access available for their patrons. To enhance the availability of the Internet, the Provincial Library is entering into a partnership with the Community Access Project (CAP). In those communities where the CAP project is located in the library, the Provincial Library will assume the connectivity costs of the project. This frees project organizers from ongoing fundraising and allows them to concentrate on development and training.

### Academic

**Holland College** has established a strategic planning committee to determine the future of resource centres within the College system. To date two clustered resource centres have been created; Royalty Centre under the direction of **Joanne MacDonald** and the Summerside Centre headed by **Jean Lyko**. Previous to the development of these two centres, resources were to be found in numerous small collections scattered throughout the college. The efficiency of the new centres is appreciated by all their staff and patrons. **Nancy MacIntosh** has been appointed

Director of the Resource Centre and Computer Lab for the **Atlantic Police Academy** at Slemmon Park. The Academy is a part of the Holland College System and maintains a resource collection that includes information on policing, criminology and family violence.

### School

Technology is advancing rapidly in school libraries as well. Internet accessibility has recently been extended to all school libraries in the province.

### Associations

The **Prince Edward Island Professional Librarians' Association** held their annual meeting on November 25. A new executive was installed for 1997-1999, consisting of President **Johanne Jacob**; Vice-President and President Elect **Sharon Neill**; Secretary/Treasurer **Andrea Stewart** and Past-President **Brenda Brady**. On December 5 the **Prince Edward Island Teacher-Librarians' Association** held their semi-annual meeting. At the meeting teacher-librarians were brought up to date on the plans for the joint conference with the Association for Teacher Librarianship in Canada to be held in Charlottetown May 14-17, 1998. An international slate of speakers will be presenting at the conference. The keynote address will be given by **Ken Haycock**, Director of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of British Columbia. Plenary speakers will include **Pat Taylor**, President of ATLC and Coordinator of the Learning Resources Branch of the Saskatoon Public School Division, and **Mark Leggott**, Director of Media Forge at St. Francis Xavier University. **Dr. Sigrun Klara Hannesdottir** will be speaking on "Sustaining a Small Island Culture Through Children's Literature." Dr. Hannesdottir is a professor at the University of Ice-

land in Reykjavik and President of the International Association of School Librarianship. Keeping with the theme of children's literature and small islands, two other sessions look at the work of Lucy Maud Montgomery. **Dr. Irene Gammel** of the University of Prince Edward Island is speaking on "Lucy Maud Montgomery and Canadian Culture" while **Reg "Dutch" Thompson**, local broadcaster and writer, discusses the process of translating Montgomery's "Emily of New Moon" from text to film. Still with the Island theme is a look at the Islands Project. The session will demonstrate how children in three island jurisdictions, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Iceland, through resource-based learning, studied and shared their island communities while learning to publish on the Internet. Rounding out the children's literature sessions is a Sunday brunch session being given by **Werner Zimmerman**. Mr. Zimmerman is the illustrator of eleven children's books including the "Farmer Joe" books. The technology side of the conference includes a session by **Fred Brigham** entitled "Challenges for Teacher-Librarians in the Age of Communication" and in which he considers the new technologies which offer unique responsibilities, assets and challenges for teacher-librarians. Mr. Brigham is currently an educational technology consultant. His latest project is a cross-curriculum project involving the Performing Arts and the Web. **Johanne Jacob**, President of the PEI Professional Librarians' Association, will reflect of successes and the difficulties of running school housed public libraries. To learn more about the conference and to request information on these and other sessions you may go to the conference website at <<http://www.upei.ca/~tlconfer/>>.

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## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...

### Other

In the spring of 1997, the **PEI Provincial Library Council** engaged Advanced Strategic Management (ASM) Consultants to investigate the feasibility of an Integrated Knowledge Network (IKN) for the province of Prince Edward Island. The final report was presented to the Council on November 21. The report makes a series of recommendations dealing with the vision, structure, governance, administration, technology and content of the IKN and a business strategy for the successful establishment and operation of the IKN. **Harry Holman**, Chair of the Provincial Council, says that the Council will be looking seriously at the recommendations and will definitely be moving forward with some of them.

- *Norine Hanus*  
Vice President (PEI)



### Public

There has been a temporary management change at the **Provincial Information and Library Resources Board**. Executive Director, **David Gale**, has been seconded to the position of Executive Director of Employee Relations in Treasury Board from October 27, 1997 to August 31, 1998. In the interim, **Judy Anderson** is the Acting Executive Director, **John White**, the Acting Deputy Director and **Derek Bussey**, the Acting Regional Manager in Eastern Division.

Newfoundland's Provincial Information and Library Resource Board is developing an Internet website entitled "1880's Newfoundland: a Pictorial". The website will make available photos depicting life in nineteenth century Newfoundland in St. John's and the Avalon Peninsula, the North East Coast, the Burin Peninsula and coastal Labrador communities. It displays social, economic and religious aspects of a time which has influenced the province to this day. The basis of the website is an album of photos taken by Simeon H. Parsons, one of Newfoundland's earliest professional, award-winning and self-taught photographers. This album was a gift of the Newfoundland Conference of Methodist Church to Joseph Laurence of East Keswick, Yorkshire, England probably in 1885 or 1886. It was kept at the Joseph Laurence Memorial Chapel in East Keswick until 1963-64 at which time it was sent to

Newfoundland Premier Joseph R. Smallwood. The original album is now held by Memorial University of Newfoundland's Centre for Newfoundland Studies. It acquired the original album from Joseph R. Smallwood's estate in 1992 when over 150 boxes of books and papers were presented to the Centre.

The Provincial Information and Library Resources Board received funding from Industry Canada to support the development of a Schoolnet Digital Collection project in September 1997. This project resulted in the digitization of the album's photos and was developed into a public accessible website. The official launch will be after final approval from Industry Canada. Visit the Schoolnet Digital Collections website at <<http://www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>>.

The **St. John's Public Libraries** held a book sale November 15. The

*(continued on next page)*

## Call for Nominations

The executive offices requiring nominations for 1998/99 are:

- Vice-President, President Elect
- Vice President (Newfoundland)
- Vice President (Prince Edward Island)
- Vice President (Nova Scotia)
- Vice-President (Membership)

### Guidelines:

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

Please send nominations, postmarked no later than **March 31, 1998** to:

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## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...

sale included a smaller number of books than in recent years, but still raised \$1,565. Science in the Library returned to the **A.C. Hunter Children's Library** this fall, starting with a special session October 22 as part of National Science and Technology Week. This was followed by a series of four sessions in November and December. These hands-on sessions were sponsored by the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland.

Once again St. John's Public Libraries sponsored storytimes for preschoolers at the Newfoundland and Labrador Craft Development Association's Christmas Craft Fair, aided by five volunteers. Two well-attended sessions each on the Saturday and Sunday were enjoyed by young children and their parents.

St. John's Public Libraries provided the Village Mall with booklists to distribute to children participating in the mall's Village Bookworm Club kick-off in October. Special events will be held in January and March, at which children will submit reading logs and be eligible for prizes. The Public Library will continue to provide reading lists which will also advertise library locations and hours.

All persons with the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board have a new e-mail domain. Usernames remain the same; the new domain is <@publib.nf.ca>.

### Academic

**Anne Hart**, Head, **Centre for Newfoundland Studies, Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland**, is retiring at the end of 1997. Anne is the author of "Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot: the Life and Time of Hercule Poirot". With her retirement from the Library, she is planning to devote more time to writing. As of January 1, 1998, **Joan Ritcey**, Centre for Newfoundland Studies, will be Acting Head of the Centre. Joan's regular position will be filled by

**Colleen Field** who has worked on contract in the Centre. The library hopes to appoint a regular Head of the Centre in six months.

**Janet Goosney**, who is pursuing her Masters of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario, will be doing a co-op placement with the Centre for Newfoundland Studies. Janet's placement starts in January. She was one of the two **Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award** winners announced previously in *APLA Bulletin*.

Memorial University of Newfoundland's **Centre for Newfoundland Studies Archives Library** received a \$4,000 grant from the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board. The grant will assist the Archives to purchase a handwritten manuscript on the 1795 "Wreck of the Transport Phillis on the coast of Newfoundland" from an American rare book and manuscript dealer. The manuscript was written by one of the survivors of the wreck, Lieutenant Howard Douglas.

Within the **College of the North Atlantic**, **Bob Giles** has filled the position of Librarian at the Stephenville Campus, recently vacated by **Jim Carter**. **Michelle Walters** is temporarily in the position of Librarian at the Gander Campus while the incumbent, **Cathy Brown**, is leaving to attend the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design this year.

### Other

The **Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives** has produced a calendar for 1998 containing 12 photographs from the collections of 12 of its member archives. The black and white reproductions, on glossy paper, represent scenes ranging from the 1880's to the 1930's and include St. John's, Grand Falls, Greenspond, St. Jacques, Burin, and Okak, Labrador. Copies are available for \$10 each from ANLA, Colonial Building, St. John's, NF A1C 2C9 or

e-mailing **Bert Riggs** <briggs@morgan.ucs.mun.ca>.

Newfoundland author, **Janet McNaughton** has won 3 national awards for her second children's book "To Dance at the Palais Royale". The awards are: the Ann Connor Brimer Award, the Geoffrey Bilson Historical Fiction Award and the Violet Downey IODE Award.

- *Beverley Neable*  
Vice President (NF)



### Public

The **Council of Regional Librarians (CORL)** met on November 6 and 7 at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library with all regional library directors, the Provincial Librarian, and the Provincial Library Coordinators in attendance. Topics for discussion included CanCopy, the development of a Nova Scotia Regional Libraries Internet Handbook, and planning for implementation of the Regional Libraries' Strategic Plan. A public relations awareness workshop was presented by **Joan Waldron**. Since one of the key goals of the strategic plan is to increase the awareness of library services and resources within local communities, some of the ideas presented by Joan will assist in this process. The "Standards for Nova Scotia Regional Public Libraries" draft report was also reviewed by the group with a further meeting of the Core Standards Working Group planned. Notice was given that the **APLA (Atlantic Provinces Library Association)** annual

(continued on next page)

## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...

conference will be May 21-24 at **Acadia University** in Wolfville. **Judith Hare** and **Andrew Poplawski**, both of the Halifax Regional Library, are involved in conference preparation. The next CORL meeting is planned for May 4 - 5, 1998.

The second meeting of the **NcompasS Automation Management Committee** was held on November 6 at the Provincial Library. Participants included chief librarians of all regional libraries including **Judith Hare** from Halifax Regional Library who is an Associate member, **Valerie Brisco** from Natural Resources Library and **Nancy MacDonald** for the Learning Resources and Technology Media Library and **Jean-Louis Robichaud**, Director of Centre provinciale de ressources pedagogiques (CPRP) at Pointe d'Eglise.

Discussion centred around the impact of automation on staff in the regional libraries undergoing rapid implementation and the changes in work flows caused by automation. Further training of regional library staff is becoming a high priority. The impact of acquisitions on the centralised cataloguing multi-bank environment of NcompasS has resulted in a re-evaluation and adjustment of many tasks.

The quarterly meeting of the **Automation Working Group** consisting of technical and systems persons in the NcompasS libraries took place November 21 at the Provincial Library. A presentation was made by **Andy Cornwall** and **Jim MacLean**, both of the Information Technology Systems (ITS) Division of the Department of Education and Culture which centred around recent and forthcoming upgrades to EDnet, the Department's province-wide WAN. The upgrade to a 10 Mbps connection between the Provincial Library and the WAN will result in a transfer speed which will be approximately 20 times faster than the current speed of 512 Kbps. Meanwhile, ITS and MT&T staff will be testing lines and the Provincial Library LAN to

identify sources of any slow response times. All telnet traffic from the libraries will be given priority queuing.

**Charlotte Janes** of AVRIL reported on the recent implementation of the circulation module in the regional library as the first NcompasS region to have circulation operating in all stationary branches. Issues raised included the procedures required to handle the circulation of special items such as Talking Books and items acquired through ILL. One of the most beneficial aspects of the enhanced collection management facilities of NcompasS allows patrons independence over the branch to which they return their borrowed library items.

The development of NcompasS over the next two to three years will include a gradual migration over to DRA's new software, TAOS. New hardware is being purchased, and the newly designed Ednet configuration is largely in place. DRAWeb2, the TAOS OPAC, has been released and is expected to arrive in the next few weeks. It will be installed on a Windows NT server on a new IBM RS6000/F50 server in December or January, bringing a very new look to NcompasS.

Among changes to the Provincial Library's Web site <<http://www.library.ns.ca>>, is a new **ILL/Location Request Form**. Now users of ILL and Location services can submit their requests right from NSPL's Web site. This form is ideal for Nova Scotia libraries who submit requests periodically and for libraries outside of Nova Scotia who wish to submit ILL requests to NSPL. The advantage of using the form instead of sending requests in a regular e-mail message is that the form will prompt users to submit all the necessary information thereby eliminating any ambiguity in the request. The request form can be found on our ILL Services page <<http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/illser.html>>.

**Stacey Cote** has recently begun working in the Technical Services section of the Provincial Library on behalf of the **Colchester-East Hants Regional Library**. Stacey was hired through the Nova Scotia Links program and joins other Provincial Library and CEIIRL staff involved in the reconversion of the regional library's manual records, a necessary prerequisite to automation.

As of January 2, **Sue Dirani** will be taking a four-month leave of absence from the Provincial Library. Sue works in the User Services section doing primarily reference work but also maintains the Provincial Library's Web site and editing/distributing THE DISSEMINATOR. She is scheduled to return to work on May 1, 1998.

The **Western Counties Regional Library's** first cookbook "Come to Supper: Favourite Recipes from Southwestern Nova Scotia" was launched at all branches on Sat. Oct. 25. Over 400 of the 1000 copies printed were already reserved for launch day! As of December 5th less than 40 copies were available at our branches throughout the region. The cookbook, a collection of the familiar home style comfort food of Nova Scotian suppertimes, is generously sponsored by Sobeys. Newsletter readers can mail order a copy by sending a cheque or money order (\$12.00 - taxes included - plus 3.00 shipping and handling) to Western Counties Regional Library, 405 Main St. Yarmouth, B5A 1G3, attn: **Yvonne LeBlanc**.

A photo of some physically active WCRL staff appeared in the fall issue of "Quality of Life", a newsletter distributed across the country by Crown Life Insurance. Staff were recognized as "outstanding participants" in the Crown Life/ParticipACTION Workplace Walking Challenge. The group walked "an amazing total of 2,514.18 miles" between March 2 and May 10 1997.

*(continued on next page)*

## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...

**David Irvine**, board member since 1991, is now the new Chair for the WCRL Board. One of Irvine's top priorities for this year is forming "Friends of the Library" groups for all ten branches in the region. To date groups have been formed in **Shelburne, Yarmouth, Pubnico, Clark's Harbour, Clare, Lockeport, and Barrington**. Plans are underway to establish groups in the 3 remaining branches of **Digby, Weymouth and Westport**.

As a result of successfully launching the Internet based **Western Health Information Project**, a first for the province, Regional Director **Trudy Amirault** and Western Regional Health Sciences Librarian **Jackie MacDonald** were invited to speak at the Digital Knowledge II Conference in Toronto, Oct. 20 - 21. The theme of the conference was "Building Electronic Space for Digital Community Health Information". Following the presentation the pair spent almost an hour fielding questions from interested groups and individuals. Dr. Jon Gerrard, Former Secretary of State, Science, Research and Development and Western Economic Diversification expressed his interest in the project. "The presentation by Trudy Amirault and Jackie MacDonald was one of the most exciting at the conference. The Western Health Information Project brings a very effective partnership between the regional library and the regional health authority, and builds on the community access program infrastructure to deliver the health information needed by people in their home communities." Amirault also spoke on "Building the rural economy in an Information Age" at the NovaKnowledge Fall Stakeholder Assembly held in Baddeck Nov. 14 and 15.

At the September meeting of the Nova Scotia Regional Libraries Automation Working Group, held at the **Digby branch**, staff gave a demonstration of the MultiLis circulation module and also showed how records are being

added to our databank. Implementation of the circulation system is being done on a branch by branch basis. Work has begun on the acquisitions module in preparation for full use April 1st, 1998.

The **Annapolis Valley Regional Library** system has successfully become automated. This autumn saw all the AVRL branches complete online circulation. Automation will continue to be updated.

AVRL has hired **Brenda Thompson** as their new Community Relations Coordinator/Fundraiser on a one year contract. Ms. Thompson has a M.A. in Sociology and a Business Management Diploma. She has, in the past, handled public relations and fundraising for a women's transition house.

All branches of the **Cape Breton Regional Library** now have public access to the World Wide Web and the NcompasS catalogue. Work is continuing on the recon of older materials and government documents, and on the creation of the patron database.

Three book launches were held at the **McConnell Library** between October and December. These included *Parables from Big Pond*, by Dan Doucette; *Book of Seasons*, by Pam Newton; and *Father Jimmy: Life and Times of Jimmy Tompkins*, by Jim Lotz and Michael Welton. CBC's Mainstreet program broadcast from this location for two of the book launches.

### Special

On Wednesday, December 3, over 35 **CASLIS Atlantic and NS Government Council** librarians attended the program on Work the Web: Search savvy in the special library. **Kelly Campbell**, Webmaster with NS Dept of Education & Culture gave an overview of the different search engines, including limitations and search capabilities was presented. We heard about the importance of evaluating web information and how to approach

a web reference interview. After the program everyone gathered for delightful holiday cheer.

**Francesco Lai** has accepted the position of Librarian at the Atlantic Food and Horticultural Centre in Kentville (taking over from Jerry Miner). He will begin work at the Centre on January 19.

### Academic

**Lillian Beltaos**, the Assistant Vice-President (Academic)/University Librarian at **Mount St. Vincent University**, is beginning a year's administrative leave on 1 January, 1998.

### Miscellaneous

On December 10 fourteen members of the **St. Francis Xavier University Library** staff won the lottery. There were two other winners so the total the St. F.X. staff won was \$633,606.80 - each person gets \$45,257.62: The winners are Barb Phillips, Chrissie Zinck, Elaine MacDonald, Gerard MacDonald, Helen DeYoung, Isabel MacDonald, Jane Gorman, Jane Synishin, Mary Lillian MacDonald, Marilyn MacDonald, Maureen Williams, Shelagh Sanford, Sheldon MacDonald, and Shirley MacDougall. They are going to have a very special Christmas this year.

- Faye Hopkins  
Vice President (NS)



### Public

On December 8, 1997, the **Moncton Public Library Board** hosted a reception for the Mayor,

(continued on next page)

## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...

Councillors and local MLAs to introduce them to the new automated circulation system. Representatives of **New Brunswick Library Service** and the **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library** were also on hand. After a brief introduction and explanation of the system, the elected representatives were issued new barcoded library cards.

The **Peticodiac Public Library** celebrated fifteen years of service with an open house on December 12, 1997. A gift of three medical reference books was presented from Ann Breault, Minister of the Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing. Decorations and refreshments were in keeping with the season.

**York Regional Library's** new supervising librarian, **Laura Master**, is looking forward to her travels throughout western and central New Brunswick, or at least she was until suffering through over 90cms of snow and a massive power outage during her first week in Fredericton. If she hadn't won a particularly beautiful door prize at the **Oromocto Public Library's** Christmasfest, she might well have been tempted to give up on the province altogether. Fortunately for us her appetite for adventure is unabated. Laura comes to York to take special responsibility for the **Carleton-Victoria branches**. She is a graduate of Western's School of Library and Information Science and has held positions, in the Toronto area, as a resource specialist, reference librarian, and branch manager.

On Friday, December 5, Fredericton City Librarian **Bill Molesworth** represented New Brunswick book-lovers on CBC Radio's daily phone-in show, "Maritime Noon". He was one of three panelists who, along with callers from across the Maritimes and the show's host **Costas Halavrezos**, recommended their choice of reading material for a bibliophile's Christmas stocking. Back at the library, the show's success was proven not only by appreciative com-

ments from patrons, but by a growing pile of reserves for the recommended books.

The Fireside Book Sale will be held Friday, January 30, from 4 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, January 31, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Assembly Room, **Fredericton Public Library**. The sale will offer inexpensive reading for those long winter nights; it is sponsored by York Regional Library, the library that wants its patrons to be cosy and warm, and well-read.

In September, the Craig Gallery at the **Dr. Walter Chestnut Public Library** in Hartland was approved to receive travelling exhibits arranged by the Saint John Museum. The first exhibit received under the aegis of the Museum was from the private collection of George C. Robinson of Saint John. Called "Currier and Ives, Prints of the People", it was on display throughout December.

The board and staff of the Dr. Walter Chestnut Public Library held a Christmas House Tour with a difference December 16. The focus wasn't on seeing each home's decor, but rather on the activity that was being presented there. A wonderful Father Christmas collection was the attraction at the first home on the tour; at home number two it was carols sung 'round the piano; at three it was the history of the house; and at four it was decorating for Christmas. The tour finished at the library where refreshments were served in the Craig Gallery.

**La Bibliothèque régionale du Haut-Saint-Jean**, en étroite collaboration avec la Société Radio-Canada, organise le concours: "Lire avec Mille-feuille". Cette activité se déroule dans les **bibliothèques publiques d'Edmundston, Grand-Sault, Saint-Léonard, Saint-Quentin, Kedgwick, Saint-François** et au **Bibliobus**, du 10 novembre 1997 au 30 avril 1998.

Ce concours vise à encourager les jeunes à lire et à visiter régulièrement

leur bibliothèque et bibliobus. Sur emprunt de documents, ils se verront remettre un billet leur permettant d'obtenir une chance de gagner des prix à chaque mois. Les gagnants de chaque mois seront éligibles pour le tirage final en mai 1998.

La fête du "party" annuel s'est tenue au bureau régional, le 28 novembre dernier. Le "party" à saveur de Noël s'est déroulé dans une atmosphère de détente et de bonne humeur. En plus des employé(e)s de la région, madame **Jocelyne Lebel**, directrice du Service des bibliothèques du N.-B., et directrice régionale par intérim, nous a fait l'honneur de sa présence.

Durant cette fête, on a procédé à la remise des marques de reconnaissance pour le personnel. Les employées méritantes sont: **Nicole Caron**, 25 années de service, employée à la **Bibliothèque publique de Grand-Sault**; **Patricia Toner**, 10 années de service comme responsable de la bibliothèque publique de Grand-Sault; **Huguette Degrace**, 10 années de service, employée à la **bibliothèque publique d'Edmundston**.

Dans un bref discours, madame Jocelyne Lebel a félicité individuellement toutes ces employées pour leur excellent travail, dévouement et loyaux services. Reconnaissances, jeux, échange de cadeaux et un délicieux repas étaient au rendez-vous de la soirée. Bravo! à **Patricia Toner**, **Rachel Lavoie** et **Micheline Thériault** pour la bonne organisation de cette excellente soirée!

### *Academic*

**La Bibliothèque du Campus d'Edmundston, Université de Moncton**, en collaboration avec le secteur Arts et Lettres du même campus et l'Attaché culturel du Consulat général de France à Moncton, a tenu une exposition d'affiches sur le roman français contemporain. L'exposition, comprenant 48 affiches présentant

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**NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES continued...**

chacune un auteur, une brève description des oeuvres et des photographies, s'est déroulé du 19 novembre au 8 décembre 1997 dans l'enceinte du Pavillon Simon Larouche du Campus d'Edmundston. Une exposition d'ouvrages de ces romanciers français se tenait parallèlement à la Bibliothèque.

Les préparatifs pour l'organisation de la prochaine édition du Salon du livre d'Edmundston vont bon train. Comme à l'habitude, le Salon du livre

se tiendra au début du mois d'avril. Déjà plusieurs exposants ont réservé leur kiosques. Nous sommes à la recherche d'auteurs qui auraient un lancement d'ouvrages à faire. Vous pouvez communiquer avec **Guy Lefrançois** par téléphone au 737-5266, par courrier électronique à [glefranc@cuslm.ca](mailto:glefranc@cuslm.ca) ou par télécopieur au 737-5373.

**La Bibliothèque Champlain, Université de Moncton** est invitée à

participer à un projet de formation à la bibliothèque de l'École nationale d'administration publique en Tunisie. La "mission" comporte trois volets: identification des problèmes et des besoins (1 sem. en janv. 1998), implantation de solutions (2 sem.) et formation aux normes nord-américaines de recherche documentaire (2 sem.).

- *Charlotte Dionne*  
Vice President (NB)

**1998 APLA Merit Award**

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association invites nominations for the Association's Merit Award. The Award is conferred on an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. Nominations with the appropriate accompanying documentation of the nominee and her/his contribution(s) should be sent by March 31, 1998 to:



Sara Lochhead, Past-President  
c/o Ralph Pickard Bell Library  
Mount Allison University  
49 York Street  
Sackville, NB E4L 1C6  
Fax: (506) 364-2617  
Email: <[slochhead@mta.ca](mailto:slochhead@mta.ca)>

**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 March 31, 1998.

John Teskey, Director of Libraries  
University of New Brunswick  
P.O. Box 7500  
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H5

Phone: 506-453-4740  
Fax: 506-453-4595  
Email: <[jteskey@unb.ca](mailto:jteskey@unb.ca)>



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## Surfing for oil: an overview of oil and gas information resources on the Internet

Andre Gionet  
Calgary, Alberta  
agionet@nucleus.com

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Happy New Year everyone, and may 1998 be filled with success. For the January/February issue of the *APLA Bulletin*, I thought to present an overview of oil and gas information resources on the Internet. All the way during 1997, I followed very closely the new developments regarding Hibernia and Sable Island. With a burgeoning petroleum industry on the Atlantic coast, the *Bulletin* editor and I thought that it would be appropriate to present some information resources on the petroleum industry.

The petroleum industry is a world that is both complex and fascinating. Although oil and natural gas are known primarily as fuels, they also form the basis for a wide array of products, like plastics, textiles, and pharmaceuticals. I hope that the sources that I chose to highlight in this column will help you find a few foundations on which to build a knowledge base. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail.

### **Petroleum Communication Foundation**

[ <http://www.pcf.ab.ca/> ]

The PCF aims at communication information to Canadians about the oil and gas industry. The *Programs* section include a listing of publications and videos aiming at informing the public about various aspects of the petroleum industry. The *Gasoline* section provides a list of question and answers relating to consumer preoccupation regarding the oil industry (ie. gasoline prices, competition, regulations, etc.).

A good sources of information if you are looking for background information on the oil industry, if you don't mind a certain bias in favor of oil companies...

### **Oil Online [ <http://www.oilonline.com> ]**

Oil Online is based in Houston, Texas. It aims to be a one-stop information centre where you can check stocks, access industry news, review career opportunities, scan product releases, research industry data, purchase maps, or join an association. The *Industry News* section is very focused on U.S. companies, while *Internation Report* covers the rest of the world, including Canada. The *World O&G Information* links you with background information about countries all over the world, most of the information coming from the U.S. Department of Energy. Also, the *Products and*

*Literature* section has a listing of publications relevant to the oil industry. It might be useful for the librarian who may have to develop a new collection...

You will also find links with more statistical types of information, such as rig counts or stock prices.

Oil OnLine is a good sources of information if you don't mind a strong American bias and are looking for more international information.

### **National Energy Board of Canada**

[ <http://www.neb.gc.ca> ]

This name must be familiar with many people by now throughout the Atlantic Provinces. The NEB, as it is known in the West, is responsible for regulating the construction and operation of inter-provincial pipelines, the export of oil and electricity, and the exploration of oil and gas in the frontier areas. The NEB developed a very good informative Web site.

To be noted is the *Publications* section, containing a list of acts, regulations, rules, guidelines and memoranda of guidance. The page contains links with the full text of the documents. Take note of the disclaimer notifying users that these documents should be used for reference purpose only and to refer to the printed document for legal purposes.

Also to note is the *Statistics* section, which provides information about Canadian exports of oil, gas, and electricity, and the *Energy Overview* section, which provides background information on the areas of responsibility of the NEB.

Aussi disponible en français...

### **Oil-Link [ <http://www.oillink.com> ]**

Oil-Link is my favorite resource to access information about companies in the petroleum industry. Companies' Web sites are organized into broad categories: *Upstream-Downstream*, *Equipment-Supplies*, and *Services-Contractors*. The *Upstream-Downstream* lists companies directly involved in the oil industry (ie. Esso, Shell, Petro-Canada, Irving), while the others are companies providing products and services for the oil industry.

The *Information Resources* section provides sub-directories of information about various topics relating to the oil

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## Surfing for Oil...

(continued from previous page)

industry. You will find folders on association and societies, news sources, government information, research centres, etc.

Although the links reflect a strong U.S. bias, Canada and the rest of the world are well represented. The reason being that updates are made by submissions from users all over the world.

## Yahoo! Oil/Energy News

[ <http://biz.yahoo.com/news/oilenergy.html> ]

Almost since the advent of the World-Wide Web, Yahoo! has been making a name for itself as a starting point for finding information on the Internet. As the years went by, it added a suite of services apart from the simple cataloguing of Web sites. One example are the various news services that are available.

The Yahoo! Oil/Energy News is a good source of information for the energy industry. The news stories are listed by day, with links to the full stories and disclosing of

the sources. One drawback is the absence of historical information, Yahoo! only keeping the stories on file for seven days.

**CANPIC [ <http://www.canpic.ca> ]**

The Canadian Petroleum Internet Consortium (CANPIC) is a non-profit group founded through the collaboration of various petroleum professional associations. CANPIC's goal is to serve as a resource to these associations to educate, facilitate and in general promote the use of the Internet by the Canadian oil industry.

CANPIC is a Canadian virtual library of information relating to the petroleum industry. The sections titled *Technical Societies* and *Other Petroleum Societies* contain lists of societies and associations relating to the petroleum industry. The *Oil & Gas Companies* and the *Petroleum Services* sections are listings of companies operating in Canada (most of the them based in Calgary). The *Government Information* section contains links with various federal and provincial agencies regulating the energy sector.



## University Librarian University of Prince Edward Island

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for the position of University Librarian, to take office on 1 July 1998.

The Robertson Library at the University of Prince Edward Island supports teaching, learning, and research in Faculties of Arts, Science, Education, and Veterinary Medicine and in Schools of Business and Nursing. The Library serves approximately 3000 full- and part-time students and 200 faculty and is a major research facility for the Island community. The University Librarian is a senior University administrator who reports to the Vice President, Academic Support, serves on Senate, participates in University committees, works cooperatively with consortia, and represents the University at provincial, regional, and national forums. The University Librarian is responsible for all areas of library development, planning, and budgeting and directs a staff of twenty-five full-time employees.

Candidates for the position must have professional qualifications in librarianship and a further advanced degree or equivalent experience and a minimum of ten years academic library experience. Proven ability to provide leadership within a collegial environment and an understanding of current issues in academic libraries are essential. Substantial management and budgeting skills, experience in planning and implementing information technologies in a modern library setting, interpersonal, managerial and organizational skills at a senior administrative level, and demonstrated written and verbal communication skills are also required.

Candidates should send a letter of application and a detailed *curriculum vitae* and arrange to have three letters of reference sent, all by 15 March 1998, to:

**Dr. John Crossley**  
**Vice President, Academic Support, University of Prince Edward Island**  
**550 University Avenue, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, C1A 4P3**

Phone: 902-566-0405, Fax: 902-628-4311, E-mail: [crossley@upepei.ca](mailto:crossley@upepei.ca)

Additional information about UPEI and the Robertson Library is available at [www.upei.ca](http://www.upei.ca)

In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed in the first instance to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. UPEI is committed to the principle of equity in employment.



## Memorial Trust Support

Part of the evolution of a society or organization is the support of continuing education or professional development workshops, courses or "whatever" as my eleven year old son would say. And as an organization develops it will offer the opportunity for support on an individual basis, that is to say, it will offer bursaries, scholarships, travel grants (again "whatever") to members of that society to do further research, to pursue/increase their knowledge/expertise on a specific topic (again "whatever") and the APLA offers this through its Memorial Awards.

I am one who has benefitted from this award and as the record indicates I have benefitted more than once. I very much enjoyed and am appreciative of each of the awards that I have received. This award is designed to benefit you individually and others collectively. There must be some workshop, a pre-conference session, a course (again "whatever") that you wish to attend. Apply and let the Association work for you! P.S. I will not apply this year but I will apply again.

- Eric Swanick

## Memorial Awards

Financial Assistance is available, from the APLA Memorial Trust, for study and research. Projects which contribute to the professional development of the applicant and benefit the professional are encouraged.

To apply, send a letter outlining your proposed research and estimated costs and a copy of your curriculum vitae to:



APLA Memorial Awards Committee  
c/o School of Library and Information Studies  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NS B3H 4H8




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## School of Library and Information Studies Friday Lecture Series - Winter Term 1998

Lectures are held in the MacMechan Auditorium on Fridays at 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. They are open to the public at no charge.

The lecture by Dr. Edie Rasmussen will be given on Thursday, 5th March 1998 from 7:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. in Room 212, Arts and Administration Building.

Note that additional lectures are being planned; watch the School's web site (check under Continuing Education) for details. (<http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slisis/>)

**FRIDAY, 23RD JANUARY 1998**

**Dr. Terry Gordon**  
Department of French  
Dalhousie University, Halifax

"The Book as Technology: What McLuhan Taught and What People Thought He Taught"

**FRIDAY, 30TH JANUARY 1998**

**Dr. Elaine Toms**  
School of Library and Information Studies  
Dalhousie University, Halifax

"On Encountering the Digital Newspaper: What do Readers Examine? Why? What Facilitates the Process?"

**FRIDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY 1998**

**Bruno Gnassi**  
Manager, Depository Services Program  
Canadian Government Publishing, Ottawa.

"Virtually Yours: Canadian Federal Government Information on the Internet"

**THURSDAY, 5TH MARCH 1998**

**Dr. Edie Rasmussen**  
Chair of Library Sciences  
School of Information Sciences  
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh

"Digital Libraries: Research and Practice"\*

\*Co-sponsored with the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services, Atlantic Chapter

**FRIDAY, 20TH MARCH 1998**

**Dr. Larry Amey**  
School of Library and Information Studies  
Dalhousie University, Halifax.

"Library and Information Provision for a South Australian City: Is the Answer Combination, Relocation, or Integration?"



## FRIDAY LECTURE SERIES

*As part of its continuing education program, SLIS presents a series of Friday lectures. The lectures are held from 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library, Dalhousie University. These lectures are open to the public at no charge. The selection of synopses reprinted here originally appeared on the SLIS website at <[http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/con\\_edfr.html](http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/con_edfr.html)>.*

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### SEPTEMBER 12, 1997

The Nine Myths of Literacy in Canada

**Terri Tomchshyn**, National Literacy Secretariat  
Human Resources Development Canada  
**Carmel d'Entremont**, Adult Education Section  
Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture

The first lecture of the 1997/98 SLIS series focussed on literacy and in particular, the results of the International Adult Literacy Survey. Presenting the national perspective, Terri Tomchshyn from the National Literacy Secretariat (NLS) provided an overview of the nine myths of literacy in Canada. Ms. Tomchshyn, a former graduate of Dalhousie University's Library and Information Studies programme, also described the mandate of NLS, which is to develop learning materials, promote access to literacy programmes and increase public awareness, improve co-ordination and information-sharing, and to advance literacy research. In addition, the NLS focuses on partnerships within its literacy mandate, partnering with provincial and territorial governments, literacy organizations, business and labour.

Ms. Tomchshyn pointed out the challenge of defining literacy skills in complex societies. The IALS defined literacy in three areas: prose literacy (text); document literacy (forms, charts); and quantitative literacy (basic numeracy). Fundamental to concepts of literacy is the notion of literacy skills as a continuum from basic to complex, rather than the commonly held belief that an individual is either literate or illiterate.

Some highlights of the literacy myths that Ms. Tomchshyn discussed are as follows:

- Education and literacy are not always equivalent 30% of people tested had literacy levels below their formal education.
- There is a correlation between what you read and your literacy level the mere act of reading is not enough.
- Immigrants in Canada have a literacy level above the Canadian population as a whole.
- For adults, the workplace plays the major role jobs cause literacy as much as they require it.

More detailed information on the IALS results can be accessed through the NLS web site at <http://www.nald.ca/nls.htm>. The Canadian report of the IALS is entitled *Reading the Future: A Portrait of Literacy in Canada*. Carmel d'Entremont, responsible for overseeing literacy and upgrading programmes in Nova Scotia, reinforced Ms. Tomchshyn's overview of literacy and its myths. She also described initiatives supported by the N.S. Dept. of Education,

such as, adult high schools, voluntary literacy councils, GED programming and private trade schools, the Community Learning Initiative and Workplace Education. The diversity of these options means that individuals can choose the programme that best meets their needs. She also pointed out the importance of the role that libraries play in developing and maintaining literacy levels and emphasized that in Halifax, literacy and libraries have a rich history. However, funding priorities have recently raised concerns as to whether literacy development can and should remain a mandate of public libraries.

- Peggy Chapman  
2<sup>nd</sup> year student

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### SEPTEMBER 26, 1997

"How Does Information Help?"

The Search for Career-Related Information by Adolescents."

**Dr. Heidi Julian**, Victoria University, New Zealand

The second lecture of the SLIS Friday Lecture Series was presented by Dr. Heidi Julian of Victoria University, New Zealand. Dr. Julian recently received her PhD from the University of Western Ontario and her lecture, entitled "How Does Information Help? The Search for Career-Related Information by Adolescents" was based on her PhD research. Some of the topics she covered were:

- What do adolescents want in their career-related information search.
- From what sources do they receive their information.
- What problems may hamper their success.
- What role does gender play when undertaking a search.
- What are the best sources of information for adolescents.
- What can be done to aid adolescents in their information search.

Dr. Julian collected 399 questionnaires and conducting 30 interviews with students, both male and female, both academic and non-academic, from three schools in Ontario. She found that adolescents wanted reliable, accurate information to be easily accessible. They want it delivered by people, not electronically, in a manner that recognizes that they have special needs. According to Dr. Julian, the first person an adolescent turns to when making a career decision is themselves. Either by self assessment or using their emotions, most adolescents base their career plans on what they feel and experience. Books found in school guidance offices were the second most popular source of information followed by councillors and friends. Libraries finished last on the list of information sources adolescents turned to for career research. Dr. Julian found that adolescents face numerous barriers. They feel anxious and overwhelmed by the number of career choices when they begin their search. She found that 87% believed that there were places to get information regarding careers, but 40% felt that there was too much information available and 38% did not know where

*(continued on next page)*

## Friday Lectures Series...

*(continued from previous page)*

to go to find it. They also reported a lack of encouragement and self-confidence to undertake a search and many would stop immediately after hearing any negative information. A distrust of councillors and the quality of the information they provided was also found. Information was not available when they needed it. On the other hand, those who had careers in mind or were searching for specific information regarding educational institutions, were more logical and rational in their search techniques. Dr. Julian also spoke about how adolescents felt discomfort using the library and how embarrassment could prevent students from seeking the help they need. Overall though, adolescents are not pro-active information seekers and those who need help may not ask for assistance. What role does gender play when undertaking a search? According to her research, female students were more likely to use self assessment in their career choices but saw more barriers than male students. That they focussed less on their family and relationships than in the past and used more information sources in making their decisions. Dr. Julian found female students are realizing that they must be educated and independent. Dr. Julian found that the best sources for career-related information for adolescents provided both emotional and instructional support. Emotional support from family and friends assisted to a degree but combined with sound information and experience can be of great benefit. Her research showed that the best sources of information for adolescents were trusted advisors or mentors, workers presently employed in the occupation of interest to the youth and personal experience. In conclusion Dr. Julian looked at what people and institutions can do to provide adolescents with career-related information. She found that adolescents need to make contact with people who can help them. Since they are not pro-active info seekers, they need people to approach them and ask if they need assistance. The information provided must be accessible, reliable and up to date. Instruction should also be delivered in a fashion that recognizes that adolescents are unique in their information searches.

- Lesley Brann  
1<sup>st</sup> year student

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**OCTOBER 27, 1997**

"How Geographic Information Technologies Can Transform the Information Professions."

**Michael Goodchild**, Director

National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
and Associate Director, Alexandria Digital Library

On Monday, October 27, 1997, Geomatics Atlantic and the School of Library and Information Studies were pleased to co-host a public lecture by Dr. Michael Goodchild, Director of the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) at the University of California, Santa Barbara and

Associate Director of the Alexandria Digital Library (ADL).

The purpose of Dr. Goodchild's lecture was to discuss and illustrate "How Geographic Information Technologies Can Transform the Information Professions".

To begin, Dr. Goodchild spoke about the increasing importance of Geographic information in almost every research field. To illustrate, Dr. Goodchild used several maps to indicate his point. First he produced a map of New York State, which showed the location of unsafe bridges which needed replacing. Dr. Goodchild then produced another map this time of cholera stricken London in the seventeenth century. Using first a survey of residents around Broad St. and then a map of where the people lived and who was stricken with cholera, the map reader could determine both the cause of the epidemic and even the location of the pump from which polluted water came from.

From a Library perspective, the use of Geographic information has never been more crucial. Throughout his talk, Dr. Goodchild urged librarians and other information professionals to begin thinking of information in its spatial context. That is "where did it come from?" and "where is it now?" Along with "Author" and "Subject" terms providing access to information, librarians should also begin thinking of using "Place" as another access point.

This in fact is part of the work now underway at the Alexandria Digital library where information is now being geographically referenced with a "footprint"; that is associating it with one or more regions of the earth.

However by attempting to georeference material, particularly digital maps, some problems are inevitably encountered. One of these is what Dr. Goodchild referred to as "legacy concepts"; that is using metaphors or words which are familiar to the user from the old way of looking or navigating a map, but can be used to help reorientate the user to the digital library. To illustrate his point, Dr. Goodchild talked of how people referred to the first automobiles as "horseless carriages". It is in finding the appropriate "legacy concepts" for digital maps and libraries that pose the biggest challenge for every digital librarian.

Related to the problem of finding suitable "legacy concepts" are problems with the interface design which Dr. Goodchild believed to be the largest impediment to expanded digital library development.

Dr. Goodchild rounded out his talk with the issue of what future digital libraries will contain. Some of the guidelines which he laid out included:

- material having significant georeferencing representable by "graphical footprints" on some map.
- the material should be of value to a well-defined, accessible set of users.
- should focus on "local" areas.
- should showcase as well as support the digital library's research and development mission.

To conclude his talk, Dr. Goodchild took questions from the audience and encouraged everyone to visit the Alexandria Digital Library via the Internet: <http://alexandria.sdc.ucsb.edu>

-Andrew Nicholson  
2<sup>nd</sup> year student

## CHAPTERS OPENS BIG BOX BOOKSTORE

by Peggy Amirault

*Editor's note: Peggy Amirault is a freelance writer and member of the Periodical Writers Association of Canada. This article is reprinted from the November/December 1997 issue of Eastword.*

Halifax has entered the era of the mega-bookstore with the arrival of Chapters. Chapters is opening 17 new stores across the country. Two will be in the Halifax Regional Municipality - one has just opened in the Bayers Lake Business park and another is eventually slated for Micmac Mall.

Chapters opened a 22,300 square foot store at the end of October on Chain Lake Drive, in the vicinity of other big-box operations. It carries in excess of 100,000 titles, has a staff of 50, is open 14 hours a day (from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.) 6 days a week, and has a Starbucks coffee shop. There's a fairly good magazine section; I even discovered a few Canadian magazines I didn't know about. There's also a multi-media section with CD-ROMs, a children's section, and audio books.

What might be apparent good news for the consumer is not necessarily good for independent booksellers and small publishers.

The business press refers to such large outlets as big box stores or category killers - so called because they have a reputation for killing smaller businesses in their category. It doesn't make any difference what you call them, it still amounts to the same thing - potential problems for small independent retailers and businesses.

According to the June 1997 issue of *Quill & Quire* Chapters has raised its co-operative advertising rates and introduced new placement fee categories. These are fees paid by publishers for certain placements in stores, such as on the cash desk and end-of-aisle displays, etc. There was also talk of charging publishers a fee for displaying their books face-out on the shelf.

Chapters came into being in 1995, after the merger of the W.H. Smith and Coles chains. The federal government ordered a three-year monitoring period

by the Bureau of Competition Policy to determine the effect on the bookselling trade. The Bureau apparently determined there were no adverse effects.

One independent bookseller in Halifax commented: "I'm in business and business is about competition. And we all know what it's like to be in a retail market. Retail by its very nature is tenuous and unpredictable. The last few years bookselling in Canada has been really under the gun, particularly in Atlantic Canada with the tax problem (the threatened imposition of the GST on books). I feel that we've had to fight a lot of dragons in the past few years."

"It would be nice if we all started from the same starting gate. We just cannot compete with the pricing of [Chapters'] discounted books. Because the publishers, of course, give them different discount schedules. So right away I have a problem. I don't fear competition. I find unfair competition problematic. I still think independent booksellers are the better booksellers in the long run. As a general rule we give much better customer service, much

better attention to Canadian and local books, and much better knowledge. Just generally we know more about the books."

"The bottom line is I still think we are the better booksellers and the customers are going to want the kind of service, attention, personal knowledge and the kind of care the independent bookstore can give them. The problem is if they're away from us for even six months to a year, some of us will be gone. It's such a tenuous business that without that support for any length of time, the independents won't survive."

Elsewhere in the country, independent bookstore owners are striving to meet the challenges of superstores opened by Chapters and Indigo, and the book sections of Prince Club and Costco. Ottawa booksellers are considering co-operative advertising programs. And a couple of independents in Vancouver and Calgary have opened their own superstores.

At the end of October local independents booksellers were to meet to consider a co-op advertising campaign.



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### ANNOUNCING: THE NEW DALSLIS-GRAD MAILING LIST

DalSLIS-Grad mailing list is for the use of all graduates of Dalhousie University's School of Library and Information Studies (School of Library Service 1969-1987). It is an open forum for all SLIS graduates who wish to:

- (1) *get in touch with fellow classmates*
- (2) *discuss issues concerning librarians & information professionals*
- (3) *arrange reunions.*

DalSLIS-Grad is maintained by the executive of the Associated Alumni, School of Library and Information Studies, Halifax, Nova Scotia. To subscribe to DalSLIS-Grad, send mail to: mailserv@ac.dal.ca with the single line message: subscribe DalSLIS-Grad.

- Mark C. Bartlett  
Dalhousie University, DalTech Library

### *First Timer's Conference Grant*

**Have you never been to an APLA annual conference?  
Do you want to go to Wolfville, but cannot afford it?  
Why not apply for APLA's First Timer's Conference Grant?**

To be eligible, an applicant must be a personal member of APLA, residing in an Atlantic province, and planning to attend her/his first APLA annual conference.

Grants are allocated, consistent with general APLA guidelines, to help meet conference related expenses. If more applications are received than can be met by the fund, money will be awarded by drawing from the names of all eligible applicants.

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

Applications should include name, business address, chosen means for contacting (mail, e-mail, telephone, fax) estimated costs (travel, accommodation, meals, registration), and a signed statement acknowledging compliance with eligibility requirements.

Applications should be submitted by March 31, 1998 to:

John Teskey  
President, APLA  
University Librarian  
University of New Brunswick  
Fredericton, NB E3B 5A3

Phone: (506) 453-4740  
Fax: (506) 453-4595  
E-mail: jteskey@unb.ca



## From St. Jerome's Den

Here's to a new year - let's start it with some good news. If you haven't already seen it, check out the booklet *Dividends: the value of public libraries in Canada* (written by Leslie Fitch and Jody Warner and available from the Book and Periodical Council).

By the way, how about sharing some of your true stories - funny, weird, inspirational, those with a moral and those without. Just send them to St. Jerome care of the editor.

- St. Jerome

You know that it is going to be a good year when an article about the virtues of using the Internet for doing research concludes with:

"Traditionally, the best place to begin a research project was the reference desk of a library. It still is."

Stephen Knowlton, *Globe and Mail*,  
November 13, 1997, p. C16

For those who predict the demise of leisure reading - some statistics to watch:

"On an average day in 1992, about 4 in 10 Canadians aged 25 and over (39%) spent some of their leisure time [almost an hour and a half] reading books, magazines or newspapers."

*Canadian Social Trends*, Autumn 1997, p. 22

34% of Canadians over 15 borrowed at least one book from a library in 1994. This number exceeded the 31% who attended a professional sporting event and the 24% who attended any popular musical performance.

*Canada's culture, heritage and identity*,  
1995, p. 17

Never at a loss for words, we have the Governor General:

"We will make the information and knowledge infrastructure accessible to all Canadians by the year 2000, thereby making Canada the most connected nation in the world. This will provide individuals, schools, libraries, small and large businesses, rural and Aboriginal communities, public institutions, and all levels of government with new opportunities for learning, interacting, transacting business and developing their social and economic potential."

*Throne speech*, September 23, 1997

And, for those who just want to have some fun this year, here is an image blower:

Lipstick librarian < <http://www.teleport.com/~petlin/liplib/>>

### Coming Events

**OLA Super Conference '98**, "Come Walk in My Shoes: the Interdependence of Libraries." January 22-25, 1998. Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Email the Ontario Library Association at <[info@accessola.com](mailto:info@accessola.com)>.

**newMedia98** at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre will cover the entire spectrum of innovative communications technologies. For more information, contact Susan Blair, Corporate Communications, Multimedia Trade Shows Inc.; 905-660-2491 or 1-800-615-1551; fax: 905-660-2492; email: <[moreinfo@multimedia.ca](mailto:moreinfo@multimedia.ca)>.

The **Prince Edward Island Teacher-Librarians' Association (PEITLA)** and the **Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada** will be jointly sponsoring the 1998 national conference. This conference, entitled "Connected: School Libraries at the Millennium", will be held May 14-17, 1998 on the campus of the University of Prince Edward Island.

**APLA '98**, May 21-24, 1998. The **Atlantic Provinces Library Association** annual conference, "Reflection/Réflexion: Past, Present, and Future", will be held at Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. For more information, please contact André Guay at <[andre.guay@acadiau.ca](mailto:andre.guay@acadiau.ca)>.

The next **Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL)** conference will be held in Hamilton, Ont. at the Sheraton Hotel and Hamilton Convention Centre, May 31-June 3, 1998. Contact person is Wendy Hearder-Moan <[whm@hamiltonlaw.on.ca](mailto:whm@hamiltonlaw.on.ca)>.

The **Canadian Library Association** will hold its 53rd annual conference and trade show in Victoria, British Columbia, June 17-21, 1998.

**International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)** will hold its 64th council and general conference in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, August 16-21st, 1998.



**COMPETITION**  
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The New Brunswick Library Service is a central agency responsible for the development of the public library system in the Province. There are 5 regional headquarters, 61 service points and four bookmobiles serving approximately 75% of the total population of the Province.

**DUTIES:** The Senior Cataloguer is responsible to the Assistant Director, Technical Services. Duties include the creation and the quality control of the provincial bibliographic database, and the supervision of 5 permanent staff of the cataloguing section of Technical Services. Participation in the planning and managing of the DRA/Inlex 3000 automated integrated library system and in the development of province-wide training for system modules is required. Other duties involve the preparation of annual, statistical and special research reports and participation in the budget process.

**QUALIFICATION:** A Masters degree in Library Science with a minimum of five years of related experience, to include experience with automated systems and cataloguing processes and at least two years in a supervisory capacity. Written and spoken competence in English is essential. Experience in the development of training programs is essential. Experience with DRA/Inlex 3000 software would be an asset.

**SUBJECT TO THE RESPONSE TO THIS COMPETITION QUALIFICATIONS RELATED TO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE MAY BE RAISED.**

**EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR EMPLOYMENT**

Please apply on or before **February 13, 1998**, stating Competition number **55-97-25** to the Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing, Human Resource Services Division, Marysville Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, P. O. Box 6000, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H1.

**Catalogueur principal - services techniques**

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**Concours public**

Le Service des bibliothèques du Nouveau-Brunswick est un organisme central qui est chargé du développement du réseau des bibliothèques publiques dans la province. Cinq bureaux régionaux, 61 points de service et quatre bibliobus servent environ 75 p. 100 de la population de la province.

**FONCTIONS:** Le catalogueur principal relèvera du directeur adjoint des Services techniques. Il devra créer la base de données bibliographiques provinciale et en contrôler la qualité, et superviser les cinq employés permanents de la Section du cataloguage des Services techniques. Il devra aussi participer à la planification et à la gestion du réseau de bibliothèques intégré et informatisé DRA/Inlex 3000, et à l'organisation de la formation aux modules informatisés, rédiger les rapports annuels, les données statistiques et les rapports de recherche spéciaux, et participer au processus budgétaire.

**CONDITIONS DE CANDIDATURE:** La personne titulaire doit posséder une maîtrise en bibliothéconomie et au moins cinq années d'expérience connexe en systèmes informatiques et en méthodes de cataloguage, et deux années dans un poste de surveillance. La connaissance de l'anglais oral et écrit, et une bonne expérience en élaboration des programmes de formation sont essentielles. La connaissance du logiciel DRA/Inlex 3000 serait un atout.

**SELON LE NOMBRE DE CANDIDATURES REÇUES À CE CONCOURS, LES EXIGENCES RELATIVES AUX ANNÉES D'EXPÉRIENCE POURRONT ÊTRE ACCRUES.**

**ÉGALITÉ D'ACCÈS À L'EMPLOI**

Faire parvenir sa demande au plus tard le **13 février 1998**, en indiquant le numéro de concours **55-97-25**, au ministère des Municipalités, de la Culture et de l'Habitation, Division des services des ressources humaines, Place Marysville, troisième étage, C.P. 6000, Fredericton (Nouveau-Brunswick) E3B 5H1.

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association  
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 1998-99

*Schedule of fees:*

- Individual \$ 55.00
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Memberships run on the fiscal year, and are renewable on March 31st, annually.

To be a member in good standing, membership renewal fees must be received by July 1st. After this date you will be dropped from the mailing list, and may miss directory inclusion.

NOTE: non-Canadian memberships/subscriptions are payable in U.S. currency.

\*\*\*\*\*

1998/99 Individual & Institutional memberships include:  
 a subscription to the *APLA Bulletin*;  
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**Type of workplace**

- Academic Post-Secondary Library  
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Please check off any Committees or Interest Groups you wish inclusion in. This information will be added to your record in the APLA database, and shared with the Committee and Interest Group Convenors.

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