



The APLA Bulletin (ISSN: 0001-2203) is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

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The editors can be reached at the following addresses:

Bulletin Editor: Alexandra Brooks  
 Technical Services Librarian  
 Fundy Library Region  
 1 Market Square  
 Saint John, NB E2L 4Z6

Ph: (506) 643-7226 Fax: (506) 643-7225  
 email: [alexandra.brooks@gnb.ca](mailto:alexandra.brooks@gnb.ca)

Bulletin Editor: Ian Gibson  
 Information Services, Queen Elizabeth II Library  
 Memorial University of Newfoundland  
 St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1  
 Tel: (709) 737-2080 Fax: (709) 737-2153  
 Email: [igibson@mun.ca](mailto:igibson@mun.ca)

Bulletin Advertising Editor: Kelli WooShue,  
 Reference Librarian, Spring Rd Branch  
 Halifax Public Libraries  
 Halifax, NS B3H 3S6  
 Tel: (902) 422-4666 Fax: (902) 422-4666  
 Email: [wooshuk@gmail.com](mailto:wooshuk@gmail.com)

## Join the APLA Discussion List

APLA-L is an un-moderated discussion list for people who are interested in library issues in Atlantic Canada. The APLA list is: a place to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events a source of current information about the actions of the APLA Executive a forum for sharing questions, comments and ideas about library services a place to post job advertisements

To subscribe to the APLA list, send the command "sub apla-list" to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca). To send a message to everyone on the list, use [apla-list@lists.dal.ca](mailto:apla-list@lists.dal.ca). To stay on the list but suspend your messages (while on vacation, for instance), send the command "set apla-list nomail" to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca). When you want to receive message again, send the command "set apla-list mail" to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca). To unsubscribe from the list, send the command "unsub apla-list" to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca). If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster, Anita Cannon, at [acannon@mta.ca](mailto:acannon@mta.ca).

## APLA Executive

### PRESIDENT

Donald Moses  
 Librarian  
 Robertson Library  
 University of Prince Edward Island  
 Charlottetown PE  
 C1A 4P3  
 Tel: (902) 566-6781  
 Fax: (902) 628-4305  
 Email: [dmoses@upe.ca](mailto:dmoses@upe.ca)

### VICE PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT ELECT

Sarah Gladwell  
 Reference Librarian  
 Saint John Free Public Library  
 Saint John NB  
 E2L 4Z6  
 Tel: 506-643-7224  
 Fax: 506-643-7225  
 Email: [sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca](mailto:sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca)

### PAST PRESIDENT

Su Cleyle  
 Associate University Librarian  
 Queen Elizabeth II Library  
 Memorial University of Newfoundland  
 St. John's NL A1B 3Y1  
 Tel: (709)-737-3188 Fax: (709)-737-2153  
 Email: [scleyle@mun.ca](mailto:scleyle@mun.ca)

### TREASURER

Penny Logan  
 Manager Library Services  
 Capital Health  
 1796 Summer St., Room 2212  
 Halifax NS B3H 3A7  
 Tel: (902)-473-4383 Fax: (902)-473-8651  
 Email: [apla\\_executive@yahoo.ca](mailto:apla_executive@yahoo.ca)

### VICE PRESIDENT

(Membership)  
 Ann Smith  
 Academic Librarian  
 Vaughan Memorial Library  
 Acadia University  
 Wolfville NS  
 B4P 2R6  
 Tel: 902-585-1723  
 Fax: 902-585-1748  
 Email: [apla\\_executive@yahoo.ca](mailto:apla_executive@yahoo.ca)

### VICE PRESIDENT

(New Brunswick)  
 Sarah Kilfoil  
 Public Services Librarian  
 Haut-Saint-Jean Library Region  
 New Brunswick

### VICE PRESIDENT

(Newfoundland & Labrador)  
 Louise McGillis  
 Ferriss Hodgett Library  
 Sir Wilfred Grenfell College  
 University Drive  
 Corner Brook NL A2H 6P9  
 Tel: (709) 637-6267 Fax: (709) 637-6273  
 Email: [lmcgillis@swgc.mun.ca](mailto:lmcgillis@swgc.mun.ca)

### VICE PRESIDENT

(Nova Scotia )  
 Darlene Beck  
 Branch Manager  
 Spring Garden Rd. Memorial Public Library  
 Halifax Public Libraries  
 5381 Spring Garden Road  
 Halifax NS B3J 1E9  
 Tel: (902) 490-5700  
 Email: [beckd@halifaxpubliclibraries.ca](mailto:beckd@halifaxpubliclibraries.ca)

### VICE PRESIDENT

(Prince Edward Island)  
 Dawn Hooper  
 Data & Research Services Librarian  
 Robertson Library  
 University of Prince Edward Island  
 550 University Avenue  
 Charlottetown PE C1A 4P3  
 Tel: (902) 566-0453 Fax: (902) 628-4305  
 Email: [dhooper@upe.ca](mailto:dhooper@upe.ca)

### SECRETARY

Lori McCay-Peet, MLIS  
 Lab Manager  
 Centre for Management Informatics  
 Dalhousie University  
 Halifax, Nova Scotia  
[mccay@dal.ca](mailto:mccay@dal.ca)  
 (902)494-8392

## From the President's Desk

*submitted by Donald Moses*

### Welcome to Winter

On Prince Edward Island the unusually mild month of January has ended, February has arrived, and the winter with it. February and March are busy times for your APLA Executive and for the APLA 2010 Planning Committee in Saint John, NB. There are a number of deadlines approaching that may interest the membership.



### Opportunities and Approaching Deadlines

The association administers a number of funds, trusts, and grants. A portion of these funds are returned to the membership annually in the form of conference grants, scholarships, and awards. I thought I would list those with upcoming deadlines to give eligible members an opportunity to apply.

Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust Deadline: March 31 More information: <a href="http://apla.ca/scholarship">http://apla.ca/scholarship</a>
Memorial Award Deadline: March 31 More information: <a href="http://apla.ca/memorial">http://apla.ca/memorial</a>
Merit Award Deadline: March 31 More information: <a href="http://apla.ca/merit">http://apla.ca/merit</a>
First Timer's Conference Grant Deadline: March 31 More information: <a href="http://apla.ca/firsttimers">http://apla.ca/firsttimers</a>
Library Support Staff 2010 Conference Registration Grant Deadline: March 31 More information: <a href="http://apla.ca/supportstaffcongrant">http://apla.ca/supportstaffcongrant</a>



### Grow a Library

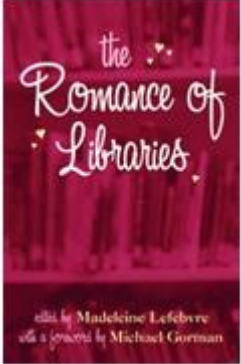
Su Cleyle, Past President, is chairing the Grow a Library Fund Committee and would appreciate any contributions that members can make towards our sponsored library: the **Solomon Mahlangu Library** in Tanzania. Spread the love this Valentine's Day by visiting [CODE's website](#) and donating to this worthwhile initiative.



### Copyright

While parliament was prorogued (suspending legislative and committee activities), it may have seemed as if all things had gone quiet on the copyright front. Not so: the article Copyright Intervention: The Price of Knowledge was published in the January 2010 issue of the **CAUT Bulletin**. The article discusses a pending judicial review regarding the fees schools pay for the right to copy materials for teaching and learning. While the case focuses on primary and secondary schools, depending on how "fair dealing" is interpreted it could mean much higher costs potentially for all educational institutions and their students. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

## Advocacy



Valentine's Day is February 14<sup>th</sup> and the American Library Association's **I Love Libraries** campaign has a [great collection of quotes](#) that will inspire you and your community. Whether you create a display of romance novels or [crafts associated with Valentine's Day](#), highlight your library's poetry collection, or collect and share users' stories about why they love libraries; there are a lot of opportunities to promote the work of libraries in your community. APLA's 2006 Merit Award winner, Madeleine Lefebvre, edited **The Romance of Libraries**, a collection of stories that "... share an over-arching theme of the transformative and emotive power of libraries in our lives." You can borrow it from your local library or purchase it online from your favourite bookseller.

February 21-27 is **Freedom to Read Week** in Canada. This celebration is an opportunity for Canadians (and libraries) to focus on issues of intellectual freedom as they affect your community, your province, our country, and countries around the world. Last year at the Robertson Library we hosted an event and where faculty and staff conducted readings from challenged books. You can find out more, download or order kits, or get a list of challenged books and magazines by visiting the [Freedom to Read](#) website.



## APLA 2010

I hope you plan on attending the APLA 2010 Conference in Saint John. I know the Planning Committee is hard at work and I thank them for their efforts on the Association's behalf. Please see the next section of the Bulletin for a warm welcome and programming note from the Planning Committee and to stay current on the latest news, be sure to visit the [APLA 2010 Conference](#) website.

## The Partnership

I attended the winter meeting of the Partnership on February 23<sup>rd</sup> in Toronto on behalf of APLA. The meeting was hosted by the Ontario Library Association, bringing together the provincial, regional, and territorial library associations in Canada. APLA and its members benefit greatly from its membership in the Partnership, which provides such initiatives as the Education Institute, the Partnership Journal, and the Job Board.

Have a great winter!  
Donald  
APLA President

## Scholarship, Awards, and Grants

### Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association administers the [Carin Somers Scholarship Trust](#). The trust provides an annual scholarship, valued at approximately \$2,000, in her name to assist a Canadian citizen who is an Atlantic Provinces resident needing financial assistance to undertake or complete the academic requirements leading to a degree in Library and Information Studies.

Selection of the recipient will be recommended by a committee of the four Provincial Vice Presidents and the President-Elect to the Executive Committee.

The successful applicant will have been accepted in a School of Graduate Studies as a candidate for a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies accredited by the American Library Association. The award will normally be announced at the Annual Atlantic Provinces Library Association Spring Conference. Application forms are available online in both [English](#) and in [French](#).

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

APLA VP, President Elect  
Sarah Gladwell  
Reference Librarian  
Saint John Free Public Library  
Saint John NB  
E2L 4Z6  
Tel: 506-643-7224  
Fax: 506-643-7225  
Email: [sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca](mailto:sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca)

### First Timer's Conference Grant

To be eligible, an applicant must be a personal member of APLA, residing in Atlantic Canada, 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 APLA Bulletin, summarizing their conference experience. Applicants should include name, business address, chosen means for contacting (mail, e-mail, telephone, fax) estimated costs (travel, accommodation, meals, registration), and a signed compliance with eligibility requirements.

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

Donald Moses  
Librarian

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Robertson Library  
University of Prince Edward Island  
Charlottetown PE  
C1A 4P3  
Tel: (902) 566-6781  
Fax: (902) 628-4305  
Email: [dmoses@upei.ca](mailto:dmoses@upei.ca)

### APLA MEMORIAL AWARD

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 profession are encouraged. To apply, send a letter outlining your proposed research and estimated costs and a copy of your curriculum vitae.

Applications must be submitted by March 31.

Applications, questions and/or donations should be sent to:

Erin Alcock  
Convener, APLA Memorial Awards Committee  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University  
St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1  
[ekalcock@mun.ca](mailto:ekalcock@mun.ca)

### APLA MERIT AWARD

The [APLA Merit Award](#) is presented at the Banquet during the Annual Conference. This award honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library services in the Atlantic Provinces.

Some of the contributions that might be considered in selecting a person for this award are: leadership in library associations at the local, regional and provincial levels; contributions to the development, application and utilization of library services and library systems; significant contribution to library literature.

Here is the list of [Past Recipients of Merit Award](#).

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2009 to:

Su Cleyle  
Associate University Librarian  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's NL  
A1B 3Y1  
Tel: 709-737-3188  
Fax: 709-737-2153  
Email: [scleyle@mun.ca](mailto:scleyle@mun.ca)



## Be in Saint John, NB for the APLA 2010 Conference!



You are cordially invited to attend the 2010 APLA Conference in Saint John, NB this spring. Please mark off May 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> on your calendars, as the Planning Committee happily guarantees three days of intriguing sessions, exhibits, and a barrel of fun in New Brunswick's beautiful port city.

How can we guarantee a great conference? It's easy!

**Riding the Tide / Aller avec la marée** offers one of the largest and most diverse APLA conference programs ever. At a glance, note that our program includes:

several bilingual workshops

participation by our library colleagues in Maine

a session with best-selling crime novelist Tess Gerritson

a full day pre-conference workshop with distinguished New Brunswick author and Library Board member Beth Powning and an ambitious, newly revamped Posters session/exhibition, ably organized by Donna Bourne Tyson.

APLA 2010 in Saint John promises to be a conference loaded with diverse and interesting programs. Prepare to discuss, learn, and do! APLA 2010 will offer participants innovative presentations and workshops on a variety of topics ranging from e-books to virtual vertical files; from a tour of existing digital collections to digitization for dummies; and from song-writing contests for teens to running a Storytent outreach partnership.

This year, a French preconference and several bilingual and French sessions are planned. As we continue to confirm speakers, watch the [APLA 2010 website](#) for updates.

APLA 2010 à Saint-Jean au Nouveau-Brunswick sera un congrès avec des conférences très intéressantes et diversifiées. Soyez prêts à discuter, apprendre et faire! APLA 2010 offrira aux participants des présentations innovatrice et des ateliers sur des sujets variés tels que les livres électroniques, les dossiers verticaux virtuels, une visite des collections digitales qui existent, la digitalisation pour les nuls, comment organiser un partenariat pour un programme de temps du conte sous la tente, et des concours d'écriture de chansons pour les adolescents.

Cette année, une conférence avant le congrès et plusieurs conférences durant le congrès seront soit en français ou bilingue. Visitez souvent [le site APLA 2010](#) pour découvrir les conférenciers à mesure que nous confirmons leur présence.

A sampling of programs at APLA 2010 / Un exemple des programmes qui auront lieu à APLA 2010:

### **Author as Library, Library as Author**

Presenter: Beth Powning

### **eBooks in the Google Age**

Presenter: Mark Leggott

### **Learning Commons: Views Across Cultures 2010**

Presenters: Dr. Keith Dewar, Wen Mei Li

### **Online Catalogs: What Users and Librarians Want**

Presenter: Daniel Boivin

**Zounds! Biff! Kablam! Or How I Started a Graphic Novel Collection at My Academic Library**

Presenter: Crystal Rose

**Baby bookish: Sign language for babies in the library / B  b   bouquine : le langage des signes pour b  b  s    la biblioth  que**

Presenter / Conf  renci  re : Jo  lle Durette

**Using Learning Styles in Information Literacy: What the Research Suggests**

Presenter: Heather Sanderson

*A warm welcome from the Happiest People in Canada and the APLA 2010 Planning Committee!***News From New Brunswick /***Submitted by Sarah Kilfoil and Alain Roberge***PUBLIC LIBRARIES****New Brunswick Public Library Service**

On September 14th, the **York Library Region** launched two new bookmobiles as part of a fleet of three that serve all library regions in New Brunswick. York's South-East and South-West bookmobiles serve communities from Deer Island to Saint-Ignace, Juniper to Renous. Between the two bookmobiles, they will have 78 stops in their 4 week schedule. In order to better serve rural communities, 29 of these stops have been newly added to the schedule and will be receiving bookmobile service for the first time.

Our annual Staff Development Day was held on September 22nd. 64 staff members gathered from our fourteen service points and two bookmobiles to "Celebrate Mind and Body". Session topics ranged from stress management to Readers' Advisory and the line-up of speakers included: Kathleen McKim-Dawes, psychologist from the Department of Health, Margaret Langille, dietician from Sobeys, Jim Hasson, benefits counsellor from the Department of Human Resources, and Loralie Boyle and Tyler Griffin from the Fredericton Public Library.

We are happy to announce that Boiestown Community School Library, which has been located in the Upper Miramichi Regional High School, will have a new home. Construction is underway for the Central New Brunswick Academy in New Bandon. The new school will replace the Regional High School and serve the high school populations of Boiestown and Doaktown. A new library facility will be a part of the school when it opens in September 2010.

Public libraries in the York Library Region celebrated Family Literacy day on Wednesday, January 27th with a number of activities. Special displays, puppet shows, sing-along story times, karaoke, and library tours were offered at Fredericton Public Library, Oromocto Public Library, Doaktown Community-School Library, Chipman Public Library, and Minto Public Library. The three public libraries in Miramichi each promoted Family Literacy Day in a special way: Chatham Public Library and



M  diath  que P  re-Louis-Lamontagne partnered with the Miramichi Partners in Literacy to take part in the "Get Caught Reading!" program. People who were caught reading in the community had a chance to win prizes. The Newcastle Public Library prepared "Welcome Baby" literacy bags for each baby born in Miramichi during the week of Family Literacy Day. The bags were distributed at the hospital and included a teddy bear, board book, information about the library, a "Be Together. Read Together. Discover the Love of Reading @ your library   " booklet on early literacy, and a "Share the Love of Reading" postcard inviting new parents to come into the library to register their baby for a library card.

An exciting new format is now being enjoyed by NB public library users. Four libraries



in the York Library Region (Fredericton Public Library, Boiestown Community-School Library, Chatham Public Library, and Chipman Public Library) recently participated in a trial for Playaways. The portable, user-friendly, preloaded format for audiobooks was a hit with patrons in all four libraries. The Playaways are now available in all New Brunswick Public Library Service libraries for loan.

New libraries are still front page news in the **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region**. The Rogersville Public Library has been up and running since mid-October. It's a small but attractive library, and residents of Rogersville are already making great use of its resources.

After being closed over a year, the renovated Riverview Public Library finally re-opened its doors on January 12th. One great feature of the new space is the row of comfy armchairs in front of a wall of windows with a view of the Petitcodiac River. The Port Elgin Public Library is also receiving a face-lift: new shelving, paint, carpet, and layout will rejuvenate the library.



The Cap-Pelé Public Library opened its doors on December 22nd, and has been bustling ever since. The exterior and interior of the building are beautiful, and we invite everyone to visit Cap-Pelé and view the finished product!

Our annual Staff Development Day was held on November 27th, with a theme of Ergonomics and Library Design. Staff from the Regional Office presented the training, which was very well received. The sessions on ergonomics were tailored to our library environment and included: Ergonomics and the Worker, The Worker at the Workstation, and The Worker and Manual Handling. The mid-morning stretching exercises were quite popular! In the presentation on

Library Design, photos from our new libraries as well as libraries around the world inspired and entertained staff.

The past few months have been full of successful fundraisers in the region as well. Moncton Public Library's Gala Art Auction, Magnum Opus, matched last year's total of \$21,000 raised. A new partnership between the Moncton Public Library and the Autopoetic Ideas Festival raised \$3,000. For the festival, renowned philosopher Deepak Chopra spoke at an event in Moncton, with a percentage of ticket sales going to the library's board. Many other libraries have had fundraising success with used book sales and Adopt-A-Book / Adoptez un livre campaigns.

The Moncton Public Library has overhauled its information literacy programming, and is now presenting programs such as Google It! / Google-le!, Extra, Extra! How to Find Newspapers Online, Hello Computer! Computer Basics / Bonjour ordinateur!, Do you Tweet? Setting up a Twitter account, Shop 'til you drop—Internet Shopping, An Apple a Day—Health Resources Online, and more. The Dieppe Public Library has organized information literacy programming for school aged kids from grades 5 – 8 called Info Savvy Express / Info-savant express. The Gérald-Leblanc (Boucrouche) Public Library and Saint-Antoine Public Library have been holding basic computer classes targeted at seniors. With our priority on lifelong learning, these programs are the perfect way to help New Brunswickers access and use all sorts of information.

La **Région de bibliothèques Chaleur** a dit adieu à Rachel Boudreau-Collin le 31 décembre dernier, après 22 ans de service à titre d'aide-bibliothécaire aux services techniques. Nous lui souhaitons une belle et agréable retraite.

La Bibliothèque publique Mgr-Paquet à Caraquet a été un des premiers récipiendaires du Prix d'innovation des bibliothèques publiques du Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick. Carole Hébert et Gisèle Lavoie ont travaillé avec le festival acadien de Caraquet pour célébrer le thème « Les arts partout en ville » à la bibliothèque depuis 2007 afin de promouvoir les arts et la littérature acadien dans la communauté.



On Saturday January 23, the Campbellton Centennial Library officially launched its Literacy Now Collection. This exciting new collection consists of a wide range of educational and recreational materials meant to support literacy and numeracy. It was made possible by a \$9,000 grant from the New Brunswick Children's Foundation and another \$3,000 grant from the Campbellton Centennial Library Board. The collection consists of 608 books, ninety-six DVDs, and seven programming guides. It is intended for children and young adults and much of the material (including graphic novels and mangas) is designed to inspire the reluctant reader. At the official launch, children and young adults were invited to explore the collection, while the library honoured the local organizations, dignitaries, and agencies, which made the collection possible.

Two new programs were introduced to the public in the 10 libraries of the **Fundy Library Region** for Canadian Library Month this year. "Gaming @ the Library", supported by the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, through sponsorship of donated games from Hasbro, attracted 212 game enthusiasts into the libraries across the Region. A second program, entitled "A Grand Pair of Readers" and initiated by the Kennebecasis Public Library, offered an information and activity package to encourage grandparents (or other adults) to pair with a grandchild (or child) to develop a reading schedule where the pairs get together as frequently as possible to spend time together enjoying this activity. Six of the libraries in the region offered this program and 76 pairs participating in the program. Sussex Regional Library added an extra incentive to attract the grandparents by hosting a party later in the month for the pairs so everyone could meet each other and discuss the program.

Other extra programming for the month included:

- The Saint John Free Public Library at Market Square invited multi-talented author/musician Dave Bidini to visit and offer a variety of programs. His presentation for the public attracted 40 participants. His song-writing workshop had 25 eager attendees and his two separate high school writing workshops totalled 40 more participants.
- The West Branch held its third annual ghost story writing contest that attracted 119 entries.
- Two libraries, Sussex Regional Library and the St. Croix Public Library invited NB Author Nicholas Guitard to speak on his new book *Waterfalls of New Brunswick*.
- The Ross Memorial Library hosted a "Count the JuJubes in the Jar" contest that sparked a fun guessing competition among the library users during the month. The lucky winner who got to take the jar home was only six jujubes away from the total number.

La Bibliothèque publique Mgr-Plourde de Saint-François de la **Région de bibliothèques du Haut-Saint-Jean** a été un des premiers récipiendaires du Prix d'innovation des bibliothèques publiques du Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick. Au cours de la dernière année, Bertin Nadeau et Mélanie Haché ont initié un programme à caractère inclusif : « Les matinées inclusives ». Ces activités incluent des personnes à besoins spéciaux de l'Atelier des Copains de Saint-François et une dizaine de bénévoles de la communauté. Les bénévoles aident les Copains à réaliser le projet déterminé. Ces activités coïncident avec les fêtes importantes de l'année. Par exemple, à la Saint-Valentin, le groupe a confectionné des cartes de souhait à partir de papier récupéré et ils ont écrit un beau texte à l'intérieur. Le personnel a envoyé ces cartes à ces partenaires financiers importants en guise d'appréciation.

En octobre dernier Michelle Bourque et Pierre Van Eeckhout de la bibliothèque publique d'Edmundston sont devenus les heureux parents d'un garçon, Gabriel. Félicitations à tous les deux! La bibliothèque publique de Saint-Léonard a rajeunit son décor en décembre grâce à des rénovations longuement attendues. La communauté apprécie beaucoup le nouvel environnement.



## ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

### Université de Moncton

La Bibliothèque Champlain est heureuse d'accueillir deux nouveaux bibliothécaires.

Monsieur Adel Labidi à titre de bibliothécaire, Chef du service de la gestion documentaire et Monsieur Pierre Goguen, Bibliothécaire affecté au service public.

D'origine tunisienne, M. Labidi possède un D.E.A. en Sciences et technologies de l'information et de la communication, de l'Université Paul Cézanne de Marseille, un diplôme des Études supérieures spécialisées en management des bibliothèques universitaires obtenu de l'Université Manouba en Tunisie, de même qu'une Maîtrise en langues et lettres arabes de cette même université.

En plus de ses qualifications académiques, M. Labidi nous fera profiter de ses six ans d'expérience comme bibliothécaire au Centre de calcul Khawarizma de Tunis et sa participation à des programmes d'informatisation des bibliothèques publiques et universitaires de son pays d'origine.

Dans le cadre de ses nouvelles fonctions, M. Labidi sera appelé à planifier, organiser, coordonner et évaluer toutes les activités comprises entre la suggestion d'un achat de document et sa disponibilité dans le catalogue Éloïse et sur les rayons. Il participera également au développement des collections.

Monsieur Pierre Goguen, originaire de Moncton a entamé ses études universitaires ici même, pour ensuite poursuivre à l'Université St-Thomas où il a obtenu un Baccalauréat es Arts (Littérature et philosophie); puis il a poursuivi à l'Université McGill où il a terminé en recevant un diplôme de maîtrise en Library and Information Studies en 2009.

Au cours de l'année 2009, M. Goguen a occupé le poste de bibliothécaire de référence à la Bibliothèque publique de la ville de Moncton.

Dans le cadre de ses fonctions, il aura à offrir assistance et conseil aux usagers de la bibliothèque; à les initier aux nombreux outils de recherche; à concevoir, offrir et organiser des activités de formation documentaire et à participer au développement des collections.

L'arrivée de ces deux nouvelles recrues vient renforcer l'équipe de la Bibliothèque Champlain et nous apporter expériences et connaissances additionnelles.

## **News from Newfoundland and Labrador**

*Submitted by Louis McGillis*

### **ACADEMIC LIBRARIES**

#### **Memorial University of Newfoundland Libraries**

##### *Appointments*

Ms. Lorna Adcock is the new Head of Information Services, QEII Library. Ms. Adcock holds an MLIS degree from the University of Western Ontario, and a BA Honours degree in Sociology from the University of Ottawa. She is currently working towards her BA Honours degree in Music. Since 2006, Ms. Adcock has been the Director of Information Services for the Canadian Medical Association. Prior to this, she was the MacMillan Librarian for UBC's MacMillan Library. She also previously held positions as Librarian, Saskatoon Research Centre; Manager, Health Canada, Health Protection Branch, Scientific Information & Document Services, Environmental Health Libraries; Librarian, Transportation Safety Board of Canada Library; and Acting Head of

Technical Services, Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation, Canadian Housing Information Centre. Ms. Adcock takes up her new duties at MUN on Monday March 15th.

Shannon Gordon joined Memorial University's Health Sciences Library in November 2009 as a Public Services Librarian. In addition to reference, instructional and collections duties, she is the liaison librarian for Anaesthesia, Surgery and Orthopedics. In this role she will be working on the Newfoundland and Labrador Health Bibliography, providing RefWorks expertise, and overseeing the library's Information Commons. Before this, she spent three years at Memorial's Queen Elizabeth II Library.

In November, 2009, Amanda Tiller, a recent MLIS graduate from the University of Western Ontario, joined Memorial University's Health Sciences Library on a maternity leave appointment as a Public Services Librarian. Among her duties are reference, instruction, and collections and liaison in Oncology. Currently, Amanda is also working as the editor of Library Links, the Health Sciences Library newsletter, acting as the primary contact for the facilitation of the library's chat reference program, and heading library promotion initiatives. Prior to this position, Amanda worked as a cataloguer at the House of Assembly's Legislative Library, and as a co-op student in the Queen Elizabeth II Library's Information Services Division, Memorial University of Newfoundland.



### Queen Elizabeth II Library

#### *Live-in for Literacy*

Earlier this semester, the QEII Library had two students camping out in the library to raise money for literacy. Julia Curtis and Cheyanne Smart, who raised over \$2000.00, set up their campsite in the foyer of the library on Jan. 23 and stayed in the library for 7 days as part of the Live-in for Literacy event, a student initiative spanning eight Canadian universities.

#### *First Space Gallery*

Currently showing - "Changing Tides", curated by Stephanie Williams, a QEII staff and also a graduate of the visual arts programme at the MUN Campus in Corner Brook. The show features work in a variety of media by younger Newfoundland artists and runs until April 23, 2010. Click here to access the [show's website](#).

#### *Special Collections*

Pat Warner, Special Collections Librarian for Non-Newfoundland material, has launched a [website](#) outlining MUN's collections.

### Ferriss Hodgett Library (Grenfell College, MUN, Corner Brook)

#### *Graphic Novel Collection*

The Ferriss Hodgett Library began a [Graphic Novel Collection](#) in 2008. With over 200 titles and growing, the collection supports many of the University's programs, such as English, Visual Arts, Social/Cultural Studies, Folklore, and others. The graphic novel genre is widely recognized as having aesthetic, literary, and cultural value. As a result, many academic libraries in Canada and the United States now include them as a part of their collections.

#### *eBook Readers*

The Library is launching an [eBook reader loan pilot project](#) in February. The library received funding from Grenfell's Research Office to purchase three eBook readers available for faculty and students to borrow. Users can access a significant portion of the library's online content, including e-journal articles and thousands of eBooks, on the readers.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Newfoundland Public Libraries

2010 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of public libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador. Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> was the kick-off for celebrations that will get underway over the coming year to celebrate this milestone.

### *The Literacy Connection*

This is the new early literacy program that will be offered in all public libraries across the province over the coming year. It is designed to promote reading and literacy for children aged three to five years old.

### *Family Literacy Day*

Families were "Singing for Literacy" from St. John's to Corner Brook to Sothorn Labrador on January 27th. Twenty-six public libraries around the province hosted Family Literacy Day events. Many libraries partnered with local musicians and choristers for fun-filled family programs.

### *Putting Readers First*

Libraries in Central Newfoundland are "Putting Readers First" with a fun new idea that is giving some books a new lease on life. Assistant Manager Tina Murphy was excited to try some of the new ideas she learned at a recent Educational Institute Audio Conference. One idea she has implemented, putting staff picks in a brown paper bag and encouraging some of the regular library users to check out the bag! The project is getting more books off the shelves and helping busy people, who don't have a lot of time to browse, select reading material. So far the feedback has been extremely positive, with library users discovering new authors and books. Murphy notes the idea is especially great for children who love a surprise!

### *Green Books*

"Green Books" is the Environmental Policy Institute (EPI)'s first major community debate facilitation activity. EPI is a new initiative at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University that aims to bring together the university and the community in conversations about books that explore environmental issues impacting the province. Each event consists of a book talk and signing by the author, music, exhibits, and refreshments. To encourage the community to get involved, EPI provides every public library in Newfoundland with a copy of the book. *Climate Wars* was the first Green Book and author Gwynne Dyer delivered a very powerful talk to a filled room on November 5th. The next Green Book event will be held March 25th with a talk by Chris Turner, author of *The Geography of Hope: A Tour of the World We Need*. Be sure to mark your calendar and drop by any public library in Newfoundland to get a copy of the book. For more information on Green Books visit the [program website](#).

## **News from Nova Scotia**

*Submitted by Darlene Beck, Donna Bourne-Tyson, Jenn Cox, and Trecia Schell*

## **PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

### **Cape Breton Regional Library**

<http://www.cbri.ca/>

### *The Cape Breton Regional Library Celebrates 60 Years: 1950 – 2010*

It's hard to believe that sixty years have passed, but this year the Cape Breton Regional Library will be celebrating its Diamond Anniversary! In celebration of this momentous occasion, 2010 will be filled with exciting events at CBRL, including a "Books to Eat" event, a festival of NS authors, special 60th Anniversary puppet shows, and more special events at branches across the region. Our Off the Shelf newsletter will feature archival photos and focus on several branches in each issue. See the Jan/Feb issue for our list of the "60 Favourite Books of Library Staff"!



*New CBRL 'Branch' in Sudan, Africa*

Captain Virginia Schonhoffer (35 Sydney Field Ambulance) recently returned from serving a six-month tour with the UN in Yambio in southern Sudan, a state capital approximately 30 kms from the Congo. The people of Yambio had no English language books other than school textbooks, so Captain Schonhoffer contacted her husband, Hal Vickers, and asked him to go to the Cape Breton Regional Library's book sale, purchase some discards, and send them off to her. When she received a box of 30 books, she set up the 'CBRL Yambio Branch' within the UN compound! Now that she is back home, Godfrey Daka, the President of the Yambio United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) Welfare Committee, will be running the 'branch.'



Captain Virginia Schonhoffer and Godfrey Daka at the CBRL's newest branch in Yambio, Sudan!



CBRL Head Librarian Faye MacDougall in a skating outfit from 1869.

*Victorian Christmas Fashion Show & Tea*

Despite our first snowstorm of the year, over 60 people braved the weather to come and enjoy the Victorian Christmas Fashion Show & Tea on December 6th at the McConnell Library in Sydney. The show was a resounding success with 17 volunteers modeling 38 outfits crafted by library patron Pam Newton. Outfits included bathing suits; skating, golf, and bicycling outfits; seaside, walking, and visiting dresses; nightwear; wedding dresses; and more. A silent auction raised funds for the library and everyone enjoyed Victorian-style sandwiches and sweets with tea and hot cider. We are planning a repeat performance later in the year.

*Main-A-Dieu Honoured*

After celebrating their 40th anniversary with a visit by author Lesley Crewe, CBRL's Main-a-Dieu Library at the Coastal Discovery Centre was honoured to receive an anniversary plaque from the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. The milestone was also recorded in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly under Resolution 736.

The Main-a-Dieu branch is also honoured to be playing an essential support role in the new "Learning Support Program" being held at the Centre by Dr Pauline Mesher for parents searching for ideas on how to help their child be more successful at school. The goal of the program is to support learning at home and to help families develop strategies to enhance their children's learning at school. The program offers ways to improve reading, complete homework, and how to access resources. Parents can also learn how to advocate for their child and to navigate the school system more effectively. The program is free of charge and is open Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

**Eastern Counties Regional Library**

<http://ecrl.library.ns.ca/>

*Partnerships*

The library has embraced some new community partnerships in the last little while. ECRL management and staff recently were invited to meet with Tanya Doucet of the Acadian Credit Union in Chéticamp. The outcome of the meeting was an agreement for the Credit Union to house the Book Drop Box in their location, a more convenient location for the box than before. As well, Tanya has provided a link on the Credit Union website to the ECRL web page and has added information about the library in the Credit Union's online newsletter for its members. Future plans include more actively promoting the library to the Credit Union members.

As Tanya indicated in a recent Credit Union newsletter, "Your local library is a great resource for books, magazines and even movies. You'll not only save money but also gain extra storage space." There are also plans to station another drop box at the LeMoince Credit Union. As the Mobile Rural Services of ECRL visit nine communities on a regular basis, it is anticipated the drop boxes will be well used between trips.



Nicole MacDonald, staff member of TD Canada Trust in Port Hawkesbury, has also approached ECRL to volunteer with the children's programming in the Strait Area. As a result, the Port Hawkesbury Library held a very popular story time to celebrate Family Literacy Day in January. "Cinderella" (aka Nicole) dressed in her finery and read stories along with "Prince Charming" (local 101.5 radio personality and volunteer, Scottie O.).

#### *Sparks Visit Mulgrave Branch*

The Mulgrave branch, one of seven branches located within the region, welcomed a group of Sparks into the library last week as they toured the library and concentrated on their next badge.



In the back row, Library Assistants Joyce Oliver-Snair and Tara O'Neill-Ryan are surrounded by the Sparks in the children's section of the library.

#### **Halifax Public Libraries**

<http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/>

#### *Halifax Central Library Update*

This past October, the federal, provincial, and municipal governments announced their commitment to fund the [Central Library](#) project. The total cost of the project is \$55 million with \$18.3 million coming from the federal government, \$13 million from the provincial government and \$23.7 million from the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM).



When complete, the Central Library will be a source of pride and inspiration for all residents, not to mention a welcome addition to the streetscape. Services will be flexible and based on the needs of the community combined with the best that technology has to offer. The Central Library will build a strong urban core, provide economic infrastructure for developing the municipality's creative economy, and revitalize the business district where it is located.

The Central Library Selection Committee, made up of HRM and Halifax Public Libraries staff, is currently reviewing proposals from four architectural firms. Using advice from Richard Florida's [Creative Class Group](#) (a key authority on economic competitiveness, demographic trends, and cultural and technological innovation), the Selection Committee will make a recommendation to Halifax Regional Council in the coming months. After the Council awards the contract for architectural design services, an in-depth public consultation and architectural design development process will begin.

The Central Library will replace the aging Spring Garden Road branch, which is rapidly deteriorating and no longer able to deliver service efficiently or effectively. The Central Library will be a regional resource, providing a supportive role to the other branch libraries and reflecting the communities within HRM. It will also be a vibrant part of the municipality's rich cultural, educational, and civic resources.



#### *Podcamp Halifax*

The second annual Podcamp Halifax took place at the Alderney Gate Library on January 24th. Podcamp is an all-day event designed to encourage dialogue about blogs, podcasts, and popular social media websites such as YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter. Twenty-two different sessions covered everything from blogging basics to the impact of social media on the comic book industry. Attendees could also present a topic of their choosing.

“This is a community event,” said Ryan Deschamps, e-Learning Manager of Halifax Public Libraries and one of the organizers. “The only prerequisite is a desire to learn more about social media. Last January, 170 people came to ... Podcamp. This year, 300 people registered.”

The event is organized by Deschamps, Dan Robichaud (Halifax Regional CAP Association), Craig Moore (Spider Video), and Jon McGinley and Ben Boudreau (Revolve Branding).

Continues Deschamps: “We’re very happy about the interest and the great turnout, but the real success for me is what people take away. People said they learned a lot and made new connections. Podcamp is also a great opportunity to show the library as a place for innovation and community-building. We’ve already had phone calls from people wondering when the next Podcamp will be.” Many of the presentations were filmed and will be available [online soon](#).



### **Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library**

<http://www.parl.ns.ca>

#### *Renovations, Websites, and Family Literacy Day*

With renovations still ongoing in New Glasgow, the new building addition is expected to be completed by April, while construction in Antigonish is expected to break ground in April.

PARL Book bags are here! New to our library branches we have reusable book bags available for purchase. In the spring, we will have our PARLKids book bags too, many thanks to a kind donation by the New Glasgow Walmart employees’ group and the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program in support of community literacy.

The [new PARL website](#) was launched in February. A General Staff meeting for all our library employees took place on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 at the Regional Library Headquarters in New Glasgow. We look forward to the launch of our newest animated English and Gaelic children’s e-book, Sheena’s Garden, on our new website. An event recognizing the launch will be held in May 2010.

Also in the news was the launch of the [new LBANS site](#) on January 21st. The updated website is a support and advocacy tool for public libraries in Nova Scotia and includes useful information including a ‘library calculator’, which allows you to find out how much your library is worth to you!

Family Literacy Day celebrations on Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at PARL branches started at 9:30 a.m. with a StoryTime. The libraries finished the day with a Family PJ Party at 8 p.m. The celebrations even spilled over to an event held on Thursday. Clearly, one day was just not enough time! Also, all our library branches held a prize draw for a spiffy new PARL book bag, filled with books donated by the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program.

See below for a listing of specific branch activities:

The River John Library’s programming included some special guests: children’s author Linda Little and RCMP Const. John Kennedy, our Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program Coordinator.

In Pictou, the Public Library celebrated Family Literacy Day with a Musical Munsch and some fun and games. Guest storybook readers included Mayor Joe Hawes and Const. Kennedy.

The ABCs for Babies program at the Stellarton Library invited the preschoolers from the NSCC daycare to join them for some extra fun & campfire songs with Councillor Denise Taylor (also a PARL Board Member).

The NSCC – Stellarton campus also hosted the launch of Family Literacy Day with Literacy NS and PicCola, with several invited guest readers and speakers.

A special After School StoryTime at the Trenton Library with a Pirate Treasure Hunt in the Town Hall Chambers took place, with a visit from Const. Kennedy and Councilor Steve Cotter (also PARL Board Member).

A Family Sing-Along was held by the Antigonish Library in the Town Hall chambers with invited musical guests.

The Family Pajama Party at the New Glasgow Library included singing with Emma Lee Stewart & her magic guitar, and stories read by with Don MacKenzie (CKEC radio announcer), Const. Kennedy, Mayor Barrie MacMillan and Kim Dickson (Director of Marketing & Communications, Town of New Glasgow). Plus we had hot chocolate, cookies, and door prizes too!

Family Literacy Day wrapped up with StoryTime at the Westville Library on the following Thursday with “bean bag” songs and special guest story readers Clarrie MacKinnon (MLA) and Charlie Sutherland (Town Councilor, and PARL Board Vice-Chair).

#### *PARL Writer-in-Residence*

Writing workshops with Gary Blackwood, our 2009-2010 PARL Writer-in-Residence, are scheduled every Tuesday evening during the months of January, February and March at the Pictou and Westville Libraries. At the end of January, a series of Saturday sessions on magazine-article writing were held in River John. In February, Mr. Blackwood visited the Stellarton Young Readers' Club for a special author reading of his book, *Mysterious Messages*. He will also visit the Westville Youth C@P Film Workshop to do some screenwriting sessions while continuing to mentor a Teen Playwright group in Pictou.

#### *Additional News*

“Lights! Camera! ACTION!!”, a 10-week youth film workshop, is ongoing at the C@P site of the Westville Library and also in Antigonish. For more information, please [visit us online](#).

Freedom to Read Week included a discussion panel of local and international journalists on the evening of Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. The following night, Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the New Glasgow Library, Susan Hartley (founder of the Atlantic chapter of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan) hosted a social information session. The goals of advocacy group are to advance education and educational opportunities for Afghan women and their families and to educate and increase Canadians' understanding of human rights issues in Afghanistan. For more information, please visit the [group's website](#) or you may [contact Ms. Hartley directly](#).

For this year's March Break Madness, we have some special family friendly programming lined up, including a visit from The Lego Master! In addition, for the month of March PARL will host an “I love my library!” bookmark design contest for PARLKids. PARL will also launch their Local Artists series featuring local artisans sharing their work with us and talking about aspects of the media they work with (wood, textiles, metals and pottery/ceramics, and more).

In closing, we have a retirement to mention. We at PARL wish all the best to Carolynn Grant, who after 32 years of service will be retiring in March from our Technical Services Department.

## Western Counties Regional Libraries

<http://www.westerncounties.ca/>



From left, Immigration Information Navigator Andrew Pace, West Nova MP Greg Kerr and Western Counties Regional Library Coordinator Debbie Duke.

### *Regional Library Receives Funding for Seniors Mentoring Newcomers Project*

The Western Counties Regional Library has received \$25,000 in federal funding to establish a mentoring program between seniors in the area and newcomers. The aim of the project is to increase the retention of newcomers to the region and to enable the active participation of seniors in making those new to the area feel at home. The regional library received the grant on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The program, Seniors Mentoring Newcomers, is made possible in conjunction with the South West Shore Development Authority's Immigration Information Navigator.

"The money is to be used to get the project up and running with the goal of making it self-sustaining," says Debbie Duke, project coordinator for the regional library. "We expect results within the first six months." Duke added that the project will start right away.

The funding will be used to hire a volunteer trainer, purchase necessary equipment such as a laptop computer, cover training costs, and create a self-sustaining project. Once a pool of volunteers is trained, it is hoped some will continue to train new volunteers, thus enabling the program to continue under its own capacity. Volunteers commit to a minimum of six months service to the program and the service will cover Digby, Shelburne, and Yarmouth counties.

"We're hoping to start with a core group of maybe 20 volunteers," Duke explains. The program will be overseen by a volunteer committee of five people: Duke, Immigration Information Navigator Andrew Pace, and three seniors. Duke is actively seeking volunteers to fill the additional board positions.

### *Regional Director Honoured for Years of Service*

On January 8<sup>th</sup>, Western Counties Regional Library Chair Gary Archibald presented Regional Director Trudy Amirault with a certificate commemorating her 35 years of service to the library at the Regional Headquarters in Yarmouth.



## ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

### **Saint Mary's University Partick Power Library**

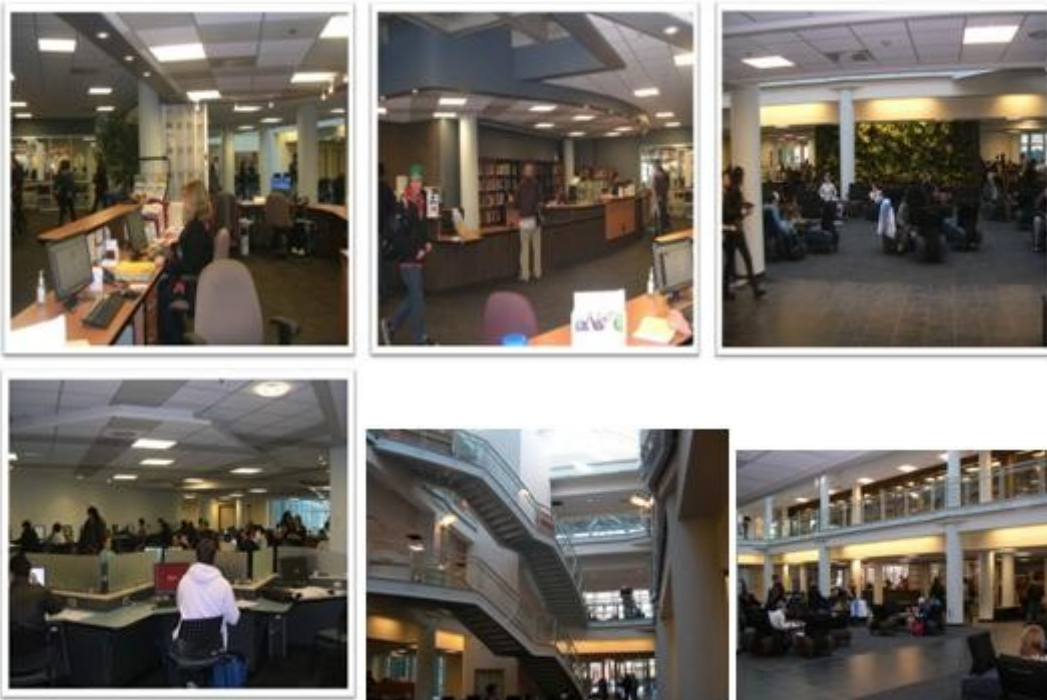
<http://www.smu.ca/administration/library/>

The big news at Saint Mary's is that the Global Commons is now up and running. The Commons is located on the ground floor of the new three-story Atrium which has been built at the north end of the Library. The Commons is comprised of a large, open gathering place with comfortable, flexible seating for group and individual work; about 60 computer workstations; and a Just Us! Café. The space was (not surprisingly) immediately popular with students.

These campus enhancements translate into major changes to the physical Library, its relation to other university support services, and how it is situated and accessed. Our main floor has been dramatically reorganized and we have a new entrance and new Circulation and Reference desks.

There have also been some changes among those of us working in the library. Three new people joined our ranks: Lisa Billard is the library's new secretary; Xuimei Li fills the new post of Digital Services Librarian; and Rachel Tingley is now part of the Information Systems team, helping with document delivery. In addition, Heather Zinn has moved from Cataloguing to Reference and Research.





### Mount Saint Vincent University Libraries

<http://www.msvu.ca/en/home/library/default.aspx>

Mount Saint Vincent University is thrilled to announce the appointment of Terri Milton as Curriculum Resource Centre Coordinator (Faculty of Education), effective January 4th.

Terri comes to MSVU from the Nova Scotia Community College where she was Electronic Services Librarian and before that, Campus Librarian for the Akerley Campus. Terri is a highly respected member of the Novanet LiveHelp Committee and has been active on numerous local and regional committees.

She has over ten years experience as both a library technician and a librarian, having completed both the library technology program at NSCC and the MLIS program at University of Western Ontario. Terri also received a BEd in Secondary Education from Acadia university and a BSc in Chemistry from Mount Allison University. In addition to completing these programs, Terri taught in schools and worked as a teacher librarian.

Terri has been warmly welcomed by the Faculty of Education and by her colleagues in the Mount Library.

### Dalhousie University

<http://www.library.dal.ca/>

#### *Hail and Farewell to Fran Nowakowski, IL Coordinator*

On December 10th, Dalhousie Libraries held a reception at the University Club to celebrate the achievements of Fran Nowakowski, who retired effective December 31st.

Fran began working as a Social Sciences and Humanities Reference Librarian at the Killam Library in 1981, when staff filed cards in the card catalogue and there wasn't a computer to be seen. Involved in bibliographic instruction even then, Fran typed, copied, cut, and pasted handouts – literally – by hand. When Internet-based email came into use in 1993, the first office

computer appeared; just one, shared by all Reference staff, accompanied by a tower of CDs containing databases. With the emergence of the World Wide Web, the first library web tutorials and virtual library tour were created in 1996.

“It’s been a really interesting, exciting time to be a librarian,” Fran said. “The Internet has provided the most creative opportunities for library instruction, with new interfaces and software to be mastered.” For example, Fran began working with Authorware, then learned how to use Viewlet Builder, Lectora, and finally Camtasia to produce increasingly sophisticated online tutorials.

In July 2005 Fran was appointed Information Literacy Coordinator, a position originally co-funded by the Libraries and through a donation to the Learning Connections program from David and Leslie Bissett. “The concept of information literacy had been around since 2000 or so,” Fran pointed out. “Essentially it involves teaching critical thinking and evaluation of information resources based on ACRL competency standards.” As IL Coordinator, Fran’s responsibilities have included teaching RefWorks, conducting workshops for faculty on incorporating research tools into Blackboard, developing a series of Libcasts (instructional videos), providing support for the creation of Libguides, and managing Dalhousie’s Academic Integrity website. In addition to this, Fran has also supervised projects such as Killam Quest virtual tour (carried out by IL interns) and worked on the Reference Desk.

Highlights? “The most fun has been looking for new ways to help our students and being open to learning different kinds of tools,” she said. “After all, that’s why we’re here; to make the students’ experience as positive as possible!” Fran is grateful for the support and appreciation she has received from the Writing Centre, the Centre for Learning and Teaching, Student Services, and other units across campus. “I feel I’ve accomplished what I’d hoped: our community now knows what information literacy is and how important it is, and the Libraries are in the conversation. We’ve made broader connections across Dalhousie.”

Looking back with satisfaction on her successful career, Fran is now eagerly planning the next chapter in her life: lots of travelling (New Zealand, Australia, BC, England, France and possibly Israel); exploring new ways of keeping fit like yoga and Zumba; weaving and crafts; and the fun of learning even more technologies. She has a brand new iPhone (“It’s fun, I love it!”) and has started a blog to keep friends and family up to date on her travels.

Those who know Fran best will not be surprised at her take on retirement: “I’m looking forward to expanding my horizons.” Congratulations Fran and best wishes from all your Dalhousie colleagues!

## News from Prince Edward Island

*Submitted by Nichola Cleaveland, Dawn Hooper, and Suzanne Jones*

### SPECIAL LIBRARIES

#### Veterans Affairs Canada Library

Roseanne Gauthier is employed in the Departmental Librarian position at Veterans Affairs Canada for the next few months. She is filling in for Heidi Lund who is currently on secondment to the Office of the Veterans Ombudsman.



## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Public Library Service

<http://www.library.pe.ca>

#### *Public Library Service Transferred to Tourism and Culture*

In January, Premier Robert Ghiz announced a series of changes to Cabinet responsibilities. Among the changes was the transfer of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Division to the renamed Department of Tourism and Culture.

#### *2009 Recipient of Nora Bateson Award Announced*

The recipient of the Nora Bateson Award for Excellence in Library Service for 2009 is Kaye MacLean, Branch Technician for Murray Harbour and Murray River branch libraries. Kaye has made many significant contributions to the patrons in the southern Kings County area throughout her 15-year career with the Public Library Service. On Friday, December 18th, Charlie McGeoghegan, MLA for Belfast - Murray River, (left), and Harry Holman, Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries (right), presented Kaye MacLean with her award.



The Nora Bateson Award was created in 2008 to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Public Library Service. It was named in honour of PEI's first Provincial Librarian, Nora Bateson, who travelled across the Island in 1933 establishing a public library system through the Carnegie Demonstration Project. Her initiative and commitment to libraries and to the people of Prince Edward Island were exemplary, and this award for excellence in library service is a fitting tribute to her. Congratulations, Kaye!

#### *Staff News*

Long-time Confederation Centre Public Library Technician Marian Murphy retired in mid-February. Marian started as summer student with PLS in 1974 and became a permanent employee in 1975. She has worked at CCPL since 1982.

Jean Sharpe has been appointed to the LA5 position at the Summerside Rotary Library. This position was left vacant when Kim MacLeod moved to the Hunter River Memorial Library. Jean has been working for the past year as a backup in the Kensington Heritage Library.

Lori Gagné has been appointed to the Branch Technician position at Bibliothèque publique Dr. J.-Edmond-Arsenault in Charlottetown.



#### *Stitches and Tea Program at the Murray River Leona Giddings Memorial Library*

Since the beginning of October, a dedicated group have been meeting on Tuesday afternoons at the Murray River Leona Giddings Memorial Library to sew quilts for the IWK's Intensive Care Unit. The group formed after a young child was struck by a car and spent many weeks at the IWK. His grandmother, grateful for the care he received at the IWK, asked staff at the hospital what she could do to show her sincere thanks. The staff said they needed quilts for the children, and so the Stitches and Tea Program at the library began! Initially, the goal was to make 24 quilts, but the group has so far made close to 70 quilts! In addition to the IWK, other recipients will be the Food Bank and the nursery at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

*UNICEF Fundraiser*

For the past four years, the CCPL has been selling UNICEF cards and materials. This project has been spearheaded by staff member Cora Hurlburt. The proceeds have steadily grown each year, but this year's sale was a phenomenal success - the money raised totalled \$3,368.55! The donations will make a huge difference in the lives of children in real need.

Pictured accepting the cheque from Cora is John Humble, Regional Director for UNICEF in Atlantic Canada.

**ACADEMIC LIBRARIES****University of Prince Edward Island Robertson Library**

<http://library.upei.ca>

The Library and UPEI is the very recent recipient of an Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) research grant totalling \$2.4 million for Discovery Space, a project to further develop UPEI's Virtual Research Environment (VRE) software. Currently, there are more than 100 instances of the VRE being used and interest is growing for both the software and existing module structures. Well-deserved kudos are in order for Mark Leggott and his VRE team! [Click here](#) for more information on this achievement.

Congratulations to Warren Christopher Reeson for submitting the winning design in the Robertson Library's 2009 Art Competition. His proposal includes a series of panels depicting an evolutionary time line of creative and technical achievements illustrated in rich, dramatic colours. The actual panels will be of wood, cut to shape, painted in acrylics, and affixed to the wall. Mr. Reeson will also create a bookcase mural that will illustrate a variety of important literary works representing various cultures and times. The physical space targeted for visual improvement by this competition was the upper level lobby area and installation of this winning submission will begin in the spring/summer of 2010.

The Island Imagined: The Story of Prince Edward Island in Maps is an Archival Community Digitization Program (Heritage Canada)-funded project that will digitize 1,500 Prince Edward Island maps, include enhanced metadata, and give context with additional learning materials. The project leverages a number of open source projects including Fedora digital repository software and Islandora, the Robertson Library's Drupal module that allows users to view and manage digital objects and collections. This project is a partnership between the Robertson Library, the Prince Edward Island Public Archives and Records Office, and the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation. The project will be completed by March 2010. For more information, please contact [Donald Moses](#).

The Library has recently begun work on IslandVoices, a project to digitize approximately 1,000 hours of oral history interviews recorded on audiocassette by well-known Island radio personality Reg "Dutch" Thompson. The recordings, prepared in the course of Thompson's fieldwork for his weekly "Bygone Days" radio programme on CBC Charlottetown, capture a wealth of stories and songs about life in rural PEI in the early Twentieth Century.

The Library ran its second Freedom to Read event on the week of February 22nd. Two sessions of UPEI folk reading from "challenged" books were offered. All the readers from last year expressed their interest in repeating the event, which celebrated our rights and freedom to read and indeed proved great fun.

The lockers that were located in the breezeway of the Robertson Library late last term will now be available for rental to anyone who has a campus card.

## News from the School of Information Management, Dalhousie University

<http://sim.management.dal.ca/>

### *Dr. Anatoliy Gruzd joins the School of Information Management*

The School of Information Management is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Anatoliy Gruzd as Assistant Professor. Dr. Gruzd completed his PhD in Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009. Dr. Gruzd holds a MS in Library & Information Science from Syracuse University and both a BS & MS in Computer Science from Dnipropetrovsk National University in Ukraine.

Dr. Gruzd will expand his innovative research and development of various automated text mining techniques and visualization tools. These are used for uncovering social networks between online participants based on their digital footprints alone. Dr. Gruzd's research interests also include online communities, context-aware information retrieval, and digital libraries.

Dr. Gruzd's work has been published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Information Processing & Management*, and *Digital Libraries*. He has also presented at several conferences including those hosted by the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), GROUP, and Networked Learning. Most recently, Dr. Gruzd's paper "Studying collaborative learning using name networks" received the ALISE 2009 Best Paper Award and has been published in the *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*.



More recently, Dr. Gruzd has been interviewed and filmed by Epigeum, a company associated with Imperial College in London, UK, on his innovative use in the classroom of various interactive learning technologies such as iClickers. Imperial College will feature the interview in a series of high-quality online training courses for faculty, students, and staff in higher education. In early 2010, Dr. Gruzd will be participating in a two-year collaborative research initiative called Network Assessment and Validation for Effective Leadership (NAVEL). NAVEL is funded as part of a larger \$23.2 million Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) initiative called the GRAND (Graphics, Animation and New meDia) Network, a group whose goal is to develop Canada's position as a global leader in new media, animation, and games.

### *School of Information Management Professor Awarded International Grant*

Dr. Louise Spiteri, Associate Professor in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University, and Laurel Tarulli, Collection Access Librarian, Halifax Public Libraries, have been awarded a \$12,000 grant for 2010 from the Library and Information Science Research Grant Program of the Online Computer Library Centre (Dublin, OH) and the Association for Library and Information Science Education. The research project, "The public library catalogue as a social space: Usability studies of user interaction with social discovery systems", will examine and compare how library users access, use, and interact with two social discovery systems used in two Canadian public library systems.



The public library catalogue has long acted as an important and fundamental medium between users and their information needs. The traditional goals and objectives of the library catalogue are to enable users to search a library's collection to find items pertaining to specific titles, authors, or subjects. Today's library catalogues are competing against powerful alternatives for information discovery. Services offered by sites such as Amazon ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)) and LibraryThing ([www.librarything.com](http://www.librarything.com)) allow members to interact with the catalogue and with each other by creating and participating in discussion groups; tagging or classifying items of interest in language that reflects their needs; sharing reading, listening, or viewing interests; and providing recommendations and ratings for selected items.

These types of services serve to heighten library users' expectations of a library catalogue. If the public library catalogue is to continue to have relevance to its users, it needs to move beyond its current inventory model (where content is designed and controlled by library staff and client interaction with catalogue content is limited) to an enhanced social discovery system, or social catalogue (where users can contribute to, and interact with, information and with each other). Features such as enriched metadata content (e.g., tables of contents and abstracts), faceted navigation, relevance ranking of search results, pre-structured searches, and user-contributed content (e.g., tags, reviews, and ratings) have the potential to enhance user and staff experiences in catalogues due to increased interaction with each other and the library collection.

This project is the first step in a comprehensive usability study that will examine:

- the extent to which public library users, librarians, and library staff can efficiently access, use, and interact with social discovery systems;
- the public library users' perception of and satisfaction with the benefits of social discovery systems; and
- the public library librarians' and staffs' perception of and satisfaction with the benefits of social discovery systems.

Dr Spiteri's recent published research has focused on: the structure of folksonomy tags and their contribution to controlled vocabularies and taxonomies; the use of facet analysis in information retrieval thesauri and social tagging applications; and the evaluation of the social and metadata features in social cataloguing sites.

#### *Student News*

Two student papers were chosen for presentation at the Dalhousie University Student Research Symposium on Friday, February 5th.

**Angela Manyangara** is contributing for the second year with her paper, "Multitasking information behavior in today's knowledge economy". Manyangara is a student in the Masters of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) program and holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Economic History and a Post Graduate Diploma in Media and Communication Studies, both from the University of Zimbabwe. After completing her undergraduate degree and diploma, she worked as a high school teacher and in the banking sector.



**Folushade Oduntan** has contributed a paper titled, "Beyond technology: Information management and efficiency in banking". Folushade is a first year student in the MLIS program and has worked previously as the Regional Manager of one of Nigeria's leading banks.

**Robin M. N. Parker** has been invited to present a paper at Concordia University in Montreal. The Canadian Society for the History of Medicine will be holding their annual meeting May 28-30th as part of the 2010 Congress for the Humanities and Social Sciences. Robin will present her paper, "Fostering medical professionalism by connecting Maritime doctors: Maritime Medical News, 1888-1910".



Robin is a MLIS candidate (2010) at Dalhousie University's School of Information Management and holds a BSc in History and General Science from the University of Oregon (2001). Her goal is to continue contributing to her specific areas of academic and professional interest: medical librarianship and the history of medicine. The research for the paper to be presented was completed for a directed reading course under the supervision of Dr. Bertrum MacDonald.

#### *Information Management Lecture Series*

On November 16th, **Dr. Vivian Howard**, presented the lecture "Most of the books that I've read I've found on the floor: Teens and pleasure reading." For the past thirty years, researchers have consistently found that pleasure reading slumps in early adolescence, but few researchers have explored the specific reasons for this decline from the perspective of teens themselves



and fewer still have explored the role that reading for pleasure plays in the lives of young teens. However, in the early 21st century, our understanding of teen pleasure reading assumes greater importance: public libraries are focusing simultaneously on improving services to teen patrons and to pleasure readers of all ages as key strategies to maintain relevance and competitive advantage in the age of Google. In this presentation, Dr. Howard explored some of the key barriers and motivators underlying teen pleasure reading and concluded by discussing strategies to respond to these challenges and to best support teens in their pleasure reading.



Dr. Howard is an assistant professor in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University, where she has been teaching since 1996. Her PhD dissertation, completed through Aberystwyth University, Wales, investigated the role of reading for pleasure in the lives of young teens. Dr. Howard is also the editor of the YA Hotline Newsletter and an avid reader of young adult fiction.

On January 20th, **Annie St. Jacques** and **Dr. Michael Power** presented the lecture “An application of blended online learning: The virtual graduate seminar.” Over the past decade, dual mode universities have implemented online learning with mixed results. St. Jacques and Power provided a critique of the industrial model of distance education, the blended learning model, and the asynchronous online model. The lecture proposed the blended online learning model, which combines an asynchronous learning management system environment and a synchronous, desktop conferencing learning environment within a completely online virtual classroom.

Blended online learning offers opportunities to students for rich, real-time interaction with faculty which fosters knowledge-building and consolidation, as well as rich peer interactions which help alleviate learner isolation and promote knowledge co-construction. The presenters posited that, compared to current asynchronous practices, it may lower upfront design-related faculty workload and provide rich opportunities for faculty members to whom contact with students is a priority. For institutions continuously concerned with quality and cost-effective instruction, blended online learning may contribute to increase university outreach via borderless education. The speakers explored one application of blended online learning, the virtual graduate seminar, on the premise that this specific combination of technologies, approach, and methodology would provide graduate students and faculty with the required tools to experience the graduate seminar online. This research is deemed critical to the training of highly-qualified personnel in the increasingly competitive arena of university services within a burgeoning knowledge society.

**Annie St Jacques** is a Ph.D. Candidate in Educational Technology at Laval University in Quebec City. She holds a graduate diploma in Multimedia Instructional Design and a Master's degree in Distance Education, both completed via distance education. Strongly concerned by accessibility, her background is in teaching, instructional design, and academic advising at the university level. St. Jacques was awarded the 2009-2012 Joseph-Armand-Bombardier Foundation bursary through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. She is currently working with her supervisor, Dr. Michael Power, on the development of a sustainable instructional design and technology model for online teaching and learning at dual-mode universities. Annie is also the coordinator of the Blended Online Learning initiative. [BOLD](#) is an emerging international network of researchers interested in instructional design, technology, blended learning, distance education/online learning, and graduate studies.



[Dr. Michael Power](#) is Programs Director and Assistant Professor in Educational Technology at the Faculty of Education, Laval University in Quebec City, Canada. His fields of expertise include e-learning, instructional systems design of interactive learning environments, and educational gaming. He is Founder of the BOLD research network; Deputy Director of and researcher with the [GeoEduc3D](#) project; member of the [CNIE/RCIE](#) Board of Directors and its Research Director; and member of the Board of Directors, Coordination Committee and researcher with the Inter-university Learning & Technology Research Center ([CIRTA](#)).



Dr. Power is also a member of the Editorial Review Board for the French-language scientific journal *Revue des sciences de l'éducation* and a reviewer for several other scientific journals. He is the author of *A Designer's Log: Case Studies in Instructional Design*, which was published by Athabasca University Press in September 2009.

## News from the Nova Scotia Association of Library Technicians

The 2010 NSALT Conference will take place on Friday October 22nd. Our event this year will take place in the Halifax Regional Municipality at the Best Western Chocolate Lake Hotel. Please check the [NSALT website](#) for regular updates.

Our Fourth Annual General Meeting will take place in late in March. Please consider joining us to discuss library technician related issues. We are currently accepting nominations for our Executive and have an opening for the position of Vice President. For more information, please contact Past President [Erica Smith](#).

## Off the Shelf

*The Whole Five Feet: What the Great Books Taught Me About Life, Death, and Pretty Much Everything Else* by Christopher R. Beha. New York: Grove Press, 2009

*Reviewed by Terry Paris*

In 1909 Charles William Eliot, shortly before his retirement from 40 years service as President of Harvard University, was approached by the publisher P.F. Collier & Son to compile and edit a set of the great books of Western civilization in English translation. "It is my belief", affirmed Eliot, "that the faithful and considerate readings of these books ... will give any man the essentials of a liberal education, even if he can devote to them but fifteen minutes a day."

On New Year's Eve 2006 Chris Beha, a twenty-seven year old college graduate without a job or a girlfriend, embarked on reading the 51 volumes and over 22,000 pages of the Harvard Classics with the intention of reading one volume a week during 2007. During a conversation with his mother, he discovered a family connection to the Harvard Classics: sixty years earlier, his maternal grandmother, a newly-wed with little formal education, had purchased Dr. Eliot's "Five-Foot Shelf". Beha realized that Mary Ryan, in all likelihood, ended up with a greater grasp of literary culture than her college-educated grandson.

Other trials of intellectual endurance have been published recently: *The Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to Become the Smartest Person in the World*, recounting A.J. Jacobs' confrontation with the 32 volumes and 33,000 pages of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*; *Reading the OED: One Man, One Year, 21,730 Pages*, which chronicles Ammon Shea's bout with the 20 volumes of the *Oxford English Dictionary*. An older tome, yet one relevant to this sort of literary pursuit, film critic David Denby's *Great Books: My Adventures with Homer, Rousseau, Woolf, and Other Indestructible Writers of the Western World* offers more commentary on the works and the cultural wars raging around "the canon" than does Beha.

Chris Beha avoids the jocular tone of the two newer books in large part because his project is beset by some serious events in his personal life. During the period in which the book was written, he was in remission from Hodgkin's lymphoma, first diagnosed while he was still in college. Also, Beha's beloved Aunt Mimi died of cancer and he had to confront additional health crises of his own: he spent part of Summer 2007 in a brain fog as a result of taking narcotics to alleviate Lyme disease. After a month of inactivity, Beha finally gets back to work in September.

When Beha's new tome is juxtaposed with that of Denby, the thirteen-year-old work differs in that it is not a solitary pursuit, but part of a dynamic exchange between the professor and his students (who are either exhilarated or bored as the writings of each intellectual giant pass under their scrutiny).



The advantage of Beha's book lies in its connection to his personal life. As he reads each volume of the Harvard Classics, the author shares with us stories about his immediate family as well as details about his own life in New York City, complete with quotidian errands and excursions. He shares the consolation or instruction he derives from his reading. Beha is honest when a great book fails to fully engage him. He confesses that during a period of "classics fatigue" he could not say he read Volume XI: On the Origin of Species: rather, his eyes merely passed over every word of Darwin's text. However, when he arrives at Wordsworth's "Tintern Abbey" in Volume XLI: English Poetry II he is so overwhelmed by the idea of the enrichment of experience over the passage of time that he admits to having given more attention to the poem than to any other work in the set.

Similarly, his reading of Frank Aretas Haskell's Account of the Battle of Gettysburg (from a volume with the unpromising title of American Historical Documents) prompts Beha to reflect on the decline of self-expression from the previous generations who could quote appropriate verses in Latin (as did Haskell in this private letter to his brother). In contrast, Beha notes, his own generation's repertoire consists chiefly of memorable movie lines.

For readers who enjoy an intimate, personal conversation between a young man facing an uncertain future and the masters of the past, Beha's book is one to choose. For those looking to learn how the intellectual giants of Western civilization still have the power to inform and enliven contemporary public discourse, something along the lines of Denby's Great Books: My Adventures with Homer, Rousseau, Woolf, and Other Indestructible Writers of the Western World would be more suitable.

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*Book titles for Off the Shelf book reviews are generously provided by YBP Library Services*



## **Opinionated Writers Wanted!**

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For example, to have your piece featured in the Spring issue of the APLA Bulletin (published May 1) submissions are due by March 1.

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Head of Electronic Resources and Serials  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1  
Tel: (709) 737-7439 Fax: (709) 737-2153  
Email: [louisew@mun.ca](mailto:louisew@mun.ca)

#### COMPUTERS & CONNECTIVITY

Hansel Cook, Librarian/Archivist,  
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Saint Mary's University,  
5932 Inglis Street,  
Halifax, NS B3H 3C3  
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E-mail: [hansel.cook@smu.ca](mailto:hansel.cook@smu.ca)

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Robertson Library,  
University of Prince Edward Island,  
550 University Ave.,  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3  
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Tel: (902) 432-2667 Fax: (902) 888-1686  
Email: [jfsavaria@gov.pe.ca](mailto:jfsavaria@gov.pe.ca)

#### INFORMATION LITERACY

Janet Goosney  
Information Services Librarian  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1  
Tel: (709) 737-3166 Fax: (709) 737-2153  
Email: [jgoosney@mun.ca](mailto:jgoosney@mun.ca)

#### LIBRARY TECHNICIANS

Karen Darby, Library Assistant VIII,  
Health Sciences Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL A1B 3V6  
Tel.: (709) 777-7609 Fax: (709) 777-6866  
E-mail: [kdarby@mun.ca](mailto:kdarby@mun.ca)

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Tel.: (902) 584-2102  
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([sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca](mailto:sarah.gladwell@gnb.ca))

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Erin Alcock  
Science Research Liaison Librarian  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University  
St. John's NL

A1B 3Y1

Tel: (709) 737-7427 Fax: (902) 585-1748  
Email: [ekalcock@mun.ca](mailto:ekalcock@mun.ca)

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

Erin Alcock  
Science Research Liaison Librarian  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1  
Tel: (709) 737-8316 Fax: (709) 737-2153  
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