

## News from Prince Edward Island

### News from Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island

Donald Moses, University Librarian

#### UPEI News

- Dr. Nola Etkin announced as the new Dean of Science.
- [UPEI's Operational Ease-back Plan](#) is shared with campus on May 8.
- UPEI's [messaging to the community related to COVID-19](#)
- UPEI's Hosts Virtual Open House
  - On Monday, April 20 UPEI's recruitment team hosted its first Virtual Open House for prospective students.
- Work from Home Ergonomic Consults
  - Kinesiologists from UPEI's Active Living Lab are offering online ergonomic consults for individuals now working from home to educate them on ergonomic best practices and provide suggestions on how to work as safely as possible during this period. See: <https://projects.upei.ca/ergo/>
- UPEI supports the fight against COVID-19
  - [Atlantic Veterinary College](#) team modelling COVID-19 impact on PEI, loaning testing equipment to Queen Elizabeth Hospital, donated PPE, and almost 16,000 sterile swabs to the National Microbiology Lab in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
  - [Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering produces PPE](#)

#### Robertson Library News

##### COVID-19

- The Library closed at 4:30 pm on March 17, in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Library staff began working from home the following day. Our planned stress-free exam activities and pop-up surprises were cancelled. Extra emphasis has been placed on our social media platforms to connect with our students and campus community.
- The Library is developing a staged ease-back plan to re-open the library.

## Staffing

- Delayed hiring processes due to COVID-19
  - Our plans for filling a Systems Librarian position is temporarily on hold.
  - We have a current library technician vacancy that is also temporarily on hold.

## Open Education Resource Development Program

- Our OER Development Program was featured in [University Affairs](#). We had the opportunity to review applications and are pleased to have a number of projects that will be funded. Work will begin this summer on those projects. For more information about the program, see <https://library.upei.ca/oerprogram>.

## 50th Anniversary Site

- New interviews continue to be added to our 50th Anniversary site. Did you know that musicians [Tim Chaisson](#) and [Lenny Gallant](#) are both graduates of UPEI? Check out their great interviews and [others on the site](#). Robertson Library staff continue to post images from our Archives every Thursday - [#ThrowBackThursday Twitter campaign](#) Visit the site: <https://50.library.upei.ca/>

## Islandora 8 RDM Platform

- The funding for our Islandora 8 RDM Platform has ended, but we continue to develop the platform with the Islandora community. We've posted administrator and user documentation on the site, as well as a collection of videos that demonstrate the features of the platform. Many thanks to Rosie Le Faive, Alexander O'Neill, Alan Stanley and Noella MacIntyre for their work on developing the platform. For more information see: <https://islandora-rdm.researchspaces.ca/>

## Relaunch digital collections

- As part of its ongoing preservation practices, the Library has been migrating several digital collections to the latest supported production version of Islandora. [IslandLives.ca](#) is a digital collection of Island publications including community histories, church histories, and more. [IslandImagined.ca](#) is a collaborative collection of Island related maps. Library staff and student assistants are engaged in a number of projects to further improve access to these collections by cleaning up metadata and transcribing names present on maps to enhance discovery.



## BookLives.ca

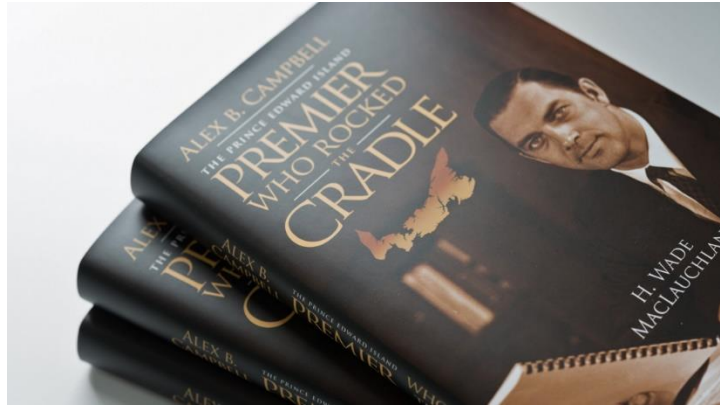
- The BookLives team continues to trace the ownership history of many pre-1950 books in our collection. We recently discovered a WWII badge, normally worn on a Leading Aircraftman tunic, tucked inside a book signed by [D.B. MacDonald](#) from North Bedeque, PEI. Two of D.B. MacDonald's sons were Aircraftmen; Joseph Alban MacDonald survived the war, Donald Charles

MacDonald did not. To which son did the badge belong? We do not know. To read this story, and many others, check out [BookLives.ca](http://BookLives.ca)

## Events

- The E-Learning Office hosted UPEI's 3rd Teaching Community Conference online this year on May 5th. The conference featured a keynote presentation from Dr. Bonnie Stewart & Dave Cormier. Recordings of the sessions and presentations are available on the [Teaching Community Conference website](#).

- The Robertson Library, in cooperation with UPEI President Emeritus H. Wade MacLauchlan, is offering a free download of the ebook and audiobook versions of MaLauchlan's biography of Premier Alex B. Campbell. *Alex B. Campbell: The Prince Edward Island Premier who Rocked the Cradle* tells the story of Prince Edward Island's longest-serving premier and the youngest person elected first minister in Canada in the 20th century.



The recordings were compiled, edited, and digitally mastered by Rob Drew at UPEI's Robertson Library, using Adobe Audition. The resulting audiobook is unabridged and is in fact enhanced with new material not in the print version of the book, and includes almost 15 hours of high-quality audio.

Download your copy of the audiobook or ebook at <https://alexbcampbell.ca>.

- *Music in the Library* - March 10  
The Library hosted a musical interlude over the lunch hour for all to enjoy. UPEI Music Society guitar duo musicians Matthew Kays and Matt McNally, aka Matt<sup>2</sup>, entertained Library patrons and staff with their versatile selections, from classical to jazz.



- *Freedom to Read Week Display* - February 23 - 29  
Books that have been challenged or banned were exhibited in our Freedom to Read Week display. Included was a selection of books “under wraps” which had been banned or challenged in Canada, with an excerpt of why they were challenged. Patrons tested their knowledge to see if they could guess their titles!

- *Black History Month*  
In recognition of Black History Month, Robertson Library, the UPEI Student Diversity Office (SDO), BIPOC USHR, and the Hive presented a screening and discussion of *The Ninth Floor*, an NFB documentary written and directed by Mina Shum.

A poster created by a group of UPEI students celebrating Black History Month was displayed in the Library.



- *Valentine’s Day Treats* - February 14  
Robertson Library celebrated Valentine’s Day with a fun afternoon of crafts and treats! Students decorated Valentine’s hearts and posted their artwork on our “I Love Robertson Library/UPEI Valentine’s Day Wall.” Valentine bookmarks printed on the Library’s 3D printer were given to students who participated.



- *Blind Date with a Book* - February 9 - 19  
In celebration of Valentine's Day and *I Read Canadiana Day* (Feb. 19), Robertson Library exhibited a Canadian literature book display. Selected books were festively wrapped up with ribbons and red paper - ready to go on a blind date with a reader! Patrons were excited to see who their "author date" would be and most of the blind dates were signed out!

- *Postcards Home* - February 11  
Back by popular demand, *Postcards Home* was such a hit with students in September that we held this event again this semester. Postcards were FREE - and we mailed postcards for free as well! 137 postcards were mailed to 31 countries. For many students, it was the first time that they had ever written a postcard! Staff from UPEI's International Student Office joined us in this event.



- *International Development Week Display* - February 2 - 8  
Robertson Library celebrated the 30th Anniversary of International Development Week by hosting a book display in the Library, highlighting international development and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of wiping out poverty, fighting inequality, and tackling climate change over the next 15 years. As part of the week, Robertson Library, UPEI WUSC, and UPEI's International Student Office hosted the documentary, *Lost Boys of Sudan*. A lively discussion followed the documentary.
- *Escape Room*  
Our PEI winters' snowy weather was the inspiration for the Library's escape room this semester - *Snowed In: Escape the House*. Ironically, the first date in January that we offered the Escape Room was cancelled - UPEI was closed due to a snowstorm!
- *Library Orientation Tours* were held throughout January. Thirty-four tours were scheduled (3 cancelled due to storms) and 105 students attended - the highest number recorded since statistics were compiled in 2011. We got great feedback from student participants.