

News from UPEI Robertson Library

Donald Moses, University Librarian, University of Prince Edward Island

Staff News:

Retiring/Retired: **Cindy McKenna, Wendy Collett, Wendy Henderson, Pauline MacPherson, Larry Yeo**

New Staff: **Tarvinder Singh, Alysa Clayton, Shawne Holcomb**

New Student employees: **David Kaminski, Arthur Leung, Deko Odoom, Wura Oladipupo, Hemisha Saminathen, Shriram Saravanan**



Shawne Holcomb accepts permanent position

New Strategic Plan

Through consultation with Library Staff and the efforts of the Strategic Plan Working Group we created a new [strategic plan](#) for the library from 2023-2026.

Institutional Research Data Management Strategy

The Library was part of the development of the University's new [Institutional Research Data Management Strategy](#). It meets the goals of the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy for institutions to provide a publicly accessible RDM strategy, describe the supports for the creation of data management plans, and options for data deposit for UPEI researchers. The document includes goals and objectives for the strategy.

Postcards Home

We held a very successful Postcard Home event in the fall semester. A collaboration between the Library and the International Student Office allowed for free postcards to be sent from UPEI to the students' friends and family across the globe. Two-hundred and thirty-six cards were posted in the mail to 26 different countries. The five countries to receive the most postcards are: Canada (35), India (24), China (21), Mauritius (16), and Nigeria (15).



Postcards home from UPEI to across the globe

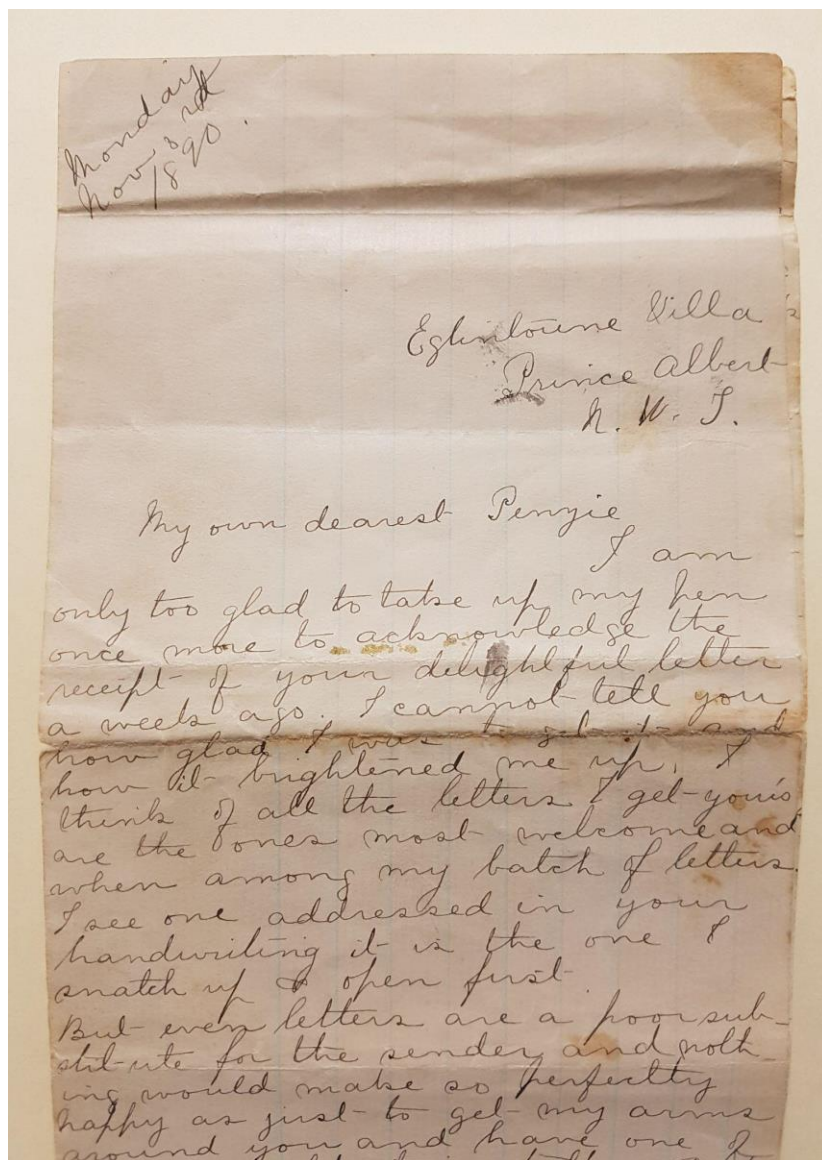
Archives and Special Collections

Juanita Rossiter is currently processing what has come to be known as “the Penzie letters.” Upon completion of processing, it will be the Penzie Macneill fonds, F 4.

This fonds consists of twenty-four letters written by Lucy Maud Montgomery to her cousin Penzie Macneill who lived in Cavendish. The majority of the letters were written by Montgomery in 1890 and 1891, when she lived with her father and step-mother in “Prince Albert, N.W.T.,” which she wrote on every letter. Although Saskatchewan didn’t become a province until 1905, you will notice the stamp on this envelope (below) that says “SASK.” Does anyone have any thoughts on this?



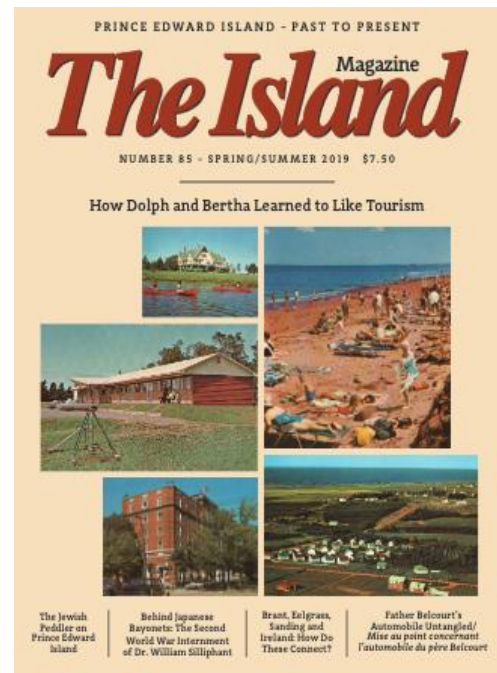
It has been acknowledged in various publications and websites that this collection was donated by Father F.W.P. Bolger to the UPEI library. Processing the **C. Merritt Crockett** (former Chief Librarian at UPEI) files, however, led to the discovery of legal documents revealing that these L.M. Montgomery letters had actually been purchased by Robertson Library from William V. Stevenson, grand-nephew of Penzie Macneill in April of 1974.



Father Bolger's [The Years Before "Anne"](#), (1974) was the first publication to feature this correspondence and includes transcriptions of some of the letters. Since then, the "Penzie letters" have been referenced in a number of other Montgomery biographies, including Mary Rubio's comprehensive [Lucy Maud Montgomery: the gift of wings](#) (2008). The letters were also a key element in an imaginative evocation of Montgomery's teenage years, Melanie Fishbane's [Maud: a novel inspired by the life of L.M. Montgomery](#) (2017).

Island Magazine

In partnership with the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation, the Robertson Library has loaded the 2008-2019 issues of the Island Magazine. The collection is accessible through the IslandArchives.ca [site](https://www.islandarchives.ca).



In recognition of **Truth and Reconciliation Day**, we set up a display which included a replica of a quilt that is part of a cabinet created by the Aboriginal Survivors for Healing in the Library. The quilt has squares stitched by 16 Shubenacadie Indian Residential School survivors from Epekwitk, and it shares memories of their residential school experience.

