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## From the President's Desk



**Terri Winchcombe**  
**Spring 2026**

Dear APLA Members,

As this is my last message as President, I want to thank you all for your support. I'm a little sad to be moving into the Past President position, but I know I'm leaving you in good hands.

### **Advocacy**

The past few months have been difficult for librarians and library staff in Nova Scotia. University, college, public, and school libraries have faced reduced funding in the 2026 provincial budget, often resulting in staff cuts. In response, APLA members have been writing letters and attending demonstrations to show support and solidarity with affected communities.

### **Membership Survey Summary**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our Membership Survey—your input will help shape APLA's direction. Key themes from the responses:

**Mandate Updates:** Members expressed interest in strengthening APLA's mandate to better reflect:

- Advocacy (including potential lobbying efforts)
- Support for education and professional development
- A clear commitment to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA)

**Mission & Strategic Goals:** Feedback highlighted that current statements need clarification and modernization, particularly around:

- "Interest groups" and "improving communications"
- Measurable outcomes and alignment with broader national efforts

**Accessibility & Inclusion:** Members identified opportunities to improve accessibility and representation:

- More inclusion of special libraries in programming
- Hybrid/online options and health-conscious measures for events

**Professional Development & Engagement:** There is strong interest in:

- More webinars, training, and virtual learning opportunities
- Mentorship and career transition support
- Increased recruitment efforts for the profession
- More social and networking opportunities

**Communication & Member Engagement** Members want:

- Clearer communication, especially for new members
- Greater engagement from institutions
- Increased participation in newsletters and events

**APLA Conference 2026 Update**

The conference planning committee has been working hard to put together a fantastic in-person conference for all of us. I hope to see many of you there from June 15-17 at Delta Dartmouth.

Warm regards,

**Terri Winchcombe**

**APLA President, 2025-26**

## Membership has its Rewards

### the PARTNERSHIP

The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada

#### 6 WAYS THE PARTNERSHIP ENRICHES MEMBER LEARNING AND BENEFITS

The Partnership is Canada's national network of provincial and territorial library associations. The Partnership meets twice a year to collaborate and to develop services and programs for members of their respective associations. More than 7,800 people who work for or with the library and information management sector belong to the associations that make up The Partnership.

The associations that make up the Partnership include: l'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec - Quebec Library Association (ABQLA); Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA); British Columbia Library Association (BCLA); Library Association of Alberta (LAA); Manitoba Libraries Association (MLA); Nunavut Library Association (NLA); Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association (NLLA); Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA); Northwest Territories Library Association (NWTLA); Ontario Library Association (OLA); Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA); Yukon Library Association (YLA)

#### 02 CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATE (CEC)

The Partnership's *Continuing Education Certificate (CEC)* is a national program administered by the Library Association of Alberta on behalf of The Partnership.

As a CEC program participant you will:

- Plan and document your learning and professional development by activity type and subject areas;
- Collect points annually, based on learning activities, over the program period of three years;
- Receive a certificate of completion and a full record of your learning activities.

Visit <http://bit.ly/ContinuingEducationCertificate> for more information.

**\*\*Please note that CEC is no longer an active program\*\***

#### 01



#### EDUCATION INSTITUTE (EI)

The *Education Institute (EI)* is a continuing education program for library information workers developed by The Partnership. Annually, there are three EI Semesters. The Winter semester runs from January - April; the Spring/Summer semester runs from May - August, and the Fall semester runs from September - December. Each semester is promoted through a calendar. Members of the Partnership receive discounts on webinars and annual institutional subscriptions are available.

Visit <http://bit.ly/EducationInstitute> for upcoming events and more information.

## the PARTNERSHIP

The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada

### 03 THE PARTNERSHIP JOB BOARD

THE PARTNERSHIP JOB BOARD

*The Partnership Job Board* lists positions available to library and information personnel from coast to coast to coast. The Partnership Job Board was developed and is managed by the British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) to support members of The Partnership. The Job Board is free to job seekers and is a paid service for employers. The employer is responsible for all job posting content. BCLA does not participate in the hiring process and does not forward messages or applications to employers. The cost to post is \$55 for institutional members of a provincial or territorial library association in the Partnership, and \$85 for non-members.

Visit <https://partnershipjobs.ca/> for more information.



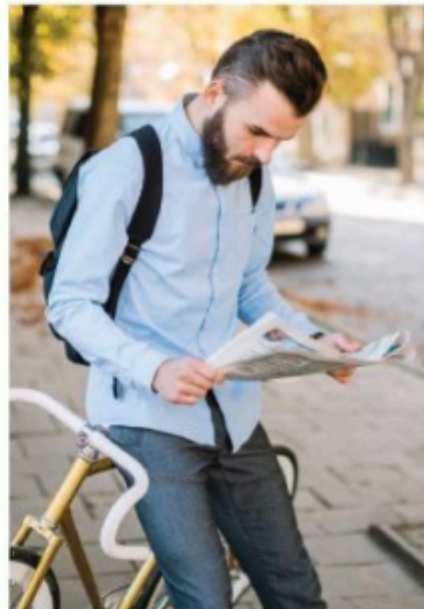
### 04



#### THE LIBRARY MARKETPLACE

Library associations in the Partnership receive discounts from *The Library Marketplace*. Associations are also provided with a variety of product marketing tools like "the store in a box".

Visit <https://www.thelibrarymarketplace.com/> for more information.



## the PARTNERSHIP

The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada



## 06 PERKOPOLIS



Individual members of library associations in the Partnership are offered an opportunity to take advantage of some very good savings on many products and services in entertainment, hotels, shopping, and travel. This offer is available through The Partnership at *Perkopolis* and is accessible through a code which is available through your association's office.

Visit <https://www.perkopolis.com/> for more information.

## 05

### THE PARTNERSHIP JOURNAL

*PARTNERSHIP: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research* is the journal of the Partnership. The Journal promotes the exchange of ideas about libraries, librarianship, and information science among practitioners across all library sectors. We are a Canadian, open access journal publishing double-blind peer-reviewed research and editorially reviewed articles and opinion pieces.

Visit us at [www.partnershipjournal.ca](http://www.partnershipjournal.ca) for more information.

**Partnership**  
The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research

## News from Newfoundland and Labrador

### News from Memorial University Libraries

**Kristine Power, Communications Advisor**

#### Research:

**Sarah Papple**, (Labrador Campus) and **Crystal Rose** (ADL, Grenfell, Labrador, Harlow) presented at a [CAAL-CBPA Dialogue Exchange \(AiDiEX\) on Indigenous Data Sovereignty](#) with a selection of other speakers on April 28.

**Dr. Patrick Gamsby** recently published a book chapter (Henri Lefebvre's Sociology of Time) in [The Anthem Companion to Henri Lefebvre](#). He is also the Chair of the peer mentor team for this year's [CARL Librarians' Research Institute](#), which will take place in Fredericton, NB from June 22-25.

**SK Maston**, QEII Librarian and team member of the Cataloging and Metadata Division, shares her experiences about cataloging a rare and unusual book:

<https://gazette.mun.ca/research/roadkill-and-art/>

Memorial's student newspaper recently interviewed Grenfell's **Chelsea Humphries** in the article "[AI and You: Mun Libraries AI Strategic Project Team](#)."

**Sarah Papple**, Labrador Campus librarian, engaged as an instructor in teaching in a more traditional way – in classroom – this spring. As the instructor for the Bachelor of SASS course “Narratives of the North,” she led the full credit course in a three-week daily classroom block. Calling on all formats of narrative, she invited colleagues **Dan Duda** and **Heather Angnatok** to share stories of maps and land histories, as well as the Inuit Circumpolar Council archivist **Lisa Mullins**, illustrated note-taker **Libby Dean**, and others. As they worked further into the class together, her understanding of reconciliation was expanded. She was guided to see many opportunities for working to provide a safer, inclusive library experience for Indigenous students in the North through academia. She was grateful for this opportunity and the trust the students had to share their stories with her.

The Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) hosted its annual Celebrating Research and Creative Works event on March 25, 2026. The event is designed to celebrate recent book publications and creative works (not including journal articles). Congrats to library authors who had work features at the event: **Dr. Patrick Gamsby, Dr. Bonnie Morgan, and Sarah Papple**.

On May 2, Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) Librarian, **Bonnie Morgan**, led a "NL Music Traditions" workshop at the Study and Stay NL SEED Conference. She was joined by two undergraduate student

volunteers, **Liam Clancy** and **Sara Benoit**, who sang some traditional songs and taught participants "A Great Big Sea Hove in Long Beach."

The CNS Creative Writing Workshop series will continue with a visit from award-winning author **Trudy Morgan-Coles** on June 16th. Registration will be available through WritersNL, with event details to follow.

The CNS will host its first "Write-In" session, presented in collaboration with WritersNL on June 24th. This program invites emerging and established writers to come together for a shared time of independent writing in a quiet and creative space.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association is hosting its [annual conference](#), "Overdue, but not lost: renewing our community" on June 5 at the McCann Centre, Education Library, Room ED 2030. A special shoutout to the conference steering committee for their hard work getting this hybrid and virtual conference off the ground. (**Janet Goosney, Stacey Penney, Crystal Rose, Courtney Crocker, Amanda Tiller-Hackett, Emily Blackmore, and Andrea Hyde**).

As part of the Grenfell Campus 50th anniversary celebrations, the Library held a special "Grenfell Authors" event on March 20th, honouring more than 100 authors and nearly 400 publications, all of which were on display, along with materials from their archives and special collections about the history of their campus. We welcomed back many retirees and alumni at the reception (see [recap video](#)). Crystal Rose was [interviewed about the event on CBC Radio](#).

LITS' team member **Dennis Flynn** was part of [St. John's Storytelling](#) event held on March 17, called "Tea and Tales" at the A.C.Hunter Library in St. John's. The place was packed for the event.

The last intensive week on campus as part of School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies (SASS) was the culmination of a year of academic, experiential and land-based instruction for the scholars, and included an opportunity to learn to drive a Labrador dog sled. Months of readings and research cannot advance learning as much as suddenly standing on dog sled runners, hearing the instructor say, "keep the brake on hard until you're ready because these dogs are ready!" The visceral tug of an energetic team against a foot just learning how to brake hard is something that needs to be embodied to understand. The quiet of the runners gliding over snow and dogs quiet while running with their mouths smiling pulled the entire cohort into a new level of understanding, confidence, and belonging in Labrador. Of course, land-based experiences are never complete without the campus librarian riding in kamatuk for impromptu research consultations and reference work. A perfect opportunity to explore new strategies of approaching research in Labrador for the students, and a memorable experience for Labrador Campus Librarian **Sarah Papple**.

## Employee News:

**Matthew Keels's** last day with Archives & Special Collections, QEII Library, was on May 1, 2026. Matthew has been the Accessioning Archivist for ASC since 2022 and has been an instrumental part of the team ever since. We are very sad to see him leave but wish him all the best in his new role at the Rooms!

The one-and-only Marine Institute Library staff member **Jessie Cahill-Bouzane** has been through many changes in her time at the library! Marriage and degrees and babies, oh my (and plenty of work)! The team will miss her as she takes on her newest adventure! Jessie has started as the Archivist with the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

The Health Sciences Library welcomes **Doyle Stone**, a summer practicum student from Dalhousie. Doyle will be working on a library research support module and taking a deep learning dive into knowledge syntheses. There will be scheduled visits with various units so that she can develop a more fulsome picture of the Libraries and how we operate.

## Cool Stuff:

QEII Library's Serials & Acquisitions **Ian Gillies** is currently in first place in the international art contest "The People's Artist" with the [Art of Elysium](#). You can vote for him [here](#). The prize comes with \$25,000, an article in *Artforum*, and a show at the The Art of Elysium's Salon in Los Angeles, U.S. Listen to [Ian talk to the CBC's Martin Jones](#) about his art and what inspires him to create.

Memorial's president, **Dr. Janet Morrison**, dropped by the QEII Library and got in an in-depth behind the scenes experience of some of the archival resources connected to World War One in preparation for her upcoming trip to France to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel. She will be presenting the recently completed Danger Tree replica — created by Memorial University's Department of Technical Services in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada as a permanent memorial. While visiting the QEII Library, she also got to experience two student projects that were a unique partnership between the Commons and the Map Library. **Merrin Winter** and **Ashton Stoodley** both got to showcase their 3D printed and virtually recreated Beaumont-Hamel landscapes.

The QEII Library was recently the venue for "Building from Memory: Recreating the Danger Tree." The event was designed to reaffirm and deepen Memorial's commitment to its founding purpose as a living memorial. Memorial University President **Dr. Morrison** was on hand, as well as **Chancellor Earl Lulow**, and **Justin Ladha**, Chair, Board of Regents. Member of Parliament **Tom Osborne** also addressed the filled QEII Library lobby. The Royal Newfoundland Regiment Band provided musical accompaniment to the event. Some highlights include: **Merrin Winter**, a mechanical engineering student at Memorial, who

displayed a 3D printed Beaumont Hamel battlefield as part of a project she worked on with the QEII Library's map library and the Commons' Makerspace.

Members of ASC, CNS, & Library Admin had an impromptu visit from visiting historian, **Dr. Julia Laite**, on May 1, 2026. Dr. Laite is a Professor and researcher at Birkbeck University of London and visited the Centre for Newfoundland Studies to view the, recently restored and returned, Buchans map (more promos around that in the near future).

The Grenfell Library received a donation from **Richard Cowdell**, from Leicestershire, England. His father was an Engineer who worked on the construction of the dam at Deer Lake from 1923-1925, and he donated blue prints, photos and negatives of the construction, and a rare book of Corner Brook Ballads.

The Grenfell Library also received a donation from **Ted Lemieux**, whose parents purchased a cottage in the Laurentian area of Quebec that, unbeknownst to them, was home to a substantial collection of private and family documents connected to **Sir Wilfred Grenfell** and his legacy in Labrador, including family letters, photographs, books, and various pieces of memorabilia. The Lemieux family reached out the Grenfell Campus to make a donation to the Grenfell Campus Archives and the Ferriss Hodgett Library. Ted and his wife, **Cathy Lemieux**, visited campus in February to deliver a few items and meet with members of the campus community.

The First Space Gallery (QEII Library) Faculty and Staff Show Opening will be held on June 5, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

May 5 was Red Dress Day. A national day of awareness and remembrance in Canada for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people (MMIWG2S). A display of red dresses has been put up in the main lobby of the QEII in memory of MMIWG2S of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Michaela Doucette**, Indigenous Archivist with Memorial University Libraries, was in Labrador for two weeks, and this time was very different. At this point, Michaela is no longer new to campus, and the community is beginning to get to know who she is, and what she does. **Sarah Papple**, librarian, Labrador Campus, imposed a mandatory Learning Labrador day-long class on one of the Sundays, with her own understanding of the vastness and unique geography of Labrador as a valuable informant in her work. Therefore, they found themselves driving to Churchill Falls and back for a sight-seeing adventure. Micheala experienced the cold, the snow, the sun, and a deeper understanding of the impact that Churchill Falls had on the Land and therefore people of Labrador. A culmination of a two year's planning was held when Michaela was in town. Memorial University's Folklore and Language Archive (MUNFLA), in collaboration with the Labrador Campus Library and The Research Centre for the Study of Music, Media, and Place (MMaP) held an evening of music exploring connections between place, environment,

and traditional culture. Featuring performances by Eastern Owl, Port-aux-Poutines, and special guest appearances by members of Labrador's Silver Wolf Band and Ptarmageddon. You can catch the concert on [MMAAP's YouTube channel](#) if you missed it!

The Marine Institute Library has held another successful year of providing space to the volunteer community tax clinic. About 200 attended the clinic, with about 88 of them being MI or MUN students.

Education librarian **Courtney Crocker** recently visited the MUN Daycare as a community helper to do a read-along of *Dear Zoo* and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

The HSL was successful in obtaining a community garden plot behind Queen's College. They are germinating seeds in the library for planting after the last frost. They are thrilled to be joined by students who have also expressed an interest in getting their hands dirty.

## News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Rachel Head, Newfoundland and Labrador Collections and Services Librarian, Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries

### Love Our Local Authors Month 2026 and NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries (NLPL) celebrated the relaunch of **Love Our Local Authors (LOLA)** this April. LOLA shines a spotlight on Newfoundland and Labrador books, authors, and readers. Throughout the month, NLPL hosted a series of events and initiatives, including the **NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year** which came with the Margaret Duley Prize.

At the beginning of the month, the top ten local books were announced, selected through a combination of circulation statistics and staff feedback. To close out the festivities, NLPL held an award ceremony at the A.C. Hunter Public Library, where the top three authors gathered to learn which title would be named the 2026 NL Reads Must-Read Book of the Year Winner.

The winning title was *The Lucky Seven: The Story of the Elite Navigator* by Gary Collins, followed by *Openly Karl: A Memoir* by Karl Wells and *The Girls of Belvedere* by Michelle T. Clemens. It was a wonderful moment to celebrate and recognize the many talented storytellers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Alphabetically, the top ten highest-circulating NL books for 2026 are:

- *Blinders* — Ida Linehan Young
- *The Crane* — Monica Kidd
- *Friends Are Forever: A Sgt. Windflower Mystery* — Mike Martin
- *The Girls of Belvedere* — Michelle Clemens
- *Just Around the Corner: A Memoir* — Yvonne Rumbolt-Jones



- *The Lucky Seven: The Story of the Elite Navigator* — Gary Collins
- *Murder of Painted Place: A Novel* — Emily Hepditch
- *Openly Karl: A Memoir* — Karl Wells
- *The Weather Diviner: A Novel* — Elizabeth Murphy
- *We Will Meet Again* — Helen C. Escott



## News from Nova Scotia

### News from Cumberland Public Libraries

Charlotte Gallivan, Community Engagement Librarian

#### **Budget Challenges - Staff Reductions and Hoopla Elimination**

At their February 5, 2026 meeting, our library board approved a 10% reduction in weekly hours for all full-time Headquarters staff. This change was deemed necessary, in light of ongoing financial pressures. The decision impacts eight (8) full-time employees, including our Library Director, Deputy Library Director, Community Engagement Librarian, Systems Manager, Youth Services Library Assistant, two Technical Services Library Assistants, and our Shipping/Receiving Clerk.

During this meeting, the board also voted to eliminate Hoopla as a digital borrowing platform.

#### **Staff Unionization**

On March 31, CPL staff voted unanimously to unionize, becoming Local 24 of the Nova Scotia Union of Public and Private Employees (NSUPE). The Union now represents 21 CPL employees.

Negotiations between NSUPE and the library have started, with a Collective Agreement forthcoming.

#### **Read Coast-to-Coast Book**

##### **Challenge**

From February 21 until April 30, Same Page libraries hosted a “Read Coast-to-Coast” Book Challenge. The goal of the challenge was to celebrate Canadian authors from across the country.

Readers were invited to explore books from five Canadian regions, receiving a stamp after each read title. Participants then got travel stamps that entered them into a draw to win a prize.

In total, approximately 885 Canadian books were read during the challenge.



## **Amherst Royals Display**

Some of our locations recently hosted an exhibit on The Amherst Royals!

The Amherst Royals was a hockey team established by the Coloured Hockey League of the Maritimes in the late 1800s. Long before the NHL, Black communities in Nova Scotia organized and played the game at a high level.

This exhibit explored the history of the Coloured Hockey League and why its story has been left out - and why it matters.



**Elizabeth Cooke-Sumnu** stands in the Amherst Library with The Amherst Royals Exhibit (Photo courtesy of the Town of Amherst).

## **Library Values Campaign**

To showcase the importance of libraries within our communities, we launched a “Library Values” campaign in March.

The premise of the campaign is simple: we have asked our community and staff what the library means to them. As we all know, the library has a unique and lasting impact on each person who passes through our doors. It has been an honour for us to share those stories with the community at large.

You can find campaign posts on our Facebook page: @cumberlandpubliclibraries.



### **Congratulations Denise! Grace Annie Lockhart Sesquicentennial Pin Recipient**

We wanted to take a moment to congratulate our Library Director, **Denise Corey**, on receiving the Grace Annie Lockhart Sesquicentennial Pin.

This special recognition celebrates Mount Allison University alumnae whose lives and work reflect Lockhart's legacy — women who have made meaningful contributions through leadership, service, innovation, and community impact. In a profession built on service, Denise stands out for her vision, resilience, and enduring commitment to community well-being.

Congratulations on this well deserved recognition Denise!

You can read Denise's story, and learn about other recipients [here](#).

## News from Saint Mary's University - A Tribute to Peter Webster

### Sarah West, Outreach and Engagement Librarian

After 32 years of service as a professional librarian, **Peter Webster** has retired from Saint Mary's University. On May 26, Peter will be named Librarian Emeritus at the Spring Convocation ceremony, becoming the first librarian at the university to receive this prestigious status.

Peter's research and professional work have included many areas of interest, with much of his work being done in the field of library systems and technology. He is a recognized expert in providing access to information through library catalogues; the development of scholarly information networks; providing access to specialized resources; and most recently, the impact of Artificial Intelligence on information management systems. It is an understatement to say that the 32 years of his career have been a period of massive change in how library and information services are provided, and during that entire time, Peter was at the forefront of that change.



Representing Saint Mary's University, Peter has served in management and project leadership roles within NOVANET (the Nova Scotia academic library consortium), the Council of Atlantic Academic Libraries (CAAL-CBPA), the National Library of Canada, the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), Statistics Canada's Data Liberation Initiative, and the Digital Research Alliance of Canada. He was the recipient of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) Merit Award in 2010. With 35 published journal articles, book chapters, and other works, Peter's impact has reached professionals, students, and academics around the world.

An experienced educator, Peter has taught thousands of Saint Mary's students during his career. These classes have ranged from basic library research and critical thinking classes for new students, to highly advanced research methods sessions for graduate students, utilizing the latest tools and databases. He also worked closely with faculty to support their research and data needs. For many years, Peter was the primary expert on campus for statistical and data resources. Many faculty developed close working relationships with him, knowing he is the person to contact for specialized advice.

Peter served as Acting University Librarian in 2007-2008 and again in 2018, providing crucial institutional continuity and operational knowledge during times of transition. He also served as Associate University

Librarian from 2010 to 2024, assisting the University Librarian (later Dean, Library and Archives) and library management team.

Given his immense contributions to the Patrick Power Library, the University, the broader Canadian library community, and to the academic field of information management, please join us in congratulating Peter on this well-deserved recognition of his work.

## News from Prince Edward Island

Juanita Rossiter, VP PEI

### News from [Robertson Library, UPEI](#):

Robertson Library is getting a new look!



(Photo credit: Juanita Rossiter)

With funding from the [Love Our Library](#) capital campaign, the Robertson Library lobby is getting its first-ever major renovation.

On May 1, 2026, a large crowd gathered in the library lobby to attend the kick off for the first phase of the renovation project that is designed to transform the building into a more modern, accessible, and inspiring space. In addition to the library lobby, the University Archives and Special Collections unit will

also be renovated and expanded. To date, over \$6.2 million has been raised for the renovations. The lobby will be named the SDU Lobby in recognition of the The Saint Dunstan's University (SDU) Board of Governors who donated \$1,050,000 to the project.

The main Library spaces closed the first week of May and will remain closed until the end of August while lobby renovation work is underway. From May until August, limited in-person library services are available in the Robertson Library Annex Room 235. This temporary service point will be open Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.



(Photo credit: UPEI Marketing and Communications)

Attending the kick-off to the first phase of the Robertson Library renovation project on May 1 were (left to right): **George Morrison**, Executive Director, SDU Board of Governors; **Dr. Svetlana Kochkina**, University Librarian; **Noah Mannholland**, student representative; **Dr. Donna Hardy-Cox**, Interim Vice-President, Academic and Research; **Peter Doiron**, Facilities Management; **Simon Lloyd**, University Archives and Special Collections Librarian.



Library Technician Sarah Leyenaar helping a student in room 235 during the library renovation.  
(Photo credit: Brooke Saunders)



Photo credit: Stacey Meenink  
Cindy MacDonald (left) and Chris MacLauchlan (right)



Photo credit: Shawne Holcomb

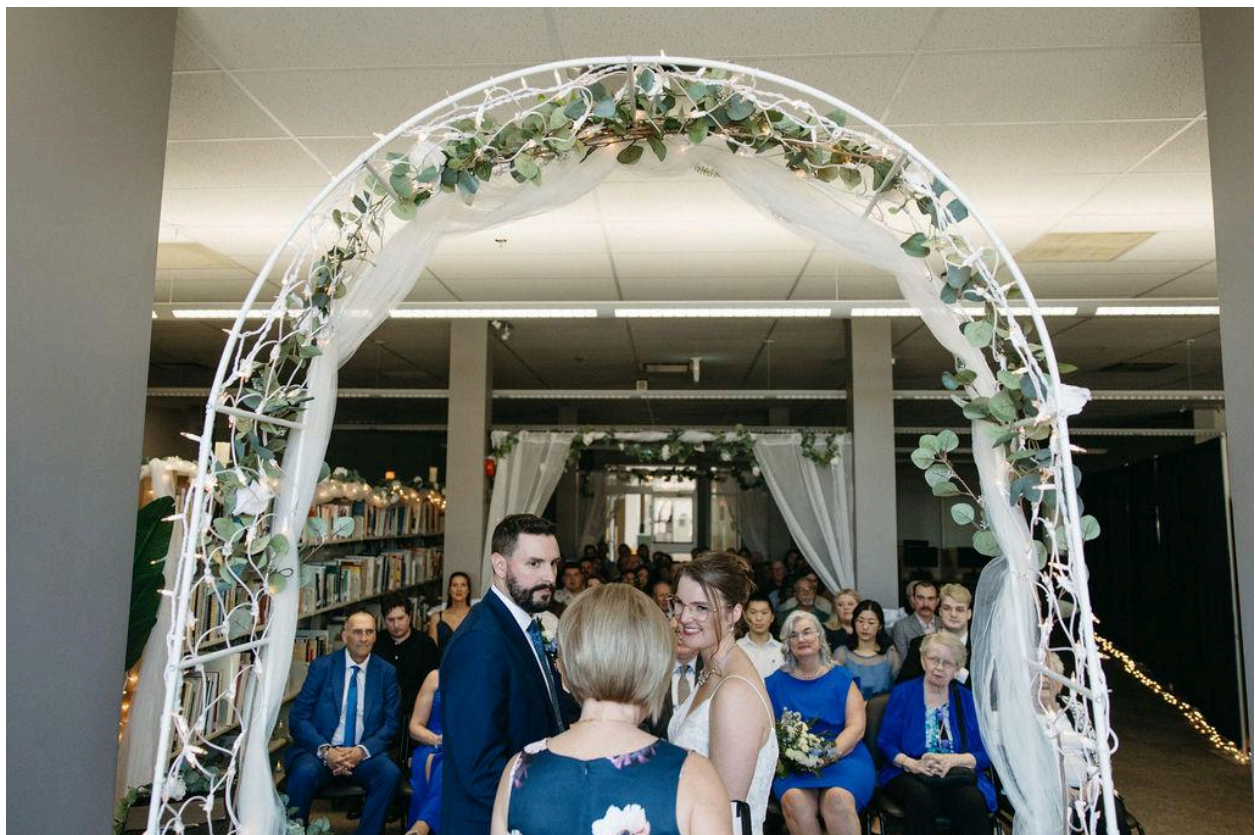
Some Robertson Library staff members who recently celebrated work anniversaries include **Shawne Holcomb** (5 years), **Cindy MacDonald** (15 years) and **Chris MacLauchlan** (25 years).

## News from [Holland College Libraries](#)

During the Winter Term at Holland College, the Holland College Library Department hosted a photo contest titled Brag About Your Break, the goal of which was for students to highlight the fun activities they did over their February break. The contest was open to all students at every campus, and the library received submissions showing a variety of activities.

### **A Wedding at the Prince of Wales College (PWC) Library!**

This May, Student Engagement and Instructional Librarian **Emily MacIsaac** got married in the PWC Library. MacIsaac says, “The library was transformed into a romantic ceremony location for an evening wedding with lots of twinkle lights and greenery.” The day went perfectly, and now the couple are heading off on their honeymoon. Emily shared that “The day was amazing with amazing weather.”



(Photo credit: Emily MacIsaac)

## News from the [Benevolent Irish Society](#) - [Brendan O'Grady Memorial Library](#)

The Benevolent Irish Society (BIS) is one of the oldest organizations in Prince Edward Island. Established in 1825, the BIS celebrated its 200th anniversary last year. The BIS is known for its work in preserving and promoting Irish history, culture, and heritage. One of the ways it does this is through its lending library.



**Brendan O'Grady Memorial Library at the Benevolent Irish Society**  
(Photo credit: Benevolent Irish Society)

**Paula Kenny** is a volunteer coordinator for the library. She recently answered a series of questions provided by **Juanita Rossiter** concerning the BIS library:

### **How and when was the library established?**

*The library was really the dream of the late George O'Connor, who was the President of the BIS for many years. A large room in the lower level of the [Edward Whelan Centre](#), aka the Irish Hall, was set aside for*

*the purpose of a library and George collected books and periodicals for years, mainly through donations. The holdings had grown to about 300 volumes before receiving hundreds and hundreds of books from the O'Grady family in 2020.*

*Dr. Brendan O'Grady was an English professor at UPEI for decades and had a passion for his Irish roots and the Irish story of PEI. A large proportion of his personal library was given to the Benevolent Irish Society of Prince Edward Island after he passed away.*

### **Library Holdings:**

*The focus of the library centres on books by Irish authors or authors of Irish ancestry or books on any subject related to Ireland or the Irish diaspora. There are about 3000 volumes in the catalogue ranging through fiction, drama, poetry, travel, music, mythology, arts and culture, genealogy, humour, biographies and autobiographies. About a third of the catalogued books are on various aspects of Irish history and the stories of the Irish diaspora. There are also about 1000 books and periodicals that have not yet been entered into the catalogue and are shelved separately in a non-circulating area of the room. These include some historical records of the BIS, many 'old' books and books that are too fragile or rare to be replaced, plus several series of Irish magazines and journals on Irish heritage.*

### **Does the library focus only on Irish Heritage?**

*In addition to the focus on Ireland and the Irish diaspora, there is also a computer station dedicated to genealogical research with a worldwide Ancestry license available to library users. BIS members also have access to that Ancestry license on their personal computers. There is a huge collection of cassette tapes of Irish music including some home recordings of local artists who are no longer with us, in addition to CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and vinyl albums.*

### **What is the oldest book in your holdings?**

*There are a couple of old bibles written in Irish that would have been brought to PEI with immigrants in the early 1800s since most Irish settlers came to PEI before the famine.*

### **What is your favourite item in the library?**

*Some of the most treasured books in the library are re-prints of 16th and 17th century land records from Ireland that were in the collection of Nova Scotian genealogist/historian Terry Punch that came to the BIS library through St. Mary's University. There have also been large donations of Irish books from PEI collectors such as Michael Hennessey, Daniel Gillis, and George Mullally, who is the current BIS Patron. Donations are also accepted from the general public if they are related to the collection mandate although there is a limit on the number of duplicate copies that can be accepted due to space constraints.*

### **Is the library run by volunteers? How does one access the library?**

*The library is staffed by volunteers and is open on weekdays 10 am to 1 pm except in the summer when hours are extended to 9 am to 5 pm, thanks to a summer student subsidized by the PEI government. The library is open to all, not just BIS members. Books can be borrowed for three weeks and visitors are welcome to make use of a couple of comfortable armchairs to spend some time enjoying even the non-circulating publications. Although located on the lower level of the building at 582 North River Road, Charlottetown, the library is fully accessible thanks to a lift that operates from the entry level.*



**Left to Right: Phillip Brown (Mayor of Charlottetown), Judy Donovan Whitty (BIS Library volunteer), and George Mullally (BIS Patron). Photo credit: Benevolent Irish Society**

## News from [PEI Library Services](#)

### **Kensington Heritage Library**

The Kensington Heritage Library's newest monthly program, called the Poetry Circle, is now in full swing. "Locals come in to share their work, listen to others, and share their ideas. We're pleased to provide a welcoming space for Artistic-minded folks to share their work," says **Hailey Lewis**.



**Members of the Poetry Circle at the Kensington Heritage Library  
(Photo credit: Hailey Lewis)**

## Dear Friend

You are still my best friend  
even with the time and miles  
that keep us apart.  
You were always there for me,  
ready to listen.  
and partake.  
You were the quiet one  
But we got along famously.  
We talked and biked and hiked.  
We never had any money  
so what we did was free.  
We made our own fun.  
With what little we had,  
we kept our friendship going.  
We never thought about parting.  
We talked about our future  
and what we would do,  
but we never got there that way.  
We were grounded in reality.  
We just fed each other.  
We were there for each other.  
We were laughed at and taunted,  
but just brushed off  
and went ahead.  
Eventually, life got in the way.  
and, sadly, we parted,  
each going his own way.  
I never forgot our friendship,  
I never had a friend so close.  
We both still live,  
but, miles apart.  
We each remember  
what we had.

**By Victor Owen Negus**

**(Poetry Circle member, Kensington Heritage Library)**

## **Charlottetown Library Learning Centre**

The Charlottetown Library Learning Centre has introduced Princh as one of its newest services. Princh is a print from your own device service that allows the public to print from anywhere. The printer is accessed via an app or a website. Payment is made online, in advance, with the only caveat being that printing must be picked up within 24 hours at the library. It has been quite popular, especially during the tax season for T-4s and other documents.

Libraries throughout the province participated in [Revenue Canada's CVITP Program](#) where volunteers complete simple tax returns for people with modest incomes. This is an ongoing popular program that is a great help to Islanders, with over 1500 tax returns being filed in March and April.

During April the Charlottetown Library ran a very popular LARP (Live Action Role Playing) Club for ages 10-14 with costume and prop making and a whole lot of fun!

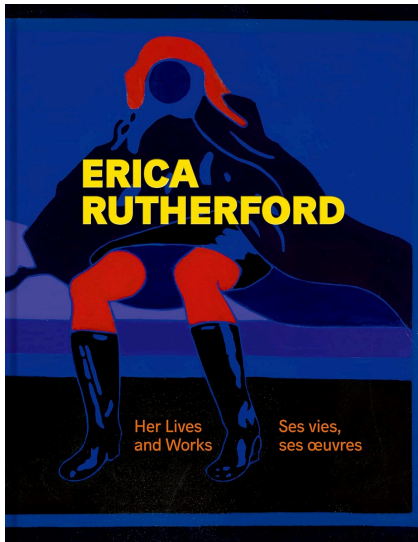


This Spring the [Summerside Rotary Library](#) partnered with Summerside Police Services to offer Storytime with a Cop, Painting with a Cop and a Senior's Cafe. Participants in these programs had the opportunity to meet K-9 Lucy, a Golden Retriever who is a support dog for the Summerside Police Department.

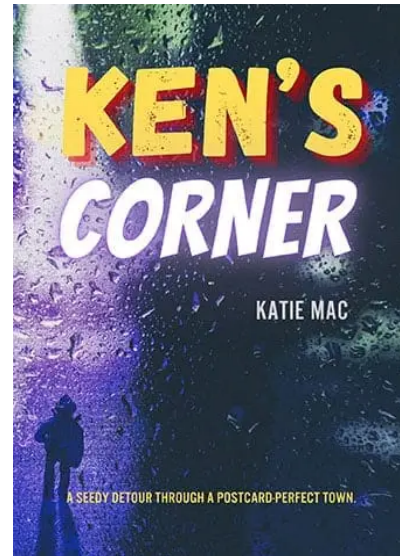
For more information about K-9 Lucy, please [watch this clip](#) from CTV news.

The 2026 [PEI Book Awards](#) were presented on May 24 at the Charlottetown Library Learning Centre. The PEI Book Awards are intended to promote and to celebrate excellence in creation and publication of books by Prince Edward Island authors and creators. They are presented biennially for the books that best exemplify excellence in those fields. The awards are based on overall assessment of a book's quality of writing, social and cultural merit of the text and originality of content, approach and technique.

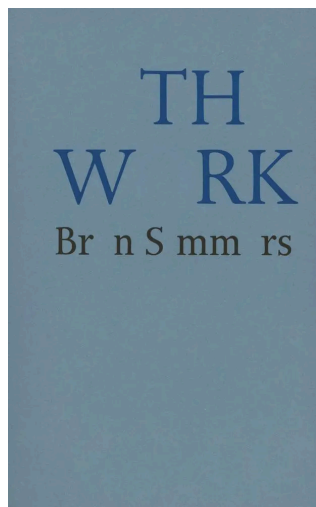
The 2026 PEI Book Award winners this year are:



Non-fiction: [Erica Rutherford: Her lives and works](#)  
By Pan Wendt



Fiction: [Ken's Corner](#) By Katie Mac



Poetry:  
[The Work](#)  
By Bren Simmers



Children's Literature: [Sarah Ponakey, Storycatcher and Âhâsiw's Forest Powwow](#) By Sita MacMillan

## OGM Materials

### Executive Reports



## APLA President's Annual and OGM Report June 2026

Terri Winchcombe

### President's Annual Report 2025–2026

This year has been one of both challenge and progress for APLA. Across the Atlantic region, I have seen libraries continue to demonstrate their vital role as community hubs while navigating financial pressures and change. At the same time, APLA has made meaningful strides in strengthening advocacy, strategic direction, and member engagement.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to APLA members, the Executive, and our many volunteers who have generously shared their time and expertise this past year. Thanks to your efforts, we have made meaningful progress—conducting a membership survey, strengthening our advocacy through letters, engaging in a SOAR exercise, and developing a strategic plan to guide APLA forward.

#### Advocacy

Over the past several months, we have seen how difficult this period has been for library workers in Nova Scotia. University, college, public, and school libraries have experienced funding reductions in the 2026 provincial budget, in many cases resulting in staff cuts, reduced service hours, and library closures.

In response, our members have:

- Written letters to government representatives
- Participated in demonstrations
- Supported colleagues and communities affected by funding reductions

We will continue to actively monitor and advocate for public library funding across the Atlantic Provinces.

#### Strategic Planning

As part of strengthening APLA's long-term direction, the Executive and I participated in a SOAR

(Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results) exercise in October 2025, facilitated by Suzanne van den Hoogen.

In November 2025, we:

- Developed an action plan based on the exercise
- Identified member engagement as a key priority

Our first action item was to conduct a membership survey. The results are already helping to inform our strategic priorities. Results are highlighted in the following section.

## Membership Engagement

### Membership Survey Highlights

Thank you to all members who contributed valuable feedback. Key themes include:

#### Mandate

Members expressed interest in strengthening APLA's mandate to emphasize:

- Advocacy, including potential lobbying
- Education and professional development
- Commitment to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA)

#### Mission & Strategic Goals

Feedback indicated the need to:

- Clarify and modernize existing statements
- Improve communication across the association
- Establish measurable outcomes
- Better align with national library initiatives

#### Accessibility & Inclusion

Opportunities identified include:

- Greater inclusion of special libraries
- Continued hybrid and virtual programming
- Health-conscious approaches to in-person events

#### Professional Development

Members expressed strong interest in:

- Webinars and virtual learning
- Mentorship and career support (Mentorship program coming Fall 2026)
- Recruitment initiatives for the profession
- Networking and social opportunities

#### Communication

Members want:

- Clearer onboarding and communication for new members
- Stronger institutional engagement
- Increased participation in newsletters and events

## Member Benefits – Perkopolis

We continued to promote the Perkopolis benefits program:

- Instructions were shared with members
- A survey was conducted to confirm participation (24 responses received)
- Ongoing promotion has helped raise awareness

Members who have not yet signed up are encouraged to contact: [membership@apla.ca](mailto:membership@apla.ca)

## Partnerships and Representation

- I ensured that APLA remained actively involved and connected across the sector by participating in :
  - CFLA/FCAB annual meeting (Feb 25, 2026 – via Zoom)
  - IWB Conference (March 2, 2026 – APLA hosted a table and recruited new members)
  - The Partnership meeting (March 26, 2026 – via Zoom)

I also represented APLA at the OLA Super Conference 2026, where I:

- Strengthened vendor relationships
- Recruited exhibitor and sponsors for APLA 2026
- Observed strong enthusiasm for returning to an in-person APLA conference

## Governance and Operations

I am pleased to report that Cynthia Holt has agreed to serve as:

- Financial Examiner for fiscal year 2026
- Parliamentarian for the 2026 Conference

## Awards and Recognition

We launched an updated Funding and Awards page on the APLA website.

I encourage members to:

- Review available awards
- Submit applications and nominations

Recognizing excellence in our community remains an important priority for APLA.

## Looking Ahead

- As I look ahead, in my role as Past President, I remain committed to ensuring that APLA:
- Strengthens its advocacy efforts across the region
- Advances strategic priorities informed by your feedback
- Expands professional development and engagement opportunities
- Supports a strong, inclusive, and resilient library community

Thank you again for your continued support, engagement, and dedication to APLA. Please feel free to reach out at any time with ideas, feedback, or interest in getting involved.

Respectfully submitted,

**Terri G Winchcombe**

APLA President 2025/26

June 2, 2026



## **APLA Vice President Report**

**June 2026**

**Lisa Marshall**

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### **A Year of Learning**

My term as Vice President has been one of personal growth, connection, revitalization, and pride. I have had the absolute pleasure of working alongside an amazing team of volunteers whose passion for libraries and library workers is unparalleled.

This is my first time volunteering with APLA in any capacity, and while the learning curve was steep, the support from the Past President, President, and all members of the Executive was instrumental to my success. I would like to extend a special thank you to Marc Harper, VP New Brunswick, whose invaluable guidance was greatly appreciated throughout my term.

#### **Committee on Aims and Objectives and Interest Groups**

The Committee on Aims and Objectives met via email. Calls for convenors for Intellectual Freedom and Government Information were circulated via the listserv. We were unsuccessful in reviving these groups, and I hope to support the incoming Vice President/President Elect as we identify the direction that members would like to see the interest groups take.

True to form, the Information Literacy Interest Group has remained active under Agnieszka Hayes's thoughtful and reflective leadership. This group is steadfast in its resolve to keep members informed of trends and scholarship in the area, and I am thankful for their continued dedication.

#### **First Timer's Grant**

We had two applications for this year's First Timer's Grant, and we were able to cover expenses for both to attend, and ultimately present at, this year's conference.

#### **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust Fund Committee**

Applications for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship were invited on December 3, 2025, through the listserv and via email to all Canadian schools offering library and information science programs. Reminder emails were circulated on January 22 and March 2, 2026.

We received five (5) applications, all of which met the scholarship's criteria. The committee of provincial VPs selected Anna Benoit of Nova Scotia as the winner. Anna will begin full-time studies in the MLIS program at Western this Fall.

### **Resolutions Committee**

A resolutions reminder and call for the Resolutions Committee was circulated via the listserv on April 21, 2026. It included details on submission guidelines and deadlines.

The Resolutions Committee will meet in advance of the OGM on June 16, from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

### **Looking Forward: Focus on Continued Advocacy and Interprovincial Networking**

I am so glad I took the leap last June and accepted Terri's nomination for this role. Her commitment to advocating for all libraries and library staff members is second to none, and has inspired my own focus. I am indebted to Terri's leadership over the past year, as well as the support provided by the entire Executive, which enabled tasks to be completed with ease. I am committed to offering the same support to incoming volunteers.

Being physically located on the island of Newfoundland can be isolating at times, but the connections I have made across provinces and systems has been both fulfilling and energizing. I look forward to continuing my advocacy work on behalf of the Association and its members, and to strengthening connections among library workers throughout Atlantic Canada.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Marshall

Vice President/President Elect

June 5, 2026



## **APLA Past-President Report**

**June 2026**

**Emily Blackmore**

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### **Executive Duties**

My time with the APLA Executive, APLA committees, groups and The Partnership will be complete as of the OGM this June. It has been a privilege and an honour to work with this Executive. Our work on Advocacy this year has been particularly strong. I know that APLA is in good hands with the current Executive of dedicated, committed professionals. I will be updating the Procedures Manual before my term is up.

### **Merit Award**

I placed calls for Merit Award nominees via email and social media and we have selected a very deserving candidate who was nominated by their peers. The award will be presented during the OGM at this year's conference by the nominating colleagues of the winner.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Blackmore

June 4, 2026



## **APLA Vice President New Brunswick Report**

**June 2026**

**Marc Harper**

As a former APLA President, I've given myself the creative freedom to approach the role of VP-NB with a little bit of an informal tone, all while respecting the guidelines and fulfilling my official duties. I have maintained correspondence with my contacts in the province and encouraged them to reach out to me if, at any point in time, they believe APLA can help any ideas or initiatives. I have also reminded them when APLA Bulletins are upcoming. I also stressed the need for membership engagement and encouraged everyone to put in a good word for APLA sponsored groups, meetings, town halls, conferences, etc.

My role as VP-NB over the last year has involved working with the Advocacy Chair (which is currently vacant), reviewing APLA policies, and reviewing applications for those who have applied for our awards. My volunteer work with the Dalhousie Library and Information Alumni Association (DLIAA, formerly known as the School of Information Management Associated Alumni) has also intersected with APLA. The role of VP-NB will be open to a new person in 2026 with the hopes that a new member of New Brunswick's library community can take over. If no such person is available, I will remain for one more year and conclude in 2027.

Respectfully submitted June 4th 2026,

Marc Harper

Vice President-New-Brunswick



## APLA VP PEI Spring Report 2026

Juanita Rossiter

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### Administrative work:

- Cleaned out the email drive (1000+ emails)
- Organized the PEI-VP google folder.
- Created a contact list to help future VPs when it comes to contacting individuals in the PEI Library community for content for the APLA bulletin.

### APLA Bulletin:

I prepared content for the fall 2025, winter 2026, and spring 2026 bulletins and highlighted programs and work being undertaken at the Holland College Library Service, PEI Public Library Service, Kensington Heritage Library, Summerside Rotary Library, Montague Rotary Library, UPEI's Robertson Library, and the Benevolent Irish Society.

### Membership Survey:

In October of 2025, the APLA executive underwent a SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations and Results) analysis that was facilitated by Suzanne van den Hoogen, the University Librarian at Saint Mary's University. Building on this momentum, I worked with Lisa Marshall (President-Elect) to develop a membership survey based on the outcomes of this SOAR analysis. The membership survey was distributed on February 9, 2026.

### Advocacy:

Initiated and developed advocacy letters for:

- 6 letters to politicians regarding the decommissioning of the Canadian Register of Historic Places website.
- 31 letters to Atlantic Canada politicians regarding DHCP funding cuts
- Contributed to the letter concerning the NSCC librarian layoffs.

### APLA Policies

Worked with President Terri Winchcombe to create a policy for honorariums, per diems, and mileage reimbursements

## **APLA Website**

I went through the entire website and made a list of 22 items to be addressed (documents to be added, dead links, pages to be deleted, etc...)

## **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust Fund Committee:**

Met with the committee to review the 2026 applications for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust Fund and made a recommendation on the 2026 applicant.

## **Grow a Library Program:**

Looked into private book lending programs on PEI and made a recommendation.

Respectfully submitted on May 25, 2026.

**Juanita Rossiter**



## APLA Membership Report June 2026

Terri Winchcome (Acting VP Membership)

### Active Membership Statistics as of May 31, 2026

As of May 31, 2026, APLA has 290 active memberships and 268 inactive memberships. Between June 1, 2025, and May 31, 2026, 108 new, or returning, members joined APLA.

#### Active Memberships by Type

Member Types	May-25	May-26
Complimentary	15	16
Institutional	12	8
Joint APLA/NSLA	27	28
Librarian	42	62
Lifetime	59	59
Retired	2	4
Student	19	84
Support staff	11	26
Unwaged		3
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>290</b>

#### Active Members by Province

Province	May-25	May-26
New Brunswick	53	68
Newfoundland and Labrador	24	22
Nova Scotia	113	154
Prince Edward Island	12	14
Other Provinces/Countries	28	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>290</b>

## Institutional Memberships

There are 8 active and 25 expired Institutional Memberships.

## Join Memberships

APLA/NSLA	May-25	May-26
Support Staff	8	7
Librarians	19	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

## Membership Drives

Forty Dalhousie School of Information Management (SIM) and Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Library Technician students were recruited at two events attended by Katie McCaskill (Secretary) and Terri Winchcombe (President). APLA hosted tables at the Dalhousie University School of Information Management (SIM) Associations' Display Event in September 2025 and at the Dalhousie SIM Information Without Borders (IWB) Conference in March 2026.

Please note that enrollment in the Dalhousie MI program doubled in the fall of 2025.

## Other

In April 2026, Vice-President, Membership, Katie Puxley resigned due to illness. I stepped in to cover the position until a replacement can be recruited.

Data derived from: Joint Custom Membership Report, Filter by Joined Date (2025-06-01 to 2026-05-31).

For the next VP Membership:

- Verify the email addresses of expired memberships, as some members may have new contact information, different places of employment, or may be deceased.
- Send reminder emails to all expired members.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri G Winchcombe  
President  
VP Membership (Acting)  
June 3, 2026



## APLA Treasurer Report June 2026

Carolyn Gillis

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association remains in good financial standing. As of June 4, 2026, we have \$178,890.86 in our Operating Account. This includes money for the APLA 2026 Conference as well as the regular APLA money. Once the APLA 2026 Conference is over and the bills are paid, we will have a much better understanding of how much cash we will have to work with going forward. We have \$10,018.04 in our Investment Account. We have one GIC worth \$135,876.21 as of March 31st. It will mature on June 19, 2026. At that point it will be worth \$136,548.25. Our Visa balance is \$1608.38. There is another GIC worth \$5,000.00 that is being held as surety for the Visa. The balance on that GIC as of March 31<sup>st</sup> was \$5,034.82. It matures on January 10, 2028. The maturity value will be \$5,315.24.

### Banking

Our accounts are all at Scotiabank now. We have a cheque for the Memorial Fund for \$55,617.94. The cheque needs to be signed by Cate Carlyle, as she was the signatory on the Memorial Fund account at TD Bank. We will get Cate to sign the cheque at the 2026 APLA conference. Then we will invest the money in a separate account according to the Memorial Fund rules.

We found the key to the Safety Deposit box and on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Terri and I went to TD and emptied it. The account linked to the safety deposit box was the Memorial Fund Account. We closed the account and received the cheque mentioned above.

We are working with Scotiabank to get all of our accounts linked and showing when we login to the Online Banking app.

We have added the money from the 2025 APLA conference to our business account.

### Current/Future Tasks

- Acting as treasurer for the APLA 2026 Conference.
- Refunding Acadia for an extra Institutional Registration (They paid twice.)
- Refunding an APLA conference registration for someone who is unable to attend. Also at Acadia.

All our accounts are up to date, and there are a few invoices which will be due after the conference, for the conference.

I have submitted all of our financial information to Cynthia Holt who has completed our Financial Audit for the 2025/2026 year. She has recommended a few changes to be made to our Award allocations, and I plan to follow her directions. That will bring us into compliance with APLA Standing Orders 3.09 and 3.15 in regards to both the First Timer's Award, and the Memorial Fund Award.

### **Proposed Budget for 2026-2027**

The proposed budget for the 26/27 Financial Year is in. I tried to underestimate our revenues and overestimate our expenditures. This will result in an estimated loss of \$12,350.95. I don't think that this will be the reality, but I would rather budget like we are losing money instead of assuming that we will make money.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gillis

June 5, 2026



## **APLA Bulletin Management Committee Report May 2026**

**Kate McClintock, Bulletin Text Editor**

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The APLA Bulletin has had another successful year of collecting and sharing updates from libraries, archives, and the APLA Executive. It is a pleasure to facilitate communication and connection between our Atlantic provinces through this newsletter.

I am grateful to Nailisa Tanner for her work as Technical Editor, who is currently managing the migration of our Bulletin digital archive from the OJS Software at Acadia University, to a new home at the University of New Brunswick.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate McClintock

May 25, 2026



## APLA Communications Report June 2026

Hannah Smith

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### Communication Coordinator Report

I stepped into the role of APLA Communications Coordinator in October 2025 - this report will cover activity from October 2025 to June 2026.

#### Social Media

Any APLA interest group or committee with information to share is encouraged to reach out to the communications coordinator to get events and other information published on the socials. Members of the executive have access to Canva to create visuals, and the communications coordinator can also assist in creating visuals as needed.

**Statistics as of June 7, 2026** in comparison with October 2025:

- Bluesky – 133 followers (↑ 17)
- Instagram – 251 followers (↑ 44)
- Facebook page – 420 followers (↑ 66)
- See Appendix for detailed metrics

Engagement metrics for Meta platforms (Facebook and Instagram) have had a significant increase in followers over the last eight months. Posts of our advocacy letters see the most engagement (likes, comments, shares) and we have seen a large boost in followers on these platforms because of these posts.

While we continue to gain followers on Bluesky, there is little to no engagement with posts, and unfortunately there is no way to gather analytics for Bluesky.

Please see Appendix for further analytics on Facebook and Instagram from Meta Business

Suite. **Publications**

Since October 2025, posts and reminders were published on all social media outlets

regarding various APLA related activities, such as:

- Info Learning Space for December 10
- Urgent Action Needed for Bill C-15
- Announcement of 2026 APLA Conference
- Sponsorship & Call for Proposals for 2026 APLA Conference
- Open Letter Regarding Provincial Budget Cuts
- APLA Conference Registration
- APLA Conference Call for Proposals
- APLA Early Bird Rates Extended
- Open Letter Regarding the Elimination of Campus Librarian Positions at NSCC
- APLA Pre-Conference Registration Open

The post that received the top content for views and engagement across all outlets was our open letter regarding the elimination of campus librarian positions at NSCC. While this content is not favourable in matter, we saw lots of shares and digital-positive engagement with this post.

Reminder: APLA maintains a presence on the following platforms:

- Facebook - [facebook.com/APLAContact](https://facebook.com/APLAContact)
- Instagram - [@aplagram](https://instagram.com/aplagram)
- Bluesky - [@aplacontact.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/aplacontact.bsky.social)

## Listserv

No significant Listserv updates to report - job listings, studies, events and other inquiries shared as requested.

## Other Business

- I represented APLA at the NSCC awards ceremony on June 4, 2026, where we honoured Erin MacKinnon, an outgoing graduate of the Library Information Technology program with the 2026 APLA Prize.
- I received an email that the platform Later, a Meta post scheduler, that APLA is subscribed to has failed to process payment. This platform has not been used to schedule any posts as Meta

Business Suite is the easiest way to schedule these posts. My recommendation is to cancel the Later subscription and to continue with Meta Business Suite as the schedule platform.

- The APLA Facebook account must be attached to someone's personal Facebook account, and

I have been unable to figure out who this is. It would be great to figure out whose personal account the page is attached to, so the admin can reply to comments, share posts, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Smith, Communications Coordinator

June 7, 2026



## **APLA 2025 Conference Final Report, August 2025**

**Evelyn Trainer, Terri Winchcombe, Conference Co-Chairs, 2025 Conference Committee**

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### **Note from the Co-Chairs**

Congratulations to the 2025 Conference Planning Team who made the fifth virtual APLA conference a success. Because we had a small number of team members the report comes from the team members.

In this report we have recommended changes to the conference manual to aid future virtual conference planning committee teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Trainer, Co-Chair, APLA 2025 Conference Committee  
Terri Winchcombe, Co-Chair, APLA 2025 Conference Committee  
Jason Lee  
Lisa Marshall  
Katie McCaskill  
Hailey Wills

### **Theme**

Breaking Barriers

### **Hosting Platform and Website**

Pheedloop - registrations, program submission, vendor applications

Zoom - sessions and recordings

Conference website

## Exhibits and Sponsors

<b>SPONSORSHIPS</b>	
CAAL	\$200
Carr McLean	\$200
Clarivate	\$200
Grey House	\$200
McIntyre Media	\$200
NBPLS	\$1,000
NFB	\$200
OurDigitalWorld Organization	\$200
PEI Public Library	\$200
TD/LAC	\$575
Trojman Corporation	\$200

3375.00

## Program

Sessions

Keynote speakers

## Promotion, PR, Publicity

APLA Bulletin

Instagram

Facebook

APLA List

NSLA List

The Partnership

[Librarianship.ca](http://Librarianship.ca) website

## Registration

### Jason Lee

Our original plan was to conduct an in-person conference since the onset of Covid. However, due to a financial crisis faced by Canadian institutions, many prospective attendees preferred a virtual conference, leading us to decide on a virtual format.

Reflecting on the APLA 2024 Conference, we used Pheedloop as our registration and Conference hosting system (<https://www.pheedloop.com>) and Stripe as our online payment system <https://stripe.com/en-ca>. Both systems performed exactly as advertised, and we would recommend their use again.

For this theme, breaking barriers, there is no APLA member or non-APLA member rate. Our final registration numbers looked like this:

Professional Librarian - 65

Library Support Staff - 36

Student and Retirees - 10

Submitted by Jason Lee

August 2025

## Events

### Lisa Marshall & Katie McCaskill

In the initial planning stages, there were discussions of ghost walks, walking tours, as well sorting the arrangements for the dinner and dance. However, once we moved to an online format, we focused on virtual events that would provide social networking and ice breaking opportunities.

### Virtual Trivia

### Virtual Escape Room

After some initial research, Lisa presented the idea of purchasing access to an online escape room that conference attendees could attend as part of an evening event. Three options were considered:

1. [Wolf Escape Games](#)
2. [MeetMax Games](#)
3. [The Escape Game](#)

Wolf Escape Games provided the service that fit our requirements the best. It did not require a live host, it could be played at any time, we were able to run the experience via Zoom, and we could choose amongst three potential game titles/themes. We selected a Sherlock Holmes themed game titled *Phantom's Hour*.

12 participants registered to play, and 11 attended. We started the experience on Wednesday, June 11th at 7pm AST. Wolf Support Games provided discount codes for each member of the winning team, which we were able to track via a real time leader board.

Despite greatly underestimating the time that would be required to play the game through, all participants reported that they enjoyed the experience and would like to take part in something similar in the future. It was a great way to make connections and break the ice in a virtual format.

## **Budget**

A tentative budget was created in September 2024 based on the previous year's budget information. The budget was continuously revised as income and expenses changed. The East Coast Credit Union in Elmsdale, NS was the bank the conference used so that we could accept and send electronic payments. Stripe was used to accept credit card payments from PheedLoop and the Conference Website. Electronic funds transfer was also an option for registrants so that they could avoid PheedLoop and Stripe fees.

## **Recommendations:**

- Have the APLA Treasurer be the Conference Treasurer so that there is no need for new bank accounts to be created and signing authority assigned. This should save time and effort for the Conference committee.
- Include the whole committee in the budget process.
- Set up Stripe and PheedLoop early and have multiple team members trained in the software.
- There is not likely a need to purchase virtual exhibitor booths, they were not used this year. Instead we offered time in the schedule for vendors to give sessions.

## **Conference Grant**

Additional funds from APLA were required to renew PheedLoop subscription early in the planning process.

## Donations and Prizes

We donated \$500 to literacy associations in each of the 4 Atlantic Provinces. Prizes were awarded to winners of Trivia, Virtual Escape game, vendor session attendee draw, and early registrations.

## Software

We renewed the PheedLoop subscription, purchased additional user credits and exhibit booths, and bought a temporary Zoom account for online conference sessions.

## Conference Financial Summary

Description	Revenue	Expenses
Conference Grant	\$5,192	\$5,192
Donations and Prizes		\$2,450
Entertainment		\$742
Keynotes		\$500
Registrations	\$12,753	
Software		\$4,727
Sponsorship	\$3,375	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,320</b>	<b>\$13,611</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$7,709</b>	



## APLA Information Program Department of Information Science Report

Sandra Toze

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### Updates from the Department of Information Science, and the Director of the Master of Information Programs

#### Annual Update 2025/2026

It has been an exciting year for the Information Programs here at Dalhousie. Our Information programs include our ALA accredited Master of Information (MI) degree, our mid-career Master of Information Management (MIM) degree, the INFO courses we have launched at the undergraduate level, as well as our newly launched PhD in Information. We are working to ensure Information is central to all Dalhousie students!

#### MI Program Updates

Despite the unusual start to the term, we welcomed 58 new students into our Master of Information Program. Thanks to the returning MI students and the Information Science Student Society (ISSA) team for welcoming and orienting our new students during the labour disruption. Our next comprehensive review for Accreditation will be in the Fall of 2027, so our plans are well underway. Our Information Programs committee is leading the ongoing planning for our degree, and we have added an Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, Indigenization and Decolonization Committee to help evaluate how EDIAID principles are integrated into the MI program. Our EDIAID committee has also created a draft document articulating our values. You will hear from us over the spring and summer as we solicit feedback. This is all part of our continual work to ensure our program meets the changes in the Information field, and that we have robust ways of measuring how our program learning outcomes are being met.

#### Announcing our new PhD in Information Program

A program that has been many years in the dreaming and planning, is now a reality. As the only PhD in Information in the Atlantic region, we are looking for students who want to explore how access to the right data, information, and knowledge shapes the way we live, work, and make decisions; and can help create a more just society. Our new program connects research on information, technology, society, and ethics, giving you the tools to address pressing challenges, including the ongoing digital divide, access to

information, the growing issues around misinformation, and the ethical use of generative Artificial Intelligence, just to name a few key topics. This fall we welcomed two incoming students, and two transferring students into our program. Curious about how this might fit with your career goals – take a look. Along with the PhD program, our faculty is now part of the iSchool caucus. More ways for us to connect to, and help advance Information based research in the world.

### **Information courses offered to Undergraduate Students**

Digital, data and information skills are core to all sectors. To respond to the growing need for digital literacy, we have created a suite of courses including: Digital Society; Digital Citizenship; Through the Looking Glass: Recognizing and Debunking of Conspiracy Theories; The Revolution Will Not Be Tiktoked: Information for Social Change; and Critical Approaches to Knowledge and Data Justice. This past year more than 800 undergraduate students enrolled in our classes from all faculties. This has resulted in a much greater awareness of how information, misinformation and privacy intersect with our lives and work.

We would love to hear your ideas and thoughts about our programs. Feel free to reach out to me at any time. We are always looking for ways to both integrate our MI program with our professional communities and to ensure we are doing all to support the libraries. Given the current climate please let us know how we can work together to advocate for the profession.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Toze

Director, Information Programs, Associate Professor, DIS

stoze@dal.ca

Sandra Toze (she/her)

O5-31-2026



## APLA Finance Committee Report June 2026

Carolyn Gillis (Treasurer)

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### Update

The finance committee is made up of the President, the President-Elect and the Treasurer. The finance committee last met on April 21, 2026.

We discussed raising the Per Diem rate to match those used by ISI/Novanet and CAAL-CBPA to more accurately reflect the costs of travelling. We discussed getting a new safety deposit box at our Scotiabank branch in Elmsdale. We discussed doubling the APLA prizes from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 each going forward from next year. A new policy for Travel and Expense Reimbursement has been shared with the membership in preparation for a vote at the OGM.

Executive travel amounts were discussed and it was agreed that we might want to raise those as well. We discussed the idea that Conference Registration, meals and accommodation costs over and above professional development allocations could be covered by APLA for the Executive members and the Organizing Committee members? This idea is being discussed by the Executive.

It was decided to put the proposed amounts into the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gillis

June 4, 2026



## APLA 2025-26 Financial Examiner's Report

June 2, 2026

Cynthia Holt

### Summary

I have examined the financial records of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association for the period between April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, for integrity and accuracy in accordance with best practices in financial risk management for not-for-profits such as APLA, including such tests and procedures considered necessary in the circumstances.

My examination process included a review of the bank statements, visa statements, Stripe account transactions, bank slips, and receipts. In preparation for my review of the Association's records, I met with the APLA Treasurer to gain access to necessary documents, and to clarify points of uncertainty.

Although APLA subscribes to the QuickBooks accounting system, due to inconsistencies in its use in FY24-25, the system was not used consistently over the examination period. Carolyn Gillis, the current APLA Treasurer, is working diligently to ensure that FY24-25 and FY25-26 transactions are comprehensive, accurate, and current in the QuickBooks system.

I was able to verify the financial position of the Association and its investments as of March 31, 2026, the results of its operations, and the changes in its financial position for the year ending on March 31, 2026. Based on my review, I find that the APLA financial operations are in good standing, with one minor compliancy issue to address (see [Recommendation](#) below). For the year ended March 31, 2026, reporting of financial operations is accurate, and there is no evidence of fraud.

### Recommendation

Based on my examination of APLA's financial records for the year ended March, 31, 2026, and to bring APLA back into compliance with Standing Order 3.15 for the Memorial Awards Trust Fund, it is strongly recommended that when the current GIC noted in the [Investments](#) section of this report matures on June 19, 2026, **\$5,997.74** of the **\$100,345.77** earmarked for the Carin Alma E. Somers

Scholarship Fund be redistributed to the APLA Memorial Awards Trust Fund to raise the equity value of the Memorial Awards Trust Fund to **\$61,617.68**.

## Bank Accounts

### East Coast Credit Union Limited

APLA had a Business Chequing account with the East Coast Credit Union Limited solely for transactions associated with the 2025 APLA Conference. The balance from this account, **\$11,999.47**, was transferred to the Scotiabank Chequing account on October 22, 2025, and the account was closed.

### TD

APLA changed banks during the examination period, with the following TD accounts being closed on the dates indicated:

ξ Chequing - December 5, 2025

ξ Business Investor - January 14, 2026

ξ Memorial Fund - April 17, 2026

### Scotiabank

Two accounts were opened with Scotiabank on August 22, 2025.

ξ Business Investor Account

ξ Chequing Account

\$243,586.35 (\$243,896.35 less a \$9.95 draft commercial fee) was transferred from the TD Chequing account to the Scotiabank Chequing account on December 5, 2025. Of these funds, \$137,748.12 was transferred on December 16, 2025, to the Scotiabank Business Investor account. These funds had previously been held in the TD Business Investor account.

The Business Investor Account was opened August 22, 2026, but was not active until December 16, 2025, when the funds from the Scotiabank Chequing account were transferred into this account. This was noted in the Treasurer's April 28, 2026, Report to the Executive Committee as being the amount invested in a GIC, but it is more accurately the amount transferred from the Chequing account to the Business Investor account.

As of March 31, 2026, the Scotiabank Business Investor account balance was **\$2,577.37**, and the Scotiabank Chequing account balance was **\$118,612.50**, for a total bank assets aggregate of **\$121,189.87**. There is also an outstanding cheque for **\$55,617.94** to be deposited in a new Scotiabank account exclusively for the Memorial Awards Trust Fund (see explanation in [Investments](#) section below).

## Investments

At the discretion of the Executive, **Standing Order 3.09** directs that up to \$1,000 of any annual operating surplus may be transferred to the APLA Memorial Awards Trust Fund, and **Standing Order 3.15** that 50% of any annual conference surplus be divided between the Memorial Awards Trust Fund and the First Timers Conference Grant. **50% of the \$11,999.47** transferred from the East Coast Credit Union Limited account (the 2025 APLA Conference account) is **\$5,999.74** for one fund and **\$5,999.73** for the other.

**Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund and the APLA First Timer's Conference Grant** In accordance with Standing Order 3.10, my examination included a review of the status of funds for both the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund and the APLA First Timer's Conference Grant. On December 19, 2025, **\$135,000** was invested in a Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC). This amount is the combined total for the **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund** and the **APLA First Timer's Conference Grant**, with **\$99,208** of this amount being earmarked for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund, and **\$35,792** being earmarked for the APLA First Timer's Conference Grant to comply with Standing Order 3.15.

The GIC will mature on **June 19, 2026**, at a total value of **\$136,548.25**. Per my conversations with the APLA Treasurer, **\$100,345.77** of this amount will be the value of the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund, and **\$36,202.48** will be the value of the APLA First Timer's Conference Grant. The value of this GIC on March 31, 2026, was **\$135,876.21**. Once this GIC matures, the amounts for each fund will be invested in separate GICs for a year.

The equity value of the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund on June 24, 2024, as noted in the 2024-25 Financial Examiner's Report, was **\$83,489.30**. This is the amount at maturity of these funds when the GIC in which they had been invested matured on that date. The difference between the \$99,208 noted above as being invested in a GIC for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund, and the equity amount for this Fund on the maturity of the previous GIC on June 24, 2024, represents a **value increase of \$15,718.70** (18.8% increase) at the time of investment on December 19, 2025, and an increase of **\$16,856.47** (20.2% increase) at maturity on June 19, 2026.

Unfortunately, the First Timer's Conference Grant funds became intermingled in the TD bank accounts after the previous GIC matured. As such, I did not observe any explicit transfer of funds into the First Timer's Conference Grant over the course of the examination period. That said, as reported though in the FY24-25 financial examiner's report, the balance at maturity of the First Timer's Conference Grant GIC on June 25, 2024, was **\$29,791.69**. Combined with the 2025 APLA Conference account surplus of **\$5,999.73**, the expected value of the First Timer's Conference Grant fund after the 2025 Conference surplus funds transfer was **\$35,791.42**. The value of the amount invested on December 19, 2025, for the First Timer's Conference Grant was **\$35,792** making **APLA was compliant with Standing Order 3.15 for the First Timer's Conference Award Fund** after the surplus 2025 Conference funds were transferred to the APLA accounts (October) and before the funds were invested in the GIC (December).

### APLA Memorial Awards Trust Fund

On April 17, 2026, when the TD Memorial Fund account was closed, a cheque was drafted in the value of **\$55,617.94**. This cheque will be invested in a separate account per the Memorial Fund rules. This fund grew by **\$836.90** over the examination period due to **accrued interest** in the TD account, instead of the expected **\$5,999.74** from the 2025 APLA Conference surplus on top of the interest income.

**To bring APLA into compliance with Standing Order 3.15 for the Memorial Awards Trust Fund**, it is strongly recommended that when the current GIC investment matures on June 19, 2026, **\$5,999.74** of the **\$100,345.77** earmarked for the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund be redistributed to the APLA

June 2, 2026 Financial Examiner's Report for Year Ended March 31, 2026 3 Memorial Awards Trust Fund to raise the equity value of the Memorial Awards Trust Fund to **\$61,617.68**.

The redistribution above will leave the **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund with a balance of \$94,346.03**, which is a **\$10,856.73** (13%) increase over the equity amount for this Fund recorded on June 24, 2024.

### Other

On January 9, 2026, **\$5,000** was transferred to a GIC as **surety** for the APLA visa card. The value of this GIC on March 31, 2026, was **\$5,034.82**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Holt



## **NSCC Library and Information Technology (LIT) Program Academic Year 2025-26**

**Kristina Parlee: Faculty, NSCC LIT Program**

Hello from the NSCC Library and Information Technology (LIT) Program! We are pleased to share this report on program activities for the 2025-6 Academic year. As libraries work to respond to Generative AI and the latest round of monumental changes to the way our profession functions, this report outlines the LIT Program's work to prepare new information professionals for the challenges of our changing information environment.

### **Significant Program Updates**

It has been several years since we have submitted an OGM report and will begin with some changes.

In 2021, NSCC made significant changes to the delivery of our online program. The fully online eCampus program is now part-time with a new intake of students every two years. The Ivany Campus program continues as full-time, with a new intake of students every year.

Current full-time faculty in the new structure are:

- Meredith Cleversey MLIS Western – eCampus
- Kristina Parlee MA Info and Library Management Northumbria – Ivany Campus
- Bruce Ross MLIS Dalhousie – Ivany Campus

Additional LIT faculty support at Ivany campus was provided by Jamie Serran, Katherine McQueen, and Courtney Bayne, covering Archives and Records Management courses.

As part of our commitment to program quality and in consultation with industry, graduates and students, NSCC completed a comprehensive review of the LIT program in 2025. As a result, a fully refreshed LIT program will be launched in September of 2026. A listing of the new courses being delivered beginning September 2026 can be found on the [NSCC LIT Program Page](#).

### **Upcoming Changes to Campus Libraries at NSCC**

Other changes impacting the LIT program come from a recent restructuring at NSCC due to mandated

reductions to Nova Scotia Public Service positions. As was reported in the media, Campus Librarian positions have been cut. Library services will be provided by remaining campus Library Technicians and Central library staff.

## Enrolment and Graduates

We continue to see a wide range of students coming to the LIT Program and our enrolment remains strong. 2025-26 academic year numbers:

- 48 students in the Ivany program (including 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students)
- 28 in the eCampus program (part-time)
- 23 total graduates this spring: 17 from Ivany and 6 from eCampus.

Both Ivany and eCampus have a class intake for Fall 2026 and both programs are currently full with additional potential students waitlisted.

## Applied Learning in the LIT Program

We continue to focus on applied learning in our classrooms to give our students the hands-on skills and experience to prepare them for work. At Ivany Campus Library these activities included:

- LIT student led tech support in September for new campus students
- Collection displays in the campus library highlighting digital and physical collections 📖  
In-person and forms-based Readers' Advisory service for staff and students in the lead up to December break
- Planning, promoting and hosting 5 library programs in the month of November with the support and guidance of our Campus Librarian Kydra Mayhew and Campus Library Technician (and NSCC program graduate) Sharyn Larter.
- Class projects where 2<sup>nd</sup> year Information Services students provided bibliographic instruction and citation assistance support to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Business Administration Students in an International Business Course and 1<sup>st</sup> Year LIT students in an English Literature course.

Additionally, students in both streams of the program now take a required course on Community Leadership that requires them to engage in volunteer work or civic engagement. Over the four years that the course has been running, students have provided over 2000 hours of volunteer service to community organizations (with a focus on Libraries, Archives and Museums).

## Community Connections

The support of our community continues to play an important part in the development of the next generation of library and information workers. Support from libraries, archives and records

management departments across the province continues to allow our students to visit sites, hear from information workers in guest lectures and complete 5-week work placements. We thank each individual and organization for their continued support.

In Fall 2025, Ivany Faculty Bruce Ross and Kristina Parlee spoke at the 2025 LAMNS in a session on “From Campus to Careers in LAMs”. In this talk, they highlighted the mutual support between the program and the Library and Information Community. We are always looking for new partnerships, and encourage community members to reach out.

## 2026 Student Award Winners

The following awards were presented in June 2026:

### Industry Awards

- APLA Award: Erin MacKinnon
- NSLA Award: Noah Wolfe
- ARMA Nova Scotia Chapter Award: Maggie Daley

### NSCC Ivany School of Business Awards

- Highest Recognition Award: Ashley Douglas
- First Year Student Award: Ren Dewolf

## Remembering Our Colleague Harvey Ratchford

We would like to end with a note of remembrance for our retired colleague Harvey Ratchford.

We were saddened to learn that Harvey passed away in the fall of 2025. Harvey shared his knowledge and wit with students in the program for 30 years. We know that for many in the APLA community, particularly those who attended the LIT program up until his retirement in 2020, Harvey was an important and well-loved figure. An obituary was published online in January: [Mr. Harvey Ratchford Obituary | 1961 | The Chronicle Herald](#)

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Parlee, Faculty ([kristina.parlee@nsc.ca](mailto:kristina.parlee@nsc.ca))

June 05, 2026



## APLA Technology Coordinator Report June 4, 2026

Leah Griffiths

### Google Workspace

#### Service Usage as of June 1, 2026

- 28 active user accounts (16 logged in within the last 3 months)
- 43.43 GB of shared storage used
  - Gmail: 20.35 GB
  - Drive: 23.08 GB
  - Heaviest users by total storage:
    - [Treasurer@apla.ca](mailto:Treasurer@apla.ca) – 12.7 GB
    - [Technology@apla.ca](mailto:Technology@apla.ca) – 9.2 GB
    - [Bulletin@apla.ca](mailto:Bulletin@apla.ca) – 2.45 GB
    - [Secretary@apla.ca](mailto:Secretary@apla.ca) – 2.17 GB
    - [President@apla.ca](mailto:President@apla.ca) – 1.97 GB

### APLA-LIST (Listserv)

As of June 1, 2026, there were 925 subscribers.

For the period of February 1, 2025 – June 1, 2026:

- 15 new subscribers
- 12 subscribers left
- messages required moderation

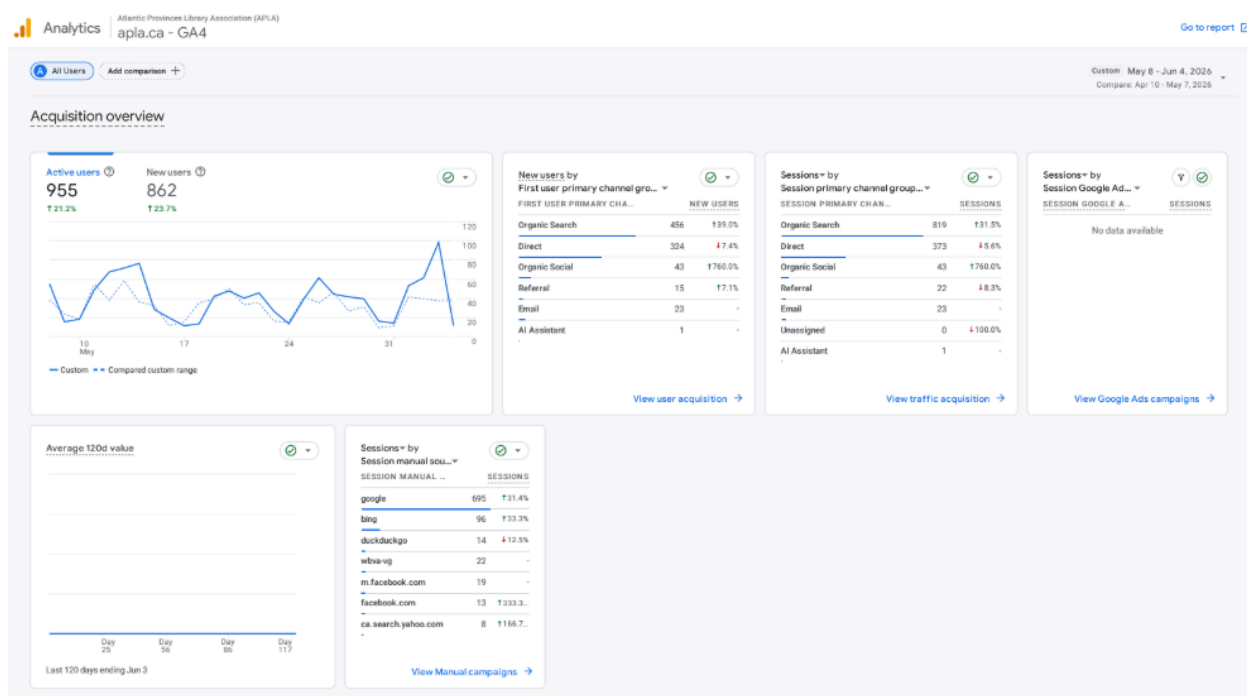
## Web Statistics

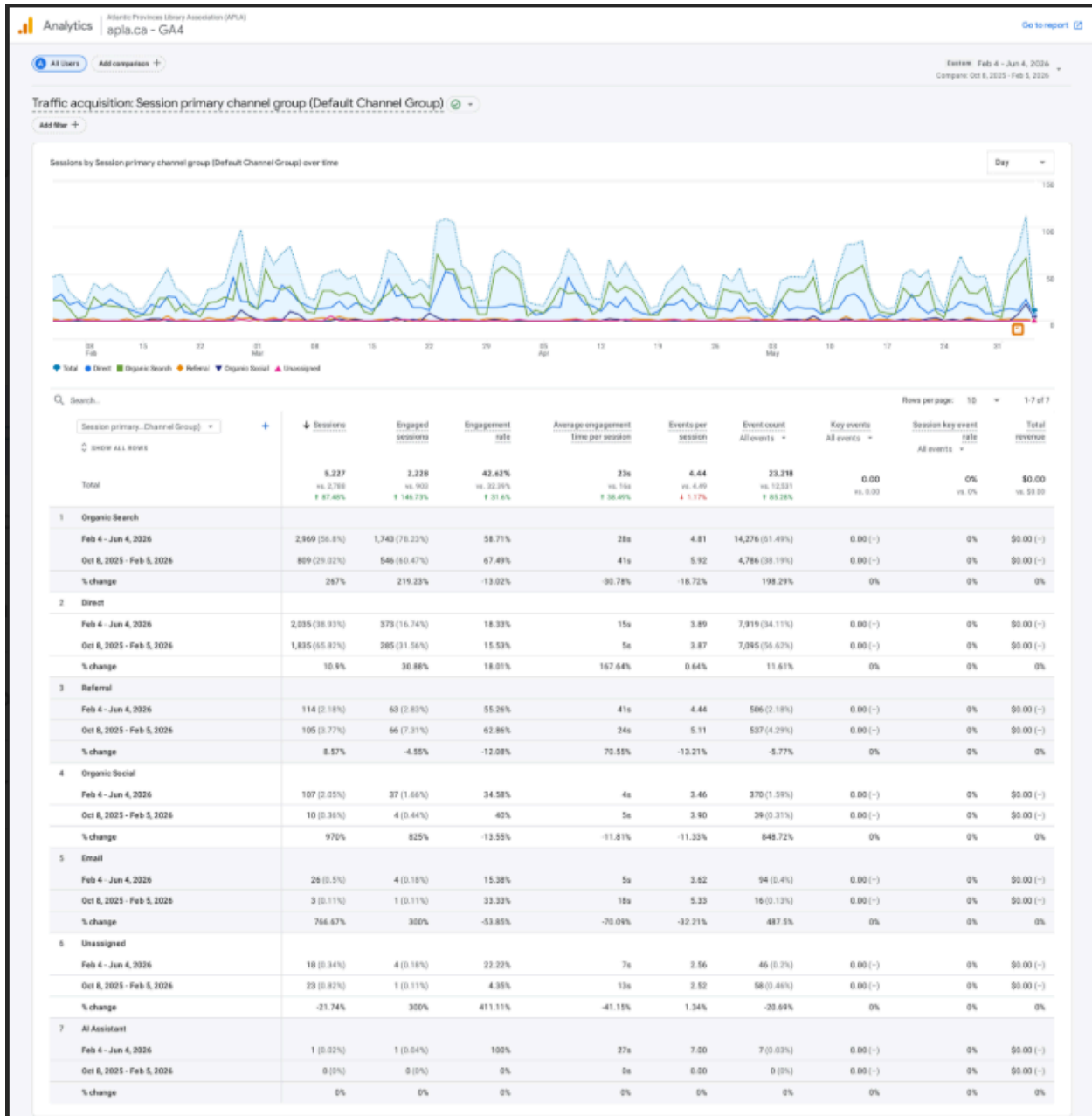
A comprehensive website traffic summary derived from Google Analytics can be found below.

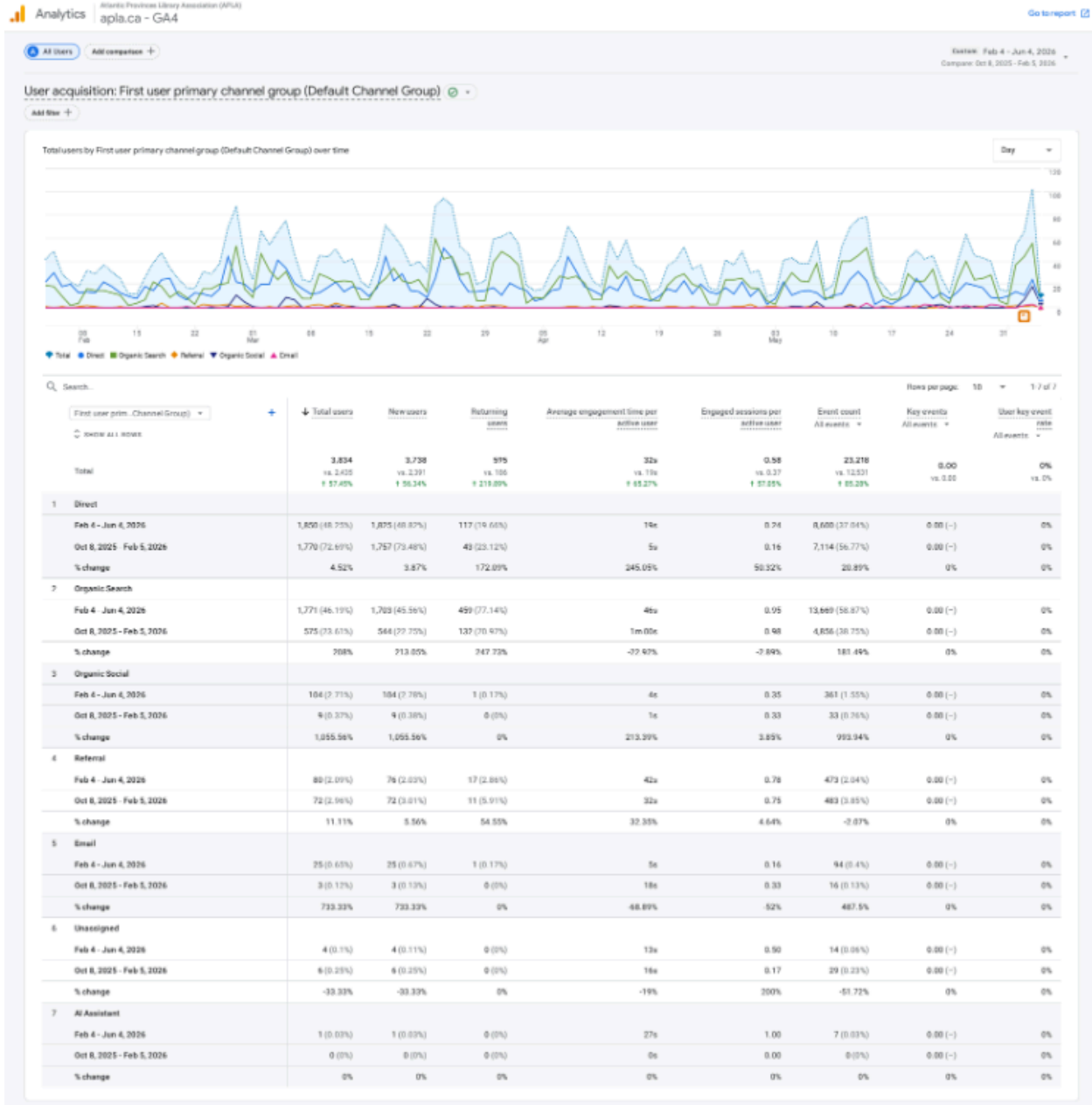
Respectfully submitted,

Leah Griffiths

June 4, 2026









## APLA OGM 2025 Minutes

From the APLA OGM 2025 and Conference Closing  
Virtual (Zoom), Thursday, June 12, 2025, 5:00pm ast

In Attendance: Emily Blackmore (presiding), Cate Carlyle, Krystal Dionne, Carolyn Gillis, Peter Glenister, Vincent Grovesne, Sandra Harun, Agnieszka Hayes, Theresa Hynes, Emily MacIsaac, Colin MacKay, Kathryn (Kae) McCaskill, Rose Morton, Nathalie Richard, Crystal Sutherland, Margaret Vail, Natasha Wells, Terri Winchcombe  
2 proxy slips (Cynthia Holt, Suzanne Van Den Hoogen)  
Kae Puxley joined at 5:26

### *Land Acknowledgment*

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Establish Quorum. Delay in starting the meeting in order to do so. The Conference Keynote was delayed in closing. Quorum established at 5:24. Meeting opened, recording started.**

**Emily B: Terri will be acting as parliamentarian**

**3. Adoption of Agenda:**

**- moved by: Emily, seconded by Colin, carried**

**4. APLA Meeng Rules reminder (5:26):** Be respectful. APLA meeting rules include Rule 2 –“persons seeking recognition from the presiding officer shall identify themselves for the record, giving their names, library or other affiliation, and whether members of non-members.” Non members may speak by general consensus to vote.

**5. Adoption of the Minutes of the 85th Ordinary General Meeting (virtual) June 2024: - moved by: Colin, seconded by Krystal, carried**

**6. Business Arising from the minutes: none**

**7. President’s Report- Emily Blackmore- as submitted. No questions.**

**8. Past President’s Report- Krystal Dionne- as submitted. No questions.**

**9. Vice President/President Elect- Terri Winchcombe**

*Addendum: Correcon to the 1st mers award secon, the award winners were SK Maston and Cristal van der Pol. APLA awarded the winners their registration to the 2025 APLA conference. Correcon to the Karen Alma E. Summers scholarship Award second. This year 3 outstanding candidates were selected, Jordan Weaver, Holly, Crummy, nee Weaver, and Marita White. Each winner was awarded \$2,000 to help with the cost of continuing their studies.*

## **10. Vice Presidents' Reports**

**10.1. New Brunswick - Marc Harper- absent with regrets, as submitted. 10.2. Newfoundland & Labrador - Rachel Head- absent, as submitted. 10.3. Nova Scotia- Agnieszka Hayes- as submitted. No questions.**

**10.4. Prince Edward Island- Emily MacIsaac- as submitted. No questions. 10.5. Membership- absent with regrets, as submitted.**

## **11. Financial Examiner**

**11.1. Report 2024/25- Peter Glenister- as submitted.**

**Colin added here some prepared comments, see *Appendix A* below Moon was passed to add these comments to the treasurer's report. Moon to approve financial examiner's report: moved by Emily B., seconded by Terri W., moon carried.**

**11.2. Appointment of Financial Examiner 2025, or update on the selection process of new examiner:**

*Emily B: thanked Peter for his long tenure. The role is now open to applications. Peter: expressed his thanks.*

## **12. Treasurer**

**12.1. Report 2024-2025- as submied**

**Moon to approve the treasurer's report: moved by Emily M., seconded by Emily B., moon carried.**

**12.2. Proposed Budget 2025-2026- See *Appendix B***

*Last minute addition to the agenda. Colin MacKay went over a spreadsheet. It has been submitted and will be added to the report as an addendum. No questions were asked.*

*Moon to approve this report: moved by Emily B., seconded Krystal D., moon carried.*

## *Executive Committee Reports*

### **13. Aims & Objectives Committees:**

**13.1. Continuing Education Interest Group- no report.**

**13.2. Information Literacy Interest Group- Agnieszka Hayes- as submitted.**

**No questions.**

**13.3. Library Technicians Interest Group- no report.**

**14. APLA Bullen Committee - Kate McClintock, absent with regrets, report as submitted**

**15. Membership Committee- no report.**

**16. Nominations Committee- no report .**

## *Standing & Special Committees*

**17. Advocacy Committee- advocacy chair is currently vacant.**

**18. Communications Committee -Shannon Bateman- absent, as submitted.**

**19. Technology Coordinator- Vincent Grovesne- as submitted. No questions.**

**20. Games at the Library Committee- no report.**

## *Other Reports*

**21. CFLA-FCAB - no current report. Welcome to our new rep Michelle Thomson**

**22. Dalhousie University, School of Information Management- no report.**

**23. Nova Scotia Community College Library Technician Program- no report.**

**24. Annual Conferences report - no report.**

**25. Revisions to Standing Orders- none**

### **26. Awards**

**26.1. APLA Merit Award- included in past president's report- as submitted, there was no winner.**

**26.2. APLA First Timer's Grant Recipient - Terri W., included in VP's**

**report**

**26.3. Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship - Terri W., included in VP's**

**report**

**26.4. APLA Memorial Award**

**26.5. APLA Advocacy Award**

**26.6. Dalhousie University- Agnieszka Hayes; recipient is Carolyn**  
*Smith congratulations!*

**26.7 Nova Scotia Community College- Agnieszka Hayes- Julia**  
*Ellio congratulations!*

**27. Nominations and Elections- general report included in past president's report. 27.1.New Executive Introductions**

*Emily B: a warm welcome to: VP NS Samantha Read, VP PEI Juanita Rossiter Technology Coordinator Leah Griffiths, Treasurer Carolyn Gillis, Secretary Kae McCaskill, VP President Elect Lisa Marshall and President Terri Winchcombe (inauguration to follow).*

**27.2.Recognition of Outgoing Executive Members**

*Emily B: thank you to Agnieszka Hayes, our outgoing VP NS, Emily MacIsaac, our outgoing VP PEI, Sam Read, our outgoing VP Membership, Vincent Grovesne, our outgoing Technology Coordinator, Colin MacKay, our outgoing Treasurer, Peter Glenister, our outgoing financial examiner, Rose Morton, our outgoing Secretary, Krystal Dionne, our outgoing Past President, Terri W, our outgoing VP Elect*

**28.New Business- no new business**

**29. Resolutions**

**Resolution 1: thanking last year's conference committee. (Terri W., and husband read in French).**

**Moon to approve: moved by Emily B., seconded by Colin, moon**

**carried. 30. Inauguration of Incoming President**

*"The Gavel" was ceremonially passed on to Terri W. Emily expressed her thanks for the support of the executive, and looks forward to her new role.*

*Terri: expressed her excitement to begin, and shared three key priorities: Re-invigorating membership*

*Celebrating excellence: through awards and recognition, re-vitalizing the existing rewards programs and exploring new ones.*

*Strengthening our voice and vision.*

*Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me, together we can build a vital organization that will support this work.*

**31. Adjournment: Emily B: a special thank you to Terri and Evelyn, the conference organizers. Krystal has the gavel! Adjournment: 5:49 pm.**

**Appendix A:**

**Treasurer's Remarks, read at the meeting and added as an addendum to the Treasurer's report:**

Comments relating to Financial Examiner's Report

*This is a copy of a statement made verbally at the APLA OGM on June 12, 2025 by Colin MacKay, Treasurer.*

I want to take a moment to comment upon the Financial Examiners Report to the membership for the purpose of transparency. Firstly, I wanted to thank Peter for all his years as Financial Examiner and for his patience and diligence in this important role. I do want to acknowledge that in his report, Peter has noted that several accounts are unverified this year including the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund, the APLA Memorial Award Trust Fund, and the First Timers Conference Grant. I want to thank Peter for his notes, affirm that he is accurate in that this was a difficult audit, and provide an explanation to the membership for transparency regarding why these accounts were not verified this year.

Our financial accounts are held by TD Financial, and there have been some known pain points that made it challenging to manage our financial accounts in the way that we would like this past fiscal year. Some of these issues involve inconsistent service with financial advisors and the need to make account and investment decisions in a local TD branch which is not always possible for signing officers like the Treasurer and President spread across the Atlantic Provinces. These all seem to have come to a head this year as several of our GICs used for specific scholarship funds matured and were deposited into the APLA General Fund and, combined with my own lack of me, capacity, and financial expertise over the past year to make necessary changes, has resulted in these funds not being reinvested. Peter is correct in that this made it challenging to verify our financial accounts as some of the accounts no longer existed at the time of the audit, and I stand by his assessment and acknowledge my own role in making this a difficult final audit for Peter.

I do want to reassure the membership that the funds for both the Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Fund and the First Timers Conference Grants remain in the APLA General Fund, where they were automatically deposited when their GICs matured. The APLA Memorial Award Trust Fund also remains in good standing in a separate savings account, and I hope to assist the incoming Treasurer as much as I am able with the physical and digital handoff. I am grateful for the opportunity to be Treasurer and for the support that I received from fellow Executive members, and my hope is that this report will inspire the incoming Executive to consider how to support our volunteers in the role as Treasurer and Financial Examiner to be more successful in this role than I have been.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin MacKay  
Treasurer, APLA

## Appendix B:

### Proposed Budget 2025-2026, as presented at meeting:

This document can be found at these links:

Google Docs format:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kiKuAILXo5Y8zozHKDwP\\_GNQEfPjdELhLw78hJE-m4/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kiKuAILXo5Y8zozHKDwP_GNQEfPjdELhLw78hJE-m4/edit?usp=drive_link)

Microsoft Excel format:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XtITsZOY1eV6KNipzp\\_JLM6EC9FsjUIs/edit?usp=drive\\_link&ouid=106738079005499031935&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XtITsZOY1eV6KNipzp_JLM6EC9FsjUIs/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=106738079005499031935&rtpof=true&sd=true)



## Atlantic Provinces Library Association

### 87<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting

Tues June 16th, 2026

Following the Keynote Address by Kolade Kolawole-Boboeye at the 2026 APLA  
Conference

Expected start time approx. 2pm

#### **In- Person Location**

Delta Dartmouth

Park Centre Ballroom

#### **Online**

[Join the Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 274 021 100 699 011

Passcode: 4Kz3Bb22

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association represents libraries, librarians and library technicians across the region, all of whom sit on the unceded and traditional territories of First Peoples. In Newfoundland and Labrador, our libraries sit on the homelands of the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut, the Innu of Nitassinan, the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq peoples. In Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, we find our friends and colleagues situated on the territory of the Mi'kmaq. In New Brunswick, libraries are found on the land of the Wəlastəkwiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples. We at the Atlantic Provinces Library Association wish to express our sincerest gratitude to the First Peoples who share their ancestral homelands with us all.

#### **1. Call to Order -**

2. **Establish Quorum** -
3. **APLA Meeting Rules** - Reminder that non members may speak by majority vote and they must identify themselves by name for the record.

## Consent Agenda

4. **Adoption of Agenda**
5. **Adoption of the [Minutes of the 86th Ordinary General Meeting June 12th 2025](#)**
6. ***Written Reports as Submitted***
  - 6.1. [President's Report](#) – Terri Winchcombe as submitted
  - 6.2. [Past President's Report](#) – Emily Blackmore as submitted
  - 6.3. [New Brunswick](#) – Marc Harper as submitted
  - 6.4. [Membership](#) – Terri Winchcombe as submitted
  - 6.5. [Finance Committee](#) - Carolyn Gillis as submitted
  - 6.6. [APLA Bulletin](#) – Kate McClintock as submitted
  - 6.7. [Technology Coordinator](#) – Leah Griffiths
  - 6.8. [Dalhousie University, School of Information Management](#) - Sandra Toze as submitted
  - 6.9. [Nova Scotia Community College Library Technician Program](#) - Kristina Parlee as submitted
  - 6.10. [2025 APLA Conference Report](#) - Terri Winchcombe, Evelyn Trainer as submitted

## End of Consent Agenda

7. **Business Arising from Minutes of the 86th Ordinary General Meeting**
8. ***Other Reports***
  - 8.1. **Vice President/President Elect** –
  - 8.2. **VP Newfoundland & Labrador** –
  - 8.3. **VP Nova Scotia** –
  - 8.4. **VP Prince Edward Island** –
9. **Financial Examiner**
  - 9.1. [Report 2025-2026](#) – Cynthia Holt
10. **Appointment of Financial Examiner 2026-2027**
11. **Treasurer** – Carolyn Gillis
  - 11.1. [Report 2025-2026 Budget](#)
  - 11.2. **Proposed Budget 2026-2027**
12. ***Executive Committee Reports***
  - 12.1. **Aims & Objectives Committee** –
    - 12.1.1. **Continuing Education Interest Group** –
    - 12.1.2. **Information Literacy Interest Group** –
    - 12.1.3. **Library Technicians Interest Group** –

- 12.2. **Membership Committee –**
- 12.3. **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Committee –**
- 12.4. **Nominations Committee –**
- 13. ***Standing & Special Committees***
  - 13.1. **Advocacy Committee –**
  - 13.2. **Communications Committee –**
  - 13.3. **Memorial Award Committee –**
- 14. ***Other Reports***
  - 14.1. **CFLA-FCAB - Terri**
  - 14.2. **Partnership - Terri**
- 15. **Revisions to Standing Orders –**
- 16. **Awards –**
  - 16.1. **APLA Merit Award -**
  - 16.2. **APLA First Timer’s Grant Recipient –**
  - 16.3. **Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship -**
  - 16.4. **APLA Memorial Award - not awarded this year**
  - 16.5. **APLA Advocacy Award - not awarded this year**
  - 16.6. **Dalhousie University – School of Information Studies, Graduating Student Award -**
  - 16.7. **Nova Scotia Community College – Library and Information Technology Program, Graduating Student Award -**
- 17. **Nominations and Elections –**
  - 17.1. **VP Membership**
  - 17.2. **VP President Elect**
- 18. **New Executive Introductions –**
  - 18.1. **VP NL**
  - 18.2. **VP NS**
- 19. **Recognition of Outgoing Executive Members –**
  - 19.1. **Past President**
  - 19.2. **VP NS**
  - 19.3. **VB NB**
  - 19.4. **VP Membership**
- 20. **New Business –**
  - 20.1. **Joint membership with Ex Libris library association discussion, decision**
  - 20.2. **Conference 2027 location/date discussion, decision**
- 21. **Resolutions –**
- 22. **Inauguration of Incoming President –.**

23. **Adjournment –**