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From the President's Desk



Emily Blackmore

Fall 2024

Hello all! It seems like the last few months have really flown by. Worldwide, there certainly is a lot happening, and many things on the horizon for us to be vigilant about as library workers.

In an era as information rich as the one we live in we are so lucky to have libraries as already established centres of knowledge and learning. From the public libraries in our provinces that contain collections that reflect all of the members of our communities and their lived experiences, to the school libraries that have been and continue to be havens for many, to the academic libraries that support our institutions of higher learning, to the special collections that exist because of our hard work—thank you each and every one for all of your hard work to keep libraries alive and flourishing.

As we continue to advocate for ourselves, let's acknowledge that the work isn't always easy. Let's endeavour to support each other as best we can through the times to come. People need libraries now just as much as they always have, and in Atlantic Canada you are the lifeblood that keeps the heart pumping.

If any of you would like to volunteer with APLA, please reach out! There are always ways to get involved, and new faces are always welcome. A huge thank you to everyone volunteering to get our 2025 conference running—volunteer work is hard, and it is so much appreciated. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming conference in June in Halifax. APLA 2025 is sure to be one for the books!

Emily Blackmore (she/her)

President

Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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 Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada

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 for more information.

Partnership
The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research

Announcements

APLA Conference 2025: Breaking Barriers

Evelyn Trainer, APLA Conference Co-Chair



Breaking Barriers

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – Friday, June 13, 2025

Mount Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, NS

Libraries have always been at the forefront of democratizing knowledge, fostering inclusion, and supporting their communities in overcoming obstacles. With our theme, **Breaking Barriers**, we aim to explore how libraries are challenging traditional boundaries, embracing innovation, and empowering individuals and communities. The APLA 2025 Conference seeks to address the challenges and opportunities in breaking down barriers, whether they are cultural, economic, digital, or educational.

Call for Proposals

Proposal Deadline: Monday, February 10, 2025

The APLA 2025 Conference Team invites proposals for consideration for presentation at the 2025 in-person Annual Conference from June 10-13, 2025.

Presenters are responsible for their own registration, lodging, and travel.

We want perspectives from students, public libraries, academic libraries, school libraries, health libraries, special libraries, archives, non-profit organizations, student support departments/organizations, community groups and more!

We are seeking presentations in the following format categories:

- Pre-Conference Workshop (time to be determined)
- Hour Presentations (45 mins with additional 15 mins for questions)
- Half-hour Presentation (20 mins with additional 10 mins for questions)
- Interactive panel discussions (60 minutes)
- Micro Talks (5-10 minutes)

Proposals that do not fit the above timeframe and structure will be considered by the team but selection is dependent on schedule, logistics and other proposals. We also encourage students to join Micro Talks or give presentations to discuss previous or on-going research.

Submit your proposals, via PheedLoop, [APLA Conference 2025](#) by Monday, February 10th, 2025.

Include the following information:

- Title
- Type: Pre-Conference Workshop, Hour Presentation, Half-hour Presentation; Panel, Micro Talk
- Name, title, institution of presenter(s)
- Two-sentence bio of the presenter(s)
- Abstract (250 words or less)
- Language of presentation
- Suggested track, (Public library, Cataloguing, School library, etc.)
- Contact information including email, address, and phone number.

Presenters will be notified by Monday, February 24, 2025 via email if they are selected to present at the conference. We request that presenters make their presentations available on the conference website. Questions? Email conference@apla.ca for more information.



Opening Keynote:

Rebecca Thomas, BA, MA | Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator at NSCC

Rebecca Thomas is an award-winning poet, activist, and Mi'kmaw Cultural Educator. She was the Poet Laureate for Halifax 2016-2018. Her family has roots in Lenno Island First Nation. Rebecca is the child of a residential school survivor – inspiring *I'm Finding My Talk* and *Swift Fox All Along* (nominated for a Governor General's Literary Award), and the poetry collection, *I Place You Into the Fire* (CBC Books' Best Canadian Poetry Pick in 2020). Rebecca was selected as a 2021 Writers' Trust Rising Star by Sue Goyette.

Rebecca uses her voice as a poet to inform the world about such topics as poverty and racism.

Closing Keynote

Benjamin Mitchell, MA, MI, PhD | Campus Librarian at Williams Lake Campus, Thompson Rivers University Library

Dr. Ben Mitchell (he/they) is a librarian, educator, and researcher with a background in the history of science and medicine, science and technology studies, and neurodiversity studies.

Committed to making scholarship more accessible, as an assistant curator at the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre, they helped design public programming related to the history of mental health and neurodivergence at the site of the former Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital in Etobicoke, Ontario. They also help to organize the Neuro-GLAM-erous Discord server and yearly NeuroGLAM conference for neurodivergent gallery, library, archives, and museum (GLAM) workers. Learn more about Ben [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

APLA Funding & Awards Information

Shannon Bateman, APLA Communications Coordinator

The graphic is a vertical rectangle with a white left side and a blue right side. On the white side, the APLA logo is at the top, followed by the text 'Application Deadline: March 31st, 2025', 'More info at apla.ca/funding-awards', and a QR code. The blue side has a dark blue header 'FUNDING & AWARDS' and five award categories, each with an icon and a description.

apla

Application
Deadline:
March 31st, 2025

More info at
apla.ca/funding-awards



FUNDING & AWARDS

 **SOMERS SCHOLARSHIP**
Provides financial assistance to a Canadian citizen and resident of the Atlantic provinces to undertake or complete their MLIS/MIS.

FIRST TIMERS CONFERENCE GRANT 
Available to members of APLA residing in Atlantic Canada who are planning to attend their first annual conference.
Students who are not working full-time can join APLA for free!

 **APLA MERIT AWARD**
Honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service.

MEMORIAL AWARD 
Provides funding for projects that contribute to career development and are of benefit to the library profession.

 **ADVOCACY AWARD**
Recognizes exemplary library promotion, advocacy, and outreach.

Obituary of Julia Stewart, Director of the Fredericton Public Library

It is with great sadness we share the passing of librarian Julia Stewart on November 16, 2024. Julia was the Director of the Fredericton Public Library, and had previously worked in various Nova Scotia libraries. She was a well-loved member of the Atlantic Provinces library community, and will be missed.

You can read Julia's full obituary [here](#).

News from New Brunswick

News from Mount Allison University Libraries & Archives

Laura Landon, Teaching & Research Librarian

MountAllison Libraries & Archives



Concept drawing of exterior of soon-to-be-renovated R.P. Bell Library Centre for Innovation & Learning

News & Events

Mount Allison has unveiled concept drawings for both the R.P. Bell Library renovation and the space that will serve as a temporary library while the major renovation is underway from 2027-2030. A project timeline and details of the design are available on the [R.P. Bell Library: Centre for Innovation and Learning website](#). Construction of a temporary library space begins in Spring 2025. The temporary space will be located behind the university's Athletic Centre, and will serve as a multi-sport complex when the R.P. Bell Library renovation is complete. The temporary space will house the main print collection, with additional storage space for lesser-used items in another building on campus.

Anne LePage, Technical Services and Systems Librarian, just returned from a sabbatical during which she began a project on a comprehensive bibliography of all faculty publications at Mount Allison. The bibliography will enable the library to create a more complete and detailed repository of the university's institutional output throughout its history.

Dr. Stephen Geier (STEM Librarian) and **Elizabeth Stregger** (Data and Digital Services Librarian) received a \$33,000 [CEWIL](#) grant to work on improving discoverability and preservation of Open Access journals edited by Mount Allison University faculty and students. Students in CHEM/BIOC 3991 (Research and Communication) and DATA 3101 (Data Acquisition and Organization) are developing and comparing workflows for metadata transformation using three approaches: human metadata work, AI-assisted work, and webscraping. Students have learned about open science, persistent identifiers, and publishing workflows in a series of guest lectures. The workshops for each course are designed to be complementary, with the results of one class creating examples for the other. The questions, problems, and solutions developed in these courses will help the library launch Open Journal Systems as a new digital service that supports faculty and student publishing.

Dr. Rachel Rubin, Dean of Libraries and Archives, is serving as co-lead of the university's new Strategic Planning Facilitation Team. She joins Economics professor **Dr. Craig Brett** in leading this venture to engage the university community in strategically thinking about the choices, actions and priorities that will inform a new strategic plan. The Strategic Planning Process (SPP) was launched by Mount Allison's new president, **Dr. Ian Sutherland**. "The SPP will help define our future – who we want to be as Mount Allison University, how we mould a future of excellence rooted in our academic mission to advance knowledge of all forms, nurturing the human condition," said Dr. Sutherland.

Staffing:

Librarian **Mike Roy** joined Mount Allison in August on a two-year term as Humanities and Student Success Librarian. He holds an MLIS from Dalhousie University (2020) and is an alumnus of Mount Allison University with a BA in English Literature (2016). Mike worked four years at Calgary Public Library and two years at Saint Mary's University before joining Mount Allison. He is originally from Moncton, NB on the traditional territory of the Maliseet and Mi'kmaq, and his professional and research interests include digital equity, information literacy, information access, and teaching.

Janice Stockall accepted a position as Manager of Access Services in October after serving in an interim capacity in this position for two years. Janice has 25 years' experience in academic libraries, including roughly 10 years at Mount Allison followed by another nine years at University of New Brunswick libraries.

The library welcomed **Robin Lightfoot** into the role of Access Services Assistant in September. Robin recently completed the Library and Information Technician program at Mohawk College, working in the Mount Allison Library during her practicum in Winter 2024. A Mount Allison alumna, Robin holds a Bachelor of Music with a major in Voice and a minor in Fine Arts. After working for several years in Toronto, Robin is happy to begin a new career in libraries and return to the Maritimes.

Alexandra Tome left the library in November for a new role as Library Technician: Academic Support and Technical Services at George Brown College. In her three years at Mount Allison, Alex led or played a key role in many initiatives, including outreach ventures such as [Plant Summer Camp](#), a program that cares for students' plants while providing entertaining social media posts to keep the Mount A Library community engaged over the summer. We will miss Alex's creative flair and skill as a library ambassador who inspires enthusiasm in others.

News from Newfoundland and Labrador

News from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador Libraries

Kristine Power, Communications Advisor, Memorial Libraries

University News:

The search committee for the role of dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science has completed its work and recommended **Dr. Octavia Dobre** for the position. Dr. Dobre, who has been Interim Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science since May 2022, will begin a five-year term effective January 1, 2026, upon completion of a year of administrative leave during which she will be focused on her tier 1 Canada Research Chair program. [Read more.](#)

The search committee for the role of dean of the School of Music has completed its work and recommended **Dr. Karen Bulmer** for the position. Dr. Bulmer, who has acted as interim dean of the Faculty of Music since June 2021, begins a five-year term effective November 5, 2024. [Read More.](#)

The search committee for the role of dean of the Faculty of Nursing has completed its work and recommended **Dr. April Pike** for the position. Dr. Pike began a five-year term effective October 4. Dr. Pike has been interim dean of the Faculty of Nursing since September 2022 and is currently the associate dean of research. [Read More.](#)

Memorial's Board of Regents approved the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities (SCRR) (former Student Code of Conduct) and the Respectful Learning Environment Policy (RLE) on July 11, 2024. Both the SCRR and RLE came into effect on September 3, 2024. [Read More.](#)

Research/Teaching and Learning:

Dr. Patrick Gamsby published his 3rd book - *The Dialectic of Herbert Marcuse*. [Read More.](#)

Archives and Special Collections' **Matthew Keels** and **David Mercer**, as well as Library IT staff member **Dennis Flynn**, participated in a podcast called *Our Unsung Heroes: World War One Stories from Newfoundland and Labrador*. Episode one called "Objects of Remembrance" features both David and Matthew. Dennis is listed as a story collector for the podcast. [Have a listen.](#)

The Libraries launched a new and enhanced LibChat service that can now accept texts, as well as messages.

The Education Library launched a new event series entitled "Tales to Teach, Tales to Reach." Students, staff and faculty will have an opportunity to engage with talented writers, illustrators, and storytellers in Newfoundland and Labrador. By partnering with a local teacher librarian, students, staff and faculty will learn valuable lessons about integrating books and presentation skills in the classrooms. This collaborative series will highlight the rich collection at the Education Library and promote the love of literacy and the art of reading and writing. The first event is set for November 19 with local historian and author **Dale Jarvis**.

The Commons in the QEII Library has created a unique way to de-stress for students before and during exam period. Students are able to book one-hour [virtual reality equipment](#) to use the technology and games specifically purchased for de-stressing to meditate, colour, or even go on a world adventure.

The Centre for Newfoundland Studies and the Archives and Special Collections were both presenters at another very successful [Whale of a day](#), an event that happened on October 5th, and that showcases various of Memorial's departments and faculties and the impact they have in our communities.

The Grenfell Library participated in Academic Prep Week from August 26-30, welcoming first year students to the Grenfell Campus and orienting them to university life. Librarians **Chelsea Humphries** and **Crystal Rose** delivered 6 unique classes, teaching students skills ranging from how to search for library resources and access course readings, to working with academic integrity and understanding and evaluating generative AI tools.

On October 10th, for World Mental Health Day, the Grenfell Library partnered with Counselling and Psychological Services to host a movie screening of Inside Out 2 accompanied by a discussion about anxiety and mental health resources on campus, plus free popcorn and door prizes! There was also displayed resources from the wellness collection in the library and screened Inside Out (captions only) on loop in the library all day.

Archives and Special Collections' **Michaela Doucette** participated in a panel at the Canadian Association of Geographers Conference along with Chief Mi'sel Joe, Sheila O'Neill, Madelyn White and Charles Mather (MUN Geography) on August 15th titled "Unsettling Geography's Colonial Legacy."

Dan Duda and **David Mercer** hosted the Fabian O'Dea Map Collection in the Archives & Special Collections Reading Room as part of the Canadian Association of Geographers Conference August 15th-16th. Caroline Boone, a co-op student from the University of Toronto who worked in the Map Room, embroidered the Mason Map of Newfoundland, also known as the "Upside down map of Newfoundland", and gave it to the Map Room as a gift. She presented it to Dan Duda during the conference.

Employee News:

Dr. Bonnie Morgan has joined the Centre for Newfoundland Studies as a public services librarian. Dr. Morgan brings over 20 years of library experience across the province, beginning her career at the College of the North Atlantic and most recently serving with the NL Public Libraries System in a range of leadership roles. She holds an MLIS/LLB from Dalhousie University and a Ph.D. in History from the University of New Brunswick. Dr. Morgan started October 1st.

Philip Baluk has joined Library IT Services as our newest Systems Administrator. Some of you may remember Philip from the mid 2010's when he assisted LITS for a couple of years. Alongside Peter, who focuses on Linux, Phil will be providing support for Windows servers and services LITS provide to the

MUN Libraries and the University. Philip comes to us from ITS and brings a wealth of skills and experience.

SK Maston has accepted the position as Cataloguing & Metadata Librarian at the QEII Library. The start date of her tenure track appointment is December 2, 2024. SK brings a strong background in library science and archives, having earned her Master of Information with High Distinction from the University of Toronto in 2023.

Patrick Warner, Special Collections Librarian in the QEII Library, returned from sabbatical on September 1st!

Cool Stuff:

The Libraries' Project Learn Planning Team is excited to announce a conversation with **Dr. Michelle Porter** at the upcoming Project Learn Book Club Gathering on November 28th. Dr. Michelle Porter (Manitoba Métis Federation) is a Métis author, storyteller, educator, and Assistant Professor of Creative Writing in the Department of English at Memorial University. Porter is the descendent of a long line of Métis storytellers.

The QEII Library hosted a lighting of the Kullik ceremony to celebrate International Inuit Day on Nov. 7, 2024. The Kullik, an oil lamp traditionally made of soap stone and fuelled with animal fats, was used in traditional Inuit home life for light, heat, cooking, and more. It is now lit during important events and ceremonies to welcome community.

The Education Library has launched an Instagram account. Check it out. @edlib2025

The Libraries' Project Learn Team also did an Orange Shirt Day Pin craft workshop on September 19th for Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The team also had a Book Club gathering and conversation with **Dr. Billy-Ray Belcourt** on September 24th. Dr. Belcourt is a writer and academic from the Driftpile Cree Nation. He is an Associate Professor in the School of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia.

Head of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, **Colleen Field**, had a photo finish at the Paddle in Paradise event - Dragon Boat Festival in late August. [The Avalon Dragons](#) (a team made up of breast cancer survivors and supporters) inched ahead of the Magic Wok to win the race. The Avalon Dragons then headed to Stratford, Ontario to compete nationally.

Congrats to Library IT manager **Gord Little** of the QEII Library who released a new video game called "Moving Houses" in October. [Read more.](#)

Archives and Special Collections' **Linda White** was recognized for her work and dedication to the Greenspond Historical Society while commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the [Greenspond Letter](#) in late August. She was presented with a Certificate of Recognition by Greenspond Mayor Herbert Burry.

Grenfell Library had a busy start to the fall term with a variety of well-attended orientation events, including an annual Board Game Night, Library Yoga, an Introduction to Zotero workshop run in partnership with Graduate Studies, and a webinar targeted towards undergraduates called “What is Generative AI?” organized in partnership with Grenfell Business.

The Grenfell Library also welcomed 60 high school students from Corner Brook Regional High School on October 17th, teaching them how to evaluate resources for upcoming research projects, touring them through our stacks, and registering them for guest library cards.

Education Librarian **Courtney Crocker** got creative with her library info orientation session with over hundred students by using Kahoot, a game-based learning app. It was very well-received by students.

The QEII Library was the venue for the Countdown to the Centennial event on September 17th. Faculty, staff, students and retirees were invited to a special coffee break to mark Memorial’s Countdown to the Centennial. There were performances, refreshments, a nature walk and a chance to kick off the University’s centennial celebration.

News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Sandra Harnum, Regional Librarian (Western Division), and Emma Craig, Regional Librarian (St. John's Division)

WritersNL and NLPL's Writers-in-Residence

Submitted by Sandra Harnum and Emma Craig

This fall, NLPL partnered with WritersNL to host four local authors at our libraries as part of the Year of the Arts 2024 initiative in Newfoundland & Labrador. The four Writers-in-Residence were selected by WritersNL to serve as literary ambassadors for their communities through providing encouragement and advice to other local authors. They also selected two Writers-in-Schools, **Sheilah Roberts Lukins** and **Sabrina Pinksen**, to present literary activities to NL classes.

WritersNL's Year of the Arts: Meet our Writers!

Writers-In-Residence:

Trudy Morgan-Cole
CBS Public Library

Sharon Bala
AC Hunter Public Library

Douglas Walbourne-Gough
Comer Brook Public Library

Sara Tilley
Melville Public Library

Writers-In-Schools:

Sheilah Roberts Lukins

Sabrina Pinksen

WritersNL
write here

Newfoundland & Labrador
Public Libraries

YEAR OF THE
ARTS
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
2024

From October 7th to November 3rd, **Sara Tilley was the Writer-in-Residence for the Melville Public Library**. Sara is the author of two novels: *Skin Room* and the Winterset award-winning *DUKE*. She has also written various plays in her time. During her residency, Sara offered one-on-one writing consultations with local aspiring writers, led a co-writing group, as well as hosted a Hallowe'en Open

Mic. Through these consultations, many connections were formed and a positive impact made on the communities.

From October 10th to November 8th, **Trudy Morgan-Cole was the Writer-in-Residence for Conception Bay South Public Library**. Trudy is the author of over 20 books, with a particular focus on historical novels set in Newfoundland. During her residence, Trudy offered one-on-one consultations, a writing workshop, and a public reading from her recent book series, *The Cupids Trilogy*. She also provided a presentation on her experience with re-imagining the unwritten stories of Newfoundland women, and other writers can do this in their own writing.

From October 17th to November 21st, **Douglas Walbourne-Gough was the Writer-in-Residence for Corner Brook Public Library**. Douglas has published two collections of poetry: *Crow Gulch* and *Island*. His work gives a raw insight around the Newfoundland Mi'kmaq experience. He has also published a chapbook of poetry titled *Colour Work* with Ansruther Press in January 2024. During his residency, Douglas offered one-on-one writing consultations as well as poetry writing workshops.

From October 22nd to November 20th, **Sharon Bala was the Writer-in-Residence for the A.C. Hunter Public Library**. Her debut novel, *The Boat People*, won various awards including the 2020 Newfoundland & Labrador Book Award and the 2019 Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction. Her short stories have been published in a variety of literary magazines. During her residence, Sharon offered one-on-one writing consultations and drop-in writing sessions. She also offered four workshops on a variety of writing skills.

It has been a pleasure to host these local authors at our libraries this fall. For more information on the Writers-in-Residency partnership, please visit [here](#).

Music in the Library! Bilingual Books & Music at the Corner Brook Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Corner Brook Library hosted bilingual singer-songwriter **Adrian House** on Saturday, November 2 at 2:30pm. Adrian took patrons through a journey of music and literature, sharing his favorite literary works and pairing them with his songs. Among his recommendations were a collection of poetry titled *Come by Chance* by **Carl Leggo** as well as *Le Petit Prince* by **Antoine de Saint-Exupery**. Adrian performed songs from his latest album, *Pêcheur de Rêves*, as well as past albums. This event was presented in partnership with Réseau Culturel Francophone de TNL and Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council along with the assistance of Coline Tisserand, NL Public libraries' French Language Services Specialist.

Horseshoe Literary Festival at the Corner Brook Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Corner Brook Library participated in the Horseshoe Literary Festival, as well as hosted the book launch of *Preserving Petries: Three Local Histories* by **Doris Butt** this past Fall. This was an extension of an

ongoing partnership between Horseshoe Press at Grenfell University and the Corner Brook Public Library.

On September 26, Corner Brook Public Library patrons were treated to a fantastic book reading by one of their own creative writing group members, **Doris Butt**. She shared her locally published book, *Preserving Petries – Three Local Histories* with patrons. The book was published by Horseshoe Press and the cover was uniquely created using paper made from a local artisan, [Purple Butterfly Paper](#). [The event was live streamed](#) on the Corner Brook Library branch Facebook page for those not able to attend in person. It was a wonderful evening of learning about the history of Corner Brook.



On October 25-26, The Horseshoe Literary Festival took place in the City of Corner Brook.

On October 26, **Brittany Noseworthy**, Corner Brook Library branch supervisor, led patrons of all ages in a foam printmaking session after a family story-time, in partnership with Horseshoe press. Patrons were taught how to make a stamp using foam printing plates and then left to create their own unique designs. Patrons brought home their unique pieces of artwork and had a great time at the event. See the inserted image for some creative works of art.

Love Our Local Authors’ Summer Reading Series at the Woody Point Public Library

Submitted by Sandra Harnum

Woody Point Public Library hosted local author readings during the Writers at Woody Point Festival again this summer. The writers were: **Floyd Spracklin**, **Tony Payne**, **Judith M. Doucette**, and **Gloria Field**. For the first time, two local Children’s authors (**Gloria Field** and **Judith M. Doucette**) were invited with much success. The Shed, a local coffeehouse, provided free lemonade to all attendees at Gloria’s interactive reading of *Giselle’s Ballet Wish*. Qalipu First Nation Chief **Jenny Brake** introduced Judith prior to her reading of *Poppa and the Sacred Kitpu*. After her reading, patrons were overwhelmed with emotion during Judith’s performance of her reconciliation song as she sang and played the drum. These readings were organized by Woody Point Public Library in partnership with the Writers at Woody Point Literary Festival.

The festival happens every August in Woody Point, NL. For more information, please visit [here](#).

News from Nova Scotia

News from Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University

Deborah Hemming, Liaison Librarian for Business and Economics, Library Outreach & Promotions Coordinator

Outreach

For Fall Orientation Week, the library welcomed first-year students into the library and archives for library orientation sessions. Additional library orientation sessions were offered for transfer students and international students. It was a great way to start a new term!

In collaboration with the Acadia Mental Health Initiative, Regular “Paw-ffice Hours” therapy dog visits are being hosted in the library this fall. These events include study snacks and various de-stress activities, such as bracelet- and card- making.

In collaboration with the Acadia Students’ Union Food Cupboard, Monthly Food Sharing Community Pop-Up Lunches are being hosted in the library this fall. These events have been very popular! At each event, student volunteers have served over 100 lunches to their peers.

Collections

The library now has bone models, a stethoscope, and a blood pressure cuff on Reserve for students to borrow.

Website updates

The Acadia Archives recently debuted a new and improved [website](#).

The library website now has a [new section](#) dedicated to accessibility information about the library and archives.

Building updates

We are delighted to have a new accessible washroom on the main floor of the library.

In response to feedback gathered last spring from patrons, we have made the following enhancements:

- Table lamps
- Bean bag chairs
- Additional printer
- Additional power outlets
- White boards in all study rooms

News from Cumberland Public Libraries

Charlotte Gallivan, Community Engagement Librarian

Celebrating 30 Years of Library Service

On Friday, August 30th, library staff and patrons celebrated the retirement of **Mary Hartling**, our Pugwash Library Branch Clerk. Mary worked for CPL for thirty years, and has become an integral part of library service in Pugwash.

Well-wishers enjoyed light refreshment, cake, and conversations with Mary on her last day. We greatly appreciate the work Mary has done to provide library service to the Village of Pugwash, and our patrons and staff will miss her.



Period Underwear Giveaway

As part of our ongoing work to reduce period poverty, CPL has started a period underwear giveaway in Cumberland County. Each of our seven locations will have a pop-up event that will allow community members to get a free pair of reusable period underwear.

Funding for this initiative is part of the Government of Nova Scotia's cost of living support to increase access to menstrual supplies for all Nova Scotians.

Seniors' Day for Climate Change

Pugwash's first Seniors For Climate Day of Action occurred on October 1. We partnered with the group to provide them with a venue for a climate action panel, informational book lists of library resources, and light refreshments. The panel featured six dynamic panelists sharing innovative strategies to address climate change in our community. The room's collective enthusiasm and respect for each other was palpable, reflecting a shared goal of addressing the climate emergency.



With an age range of attendees spanning from 24 to 98, the day was informative and well attended.

NSLA Conference

From October 25th to October 27th, CPL hosted the annual Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) conference in Amherst, NS. The weekend was filled with professional development and networking opportunities.

Our Keynote speaker, **Lorisia MacLeod**, provided attendees with an exceptional talk on uplifting the community, working collaboratively with your peers, and making things happen in the library world.

Thank you at all who sponsored and attended our conference! The 2025 NSLA Conference will be held in Halifax, NS.



**MAKE IT HAPPEN,
MAKE IT MATTER!**

NSLA CONFERENCE 2024
Amherst, NS

Provincial Funding Review Update

Due to a provincial election, the library funding review has stalled. Recommendations went forward to the government for consideration; however, with an ongoing election all work on this has been halted. Once the election is complete, it will be up to the newly elected government to determine if this work will continue or if it will be scrapped.

News from Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

Trecia Schell, Community Services Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library

It's official, we're now open! The Murray Family Public Library in the deCoste Culture Hub!

November 1, 2024 marked another auspicious milestone for the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library. The Regional Library officially opened the new **Murray Family Public Library** at the deCoste Culture Hub, on the waterfront in downtown Pictou. It was a grand day, celebrated with many well wishes and great friends who dropped by to share their time with us – on our special day!

The Pictou Public Library has been renamed the Murray Family Public Library, in recognition of the Murray Family Foundation, who graciously supported the Culture Hub project and the construction of the new library within the deCoste Culture Hub. The deCoste Culture Hub brings together the deCoste Performing Arts Theatre, the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library and Creative Pictou County! Since the deCoste Culture Hub opened its doors on 16 September, and until the November 1st Grand Opening, we've welcomed over 10,000 visitors in just 7 weeks.

The new space offers a refurbished theatre, with new seating, and expanded backstage area for storage – and enhanced accessibility, as well as a fully equipped catering kitchen, designed by The Kilted Chef and crew. In addition, a Community Art Studio space was created, to professional artist specifications that is a shared space managed by Creative Pictou County, a local arts society. The library has a Children's Rainbow Room, a MakerSpace and Technology area, and several small community meeting rooms, and a larger Community Room with a kitchen area. The shared spaces within the building include an Art Gallery, along the hallway between the library and theatre.

In addition, over a dozen commissioned pieces of public art were created for the deCoste Culture Hub, from a sculpture by **Dawn McNutt**, "The Muse" found on our front entrance at 99 Water Street, to a Celtic-inspired ceramic fireplace (with a mantel piece of wood from the Ship Hector) by **Denise Martin Lynch** and **Fenn Martin**, to a Literary Pollinator Garden by **Kiva-Marie Belt** (Seafoam Lavender) and **Johanna Skibsrud** (Scotiabank Giller Prize winner), and a stunning sculpture, "Wolverine and Little Thunder, Eel Fishing" by Mi'kmaw artist, **Alan Syliboy** and metal sculpturer, **Darren Martin** – on the new harbor front boardwalk with a set of sea stairs, that connects to the TransCanada Trail Head and the Jitney Trail. In the children's area we have an inspiring whimsical painted mural by children's illustrative artist, **Doretta Groendyck**, of children soaring over the harbor on the backs of large birds, as they prepare to go to bed with sleepy time stories. The front desk area is a shared space with the library circulation on the left, and the theatre's Box Office on the right, and over the desk is a 60-foot illuminated silk painted banner by **Holly Carr**, featuring the worlds of wildlife from the sea to the forest. In the Adult Fiction stacks, there are 3 end panels of woven tapestries in the Primary Colors by fibre artist, **Karen LeBlanc**.

In the Technology area, you will see a very large touch screen monitor on the wall, displaying a 3D rendering of a Merigomish Goose Boat (that can also be 3Dprinted), with a QR code that leads to a website of historical resources about the Goose Boat (or Sneak Boat). Next to the public computers is

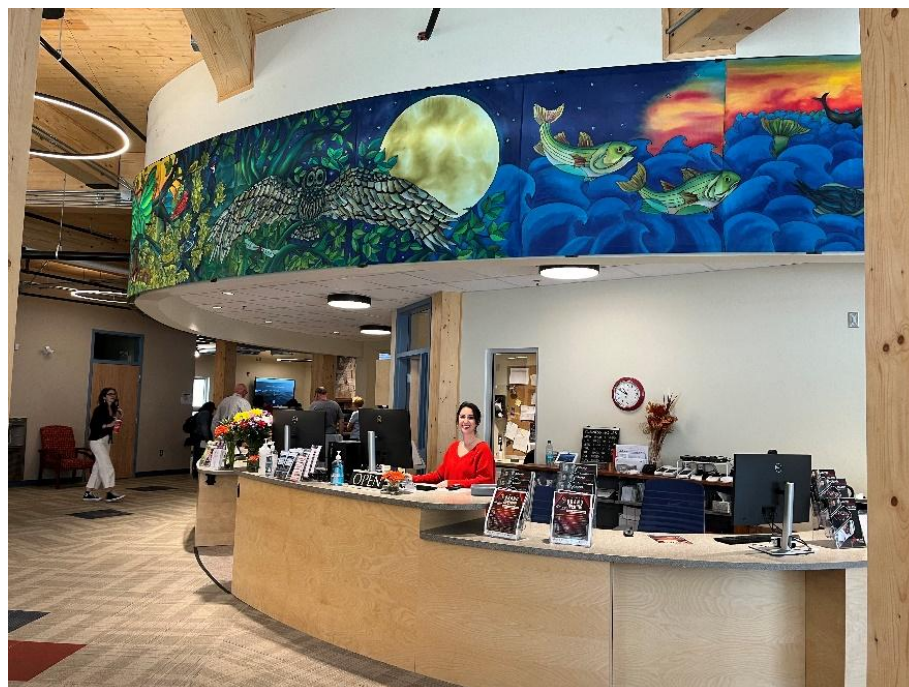
the cozy fireplace, with our cultural and historical collections, featuring the stories by and about the local First Nations and Settler communities (Gaelic, French, and African Nova Scotians), and local historical reference documents.

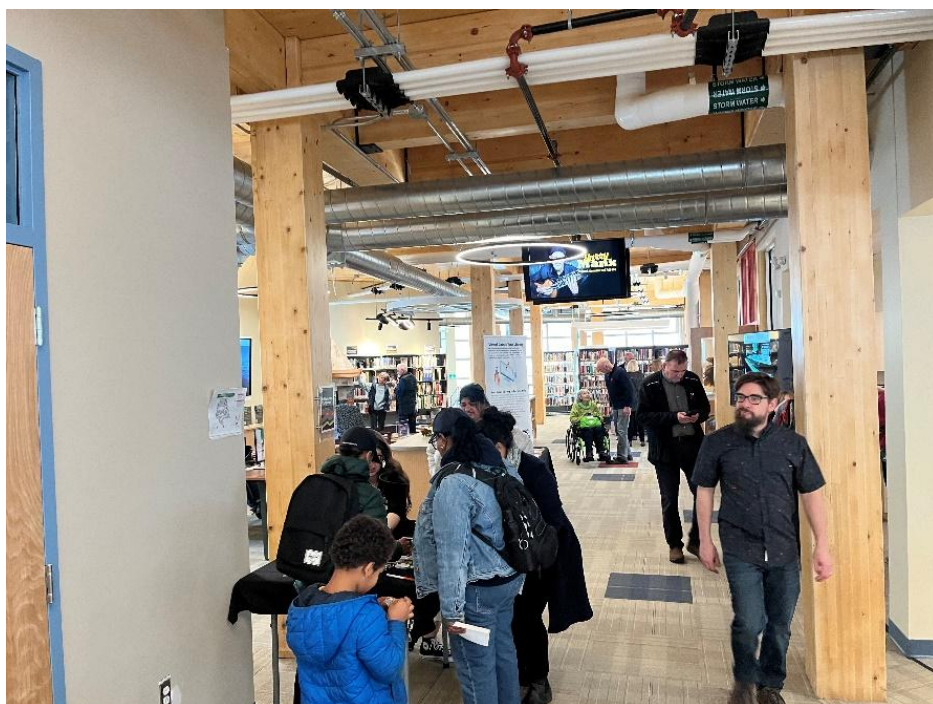
Stepping into the Sunrise Reading Atrium, looking skyward, and dangling from the rafters are a series of Art Deco banners from painting of several iconic locations from around Pictou County, by painter **Benoit Paradis** from the Caribou Lighthouse, Green Hill Look off to the Pictou Causeway. Looking towards the wall above the entrances to the two Community Meeting Rooms/Offices is an 8-foot mural of the buildings of Water Street and Front Street in downtown Pictou – through time (seamlessly blending the old and new!), by historical illustrator **Theresa MacKenzie**. Peeking into the larger Community Meeting Room, there is an oil painting by artist, **Carolyn Bedford** of a writer seeking inspiration. Heading outside, at the harbor side entrance, and along the waterfront next to the sculpture, on the boardwalk is a poem about celebrating this special place, by writer **Thekla Altmann** (who also happens to be our Managing Branch Assistant at the Trenton Library). All of these inspiring pieces of public art were made possible through generous financial support from The Sobeyes Foundation.

And the icing on the cake - the new library is now open Mondays through to Saturdays! All are welcome to drop on by, we'd love to meet you!

For more information, visit our [website](#).

Welcome to our shared Circulation and Box Office Desk! Above the desk, you can see some of the beautiful, illuminated silk banner created by artist, **Holly Carr**.





Heading past the Circulation Desk, into the MakerSpace and Technology area, and the side entrance to the theatre and Art Gallery and towards the harbor front Sunset Reading Atrium.

A purple-licious Storytime with **Sheree Fitch**! Sheree is one the newest members of the Order of Canada.





An art illustration workshop about the mural she painted for the Rainbow Room/Children’s Area, with artist **Doretta Groendyck**, with the Grade 2 class from Scotsburn Elementary School.

A thank you, to The Sobey's Foundation for their very generous support of the Arts, in the Culture Hub. Pictured here, in front of the fireplace, created by ceramic artists **Denise Martin** and **Fenn Martin** (left to right), **Troy Greencorn**, Executive Director of the deCoste Centre for the Performing Arts, **Crystal Murray**, Chair of the deCoste Centre Board, **Frank** and **Debi Sobey**, **Denise Martin Lynch**, artist and **Fenn Martin**, artist, and **Eric Stackhouse**, Chief Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library.



A huge thank you to the Murray Family Foundation, for their continued support of literacy, public libraries, and communities! Pictured here in the entrance to the Rainbow Room, are **Jill Murray, Mrs. Shirley Murray, Eric Stackhouse** (Chief Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library), and **Sean and Crystal Murray**. We are currently holding a naming contest for the elephant sculpture, created by a local woodcarver.



The Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library was so very honored to receive the 2024 Community Partners Award, from the Pictou County Chamber of Commerce at the 2024 Business Achievement Awards held on November 21, 2024 at the deCoste Centre for the Performing Arts, in Pictou, NS. It was an exciting evening, and sincere congratulations to all award recipients, nominees and the Chamber.

The Community Partners Award is sponsored by Sobeys, and is presented to an organization or business that demonstrates the creation of strategic partnerships to make Pictou County a better place to live and work. It celebrates the belief that we can prosper if we can encourage a culture of collaboration within our communities.



(left to right) Trecia Schell, Community Services Librarian, Mansi Nishit-Trivedi, Technical Services Librarian, Maren Fassnacht, Managing Branch Assistant - Pictou Library, and Eric Stackhouse, Chief Librarian.

Pictou County Community Health Centre (PCCHC) Collaboration

On December 9th, the Pictou County Community Health Centre (PCCHC) will open its doors at 25B Front Street in downtown Pictou. Situated near the food bank and pharmacy in an accessible building, the Centre reflects what can be achieved when a community comes together with a shared vision for better health.

The CHC will be open to the public three days a week, including evening hours, with a full-time community health worker and a program developer on staff, as well as support from the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library's (PARL) virtual care technician one day a week, ensuring flexible and accessible services.

Supported by the Aberdeen Health Foundation and the Department of Health and Wellness, this initiative is the result of years of collaboration, research, and a commitment to addressing gaps in local health care.



Susan MacConnell (left), Executive Director and Anne Simmonds (right), Chair of the Board of Directors of the new Pictou County Community Health Centre (PCCHC) in downtown Pictou. The CHC, set to open in December, will provide flexible and accessible health care services tailored to the needs of the community, beginning with a partnership with the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library's Virtual Care @ Your Library program.

News From Prince Edward Island

News from Holland College, and PEI Public Library Service

Emily Maclsaac, Student Engagement & Instructional Librarian, Holland College

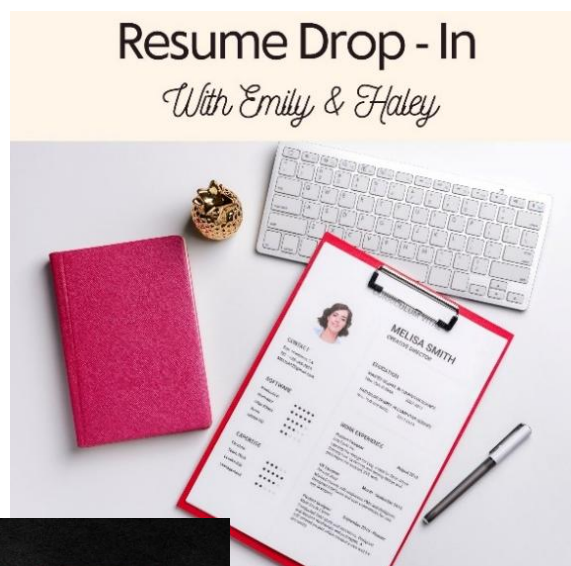
At the Prince of Wales Campus (PWC) Library

In September, the PWC library staff organized tours of our space and had a library booth outside during all the orientation festivities to meet first year students! Throughout the semester, our library has remained busy with students enjoying the comfortable chairs, booking study rooms, and using the colour printer. At the reference desk, we are always ready to assist with inquiries, provide printing support, or help locate specific individuals on campus.

October Programming

After the Thanksgiving weekend, **Emily Maclsaac** and **Haley Doherty**, from Holland College's Office of Retention, Part-Time Study & Career Services organized a Resume Drop-In event at the PWC Library. They positioned themselves at a central table in the library to conduct quick and targeted advice sessions for students who brought in their resumes.

Halloween is always a spectacle at Holland College! Student Union organized many events throughout the week, such as Halloween trivia and Door Decorating. The PWC Library always provides candy to students as well as fun free Orical Card readings.



Updates from the PEI Public Library Service



Staff Costumes from Charlottetown Learning Centre



Paper Pumpkins from Summerside Rotary Library

Charlottetown Library Learning Centre staff took Halloween by storm and staff wore amazing costumes.

The Summerside Rotary Library held a craftnoon for clients from Community Connections, they came for their monthly visit and made their own adorable creations.

First Annual PEI Library PD Day – October 17th 2024

October brought the first annual Library Workers Professional Development Day at the University of Prince Edward Island!

On October 17th library staff from Robertson Library, Holland College, PEI Public Library Service, and PEI Archives and Records came together to learn from one another. Everyone is looking forward to continuing the event in 2025.

