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## From the President's Desk



**Emily Blackmore**  
**Winter 2025**

Hello, I hope everyone is making it through the Eastern Canadian winter all right.

This January I had the privilege of attending the **OLA Superconference** in Toronto as the President of APLA. It was an amazing experience that helped me reaffirm my connection to the value of library work and introduced me to many wonderful people from across the country who are working hard in their own library associations and organizations. It can be easy, from my office here in St. John's, to forget that a lot of the issues we face as a profession, as an association, as individual library workers, are shared by our colleagues across Canada.

Attending the CFLA-FCAB at the Ontario Library Association Superconference meeting was inspiring, and I left feeling that our role as a library association is just as important as ever. I am not one to shy away from hard truths, and the truth is that there is a lot going on in the world right now that challenges the foundation upon which our profession is built. This is a crucial time for access to legitimate information, and for library collections that represent the diversity of our beautiful provinces. As we move through these uncertain times, I am dedicated to not losing sight of the fact that library workers everywhere have an important role to play.

As we pivot from an in-person conference this year to virtual, I want to extend thanks to our hardworking **Conference Committee** and our **Executive**, as we grapple with what our conferences look like post-2020. We are always working to bring the best options to our membership, and our goal is that the conference gives you an accessible opportunity to share knowledge and learn with your colleagues. I hope to see many of you sign up to attend!

I also hope to reach some of you looking to volunteer. At this juncture, we are looking for new volunteers to fill the ranks of **APLA's volunteer Executive Board**. If you are a member of APLA in good standing, or if you want to get involved through joining, please reach out! There's never been a better time to get involved.

May the winter pass gently and the days grow ever longer,

**Emily Blackmore**, APLA President

## 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)

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\*\*

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#### 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.



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### 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.

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### 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

## Announcements

### Registration for Breaking Barriers: APLA Virtual Conference 2025, is now open!

Evelyn Trainer, Conference Co-Chair

We're gathering an extraordinary lineup of library staff from school, public, and academic libraries and more! Here's a peek at our workshop presenter and our keynote speaker:



**Dr. Janine Murphy**

#### Universal Design Workshop

*Join us and explore the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), including multiple means of engagement, representation, and action/expression.*

*Awesome takeaways!*

#### Dr. Benjamin Mitchell

#### Keynote Speaker

*They help to organize the Neuro-GLAM-erous Discord server and yearly NeuroGLAM conference for neurodivergent gallery, library, archives, and museum (GLAM) workers.*

*Engaging inspiration!*



#### Member Pricing for Everyone

- Librarian: \$150
- Support staff: \$100
- Students/retirees: \$50

#### Proposals

If you can't attend the entire conference, presenters may attend their own session free!

Updated deadline for proposals: **March 14, 2025**. Acceptance emails sent out by **March 21, 2025**.

Scan the QR code or click [here](#) to visit our website! We look forward to sharing at the virtual APLA Conference - **June 10-12, 2025**.



apla 2025  
Atlantic Provinces Library Association

## ***BREAKING BARRIERS*** ***BRISONS LES BARRIÈRES***

**June 10-12, 2025**

virtual conference



## News from Newfoundland and Labrador

### News from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador Libraries

Kristine Power, Communications Advisor, Memorial Libraries

#### University News:

**Dr. Neil Bose** has advised of his plan to retire on April 5, 2025, at the end of his current term as president and vice-chancellor *pro tempore*. [Read more.](#)

The search committee for the role of dean of the Faculty of Science has completed its work and recommended **Dr. James Gauld** for the position. Dr. Gauld will begin a five-year term effective April 1, 2025. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Jennifer Lokash** has been appointed provost and vice-president (academic) of Memorial University. The appointment was approved on January 16 by the Board of Regents, following the unanimous decision of the search committee. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Neil Bose** presented a budget update in December 2024. [Read more.](#)

The search committee for the role of dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science 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, began a five-year term effective January 1, 2026. [Read more.](#)

The search committee for the role of dean of the School of Music 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, began a five-year term effective November 5, 2024. [Read more.](#)

#### Research:

On Friday, January 31, Grenfell public services Librarian **Chelsea Humphries** presented at the OLA Super Conference in Toronto, facilitating a conversation about burnout in academic librarianship.

On March 26, 2025, the **Centre for Newfoundland Studies**, QEII Library, is planning its annual event that recognizes recent book publications or other creative works (not including journal articles) by the Memorial community. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Patrick Gamsby** was selected as a peer mentor for this year's [Librarians' Research Institute](#). Also Dr. Patrick Gamsby published his 3rd book - *The Dialectic of Herbert Marcuse* in the Fall of 2024. Read more about it on the [University's website](#).

**The Education Library** continued its series (funded by the Office of Public Engagement, Memorial) - *Tales to Teach, Tales to Reach*. Students, staff and faculty have an opportunity to engage with talented writers, illustrators, and storytellers in Newfoundland and Labrador. Partnering with a local teacher librarian, they will learn valuable lessons about integrating books and presentation skills in 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. So far illustrator and writer **Lori Doody** and author and storyteller **Dale Jarvis** have presented to an engaged and participatory audience.

*(Education librarian **Courtney Crocker** and illustrator/author **Lori Doody** in the Education Library)*



## **Employee News:**

**Joan Ritcey**, former head of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies (CNS) was one of the recipients of the inaugural Premier's Medal for Arts, Heritage, Sports, and Recreation in December 2024. She was honoured for her work with the Newfoundland and Labrador Historical Society. [Read more.](#)

Grenfell public services Librarian **Chelsea Humphries** is now a co-editor of the Canadian Journal of Academic Librarianship.

Congratulations to **Gordon Little** of Library IT Services. Gord's game "Moving Houses" was recently nominated for two prestigious Canadian Game Awards – Best Performance and Best Technology/Innovation. You can read more in [Saltwire](#).

[Marine Institute Library's Jessica Cahill-Bouzane](#) was featured on the CBC radio program "The Signal" in late November 2024 talking about **Dr. William Hampton** who she nominated as one of the [MUN Centennial 100](#).

Curious about the latest from the QEII Archives and Special Collections' Division? Visit **Patrick Warner's** Blog [The Dog's Tooth](#). Recent acquisitions, exhibits, lectures and other interesting material relating to the unique world of special collections are profiled. The title of the blog refers to the medieval practice of burnishing gold leaf illumination with a dog's tooth.

Health Sciences Librarian **Michelle Swab** is on sabbatical for all of 2025, returning January 1, 2026.

## Cool Stuff:

**The Grenfell Library** partnered with the Corner Brook Public Library to run a Public Library Card Drive on October 22. There was a table in the library space where Corner Brook Public Library staff member **Brittany Noseworthy**, a Master's student in our MALA program, registered students on the spot for their public library cards and shared information about NLPL's digital resources. A total of 14 students registered!

Library team members **Crystal Rose** and **Krista Howell** travelled to the Bonne Bay Marine Station in Norris Point December 1-3 to assist the Director with his plans to update and renovate the "library." They identified 6 boxes of unique/rare materials that are now at Grenfell and will be catalogued and added to the Grenfell collection, completed the first ever weeding of the collection, and reorganized the remaining collection.

**The Grenfell Library** hosted the launch of the undergraduate journal, *Bookish*, on November 1st. Congratulations to staff member, **Kit Stone**, on her publication!

This winter the **Education Library** team got creative with community engagement with their faculty and staff. They introduced a soup club aimed at bring folks together, providing some nourishment to sustain them through the long, dark winter months.

**The QEII Library** hosted another successful scavenger hunt at the start of Winter Semester 2025 with Memorial's first-year biology students. The students made their way through various divisions and spaces throughout the QEII – in an effort to learn a little about biology and the amazing services and spaces of the library.

Late fall, 25 students from the College of the North Atlantic's Records Management and Archives program visited **Archives and Special Collections** in the QEII Library, and 50 from Holy Spirit High in Conception Bay South also got a tour of both the CNS and the Archives and Special Collections Division.

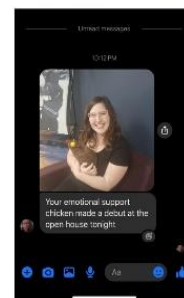
The **Labrador Campus Library** had an Emotional Chicken Ornament Making party before students went into finals. The Emotional Support Chicken in our library (not barcoded, or it would boost our library circulation statistics into the stratosphere) is the accidental Campus mascot. Public Services Librarian **Sarah Papple** knew the students would be heading home to families around Labrador with stories of the chicken, and thought a show-and-tell would be a better way to explain the concept! They enjoyed taking

their minds off STEM with a little STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, ART, and Math). A little play goes a long way for concepts to solidify in the brain. It seems the Emotional Chicken Ornaments travelled far and wide.

This January, the community was invited to the **Labrador Campus Library** to watch the film *Kiss the Ground*. This viewing underscored the message of access and highlighted the digital streaming collections, and connected the growing group of growers seen at the Library Farm Friday program, (which is action research -- growing food in the North and sharing experiences over coffee and snacks in the library).

The **Labrador Campus Library** hosted the “Bad Portrait” program that encouraged participants to connect and be vulnerable in a collective afternoon of staring at each other and creating portraits with no artistic parameters. Although the campus celebrates the ways of learning though doing and being together, there are still the same stresses of "getting it right." A program that celebrates getting it wrong was a great way to build a growth mindset in the campus community.

The **Music Library** created an Instagram account @mrc\_mun. Please follow.



*(A collage of emotional support chickens and the happiness they bring)*

The QEII Library received the Valentines gift of a pop-up choir performance by the Holy Heart of Mary High School Chamber Choir on February 13.

## News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Sandra Harnum, Regional Librarian, Western Division, Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries

### Celebrating 50 Years of Service: Deer Lake Public Library and Worneta Cramm



Deer Lake Public Library recently celebrated 50 years of public service on January 7, 2025. The library celebrated with an open house honoring their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, with a more formal celebration scheduled for March 2025. Along with this milestone, Library Technician and Supervisor **Worneta Cramm** also celebrated 50 years of dedicated public service work. Since day one she's been at the helm of the Deer Lake Public Library. Throughout her career, Worneta has been an integral part of numerous library changes and has made an exceptional impact on the library and its community. The following letter of acknowledgement was submitted by **Judy Dunne**, Library Assistant, and speaks volumes on Worneta's impact on the Deer Lake Public Library:

*“Congratulations on an incredible milestone – 50 years of dedicated service to Deer Lake Public Library! This is a remarkable achievement, and we are honored to celebrate this special occasion with you.*

*Your half-century of commitment to the library and its patrons is a testament to your passion for knowledge, education, and community. Over the years you have not only been a guardian of books but also an invaluable resource for countless individuals seeking information, inspiration, and guidance. Your expertise, kindness and enthusiasm have made Deer Lake Public Library a cornerstone for our community.*

*Your contributions have gone far beyond maintaining shelves and cataloging books. You have fostered a love of learning, encouraged curiosity,*

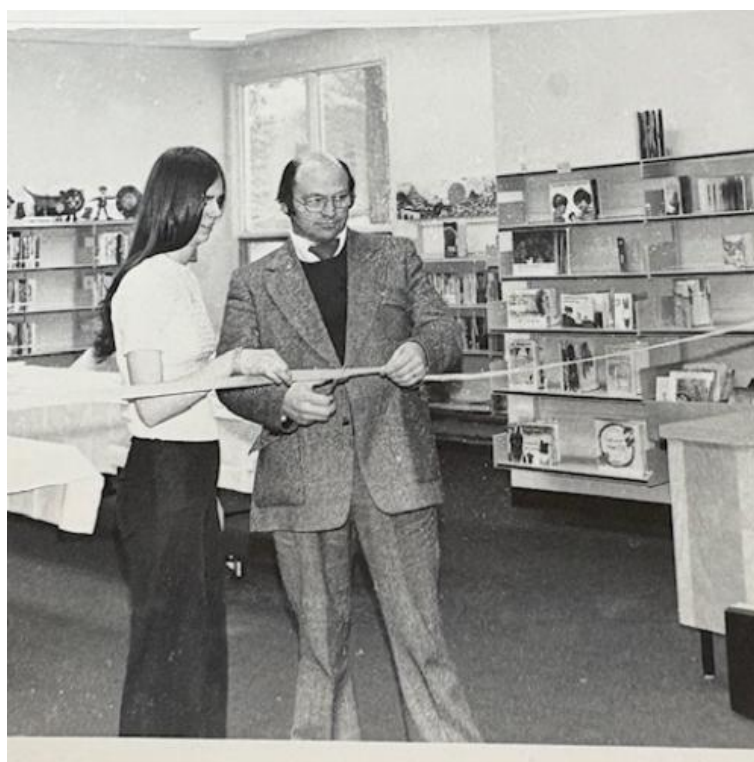


*and created a welcoming space where everyone feels valued and inspired. Whether assisting a young student with their first research project or helping a lifelong reader discover their next favorite book, you have touched so many lives in meaningful ways.*

*On behalf of everyone whose life you've enriched, thank you for your unwavering dedication and hard work. Your legacy of excellence and service is an inspiration to us all.*

*As you celebrate this golden anniversary, we hope you take a moment to reflect on the profound impact you've had on our community. Here's to celebrating this extraordinary milestone – and to many more chapters of success and fulfillment in the years to come."*

Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries extends a heartfelt thanks to Worneta for 50 years of invaluable contributions to public service and to the Deer Lake Public Library.



## News from Nova Scotia

### Updates from the Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University

Deborah Hemming, Liaison Librarian and Library Outreach & Promotions Coordinator

#### Outreach

**Mend Your Broken (Hearted) Books**, a book-mending clinic, was hosted by the Library on February 27. Patrons were invited to bring books in need of extra love and care to the library. Staff were on hand to repair and reattach book pages and covers, as needed. This event was originally scheduled for February 13, ahead of Valentine's Day, but had to be postponed due to weather.

In honour of **African Heritage Month**, the Library is highlighting relevant works from our collection with physical and digital book displays.

A two-day **Thesis Writing Retreat** was offered by the Library in January. Quiet study space, snacks, hot beverages, and information about getting research help was provided. This event was open to Honours and Graduate students.

In collaboration with the **Black Student Association** at Acadia, the Library recently hosted a free **Games Night** in our Quiet Reading Room.

The Library offered **library orientation sessions** to new incoming students at the start of Winter term. These sessions were designed to introduce new students to library resources, services, and spaces and concluded with a trip to the Archives.

In December, the Library will host a variety of **de-stress programming** during the exam period, including animal therapy (dogs and snakes), yoga, scrapbooking, on-site counselling, and study snacks.

In November, the Library hosted **Dr. El Jones** for a public talk, titled "Animals, Humanity and Abolition."

#### Collections

The Library now has a projector available for patrons to borrow and use in the library, ideal for practicing class presentations.

#### Website

The Library has a [new section of the website](#) dedicated to accessibility information about the Library.

#### Research

In December, Archivist **Wendy Robicheau** published a novella, titled [The Burning of College Hall: What Else is Hidden in Plane Sight?](#) The novella details events from 104 years ago when College Hall at Acadia University burned down in a fire.

## News from Cumberland Public Libraries

Charlotte Gallivan, Community Engagement Librarian

### Design a Bookmark Contest

In November, we launched our Design a Bookmark contest. Twenty-four children aged 3 to 15+ designed bookmarks for the contest, and library patrons voted on their favourites on our Facebook page. In total, we received 721 votes on the bookmarks, and the public has selected four winners!

The winning bookmarks are in the process of being printed, and they will be given away at our library locations.

### Family Literacy Day with Sheree Fitch and Deb Plestid

To celebrate Family Literacy Day in January, we had a Learn to be Green Together party featuring Sheree Fitch and Deb Plestid! Highlights of the day included an author reading and book signing by Sheree and Deb, a display of Deb's artwork featured in Sheree's Sing in the Spring book, a book swap, environmentally friendly crafts, book bingo, and more.

This event was a collaboration between CPL, Maggie's Place of Cumberland County, YReach, and the Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading.



*Author Sheree Fitch (left) and artist Deb Plestid (right) conduct an author reading at our Family Literacy Day event.*

### Updated Library Accessibility Plan

CPL, working with five other regional libraries that formed the Interregional Advisory Committee for Library Accessibility (IACLA), are in the process of updating our Library Accessibility Plan. The Committee, composed of six regional library employees and nine community members, have worked together to build on our existing plan; published in 2022. The new IACLA Plan will be published on or before April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and will be used as a roadmap for CPL to become more barrier free and welcoming to all.

### Preparing for March Break

March Break programming prep is well underway! We will host twenty-two programs across our seven library locations. Programs include: Marvelous Magnets, Travel to You Zoo visit, Giant Games Day, and "Some Assembly Required" Puzzle Competition.

## News from Prince Edward Island

### News from Holland College and PEI Public Libraries

Emily MacIsaac, Student Engagement & Instructional Librarian, Holland College

#### Updates from Holland College

The winter break is quickly approaching for all Holland College students! Before the break, there are a couple of events happening at the Prince of Wales Campus (PWC).

#### Blind Date with a Book

The sixth annual event at the PWC library! **Emily MacIsaac & Leslie Holt** have wrapped leisure reading books and created 'dating profiles' for each one. Students can read these profiles to find their perfect 'match' and discover a new favorite book.

#### Fall in Love with Your Resume

Hosted by the PWC Library in partnership with **Haley Doherty** from the Office of Retention, Part-Time Study & Career Planning. Drop in with a hard copy of your resume and receive personalized advice on how to improve it. This event aims to help students fall in love with resume writing again and enhance their career prospects.



These events are part of Love Week, taking place from February 10 – 14th at Holland College. We're thrilled to help combat the winter blues with these exciting activities and plenty more to come!



## Updates from the PEI Public Libraries

This February, PEIPLS is collaborating with the Psychological Association of PEI to offer informative presentations at our Charlottetown, Summerside, and Montague locations. Patrons can learn about managing anxiety, the benefits of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and more from a variety of experts.

In addition to the speaking series, we're adding new Pickleball sets to our collection. Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in PEI! We're also expanding our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) kits. Check out these fun and educational topics:

Light Board

Spirograph

Brainflakes

Bridge Builders

Marble Runners

Don't forget to explore our Staff Picks from 2024 for your next great read!

