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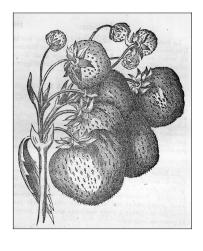
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#### LIBRARY COMMUNITY

THE ASTED CONFERENCE:

# Taking a Position in a Time of Choice

by Céline Gendron, Canadian Book Exchange Centre

he conference theme was "L'heure des choix" (a time for choosing), and it is, certainly, a time for choosing: for reporting on progress, rethinking the specialist's role, reflecting on organizational missions, and considering relationships with partners and clients. Pierre Meunier, President of the Association pour l'avancement des

sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED), used the official conference program to invite participants at the 24th conference, held in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, to "think with a more visionary perspective about our libraries' and reference centres' mission, our relationships with partners and our clients' needs" (translation, p. 7). Each day of the conference focussed on a specific aspect of the theme: progress reports, reappraisals, actual experiences; in short, workshops and sessions that enabled participants to position themselves to deal with technological, human and financial upheaval. In this context, the contribution of the National Library of Canada proved once again to be dynamic and definite.

#### A TIME FOR CHOOSING: PARTNERSHIP FIRST OR CLIENTS FIRST

Several hours before the annual conference began, representatives of the National Library of Canada met the institution's partners at the annual meeting on resource sharing. It was attended by professionals from New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. Several Library staff members facilitated this well-attended session. Huguette Lussier-Tremblay, Information Technology Services, reviewed systems development activities. Her presentation on AMICUS offered a glance at the database and its loading functions, Telnet access to the NLC Catalogue and the Access AMICUS research service. She then explained how to use resAnet, the Webaccessible Library catalogue (http:// www.nlc-bnc.ca/wapp/resanet/).

Participants were also given a detailed explanation of the Library's Web site: how to access programs, services and exhibitions, as well as the Publishers' Window on the Government of Canada and information on national initiatives; the sources of information on Canada, such as Canadian Information By Subject (http://www. nlc-bnc.ca/caninfo/ecaninfo.htm) and digital projects as well as databases such as resAnet, Access AMICUS and the Library's electronic collection. Session participants were thus able to appreciate the quality and userfriendliness of the Library's Web site.

Huguette Lussier-Tremblay then highlighted the Library's digitization projects (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/edigiact.htm) such as the André Prévost Fonds (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/pubs/fonds/prevost/eprevost.htm), the Canadian newspapers on microfiche newspapers

standards such as the Z39.50 ILL protocol and MARC format harmonization.

Joanne Cournoyer, Manager, Publisher Liaison Services, provided an update on Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services with clarifications on the Publishers' Window on the Government of Canada (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ window/), a new service accessible from the Library's homepage, and the Canadiana national bibliography, soon to be available on CD-ROM. She stressed the continuing importance of contributions by the Library's partners to the Canadian Union Catalogue in making this invaluable data source accessible to everyone.

Céline Gendron of the Canadian Book Exchange Centre (CBEC) gave an update on resource-sharing projects, including Web access to the *Interlibrary Loan Policies in Canada*, scheduled for



Huguette Lussier-Tremblay (seated right) answering questions at Library booth.

archived in the National Library of Canada (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/news/cnie.htm), the Index of Federal Royal Commissions (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifrc/index.htm) and "The Art of Illustration" exhibition (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/events/illustra/eintro.htm). She explained how the Library works to develop useful library

the spring of 1998, and the possibility of making ILL requests with an encoded form that will be available from the Library's Web site early in 1998. She spoke about the CBEC's new electronic discussion list and plans to design a survey for re-evaluating client profiles and the Centre's distribution methods.

# National Library News

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Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1992

The National Library of Canada's logo is based on a detail from the mural "La Connaissance/Knowledge" created by Alfred Pellan for the Reference Room of the National Library.



Carrol Lunau then gave information on the virtual Canadian Union Catalogue (vCuc) project. She explained the nature of the vCuc (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/resource/vcuc/ resource/vcuc/index.htm) and the objectives of the project: to demonstrate the feasibility of interrelated catalogues, and to make resource sharing easier. Eighteen libraries, four French and 14 English, which also use the Z39.50 standard, are partners in this project. In all, these libraries represent nine different library systems. She listed some of the real benefits, such as cost-free tracking of MARC records, improved or unchanged ease of access, and the lack of time-lag problems. She noted that important points are still being researched. These include library holdings (availability, records and delivery); the difficulty in narrowing searches; configuration problems; consistency of search results; and different cataloguing practices. The conclusions that were drawn are particularly noteworthy:

- rather than being a complete solution, the Z39.50 standard is proving to be better for some functions than for others;
- the National Library must maintain ongoing dialogue with its partners to ensure cooperation in overcoming technical problems.

Carrol Lunau then gave a short presentation on the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries, or CIDL (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cidl/) to "promote, coordinate and facilitate the development of Canadian digital collections and services in order to optimize national interoperability and long-term access to digital library holdings in Canada". This national alliance resulted from extensive consultation undertaken by the National Library in early 1997.

During the opening session, Ms. Paule Doré, executive vice-president of corporate affairs for CGI Inc., stressed the organization of and value accorded to information. She said that this explains why we currently use the expression "information technology" rather than "informatics technology": it acknowledges that information is the driving force behind technological developments. For many organizations, the key to the future is access to what individuals know. The critical need is accessing an organization's knowledge or know-how, and knowing what should be accessed. As an example of a system developed to support a particular aspect of information management, Ms. Doré mentioned AMICUS. It was developed by CGI in cooperation with the National Library of Canada and was recently acquired by the British Library, among others.

#### A TIME FOR CHOOSING: A FOCUS ON SERVICES

Information technologies affect the nature of user services. We are in a new environment offering integrated access to an immense range of information sources. A building no longer defines a library; personal work

stations provide access to catalogues on the Internet and on CD-ROM. Hence, client expectations are changing, and, at the same time, specialists' roles are changing: staff are reassigned to multiple duties and become trainers, initiators, generalists. New niches are being created, new expertise is being developed. Nancy Brodie, from the National Library's Information Resource Management, described how to apply traditional functions to the new

non-traditional publications. She recounted the National Library of Canada's experience with its electronic collection (http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/e-coll-e/index-e.htm).

Carole Brault, from the Bibliothèque du Centre hospitalier of Université Laval, described the status of electronic publication in scientific fields. She discussed the current relationship between researchers (authors) and commercial publishers, and she suggested a new model.

#### A TIME FOR CHOOSING: HUMAN RESOURCES

Modifications, adaptation, new roles, positioning, changes, knowledge organization, skills... all are current key words that call practices and too-traditional training into question.

Through the Alliance of Libraries, Archives and Records Management (ALARM), ASTED had commissioned a study on ongoing training tendencies and practices in francophone libraries in Canada. Presentation of the research results achieved by the École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information of the Université de Montréal allowed several factors to be



Left to right: Library staff members Denis Robitaille and Céline Gendron, with Gustave Moreau, delighted winner and wearer of a prize T-shirt.



juxtaposed. The rate of technological penetration, the tasks being performed and the knowledge required to accomplish them are all related. Lack of time and the rapidity of technological evolution are the reasons most often cited for reduced training.

Université Laval's experiment in taking its library "beyond the walls" raises awareness of staff reassignment and the impact of new technologies on human resources: Remote services, the integration of computer analysts and communications and marketing specialists into the library, and employee accountability must all be taken into account.

#### THE NATIONAL LIBRARY'S BOOTH: A CONSTANT PRESENCE

Members of the Library staff welcomed the stimulating task of running the institution's booth. Located at the centre of conference activities, the booth was one of the busiest meeting places. Everyone benefitted from the staff's energy and enthusiasm, and enjoyed technical discussions, information exchanges and even reunions. Participants were especially interested in the Access AMICUS demonstrations, resAnet and the Web site. In addition to the ever-popular draw for prizes, the T-shirts with the cat motif from the Library's most recent exhibition, "The Art of Illustration", were a great attraction for booth visitors. And the winners were Nanette Beaudoin, Marthe Brideau, Pierre Daoust, Marie Lanouette, Thérèse Malo, and Gustave Moreau. ◆

# International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR

he International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR was held October 23-25, 1997 in Toronto, Canada (see "International Conference on AACR, October 1997", National Library News, vol. 29, no. 6, June 1997, pp. 8-9). The objective of the conference was to provide the Joint Steering

Committee (JSC) for Revision of AACR with guidance on the direction and nature of future cataloguing rule revision. The conference was approved and funded by the Committee of Principals for AACR. Sixty-five cataloguing experts were invited to contribute their views on many issues, including, for example, the principles of

#### ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION BY JSC:

- Develop a mission statement for JSC.
- Create a list of the principles of AACR2.
- Pursue the recommendation that a logical analysis of the principles and structures on which AACR is based be undertaken.

### Sixty-five cataloguing experts were invited to contribute their views on many issues...

AACR2, how to handle serials, the question of "content" versus "carrier", internationalization of the rules, and amendments to the rule revision process. The conference proceedings will be published jointly by the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association and the Library Association (based in the United Kingdom), and edited by Jean Weihs.

A number of actions and recommendations resulted from the conference, and the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of AACR is establishing a plan to be implemented in conjunction with the Committee of Principals for AACR. The following items were developed by the JSC from the priorities brought forward during the conference, and action is proceeding.

- Establish an AACR Web site that will build on the success of the site created for the conference.
- Determine whether there are surveys on the use of AACR2 outside the Anglo-American community and, if no such survey exists, conduct such a survey.
- Formalize the recommendations on serials endorsed during the conference and introduce them into the rule revision process.
- Publicize and reaffirm, on the AACR Web site, JSC policies, procedures, activities and current processes for submitting rule revision proposals emanating from within or outside AACR author countries.
- Solicit a proposal to revise rule 0.24 to advance the discussion on the primacy of intellectual content over physical format.



The JSC action plan and other relevant information are available from the AACR Web site (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/index.htm).

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#### CAN/MARC Update

Amendment number 5 to the 1994 edition of the Canadian MARC Communication Format for Bibliographic Data is now available.

Included in this amendment is the new field (007) for

remote-sensing images. Changes have also been made to field 856 (Electronic Location and Access) with the addition of value 4 (HTML) to the first indicator and with the definition of the second indicator (Relationship). Changes have also been made in the 76X-78X Linking Entry fields, with the second

Display constant controller. The publication is available from:

indicator now defined as

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#### Aggies Dominate Aggies Again

by Iris Winston, Staff Writer

he flood waters rose higher and higher. The Red River burst its banks, sweeping over roads and fields. Farmhouses were isolated. Landmarks disappeared underneath the swirling flood waters. People and animals were imperilled. Rescuers had to reach them immediately.



Left to right: Heather Cameron, Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee, Council of Federal Libraries; Danielle Jacques, Agriculture Canada; Ron Lewis, Agriculture Canada (Winnipeg); Brenda Hurst, CISTI; Marianne Scott, National Librarian

But traditional maps were of little use while the angry waters blanketed the landscape. This was when Agriculture and Agri-Food's Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Geographic Information System (PFRA GIS) response team proved that technology can save lives. By adapting data collected for another purpose (the Western Grains Transition Payments Program), they directed helicopters and boats to flood victims. From PFRA offices across the Prairies, the accurate location information came. The result? This innovative use of information technology expedited evacuation and averted tragedy after tragedy. It guided rescuers to farmers and other residents, 8 000 pigs and many other animals

stranded by the 1997 flooding in Manitoba's Red River Valley.

On October 6, 1997, the GIS team was honoured for its highly effective use of information technology with an "Aggie". Named one of two winners of the 1997 Agatha Bystram Award for Leadership in Information Management (or "Aggie"), the 13-person team was represented at the ceremony at the National Gallery of Canada by Ron Lewis of Winnipeg. The remaining team members, led by Bill Harron, were: David Ackerman, Lyle Boychuk, Patrick Cherneski, David Gibbens, Kim Hodge, Terri Larsen, Jarett Powers, Troy Riche, Mark Shymanski, Craig Wright and Conrad Wyrzykowski.

**◆** 

Sharing the top spot were Agriculture and Agri-Food's Canadian Agricultural Library (CAL) and the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) for their Joint Document Delivery Initiative. Danielle Jacques, CAL's Chief of Systems and Network Services, and Suzanne Bureau, CISTI's Manager of Serial Information Resource Management, received their awards for developing an integrated document delivery service that provides single-window access to two Canadian government research collections. (Nominator Brenda Hurst accepted the award for Suzanne Bureau on October 6 as Ms. Bureau was unable to attend the ceremony.)

The Council of Federal Libraries created the Agatha Bystram Award for Leadership in Information
Management to recognize the contribution of one of the most respected pioneers in the management of federal information and to encourage others to follow in her footsteps. Since it was established in 1995, the Aggie has gained in prestige and momentum, attracting 28 nominations from 17 government departments in 1997.



Marianne Scott and Heather Cameron with Beverley Kouri (centre).

"We are delighted with the excellent quality of all the projects submitted and happy that the Aggies have been so well accepted," says



Left to right: Heather Cameron; Marianne Scott; Manon Guilbert, Planning and Priorities Committee; Jenifer Graves, Green Team, Environment Canada.

National Librarian Marianne Scott, who also heads the Council of Federal Libraries and the award jury. "I am truly delighted that I and my fellow jurors — Barbara Clubb, Jacques Lyrette and Martha Stone — had such

Library's Canadian Information By Subject service on the World Wide Web.

The awards luncheon at the National Gallery was hosted by the Council of Federal Libraries as part of

## Since it was established in 1995, the Aggie has gained in prestige and momentum...

a difficult time selecting this year's winners, and look forward to the task being even more difficult next year."

Honourable mentions went to Environment Canada's Green Team for their Virtual Library project and to the National Library of Canada's Beverley Kouri for her work on the its annual seminar, and was sponsored by CANEBSCO Subscription Services Ltd., Food for Thought Books, Geac Canada Ltd., IHS/Micromedia, Renouf Publishing Co. Ltd. and SilverPlatter Information Inc. ◆

#### Did You Know...

that the National Library's Web site now includes information on CAN/MARC formats? The CAN/MARC formats are the standards used in Canada for the representation and communication of bibliographic and related information in machine-readable form. The CAN/MARC page on the Web site is an up-to-date source of information about the CAN/MARC formats. The Web

page includes news on the latest version of the bibliographic format, details of how to order CAN/MARC publications, information on CAN/MARC and USMARC harmonization activity, and a description of the Canadian Committee on MARC. The CAN/MARC Web page can be viewed at:

http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/marc/index.htm

THE SWISS NATIONAL LIBRARY:

#### A Canadian View

by Patrice Landry, Subject Cataloguing Service, Swiss National Library

omparing two national libraries is always difficult, even perilous. The national libraries of Canada and Switzerland are as different as the two countries. The countries and the institutions have features in common: for example, there are 3 000-metre mountain peaks in Canada, and there are large lakes in Switzerland. But there are

also a number of geographic, social, cultural and political differences between these two countries.

Rather than comparing the institutions, it seems more appropriate for a Canadian who has been working at the Swiss National Library since January 1996, after seven years at the National Library of Canada, to offer a snapshot picture of the former institution.

First, a few facts. Established in 1895, the Swiss National Library was developed with the specific mandate of assembling the Swiss printed heritage. Even when it was first created, this mandate set the Library apart from other European national libraries, which had more comprehensive collecting mandates. In Switzerland, some all-encompassing libraries (those in Lucerne, Basle and Geneva, to name a few) had already carved out a significant niche for themselves in the research library world. The Library had no desire to trespass on their territory. Moreover, a number of Swiss cantons (federated states) already had their own cantonal libraries by 1895. These libraries, the equivalents of a national library similar to the National Library of Canada, were also involved in heritage work. So as the Library was developed, both its role with regard to cantonal and university libraries and the mandate bestowed on it by Parliament were taken into account.

In 1992, a new law replacing the 1911 legislation expanded the Library's mandate. It is interesting to note that the institution's German name, Schweizerische Landesbibliothek, does not necessarily have a national connotation. Rather than conjuring up the image of a centralizing national library, it evokes the concept of Switzerland's territory and people.

The Library's collection now totals more than three million documents of all kinds. The Library's primary activities are in three major areas: collections work, which includes the traditional tasks of circulation, acquisitions, alphabetical cataloguing and document analysis, preservation and storage; user services, which cover loans, the Helvetica Information Centre (a reference service), and the Swiss union catalogues of monographs and serial publications; and, finally, the section encompassing specialized collections and the Swiss Literature Archives. Informatics services and cultural activities support these sectors. The Library has approximately 140 employees to fulfill its mandate.

Like the National Library of Canada, the Swiss National Library has a mandate that is directly built on national heritage. In developing its Helvetica (the Latin name for Switzerland) collection, the Library acquires printed materials and other works that are published in Switzerland, related to Switzerland and its nationals or inhabitants and created, in part or in whole, by Swiss authors or others linked to Switzerland.

But unlike the National Library of Canada and other national libraries, the Swiss National Library does not have the advantage of national legal deposit legislation. This illustrates one of the basic differences between the political systems of the two countries. In cultural matters, the Swiss political system grants relatively limited powers to the federal government. The cantons are sovereign in cultural and educational areas, while the federal government, through the Office fédéral de la culture, is responsible for the Musée national suisse, for the Encouragement de la culture (a development and cultural promotion agency), and, obviously, for the Swiss National Library. Despite the cantonal sovereignty, only three cantons, Geneva, Vaud and Fribourg, have legal deposit legislation, and their libraries obtain part of their collections because of this legislation. In contrast, the Swiss National Library and the Valais canton library, which followed the precedent of the Library, use voluntary deposit systems in the context of agreements signed with Swiss publishing associations. Under the terms of these agreements, publishers are encouraged to deposit voluntarily a copy of each document they produce. Most publishers comply. For example, of the 23 700 monographs received in 1996, 16 860 (71 percent) were deposited by publishers, which demonstrates that interest in national preservation may be compatible with commercial activities.

Using this means of acquisition, which has existed since 1915, the Swiss National Library has been able to build a significant part of its collection of monographs, which now contains over 2.4 million documents and nearly 500 000 fascicles of periodicals. However, this procedure does restrict



the Library in developing its collection. The Library does not have any means of compelling recalcitrant publishers to deposit their works. It must therefore make up for shortcomings by purchases. The acquisition budget is, however, insufficient for systematically obtaining second copies with a view to setting up a preservation collection. Moreover, some types of publications, primarily those in electronic format, elude the Library because the publishers do not belong to the publishing associations linked by the agreements.

certainly make Canada Post happy, but it would create some dismay among staff members responsible for preservation services. This ambivalent and contradictory situation is certainly of concern to those in the Library's preservation service, but since the mandate gives equal weight to preserving heritage and making it accessible to the public, only a balanced but sensitive policy makes this daily dilemma manageable.

One last significant difference between the two national libraries is the way in which each has evolved current Director, Jean-Frédéric Jauslin, that the Library entered an essential period of modernization. In a recent article, Mr. Jauslin wrote that when he assumed his new duties, the most modern tool in use at the Library was an electric typewriter — and this was in 1990.

At that point, the Swiss National Library turned to renewal. The first phase of reorganization began in December 1992, when Parliament enacted new legislation and granted it a supplemental budget. This phase, spread over a four-year period,



Swiss National Library.

Another feature of the Swiss National Library that may appear strange from the viewpoint of a Canadian library is its work as a lending library. The Library's concept of service is not limited to making its collection accessible via interlibrary loans, but extends to offering the public direct access to most works published since 1951. This means that all adult Swiss residents may order a book and have it mailed to them. Imagine this situation in Canada, where someone in Toronto or Montreal could borrow a work directly from the National Library; this would

over the past few years. It is easy to take it for granted that national libraries have progressed in more or less the same way, especially in recent years with the advent of computerization. Over the past 30 years, a period corresponding in Canada to the blossoming and development of the National Library of Canada, the Swiss National Library has not experienced the same growth. This situation, due in part to the budgetary restrictions that marked the 1970s and the vision of management at the time, hindered the institution's advancement. It was only with the arrival in 1990 of the

involved tackling several major projects head-on. The Library's 1996 annual report outlines the considerable accomplishments of this reorganization. The following is a short list of a few of these achievements:

- Computerization: evaluation, selection, installation and commissioning of the VTLS system in October 1993 (cataloguing module), the OPAC (October 1994) and the loan module (November 1997).
- Buildings: modernization and enlargement of the building to permit



storage of the collection in a new eight-storey underground depot completed in 1997, as well as plans for the building's complete renovation, which will require moving out most of the Library's staff for two years, beginning in the fall of 1998. The new premises are scheduled to open in October 2000.

- Retroconversion: 1.1 million pieces of bibliographic data converted retrospectively to date.
- Restoration and preservation: establishment of a preservation service amalgamating all of the activities in this area, and creation of a strategic preservation plan to install a mass deacidification system.
- Administrative reorganization: establishment of a new organizational structure to improve coordination of the Library's activities.

The Library completed the first phase of its reorganization in 1996. The work done during these four years laid the groundwork for the new Library. It is encouraging to see that in 1997, early in the second phase, the Library has made a good start on its directional change. The completion of several major projects, such as the construction of underground storage facilities and the shift of some three million documents as well as the transfer of the union catalogue of periodicals to the VTLS system, are tangible signs of progress. Reorganization work is continuing at the rate of approximately 30 projects per year, and should allow the Swiss National Library to complete its rejuvenation process by the year 2000.

I can testify to the tremendous energy expended by Library staff on the projects, and to their involvement in the reorganization. It is important to recall that much has been accomplished in a relatively short time, barely five years. Their commitment reminds me of the participation of National Library of Canada staff in the

AMICUS project, when major project phases had to be completed without sacrificing the routine tasks essential to fulfilling the Library's mandate.

The positive side of this ambitious reorganization project is the great enthusiasm shown by Library staff over the past few years. Working in a changing environment requires enormous patience, and, above all, an unconditional leap of faith in making the vision of a modern national library a concrete reality. This century-old

library has built successfully on its human resources, and when new staff were needed, it unhesitatingly turned to the outside. It is this attitude that enables me, as a Canadian, to make my modest contribution to the renewal of the Swiss National Library. •

Patrice Landry is the former Chief of the Canadian Theses Service, National Library of Canada.

#### **CANADIAN STUDIES**

SAVOIR FAIRE:

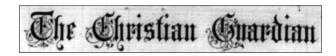
#### A Pilgrimage to the Past

by Douglas Robinson,

Reference and Information Services Division, Research and Information Services

r. Donald A. McKenzie presented the second of the "Savoir Faire" seminars of the 1997-1998 season on October 21, 1997. This series focusses on scholarly research at the National Library of Canada and is intended to encourage interaction and information exchange among researchers and staff members. The presentation was

entitled "A People on a Pilgrimage: Ontario's Nineteenth Century Methodists as Seen through Their Church Papers". Hill Ryerson Press. Dr. McKenzie has produced a series of books based on Ontario Methodist papers, many of which he has consulted at the National



In this interesting and informative talk, Dr. McKenzie discussed the various weekly newspapers of the different Methodist groups, including the earliest, *The Christian Guardian*, which was started in 1829 on behalf of Canada's first Methodist Episcopal Church by Egerton Ryerson, the well-known Ontario educator whose name is commemorated by Toronto's Ryerson Polytechnic University and McGraw

Library. One of his most recent works (1996) is Obituaries from Ontario's Christian Guardian, 1873-1880.
Obituaries were an integral part of the Methodist newspapers, and the National Library's collection enables researchers to learn about the lives and activities of Methodists in the last century. The obituaries were meant to inspire as well as inform readers: since the goal of the Christian pilgrimage was to go to heaven, Methodists were



expected to die with joy in their hearts. Dr. McKenzie supplemented his presentation with a descriptive list of the various Methodist groups and their publications as well as a list of his own works.

Dr. McKenzie is an ordained United Church minister, with a Ph.D. in the Old Testament field. He is also Deputy Archivist of the Montreal/ Ottawa Conference of the United Church of Canada, responsible for records of the Ontario portion of the conference, which are kept at the Ottawa City Archives. He gave his listeners a fascinating glimpse into one aspect of Canada's past. ◆

#### **SERVICES**

# A Digital Library Infrastructure for the National Library

by Doug Hodges, Information Resource Management

he National Library of Canada is creating an infrastructure to support the growing range of digital library resources and services that complement the Library's more traditional collections and services. The infrastructure, which will be expandable and flexible, will enable the National Library to respond both to new user needs and to ongoing digital library developments.

Since the 1994 launch of the National Library's former gopher service and the 1995 launch of its Web service (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/), staff have been creating an increasingly diverse array of networked digital library products and services. Some examples? There is a burgeoning electronic documents collection, electronic publishing has been mainstreamed, Web navigation aids such as Canadian Information By Subject have been created, and the results of a wide range of digitization projects, such as "Canadian Confederation", "Celebrating Canadian Women", "Glenn Gould Archive", "Canadian Music Periodical Index", "Index to Federal Royal Commissions", "Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica", "North: Landscape of the Imagination", "Stephen Leacock: Humorist and Educator", and "Gabrielle Roy", have been mounted on the Library's Web site (digitization

projects address: http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/edigiact.htm).

Achieving these results has required a careful use of scarce resources, including staff, money and materiel. There is a wide range of issues to be dealt with: policies, standards and "best practices", training, copyright, and partnerships, to name but a few. But the support for digital library work also requires appropriate telecommunications and systems — a "digital library" infrastructure — that meet the information technology needs of a library providing networked content and services to users.

#### WHAT IS A "DIGITAL LIBRARY"?

During the late 1960s a number of Canadian libraries began to create automated systems for functions such as cataloguing and circulation. During the past 30 years, automation has

become more and more important to library services: online databases, automated union catalogues, e-mail for ILL and reference, CD-ROMs, integrated library systems, and, most recently, the use of the Internet and other networks, have become increasingly standard. Automation has influenced the means by which libraries acquire, organize, disseminate and preserve information. But the fundamental roles of libraries have not changed, and services and collections are still essential, although they have sometimes assumed different forms. "Digital library" technology, in many respects, simply continues in the direction towards automation that libraries began following in the 1960s.

So, what is a digital library? A good question.

"The literature on digital libraries contains numerous, often dissimilar, definitions of 'digital library'. These definitions range from the digital library as a computer data repository or a collection of digital objects, to much broader definitions that consider the digital library to be an extension of the traditional library: that is, a library that carries out the traditional library functions of collection, preservation and access provision, while integrating, to an increasing degree, digital media and remotely accessible digital library services. For librarians, this last definition is most realistic....Digital libraries are libraries, with the same purposes, functions and goals as traditional libraries."1



In essence, digital library collections and services complement the traditional collections and services of libraries. Therefore, an *integrated* approach to creating and using information resources is needed.

#### THE NEED FOR A DIGITAL LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE

A "digital library infrastructure" comprises the software, hardware and telecommunications needed to support digital library applications. It is true that many library services can be offered to clients by using relatively simple computer software and hardware. But when one moves away from small applications, the limitations of such systems are soon apparent. For example, shareware<sup>2</sup> can be used for a database of some 20 000 records, but when the database becomes larger and more complex, such an approach becomes costly and inefficient, if not impossible. The reasons for having a digital library infrastructure that is carefully considered and well developed are several: efficiency and effectiveness are improved, programming and maintenance costs are reduced, and flexibility for meeting future needs can be assured.

At the National Library of Canada, the late 1980s and early 1990s saw a growing interest and concern about developments concerning Canadian electronic publications. How they would be (and were being) selected, acquired, catalogued, accessed and preserved for future generations were complex questions with few clear answers. Early, tentative requirements for managing digital publications were considered for the Library's AMICUS system, and, in 1994, work carried out by the National Library in collaboration with the Council of Federal Libraries included generic functional requirements for dealing with electronic publications.

This preliminary work raised still more questions, and any answers seemed likely to produce further matters for thought.

Because of these concerns, the Library conducted its Electronic Publications Pilot Project (EPPP) in 1994-1995 (http://dsp-psd.pwgsc. gc.ca/dsp-psd/Pilot/contents-e.html). This project allowed staff to gain invaluable insight into and experience of many issues associated with electronic networked publications. The EPPP led directly to an ongoing Library program for electronic networked publications, and, among other things, identified the need for appropriate systems.

#### THE DIGITAL LIBRARY NEEDS STUDY

Concurrently with the EPPP work, the Library's activities in a wide range of other digital fields were increasing. The Library's Web services were growing very quickly, with increased emphasis on electronic publishing, digitization, virtual versions of exhibitions, and provision of navigation tools such as Canadian Information By Subject. These projects, and their sometimes differing constraints and needs, highlighted the necessity of (a) taking an environmental scan or "snapshot" that would show how other institutions were dealing with digital library technology issues, and (b) reviewing the National Library's information technology requirements for supporting digital library applications. Therefore, in the spring of 1996 staff members Gary Cleveland, Doug Hodges, Bill Newman and Margo Wiper conducted the Digital Library Needs Study, using input from numerous colleagues. Among the findings was the fact that, although a number of libraries were creating and managing digital collections, digital libraries were still in their infancy. There was no single

model or architecture for relevant applications, no single system that provided all the major software and hardware needed to meet the National Library's digital library requirements. Instead, libraries in the forefront of digital library research and implementation were adapting a wide variety of commercial software and hardware products to create "clusters" of digital library applications intended to meet the specific needs of their users.

The Digital Library Needs Study team recommended a phased approach to acquiring and implementing a digital library infrastructure for the National Library. This approach allows continuing progress on digital collections and applications, while the Library builds on the technology acquired and implemented in each stage.

The Digital Library Infrastructure Plan (DLIP) emphasizes the acquisition and implementation of generic software that supports core functions and can be used to create a wide variety of digital library applications. These core functions include, for example, content creation (that is, creating electronic documents and multi-media works), full-text searching, database support (both for metadata, or information about information, and for items such as sound bites, video clips, and images), document management, server support, and tools for application development. Another advantage of this phased approach is that it is suitable to a period in which budgetary constraints and significant downsizing have been the norm. And it also enables the Library to keep up with the breakneck speed of technological change by acquiring components as needed, rather than all at once, which would inevitably mean spending money on expensive equipment that would soon become outdated.



#### THE NATIONAL LIBRARY'S DIGITAL LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN (DLIP)

DLIP Phase 1, which was completed in March 1997, resulted in some key infrastructure improvements for staff who are heavily involved in Web-related work. These included hardware upgrades, improvements to allow easier uploading to and downloading from the Library's UNIX-based Web server, a more stable microcomputer operating system (Microsoft NT) and, on the Web server, some limited full-text search capabilities to improve access to HTML and ASCII documents.

DLIP Phase 2, currently under way, incorporates a Web-accessible extended relational database management system (extended RDBMS). This will support not just structured data but also multi-media works such as sound clips, video, images, text documents, etc. Powerful full-text search software is also being added to facilitate searching both databases and full-text documents available in formats such as SGML, PDF, XML, HTML and ASCII. Phase 2 also includes acquiring and implementing application development tools for programming staff, testing implementations of digital content that use the core software, defining the Library's corporate requirements for electronic document management, and determining the best approach for implementing an electronic document management system.

DLIP Phase 3 will focus on acquiring and implementing a hierarchical storage management (HSM) system, which would mean that electronic publications could be preserved regardless of hardware and software changes. Ongoing developments in networked electronic resources are expected, so this phase will also include purchasing additional software and hardware as required.

#### CONCLUSION

Ultimately, every library's goal is to meet the information needs of its users. For the National Library of Canada, providing users with access to digital Canadiana, today and in the decades to come, is both essential and exciting. The National Library's digital library infrastructure will assist staff in creating the tools and supporting applications to manage a growing collection of Canadiana works in digital form, will help to ensure long-term preservation, and will provide new and innovative library services to Canadians.

For more information, contact:
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Internet: doug.hodges@nlc-bnc.ca

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Gary Cleveland, "The Challenge of the Digital Library", *National Library News*, vol. 28, no. 5, May 1996, p. 5 (electronic version: http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/pubs/nl-news/1996/may96e/2805e-07.htm).

<sup>2</sup>Shareware is non-commercial software for which the user pays a modest fee to the creator. Payment is normally made on an honour system when the user has tried the software and wishes to continue using it. This form of payment distinguishes shareware from freeware, for which there is no charge, and from commercial products, for which payment is demanded and enforced. As with freeware, shareware is usually developed with limited resources, which typically results in limited capabilities and capacity, as well as minimal or non-existent

technical support. Unless the software proves to be quite successful, the creator may not maintain it. Without upgrades, fixes for bugs, etc., the software quickly becomes dated and no longer works with newer computers and operating systems. •

#### Did You Know...

that the National Library of Canada has an electronic mailing list to make its news releases and events available through e-mail?

NLC-INFO-BNC is an open subscription mailing list available to everyone interested in the programs, services and events of the National Library of Canada. The "read-only" mailing list allows subscribers to read content (only authorized Library staff can post messages). As of December 1997, there were more than 300 subscribers.

To subscribe to NLC-INFO-BNC, send LISTSERV the following e-mail message:

To:

LISTSERV@INFOSERV.NLC-BNC.CA

Subject: (Leave this line blank)

Message: SUBscribe NLC-INFO-BNC YourFirstName YourLastName

For further information:

Marketing and Publishing National Library of Canada 395 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4

Telephone: (613) 995-7969

Fax: (613) 991-9871 TTY: (613) 992-6969 Internet: publications@

nlc-bnc.ca

#### PUBLIC PROGRAMS

#### Another Great Gala Reading

by Randall Ware,

Canadian Literature Research Service, Research and Information Services

or the first time in many years, the Governor General's Literary Awards were presented to the winners at Government House in Ottawa. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, November 18. And for the sixth year, the winners gathered at the National Library to read from their works on the following evening. This Gala reading has become the highlight of the Library's fall literary season, and one of the most eagerly awaited events in town.

National Librarian Marianne Scott noted in her welcoming remarks, "As the proud guardian of Canada's literary heritage, we think it appropriate that this event should be held here at the National Library.

Events such as this testify to the vitality of our literary culture and the continuing importance of the written word in our lives." Everyone seemed to agree with those sentiments. The long lineups at the autographing tables and



Left to right, front row: Barbara Reid, Marie José Thériault, Rachel Manley; middle row: Aude, Kit Pearson, Dionne Brand, Jane Urquhart, Howard Scott; back row: Roland Viau, National Library staff member Randall Ware, Ian Ross, Pierre Nepveu and Michel Noël.



Jane Urquhart.



Pierre Nepveu and National Library staff member Mary Jane Starr.

the smiles on the faces of writers and readers alike reminded all of us that there is nothing better than the meeting of minds in a common interest: books.

The evening was ably hosted by Odette Gough of Radio-Canada and Ken Rockburn of CBC Radio. Each of the writers and artists read or talked for five minutes. Special thanks go to actress Guylaine Normandin who, on very short notice, read for playwright Yvan Bienvenue, who, unfortuately, had taken ill.

The evening was sponsored by the CGI Group Inc. We thank them for making this wonderful event possible, and also extend our appreciation to the Independent Booksellers of Ottawa and the Librairie du soleil for their support.



Kit Pearson.

When last seen, the tired but happy group of writers and artists who, only days before, had been strangers, were ambling back to their hotel while talking animatedly in both languages about how much fun they had had...and how many books they had signed. •

#### And the winners are...

French fiction: Aude French drama: Yvan Bienvenue English poetry: Dionne Brand English nonfiction: Rachel Manley French poetry: Pierre Nepveu French children's literature (text): Michel Noël English children's literature (text): Kit Pearson French children's literature (illustration): Stéphane Poulin English children's literature (illustration): Barbara Reid English drama: Ian Ross English translation: Howard Scott French translation: Marie José Thériault English fiction: Jane Urquhart French nonfiction: Roland Viau

#### Winners Past and Present

by Dale Simmons, Marketing and Publishing

n 1947, Gabrielle Roy won her first Governor General's Literary Award for The Tin Flute (the English translation of her novel Bonheur d'occasion). It was with great pleasure that the National Library unveiled its newly created Gabrielle Roy Web site 50 years later, and it was particularly fitting that the event coincided with the Governor General's Literary Awards Gala Reading held at the Library on November 19, 1997.



Gabriel Ready (seated) with (right) Library staff member Dale Simmons demonstrating Web site.

The most recent award winners, together with guests and sponsors, gathered around a large computer screen to watch a demonstration of Web sites devoted to past Governor General's Literary Award winners. Along with the Gabrielle Roy site, the National Library has recently developed sites on Stephen Leacock (1937 winner for My Discovery of the West) and contributed to the site on Emily Carr (1941 winner for Klee Wyck). The demonstration was given by Gabriel Ready, a University of Ottawa student and team leader for the Stephen Leacock Web site. Other Leacock team members were Carleton University student Marie-Hélène Gavinski and entrepreneur Steve Hagopian.

The Gabrielle Roy Web site, sponsored by Bell Canada through the Stentor Alliance, provided a rich learning experience for Carleton university student Lisa Kelly and Steve Hagopian. Thanks to the Web, the spectators were able to view the Governor General's Literary Award medals that Gabrielle Roy won in 1947 and 1957 and to read then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's

letter of congratulation for her 1978 award and Roy's handwritten draft response. The Web site has a wealth of material from the National Library's Gabrielle Roy Fonds. This material, held by the Library's Canadian Literature Research Service, is reproduced on the site with the generous permission of the Fonds Gabrielle Roy Inc.

On the Leacock site, the viewer can learn about two of Leacock's most important works, Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town and Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich. The Stephen Leacock Museum/Archive in Orillia, Ontario lent a number of charming illustrations of characters from Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town as well as photographs, manuscripts and



other documents that visually enrich the site.

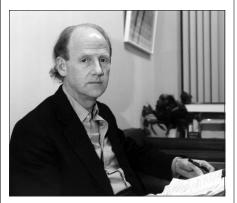
Both the Leacock and Carr sites were produced under contract to the SchoolNet Digital Collections program of Industry Canada. The Emily Carr Web site, originally developed in Victoria, B.C. by a group of young

people with direction from the BC Heritage Branch, has been enhanced by articles from the Library's collections, as well as other new materials contributed by BC Heritage.

Information about Governor General's Literary Award winners can be found at http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ events/readings/govgen/index.htm (see also "Coming Soon to a Web Browser Near You! An Update on the National Library's Digitization Projects", National Library New , vol. 29, nos. 7-8, July/August 1997, pp. 4-6).



# Recent Readings at the National Library



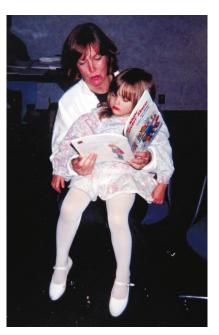
John Ralston Saul checks his notes prior to speaking to an overflow audience on November 12, 1997. He was talking about his new book, Reflections of a Siamese Twin.

#### Athletes at the Library

The fall of 1997 was enlivened by readings by some special guests: former Olympians Linda Thom, Sue Holloway and Greg Joy, and Clarke Flynn and Laurie Graham. They were here to support the latest edition of the Library's Read Up On It kit, Te \$ports Pags. •



Linda Thom.



Sue Holloway with her daughter Alexandra.



Greg Joy with attentive listener.

Free copies of the 1997 Read Up On It kit are available from:

Marketing and Publishing
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4
Telephone: (613) 995-7969
Fax: (613) 991-9871
TTY: (613) 992-6969
Internet:
publications@nlc-bnc.ca

#### A GARDEN OF DELIGHT:

# Working on "Cultivating Canadian Gardens"

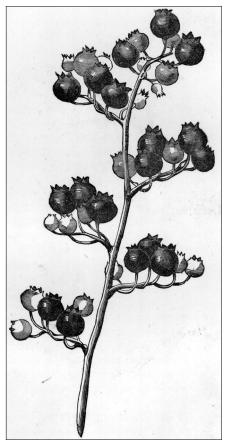
by Carol Martin, Writing and Publishing Consultant

An exhibition opening on February 17

#### PREPARING THE SOIL

When the National Library of Canada was considering topics for a forthcoming exhibition, "gardening" immediately sprang to my mind.

I had long been interested in gardening, and, in recent years, have been amazed at how the subject has seized the imagination of writers,



"Huckleberry": illustration from Canadian Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Gardener by D.W. Beadle (Toronto: James Campbell & Son, 1872).

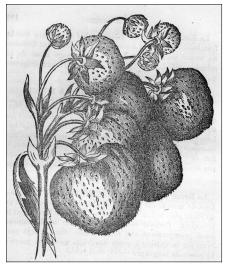
publishers and readers. I vividly remember how difficult it was when I was growing up in the village of Woodroffe (now a part of Ottawa), and later as a teenager living near what is now Highway 16, to find Canadian information on gardening. There was little advice available on growing plants in this northern climate. I was curious about just what might have been written for Canadian gardeners before and since that period. Preparing an

historical survey would give me an opportunity to dig more deeply into the subject. Turning over the literary soil, I uncovered a lot of surprises. In spite of the barren book-fields for Canadian gardeners in

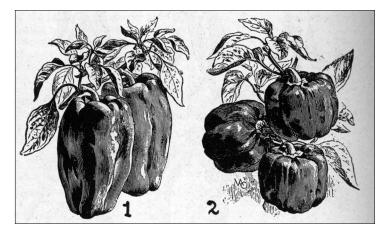
the 1950s and early 1960s, Canadian gardeners and writers had, I discovered, been sharing tips and information for many, many years. And much of what flowered in books, magazines and newspapers during the past 200 years was the same kind of good advice that is available today.

#### **PLANTING THE SEEDS**

When considering the exhibition's content and format, I decided to tell the story from as early a beginning as possible. Luckily, the National Library



"Albanie de Wilson": illustration of strawberries from Le Verger, le potager et le parterre dans la province de Québec... by Abbé L. Provancher (Quebec: C. Darveau, 1874).



"Piment Ruby King" and "Piment carré doux d'Amérique": illustration of peppers from La Culture des légumes... by Gabriel Billault (La Trappe: Institut agricole d'Oka, 1935).

is an excellent repository of our literature, including some of the earliest Canadian printed material in existence. The first surprise came with accounts of what European settlers found in North America on their arrival — extensive acreages of "the three sisters" (corn, beans and squash) being grown by Hurons in what is now southwestern Ontario. Descriptions of these appear in Relations des Jesuites (Paris: Sebastien Cramoizy, 1642), recorded by the Iesuit missionaries early in the 17th century: "They have in equal abundance corn, beans and squash" (translation).

Unimpressed by the familiar, gardeners and botanists back in Europe were more interested in the exciting new plants found in North America. They looked forward eagerly to shipments of plants and seeds collected by early travellers — shipments that were all too often lost at sea. Books published between the 17th and the 20th centuries describing the flora of the "New World" are an attractive addition to any gardening exhibition.

Many of the most interesting chapters of the Canadian gardening story were written during the pioneer era. From anecdotes of Louis Hébert, New France's first farmer, and the cultivators of the early gardens at the Hudson's Bay forts, to the wonderful personal accounts of the difficulties faced by such settlers as Catharine Parr Traill, Canadian letters reveal the pain and pleasure of working the soil in this often rocky and stump-filled land.

By the last decades of the 19th century (and even earlier in Quebec), much of the country was involved in "second-generation gardening". Seed catalogues, which before long would include exquisite drawings of idealized flowers and vegetables, were becoming available, and helpful guides such as the famous Canadian Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Gardener by Delos W. Beadle (Toronto: James Campbell & Son, 1872) and Le potager: jardin du cultivateur by Alec Santerre (Quebec: Darveau, 1902) were being published.

#### **CULTIVATING THE GARDEN**

An excellent introduction to the attitudes apparent in the published materials of the first decades of this century, when the philosophy of the "social gospel" led to a new emphasis on the value of nature and "improving" the landscape, can be found in Edwinna Von Baeyer's *Rhetoric and Roses:* A *History of Canadian Gardening* 1900-1930 (Toronto: Fitzhenry and

Whiteside, 1984). All across the country, progress was encouraged: parks and public gardens were created, railways initiated a program of establishing extensive gardens around their stations, and school children were introduced to gardening as a way to encourage them to remain on the land and as a means of building "moral character".

Garden clubs, horticultural societies, and botanical gardens play an important part in the history of gardening in this country. From Nova Scotia in the east to Yellowknife in the northwest, the community spirit and communication of information encouraged by these groups has flourished, helping individuals to expand their knowledge and increase their enjoyment in growing fruits, vegetables and flowers. Most garden clubs print minutes of their meetings or newsletters of their activities, and a number of these documents have been collected by the National Library. Horticultural societies continue to be active, and have often been responsible for publishing the history of gardening in their province or region, works that are of great importance to the researcher. Botanical gardens contribute significantly to research and education, and provide general information and pleasure to the public. Their story is told in a number of attractive books and periodicals. Of major consequence has been the work done by the Central Experimental Farm, both in Ottawa and on its individual farms across the country.

#### **REAPING THE HARVEST**

It was in the late 1960s that Canadians were really bitten by the garden bug. With the back-to-the-land movement epitomised by the immediately successful magazine *Harrowsmith*, Canadians began to enjoy a rich flowering of gardening books and

magazines. Harrowsmith's very successful series of titles, books by the increasing number of gardening experts such as Benoît Prieur, Lois Hole, Mark Cullen and Marjorie Harris, and enticing periodicals such as Canadian Gardens, Le Guide Botanix, Chatelaine Gardens! and Gardening Life: all offered a feast for the eyes and mind.

With the growing interest in reading about gardening has come a new interest in heritage gardening and preserving heritage seed-stocks. One section of the exhibition records this interest through the story of Heather Apple and the Heritage Seed Program, now known as Seeds of Diversity.

No exhibition about gardening in Canada would be complete without reference to the importance of gardening in creative writing. "Cultivating Canadian Gardens" pays homage to this particular blossom with a small selection of titles, such as Robert Kroetsch's Seed Catalogue (Winnipeg: Turnstone, 1977), Gabrielle Roy's Un jardin au bout du monde (Montreal: Beauchemin, 1975), and Carol Shields' The Stone Diaries (Toronto: Random House, 1993).

Researching the exhibition has been a joy and an education. I hope it will provide visitors with a fraction of the pleasure it has brought this researcher, and that it leads readers to discover books and magazines that will help them to survive the dark February when the exhibition opens, and inspire a summer of exciting gardening in 1998. •

Carol Martin worked on two previous National Library exhibitions: "Canadian Nomads: Travel Writing in the 20th Century" (1991) and "North: Landscape of the Imagination" (1993-1994).

"Cultivating Canadian Gardens: A History of Gardening in Canada" runs from Tuesday, February 17 until Sunday, December 13, 1998.



#### A Celebration of Human Rights

n 1998, the National Library of Canada joins in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Throughout the year, National Library News will feature articles, short and long, on the Declaration and the important role of libraries in furthering human rights.



Of all the declarations produced by the United Nations, the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* is the most important and far-reaching. As the *Declaration* states, it offers "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations" — an ideal towards which countries can strive.

Canada can be proud of the fact that a Canadian, Dr. John Peters Humphrey, played a central role in creating the document and guiding it through to its adoption. In 1946, Dr. Humphrey was asked to establish a Division of Human Rights in the United Nations Secretariat in New York. He headed the Division until his retirement in 1964, when he returned to McGill University in Montreal as a Professor of Law. He is the author of, among other works, Human Rights and the United Nations: A Great Adventure (1984) and No Distant Millennium: The International Law of Human Rights (1989).

And the role of libraries in furthering human rights? A consideration of some of the *Declaration*'s articles makes it clear that library services, or their lack, can make an enormous difference in the

Declaration's effectiveness. For example:

• Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression (Article 19): Libraries hold and provide access to information that enables people to learn about an issue, form an opinion, and discover how to express it.

• Everyone has the right to participate

- in the government of her/his country (Article 21):
  How many politicians, administrators and officials have benefitted from library collections and services in their quest to enter the service of their country?
- Everyone has the right to work (Article 23):

  Those wishing to learn about employment possibilities have a much better chance of succeeding in their objectives if they have access to an appropriate library.
- Everyone has the right to education (Article 26) and to participate in the community's cultural life:

  To read classical works of literature, discover the truth about past events, find out about the latest developments in science, technology and other fields, usually at little or no cost go to a library.

Watch for more information about celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in future issues of *National Library News*.

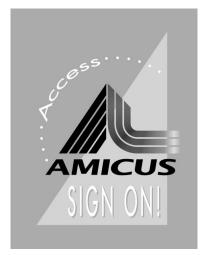
To receive copies of an information kit prepared by the Department of Canadian Heritage, contact: Citizens' Participation and Multiculturalism Department of Canadian Heritage Jules Léger Building Hull, Quebec K1A 0M5 Telephone: (819) 994-0669

Toll-free: 1 (888) 852-3456
Web site: www.credo98.com ◆

#### Did You Know...

that you can listen to recordings of Glenn Gould on the Web? "The Glenn Gould Archive" (http://www.gould.nlc-bnc.ca/ra/ real.htm) features a short speech by Gould and recordings from tapes made while he was relaxing at home or performing sound tests in the studio. More audio treats can be found at the site, "Celebrating Canadian Women" (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/ women/ewomen95.htm), which features recordings of Canadian musicians and singers like Emma Albani and La Bolduc. There are also samples from Portrait: Sir Ernest MacMillan, a CD produced by Analekta in cooperation with the National Library (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ events/macmill/home.htm).

Visitors to the Web site might like to hear readings by the 1997 Governor General's Literary Award winners (http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/events/readings/govgen/index.htm). And a voice from the past can be heard in a 1943 recording by Governor General's Literary Award-winner Stephen Leacock. Leacock fans will also enjoy John Stark performing Leacock's "My Financial Career".



#### Training Schedule

Access AMICUS is available to Canadian libraries, other institutions and individual researchers. It provides access to the AMICUS database via Datapac, the Internet or iNet. Training is offered across Canada. Training is recommended for efficient and effective use of the Access AMICUS service. Each user must sign an agreement concerning the use of Access AMICUS.

To register for a session, please call Information Technology Services at (819) 997-7227, Fax (819) 994-6835, TTY (613) 992-6969, X.400: cic-its gc nlc.bnc govmt.canada ca, or Internet: cic@nlc-bnc.ca. Registrations must be received by the deadline date for the session, as indicated in the training schedule. Sessions will be held only if the number of registrants is sufficient.

For new clients, the cost for training is \$315.00 per participant (including documentation and technical setup). For current

clients, cost of training is \$225.00 per participant. Training fees are payable upon receipt of an invoice following the training. Registered participants who cancel one week or less prior to a session will be billed the training charges.

The National Library also offers on-site Access AMICUS training for groups, subject to the availability of trainers. Contact the Access AMICUS Coordinator regarding costs of specialized sessions.

Charges for the use of Access AMICUS following training are moderate. A minimum of \$40.00 is charged every three months if the system has been used during that period.

Taxes not included

Note: Prices may be subject to changes.

Registration deadline	Location	Session Date
March 6	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	March 17-18 (in French)
March 27	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	April 7-8 (in English)

