

# National Library News

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## TECHNOLOGY

# *Canadiana* Looks to the Future on CD-ROM

by Iris Winston,  
Staff Writer

**R**esearchers are just a click away from 1.2 million bibliographic and authority records. *Canadiana: The National Bibliography*, which the National Library of Canada has published in various formats since 1950, is now available on CD-ROM.

The original *Canadiana* was, of course, in traditional print form. Some 28 years later, the Library added a microfiche version, while machine-readable records were first produced in 1976. By 1991, the Library was no

longer publishing a regular paper version of *Canadiana*, though the microfiche version was still produced. In the 1990s, *Canadiana* records, first available online through the Library's former system, DOBIS, became available through Access AMICUS.



longer publishing a regular paper version of *Canadiana*, though the microfiche version was still produced. In the 1990s, *Canadiana* records, first available online through the Library's former system, DOBIS, became available through Access AMICUS.

New technologies provide additional avenues for information. In recent years, the National Library has become more committed to electronic

publishing, although print versions of most publications are provided on request. The goal has always been to make information accessible to all. And that is just what *Canadiana* on CD-ROM will do.

Between 1991 and 1996, the Library conducted surveys that pointed to the increasing use of CD-ROM technology in libraries across the country. In addition, CD-ROMs were becoming more popular among the "plugged-in" population. The time was right to publish a CD-ROM version of the national bibliography and to include *Canadiana* records created outside the National Library of Canada.





The first issue of *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* on CD-ROM — launched at the June 1998 Canadian Library Association conference in Victoria — contains all the information previously found in the paper and microfiche formats, plus a great deal more. Among the 1.2 million records are descriptions of monographs, serials, theses, sound recordings, microforms and government documents produced in Canada. Added to these are records for works that are of special interest to Canadians because of their authors or subject matter and that were created outside Canada. Then there is *Canadiana Authorities*, a list of personal and corporate names of Canadian origin mentioned in publications catalogued for the national bibliography, and *Carto-Canadiana*, a list of governmental and non-governmental cartographic materials, which is held by the National Archives of Canada. Subsequent issues of the CD-ROM will have information on Canadiana works not held at the National Library, records created by the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM) and records for items catalogued before 1973.

The scope of the CD-ROM makes it convenient for users, and it is less expensive than purchasing separate editions of *Canadiana*, *Canadiana Authorities* and *Carto-Canadiana*. Its indexes are also easy to search, and the results, presented in a number of forms, including MARC format to facilitate copy cataloguing, are simple to download and verify. A truly comprehensive product, *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* on CD-ROM is extremely fast to search in both official languages.

“We see *Canadiana* on CD-ROM as an ideal complement to information that we are currently making available through Access AMICUS,” says the Library’s Director of Bibliographic

Services, David Balatti. “The CD-ROM offers extensive functionality for both the library professional and the independent researcher, and makes the national bibliography available to a wider audience.”

Like its predecessors, this *Canadiana* format, produced by IHS Publishing Solutions (formerly Dataware Technologies), is available nationally and internationally. It can be used for cataloguing support, bibliographic verification, selection, acquisition and general research in Canadian studies.

The National Library is well aware that different users have different needs. The Library intends to continue producing the microfiche edition of *Canadiana* for the time being, and will monitor use of the two formats. Future production decisions will take into account users’ needs as well as the best allocation of resources.

More information about *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* on CD-ROM can be found at the National Library of Canada’s Web site at: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca>.

Demo diskettes are available from:

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National Library

News

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# After Making Many Magazines, There Comes An End...

**(Adapted, considerably, from Ecclesiastes, chapter 12, verse 12)**

by Willa dean Leo,

Editor, National Library News

**C**hanges? Yes, and plenty of them. Challenges? Lots of those, too. Good times? Most days had at least one really good laugh — sometimes slightly hysterical, but a laugh nonetheless. Low points? Of course...but if they offered a chance to learn, then something positive could be dug from even the rough patches — although occasionally the digging had to go pretty deep.

As of June 19, 1998, after 11 1/2 years of editing *National Library News* (not counting a year's absence between September 1991 and October 1992), I am leaving the National Library and the federal government. It seems almost impossible that so much time has passed since I became the English-language editor of serial publications at the National Library of Canada, in January 1986. The institution was not entirely unfamiliar to me: I had consulted a few books from the collection during my university career, and I spent most of 1985 working on contract to create the first draft of a bibliographic style guide for the Library. Inevitably, I found that I had to make adjustments as an employee. For example, during my contract and various summer jobs in the public service, I had never been exposed to the arcane intricacies of hierarchy and procedure that were now revealed to my bewildered gaze. Among the positive discoveries, the most important was the realization that I had landed among some truly amazing colleagues.

What were some of the changes that I mentioned a paragraph ago? One



of the fundamental changes that observant long-time readers will have noticed is not particularly prominent in itself, but it reflects a gradual shift in emphasis in the nature of the work for which I and my colleagues in publishing have been responsible, and a more general shift in the Library's emphasis. In 1986, the Publications Section was part of the Public Relations Office. In 1988, public relations was absorbed into Publications and Marketing Services. Then, in 1993, came the adoption of

the current name, Marketing and Publishing. The meaning of the changes is perhaps subtle, but significant.

Throughout the office identity crises, the focus on *National Library News* as “the voice of the National Library” has remained constant — indeed, it has intensified, indicated not least by the fact that each issue of *NLNews* is now available in three different formats. Print is still the primary medium (to my not-so-secret satisfaction), but those who prefer to get their reading material from electronic sources can choose either PDF or HTML.

Which leads me to perhaps the most far-reaching and challenging change, certainly the one that has had the biggest impact on those involved in publishing *NLNews*. I mean, of course, permutations in technology.

The days of dummy copies and manual paste-up on the drafting table are long gone, not entirely to my approval. (On the other hand, the trials of having to retype handwritten texts or struggle with grubby carbon copies are also past, a development that I greeted with whole-hearted applause.) Every new wave of technological convulsion had ripple effects, and on more than one occasion I felt that I was being overtaken by a tsunami. Each introduction of a new electronic marvel demanded adjustment for all of us in publishing, and the lives of those most attuned to “techie stuff” were further complicated by my anguished pleas for assistance. (I do like to believe that my predicaments and the accompanying howls of outrage and despair also offered both entertainment and learning opportunities to my less technologically challenged colleagues, usually expressed with bemusement: “What have you done *now*? And *how* did you do it? Wow, I've never seen



anything like *this* before!") Long-time *NLNews* readers will have observed the results of some of these changes, although most, as is right and proper, have been invisible because they are part of behind-the-scenes production.

There were other changes, and challenges, besides those presented by technology. Some were common across the federal government, such as keeping up with evolutions in official terminology. Some are well known to those employed in the publishing field, whether in the public service or the private sector — the word “deadlines” springs readily to mind.

Several of the most interesting, if occasionally exasperating, projects in which I was involved between 1986 and 1998 were related to *NLNews* only indirectly, or not at all. Editing exhibitions such as “Architectural Images of Yesterday” (1986-1987) and “Glenn Gould 1988” offered a change in pace, method and subject; working with students who were learning to write and produce brochures and press releases demanded different

approaches; creating a brief to the UNESCO International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century permitted me to spend several absorbed hours in learning about libraries throughout history.

The changes have been constant, but so has the pleasure, and privilege, of working with some great people — smart, enquiring, interested, interesting, always willing to teach, learn and help, and always ready to laugh even when the pressure has been most intense. In a very, very long list of those who deserve my thanks and praise (and I hope you all know who you are!) in Marketing and Publishing, in other parts of the National Library, outside the institution, and outside the federal government, two merit particular mention. One is Managing Editor Gwynneth Evans, whom I first knew as the chairperson of the bibliographic style guide project committee. She has always offered intriguing perspectives on *NLNews* matters and many other matters besides, and has often prompted and

provoked me into considering things from a fresh angle, which enabled me to learn much in the process. The other is Margo Wiper, whom I encountered years before I joined the Library while I was employed in a summer job in another part of the public service. In 1986, to our mutual surprise, she became my supervisor. She has earned my awe with her familiarity with the Byzantine complexities of the federal government, taught me more than anyone else about the fascinating mysteries of publishing, and given me innumerable insights into subjects ranging from management approaches to French- Canadian culture.

My plans include many changes, and challenges: in country of residence, field of employment and priority of activity. I do intend to continue reading *National Library News*. To approach each issue as a reader instead of an editor will be another change, but what I have learned and gained during my time as an editor of *NLNews* will remain, I hope, constant. ♦

## Testimonials

► A colleague’s departure always causes slight pangs of heartache... and a range of other emotions (bring on the violins, Willadean!). Bitterness of course (proof that I still have a heart), despair (who is going to harass authors now?), but above all, a lot of jealousy (so young and already freed from the shackles; some people have all the luck!). Working with Willadean for five years has not always been a bed of roses... because she felt it was her responsibility to unload the smallest parcel of text that she had to revise, correct, amend, rework, finalize or do away with onto me for French adaptation. There was no place to hide, although I did exact occasional

revenge. Willadean is meticulous, virtually a “librarian to the core”, and has all the professional characteristics an editor needs, but verbally, she is very “present”, as if fearing that she will be forgotten. But with a sense of humour such as hers (very often in both official languages), and a temperament to match, she is difficult to overlook. No hard feelings, Willadean, and please, keep that caustic wit! (*Jean-Marie Brière, Marketing and Publishing*)

► Willadean has taught me more about English grammar and style, with her editorial guidance in the few articles I have written for the *National Library News*, than I learned in high school and university! I have

appreciated Willadean’s periodic English lessons and her willingness to help me with all my writing, both personal and professional. Good luck and best wishes for the future, Willadean! (*Elizabeth Butler, Marketing and Publishing*)

► I am going to miss Willadean’s knack for always finding the right word or turn of phrase and, as well, her cheerful and encouraging attitude when confronted by my prosaic prose. (*Mary Collis, Research and Information Services*)

► I had the delightful opportunity of meeting Willadean in 1994 while working for CLC ltée, Traducteurs conseils, as translation head for the *National Library News*. Since that time,



we have had an excellent professional relationship, marked often — if not always — by interesting cultural discussions (she studied arts!). As for her sense of humour, well... let us say it was sardonic (for lack of a better word). One is always bound to have a good time with Willadean. Without knowing her future plans, I am convinced that the lucky people to cross her path will certainly be delighted that they did. My dear Willadean: best wishes to you in all your future endeavours! (*Yvon Dugal, CLC Itée*)

► In her own recounting of life as an editor, Willadean makes a number of points with which I concur. We loved to laugh and often had good conversations over the planning of the *News*. She agreed to use her knowledge and considerable research skills to do some special work and that contribution will not be forgotten. As managing editor and editor respectively, we probably shared both first and last word, depending on the day and the topic; however, as author I had the first and Willadean, as editor, always the last!

I wish her well and hope that our pact to travel some part of the Silk Road together will remain in our plans, whatever the future holds. Merci beaucoup et bon voyage, Willadean. (*Gwynneth Evans, National and International Programs*)

► To me a good editor achieves that fine balance between maintaining the author's style and intention, while ensuring that the writing is clear, tight and of course grammatical. Perhaps a small example would illustrate how well Willadean accomplishes this. In my article in this issue, I wrote: "What new criteria are needed to define what to choose for our access, organization or preservation efforts?" and of course, I thought it was pretty clear! It became:

"What new criteria are needed to clarify our access, organization or preservation choices?" A small change, but now a better sentence. I respect and appreciate these abilities in an editor. (*Susan Haigh, Information Technology Services*)

► Willadean Leo has a well-earned reputation for her quick wit and boisterous laughter. The laughter, in fact, was my first introduction to WL. In an open-concept office area (albeit with certain walls), you couldn't help but notice peals of hilarity reverberating. But beyond the laughter and wit, it didn't take long before all of us knew and respected Willadean's hard work and her considerable talents for writing and editing. Authors may balk at times at an editor's deftly wielded "red pen". But there is, I think, no better complement to a well-written article than the judgement of a skilled editor. I always find Willadean's work in this regard to be an essential "second look" at my texts, ensuring that readers find articles that are clear and readable. (*Doug Hodges, Information Resource Management*)

► To Our Favorite Editor  
We know your art best when nothing is revealed: the folds of text tucked away, the cuts and stitches healed, and the lines, once ungainly, now handsomely face the reader. "By my troth, a pleasant-spirited lady. There's little of the melancholy element in her, my lord. She is never sad but when she sleeps, and not ever sad then; for I have heard my daughter say she hath often dreamt of unhappiness and waked herself with laughing" (*Much Ado About Nothing*, II, i, 305).

Best wishes! (*Oryst Iwanycky, Information Technology Services*)

► She's leaving behind the daily grind  
A date with destiny? Or is she out of her mind?

Her astute deletions, her experienced eye  
Rendered the *News* just a little less dry  
And as everyone says (it's no mere rumour)  
We'll miss her wit, we'll miss her humour  
She's one of a kind — the clichés all hold  
It's fair to say they broke the mould  
The "devil machine" — of late so willful and free  
Will resume its inanimate state as a normal PC  
Her long dark hair hides a smiling face  
She'd better not vanish without a trace  
We wish her the best, she's paid her dues  
But her colleagues and friends have got the blues (*Jennifer Jarvis, editor*)

► Those of us who occasionally write for *NLNews* will miss Willadean and the sense of humour she uses to cajole us into submitting our text in time to meet the publishing deadlines or to convince us that our sometimes dry and acronym-laden prose will not be understood by the reader of the *News*. For some reason, she doesn't seem to find the details of resource sharing and standards as fascinating as we do.

Willadean and technology have never been a happy mix. She invariably refers to the "devil machine" when things go wrong. We will miss her "tender editorial attention" and wish her well in her new adventures. (*Carrol Lunau, National and International Programs*)

► The e-mail message read: "The deadline for the submission of testimonials is Wednesday, March 25, 1998. Please send your text directly to me. Thank you. Margo".

What is this? A deadline from Marketing and Publishing and no reference to her "whining and begging act", no comments about my "fit of



no-doubt much-regretted enthusiasm”, no request for “a wild idea as to when you might be ready, able and, of course, willing to have these ready” and no assurance that I am “not the only victim to be caught in the toils”. Oh dear. A simple request for a submission! How can I be expected to cope with that? Whatever will I do without the regular cajoling from Willadean to get articles in and close to on time?

I will miss her rigorous editing, of course. She always made my articles better than anything I ever wrote. But mostly I will miss the inventive e-mail messages and her good sharp humour! (*Katherine Miller, National and International Programs*)

► I’ve only come to know Willadean over the past year, but even in this relatively short time, I’ve learned to appreciate her unerring instinct for the right turn of phrase, and her dry sense of humour! I don’t like being edited (who does?) but I find that Willadean is able to zero in on the weak parts of my text, providing the words that have escaped me.

I will certainly miss Willadean and wish her the best of luck in her new endeavours in far-flung places! (*Nina Milner, Research and Information Services*)

► My working experience with Willadean has enabled me to hone my skills in writing informative texts for the target audience. Willadean’s professionalism frequently impressed me when she was discussing an article and information to be included or not included in it.

Her professional thoroughness was equalled only by her determination to stay well away from any equipment that was computerized to even the slightest degree. It was as if, transposed from the Renaissance to our modern era, she could not make the transition from manual labour to the computer, from the impeccable and reassuring

value of the written word to the advantageous but abstract and uncertain techniques of word processing.

Good luck in your new career, Willadean! May it fully meet your aspirations! (*André Paul, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services*)

► Readers of the *NLNews* would never suspect from its conservative tone, the true nature of Willadean’s singular personality. Working within earshot of Willadean for the past 10 years or so, I have enjoyed her daily witticisms and have witnessed tribulations that unleash amusing, highly imaginative barrages of seemingly endless adjectives. Willadean is a source of amazement to her colleagues for her ability to remember the exact year and issue in which a particular article appeared... Many a time I’ve asked her for information on such-and-such a topic, only to have her walk over to her bookshelf and pluck out the appropriate issue. How does she do that? The one thing I do know is that it’s just not going to be the same around here without her. (*Dale Simmons, Marketing and Publishing*)

► Unlike many writers, I like editors because I have realized that a good editor can help with the grammar, but a great editor can help with the writer’s intentions. Willadean Leo is a great editor. She knows when you are lost and she does not hesitate to tell you to start again and to point out where you are going wrong. And she does it cheerfully and with wit.

As a parting gift to her, here is an infinitive that I wish to gently split, for I also believe that every text you give to an editor should contain at least one error that she can find. It makes her feel better! (*Randall Ware, Research and Information Services*)

► Willadean came highly recommended as a hotshot freelance writer and editor and as a serious academic with a fondness for the Old Country. When the poet Enid Rutland — who passed away recently, unfortunately — decided to pursue ventures other than the National Library’s eagerly awaited Bibliographic Style Manual, the task was left to Willadean to sift through materials and then rapidly come to the conclusion that she had to start from scratch. This turned out to be a stroke of luck for the National Library because not only did we come up with a pretty terrific, though ill-fated, style manual (thanks to Willadean and Jean-Marie), but we managed to extend her contract a goodly number of years and as a result have one of the best English editors around. Many of us are aware that editing could possibly stifle some of the more creative juices, but never let it be said of Willadean that, in the words of Somerset Maugham, “She plunged into a sea of platitudes and with the powerful breast stroke of a channel swimmer, made her confident way towards the white cliffs of the obvious.”

Good luck, Willadean, and thanks for being so inimitably you. (*Michael Williamson, Information Technology Services*)

► I first met Willadean in 1973 and, lo and behold, she appeared again in 1985. Since that time, she has been both a friend and a mentor, and indisputably a first-class editor. She is also an excellent project manager, even though she has always said: “You can try... but you will never make a manager out of me!” Best of luck, Willadean, and I hope that you will live your dreams as well as you have managed your present career at the National Library of Canada. (*Margo Wiper, Marketing and Publishing*) ♦

A NEW PARTNERSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET:

## *Répertoire de vedettes-matière*

by André Paul,  
*Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services*

**I**n May, a new service became available on the National Library's Web site: the directory of French subject headings produced by the library of Université Laval (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/wapp/rvm/introe.htm>). The cost of subscribing to this service is comparable to that of other products offered by the university's library.

*Répertoire de vedettes-matière* (RVM), a tool essential to any library doing French subject indexing or bilingual indexing using *Library of Congress Subject Headings* (CSH) and *Canadian Subject Headings* (CSH), is now more accessible than ever because of the Web site. The *Répertoire's* reputation is well established, and is used extensively in Canada and abroad.

For many years, this tool was available to "cataloguing agencies" only in the microfiche format produced jointly by the National Library and the Université Laval library. Later, a tape service and then an electronic File Transfer Protocol service (FTP), both available through Université Laval, were added. The recently developed CD-ROM version offers users increased flexibility and greater versatility in terms of both research and presentation. The newest addition to the means of disseminating the *Répertoire* now offers Web access and search features that permit use of hypertext links from one heading to another to follow the development or hierarchy of a subject.

A team at the National Library of Canada developed the Web service in collaboration with the team at the Université Laval library, who provided the content of the *Répertoire*. The main feature of the Web service is the

possibility of searching by using a term located in a heading or by keyword. Moreover, either the French headings or in their English equivalents in the authoritative English-language directories that correspond to the *Répertoire* headings can be used for searching. There are two display options: a thesaurus and a MARC record. It is also possible to consult subdivision lists applicable to any subject and those lists that apply to specific categories of headings. The directory of headings that have been

modified since the last update draws attention to the main headings that should be monitored to keep databases or catalogues up to date.

Without question, the most attractive feature of this new service is that monthly updating reduces the delay between the creation of the latest subject heading and its availability to a few days. The service is provided in English and French, except for the subject headings themselves. This is a practical feature for a library that has bilingual staff and offers service in both official languages. Any library anywhere that has Internet access can immediately satisfy its need for French-language headings or for authorized subdivisions by using the *Répertoire* or the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*.

The Web site (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/wapp/rvm/introe.htm>) contains information on the cost of subscribing to this new service. Visit the site and find out more! ♦

## A Long-Standing Partnership

**F**or the National Library of Canada and the library of Université Laval, collaboration and partnership did not begin with the new service that makes *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* available on the World Wide Web. In fact, cooperation between the two institutions dates back to 1976, when the first service agreement regarding data

automation for the *Répertoire* was signed. With financial and technical support from the National Library and its programs for creating automated authority records, Université Laval's *Répertoire* team released the first supplement of the *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* on microfiche in 1978. A new edition was published in

1983-1984 and, since then, the publication has been completely revised every six months.

In addition, the Université Laval library has also provided the National Library with impeccable support service on subject indexing in French since 1976. For over 20 years, the constant questions about information concerning



## COLLECTIONS

## From the Rare Book Collection...

by Michel Brisebois,

Rare Book Librarian, Research and Information Services

**J**ulia Catherine Beckwith Hart, 1796-1867. *Saint Ursula's Convent, or, the Nun of Canada: Containing Scenes of Real Life. Kingston, Upper Canada: H.C. Thomson, 1824. 2 volumes. Original paper-covered boards with spine renewed.*

*Saint Ursula's Convent* is the earliest recorded novel written by a native-born Canadian and published in book form in Canada. The author, Julia Beckwith, was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, the daughter of a Loyalist father and a French mother. After her father's death, she moved to Kingston to live with her aunt. She established a school for young ladies and, in 1822, married George Henry Hart, a bookbinder from England.

*Saint Ursula's Convent* had been in preparation for almost 10 years when Julia offered it for publication to Hugh Christopher Thomson, politician, banker and publisher of the *Upper Canada Herald*. In June 1823, Thomson sent a proposal to gather subscriptions to the novel. It was published anonymously in May of the following year in an edition of 200 copies, 175 already sold to subscribers. This melodramatic, action-filled novel, written primarily for young people, was partially based on family stories Julia had heard as a child, and adhered faithfully to many of the more spectacular conventions prevailing in early 19th-century fiction, such as shipwrecks, separated families and happy (if unlikely) restorations brought about by amazing coincidences. Julia published a second novel, *Tonnewonte, or, the Adopted Son of America* (Watertown, New York, 1825), after the Harts moved to Rochester. The family returned to Fredericton in 1831,

and she died there in 1867, her role as a pioneer Canadian fiction-writer still unheralded.

The identity of the author was first established in 1890, but it was not until 1895 that a copy of the book was located, by W.G. MacFarlane. He published *New Brunswick Bibliography* (Saint John, 1895), in which he mentioned the book and the author after talking with Marvin Hart, one of Julia's six sons, who also showed him a copy of the book. In 1900, bookdealer and bibliographer Philéas Gagnon wrote the first informative article on Julia Beckwith Hart and her novel, "Le premier roman canadien de sujet par un auteur canadien et imprimé au Canada", in *Proceedings and Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada* (series 2, volume 6, 1900, pp. 121-132). Only five other copies have been located in Canadian libraries, at the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, Brock University, McGill University, Metro Toronto Reference Library, and the University of New Brunswick; of these five copies, only two are complete. The copy in the National Library of Canada, recently acquired from an antiquarian bookdealer, is one of only two copies in the original boards.

*Saint Ursula's Convent*, a landmark in Canadian literature and literary publishing, offers in-depth researchers and casual readers an intriguing glimpse of what early 19th-century writers were creating to satisfy contemporary expectations.

headings and subdivisions, as well as requests for French translations of headings identified in the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*, have been forwarded to the *Répertoire* team, who provide National Library staff with the information and new headings required for records for the Cataloguing in Publication program or for *Canadiana*.

In fact, since 1974, the National Library has used the *Répertoire de vedettes-matière* as a subject-cataloguing tool for its bibliographic records. So the National Library's collaboration with the Université Laval library began with the decision to use the *Répertoire*, and continues today with successive agreements, the last one having just been renewed.

### What's New at the Library's Web Site?

Find out about Canadian "Heroes of Yore and Lore" (based on the Library's acclaimed 1983-1984 exhibition). Learn more about composer, teacher and musician Claude Champagne. Delve into the *Disc-o-logue* index on French-language records and songs available in Quebec from ca. 1955 to ca. 1985. And discover why the Massey Report (the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences, 1949-1951) was and is so important to Canadian arts and culture.

These four digitization projects were created and developed in collaboration with the SchoolNet Digital Collections Program of Industry Canada (<http://www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>).

It's all happening at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca> — click and check!



# Collection of French Theses Now at Morisset Library, University of Ottawa

by Maryna Nowosielski,

Director, Acquisitions Directorate, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

and Libby Martin,

Collection Development Policy and Planning Officer, Information Resource Management

**T**he National Library of Canada and the Morisset Library at the University of Ottawa have recently concluded an agreement that resulted in the transfer of a microfiche collection of approximately 20 000 theses submitted to French universities from 1986 to 1997 inclusive. The theses, received by the National Library via an exchange

agreement with the Université de Paris (Sorbonne), are doctoral dissertations that were submitted in all disciplines except the pure sciences, and reproduced on microfiche by l'Atelier national de reproductions des thèses de Lille (France). The agreement with the Université de Paris was established in 1957, and each year, theses from eight universities were sent in hard copy. In 1986, the National Library began to receive the French theses on microfiche, and the volume increased dramatically to about 1 800 titles a year when the agreement was adjusted to cover most universities in France, including those in Lille, Toulouse, Strasbourg, Bordeaux and Grenoble.

The transfer of these works from the National Library to the University of Ottawa resulted from an ongoing review by the Library of items in its collections received through foreign exchange agreements. To focus its limited resources on Canadiana collections, the National Library is searching for different ways to rationalize its collections of foreign publications, while ensuring that access to foreign materials within Canada continues. The transfer of this collection of French theses has proved

to be a successful venture in cooperative resource sharing.

In 1996, an evaluation of the collection included an assessment of Canadian content, which was found to be less than two percent. It was decided to create records for listing theses with Canadian content and to find a suitable library to house and provide access to the complete collection. The University of Ottawa proved ideal because of its bilingual programs and broad subject orientation. The Morisset Library was already providing access to the CD-ROM index of French theses, *DocThèses*, but researchers had no access to the actual theses, so the agreement is advantageous to both institutions.

Under the new arrangement, the National Library will remain the official exchange partner with the Université de Paris, and each year will transfer the theses received to the University of Ottawa. Before each annual transfer, works with Canadian content, such as those on Canadian authors, historical events and other relevant subjects, will be given records for *Canadiana* and selected for the National Library collections when copyright permission is granted. With the transfer of the present collection, 70 theses with

Canadian content were selected, catalogued and listed in *Canadiana*. The current index to the collection, *Catalogue des thèses reproduites*, as well as previous indexes, can be consulted by researchers in the Reference Room of the National Library.

To facilitate integrated access to the theses, in January 1998, the Morisset Library began to catalogue each title in the collection, starting with the most recent theses and working retrospectively. Each title is fully catalogued with one subject heading, and it is expected that the entire collection will be catalogued within two years. When they are catalogued, the theses are placed in the Media Library, under the heading "Lille-Thèses". The still-uncatalogued theses are unavailable for consultation.

This agreement with the Morisset Library has allowed both libraries to ensure that Canadian students and researchers have timely access to a valuable foreign research resource.

For further information on the Morisset Library's policies related to use and loan of items in this collection, contact:

Lorraine Albert  
Reference Service, Morisset Library  
University of Ottawa  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Telephone: (613) 562-5800, ext. 3657  
Fax: (613) 562-5133  
Internet: lalbert@uottawa.ca

For information about theses completed at Canadian universities and sent to the Canadian Theses Service, contact:

Canadian Theses Service  
National Library of Canada  
395 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4  
Telephone: (819) 953-6221  
Fax: (819) 997-7517  
TTY: (613) 992-6969  
Internet: theses@nlc-bnc.ca



HELP WANTED...

## ...in Building the Nation's Collection of Works in Heritage Languages

**C**anada is a multicultural country, and many Canadians speak, write and publish in their native languages. The National Library collects all publications written by Canadians, whether they are works published within or outside Canada. The Library, which holds the world's foremost collection of Canada's published heritage, is very interested in ensuring that all Canadian multicultural publications be represented in its collections.

Although the Library devotes considerable resources to locating all Canadian items, some inevitably escape our attention. This is why **the National Library needs your help** to collect Canadian published in any language. With help from Canadians and those interested in Canadiana, the Library will be able to preserve the national published heritage.

How can you help?

For the first time, the Library has published information sheets on legal deposit in Polish, Filipino and Chinese. The Library's choice of these languages was based on statistics concerning

newcomers to Canada during the past 10 years. We are approaching organizations active in these linguistic/cultural communities to distribute these information sheets to their members, including authors and publishers. Similar information sheets in other languages will be produced in the near future.

We ask your assistance in helping us to distribute these information sheets as widely as possible.

- Do you know of an organization or association in one of these linguistic/cultural groups?

- Do you know of a publication that should be added to the mosaic of Canadian publications collected at the Library?
- Do you know an author in your community who has published abroad?

If you do, the National Library wants to hear from you!

With your assistance, the Library's goal of building a comprehensive collection of Canada's published heritage becomes more attainable. Thank you for your participation!

Please contact:

Legal Deposit Office  
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services  
National Library of Canada  
395 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N4  
Telephone: (819) 997-9565  
Fax: (819) 953-8508  
TTY: (613) 992-6969  
Internet: [legal.deposit@nlc-bnc.ca](mailto:legal.deposit@nlc-bnc.ca) ♦

### DID YOU KNOW...

that the National Library of Canada's electronic collection (<http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/e-coll-e/index-e.htm>) tripled in size during the 1997-1998 fiscal year? The collection, deriving from both the public and the private sectors, now comprises more than 770 titles, of which 465 are monographs and 305 are periodical titles. The collection occupies more than 4.3 gigabytes. Among the titles that have been

acquired are *Final Report of the Commission of Inquiry on the Blood System in Canada*, *Public Accounts of Canada*, *Une grande bibliothèque pour le Québec : Rapport du comité sur le développement d'une très grande bibliothèque*, *L'autre miroir : roman*, and Coach House Press's *Polaroids*.

For more information, contact:  
Electronic Publications Acquisitions  
Unit

Canadiana Acquisitions and Legal  
Deposit Office  
National Library of Canada  
395 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N4  
Telephone: (819) 997-9565  
Fax: (819) 953-8508  
TTY: (613) 992-6969  
Internet:  
[e.publications.e@nlc-bnc.ca](mailto:e.publications.e@nlc-bnc.ca)



# Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries: Looking towards Libraries' Digital Future

by Susan Haigh,  
Information Analysis and Standards

**T**he Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries (CIDL) was formed in 1997 to support communication and collaboration among Canadian libraries to meet the new challenges of the digital information age (see "Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries: Update", National Library News, vol. 30, nos. 3-4, March-April 1998, pp. 4-5).

## THE ENVIRONMENT

The advent of the Internet, and in particular the World Wide Web, has affected the ways in which Canadians expect to find information. In some disciplines, electronic resources have become information seekers' first and best choice, outstripping print resources

much good Web information is not being fully exploited, and, on the other hand, that there is not (yet) as much good information as users require and expect. We are all too aware that there is a need for more organization of Web resources, for more rigorous description of resources, for more substantive content.

## In Canada, many libraries are eager to establish an Internet presence, and many have developed their own Web sites.

in timeliness, availability, plenitude and low cost (in some cases, no cost). Increasingly, people seek to find the information they need instantly from their office or home desktop. And sometimes, they succeed.

Librarians, as information professionals, recognize that much of the information on the Internet is not, in fact, timely, nor reliable, nor, in many cases, easily found. We know that it can be difficult to separate the "wheat from the chaff"; that the search engines, while powerful, all have idiosyncrasies and limitations; and that result sets are often too large to be useful. On the one hand, we worry that

While we know that libraries in some sectors are being used more than ever, we also know that users are going directly to electronic sources. We might reassure ourselves that the Internet's resources cannot replace leisure reading of good books, but we also realize that the main business of libraries — organizing and storing information and helping clients to use it — is being challenged.

In Canada, many libraries are eager to establish an Internet presence, and many have developed their own Web sites. And an increasing number are now ready, or have already begun, to mount some of their local resources

for the "plugged-in" public to employ and enjoy.

## THE ISSUES

The issues that libraries face in confronting the digital age have been widely documented and discussed within the community over the past few years. Some of the more enduring and confounding include:

- **Definition:** In the technology industry, a "digital library" can mean a software repository or a particular set of hardware products. But to most librarians it is likely to mean core library functions — acquiring, organizing, describing, preserving and supporting use of information — applied to electronic resources. While this definition provides a useful framework, it begs a wealth of questions. How feasible or necessary is it to "acquire" digital resources in the traditional sense? Are there electronic services, products or collections that go beyond the traditional, and that might assure libraries' continued relevance? How can we best contribute to the organization of such a vast array of essentially unstable and widely distributed information resources? What new criteria are needed to clarify our access, organization or preservation choices?
- **Knowledge and skills:** Many librarians are excited by the possibilities of digital libraries. But it would be surprising to discover that more than a very few can keep abreast of the broad issues and rapid developments in the digital information field. Gaining the necessary skills for library personnel is a transformative process, requiring time, money and reconsideration of traditional hiring criteria.



- **Rapid technological obsolescence:** Libraries wanting to undertake ambitious digitization projects are concerned (with good reason) about the long-term viability of their choices of hardware, operating platforms, software applications, mark-up languages and document formats.
- **Costs:** There can be no doubt that digital library activities — whether resource digitization, data migration, Web site management, licensing, maintaining a sound technical infrastructure or staff skills development — carry a high price tag. Cost recovery through charging is in most cases not an option, while



measuring and defending a non-monetary return on investment, such as usage, can be difficult. Some libraries are able to shift a few resources from traditional to electronic functions, but, so far, many have found no reduction in user demand for traditional materials or in the rate of print publishing.

- **Ownership, custodianship and preservation:** Intellectual property rights can impede or even nullify libraries' ability to transform print resources to electronic. Licensing access to remote or tangible (CD-ROM) electronic resources also transforms libraries' traditional custodial role from owning materials to owning equipment that offers access to materials, and the right to provide that access. I recently heard a librarian muse aloud: "What is our responsibility for preserving resources that we only rent?" How much information loss owing to technical obsolescence and resource obscurity is inevitable, how much is acceptable, and how much is preventable by libraries and archives?

- **Connectivity and transmission issues:** Some libraries are confronting insupportable costs (e.g., long-distance charges) for connectivity. The network backbone in Canada is strong, but "last mile" connections directly to the institution or home through service providers are lagging. Slow response time can affect users' willingness to find and exploit Web resources.
- **User needs and capabilities:** Many digital library projects to date have been undertaken to increase user access to resources that were viewed by the library as potentially valuable — basically, a "build it and they will come" approach. Study is needed to better establish what Internet users most need and want from Canadian digital libraries, and to augment what is already known in terms of Canadians' connectivity, technical configurations and Web usage.
- **Leadership and coordination:** Libraries tend to look for ways to share information or costs, which is one of the reasons why there are numerous Canadian library associations and consortia. To date, however, there has been no overarching coordination to sharpen the focus and thrust of digital library efforts.

All these issues furnish the context in which CIDL was established. The basic premise is this: entering into the realm of "digital libraries" is fraught with challenges, and all libraries can benefit by sharing useful knowledge and experience as they embrace, however eagerly or tentatively, the possibilities of digital libraries.

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#### CIDL'S WORK TO DATE

In Canada and internationally, many groups are active and projects are proceeding in diverse efforts to chip away at these questions and problems.

There are some promising developments in several areas. For example, the Resource Description Framework, especially the Dublin Core metadata vocabulary, holds some promise in the area of resource description. Technologies are emerging to support user authentication and e-commerce. The implementation of a much faster, high-capacity network infrastructure with CA\*net 2 and the promise of a future Optical Internet (CANARIE Phase 3) will address congestion problems on the main Canadian network backbone.

The Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries is not intended to find solutions to all the problems outlined

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## There are some promising developments in several areas.

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above: CIDL will not be developing standards, administering licence agreements or carrying out digitization projects. Rather, CIDL is intended as a filter and a means of communication to encourage its members to adopt approaches that have proven viability or are gaining momentum and support.

CIDL also has determined to focus on nurturing the development of a "national digital collection": that is, the sum of diverse projects to create Canadian content and exploit the resources found in Canadian libraries and related cultural institutions. One or more project frameworks will be proposed to libraries, museums and archives in the hope that a cohesive collective effort will give a preliminary shape to the "national digital collection". Since the approaching millennium is perceived as an incentive to effort, it is hoped that libraries will be encouraged to digitize local history resources that document their



communities' cultural, economic, natural and/or social history.

At this point, objectives and activities are coalescing around some concrete initiatives:

- election of a steering committee, consisting of the heads of the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM), the National Library of Canada, the National Research Council Research Press, the Université Laval library, the University of Alberta library, the University of New Brunswick library, and the University of Toronto library. This board is responsible for directing the work of CIDL, ensuring that it makes a useful contribution towards fostering the growth of digital library activity in Canada.
- establishment of three CIDL working groups that are responsible for:
  - examining creation and production issues, including current digitization standards and best practices to optimize longevity and interoperability. Members of the committee are from the National Library, Université Laval, Université de Montréal, and the universities of

Alberta, New Brunswick and Waterloo.

- addressing organizational and access issues, with a focus on metadata, user authentication and rights management. Members are from McGill University, the National Library, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, Simon Fraser University and the University of New Brunswick.
- considering awareness, advocacy and funding. Because these issues are so closely aligned with the interests of the steering committee, the members of this working group are the same individuals who sit on the steering committee.
- development of a Web site both to describe CIDL and to provide an information resource of useful materials pertaining to digital library topics in a Canadian context.
- establishment of a discussion list to facilitate communication among members and from the committees and secretariat to members.
- development of an information kit for Canadian libraries that will focus on awareness of the issues, advocacy needs and potential funding sources for digital library activities. This will

be followed by a second kit on standards and best practices for digitization activities.

- communication to increase awareness of issues and possible solutions, directed towards CIDL members, the library community, elected officials and other stakeholders and partners.
- liaison with complementary organizations within Canada and internationally. For example, the CIDL steering committee recently met with Nora Hockin of Industry Canada's SchoolNet Digital Collections Program, and with the CANARIE, Inc. representatives Andrew Bjerring (President and CEO) and Liz Hoffman (board member and chair of the Sectoral Committee on Content). On both occasions, areas of common interest and potential avenues of collaborative effort and funding were discussed.

CIDL now has a membership of more than 50 Canadian libraries, including large and small institutions that belong to the academic, public and special sectors. In the short term, the organization is concentrating on activities that will benefit both its members and the library community as a whole. By fostering cost-efficient growth in digital activity in Canadian libraries, CIDL will ensure that all Canadians are ultimately better served.

For more information, please contact:

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 National Library of Canada  
 395 Wellington Street  
 Ottawa, Ontario  
 K1A 0N4  
 Telephone: (613) 995-3904  
 Fax: (613) 947-2916  
 TTY: (613) 992-6969  
 Internet: [gwynneth.evans@nlc-bnc.ca](mailto:gwynneth.evans@nlc-bnc.ca)  
 CIDL Web site:  
<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cidl/cidle.htm> ♦

## DID YOU KNOW...

that as a result of a cooperative project involving 15 Canadian libraries and Cornell University (see "Cooperative Project Preserves Published Heritage", *National Library News*, vol. 29, nos. 7-8, July-August 1997, p. 17), the National Library's collections have been enriched with 32 microform reels containing almost 140 monographic volumes and 15 full runs of serial titles? All of these items are scarce, most are Canadiana, and the majority were not previously held in the Library's collections. This group of microfilms resulted from a

subject-oriented approach to preservation, which assembled the most significant natural-history literature in the North American bio-region, comprising New England, the states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. These titles are now available for consultation at the National Library of Canada and can also be borrowed on interlibrary loan.



DECENTRALIZED PROGRAM FOR CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS (DPCN):

## East Coast Updates

by Sandra Burrows,  
Reference and Information Services Division

“Update on the Decentralized Program for Canadian Newspapers (DPCN)”, *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 10, October 1997, pp. 8-9, focussed on national accomplishments. This article examines the role of the provinces and territories outlined in the program and reports on recent developments. The following activities were described by

provincial/territorial contacts in response to a letter sent in 1997 by the National Library to enquire about current developments and concerns. This article considers the East Coast provincial contributions and future developments of the DPCN.

### DECENTRALIZED PROGRAM FOR CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS: INTRODUCTION

In 1982, the National Library of Canada adopted a framework for national and provincial/territorial responsibilities with regard to the collection, preservation and accessibility of Canadian newspapers. Sixteen years later, much has been

accomplished by the National Library of Canada in coordination with the provincial/territorial contacts who attended the first National Newspaper Colloquium in 1985.

The DPCN was intended to be voluntary and decentralized, with specific roles and players. The key element was that the onus was to be on local organizations to initiate specific programs within each province and territory.<sup>1</sup>

The provincial/territorial responsibility was to plan for newspaper collection and preservation within each jurisdiction and to ensure availability and access within each province/territory through lending, location and reference services. The National Library of Canada was to provide initial assistance in financing the preparation of plans and checklists. The Library also agreed to buy a copy of the microfilmed newspapers, as resources permitted. Since the publication of provincial and territorial lists of newspapers, which began in 1992, the following activities have been initiated.

### Library/Archives Consultation

On March 12, the Department of Canadian Heritage issued the following news release.

#### Consultations on Future Role of National Archives and National Library Announced

Minister of Canadian Heritage Sheila Copps today announced the launch of a consultation on the role of the National Archives and the National Library. This consultation will be headed by Dr. John English, Professor of History at the University of Waterloo.

Dr. English will consult on several key issues including the structure of the two institutions, how they can help position Canada in the context of the rapidly evolving information highway, how they can help preserve and provide

access to the collective memory of the country, and how to enhance the Government of Canada's role and responsibilities for information management.

“It is important for our national institutions to preserve Canada's heritage and to ensure that we are properly positioned for the information age of the 21st century,” said Minister Copps. “This consultation should enable the National Archives and the National Library to tackle these challenges.”

Consultations will be undertaken with stakeholders across the country. In addition, the search for a new National Archivist will proceed as soon as the consultation is completed.

### NEWFOUNDLAND

The Newfoundland Newspaper Microfilming Project became a victim of shrinking library budgets, and ceased operation in August 1996. Over 21 years, the Project microfilmed 160 titles, including all known issues of 19th-century Newfoundland newspapers not previously microfilmed by the Canadian Library Association project. In addition, a considerable number of this century's titles were filmed. In the last several years the concentration had been on post-World War II titles, with earlier titles being filmed when they were discovered. The final newspaper filmed by the Project was the *Georgian*, a weekly newspaper published in Stephenville. The first issue (1970) through the December 1995 issue were filmed.



Anne Hart, Head of Memorial University's Centre for Newfoundland Studies and coordinator of the Newfoundland Newspaper Microfilming Project, along with Charles Cameron of St. John's Public Library, considers the Project "...a model of co-operation, with the University providing a camera, the public library providing a space, and the two sharing the costs".<sup>2</sup>

of current titles continues. More newspapers are being discovered, but current resources have not yet permitted production of prints for interlibrary loan.<sup>4</sup>

Most Prince Edward Island newspapers are available on microfilm at the Public Archives and Records Office or at the Robertson Library at the University of Prince Edward Island. The Public Archives and Records

- Acadian Research Centre, Miscouche: has reference books and an index containing more than 30 000 cards with genealogical information compiled from the church registers of Acadian parishes in Prince Edward Island.
- Dalton Centre, Tignish: houses records on Acadian families from the Tignish area, including census, church and cemetery records, old newspapers and family files.<sup>5</sup>

The two major collections of microfilmed newspapers are the Confederation Centre Public Library newspapers, which are now kept at the Public Archives and Records Office, and the Robertson Library newspapers at the University of Prince Edward Island.<sup>6</sup>

#### NOVA SCOTIA

Member institutions of the Council of Nova Scotia Archives continue filming newspapers. Filmed titles include the *Liverpool Advance*. Microfilm copies of the issues published from 1955 through 1980 have been donated by Mary Saul of Lunenburg and the Bird/Thompson/Fraser Fund of Liverpool to the Thomas Raddell Research Centre in Liverpool, N.S. A report on the *Antigonish Casket* project, started in 1996, will be included in a future issue of *National Library News*.<sup>7</sup>

#### NEW BRUNSWICK

The Provincial Archivist and Chair of the Newspaper Preservation Committee, Marion Beyea, reports ongoing activity in New Brunswick. The Newspaper Preservation Committee continues to give direction to the task of microfilming newspapers. Committee members meet annually, and most represented organizations continue to film or support centralized filming at the Provincial Archives as

## Since the Provincial Archives develops and prints all film, preservation microfilming standards are of high quality.

Since the Project has been discontinued, the equipment and the master negatives have been put in storage in St. John's Public Library. There are a large number of duplicate positive copies of titles filmed by the Project. Those interested in seeing a list of titles available for purchase should contact Charles Cameron via e-mail (cameron@publib.nf.ca). The Provincial Resource Library will continue to collect the original copies of Newfoundland's newspapers.<sup>3</sup> The National Library of Canada has ordered and received all filmed issues completed as part of the Project. The listing of Newfoundland newspapers has also been updated and is available as *Historical Directory of Newfoundland and Labrador Newspapers 1807-1996* by Suzanne Ellison (St. John's: Queen Elizabeth II Library, 1997, ISBN 0889012830).

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Harry Holman, Public Archives and Records Office, reported in June 1997 that the task of microfilming all Prince Edward Island papers had almost been completed. Microfilming remains an "in-house" operation, with processing services arranged by contract. Filming

Office has a "Master Names Index" on cards. The index comprises catalogue cards filed alphabetically by family name and then personal name. The entries have been compiled from census records, extant passenger lists, marriage registers, selected newspapers, the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Pictou County, Nova Scotia* (1879), funeral home registers, and other sources such as court records, land records and maps created before 1900. Cemetery transcripts are included with the entries. More information on Archives services and resources can be found on the Internet (<http://www.gov.pe.ca/educ/card/archives/index.asp>).

Other Prince Edward Island repositories with newspaper indexes are:

- Eptek National Exhibition Centre, Summerside: has a small genealogical library with microfilm holdings, including the "Master Name Index", census and church records, newspapers and other materials pertaining to the Summerside area.
- Alberton Museum, Alberton: sources include genealogical indexes, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and compiled genealogies for the West Prince County area.



outlined in the 1988 New Brunswick plan. The *Telegraph Journal*, a major daily, is microfilmed commercially. Since the Provincial Archives develops and prints all film, preservation microfilming standards are of high quality. Most master negatives are also stored at the Provincial Archives.

The Committee is continuing to acquire and preserve master negatives within the province, and members hope to negotiate the placement of negatives for the commercially filmed title in the Provincial Archives. There are also plans to continue filming material as it is acquired. Poorly filmed titles for which the Provincial Archives holds the originals should be refilmed if possible. The Committee continues to update the "Newspaper Directory" database, maintained by the University of New Brunswick library, when information is submitted by Committee members. The second edition of *New Brunswick Newspaper Directory 1783-1996* by Muriel Daniel (Fredericton: Council of Head Libraries of New Brunswick, 1996) has been published. There are also plans to make the directory available online through the University's Electronic Text Centre.

New Brunswick's Newspaper Preservation Committee has established a policy that makes microfilm the preferred preservation medium for newspapers. Libraries and archives continue to hold originals, and member institutions retain printed materials in accordance with their own collection policies. Because of dwindling resources, there is concern that print collections may disappear before the filming projects are completed.

Individual institutions have remained responsible for indexing material of interest to them. There are some larger indexing projects for genealogy, such as the *New Brunswick Vital Statistics from Newspapers* series.

The trend towards electronic indexing is of interest, as is indexing related to imaging of full-text searching of electronic copies of newspapers. Plans to print or create images from microform copies in conjunction with filming activities are being developed. The Preservation Committee wants such a project to continue to be a joint archives/library venture, with bibliographic control resting with libraries.<sup>8</sup>

More newspaper titles continue to come to light, and a large purchase order by the National Library of Canada in 1996 contributed to funding the filming of Fredericton's *Capital Free Press* for the years 1948 to 1958. Issues from later years had been filmed previously by the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, as had *Miramichi News* for 1911 and 1912. Work was undertaken in 1996 and 1997 on the *Northern Light*, the *Post Gazette*, the *King's County Record* and the *Courier Weekend*. As well, the Saint John Free Public Library undertook, in 1996, to film issues of the *Weekly Observer* published between 1830 and 1832, which were donated by a private library.<sup>9</sup>

In 1997, the National Library of Canada purchased positive prints of all Acadian weeklies held by New Brunswick's Centre d'études acadiennes, which has fostered the continuation of the Université de Moncton's filming projects. The Centre continues to film all Acadian weeklies published in the Atlantic provinces, and the University of New Brunswick continues to microfilm all currently published New Brunswick weeklies that are not filmed commercially.<sup>10</sup>

Of particular interest is the electronic newspaper project under way at the University of New Brunswick's Electronic Text Centre. The goal is to make available at least five years of the

*Telegraph Journal* in full text to universities and schools in the Maritimes.<sup>11</sup> The project resulted from negotiations with the *Telegraph Journal* and the University of New Brunswick to allow editors and students from public schools, high schools, community colleges and universities in New Brunswick as well as post-secondary institutions in the Maritimes to use a news database of stories that were published between July 1991 and December 1997. Part of the database can be viewed on a Web demonstration site that offers 1 699 stories published during December 1995. The database is accessible via an OpenText search engine, which permits Boolean searching as well as limits by type of article and by date. The project, which has progressed well in conjunction with SchoolNet activities, can be viewed at <http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/TJ/> on the Web, and the text database can be searched at [http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/TJ/tj\\_pick.html](http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/TJ/tj_pick.html)<sup>12</sup>

The Newspaper Interest Group of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association has contributed greatly to communication and information exchange concerning newspaper preservation and access. The New Brunswick newspaper plan is a model of cooperation in encouraging newspaper preservation projects and ensuring that microfilming continues. Any comments or additions are welcome, and should be sent to:

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Reference and Information Services  
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395 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0N4  
Telephone: (613) 996-1342  
Fax: (613) 943-1112  
TTY: (613) 992-6969  
Internet: [sandra.burrows@nlc-bnc.ca](mailto:sandra.burrows@nlc-bnc.ca)





## CANADIAN STUDIES

## Notes

<sup>1</sup>National Library of Canada, Resource Network Committee, "A Decentralized Plan for Canadian Newspaper Preservation and Access" (January 1983), p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>Ian Wilson, "Newspaper Interest Group Report", *Atlantic Public Library Association Bulletin* (May/June 1997), p. 20.

<sup>3</sup>Letter to Sandra Burrows from Charles Cameron, January 9, 1996.

<sup>4</sup>Ian Wilson, "Newspaper Interest Group Report", *Atlantic Public Library Association Bulletin* (May/June 1997), p. 20.

<sup>5</sup>Web site of P.E.I. Department of Education ([http://www.gov.pe.ca/educ/card/archives/fam%5Fhistory/repo\\_other.asp](http://www.gov.pe.ca/educ/card/archives/fam%5Fhistory/repo_other.asp))

<sup>6</sup>Ian Wilson, "Newspaper Interest Group Report", *Atlantic Public Library Association Bulletin* (May/June 1996), p. 23.

<sup>7</sup>Council of Nova Scotia Archives, *Newsletter*, No. 25 (Spring/Summer 1997), p. 16.

<sup>8</sup>Letter to Sandra Burrows from Marion Beyea, May 23, 1997.

<sup>9</sup>Ian Wilson, "Newspaper Interest Group Report", *Atlantic Public Library Association Bulletin* (May/June 1996), p. 23.

<sup>10</sup>Ian Wilson, "Newspaper Interest Group Report", *Atlantic Public Library Association Bulletin* (May/June 1997), p. 20.

<sup>11</sup>Frieda Wiebe, "CACUL Report", *Felicitier*, vol. 43, no. 9 (September 1997), p. 54.

<sup>12</sup>Telephone conversation with Alan Burk, Director, University of New Brunswick Electronic Text Centre, July 11, 1997. ♦

## SAVOIR FAIRE:

## Documenting External Relations

by Tom Tytor,

Reference and Information Services Division

**G**reg Donaghy of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Historical Section, presented the second 1998 *Savoir Faire* session on February 17. This series focusses on scholarly research at the National Library of Canada and encourages interaction and information exchange among researchers and staff members. The presentation was entitled "Documenting the Diplomats: The Origins and Evolution of Documents on Canadian External Relations".

Several factors provided the impetus for publishing a series of the most important documents on Canada's relations with other countries. Beginning in the 1920s, senior officers of the then-Department of External Affairs urged the Canadian government to follow the initiatives undertaken by the governments of both the United Kingdom and the United States. After World War II, the Canadian government expanded, which produced a proliferation of records. By 1950, the Department had established an Archives Committee and the Directorate of Historical Research and Reports to formulate guidelines and editorial policies for the selection and eventual publication of various records.

During the late 1950s there was a growing interest in Canada's foreign policy, which resulted in a demand for more public dissemination of relevant documents. The 1951 report of the Massey Commission pointed out the importance of making documents available to historians. Both the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Historical Association also expressed a need for greater access to government records. In 1957 the Historical Division of the Department of External Affairs was formed.

When the government became more open and consultative in the 1970s, university historians were employed to assist in publishing historical documents, and by 1974, guidelines had been revised and refined to ensure access to all documents. In general, official records more than 30 years old were to be declassified, except for those that, if published, might adversely affect Canadian external relations, the privacy of individuals or national security. To date, 20 volumes of the series have been issued chronologically: the first volume (published in 1967) encompasses the years 1909 (when the Department of External Affairs was founded) to 1918, while volume 20 (published in 1997) deals with 1954. The language of origin of each document determines whether it is reprinted in English or in French.

Mr. Donaghy, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Waterloo, has edited volumes 16, 17, 20 and 21 (forthcoming) of the series of *Documents on Canadian External Relations*, and written several related articles. His detailed presentation evoked a stimulating question and discussion period concerning historical research and access to archival records. Among the attendees from the



Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade were the Historical Section's Deputy Director John Hilliker, Senior Departmental Historian Hector Mackenzie and Research Historian Mary Halloran. Also present was historian Norman Hillmer of Carleton University. ♦

### Upcoming Summer Seminars in Savoir Faire Series

Tuesday, June 16: Elaine Hoag, Rare Book Collection, National Library of Canada will examine "Mid-Nineteenth-Century Arctic Shipboard Printing".

Tuesday, July 21: Two researchers will talk about biographical research: Antonio Lechasseur will consider "Les méandres de la recherche biographique", and Allan Levine will discuss "Construction of a Life: Using

National Library Collections in Writing the Biography of T.L. Harrison, M.D."

Tuesday, August 18: Researcher David Boll will focus on "The History of Japanese Gardens and Bonsai", a topic that offers a different perspective on gardening, which is the theme of the Library's current major exhibition, "Cultivating Canadian Gardens: The History of Gardening in Canada".

### PUBLIC PROGRAMS

## Powning Photos Bring Gardens to Library's Exhibition

“Cultivating Canadian Gardens: The History of Gardening in Canada” is the National Library's current major exhibition. No exhibition on such a topic would be complete without flowers, but current awareness of preservation requirements for printed works and other exhibition material precluded using real flowers inside the exhibition room.

How to provide “flowers” or, at least, the “feel” of a garden environment was a challenge that was resolved the instant that exhibition curator Carol Martin opened a copy of *Seeds of Another Summer* by Beth Powning. The solution to the problem had presented itself — if Ms. Powning was willing.

One phone call

later, a series of lush, perfect photographs showing flowers, fruits and gardens in a variety of seasons was on its way to Ottawa from the photographer's home in New Brunswick. Nine were selected for



Four of Beth Powning's photos featured in "Cultivating Canadian Gardens" exhibition.

“Cultivating Canadian Gardens”, where they provide a brilliant contrast to the sepia-tinted historical photographs that trace the historical development of the exhibition themes.

Beth Powning is not only a photographer, but a writer of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. She has published *Seeds of Another Summer: Finding the Spirit of Home in Nature* (Toronto: Penguin Books Canada Ltd., 1996), and collaborated on *Hardy Trees and Shrubs* by Robert Osborne (Toronto: Key Porter Books, 1996) and *Roses for Canadian Gardens* by Robert Osborne (Toronto: Key Porter Books, 1991). Her photographs and non-fiction have appeared in periodicals such as *Atlantic Insight*, *Atlantic Business*, *Arts Atlantic* and *Harrowsmith*, and her work has been used to illustrate the sleeves of CDs and a 1998 calendar for Parks Canada. Her photographs are held in numerous private collections, and have been featured in some 20 exhibitions since 1987. Visit the studio of Beth Powning and her husband, Peter, on the World Wide Web (<http://www.discribe.ca/powning>).

An electronic version of “Cultivating Canadian Gardens” can be found on the Library's Web site (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/garden/>). Visitors to the Library are welcome to enjoy the exhibition on any day of the week between 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. (free admission) until the closing date of Sunday, December 13. ♦



The Barry Elmes Quintet, left to right: Mike Murley, Barry Elmes, Kevin Turcotte, Ed Bickert, Steve Wallace (seated).

## Barry Elmes Quintet at the National Library

by Nina Milner,  
Public Programs

A large and enthusiastic crowd packed the National Library auditorium on a frosty February evening for a concert by one of Canada's most outstanding jazz groups. The Barry Elmes Quintet performed selections from their new CD,

*Different Voices*. Band leader and drummer Barry Elmes composed many of the songs on the new CD, including "Wilma's Walk", which, he explained, was written for his dog, whose likeness graces the CD's sleeve! Elmes's quintet is composed of some of Canada's best jazz musicians: guitarist Ed Bickert, saxophonist Mike Murley, trumpeter Kevin Turcotte and bassist Steve Wallace. This tight, compact band treated the appreciative audience to contemporary Canadian jazz at its best! ♦

## Semaine nationale de la francophonie

On March 16, to celebrate the Semaine nationale de la francophonie, National Librarian Marianne Scott welcomed Marcel Beaudry, Victor Goldbloom, Peter Harder, the Hon. Marcel Massé and Ginette Stewart. To mark the final implementation of Article 41 of the *Official Languages Act*, Mr. Massé,

who is President of the Treasury Board, presented a copy of the new poster of the official languages symbol, which is being distributed to all federal government departments. Mr. Massé's speech was followed by that of the keynote speaker, author Antonine Maillet. She vividly expressed the

importance of continuing the francophone struggle into the dawn of the year 2000. A self-described rambling storyteller, she told several deeply moving tales in her distinctive Acadian style. Afterwards, the National Librarian invited guests to visit the exhibition of selected works by Ms. Maillet, which included copies of *La Sagouine*, *Crache à pic*, *Pélagie-la-Charrette* and *Le bourgeois gentleman*, all of which are held in the National Library collection.

## Exploring the North: Interactive CD-ROM Now Available

*Arctic Journeys: An Interactive Adventure*, an exciting new interactive CD, lets viewers explore the wonder and the beauty of the North. By choosing icons on a series of maps, users can find information, stories, myths and anecdotes. The CD-ROM has the following main themes: People of the North, Art and Music, Arctic

Exploration, Flora and Fauna, Landscape, and Economy.

The CD-ROM was prepared in cooperation by several federal institutions. The National Library's contribution to the CD-ROM was based on the Library's 1993-1994 exhibition, "North: Landscape of the Imagination".

Ordering information:

On/Q Corporation  
407 Dowd Street  
Suite 400  
Montreal, Quebec H2Z 1B6  
Telephone: (514) 393-3500  
Fax: (514) 393-3222  
Web address: <http://www3.sympatico.ca/tcfodor/index.htm>  
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Catalogue 779461101129  
French: ISBN 2-921461-23-4,  
Catalogue 779461000422  
Price: \$49.95 (U.S.)  
Quantity discounts available



## 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
July 3	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	July 14-15 <b>(in French)</b>
July 10	PSC Training & Development Canada Mackenzie Building Toronto, Ontario	July 28-29 <b>(in English)</b>
August 7	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	August 18-19 <b>(in English)</b>
August 21	University of P.E.I. Atlantic Veterinary College Building Charlottetown, P.E.I.	September 15-16 <b>(in English)</b>
September 18	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	September 29-30 <b>(in French)</b>
September 25	University of Manitoba Department of Academic Computing & Networking Microcomputer Centre Winnipeg, Manitoba	October 20-21 <b>(in English)</b>
October 16	Montreal, Quebec LOCATION TO BE CONFIRMED	November 2-3 <b>(in French)</b>
October 23	Yukon Place Room 2410 Whitehorse, Yukon	November 17-18 <b>(in English)</b>
November 6	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	November 17-18 <b>(in English)</b>
November 13	Alberta Research Council Computer Training Room Edmonton, Alberta	November 24-25 <b>(in English)</b>



## Canadian Library/Information Science Research Projects

Compiled by Tom Tylor, Reference Librarian

The following is a list of those Canadian research projects, both completed and ongoing, that were reported by individual researchers and interested organizations to Library Information Services from February through March 1998.

The research projects are classified as either ongoing or completed investigations. Within these divisions, the arrangement is alphabetic by name of researcher(s), although the title is given first. Titles are highlighted to facilitate scanning. The entries comprise, if available: person(s) responsible for the research, address of institution where the research is being done or was completed, sponsoring body or body financing the research, starting date and completion date (if applicable), estimated costs, project title and citations for reports on the project.

### SECTION I: ONGOING PROJECTS/PROJETS DE RECHERCHE EN COURS

**Élaboration d'une méthodologie et développement d'applications documentaires hypermédias.** Marcoux, Yves. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. FCAR - établissement de nouveaux chercheurs. 48 369 \$. 1997-2000.

**Classification and indexing for visual documents.** Kerhervé, Brigitte; Godin, Robert; Turner, James. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Newbridge Networks Corporation. 45 000 \$. 1996-1998.

**Définition des paradigmes de la notion de dossier dans la gestion de l'information organique et consignée.** Gagnon-Arguin, Louise; Turner, James. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. 52 000 \$. 1997-2000.

**Chantier en ingénierie documentaire.** Gagnon-Arguin, Louise; Hudon, Michèle; Marcoux, Yves. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Conseil du Trésor, Infrastructure et services communs, Québec. 40 000 \$. 1997-1998.

**Mise à jour du Guide bibliographique des ouvrages généraux de référence en format SGML en vue de sa diffusion sur le site Web de la BIEF et de l'EBSI.** Deschatelets, Gilles. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Agence de

Coopération culturelle et technique (ACCT)/BIEF. 11 000 \$. 1997-1998.

**L'enseignement et la recherche en archivistique dans le monde : une étude comparative.** Couture, Carol. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. 60 000 \$. 1997-2000.

**La formation à la maîtrise de l'information à l'aide des ressources de l'Internet et des DOCs.** Bernhard, Paulette. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec. 10 000 \$. 1997-1998.

**Étude des liens existant entre les rôles des fonctions d'information, les attitudes des dirigeants et les caractéristiques organisationnelles sur la gestion de l'information dans les grandes entreprises canadiennes.**

Bergeron, Pierrette. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. 53 521 \$. 1997-2000.

**Étude comparative entre les systèmes d'intelligence économique du Québec, du Canada et ceux des pays européens, des États-Unis et du Japon.** Bergeron, Pierrette. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada/Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. 4 000 \$. 1997-1998.

**Reading for pleasure: a qualitative study of adult readers.** Ross, Catherine Sheldrick. Graduate Program in Library and Information Science, University of Western

## Projets de recherche en bibliothéconomie et en sciences de l'information

Compilé par Tom Tylor, bibliothécaire de référence

Cette liste porte sur les projets de recherche canadiens, terminés et en cours, qui ont été signalés au Service d'information en bibliothéconomie par des chercheurs et des organismes intéressés entre février et mars 1998.

Les projets sont répartis en deux catégories, selon qu'ils sont terminés ou en cours, et sont classés par ordre alphabétique d'après le nom du chercheur, même si le titre apparaît en premier lieu. On a mis les titres en caractères gras pour faciliter la consultation de la liste. Les notices contiennent, dans la mesure du possible, les renseignements suivants : nom du (des) responsable(s) du projet, adresse de l'établissement où la recherche se fait ou a été effectuée, organisme chargé de parrainer le projet ou de le financer, date du début et de la fin du projet (s'il y a lieu), coûts approximatifs, titre du projet et références aux rapports sur le projet.

Ontario, London, ON N6G 1H1. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada/Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada. \$31 000. 1995-?  
 Ross, Catherine Sheldrick. "Series books: an ally in making readers". *Quill & Quire* (January 1998): 39.  
 Ross, Catherine Sheldrick. "Reading series books: what readers say about it". *School Library Media Quarterly* (Spring 1996): 165-171.  
 Ross, Catherine Sheldrick. "Readers reading L.M. Montgomery". In Mary H. Rubio, ed. *Harvesting Thistles: The Textual Garden of L.M. Montgomery* (Guelph: Canadian Children's Literature, 1994): 23-35.  
 Ross, Catherine Sheldrick. "Readers' advisory service: new directions". *RQ*, 30, 4 (Summer 1991): 503-518.  
**Information literacy in science and engineering undergraduate education: faculty attitudes and pedagogical practices.** Leckie, Gloria; Fullerton, Anne. University of Western Ontario, University of Waterloo. Carroll Preston Baber Research Grant of the A.L.A. \$10 000. July 1996-?

**Iter: the bibliography of Medieval and Renaissance Europe from 400 to 1700.** Bowen, William; Beghtol, Clare; English-Haskin, Margaret; Castell, Tracy. Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, 140 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 1A1; Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Arizona State University, Box 872301, Tempe, AZ 85287-2301; Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, Victoria University (University of Toronto), 73 Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto, ON M5S 1K7; Renaissance Society of America, 24 West 12th St., New York, NY 10011; University of Toronto Library, 130 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 1A5. Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. 1995-?  
 Castell, Tracy. "Maintaining Web-based bibliographies: a case study of Iter, the bibliography of Renaissance Europe". In American Society for Information Science,

*Proceedings of the 60th ASIS Annual Meeting 34, November 1-6, 1997* (Medford, N.J.: Information Today, 1997): 174-182.

### SECTION II: COMPLETED RESEARCH

**PROJECTS/PROJETS DE RECHERCHE TERMINÉS**  
**Research in Canadian school librarianship: where we have been, where we are, and where we are going.** Brown, Gerald R. ?-1997.  
**Public library & information services: a status report with recommendations.** Brown, Gerald R. International Association of School Librarianship, c/o 3403-55 Nassau Street North, Winnipeg, MB R3L 2G8. CIDA. Report for St. Lucia, W.I. Ministry of Education. ?-December 1997.

**School library & information services: a status report with recommendations.** Brown, Gerald R. International Association of School Librarianship, c/o 3403-55 Nassau Street North, Winnipeg, MB R3L 2G8. CIDA. Report for St. Lucia, W.I. Ministry of Education. ?-December 1997.

**Public libraries, training and the impact of information technology: a comparative study of public libraries in Canada and England.** Cowan, Barbara M. University of Sheffield (Ph.D. thesis). 1991-1998.  
**Complément de salaire pour une étudiante à la maîtrise.** Bergeron, Pierrette. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. Placement Carrière été, Développement des ressources humaines Canada. 1 785 \$. 1997-1997.

**Ressources pour les bibliothèques scolaires = Resourcebook for school libraries.** Bernhard, Paulette. École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, Succursale A, Montréal, PQ H3C 3J7. IFLA. 1 600 \$. 1996-1997.