



National Library News

July-August 1999
Vol. 31, no. 7-8
ISSN 0027-9633



Contents

Collections

- ◆ Digitizing a Royal Commission Like No Other: Massey-Lévesque: National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences /1
- ◆ From the Rare Book Collection... /5
- ◆ Establishment of Nunavut and Deposit of Their Publications /6
- ◆ Nunavut: Revisions to *Canadian Subject Headings*, *Répertoire de vedettes-matière*, *Class FC*, *Dewey Decimal Classification* and to the MARC Format /7
- ◆ Challenges in Mass Deacidification /8

Services

- ◆ New Release: *Canadiana* CD-ROM Grows in 1999 /11
- ◆ MARA Loading: A Record Year /12
- ◆ Expanding the AMICUS Union Catalogue /13
- ◆ Thank You from Access AMICUS! /13

Library Community

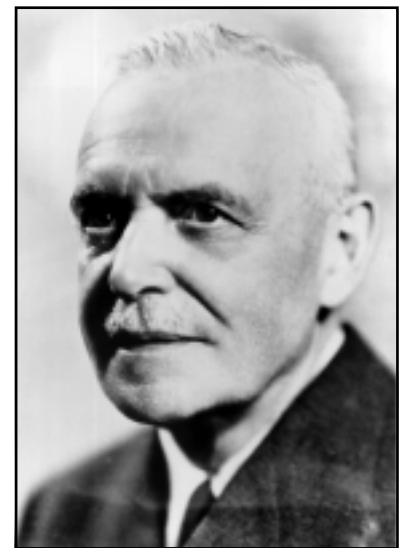
- ◆ Scientific Libraries Reporting to the National Union Catalogue /14
- ◆ SAVOIR FAIRE
 - Canadian Embassies Throughout the World /15
 - Grosse-Île and Irish Emigration to Canada /16

COLLECTIONS

Digitizing a Royal Commission Like No Other: Massey-Lévesque: National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences

by Doug Hodges,
Information Resource Management

The year was 1949. The Governor-General's Awards for Literature were only a few years old. The computer age had barely begun. There were no artificial satellites orbiting the earth, let alone any for telecommunications or broadcasting. There were no Canadian television stations. The Stratford Festival was still four years from staging its first production. Canadian books, films, magazines, authors, actors, playwrights and poets were striving for greater recognition. Universities were dealing with a huge growth in student population.



Louis St. Laurent
National Archives of Canada

At a critical juncture in Canadian cultural history, Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent and his Cabinet decided the time was ripe for a royal commission to address a wide range of

issues pertaining to Canadian arts, letters and science. To lead this commission, the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences, the government



turned to Vincent Massey, who was chancellor of the University of Toronto and would soon after become Canada's first native-born Governor General. Joining him as Commissioners were the Most Rev. Georges-Henri Lévesque, founder and dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Université Laval; Arthur Surveyor, a civil engineer and businessman from Montreal, Quebec; Norman A. M. MacKenzie, president of the University of British Columbia; and Hilda Neatby, who was associate professor of history and acting head, Department of History, University of Saskatchewan.

The Commission's *Report*, published in 1951, covered a wide variety of subjects which the Commission had under review, making recommendations on broadcasting and television, the National Film Board and other federal institutions, the establishment of the National Library of Canada, aid to universities, national scholarships, scientific research, information dissemination abroad, and the creation of a council for the arts, letters, humanities and social sciences. One hundred and fourteen public hearings were held across Canada, before which some 1200 witnesses appeared. There were 462 formal submissions received, along with hundreds of letters.¹ In addition, studies were commissioned from prominent Canadians such as Robertson Davies, Sir Ernest MacMillan, Charles F. Comfort, Charles Bilodeau, Gérard Morisset, Pierre Daviault and Hilda Neatby, 28 of which were published as a special companion volume to the *Report*.²

The effect of this royal commission has been profound. John Godfrey and Rob McLean, in their new book, *The Canada We Want*, remark that the "most important event in the development of Canadian culture, prior to the emergence of the Internet, was

the report of the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences."³ Claude Bissell noted in his 1986 biography of Massey that "by 1957, all the major recommendations of the [Massey-Lévesque] report had been implemented. Only the recommendation on 'honours' (contained in a special report never released) had been ignored, but in 1967 it was adopted in substance by the Pearson government. No other Canadian Commission, before or since, has had such an immediate and transforming effect."⁴ Paul Litt, while taking issue with aspects of this statement, notes that "it is undeniable that the Massey Commission did have a significant influence in each of the four major areas of its work" and that "the real significance of the Massey Commission lies less in the fate of its major initiatives than in the general impact it had upon the attitudes of the public and the policies of the government."⁵ The Commission was instrumental in the establishment of the National Library in 1953, its recommendations having been strongly influenced by many submissions such as those of the Canadian Library Association (CLA), the Association canadienne des bibliothécaires de langue française, and many other groups.

Given the significance of the Commission's work and its impact on the support, development and growth of culture in Canada, the National Library decided in January 1998 to digitize the report and a selection of the supporting materials and make them available on the Web as one of its digital projects,⁶ thereby providing enhanced access to these key documents of value to Canadian studies researchers and students. In addition, the project offered an opportunity to mark two key 50th anniversaries: the

National Library News



PUBLISHER

Margo Wiper

MANAGING EDITOR

Gwynneth Evans

EDITORS

Rhonda Wilson

Jean-Marie Brière

PRODUCTION

Roseanne Ducharme, Denis Schryburt

National Library News, published ten times a year by the National Library of Canada, is available free upon request. To change your subscription address, please send your current address label, with all appropriate changes indicated, to: Marketing and Publishing, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N4. Fax: (613) 991-9871. Internet: publications@nlc-bnc.ca

National Library News is also available on the National Library of Canada Web service at www.nlc-bnc.ca/nl-news/en/news.htm

This publication may be reproduced without permission provided the source is fully acknowledged. Back issues of **National Library News** can be obtained by writing to the address given above. Please specify the volume(s) and number(s) required.

National Library News is indexed in the Canadian Magazine Index, the Canadian Periodical Index and Children's Literature Abstracts, and is available online in the Canadian Business and Current Affairs Database.

Every effort has been made to trace all present copyright holders of the material used in this publication. Any omission is unintentional, and the National Library of Canada would be pleased to correct any inadvertent error.

©Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada (1999), as represented by the National Library of Canada



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.



founding of the Commission itself in 1949; and the creation of the Canadian Bibliographical Centre, which provided the core of the National Library, in 1950.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The project included two aspects: first, digitization of the entire English and French versions of the *Report* of the Royal Commission and of selected formal submissions (briefs); second, an applied research component, which examined the application of the early version of the Canadian Government Information Locator Service (GILS) metadata standard. A study of the accuracy of the conversion to digital format was also undertaken. The manuscripts of the studies which had been commissioned and the vast majority of the letters received were excluded. The intention to digitize at least some of the published studies had to be set aside due to constraints of time and resources.

DIGITIZATION OF THE REPORT

To digitize the report, two small teams were established: one in Victoria, B.C., responsible for digitizing the English version, and one in Saint-Alphonse-Rodriguez, Quebec, for the French language version. To help ensure consistency, an HTML template was provided to the teams. Since the teams were over 3000 kilometres apart and there were no in-person meetings, work was coordinated via the Internet and by telephone, fax and courier. This presented some challenges! But overall, it worked quite well. The conversion and encoding of the tables in the report proved the most difficult task, but that was chiefly in terms of achieving consistency between the English and French versions of the report. National Library staff augmented each team's

approaches to coding the tables to help ensure consistent presentation throughout the report.

Faithfulness to the original text was paramount. To this end, the digital version was proofread twice, first by the teams themselves and then a second time by editors at the National Library of Canada who had the advantage of bringing completely fresh eyes to the texts. All of the typographical errors which occurred in the original published report were marked with [*sic*] and were retained in the electronic version. Brief editorial notations were made if it appeared that the error in the original text would lead to confusion in regards to meaning.

INDEX

The original index of the report was retained and links were established between the entries and the relevant pages in the text. First, hypertext anchors were established for pages in the body of the report. A batch program generated the hypertext links (from each index entry to the appropriate page in the report). Approximately two percent of the entries were not amenable to this approach and had to be coded manually. Even when one includes the time spent analyzing the index entries, designing the program, coding, debugging, running the batch conversion, and manually creating the remaining links, this approach cut the digitization time for the index in half.

DIGITIZATION OF THE BRIEFS

The briefs have been transcribed, with the emphasis on ensuring accuracy of content rather than on representation of page layout. Digitization provided an unexpected opportunity to fill in some gaps in the National Library's collections of briefs (submissions). For

example, some of the appendices included with the Canadian Library Association's submission were missing from the National Library's holdings. Most of the missing material was identified through other sources and added. The result is a networked electronic version which is now more complete than the printed one. Among the briefs digitized are those of L'Association canadienne des bibliothécaires de langue française, the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada, L'Association canadienne des éducateurs de langue française, the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO, the Calgary Allied Arts Centre, the Jardin botanique de Montréal, and the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PROJECT

A version of the Canadian Government Information Locator Service (GILS) standard was used for tagging embedded metadata (information about authors, subjects, dates, abstracts, titles, etc.) in HTML files. The objective of this was to assess the implications of creating embedded metadata, the resources required, and issues of enhancing intellectual access. Embedding metadata in HTML files promises to help facilitate discovery of resources on the Internet. Unlike databases, this "embedded" approach makes the metadata visible to commercial search engines which then can index it for retrieval. For now, few commercial Internet search engines support indexing of embedded metadata, but it is expected that this will change as more Web sites start to embed metadata in their HTML files.

For testing purposes, application of the GILS standard was varied. The variances included adding abstracts, detailed lists of authors, or contributing



organizations to various HTML files. The process of digitization affords excellent opportunities for creation of metadata, especially if the person digitizing (converting, coding, proofreading) a given document also creates the metadata. Although all of the embedded metadata was created “manually”, it was clear that a more automated approach to generation of embedded metadata would increase efficiency and augment the accuracy and consistency of the records.⁷

COST PER PAGE

The average cost for conversion, coding and initial proofreading was just slightly more than \$0.02 per word, or \$10.31 per page (based on 460 words per page), with \$3.20 per page being the cost of the second round of proofreading. Rates for the digitization teams were in accordance with those of the SchoolNet Digital Collections program. It took approximately one person-hour for each page to be converted, proofread, marked up, debugged and reviewed. The challenge of converting so many tables was a major factor in the overall costs. Converting tables to HTML files is very error-prone and time consuming. Both the English and French reports had over 80 pages of appendices, the majority of which were tables and required extra effort.

The pages of each chapter were kept together in one HTML file to the extent possible, but lengthy chapters were split into two or more HTML files to reduce downloading time. Keeping the pages of a chapter together makes it more convenient for users to print a chapter and read it off-line and it also helps to support a sense of context. The notes to the chapters were kept together as one HTML file, in keeping with the arrangement of the original

report. Once downloaded and cached by a user's browser, they load very quickly whenever a footnote is checked. A disadvantage of this approach appears when measuring usage: all things being equal, this approach tends to give lower statistics on Web page downloads than sites that oblige users to download pages one at a time.

FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

Some enhancements to the site are planned and will be done as resources permit:

- Changes to GILS: since the initial implementation of Canadian GILS, the Canadian federal government has modified and approved the standard. As a consequence, all of the embedded GILS records are to be upgraded. This task is proceeding as resources permit.
- Biographies: earlier this year, a biographical note on Vincent Massey, written by Don Carter, a senior reference librarian in Research and Information Services, was added to the site. We intend to add biographical notes for the other Commissioners later this year.
- Studies and briefs: a priority is to augment the briefs which were digitized with others also selected for digitization but which could not be done within the time and resources available.
- Paragraph anchors: hypertext paragraph anchors are being included in studies which have been converted but not yet marked up. This will permit someone to create a link from an external document (such as from a footnote in a thesis or dissertation) to a specific paragraph. We hope that this type of inexpensive enhancement will prove useful.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Projects of this nature reflect the combined strengths of many contributors from outside the National Library. We gratefully acknowledge Industry Canada's "Canada's Digital Collections Programme" <www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>⁸ for their funding for the project, which is one of several National Library projects they have sponsored and added to the SchoolNet Digital Collections site. In addition, we are grateful for the support of Bell Canada through the Stentor Alliance. Thanks also go to Dr. Paul Litt for kindly suggesting a number of briefs for digitization. Anita M. Vandenbeld and the members of the Executive Committee of the Organization for the History of Canada were very helpful in providing several contacts in the scholarly community. And, of course, our sincere appreciation is also extended to the Privy Council Office for permission to digitize the report, studies and briefs submitted to the Commission.

We would like to hear from you. So, if you have any comments on this project, on other National Library digitization projects, or if you would like further information, please contact

Doug Hodges
Database Policy and Planning Officer
Information Resource Management
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa Canada K1A 0N4
Telephone: (613) 947-5888
Fax: (613) 996-3573
E-mail: doug.hodges@nlc-bnc.ca

Notes

¹Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters, and Sciences, 1949-1951. — *Report*. — Ottawa: King's Printer, 1951. [xxiii], 517 p. On the Web at: <www.nlc-bnc.ca/massey/etable.htm>.

²*Royal Commission Studies: A Selection of Essays Prepared for the Royal Commission on National*



Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences. Ottawa: King's Printer, 1951. vii, 430 p.

³ Godfrey, John; McLean, Rob. — *The Canada We Want: Competing Visions for the New Millennium.* — Toronto: Stoddart, 1999. — P. 43-44.

⁴ Bissell, Claude. — *The Imperial Canadian: Vincent Massey in Office.* — Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1986. — P. 233.

⁵ Litt, Paul. — *The Muses, the Masses, and the Massey Commission.* — Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1992. — P. 247.

⁶ For a list of NLC digital projects (with emphasis on digitization and virtual exhibits) see: <www.nlc-bnc.ca/edigiact.htm>.

⁷ Since completion of the test, the Canadian government GILS standard has changed. As a result, the syntax of the project's embedded

metadata is being brought up-to-date with the new version of the standard. For more information about the Canadian GILS standard, see <www.gils.gc.ca>.

⁸ Recently the SchoolNet Digital Collections program was renamed "Canada's Digital Collections Programme". The URL remains the same <www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>. ♦

From the Rare Book Collection

by Michel Brisebois,
Rare Book Curator

William George Beers, 1841-1900,
Lacrosse, the National Game of Canada,
Montreal: Dawson Brothers, 1869. xvi, 256 p.

It was Father Jean de Brébeuf who, in 1683, witnessed a game of lacrosse being played by the Algonquin tribes of the St. Lawrence valley. The Natives called it "baggataway" (meaning "ball") but Brébeuf coined it "la crosse" after the shape of the stick, which resembled a bishop's crosier or "crosse" in French. For the Natives, the game was a religious rite and served to train young warriors. Aside from a few symbolic games between whites and Natives, lacrosse did not become popular among the white population until Confederation.

William George Beers (1841-1900), one of Canada's foremost dentists, became the driving force behind the sport's great popularity in the period



from Confederation to the Great War. Beers saw the need to codify the often unruly and violent sport, and to introduce a scientific component which he thought would be a way for young



people, including ladies, to build their character. He published the rules in 1860 and, by Confederation, had embarked on a campaign to make lacrosse Canada's national sport. An ardent nationalist, Beers maintained that cricket, which was the most popular summer sport in Canada at the time, was not worthy of the title since it had been imported from Britain.



Lacrosse, the National Game of Canada, the first book on lacrosse published in Canada, was the culmination of his efforts. The book contains chapters on the origin of the game, a detailed description of the equipment, the different positions, and the skills required in order to play. An appendix reprints the rules of the sport. The edition is enriched by a double-page frontispiece which is a mosaic of 12 small original photographs by William Notman, the well-known Montreal photographer, showing players displaying various skills. The studio photographs also show how



Notman used painted backgrounds to simulate actual outdoor shots.

This publication is a relatively early example of how original photographs, instead of the conventional wood engravings, were used to illustrate books. Later technology would involve reproductions of photographs rather than the expensive use of originals. Although Beers claimed that lacrosse had officially been adopted as Canada's

national sport, the Canadian Parliament never passed legislation to this effect. The popularity of lacrosse increased tremendously in Canada, and even abroad, until the First World War when it began to lose ground to baseball. William George Beers is remembered both as the "father of lacrosse" and also as the most renowned dentist of his time.

This important publication can be seen along with more than 200

books, pamphlets, leaflets and broadsides in the National Library's exhibition entitled *Impressions: 250 years of printing in the lives of Canadians*. This exhibition is located in the main exhibition room at 395 Wellington Street in Ottawa and is open to the public until January 7, 2000. Admission is free. A Web version of the exhibition is available at www.nlc-bnc.ca/events/twofift/eimprint.htm. ♦



Establishment of Nunavut and Deposit of Their Publications

by Chantal Métivier,
Head, Government Acquisitions Unit,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

New Territory and Government

Without a doubt, April 1, 1999 will become a historic date for the Inuit people: the creation date of a new territory in northern Canada, Nunavut. This is the first change to the Canadian map since Newfoundland joined Confederation in 1949.

Nunavut means "our land" in Inuktitut, the Inuit language. Surprisingly, since it encompasses the central and eastern Arctic areas, the territory represents one-fifth of Canada's surface area and has a total population of approximately 25 000 inhabitants, of whom 85 percent are Inuit. Iqaluit is its capital city. Undoubtedly, we can assert then that the creation of Nunavut will have redefined Canada from the geographic, political and historic perspectives.

In addition to this new territory, Nunavut now has its own flag whose emblem is the Inuksuk, symbolizing the stone monuments that guide travellers and is accompanied by the Northern

Star, the Niqirtsuituq. The blue and gold colours symbolize the wealth of the land, sea and sky, and the red represents Canada.

The structure of the government administration consists of 10 decentralized ministries in 11 different communities. This way, it will be easier



to meet the needs of each of the communities that are spread out over the four corners of this vast territory. Another interesting fact is that this territory plans on using a governmental style that is consensus-oriented. Every citizen is encouraged to get involved.

DEPOSIT OF PUBLICATIONS

Work to establish links with people in the publishing circles of each department within the new government

is already underway; although, at the present time, some are still in the planning stage and require further work. Moreover, Nunavut has some major ministries—such as the Ministry of Resources, Fauna and Economic Development and the Ministry of Health and Social Services—whose publications will enrich our government documents collection. In addition, the National Library already has a wide range of documents from the Northwest Territories and many videos on Inuit life, which have been produced by the National Film Board.

The Government Acquisitions Unit carries out its mandate "universally", i.e., it tries to acquire all types of documents both in print and other available formats such as CD-ROMs, diskettes, video recordings and braille documents. Furthermore, one of the main tasks consists of informing as many people as possible of the importance of depositing publications at the National Library in order to make them accessible not only for immediate use but also for future generations.

As regards federal government publications, we must begin by clearly explaining to ministries, Crown corporations, Canadian international organizations and tribunals, certain provisions of the regulations respecting legal deposit, and subsequently by signing agreements with the territorial and provincial governments.



Relationships are positive as regards safeguarding the Canadian published heritage.

Another aspect that the Unit must oversee on a continual basis is the advent of a merger or a scission of ministries, or even a change in a corporate body name. Library staff must always be on the lookout for government restructuring in order to ensure that the relationship established with a ministry and the mailing of publications are not affected. In effect, it may prove to be difficult to trace and obtain non-deposited publications during restructuring. Changes in staff,

telephone numbers and e-mail addresses also affect our contacts.

In order to minimize the impact of such potential changes, Library staff members use a "proactive" methodology by trying to predict these situations and staying abreast of any changes which may arise in the ministries.

If you wish to satisfy your curiosity about Nunavut, here are a few interesting Web sites to visit:

<arcticcircle.uconn.edu/ArcticCircle/SEEJ/Nunavut/>

<www.arctic-travel.com/people.html>
<www.nunatour.nt.ca/govern.html>
<npc.nunavut.ca/eng/nunavut/>

For further information on the deposit of government publications at the National Library or on the work of the Unit, please contact

Chantal Métivier
Telephone: (819) 994-6874
Fax: (819) 953-8508
E-mail:
chantal.metivier@nlc-bnc.ca ◆



NUNAVUT:

Revisions to *Canadian Subject Headings*, *Répertoire de vedettes-matière*, Class FC, Dewey Decimal Classification and to the MARC Format

The new Canadian territory of Nunavut was formed on April 1, 1999 from land that had been part of the Northwest Territories. The remaining area of land will continue to use the name Northwest Territories until such time as residents vote on a new constitution, which will then require Canadian federal legislative approval.

Name and Subject Headings

The name headings for these territories are Nunavut and Northwest Territories. These headings will be assigned in this same form as geographic subdivisions and may also be assigned as subject headings. When used as qualifiers, the forms are (Nunavut) and (N.W.T.).

Changes are being made to *Canadian Subject Headings* and to the

Répertoire de vedettes-matière to reflect this development.

More extensive information on the National Library's practice related to these changes can be found on the National Library Web site at the following URL:

<www.nlc-bnc.ca/catalog/enunsubj.htm>.

Class FC: A Classification for *Canadian History*

Class FC has been revised to include a new section for Nunavut:

FC4301-FC4350. *Class FC: Additions and Changes, #2* contains these changes and is available on the Web at the following URL:
<www.nlc-bnc.ca/pubs/abs/eclassfc.htm>.

Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC 21)

The National Library, in consultation with the editorial staff of the *Dewey Decimal Classification*, has revised the area notation for —719 Northern Territories in Table 2 to accommodate a new number for Nunavut (—7195) and a revised notation for the newly defined Northwest Territories (—7193). Full information can be found on the National Library and OCLC Forest Press Web sites. The Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques en documentation (ASTED), publisher of the French edition of the *Dewey Decimal Classification*, will incorporate the revisions in updates to the French translation.

MARC Codes

New country and geographic area codes have been defined for use in MARC records.



The new codes for Nunavut are:
 nuc (Country code)
 n-cn-nu (Geographic area code)

Codes for the Northwest Territories
 will remain the same:

ntc (Country code)
 n-cn-nt (Geographic area code)

For further information, contact
 Margaret Stewart
 Standards and Support Division
 Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services
 Telephone: (819) 994-6900
 Fax: (819) 953-0291
 E-mail:
cataloguing.standards@nlc-bnc.ca ◆

Nunavut Postal Abbreviation

To complete the information on changes related to Nunavut, Canada Post has announced that, for the time being, the current two-letter abbreviation, NT, will remain valid for both Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.



Challenges in Mass Deacidification

by Réal Couture,
 Manager, Deacidification Section,
 Information Resource Management

INTRODUCTION

The mass deacidification system has been in operation for 18 years, implemented by the then Conservation Division of the National Archives of Canada, and, since October 1, 1997, run by the National Library of Canada. Over the course of these years, mass deacidification has faced many ongoing challenges. The first and overall challenge is addressing the slow deterioration and changes in molecular structure occurring in the acidic paper that had been used for publishing many of the items in the Library's collections. Equally important have been the tasks of analysis and experimentation, the establishment of criteria and procedures, the building of custom-made equipment, and the evolution and development of appropriate solvents to be used in treatment. These challenges need to be met in order to achieve the level and quality of deacidification necessary to preserve and protect Canada's published heritage in print form.

Securing resources to exploit the full potential of the system has also been a major challenge. Because of the

nature of the deacidification process, it has been necessary to ensure that whatever treatment processes used for the mass treatment of printed materials respect the evolving legislation and regulations that the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario

have put in place to address ozone depletion and global warming. Until December 1997, when a new solvent was introduced for treatment purposes, the reduction of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) was a major preoccupation. Carrying out this public good of ensuring the long-term availability of Canadian print publications has to be balanced against



Photo: Stephen Homer



societal concerns regarding the protection of the environment.

ACHIEVEMENTS

At the end of the 1970s, to conserve the Canadian printed heritage more quickly than through conventional methods, a mass deacidification program was introduced with the purpose of protecting our books and documents against the damaging effects of acid in paper. Therefore, from 1981 to 1986, mass deacidification efforts were directed mostly towards research and development. We had to be cautious with regard to the materials to be treated, since certain inks and binding materials could be altered by the treatment, particularly at one critical stage where documents are immersed in a solution of liquefied gases. During this period, we had to individually test all documents undergoing treatment so as to prevent irreversible damage. That would enable us, at the same time, to become familiar with the materials capable of undergoing treatment and also to

Table 1

Year*	Number of items deacidified
1987	17,869
1988	21,101
1989	32,666
1990	38,162
1991	53,408
1992	135,490
1993	220,160
1994	204,486
1995	32,147
1996	45,648
1997	15,605
1998	32,722

*For consistency reasons, this data is established according to calendar year.

Since the system was put in place, over 925 000 items in the Library's collections have been deacidified. To date, close to one million documents

To date, close to one million documents have undergone treatment.

identify non-treatable materials. At the very beginning, predictions regarding the production capacity of the system had been set at approximately 240 000 documents per year on the condition that it operated 24 hours per day with sufficient personnel and treatment solvent. The system was used to full capacity from 1992 to 1995 only. Because of budget reductions, in April 1995 the National Library was forced to limit the use of the system to only one shift per day. Table 1 shows the variations in annual productivity.

have undergone treatment. While significant, there are many other documents which remain at risk of deteriorating if they are left untreated.

SOLVENT DEVELOPMENT AND RECOVERY

The importance of solvent recovery is twofold: as the purchase price of the solvent is high, for purely economic reasons, wastage must be kept to a minimum; but equally significant are our environmental responsibilities, as laid out in the Montreal Protocol. In order to maximize overall solvent

recovery, different solvents have been developed over the years.

The first deacidification solution formula used the specially blended gas CFCs 12/113 to disperse the methoxy magnesium methyl carbonate (MMM). This solution was used until 1993. During testing, we had thought that we could obtain better results if the pressure of the chamber used for treatment was lowered. We looked for a liquefied gas that was compatible and could be used under much less pressure in order to give the desired results. The supplier therefore added a percentage of another coolant, which made operations safer for staff while offering acceptable results. However, because of the slower evaporation process, it was more difficult to recover the solvent and to control the release of gas into the atmosphere.

Over the course of 1993, a feasibility study was undertaken on the replacement of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which were scheduled to be banned in January 1996¹. The latter were replaced by hydrochloro-fluorocarbons (HCFCs)², the only other product successfully mixed by the manufacturer at the time. This change slightly increased the quantity of recovered solvent. With all the experience acquired over the course of the previous 12 years, followed by the modifications made to the adjustment of electrical controls, we were able to overcome the difficulties caused by the pressure and we gradually began to increase our solvent recovery rate.

In December 1995, it was necessary to purify the system of any trace CFCs and to start using only the HCFC formula. Use of the HCFC formula resulted in improved recovery. However, we could not recover major quantities of solvent without prolonging the time of each treatment cycle, resulting in a decrease in the number of cycles from five to four per day. And in 1996-1997, all system



components were examined for leaks, no matter how minor. By studying all possibilities, we once again prolonged the recovery stage of the solvent, which consequently reduced the number of cycles to three per day.

We could have used the HCFC formula until the year 2000, when Ontario planned to ban its use. The supplier of the solution suggested testing a chemical formula using hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)³. Tests proved to be fruitful and even beneficial. In fact, inks affected by the previous solutions remained stable in the new solution, which was named the "Good News Formula." Materials such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC) bindings, mimeograph pamphlets and, of course, alkaline paper, make up the list of materials presently excluded from treatment. It is believed that system modifications will eliminate these exclusions.

Table 2

Year*	Percentage of solvent recovered**
1991	30.3
1992	32.3
1993	36.6
1994	40
1995	53.5
1996	71.7
1997	88.1
1998	93.5

* For reasons of consistency, this data is established according to the calendar year.

** This solvent is then sent for recycling.

Depending on the permeability of the paper treated in a given period, statistics from the last six months



indicate that over 93 percent of solvents could be recovered.

In the fall of 1998, Environment Canada's Federal Programs Division recommended that we attempt to recover the missing approximate 6.5 percent. We hired specialists from Toronto for this task, specialists who use an absorbent material that only retains coolant molecules. Tests began on February 1, 1999, but the results were inconclusive. The final report on these tests will determine if the quantity of recovered coolant using this method justifies the installation of a system and the purchase of a desorption service.

CONCLUSION

The results obtained are very encouraging from both the productivity and recovery of solvents perspectives. The current system is a prototype that was installed in 1979 and with which we have stood up to daunting challenges. It is certain that by working at the maximum rate with all of the necessary resources, we could obtain a

greater efficiency of mass conservation of printed publications for future generations. We can now rely on a method that enables us to prolong, in a reliable way, the life of our book collections while respecting environmental concerns. The experience acquired with the current system and modern technology guarantee very promising results.

The expansion of this prototype could become our next challenge, since this prototype will not be able to treat the many documents on its own, documents which, without deacidification, are at risk of becoming brittle in the next 20 to 25 years.

Notes

¹The CFCs ban was enacted for January 1, 1996 by the Montreal Protocol.

²The ozone-depleting potential (ODP) of the CFC formula (R-12 and TF-113) is 1.0 and 0.8, respectively, and that of the formula containing only HCFCs (R-22) is 0.055. These factors are taken from the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, "Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations"*, Schedule I.

³ HFCs have no effect on the ozone layer, but they may contribute to global warming. ♦

SERVICES

NEW RELEASE

Canadiana CD-ROM Grows in 1999

by Barrie Burns,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

A new edition of Canadiana: The National Bibliography on CD-ROM will be released in the summer of 1999. Canadiana CD-ROM 1998 was issued in June 1998. The first release covered more than 1.25 million records, including bibliographic records for Canadiana that appeared in the Library's national bibliography from 1973 to the end of 1997, some 6500 records for maps, atlases and globes from the Carto-Canadiana file of the National Archives, and name authority records created by the National Library and the National Archives. The June 1999 issue, the first of two semi-annual issues planned for 1999, includes the 1.25 million records that were in the 1998 edition plus more than 450 000 bibliographic and name authority records for Canadiana from AMICUS.



The added records include

- 80 000 bibliographic and name authority records from the current national bibliography that were added or modified by the National Library during 1998, as well as records for *Carto-Canadiana* added or modified by the National Archives;
 - more than 200 000 bibliographic records for items listed in the national bibliography prior to the advent of automation in the Library in 1973, most of them entered during major retrospective shelflist conversions in the 1990s;
 - 43 000 bibliographic records for other Canadiana catalogued by the National Library to 1998 but not listed in the national bibliography because the items pre-dated 1950, the cut-off date for the current national bibliography;
 - 80 000 bibliographic records for pre-1901 Canadiana from the *National Library's Retrospective National Bibliography*;
 - 77 000 bibliographic records for *Early Canadiana*, microform editions of pre-1920 Canadiana filmed and published up to the end of 1998 by the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM).
- All of the bibliographic and authority records in the new issue, including the records that also appeared in the first release, are in the new harmonized MARC 21 format jointly developed by the Library of Congress and the National Library of Canada. The MARC Help text for bibliographic records is based on the MARC 21 format.

Canadiana CD-ROM 1999 has been redesigned so that each issue now

comprises two CD-ROM discs. This is necessary because the records being added in 1999, when combined with the records of the previous issue, will exceed the capacity of a single disc. Future releases are expected to further expand the storage requirements.

In *Canadiana* CD-ROM 1999 all authority records and the text of the MARC bibliographic format appear on both discs. The bibliographic records are distributed as follows:

Disc 1

- All Canadian official publications (federal, provincial, other)
- All serials
- All music and sound recordings
- NLC pre-1901 Retrospective National Bibliography
- All *Early Canadiana* records from CIHM
- All *Carto-Canadiana*
- Other Canadiana pre-dating 1970

Disc 2

- Other Canadiana published after 1969 (excluding the items on Disc 1)

Canadiana CD-ROM 1999 offers expanded coverage of published Canadiana, now including all of the bibliographic records created by the National Library for the current and retrospective national bibliographies since their inception, and records for other Canadiana catalogued for its collections since the 1950s. Libraries and individual researchers will find in the new *Canadiana* CD-ROM an enriched bibliographic source for identifying current and retrospective Canadiana, strengthened by the contributions of records from the National Archives and CIHM. The speedy and flexible access made possible by CD-ROM technology supports both traditional searching by known attributes such as author, title and subject, and custom searching by



the wide range of other data elements found in the MARC 21 records.

Planning for future releases of the product includes possible further expansion in coverage by adding other bibliographic records for Canadiana from the AMICUS database. The first issue of *Canadiana* CD-ROM 1999 will appear in the summer of 1999. The second issue for 1999, which will add records created during 1999, is expected to be produced early in 2000.

For a demonstration of *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* on CD-ROM, visit the NLC Web site at <www.nlc-bnc.ca/canadiana> or, to receive a demo diskette, contact

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
E-mail: distribution@nlc-bnc.ca

Ordering information

Canadiana: The National Bibliography on CD-ROM
SN2-2/1999-1-MRC
Cost: \$129.95 (\$139.05 with 7% GST)

Order from

Canadian Government
Publishing—PWGSC
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0S9
Telephone: (819) 956-4800 or
1-800-635-7943
Fax: (819) 994-1498 or
1-800-565-7757
Web site:
<www.publications.pwgsc.gc.ca> ◆

MARA Loading: A Record Year

by Emilie Lowenberg,
Chief, Union Catalogue Division

During the month of March 1999, the National Library processed over 1.1 million machine-readable accession reports to the national union catalogue, the highest number of reports processed in a single month since the start of MARA reporting in 1983. Between April 1998 and March 1999, almost 10 million MARA records were processed, including about 5 million records purchased from A-G Canada (see "Expanding the AMICUS Union Catalogue" by Jean-Eudes Bériault). The loading of "regular" MARA files resulted in the addition of 1.2 million new records and more than 4 million new holdings to the database. In total, the union catalogue database on AMICUS now

contains well over 11 million records with more than 28 million holdings attached.

For more information, please contact

Emilie Lowenberg
Chief, Union Catalogue Division
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 997-7990
Fax: (819) 953-0291
TTY: (613) 992-6969
E-mail:
emilie.lowenberg@nlc-bnc.ca

Did You Know...

- that *The Role of the National Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada*, the report submitted to the Honourable Sheila Copps by Dr. John English, is now available on the National Library Web site at <www.nlc-bnc.ca> under "What's New"?
- that several copies of *Symbols and Interlibrary Loan Policies in Canada* 1998 are still available for sale from Canadian Government Publishing? The next edition will not be available until the year 2000. This publication provides information on interlibrary loan policies and services for all Canadian libraries

currently listed in the National Library of Canada's automated interlibrary loan system.

ISBN 0-660-17488-X
Cat. no. SN13-2/2-1998E-IN
Price: \$129.70 (Canada)
\$129.70 US (elsewhere)

Publication available from

Canadian Government Publishing –
PWGSC
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0S9
Telephone: (819) 956-4800 or
1-800-635-7943
Fax: (819) 994-1498 or
1-800-565-7757
Web site:
<www.publications.pwgsc.gc.ca>

Expanding the AMICUS Union Catalogue

by Jean-Eudes Bériault,
Senior Systems Coordinator,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

As of July 1999, less than 16 months since the beginning of loading, close to seven out of the eight million records representing the holdings of 46 Canadian libraries have been loaded into AMICUS. Loading these files, purchased from A-G Canada, into AMICUS was a major endeavor that will be completed in record time.

This acquisition was consistent with the Library's key role in facilitating resource sharing among Canadian libraries. The file selection was based on established criteria for inclusion in the national union catalogue; the files being chosen

to complement the approximately 500 library files currently represented in the AMICUS database. The new acquisitions cover academic (e.g., University of Toronto, Université de Montréal), public (e.g., Ottawa Public

Library, Saskatoon Public Library, Halifax Regional Library), government (e.g., Ministry of Finance of Ontario, Revenue Canada), and special libraries (e.g., Alberta Justice, Law Society Libraries, Justice Institute of British Columbia) from all regions of Canada. For more information about the loading of these files, please contact

Jean-Eudes Bériault
Senior Systems Coordinator
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 994-6889
Fax: (819) 953-0291
E-mail:
jean-eudes.beriault@nlc-bnc.ca ◆

Thank You from Access AMICUS!

The new Access AMICUS on the Web and Access AMICUS via Z39.50 services were developed with the help of the institutions below. Their comments helped refine the design and implementation of these new services. We are most grateful for their help!

Access AMICUS on the Web

Algonquin College, Ottawa, Ontario
Calgary Public Library
Canada Institute for Scientific and
Technical Information
Canadian Radio-Television and
Telecommunications Commission
Carleton University
Collège de Maisonneuve, Montreal,
Quebec
Concordia University
École polytechnique de Montréal
Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Bedford
Institute of Oceanography Library
Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital Library,
Windsor, Ontario

Human Resources Development
Canada Library
Industry Canada Library
Laurentian University, J.N. Desmarais
Library
Library of Parliament
Manitoba Energy and Mines
Memorial University,
Queen Elizabeth II Library
Ministère de la santé et des services
sociaux, Service de la
documentation
Newfoundland Provincial Resource
Library
Ottawa Public Library
Public Library Services, Yukon
Department of Education

Reginald J.P. Dawson Library, Ville
Mont-Royal, Que.
Royal Roads University, Victoria, B.C.
RPL Ltée, Bibliothèque, Laval, Quebec
Southern Ontario Library Service
University of Alberta, Cameron Library
University of Victoria, Priestly Law
Library
Access AMICUS via Z39.50

A-G Canada Limited
Canada Institute for Scientific and
Technical Information
École polytechnique de Montréal
Library of Congress
Memorial University,
Queen Elizabeth II Library
New Brunswick Department of
Education
Sea Change Corporation
Simon Fraser University
Université Laval
University of Alberta, Cameron Library
University of Saskatchewan
University of Waterloo ◆



Scientific Libraries Reporting to the National Union Catalogue

by Emilie Lowenberg,
Chief, Union Catalogue Division

BACKGROUND

In February 1997, the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) advised the Canadian libraries whose serial holdings were listed in ULSSCL (Union List of Scientific Serials in Canadian Libraries) that CISTI would withdraw, as of April 1, 1997, from union list activity. CISTI

have reported between April 1997 and the end of March 1999. Eighty-eight of the CISTI libraries currently report via MARA (machine-readable accessions) and the other 38 use the Update Locations function available through Access AMICUS. These 126 reporting libraries include 53 scientific libraries that had not previously reported to NLC. The total of scientific libraries

While the original initiative was to accommodate scientific serials, NLC has added monograph holdings from 12 scientific libraries...

staff, and later National Library of Canada (NLC) staff, contacted all these libraries to make arrangements for them to begin reporting their scientific serial holdings to NLC. At the time, about one-third of these libraries already had arrangements for reporting their other holdings to the NLC's National Union Catalogue (see *National Library News*, March/April 1998).

SCIENTIFIC SERIALS REPORTING TO NLC: CURRENT STATUS

Over the past two years, NLC staff have been working to accommodate the former CISTI reporting libraries. Of 317 libraries listed in ULSSCL at the end of March 1997, 126 or 40 percent

reporting serial holdings to NLC is 163, including 39 libraries that had not reported to CISTI. During the last two years, 412 Canadian libraries reported serials in all disciplines.

The status of the remaining 60 percent of the former CISTI reporting libraries is as follows. Fifty-eight are expected to report via MARA. NLC staff are following up with another 24 libraries that we anticipate will use Access AMICUS to maintain their serial holdings. Fifty-four libraries have, for various reasons, not yet decided whether to report or not. Twenty-nine libraries have definitely decided not to report. Another 26 libraries are obsolete or have closed; and their holdings have therefore been removed from AMICUS.

SCIENTIFIC MONOGRAPHS REPORTING TO NLC

While the original initiative was to accommodate scientific serials, NLC has added monograph holdings from 12 scientific libraries including Ryerson Polytechnic and the National Aviation Museum, and via A-G Canada, 10 retrospective files (University of Toronto, Université de Montréal, University of Manitoba and its medical library, Université de Sherbrooke and its science library, the Osler Library at McGill, the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Museum of Science and Technology, and the Canadian Space Agency).

NLC will continue its outreach into the scientific library community, i.e., to follow up with lapsed reporters and those that have not yet switched their reporting to NLC. The National Library remains committed to maintaining effective support for resource-sharing activities in Canada and invites Canadian libraries to actively participate.

For more information, please contact

Emilie Lowenberg
Chief, Union Catalogue Division
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 997-7990
Fax: (819) 953-0291
TTY: (613) 992-6969
E-mail:
emilie.lowenberg@nlc-bnc.ca ◆



SAVOIR FAIRE

Canadian Embassies Throughout the World

by Marie-Josée Tolszczuk,
Research and Information Services

The National Library is always proud to collaborate on the most daring projects. Once you find out the subject of the doctoral thesis of Ms. Marie-Josée Therrien, you won't find it difficult to imagine the number of hours spent going through different titles of Canadian periodicals and newspapers of the National Library in order to trace government and political news from the 1920s to the 1990s.

Since the subject of her doctoral thesis obviously transcended Canada's boundaries, you will also see why the Library's reference staff had to locate

first begins right around the 1920s and continues until just before the 1950s. Following this comes the post-war period that extends to the 1970s.

As a summary, diplomacy, politics, the climate of the host countries, culture and the architects themselves are all involved in colouring the architecture of our embassies.

numerous works required by the researcher. We were happy to be able to share the results of her work on Canadian embassies throughout the world during a SAVOIR FAIRE seminar last February.

If ever there was one, the architecture of Canadian embassies is a fascinating subject indeed. In the company of our speaker, we got an amazing overview of the architecture, and sometimes of the history, of these buildings. Ms. Therrien presented slides of some 20 buildings, from the embassy in Kyoto to those in Canberra, New Delhi, Warsaw and Bonn. She finished with the most recently constructed embassies, in Mexico City and Washington.

Firstly, we learned that we can distinguish three major periods in the construction, purchase or rental of the buildings of Canadian embassies. The

Finally, the last stage takes shape after the 1970s under Pierre Elliott Trudeau's government and ends at the beginning of the 1990s. In conclusion, we saw how Ms. Therrien foresees the future of Canadian embassies at the turn of the millennium. As a summary, diplomacy, politics, the climate of the host countries, culture and the architects themselves are all involved in colouring the architecture of our embassies.

The 1920s introduced Canada to foreign diplomacy. Embassies were perceived as prestigious dwellings used particularly for receptions, political discussions and official visits. During the 1950s, the post-war and cold war periods, security, office and state secrets dictated the architecture of our embassies. Security was paramount, and the more austere embassies were under the joint responsibility of the

Department of Public Works and the External Affairs Department up until the 1960s. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as it is now known, gradually assumed full control over the construction of embassies, for which it had a new vision: to offer the Canadian culture a window on the world. Our culture would be greeted by the people who were our hosts; the architects reached a maturity and control over their art, which reveals itself in all the details of the new embassies, both at the level of interior design and of exterior architecture. The embassy in Mexico City, under the inspiration of architect Ernest Gaboury, is the most striking example of this vision.

Ms. Therrien highlighted the importance of the atriums, the open spaces which create links with the surrounding nature as well as with the climate in the host country. How can we not succumb to the charm of the embassy in New Delhi, with its sparkling swimming pools, or not be moved by the representation of the Canadian landscape in the Japanese garden at the Tokyo embassy? And what a spectacular way for Canada to take its place in the heart of Washington—with its new embassy which sparked so much controversy.

The atriums, gardens, reception halls and libraries in our modern embassies are new means of getting to know and appreciate Canadian culture. The heart of the country beats throughout these buildings; its history and the history of humanity exude from the walls marked by the different eras during which the Canadian embassies were built.

From Vincent Massey to Pierre Elliott Trudeau, from Antoine Monette to Arthur Charles Erickson, as ambassadors, politicians or architects, they all had one vision in common: to reunite, in one building, the essence of

the Canadian people in the context of the host countries.

What about the future of Canadian embassies? We will need to consolidate our acquired knowledge and develop partnerships with countries worldwide, thus ensuring our presence

throughout the world. Ms. Therrien concluded the seminar by asserting that the technological development era will certainly influence the role and the presence of Canada's embassies throughout the world.

(Marie-Josée Therrien is responsible for the Web site project on history at the National Film Board. Her doctoral thesis is entitled *Au-delà des frontières: L'architecture des ambassades canadiennes, 1930-1990.*) ◆

SAVOIR FAIRE

Grosse-Île and Irish Emigration to Canada

Last March 16, as part of the series of SAVOIR FAIRE seminars, a large and enthusiastic audience filled the largest of the meeting halls at the National Library of Canada. The general public, historians and genealogists gathered around André Charbonneau, a Parks Canada historian who is familiar with the documentary wealth of the National Library of Canada and of the National Archives of Canada. Having come from Quebec City for this occasion, Mr. Charbonneau delivered a spirited presentation on one of his passions: the National Historic Site of Grosse-Île and the Irish Memorial.

Grosse-Île is firmly anchored in the middle of the St. Lawrence River, approximately 50 kilometres below Quebec City. It is one of the 21 islands which make up the archipelago of Île-aux-Grues, between Île d'Orléans and Île-aux-Coudres. It stretches approximately two kilometres in length and 800 metres in width. The island draws its importance from the role it played from 1832 to 1937, as a quarantine station of the Port of Quebec, the longstanding main point of arrival for those immigrating to Canada. May we be reminded, and not without emotion, of the importance of immigration to Canada from the beginning of the 19th century until the First World War. Grosse-Île also commemorates the tragic events endured by Irish immigrants, primarily during the typhus epidemic of 1847.

The Irish portion of Grosse-Île's history is heartbreaking. In 1847, the worst year of the Great Famine, over 5000 immigrants, the majority of them of Irish origin, succumbed to typhus and were laid to rest on Grosse-Île. One speaks of the tragedy of Grosse-Île. That year, close to 100 000 emigrants left British and Irish ports and headed for the Port of Quebec. Only 90 000 made it to the Port of Quebec (that's close to 10 000 deaths over the course of the ferry crossing and during quarantine). Six out of seven emigrants were of Irish origin. Two weeks after the opening of the navigation season, from May 14 to 19, 1847, the first four ships disembarked 285 sick passengers and 1200 healthy ones, thereby exceeding the accommodation capacity of Grosse-Île! This marked the beginning of an incredible and sinister procession...

During the summer months, over 30 boats remained on standby in front of the quarantine station; an average of 1500 patients were treated there daily and some 12 000 passengers were constantly held in quarantine.

Stirring and highly charged with history, the island has a wide variety of cultural resources: close to 30 heritage buildings, over 1000 archaeological remains, approximately 5000 ethnological collection pieces, three cemeteries and several commemorative monuments. In addition, this National Historic Site is witness to the works of Dr. Frederick Montizambert in the area of preventive medicine and public health in Canada.

With an admirable knowledge on the subject and supported by an arsenal of electronic transparencies, André Charbonneau easily achieved his goal: to make people aware of the formidable testimonial wealth of Grosse-Île, this site where life and death intermingled in Canadian history. Conscious of the uncommon attractive force of the island, he warmly welcomed his audience to visit this National Historic Site or... to go back to it...!

For further information on the National Historic Site of Grosse-Île and the Irish Memorial, please call the toll-free number 1 (800) 463-6769 or visit the Parks Canada Web site at the following address:

<parcsCanada.risq.qc.ca/grosse_ile/index.html>. ◆