

NLA News

Fall 2007

Welcome Message

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Welcome to the *Nunavut Library Association News*! Before I dive into my opening blurb, I would like to extend a big thank-you to Leigh Ann Cumming: thank you! Not only has she collected, edited, and assembled the following, she also made the suggestion that we create the newsletter in the first place.

As this is our first issue, it is hard to predict exactly what shape this newsletter will take and what impact it will have, but my hope is that it will contribute to a sense of community. We are a diverse group, working in different library settings, with varying amounts of experience in libraries, but we have the unique and shared experience of being library workers in Nunavut. So as you read through this newsletter, please keep in mind that it was written by *your* colleagues. You may have contributions to make to others in this community, or you may seek support from this community, or both. The best way to promote these exchanges of support is to get to know the community. So if something in this newsletter catches your eye, I invite you to follow up on it. Send a note to the author, or write a similar piece from your point of view, or join in on our NLA email list, and start an email dialogue about it. You are not alone in your work – there is a pool of experienced and helpful library workers in your community, this community.

Rae-Lynne Aramburo
Nunavut Arctic College - Iqaluit

The Partnership Explained

The name does not give much away. Indeed, as one Nunavut librarian once commented, for her, “the Partnership” conjured up images of a powerful, secretive, and even potentially sinister society. Since you yourself are a member of the Partnership (yes you!), I figured you might like to know what it really is all about (and you’ll be happy to know it’s not sinister after all). The Partnership is an association made up of all of the provincial and territorial library associations in Canada, with the purpose of collaborating on initiatives that will support and strengthen the individual associations. So, as a member of the Nunavut Library Association, you are also a member of this collective association.

At present, the Partnership has undertaken four main initiatives, as follows:

1) Education Institute - The Education Institute offers professional development opportunities in the form of distance courses. Courses range from 1 hour teleconferences, to web-based workshops, to multi-week long distance courses. The courses also range widely in subject matter, covering topics that may appeal to library workers in all types of libraries and positions, and even to the public at large in some cases. As members, we receive the membership rate for registration. We are also encouraged to develop and deliver sessions ourselves. You have likely received the fall issue of the course catalogue through the mail at your library. If not, let me know and I’ll make sure you get one. You can also check out the courses on offer at: <http://www.thepartnership.ca>

2) Partnership: the Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research - This is a peer-reviewed, e-journal published twice a year. If you haven’t read it yet, take a look at the most recent issue: <http://journal.lib.uoguelph.ca/index.php/perj/issue/current>

3) National Jobsite - This is a new website for posting and searching for library jobs across the country. See <http://www.libraryjobs.ca>. There is a fee for posting jobs, and when an organization posts a position, a percentage of the revenue from the posting goes back to the provincial/territorial association where the post originated.

4) Career Centre – This is the most recent Partnership project, and is still under development. It is a website that will link to the jobsite, and also contain career information for library & information workers (e.g. tips on finding and getting jobs, funding opportunities, continuing education opportunities, etc.)

Rae-Lynne Aramburo

Research in Multilingual and Multiscript Catalogue Service

Are you interested in participating in a research project?

The researcher, Carol Rigby, has been working in Nunavut libraries of one type or another since 1987. She started at Iqaluit Centennial Library back then, doing a summer reading program, spent two years working in the Attagoyuk School Library in Pangnirtung from 1990-1992, and was the Library Technician for Baffin Regional Library, as part of NWT Library Services, from 1992-1997. After completing her Library Technician diploma at Algonquin College in 1999, she worked for Nunavut Public Library Services as Library Technician, then Head of Technical Services, including an 18-month stint as Acting Manager for NPLS, from 1999-2004. Since then, she has been working as an independent cataloguer in Iqaluit, and has been heavily involved in developing the protocols currently being used to incorporate Inuktitut syllabics into the Virtua catalogue system for the Nunavut Legislative Library. Several hundred records in the Legislative Library catalogue now contain text in Inuktitut syllabics.

Now Carol would be interested in hearing your views on the subject of trying to incorporate Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun into patron service tools such as library catalogues. "I am researching the issues arising from implementing a multilingual and multiscript catalogue for library patron service," she says. "This research will be described in my thesis to be submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the MSc in Information and Library Studies at the Aberdeen Business School of the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland. I am looking at everything from the technical obstacles in incorporating alternate scripts such as syllabics, to the political and linguistic issues of trying to set up Inuktitut vocabulary for cataloguing, subject thesauri, etc. And of course there are always the issues of finding the will and the funding to convert or create catalogues that will include more than just English records."

She has already made arrangements to interview most of the staff working on the major catalogue systems in Nunavut. However, she would also be interested in hearing from anyone who has either tried to use the Nunavut joint library catalogue online, with or without syllabic content, or who has other experiences in trying to provide access to library contents for Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun speakers.

If you would be interested in taking her OPAC user's questionnaire (for the existing joint catalogue), or simply in making some general comments on these issues as you have encountered them, please contact Carol at cerigby@xplornet.com. Any information you provide will be kept in strictest confidentiality, with no interviewees or commenters identified by name in the research.

She thanks you for your interest in her project.

Library Profile: The Rebecca P. Idlout Library

The Rebecca P. Idlout library is located in the community of Mittimatalik, or Pond Inlet. The library first opened its doors in November of 1988 and it was named after a local resident who had recently passed away, Rebecca P. Idlout. This woman was a graduate of the Nunavut teacher education programme and she was very involved in the education of Nunavut's youth. In 1996 the library moved from the school to its current location, a new building that it shares with the Nattinnak visitors centre and the Archives office. The building is located on the waterfront with a spectacular view of Eclipse Sound and Bylot Island.

The library has a large collection of books and magazines for both adults and children. There is also a substantial Northern collection and a reference collection that is maintained the Archives. The Rebecca P. Idlout library is lucky to have a very active library board which helps to raise money that is used for the purchase of new library resources. The library board also maintains an archive which records and preserves photograph collections and other important documents. In addition to these items, the Archive contains a substantial Northern collection and a reference collection. The library patrons have access to all of these items, as well as a large collection of non-fiction and fiction books for adults and children, magazines, computers and the Internet.

There are several programmes that are available to patrons throughout the year. In the summer the TD Summer Reading Programme is a big hit with children, Scrabble tournaments are always fun for adults and public readings from authors are well attended. During the winter the library is open Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 – 4:30PM and also from 7:00 – 9:00PM Wednesday nights for adults.

Ainsley
Pond Inlet

Pictures from Pond



Liam O'Donnell during Canadian Children's Book Week



Inuktitut Storytime during TD Reading Club



View of the library



Posing for pictures

Family News and Events

In this issue, wedding bells have sounded all across the territory with three couples tying the knot over the past several months.

Leigh Ann Cumming (Library Assistant, Nunavut Arctic College, Cambridge Bay) and Keith Morrison were wed in their hometown of Bathurst, NB on December 30, 2006.



Katharine Tagak (Library Technician at Nunavut Arctic College, Iqaluit) and Jason “Chip” Devries were married on April 14, 2007 in Iqaluit.



Rae-Lynne Patterson (Librarian, Nunavut Arctic College, Iqaluit) and Chad Aramburo were married on July 28, 2007 on Vancouver Island.



Do you have happy news to share from your family? Send it in for our next newsletter to leighcumming@hotmail.com

Up and Coming

December

International Children's Day of Broadcasting	9
International Human Rights Day	10
Christmas	25
Boxing Day	26
New Year's Eve	31



January

New Year's Day	1
Sir John A. Macdonald Day	11

Need a laugh?
Check out "Unshelved"
www.unshevled.com

February

National Flag Day of Canada	15
Heritage Day	19

March

World Poetry Day	21
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