

NLA News

Fall 2009

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Welcome Message

Welcome to the 3rd issue of the Nunavut Library Association News! I thought I would take a stab at writing the welcome message to everyone.

It's amazing that another year has come and gone so quickly! As I write this column, winter has arrived here in Cambridge Bay in full force. The snow is here. The ocean is frozen, folks are wearing parkas, and snowmobiles are once more growing in numbers on our snow-packed streets.

It's been a year of change with familiar faces leaving us to pursue other endeavours, and new additions to our members' families. We've shared in the achievements and recognition of colleagues, new technology finding its way into our libraries, and said goodbye to old friends (AACR2). We've made our presence known to the world through our new website, and the hard work of everyone who made it a reality. Our libraries have celebrated anniversaries, and continue to offer wonderful programs to all Nunavummiut.

This issue of the NLA is jam-packed with some great articles and photos. I'm happy to see all these fabulous works cross my virtual desk, and be able to share them with everyone.

Happy Reading!

Leigh Ann Cumming, Editor
Nunavut Arctic College, Cambridge Bay

CASLIS Award for Special Librarianship in Canada

Earlier this year, Yvonne Earle, received the Canadian Association for Special Libraries and Information Services Award for Special Librarianship in Canada. She was nominated by three NLA colleagues, Diane Corbeil, Carol Rigby and Rae-Lynne Aramburo. Below are excerpts from the nomination letter that they submitted.

“Ms. Earle is a long-standing member of CLA (for more than 20 years: originally with CAPL, now CASLIS) and a member of the Association of Parliamentary Librarians in Canada (APLIC). We wish to recognize not only her work in special libraries over the past 10 years, but also the seminal role she has played since the late 1980s in the development of all library staff in the area that now comprises Nunavut. Virtually everyone who works in a library in Nunavut has encountered her at some point or another, whether in on-the-job training, collaborating on setting library standards in Nunavut, or through her ongoing efforts to communicate the activities of CLA and the Nunavut Library Association. She has created very large footprints in the snow for the rest of us Nunavut librarians and library staff to follow.

“She has been at the forefront, indeed the moving force behind, the efforts of several Nunavut library systems to incorporate Inuktitut syllabics into the online library catalogue, working with language specialists on developing a consistent Inuktitut vocabulary for bibliographic description and with cataloguing staff and other library systems on developing standard protocols for including Inuktitut in library bibliographic records.

“...Ms. Earle has demonstrated leadership and innovation in advancing special librarianship in Canada by advocating free and open access to information for all residents of Nunavut, regardless of what language they speak, what kind of library they use, and which remote hamlet they are located in. Her primary focus is of course on the patrons she serves in the Legislative Library, but her interests are far wider-ranging and her view is always on the bigger picture. In a territory with a small population, wide geographic dispersion and few library resources, Ms. Earle has always been a voice for promoting literacy in all of Nunavut’s languages and for a sharing of resources and expertise among all our libraries, while maintaining the highest standards of librarianship and service. There are now several librarians in Nunavut with professional qualifications, but Ms. Earle has been our pathbreaker and an excellent example for the rest of us to live up to in our professional lives.”

Our heartfelt ‘congratulations’ to you, Yvonne from all your library colleagues in Nunavut!

Pond Inlet

The article below is a version of the presentation that Philippa Ootoowak gave at the “20 years of Reading” Celebration held at the Rebecca P. Idlout Library in Pond Inlet in November 2008. Thanks to Philippa for submitting this wonderful piece of Nunavut library history!

“20 Years of Reading!”

A Celebration of the Rebecca P. Idlout Library

Today, the people of Pond Inlet are proud to celebrate 20 years of using and supporting their community library! On this occasion we are celebrating the past, and looking forward to the future, as reading and the love of learning is important to all of us from the very young to the young at heart.

A short history.....

The Rebecca P. Idlout Library, first opened its doors to the community on November 17, 1988 with the visit of children’s book author Michael Kusugak. The library was named after Rebecca Killiktee Idlout, a teacher who, before her untimely death, had co-authored a number of books in Inuktitut while attending the Eastern Arctic Teacher Education Program. She had also enjoyed working with elders to record their stories for the benefit of future generations of school children. Rebecca died tragically at the age of 30 years but her strong desire to have children learn to read and understand their culture, lives on today through an active library. Jemima Tongak was the first “Local Librarian” and John Henderson and I were two of the original board members who still reside in Pond Inlet today. The “old library” was housed in one room of the school “portable classroom” just to the side of the present building. Originally, the “portable” building was positioned beside Ulaajuk School before the extension was added there and some will remember hauling boxes of books from one place to the other as the library moved twice in its lifetime! In 1996 the new Nattinnak Centre was completed and

the library was the first to move into the specially designed library area, opening officially on July 4, 1996 with a ribbon cutting by the Elder Leah Merkosak. Technology has now brought the library from books and audio-cassettes of the 1980's, through Beta and VHS video, to CD and DVDs – from reading the hard copy book to reading via the Internet through high-speed connection in the 2000's. Information that was sort from reference books in the early days is now more commonly found on the computer workstations that are an integral part of today's library. We are grateful to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for their generosity in setting up the original workstations in the 1990s.

The organization....

As can be seen from the photographs displayed around the library, a generation of Pond Inlet's children have grown up attending the "pre-school story hour," school class programs and other special events such as authors/illustrator visits. Adult students from Arctic College have studied many courses from Basic Reading to Early Childhood Education with support from the library. So many people have been involved with the organization over the years and have given their volunteer time to "make things happen". The Library and Librarian position, originally funded by the GNWT Dept. of Education, now comes under the GN Dept. of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth through a Contribution Agreement with the Hamlet of Pond Inlet. The Library Board, renamed the Pond Inlet Library and Archives Society in 2008, was the volunteer group that began the process of lobbying for a community library and later pressured the Government of NWT to have its own space preferably in a new building. After many challenges the result was the creation the Nattinnak Centre a specially designed shared facility with a Visitor Centre. Over the year the Library Board has fundraised to support many programs and activities including golf tournaments, literacy programs such as "Read for 15", special guest presentations, and regular pre-school and summer reading programs for children and parents. The purchase of new books to augment those

already provided by Nunavut Public Library Services has been another priority as has the preservation of historical photographs of the local region and other northern materials. In October 2005 the Pond Inlet Archives was opened in order to provide a secure place to house these more valuable items while still making them accessible to the public and researchers. The Northern Book Collection and the photo history collection continue draw much attention to the Library and Archives.

The people...

There are so many people to be thanked and remembered over the past twenty years but a few must be mentioned by name. Firstly Yvonne Earle, who in 1988 as Regional Librarian for the Government of NWT, provided so much encouragement and support from the beginning. Still today as Librarian of the Legislative Assembly for Nunavut, her interest in our library continues and her knowledge as a resource person is invaluable. The late Merle Tippet was the teacher who first motivated everyone locally into forming a Library Board in early 1988 and continued to work tirelessly during her years in Pond Inlet to make the library a special place for children. The late Jobie Nutarak as Chairperson of the District Education Council welcomed the idea of a community Library and with Council approval agreed to provide space at the school for the first 8 years. The late Nellie Saunders who acted on so many occasions as the co-ordinator and interpreter for elders programs encouraging them to present their ideas and stories.

Teachers from the early years who gave so much of their free time, Jack VanGeest, Sandi Purdell-Lewis and Richard Matthews, Carl Jorgenson, Gail Gaskin and Shawn Sands, Adele Kory and Gordon Andrus, Elijah and Naomi Tigullaraq. All our local author/teachers Oopah Arnakallak, Joanna Nutarak, Carmen Kyak, Esther Arnakallak to name a few. The people who helped with the many children's programs included Asenath Idlout, Vera Paniloo, Damarise Innualuk, Ina Killiktee, Lizzie and Rosie Simonie, Leah Sheatee Tagak, Karen Nutarak, and Ezra Kasarnak.

Long time chairpersons of the Library Board included Roger Innualuk, Marian Ferguson, Samantha McDermott and Grigor Hope. Those who kept the accounting straight for us Line Gauthier and Michael DeMaio and so many more through the years. Without their perseverance and the commitment of **all** Library Board/Society members from the beginning this community library would not have been able to continue through to this day.

Growth and Development...

More recently, being housed with an active Visitor Centre and with the increase in cruise ship visits, the Library has now become known world wide. Many visitors have been very generous with donations of money, books and magazine subscriptions as their way of helping the community benefit from the latest in books and information. Over the years we have been proud to receive many special guests including Prime Ministers Pierre Elliot Trudeau and Paul Martin, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and her husband John Ralston Saul, the Princess of Thailand, singer song-writer Susan Aglukark (who cut the ribbon on our first computer in 1992), writers Peter Irniq and Louis Komookak, and film celebrities Brooke Shields, John Houston, Natar Ungalaaq and Pakak Inukshuk. Others who have been part of our special events included artists Robert Bateman, Doris McCarthy, photographers John and Janet Foster, Bryan and Cherry Alexander, and many authors including Margaret Atwood, Shelagh Grant, Ken McGoogan and our local authors Elisapie Ootova and the late Father Guy Mary-Rousselière . The children (and more than a few adults!) have been entertained by many author/illustrators including Camilla Gryski, Barbara Reid, Kathy Stinson and Werner Zimmermann. We have welcomed back a number of past residents of the community who brought so many memories and photographs for us all to enjoy.

A very big thank you to all of those people for being a part of the life of the library by giving in all their different ways.

In closing....

I would like to re-read excerpts from the letter sent to our library on opening in 1988 from the John Ayaruaq Library Board of Rankin Inlet....

“ Congratulations to the people of Pond Inlet on the opening of your new Public Library. Like many other things in the Arctic, Northern Libraries grow slowly, but they are very tenacious.

Of course, respecting, preserving and sharing knowledge is not new to the people of Pond Inlet. Qitlaq journeyed from Pond Inlet to Greenland to share traditional knowledge with the people there. Elders who traveled with him were living libraries – as are elders today. Each word, spoken or written, each picture, moving or still, each piece of knowledge in your library has made a similar journey. Knowledge has come from your houses and gone around the world. Knowledge has come from around the world and entered your houses.

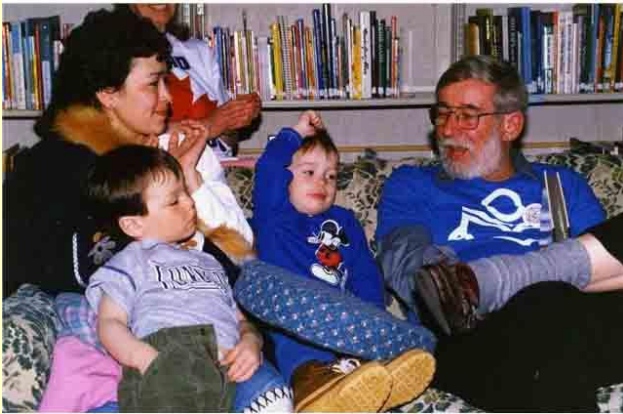
Today, knowledge comes in many shapes.....and it still appears in traditional stories too. Whatever shape, all knowledge is of value. No one culture has a monopoly on knowledge, or on the wisdom to apply knowledge to daily life.Decide carefully, because the knowledge your library contains will shape the minds of those who seek it out. Decide carefully, because the knowledge your library contains will decide the shape of the future.

Congratulations..... We hope the creation of a new library in Pond Inlet will, like the birth of a child, give us all the opportunity to share and exchange knowledge for generations to come.”

Sincerely, Nick Burns, Chairperson, John Ayaruaq Library Board.

This “child” – our library, is now 20 years old – **thank you** to everyone past and present! Let us all make sure we continue to use and support our community library for the benefit of ourselves and the future generations of Pond Inlet.

Photo Gallery of Rebecca P. Idoult Library – Then and Now



Peter Gzowski and friends. Visit for
Literacy Golf Tournament 1991



Entrance to the "new" (1996) library



Gates Foundation Computers in use in
the new library.



Local residents enjoy "old photographs" brought back to the community by Mitch Owens RCMP member, Pond Inlet Detachment 1945-46.



Author John Ralston Saul visiting with local elders.



Summer Reading Program

New Computers for Iqaluit Centennial Library

The Iqaluit Centennial Library is now hosting 15 new computers. Three of these computers are dedicated for use by the youth with children's CD-ROMs that promote learning. The remaining computers have internet access and a variety of software available for use by all members of the public. The provision of free internet and computing services is a very important service to this community and the Friends of the Iqaluit Centennial Library CAP site is the only location in Iqaluit which is available to the general public.

The grand opening for the new computers was held on June 15, 2009.

Catherine Hoyt
Friends of the Iqaluit Centennial Library

What's Up with Our Members?

Rae-Lynne Aramburo – Since the last newsletter, Rae-Lynne and husband, Chad, are the proud parents of Nelson Aramburo.



Susan MacIssac – Sue recently completed her library technician program from Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario. Congratulations, Sue!

Leigh Ann Cumming – She is back at the library at Nunavut Arctic College (NAC) in Cambridge Bay working Tuesday and Thursday evenings for a third year.

On Thursday, October 8, 2009, the NAC Kitikmeot Campus Library held an open house for staff and students. Seven students braved the blustery winds and cold temperatures to participate. A demonstration of the Nunavut Libraries Online catalogue was given, followed by a trivia hunt and some munchies.

During September, Leigh Ann made a trip to Iqaluit and had a wonderful dinner with fellow NLA members, Yvonne Earle, Carolyn Mallory and Katharine Tagak-Devries.

Carol Rigby—At present, in her self-employed state, she is working on the following projects:

1. Renewed contract with the Legislative Library for cataloguing of tabled documents and additions to the current collection, and retrospective Inuktitut cataloguing (changing English records to syllabics)
2. Contract with Education HQ to complete the classification and shelving of their Curriculum Resource Centre, and moving it to the new office of the curriculum development staff at Bldg. 760 shortly (now to December).
3. Cataloguing the northern historical collection maintained by the Pond Inlet Library & Archives Society in the Rebecca P. Idlout Public Library (in October).

NLA on the Web

NLA has joined its association brethren on the web! Earlier this year, members of the Nunavut Library Association, working in conjunction with the National Adult Literacy Database (NALD) developed a brand-new site. It was a group effort but a big “quana/nakurmmiq” goes out to Kim Crocket, Nunavut Literacy Council, and Ken Su, Nunavut Public Library Service. Kim initially reached out to NALD about hosting our site. Ken organised the content and obtained feedback from the association members.

Check us out at <http://www.nunavutlibraryassociation.ca/>

AACR2 to RDA— What will this mean for Nunavut's libraries?

By Carol Rigby, Library and Information Management Consulting Services

Most people who spend any length of time working in library catalogue systems become familiar with the acronym AACR2: The *Anglo American Cataloguing Rules*, 2nd revision, last updated in 2005.

These rules form the basis of most cataloguing done in the English-speaking world, so that library catalogues will contain consistent information and descriptions of items. The use of this international standard also makes it easier to share information between cataloguing systems, as people can be confident that records created to AACR2 standards will have the basic information that any patron or librarian might be looking for about an item. Copy cataloguing, that is, copying records from other library systems or databases, is a phenomenon that has grown with the expansion of these standards. Even non-English-speaking libraries have adopted AACR2 as their standard, with amendments for local language use, because of the extensive consultation and careful thought that has gone into the publication of these rules.

The Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules were originally developed in the days of card catalogues, with their limited points of entry: a main catalogue entry, usually under the author's name, and perhaps added card entries for titles and subjects. The number of added entries was often also limited due to the technicalities of reproducing catalogue cards.

As manual catalogues got transferred to electronic databases and online public access catalogues (OPACs), the rules still provided good guidance for record content. But over the years, as database access points and search engines have improved, and new forms of electronic media have proliferated, AACR2 has been seen to be too inflexible and in need of a radical revision to accommodate cataloguing in the Internet era.

To that end, the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) for development of RDA, which is supported by Library and Archives Canada, the Library of Congress, the British Library, the National Library of Australia, and various national professional library associations, has been developing

a new standard, called Resource Description and Access (RDA). Work began in 2004, and the target date for release of RDA is now November of 2009.

If you would like to read more detail about the developmental process and its timelines, you can check out the JSC's website:

<http://www.rda-jsc.org/rda.html>

At this site you can also download several brochures explaining the general principles and purposes of RDA, in a number of languages.

So, you may wonder, does this change in cataloguing standards actually have any significance for Nunavut libraries?

I would argue that it does, because of a fundamental shift in the basis of the rules. Instead of being developed in a solely Anglophone context, "RDA is being developed in line with a set of objectives and principles which are informed by the *Statement of International Cataloguing Principles* (<http://www.ifla.org/publications/statement-of-international-cataloguing-principles>)", first drafted in 2003 and published in final form by the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) in February 2009. Many of these principles relate specifically to providing multilingual service, or at least assume that some language other than English may be the chief language of the catalogue.

For anyone who has worked in a catalogue that uses or incorporates languages other than English, this is a significant change in emphasis. This new standard gives equal weight to all languages and orthographies. Rather than worrying about how to transcribe or transliterate other languages into an English format, the new rules allow for these languages to be expressed in their own terms. As well, the new structure of the rules facilitates cross-referencing between languages, versions and formats of works: the concept of a work and its "manifestations" being interrelated.

This is highly relevant to our libraries, as we tend to include many versions of the same item in order to reach different groups of patrons. For example, consider *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. In your library or library system you might have:

- An unabridged hardcover edition of the novel
- An unabridged paperback edition of the novel

- An unabridged edition with critical essays
- An abridged edition for second-language learners
- A French translation (I don't think anyone has done an Inuktitut version yet!)
- An audiocassette version
- A CD audio version
- A videocassette of the black-and-white film version with Laurence Olivier as Mr. Darcy
- A DVD of the recent film version with Keira Knightley as Lizzie Bennett
- A link to a website for Jane Austen fans evaluating all the various film versions
- A *Pride and Prejudice* computer role-playing game (just kidding—but wouldn't that be a great idea??)
- An i-Pod download of the soundtrack from the latest film version.
- A pseudo-version: *Pride and prejudice with zombies* (not kidding!)

These are all the same work, but they're all different too—someone who wants the recent film may not be at all interested in critical essays, for example. Or perhaps someone goes looking for the book, and has no idea that there may be one or more film versions. Someone reading the “zombie” version needs to know it wasn't really written by Jane Austen herself. An ideal catalogue using the new rules would be able to identify the work desired, present or collect its various manifestations and interpretations, and make it easier for library users to determine which of these are available and which they want to use.

One of the key principles in the IFLA statement is: “Descriptions and names should be based on the way an entity describes itself.” This is a very strong argument for cataloguing and representing items in the language of the item itself: if an item is in Inuktitut syllabics, then it should be catalogued in syllabics, as anyone who wants to read an item in syllabics knows the orthographic system and will want to search using it, not an arbitrarily Romanized or translated version that is at least one remove from the item itself. The same principles of description and authority standards should be applicable across all languages in the new system. This is much more possible than it used to be, as library systems are increasingly incorporating full Unicode compliance and are thus able to handle non-roman character sets such as Inuktitut syllabics. So with that technical hurdle out of the way, careful thought can be given to treating all languages equally and consistently in terms of bibliographic description and authorial access.

The new rule set is also being developed hand-in-hand with changes to the MARC coding that forms the metadata for many of our existing catalogues, but is structured in such a way that any records using RDA should have a good metadata framework and be adaptable to other forms of metadata coding. This holds promise for catalogues that might be web-based or developed outside the MARC context.

These observations only barely begin to touch on some of the implications of the new rules for our library service. There will be practical implications as well. Instead of a paper rule book, RDA is going to be based online; it will be interesting to see how the implementation of it is rolled out by the publisher and the various national libraries in November. It might mean easier access for anyone who might currently lack a print copy of AACR2, but the costs of online use are as yet unknown. For those who are currently using AACR2, RDA will not render those rules invalid; rather, it will take them and reshape them into a more flexible tool applicable to formats not even dreamed of when the last set of rules was published.

If anyone is interested in discussing the issue of this revision, I would be happy to pass on the sources and links I found while I was working on my Master's dissertation last year, in addition to the JSC and IFLA websites noted above. I would also be happy to share my analysis of how the Nunavut Libraries Online catalogue standards shape up against the IFLA principles, in the light of implementing RDA in the future. Feel free to contact me any time at cerigby@xplornet.com. Or snail mail:

Carol Rigby
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Where are they now?

Elise Chandler left her position at the Court of Justice library and headed for warmer climates in Australia.

Diane Corbeil joined the Government of Nunavut's Department of Community and Government Services and is working in a records management position.

Grant Karcich departed Iqaluit Centennial Library in August.

Nunavut Literacy Week 2009

By Cayla Chenier, Director of Programs, Nunavut Literacy Council

Every year in the fall, the Nunavut Literacy Council promotes literacy awareness and skill development during Nunavut Literacy Week. Communities across Nunavut organize and participate in activities that involve students, families, Elders and other community members in developing language, reading and writing.

Taloyoak won the very popular annual Read for 15 Challenge this year with participation by 42 per cent of the community. Cambridge Bay came in a close second with 40 per cent participation. Communities in Nunavut compete with each other to get the highest number of individuals reading for at least 15 minutes on the day of the challenge during Nunavut Literacy Week. Nunavut and NWT also compete with each other to win the challenge. This year, NWT regained the title the Read for 15 Challenge by a slim margin of less than one per cent.



Read for 15 Resolute 2: Munro (RCMP Officer) reads to Ern Condon's 3-4 class, Qarmartalik School, Resolute Bay.

Photo credit: Jennifer Borden, Principal, Qarmartalik School, Resolute Bay.



Students participate in the Read for 15 Challenge, Igloolik Amitturmiut Library.

Photo credit: Nancy Kadlutsiak, librarian, Igloolik Amitturmiut Library, Igloolik.

Philippa and Carol: Librarians in Action

Philippa thought it might be a good idea to send a couple of photos of Nunavut librarians/archivists in action for the newsletter... so, here they are, both at work in the Pond Inlet Archives office, cataloguing books for the Pond Archives northern collection. The items are being added to the NPLS catalogue so they are searchable online through the Nunavut Libraries Online catalogue, although not available for interlibrary loan—if someone wants to look at the items they'll have to visit Pond.



Philippa



Carol

Canadian Children's Book Week

TD Canadian Children's Book Week runs from November 14-21, 2009. Children's authors will be touring schools and libraries across the country. Nunavut will be playing host to author and illustrator Patricia Storm.

Ms. Storm, a one time librarian, calls Toronto home.

Up and Coming 2009-2010

November

All Saints' Day	1
Remembrance Day	11
TD Canadian Children's Book Week	14-21
Eid-Al-Adha	27

December

International Children's Day of Broadcasting	9
International Human Rights Day	10
Hanukah (begins sundown)	11
Islamic New Year	18
Winter Solstice	21
Christmas	25
Boxing Day	26
Kwanzaa	26
New Year's Eve	31

January

New Year's Day	1
Sir John A. Macdonald Day	11
Family Literacy Day	27

February

Ground Hog Day	2
Valentine's Day	14
National Flag Day of Canada	15
Heritage Day	19
Freedom to Read Week	21-27

March

St. Patrick's Day	17
World Poetry Day	21
Passover (begins at sundown)	29

April

April Fool's Day	1
Hans Christian Andersen's Birthday	2
Good Friday	2
Easter	4
Earth Day	22

May

Mother's Day	9
Victoria Day	24

Need a laugh?
Check out
<http://www.ifla.org/l/humour/humour.htm>

June

CLA Annual Conference, Edmonton, AB	2-5
Father's Day	20
National Aboriginal Day	21
Summer Solstice	21

July

Canada Day	1
Nunavut Day	9

August

Civic Holiday	2
Ramadan	11
IFLA Annual Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden	10-15

Share your news, a favourite website, a special program with your library colleagues for the next issue of the newsletter. E-mail Leigh Ann at leighcumming@hotmail.com .