



Association
of Canadian
Archivists

BULLETIN

May
2005

President's message Another transformation near the Rideau?

ACA's Review and renewal project is underway

I would like to invite you to visit the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) website to learn about exciting developments in our review and renewal project: www.archivists.ca.

During the past several months, the archival community has been informed on the plan to review structure, operations, and programs to determine the effectiveness of the ACA mandate and programs (refer to *Bulletins*).

A document has been posted on our website that describes the rationale, process and anticipated results of this process. This review and renewal is unlike anything the ACA has attempted in its thirty-year history.

To initiate this process, the Association Strategy Group (ASG) has been hired to conduct a survey of member needs. The ACA desires a proactive review and renewal process to determine how it can best anticipate and adapt to change. The ACA is interested in learning about the needs of its present members as well as those of lapsed and prospective members. Results will form part of the strategic planning process to ensure ACA's direction is relevant to its constituency and that ACA continues to be a leader in the archival community.

Identifying and assessing member and prospective member needs, ACA's staff and volunteer leadership team can either be assured that their early strategic thinking is aligned with the needs of the membership or they can adjust their strategic thinking accordingly so that it is driven by input from the membership and prospective membership. Future operational planning and program development and delivery can then be undertaken with confidence.

As ACA has both individual and institutional members, the survey will identify the collective needs of the membership as well as those needs that are specific to members who work in various settings and sectors (such as government, academia, religious institutions or the private sector).

Please monitor all communication channels for updates on the survey timeline. This is not going to a survey like any other in ACA's past. If you have absorbed the information about the Review and Renewal Project, you will understand the survey's uniqueness. The survey is not just a mechanism to collect data. It is a platform for individuals to participate in the review process leading to positive change.

One of the critical pieces in the review and renewal process is the availability of a

Steering Committee to assist ASG consultants, staff, individuals, and groups as they adapt and navigate through their individual review and renewal initiatives.

The Review and Renewal Project Steering Committee members are:

- Marc Lerman, ACA President
- Jerry O'Brien, Immediate Past ACA President
- Terry Eastwood, School of Library, Archival & Information Studies, UBC
- Sharon Larade, United Church of Canada / Victoria University Archives
- Lisa Daulby, Royal Bank Archives

During our Conference in Saskatoon I look forward to meeting as many delegates as possible to discuss the project. My top priority will be making myself available to participants. There will also be an informative presentation about this project, where your questions and concerns can be discussed.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact me on this matter. The ACA Executive, the Steering Committee, our staff, and I truly value your input and exist to serve you. By visiting the website, you can become more informed and involved with this process. Your unique professional needs matter to us and we want them to be reflected in the entire review and renewal process.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Lerman
ACA President

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In Vancouver: ACA welcomes UBC as the first student chapter

The Board of the Association of Canadian Archivists is pleased to announce that the first Student Chapter has been officially organized at the School of Library Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia. Their application was unanimously approved at the April 9th meeting of the ACA Board of Directors. We look forward to working with the Chapter in improving services to our members.

Wayne Crockett, ACA Director Without Portfolio

What is a student chapter — words from the ACA bylaws

A graduate student-level student chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists will:

- Serve as a means of introducing new archivists into the profession;
- Enhance the educational function by providing an additional focus for the students to discuss archival issues, identify with the profession, and engage in professional activities;
- Promote communication among student members and between students;
- Provide a communication channel for its members with the general membership of the Association and to the Board on matters of concern to the Chapter;
- Develop the leaders of tomorrow's archival profession; and
- Attract new members into the Association.

Updates from the Public Awareness Committee

- The *Aboriginal Archives Guide* is nearing completion! Jointly produced by PA and SISAA, the *Guide* will serve as a tool for Aboriginal communities to help them advocate for archives within their own communities and will also serve as a practical resource to help get an archives programme started, containing useful templates, sample policies, and procedures. Watch for announcements on ARCAN-L about its availability on the ACA website; the *Guide* will also be mailed out to Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. This project has been made possible with financial assistance from the CCA.
- PA has posted both the “What is an Archivist?” and the “What is an Archives?” awareness documents to the ACA website – look for these on the ACA home page. Stay tuned for more awareness documents from PA.
- The ACA display has already made two appearances in 2005, and is heading to St. John’s for the ARMA Canada conference in May and to SAA in New Orleans in August. Please contact Anastasia Rodgers if you would like to borrow the ACA display.
- Provincial and Territorial representatives will be invited to attend the annual Public Awareness Roundtable at this year’s conference – plan to come and share your public awareness ideas and experience with others. Invitations

with details of date, time, and location will be mailed out soon.

Submitted by Anastasia Rodgers,
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ACA Display

The ACA has a great display that is available for all ACA members to borrow and enjoy! The new display is easy to transport and simple to assemble, and would be a perfect addition to most archives functions – why not borrow the display for your provincial or territorial conference, your annual Archives Week, exhibit openings, or archives facility openings?

Please contact Anastasia Rodgers, Chair of the Public Awareness Committee, to arrange to borrow the display or visit the News and Events section of the ACA website <http://www.archivists.ca/news/> and follow the links for ACA Display for more information.

Michel Prévost, University of Ottawa Chief Archivist, named person of the year by Le Droit / Radio-Canada

The *University of Ottawa Gazette* on Feb 24, 2005 contained the news that Michel Prévost, University of Ottawa Chief Archivist, had been named person of the year by Le Droit / Radio-Canada, in the Arts and Culture category. Michel Prévost, was selected for his involvement and support of the history and heritage of Ottawa and the national capital region, and had previously been the recipient of several distinctions, including an award of merit from the Ontario Museums Association.

In its announcement of the award the Ottawa French language newspaper, Le Droit, noted that Michel Prévost had also been a leading force in the successful campaign to have the Ottawa municipality reverse the portion of its budget that contained an 80 percent cut the city's support of its heritage sector.

ICA and CITRA

The international archival scene after the congress of Vienna

The International Council on Archives (ICA)

The International Council on Archives (ICA) is a decentralized organization governed by a General Assembly and administered by an Executive Board. Its branches provide archivists with a regional forum in all parts of the world; its sections bring together archivists and archival institutions interested in particular areas of professional interest; its committees and working groups are engaging the contribution of experts to the solution of specific problems. The mission of the ICA is to promote the preservation and use of archives around the world. In pursuing this mission, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world and to improve communication while respecting cultural diversity.

International Conference of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA)

Annual Round Table conferences are in the intervening years of International Congresses on Archives, which are held every four years, and are open to the entire profession.

During the tenure of Mr. Ian E. Wilson, Chair of CITRA, 2000-2004, the annual meeting of heads of national archival institutions, of chairmen of national professional associations and of chairmen of ICA sections to discuss matters of major

professional interest, has been held in Reykjavik, Iceland from October 2001; Marseilles, France in November 2002 and Cape Town in October 2003. In August 2004, the ICA Congress was held in Vienna, Austria.

CITRA is a unique international forum that enables archives senior management and leaders in the profession to debate topics of common interest. Each CITRA conference deals with a specific subject during the three years between ICA conferences.

* The theme for the conference in Reykjavik was Archives and Society: What to preserve? Acquisition and Selection. Major issues presented were strategies for acquisition and appraisal in the area of public records, the criteria for preservation, the associative phenomenon in the world and the potential of oral archives. Mr. Olafur Asgeirsson, National Archivist, National Archives of Iceland hosted the meeting, while as Chairman of the CITRA, Mr. Ian E. Wilson, then National Archivist of Canada, presided over the Round Table.

* The theme for the CITRA in Marseilles was How does society perceive archives? The programme included a look at archives in contemporary societies - missions and challenges, looking at discrepancies in the perception of archives: among the general public and among public authorities and archives'

producers; increasing demand: society's demands and archival needs in new areas; strategies for promoting archives in government and among the general public: promotion and advocacy policies and information and communication policies; and promoting archives among users: cultural and educational actions and improvement of services for users. At this CITRA, governments of countries in democratic transition were invited to begin or to pursue actively the process of liberalization of access to archives. Before the CITRA conference, a press release was sent to the French press and to correspondents of the main foreign newspapers in France; and the State radio station France Culture broadcast a programme devoted to archives.

* The theme for the CITRA in Cape Town was Archives at the Service of Society: Archives and Human Rights, developed in presentations of the sources documenting violations of human rights, of the issues at stake and of their various possible uses. These sources consisted of state public archives as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental archives. They raised specific problems of preservation and access. The uses were judicial, political and memory related. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former President of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, provided the inaugural speech at the CITRA.

ICA Congress

ICA Congresses are held every four years to discuss issues of concern to archival institutions and the profession. The XVth Congress was held in

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Vienna, Austria, August 23-29, 2004, in collaboration with the ICA and the Austrian State Archives. The Congress theme was Archives, Memory and Knowledge. Themes included advocacy in support for the archives cause, evolving legal frameworks for archives and record-keeping, archival standards and best practices, and education and training for archives professionals. Over 2,000 archival experts met to discuss such topics as concepts of memory, risk, loss and memory and preserving virtual memory; topics on professional development, standards and best practices, and research; and issues regarding service to society, advocacy, outreach and access, and legal issues. These parallel sessions offered case studies and workshops, and seminars.

2005-2007 For the next three years, CITRA will focus on the place of archives in a global society, in order to encourage delegates from every country to share ideas, opinions and experiences, and to develop realistic and innovative propos-

als to improve the quality of their archival holdings and the services they provide.

The theme for the years 2005-2007, for the International Conference of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA) Bureau is Archives, Diversity, and Globalization. The programme was developed on the basis of suggestions from CITRA members who completed the 2003 Cape Town Conference evaluation questionnaire and who responded to the letter Ian E. Wilson wrote them in March 2004. The Commission for Programme Management also made suggestions. The three CITRA meetings will be on the repercussions of globalization:

* On the collection and preservation of archives: Building One's Memory in the Global Age, Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) in 2005, * On processing and accessing archives: Sharing One's Memory Through Globalization, Curacao (Netherlands Antilles) in 2006, and * On cooperation issues: Co-operating to Preserve Diversity, Quebec City (Canada) in

2007.

The CITRA conference in Abu Dhabi will treat nationalism/supranationalism; preserving the memory of globalization actors; and a global approach to collection.

Curacao will present standardization of Archives; separate memories, shared memories; and transparency, accountability and globalization.

Quebec City is expected to examine international cooperation; interprofessionalism and professional identity; and the ICA, Globalization, and Diversity.

The Next ICA Congress

The planned venue for the next ICA Congress is Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2008.

Submitted by :
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Editor's last word

Think big, not small : let's start with the MOU but end with the Charter

It's the season of annual meetings. And coming to a Council of Archives meeting near you is the Canadian Council of Archives with a MOU for you to sign.

The Memorandums of Understanding that outline the relative roles of the Canadian Council of Archives, (CCA), and provincial councils are a good idea. As the Library and Archives Canada rolls out their new operational plan with their renewed program of support for the Canadian archival system it is appropriate and necessary for the CCA to engage each jurisdiction in an exercise of affirmation that confirms the CCA as the national voice of Canada's archival system.

Yet if you get the chance to look at one of these documents up close you will be amazed by the appearance and disappointed by the content. [<http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/CCA-AABCMOU.pdf>]. True the MOUs do have the significant words about each Council recognizing the role of themselves and the CCA in the Canadian archival system, but beyond that an opportunity to use language that would express the vision of a Canadian Archival system got overcome by piddling little words about consistent bylaws, methods of incorporation and the use of logos.

Next year ACA meets in St. John's to help open Canada's most significant new Archives in Canada's oldest city and newest



province. It is an opportunity to celebrate and a chance perhaps for the dawning of the Charter of the Canadian Archival System in the place where Canada's day begins. With the provincial and territorial councils all on side, after having signed their separate MOUs, next year could be an opportunity to have one document that will speak with one voice about the Canadian Archival System.

The chain of MOUs that is being linked signature by signature across the county is a good first step, but the final product could be much loftier, much larger, and ultimately state the big picture that people will remember, believe and honor.

John Macleod
ACA Bulletin, Halifax

The first TAAG book awards

TAAG Reads Susan Swan's *What Casanova Told Me*

by Sean Smith, York University

There have been a number of Canadian novels published over the last couple of years that have given archives their due as places of inquiry and important sources for popular culture. Books such as Ann Marie MacDonald's *The Way the Crow Flies* and Priscila *Divine Econvation* have whole scenes in reading rooms Kulyk Keefer's explores a re-examination of Katherine through one fascination with spondence. All worth while have inadvertently their part in profile of the public's but none have much as author who makes an archivist one of the central characters in her latest novel *What Casanova Told Me*



Uppal's *The omy of Salplacel* archival while Janice *Thieves* searcher's the late Mansfield character's her corre- of these are reads and tently done raising the chives in imagination done as

Susan Swan

Swan. "I've had to learn the difference between a 'fonds' and a 'collection' but, nonetheless, the way you assemble them, in what you put in and what you leave out, you are still constructing a narrative for the person who uses the archives. That's very fascinating because the past is always a work in progress."

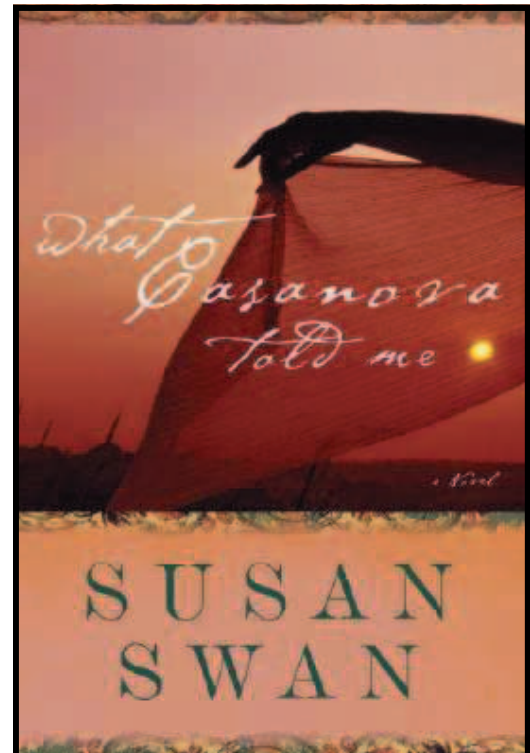
Her words are flattering to any archivist and she encapsulated her admiration for the work of the profession by doing a good job researching her character and speaking to a number of archivists in order to insure that the way Luce carried herself with regards to the documents she has in her possession and the way she spoke about her education were true and believable. She also proved her proficiency in archival lingo. It is not every novel that can boast a passage such as the following:

"The family documents made up a fond d'archives - the archival term for an assortment of papers generated by one person in a lifetime. Although most people would be satisfied with calling the documents a collection, Luce's training as an archivist had taught her to use the proper term, and she still enjoyed rolling the words around in her mouth."

What Casanova Told Me is a compelling read regardless of your professional affiliation. The novel is a split narrative with one story line taking place in the 18th century while the other is set in the present day. It is a conversation between Luce, a young archivist and her ancestor, Asked For Adams, who traveled with the great lover Casanova in his twilight years. Luce's journey is both physical and spiritual and she is guided by the words Asked For has left her in the form of a journal and some letters written by Casanova himself. Luce's task is to deliver them to an archives in Venice for use in an exhibition, a task she carries out with all the care and concern of an archivist, but it is her travels that teach her about fate and her self. It is though her journey that she comes to see that "another world is possible."

When Swan was in the midst of writing *Casanova*, she remarked that it was fascinating because she felt that archivists and novelists shared two qualities: "the ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes and a faith in posterity." She continued this thought by stating, "I have come to the conclusion while writing this book that we make the past at the same time as the past makes us. It's like a dynamic that goes both ways. There's a certain amount of invention that goes into play when we reconstruct the past."

"As far as I can make out, [archivists] are constantly making narratives out of people's lives in their collections," offered



30th Anniversary ACA merchandise for sale!

The Public Awareness Committee has developed some exciting new products to help you celebrate the ACA's 30th anniversary in style! You are encouraged to pre-order any or all of the following products in advance of the conference. Pick up your order in Saskatoon and save the shipping!

For Saskatoon delegates, keep your eyes out for a special (and free!) anniversary product in your conference bag!

Stay tuned for pre-ordering information on the ACA website and on ARCAN-L. Any immediate questions can be directed to Anastasia Rodgers, Chair of Public Awareness Committee at Anastasia.Rodgers@archives.gov.on.ca



- * Men's & ladies golf shirt in 'sand'
- * 100% preshrunk pique cotton
- * ACA logo on left chest
- * *Celebrating 30 Years* on left sleeve

Sizes: Small to X-Large

Price: \$24.95 each

Men's



Ladies



- * Men's & ladies golf shirt in 'burgundy'
- * 100% preshrunk pique cotton
- * ACA logo on left chest
- * *Celebrating 30 Years* on left sleeve

Sizes: Small to X-Large

Price: \$24.95 each



- * ACA 13 oz ceramic mug
- * White with accent trim in burgundy
- * ACA logo
- * ACA logo and Doughty quotation:
"Of all the national assets, archives are the most precious."

Price: \$ 7.95 each



2005- 2006 Membership for Individuals, Associates and Students

Name: _____ Institution: _____
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CATEGORY	FEES	GST	TOTALS	Sustaining (Minimum \$32.10 in addition to regular fees) <u>Total GST</u>	NF, NS and NB Residents Total with HST* (regular fees)	Sustaining Minimum \$34.50 additional
INDIVIDUAL <i>(Those involved in the Archives field)</i> SALARY RANGE:						
\$00,000 - \$ 9,999	\$65.00	\$4.55	\$69.55	\$ _____	\$ 69.00	\$ _____
\$10,000 - \$24,999	\$125.00	\$8.75	\$133.75	\$ _____	\$138.00	\$ _____
\$25,000 - \$39,999	\$145.00	\$10.15	\$155.15	\$ _____	\$161.00	\$ _____
\$40,000 - \$54,999	\$155.00	\$10.85	\$165.85	\$ _____	\$172.50	\$ _____
\$55,000 - \$69,999	\$175.00	\$12.25	\$187.25	\$ _____	\$195.50	\$ _____
\$70,000 +	\$200.00	\$14.00	\$214.00	\$ _____	\$224.25	\$ _____
STUDENT	\$50.00	\$3.50	\$53.50	\$ _____	\$57.50	\$ _____
ASSOCIATE: (Those not involved in the Archives field)	\$125.00	\$8.75	133.75	\$ _____	\$138.00	\$ _____

My member category is: Individual Student Associate

My renewal Fee for my category is \$ _____

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aca Bulletin

Association of Canadian Archivists
I.S.S.N. 0709-4604
May 2005, Vol. 29 No. 4

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The views expressed in the *Bulletin* are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors of the Association of Canadian Archivists. The *Bulletin* is usually published bi-monthly by the Association of Canadian Archivists. Submissions, suggestions, and any questions should be addressed to:

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Provincial Councils recognize CCA as the National institutional voice of the Canadian archival system.



On April 29, 2005, the Council of Nova Scotia Archives (CNSA) reinforced the strength and solidarity of Canada's archival community through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA). The CNSA became the fourth Council to sign such an agreement.

Seen signing the agreement is CNSA president Michael Moosberger and CCA Board Member, Ms. Suzanne Girard who remarked, "Today's agreement is symbolic of the success of the CCA and the founding efforts of a nationwide spontaneous movement of individual archivists who saw a need and opportunity to work together. Now, after 20 years of perseverance, the relationship has come of age and we are proud to celebrate the vitality of our network through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between CNSA and the CCA."

A week earlier CCA board member Lara Wilson had used the same words in describing the 20 year long association of the British Columbia Council and the CCA.

In the memorandums each province separately recognize the CCA as "the national institutional voice and official representative of the Canadian Archival Network." Provincial Council promise to "to strengthen the Canadian archival community through information and support to archival organizations and institutions within their territorial region" and to also will work in cooperation with CCA and all other Councils to achieve this.

In the agreements the CCA sets out as its prime objective the strengthening of the "Canadian archival community through information and support aimed at the development of archival capacity at the national level and through [councils] at the provincial and local level."

ACA Bulletin moves to St. John's

With the ACA conference in Saskatoon the **Bulletin** is pleased to announce its new editorial team of Jessie Chisholm and Larry Dohey.

Jessie Chisholm is descriptive standards archivist at the Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador. She is a graduate of St. Francis Xavier University (BA honours 1971) and the University of

Alberta (MA, 1973). She served as the professional development officer for the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives (ANLA) from 1994-2000. Jessie has also published several articles on St. John's working-class history

Larry Dohey is the Archivist for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's.

He has studied at Memorial University of Newfoundland (BA) Saint Paul University, Ottawa (S.T.B) and the University of Toronto (M.Div). He has been involved with the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives (ANLA) for the past twelve years holding a number of positions. He has also been actively involved with ACA holding a number of positions on various committees. He is the outgoing Vice President of ACA.