



NEWSLETTER/ NOUVELLES

Volume 24, Issue 3

August 2001

NEWSletter/NOUvelles

President's Message

- Is published 3 times per year, in the Fall, Winter and Spring, and is available with membership in the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/ Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario
- Abbey Market P.O Box 76010
- 1500 Upper Middle Rd.W.
- Oakville, Ontario
- L6M 3H5
- Tel. (905)403-2561
- Fax. (905)403-2453

The 2001 conference is but a distant memory, but what a memory. I want to give my personal congratulations to Halton/ Peel Region for making this one such a success. Focus 2001 has over 150 delegates in attendance at workshops and meeting at the new multimedia facility at Sheridan College. Diane Baksa and her team did a great job.

I look forward to the conference next year in Thunder Bay. I can't wait to see what Valerie Welsh and her team have in store for us.

One of the most exciting parts of the conference this year for me was the Annual meeting. Nanci Abbondanza, chair of the Committee for Change 2001, gave a presentation on the recommendations by the committee. They have come up with a report that was handed out in the spring newsletter and in it was listed their recommendations. They then discussed their recommendations with the membership at the annual meeting. The end result was that the committee wants feedback from each and every member by the end of September 2001. If there is to be constitutional changes presented to us for the 2002 Annual meeting, then the committee needs to know what the membership feels.

Inside this issue:

<i>President's message</i>	1
<i>Have you....?</i>	1
<i>A new executive</i>	2
<i>Focus 2001—a report</i>	3
<i>Libraries Advance Canada</i>	4
<i>Libraries Advance Canada (contd.)</i>	5
<i>Focus 2001- Thanks!</i>	6
<i>When the best laid plans...</i>	7
<i>Subscribing to the discussion list</i>	8

This is your opportunity to tell the committee what you feel about their report & recommendations. We need change and we need to grow. We need your input. So please send your thoughts, opinions, likes and dislikes to the committee. Please contact the committee for further information. You can send to them via our email at:

info@oaltabo.on.ca

Sincerely,

Pam Casey

President

OALT/ABO

Have you....?

The Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario has a new website address sponsored by Rowe Com Canada. This can be viewed at the following address: <http://www.oaltabo.on.ca>

A new executive—2001/02

Submitted by Stacey Goddard - Public Relations

The OALT/ABO executive met informally on the first weekend in June. Chris Carmichael was our host in Owen Sound. She arranged accommodations at the Days Inn and meeting facilities at her place of work at the Public Library Board Room. After a delicious lunch, we went over roles and responsibilities of the individual executive positions, current budget figures, membership issues, web-site enhancements and list-serve and newsletter concerns. Chris gave us a tour of the old Carnegie Library with its warren of offices in the lower level, plus its spacious 1970s addition. Dinner at the Rusty Gull followed our afternoon of work. We dispersed after breakfast on Sunday. We look forward to the first Board Meeting of the new season to be held on Sept. 22, 2001 in Oakville.

Elected Positions :

President - Pam Casey

Vice-President - Chris Carmichael

Secretary - Ola White

Treasurer - Maxine Corea

Public Relations - Stacey Goddard

Directors - are elected by each region.

Appointed Positions for 2001/2002:

Ex-Officio - Nanci Abbondanza

Newsletter - Sue Thomas

Internet Taskforce Chair - Sean Crowe

Webmaster - Gerry Estrada

Discussion List Co-ordinator - Ronn Cheney

Focus 2001

This was originally published in "InfoTech" Halton-Peel's Regional Newsletter

by Erin MacIntyre

As an attendee of this year's conference hosted by the Halton-Peel Region, I was thoroughly impressed by the hard work and tremendous effort put forth by the conference committee.

I was able to attend three workshops:

Thursday May 3, 2001

"Strategies for today's job market" presented by Caroline Werle, RIM Services Inc.

Caroline presented several ideas and suggestions as to how we should always keep our resume in top condition whether we are job hunting or not. Tips and pointers for those of us dealing with changes in our positions and changing expectations affecting our current job descriptions.

Friday May 4, 2001

"Desktop Publishing: Digital layout and production" presented by Terry Da Silva, Peel Board of

Education

Terry was assisted by four current students, two of which were responsible for creating and presenting the assignment for the workshop. Attendees had the opportunity to have a hands on experience with Adobe Page Maker 6.5. A very good workshop, well presented with solid software.

Saturday May 5, 2001

"Rock Climbing" Leader Steve Baksa

As the only brave conference delegate I was given the opportunity to conquer the cliffs of Rattlesnake Point Conservation area in Milton, Ontario. The weather held up beautifully and the temperature was perfect for climbing. I only wish that more attendees to join me and witness my very first climb to the top, a personal goal and actual achievement.

I attended three daily luncheons, and the food and beverages were excellent, but most amazing and enjoyable was the Saturday evening dinner, 25 and 10 year recognition awards were handed out and guest speaker, Reva Nelson was wonderful. I had a great time meeting members from other regions and look forward to next year's event in Thunder Bay.

Thank you and Congratulations to Diane Baksa and all of the hardworking members of the Conference committee for a very successful and enjoyable Conference.

As a postscript, I'd like to add my thanks for a memorable conference organized by the Halton-Peel Region. It's always wonderful to see old friends, to make new friends, to participate in the workshops, to have fun in the evenings (who says that library people are quiet?) and to know that the same experience can be repeated again next year. Have you ever wondered about any of the other conferences? Also included in this newsletter are reports from the Canadian Library Association kindly submitted by members of our association.

Sue Thomas

Newsletter Editor

Libraries Advance Canada

Background: We spent the next two hours finding common ground and action planning. I remember in Library tech courses that we are trained to be the doers of the here and now while the librarians were trained to be the planners and to looking ten years ahead. The following brainstorming list of issues for the *Libraries Advance Canada* illustrates that point. Information literacy, globalization issues, copyright issues - digital information, access and preservation of digital information, professional image, public access to government information and transactions - as a commodity, literacy in school libraries illustrating how libraries support learning and student achievement, profile in the community and with public at large, subgroup - Quebec - disparity and diversity, reposition libraries as part of the public good, impact of private sector providers on public sector providers, privacy, vision - thinking ahead - forecasting - proactive not reactive, intellectual freedom - filtering, new National Library building, federal government support for libraries, sustain ability of public access eg. CAP, digital literacy, GATS, succession planning, shrinking library budgets, training for library professionals, online learning, pornography/hate issues on the Internet, access to technology for people with disabilities, seniors access to technology, library managers replacing librarians, rural/regional disparity, repeal of GST, broadband access - equity rural/urban, and preservation on non-digital format.

Okay, now that a list of issues was decided, a criteria for selecting the first ones for this *Libraries Advance Canada* movement to tackle was discussed. The criteria used were: quick and actual win, something we can learn from, clear in what we're going to accomplish, specific (therefore tangible), identify the target audience, research can be done, division of labour possible, national

Our associations' name was put forth by OLA to become a participant in the Libraries Advance Canada movement. In May the President of the Saskatchewan Library Association sent me an invitation, to attend on behalf of the association the inaugural meeting on the 12th of June in Winnipeg. We were the only Library Technician association from across Canada given such an invitation. Here was our opportunity to participate in a movement happening with other provincial library associations from across Canada.

Due to my family obligations I was unable to go to this meeting so Valerie Welsch from Thunder Bay attended on my behalf. I would like to thank her for this and below you will find her report about the meeting.

On behalf of OALT/ABO president Pam Casey, I attended the inaugural meeting of *Libraries Advance Canada* on 12 June 2001 in Winnipeg. The intent of this movement is to bring together the library community in an effort to make libraries as strong as they can be in the service of Canadians. This movement will enable an equal partnership of library associations across Canada - of which there are 220. However, we were the only Library Technician group represented.

"The focus of the meeting was to articulate the vision of *Libraries Advance Canada* and to explore the strategic directions and priorities of such a movement."

Liz Hoffman (past president OLA) provided the movement's past. PTLC (Provinces and Territories Library Council) was a by-product of librarians communicating at OLA's brainstorming sessions. This council provided national advocacy approach for library issues. This council evolved into *Libraries Advance Canada* - a movement which can work collaboratively to carry out research, advocacy, lobbying and public awareness on a number strategic objectives of national importance.

We spent the next two hours finding common ground and action planning. I remember in Library tech courses that we are trained to be the doers of the here and now while the librarians were trained to be the planners and to looking ten years ahead. The following brainstorming list of issues for the *Libraries Advance Canada* illustrates that point. Information literacy, globalization issues, copyright issues - digital information, access and preservation of digital information, professional image, public access to government information and transactions - as a commodity, literacy in school libraries illustrating how libraries support learning and student achievement, profile in the community and with public at large, subgroup - Quebec - disparity and diversity, reposition libraries as part of the public good, impact of private sector providers on public sector providers, privacy, vision - thinking ahead - forecasting - proactive not reactive, intellectual freedom - filtering, new National Library building, federal government support for libraries, sustain ability of public access eg. CAP, digital literacy, GATS, succession planning, shrinking library budgets, training for library professionals, online learning, pornography/hate issues on the Internet, access to technology

Libraries Advance Canada (contd.)

for people with disabilities, seniors access to technology, library managers replacing librarians, rural/regional disparity, repeal of GST, broadband access - equity rural/urban, and preservation on non-digital format.

Okay, now that a list of issues was decided, a criteria for selecting the first ones for this *Libraries Advance Canada* movement to tackle was discussed. The criteria used were: quick and actual win, something we can learn from, clear in what we're going to accomplish, specific (therefore tangible), identify the target audience, research can be done, division of labour possible, national focus, has some momentum already, align with something that already exists, identify a champion, we already have the resources, some urgency, and strengthen the profile of libraries in the community.

The *Libraries Advance Canada* movement has decided to promote the four following issues:

Endorsing the copyright issue - plan of action - Vicky Whitmell, executive director of Canadian Library Association will distribute document to all associations. She will also see to the distribution of the endorsement. Want to hit Mps with document by mid-September therefore have to endorse before then. (Our association can certainly do this!)

New building for National Library - plan of action - Tim Mark, executive director of Canadian Association of Research Libraries, Rick Leech, president of Library Association of Alberta, Karen McGrath, executive assistant of National Library of Canada, and "someone to be named" from CLA will draft a motion that can be presented to each executive by the end of July. (Our association can certainly be involved with this issue!)

Access to government information and transactions - plan of action - CLA's access to government taskforce, "to be named" from OLA, Tania Gottschalk, president of Manitoba Library Association, "to be named" from BCLA, and Sandy MacDonald, vice-president of Northwest Territories Library Association will report back to *Libraries Advance Canada* group by end of July.

Federal government support for libraries - plan of action - Liz Hoffman will chair group. "To be named" from CLA, "to be named" from National Library, "to be named" from QLA, Gloria Jacobs, past president of the Association of Jewish Libraries, Ontario chapter, Michelle Splitter, vice-president of Saskatchewan Library Association, and "to be named" from OLA will first get an idea of the priorities and then report by end of July.

The first coup was to be invited. Now the executive and board of directors have the opportunity to carry the honour forward.

Valerie Welsch

(OLA has a write-up about the meeting at <http://www.accessola.org/action/>)

Focus 2001

Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliothécaires de l'Ontario

OALT/ABO 28th Annual Conference/28^e conférence annuelle

May 2 – 6/du 2 au 6 mai 2001

Collège Sheridan College, Oakville (Ontario)

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the entire conference organizing committee for all of their enthusiasm and commitment. They are a very talented group of people who should be congratulated on a job well done.

Treasurer Margaret Chee

Conference Kits Hilda Sakauye

Margaret Chee

Exhibits Pam Casey

Sponsorship Nanci Abbondanza

Facilities Irene Sillius

Meals Janet Tieman

Registration Anne Heath

Irene Sillius

Joanne Knox

Sharon MacMillan

Martha Gallup

With help from Sherry Sharp

Social Committee Gisela Smithson

Irene McLeod

Brigitte Tremmel

Mary Ellen Chliboyko

Workshops Tracy Morgan

Doug Willford

Lynn Purdy

Pauline Robinson

Also thanks to Donna Fillier and Erin MacIntyre for their assistance.

Also, a special thanks to Jim Rogers, Karen Richard, Bernie Dwyer & the staff at Sheridan College and the Sheridan College Residence & Conference Centre for all their help.

Diane Baksa

Conference Co-ordinator FOCUS 2001

Electronically yours!

Are you interested in receiving your newsletter in a timely manner? No dependence upon the mail system! You'll be one of the first to receive your copy.

The file can be sent in Adobe (.pdf) format or as a file to read in your browser (.html)

Please state your preference and email me if you're interested.

Sue Thomas

s.c-thomas@home.com

Our Webmaster, Gerry Estrada, the creator of some wonderful web pages deserves our congratulations and our thanks for his willingness to share his talents with our community. Have you viewed the website recently?

Apologies from the Newsletter Editor

Best plans never work to the extent that you wish and so, this was the case. I had made certain to complete the newsletter. It was ready. But my timing was off. Not good. I do hope that you'll all understand when I say that the week before a wedding is pure disorganization. I'll have a picture available for the next issue which is due in October.

Again, my apologies.

And for those of you who know my husband, Peter would like you to know that he is "something now"!

There's a story behind that and you may ask me about it at the next conference.

Sue Thomas

**ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY
TECHNICIANS/ASSOCIATION DES**

Abbey Market Post Office, Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Road West
Oakville, ON
L6M 3H5

Phone: 905-403-2561
Fax: 905-403-2453
Website: <http://www.oaltabo.on.ca>



We're on the Web!

www.oaltabo.on.ca

OALT / ABO Discussion List

The OALT/ABO discussion list is a moderated discussion list of our provincial association, OALT/ABO. It provides information concerning job opportunities, meeting notices and professional development activities.

The list is sponsored by Rowe Com Canada and is run on their server using Majordomo software.

To subscribe, send the following message to oaltabo-request@faxon.ca

subscribe oaltabo

Be sure to leave the subject line empty and write the message in the body only.

You will receive a confirmation and welcome message from our list manager. Questions or comments can be directed to Ronn Cheney,

Our thanks are extended to the following sponsors: Rowe Com for our website and discussion list; Lexis-Nexis for our 1999 Membership Directory.

