



NewsLETTER/ NouvELLES

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Abbey Market
P.O. Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Road West
Oakville, ON L6M 3H5
T: 905.403.2561
F: 905.403.2453

Editor: Marina Dranitsaris
mdranitsaris@sympatico.ca

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President's Message

I was hoping by now to be able to report a tremendous victory over the squirrels, but it's a bit too soon – only a few shoots are poking through the remains of the snow. But our Conference Committee can certainly claim to have worked to good effect – the conference program will be in your hands now, and I hope that like me you have registered and are looking forward to its full blossoming in May. Like a garden in full bloom, a conference is enjoyed by everyone, creators and visitors alike.

I have been doing something that should be banned for citizens over a certain age, or at least should carry a government health warning. I didn't realize (or perhaps I have forgotten, which is increasingly the case) that it would require a medical exam – well, a bit more than that really, as I was also asked if I had any criminal convictions or had defaulted on any loans. I replied "No", but I could just have forgotten any relevant incidents.

Anyway, where was I? Oh, yes, I was starting to tell you about my new job, that I have taken on simply because I need the money. Every day I read the "info@" mailbox for a trade association, and reply to the non-junk letters. It doesn't pay well, but I'm boosting my income by all the lotteries I have won so far – it was the Irish lottery last week – I'll let you know when the cheques arrive.

Since I get to keep the loot, what's in it for my employer? Well, buried among the Viagra ads are enquiries from members about what's the password for the website, and orders from non-members for publications, and requests for information about Iranian pistachio exporters, and why is Canada Customs holding up their package. Those are important e-mails to read and to act on.

Why me? Because the guy whose job it was has gone to Microsoft – is it too much to hope that his new job is to invent a better spam filter? And because no one else wants to cope with yet more e-mail. They're overwhelmed with their own.

You're overwhelmed with e-mail, too, both at home and at work.

Which leads me to the point of all this – a big THANK YOU to everyone doesn't allow themselves to be overwhelmed, and who continues to read and respond to e-mail despite the drudgery involved.

Thank you to those who completed the Salary Survey (I'll share my lottery winnings with you). *Thank you* to those who take the time to write to the discussion list. *Thank you* to those who read announcements from Chapters and participate in local meetings. *Thank you* especially to members of OALT/ABO's "virtual chapters" (book club and schools, so far), who actually meet by e-mail.

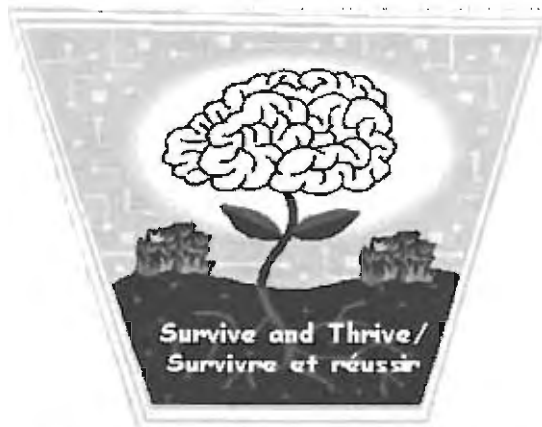
continued page 2

Our association can't do without you all – and that means it can't do without e-mail.

Maggie Weaver
President, OALT/ABO

Oh, I forgot to say – what I've been doing is taking on a huge mortgage – at my age!

See you at OALT/ABO's 32nd annual Conference, Wednesday, May 11 to Sunday, May 15, 2005, at Algonquin College's Woodroffe Avenue Campus in Ottawa.



Members of the 2005 conference planning committee in alphabetical order: Ann Censner, Barbara Cope, José Gélinas, Pat Graham, Gislaine Hamelin-Janveaux, Edwina Harris, Kathy Heney, Irène Kumar, Linda Landreville, Rita Liu, Jean-Paul Lorrain, Nicole Watier and Theresa Ziebell. (N.B.: All Ottawa Chapter {"OC"} Executive members, are also members of the 2005 Conference Planning Committee.)

Preparation for Conference in 2006

It is getting closer to "Survive and Thrive", our annual conference to be held this year in Ottawa, and everyone is making plans to meet, work, and party! We are in the countdown, and all the behind-the-scenes work is being done. But – what about next year? Even while this year's conference is preparing to go, we must start working on next year's conference, in order to make it just as successful as this one will be. We are looking at the Niagara area, and although anyone is more than welcome to volunteer to help, the majority of the help should come from the Halton-Peel Chapter. I am asking for people to help by heading one of the committees that will be needed, and for people to be volunteers on those committees.

We will need committees for programs and catering, registration and onsite volunteers, promotion/communication, vendor/sponsorship, and finance. If you have a talent for one of these areas, or special connections, or enthusiasm, please contact me. I know that participating in these events is a lot of work, but it is also a time of great camaraderie and excitement. Join in the fun!

Stella Clark
Conference Coordinator for 2006
Pclark8@cogeco.ca

Good Food, Old Friends, Good Memories

Come and mingle with the graduates, teachers and staff of the past 35 years

Reminisce with your old classmates

Remember the good old days

Bring your memories and stories

35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER & RECEPTION

May 12, 2005

RESTAURANT INTERNATIONAL

Woodroffe Campus, Algonquin College

1385 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa

Please note: All are welcome to the free Post-dinner Reception, including non-alumni.

When you register please indicate if you will be attending **ONLY** the Post-Dinner Reception

For complete details and to register:
<http://www.algonquincollege.com/hcs/cs/liotech/reunion/invitation.htm>

Chapter Activities

Halton-Peel

Grand River Cruise

Each June the Halton-Peel chapter executive organizes a social event for members, their family and friends to meet and greet before parting for summer holidays. Last year we travelled by car and bus to the Grand River Dinner Cruises in Caledonia where we set off on a cruise on the Grand River through the lovely scenery of South Western Ontario towards the city of Brantford. We had perfect weather for the trip and enjoyed a lovely lunch before heading back to port. I found this trip particularly interesting because I had recently finished reading 'Flint & Feather', the biography of Pauline Johnson, the Mohawk poetess. Pauline spent her youth at 'Chiefswood' her family home that still looks out over the Grand River at the Six Nations Reserve. Because of my interest in the local history, the captain took the time to relate the history of the river, the towns and the people who first settled in the area. This was a very memorable day and I would like to thank the executive for their hard work organizing this event each year and look forward to June 2005.

Vicky Lynham, Halton-Peel Chapter

Shop Talk

The Halton/Peel Chapter TALK SHOP/WELCOME BACK was held on Sept. 23, 2004 at the Mandarin Restaurant in Mississauga. This is a social event getting back in touch with colleagues and friends after the summer. It's a great time to chat and find out what is planned in the association and chapter for the coming year. We had 17 attendees and a great/noisy time was had by all.

Gisela Smithson, Treasurer, Halton-Peel Chapter

Town Hall

Town hall was held October 23rd at the Sheridan College Residence and Conference Centre in Oakville. Members joined the executive in working on a new/revised constitution. We were able to discuss and accept almost all of the changes within an hour and a half. The Halton-Peel recognition award in honor of Eva Schnurr was informally presented, as the recipient was unable to attend. It will be formally awarded at the Christmas Gala at Janet Tieman's home. We look forward to Town Hall each year as it gives the members an opportunity to hear and discuss what is going on in the Halton-Peel chapter, to be heard and to contribute to the direction of the chapter.

Erin MacIntyre, President, Halton-Peel Chapter

Christmas Gala

We had a tremendous turn out for the Christmas Gala that was held on December 3, 2004 at Janet Tieman's house. I estimated that there were at least 35 people in attendance. There were many current and past members present which included at least three former Presidents of the Halton-Peel Chapter. Also present were two former directors of the Sheridan College Library Technician Program, Geraldine Hughes and Marion Wilburn. Janet and her friend Gerta made all the wonderful food. Everyone had a tremendous time. Erin McIntyre, our current President, presented the Regional Recognition Award to our Past-President Stella Clark.

Dena Monachino, Secretary, Halton-Peel Chapter

Super Saturday

Held on January 15th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Mississauga. The two sessions offered were timely and of value. These two sessions were offered simultaneously. The first session, SERVING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES, was presented by Michelle Penta, Diversity Librarian with the Hamilton Public Library. She spoke about cultural and physical diversity in the community at large and the issues that each of these bring to libraries and those who work to serve the public in this context. One of the exercises challenged participants to identify the many locations in Asia from which most immigrants come. Many were unable to name more than a few!

SCRAPBOOKING: CREATING PRECIOUS MEMORIES was presented by Glayds Hamilton, who does this for a living. Participants started on their own scrapbooks with individual photos and materials supplied by Glayds and were instructed in the techniques of using colour and imagination to enhance the presentation.

LOHANIA

There are no activities planned for the coming year. At a recent meeting we have discussed dissolving the chapter, pending ratification from the membership.

Ottawa

Surviving and Thriving in Ottawa

We're busy! We have been focusing all our energies on conference planning...and because of that...this amazing team has produced and delivered the registration package on time!!

Chapter Activities

The other day a law librarian mentioned how impressed she was with our program. She heard about it from another law librarian here in town. Word is getting 'round!!!

Many of you, being members, will have received your hard copy and have registered by now. Please share the website link to anyone you know who might be interested in attending.

Tiptoe...♪...through the tulips...♪

I've already heard comments from a few members having to choose from two interesting sessions on at the same time. Sign of a good conference, I think!

Since the summer we've been meeting every two weeks...and like past chapter executive meetings...some of us go for a beer afterwards! I think this is what's helped us to bond as a team!! And speaking of teams...

The Ottawa Chapter has participated in the formation of the Ottawa IM Roundtable. John Savage, current CASLIS Ottawa Chapter president, has brought together a variety of local information management associations in efforts to plan future local events with more collaboration. There is a really cool Ottawa IM Calendar that lists all the local IM/IT events...with a link to the OALT/ABO website for our conference info.

And we couldn't let the year get past without a joint event with LANCR (Library Association of the National Capital Region). Gislaine Hamelin got together with their executive to plan the upcoming "SmartLibrary: Working Together to Connect the National Capital Region" on April 4th.

Working together to survive and thrive in 2005.
Kathy Heney, Conference Co-ordinator

Thunder Bay

We started this year with a Buffet on Super Bowl Sunday that may become a tradition because for many it was an escape from the tensions that this festive day create between fans of the game and those that wish it were otherwise. It was here that we came up with some ideas that would enable us to finish the season.

On March 3, we attended a demonstration at the City of Thunder Bay Archives. Along with a tour of the Archives we were shown a working example of a records management software program called TRIM. Kathy Walkingshaw, an esteemed member, who was instrumental in setting up a records management program for the City arranged the meeting. She also participated in the three part presentation that was of interest to all.

We are having our ABM in April this year which is late but time and availability constraints limited the

possible choices. As of today we still do not have a list of people willing to take over the executive duties for next year.

Donald Henderson, Thunder Bay Chapter

Toronto

The 2004/05-year was a challenging, but exciting one for the Toronto Chapter. Working with a small executive, we managed to accomplish three successful meetings in October, January and March along with our Annual Holiday Social at the Mandarin Restaurant. As usual, the door prizes were a real treat!

The October membership meeting **PERSONAL BRANDING: SELLING OURSELVES IN A TOUGH MARKET** featured Ulla de Stricker. She provided many useful resources and good advice about presenting and proving our workplace skills/abilities and current and future employers.

In January we had the privilege of Yasmin Khan speaking about **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ART AND SCIENCE OF LEGAL RESEARCH**. She provided and explained many useful resources when conducting research in the legal field.

The March meeting featured Professor Paulette Rothebauer speaking about youth and libraries. **REVIEWING AND RENEWING OUR COMMITMENT TO YOUTH**. This session generated good feedback among the attendees who participated in a lively discussion.

Our Annual Business meeting will be held on Monday, May 2nd at the Toronto Reference Library and will consist of elections for the vacant executive positions of **Vice-President** and **Secretary**). We will also propose a constitution change to publish our In Touch with the Toronto Chapter newsletter from four times a year to twice a year. The guest speaker for the meeting is Erika Steffer, who will discuss skills for job interviews. All details will be mailed to Toronto Chapter members and posted on the OALT/ABO website in mid-April.

Vice-President - schedules meetings and speakers, and assists the President. Serves as President if a vacancy should arise and can appoint a successor. Please note that this is a two-year term – 1st year as Vice-President and 2nd year as President.

Secretary - takes the minutes of all executive meetings, distributes minutes to executive members and archives. Maintains and distributes any records including the Constitution and Bylaws.

I call upon the Toronto Chapter members to consider the wonderful opportunity of these volunteer positions. The executive for 2005/2006 would appreciate the members' participation in



Halton Peel Christmas party
The Halton-Peel Eva Schnurr Award
being presented to Stella Clark (left) by
President Erin McIntyre.



Halton Peel Christmas party
Sheridan College Library Technician
Program Coordinators: Marin Wilburn (left),
Geraldine Hughes (seated)



Grand River Cruise
From left to right: Brigitte
Tremmel, Gisela Smithson,
Pauline Robinson and Liz Aldrey

these functions as we all work together to ensure that each of us is never left out or overwhelmed. For any inquiries regarding the Toronto Chapter or the vacant executive positions, please don't hesitate to contact Marianna Cseto (the incoming President) or Jenna Winkler (jwinkler@torontopubliclibrary.ca). The incoming 2005/2006 executive committee are listed below: President: Marianna Cseto – mcseto@sympatico.ca Vice-President: Vacant Treasurer: Aileen Fisher – aileenfisher@sympatico.ca Publicity & Membership Coordinator: Sue Meggs-Becker: sumajose@total.net Secretary: Vacant

CLA LTIG

Karen Hildebrandt, Convenor

It's an exciting time for all our associations across Canada. I'm part of the Cross Country LT Connections and it's great to hear what everyone is doing. The biggest event for everyone seems to be their annual conferences. So I like to encourage you to check out the following websites and see what everyone is doing for their conference this year! To all the conference committees I wish you every success and encourage everyone to try and attend their provincial conference and if possible come to CLA as well.

AALT:

Reach for the Summit

<http://www.aalt.org/>

May 12 – 15, 2005 in Canmore, AB.

BCLA-LTAIG:

From Scrolls to E-Books: The Story Continues

<http://www.bcla.bc.ca/default.aspx>

April 21-23, 2005 in Burnaby, BC

MALT:

Information is Action

<http://www.malt.mb.ca/>

May 3 & 4, 2005 in Winnipeg, MB

OALT/ABO:

Survive and Thrive

<http://www.oaltabo.on.ca/>

May 11-15, 2005 in Ottawa, ON

SALT:

Linking Communities: The Next 100 Years

<http://www.lib.sk.ca/sla/conference2005/delegatinfo.html>

April 23-25, 2005 in Saskatoon, SK

CLA:

Rediscover the Library Movement

<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2005/index.htm>

June 15 – 18, 2005 in Calgary, Alberta

Book Review

1215: The Year of Magna Carta

Danny Danziger and John Gillingham

Simon & Schuster, 2003.

I wish history had been this easy to absorb when I was at school! Don't be put off by the 312 pages – this is a small book, and an extremely easy read. The authors describe the state of English society at the time of Magna Carta, under chapter headings such as The Countryside, School etc. Each chapter begins with a quotation from the Magna Carta, and then describes the context of that clause – why it was important at the time, how the situation got that way, examples taken from contemporary writings, and in many cases the impact that that clause has had on future democracies. What interesting times they lived in!

I learned a huge amount of possibly useful trivia – for example, where the American concept of “posse” comes from (the victim of a crime raised a “hue and cry”, and then every able-bodied man in the district had to turn out as quickly as possible and do the utmost in his power – in Latin, *pro toto posse suo* – to chase and apprehend the accused). In the same chapter, Trial By Jury, there's an explanation of how the American grand jury derives from the “jury of presentment” which named those individuals who were believed to have committed crimes – I've always wondered about that. King John moved around a lot – he had 50 residences, castles, palaces and hunting lodges, 15 of them with wine cellars (I liked that part!). There's a wonderful chapter that describes the amount of food that had to be purchased ahead of his entourage (two of his four bakers went ahead to make the next day's bread), and what chaos occurred when the King slept in or changed his mind, or didn't arrive at the same time, or even place, as the royal household. In his baggage train was a lot of money to pay expenses, and a lot of the royal regalia to impress the common folk. At the end of John's life, after Magna Carta had been signed, part of his baggage train got sucked into quicksand on the Lincolnshire coast – all English children know King John as the king who lost his treasure “in the Wash”.

Apart from the purchases by his household, King John was very bad for the economy – he thought he

would buy his way into heaven by paying for a crusade, but he ran out of his own money and taxed the common people to pay for the crusade – and the barons got fed up and forced him to sign the Magna Carta at Runnymede, on June 15, 1215. It was supposed to be a peace treaty between John and the barons, but the peace didn't hold. Instead, Magna Carta became "the cornerstone of liberty in the English-speaking world".

The Magna Carta is a very short document – I've seen one of the four remaining original copies, in Salisbury Cathedral – but it has had an amazing impact on democracy. Small wonder that an acre of land at Runnymede has become American soil, containing a tribute from the American Bar Association as well as a memorial to John F. Kennedy.

As a footnote, right after I finished "1215", I started to read "The Zimmerman Telegram", about another world-changing document – this time the one that brought America into the First World War almost exactly 700 years later. The two books confirm my belief in the importance of documents, and of archivists, and of the information profession.

Maggie Weaver

Web Sites to Educate and Amuse You

Copyright Policy Branch [Canada]
http://www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/progs/ac-ca/progs/pda-cpb/index_e.cfm

"The Department of Canadian Heritage, Copyright Policy Branch in co-operation with Industry Canada's Intellectual Property Policy Directorate, is responsible for formulating and implementing an integrated Canadian copyright policy." The site provides an overview of Canadian copyright law, news and information about copyright reform, and links to legislation, court decisions, and related publications. Bilingual

Copyright & The Internet: Is There A Canadian Way?

[http://epresence.tv/website_archived.aspx?dir=Open~Source~|~Open~Access::~Views~from~Across~the~Disciplines~\(February-March-2005\)](http://epresence.tv/website_archived.aspx?dir=Open~Source~|~Open~Access::~Views~from~Across~the~Disciplines~(February-March-2005))

Dr. Michael Geist's February 10th presentation at the University of Toronto's launch of a new Open Access/Open Source project. The talk traced the history of Canadian copyright law reform and highlights the dangers in the current set of government proposals. He calls attention to the potential for positive reform that would serve the interests of both creators and users. The webcast,

with slides, of his address is available in Quicktime, Real Player, and MS Media Player. To view the webcast, click on the link: [Open Source | Open Access: Views from Across the Disciplines \(February-March 2005\)](#)

Authority Tools for Audiovisual and Music Catalogers: An Annotated List of Useful Resources.
<http://www.olacinc.org/capc/authtools.html>
A peer reviewed and newly revised for 2005 resource compiles descriptions of pertinent information sources related to doing authority work for headings on audiovisual and music bibliographic records

PUBLIB Best Books for 2004

<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/PubLib/archive/0502/0201.html>

The best books and audiobooks for 2004 (and a good list to recommend at any time), as selected by the PUBLIB discussion list community. PUBLIB is a 5,000-member discussion list for public librarians. List compiled by David Faulkner, Austin Public Library, Texas.

NYPL Digital Gallery

When the New York Public Library first opened their digital gallery a while back but their servers were overwhelmed by the response, which led to the gallery being taken offline until they could shore up the ability of their system to handle it.

It's back online with 275,000+ images for viewing and personal use, though you will need to pay a fee for some uses (including the use of the images on your Web site).

An article about the collection appeared in the Christian Science Monitor this week:

<http://www.christiansciencemonitor.com/2005/0321/p25s01-stin.html>

People News

Susan Morley

On Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 1:30 pm, Susan Morley, Manager, Information centre, CSA Group, will be presenting at the e-content Information Highways conference. The following description of the session has been taken from the conference program:

Using e-content to conduct competitive intelligence quickly and effectively

Many content and information professionals have responsibilities for providing research and insight on

competitors, customers, markets, technologies and the regulatory environment to their clients. The remarkable rise of e-content - in terms of quality, quantity and diversity - means that users of the web and information-based services can provide faster, better response to their clients. Since the inception of the Information Highways Conference, the Toronto Chapter of the Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals [SCIP] have jointly presented seminars and plenary sessions that explore and explain how leading practitioners are leverage e-Content as an effective tool for providing a myriad of different types of competitive intelligence. Information Highways and SCIP are pleased to present this dynamic and practical program devoted to current, up-to-date techniques and trends in using e-content to conduct competitive intelligence - quickly and effectively.

Moderator: Lithwick, David

Panelists: Morley, Susan, Mathur, Sharad, Modjeska, Natalia



CTT+ What does that mean?

CTT+ - what does that mean? I now have the initials after my name and it was a goal that I had been working towards for some time and was very difficult to achieve.

CompTIA CTT+™ Certification (taken from CompTIA website)

The CompTIA CTT+ certification is the cross-industry credential recognizing excellence in instruction. The two-part examination is based on a set of objectives designed to measure the mastery of core instructor skills - those decisions, actions and behaviors that competent instructors must demonstrate to successfully deliver training. Those holding the CompTIA CTT+ certification have proven excellence in preparation, presentation, communication, facilitation and evaluation in a classroom environment.

While it is significant that the computer industry is the first to endorse the CompTIA CTT+ program, the wider impact is that this certification is applicable to all training professionals in all industries. The CompTIA CTT+ certification exam

was created to eliminate the redundancies among the numerous vendor-sponsored instructor certification programs.

I started the series of courses in January 2002 with Friesen, Kaye and Associates, a training firm located in Ottawa, Ontario. (<http://www.fka.com>). The journey ended finally in October 2004 when I wrote my final exam, passed and became certified as a CTT+ Certified Technical Trainer. The + has recently been added so that now the certification is good for life. There were parts added to the exam and courses to allow this to happen.

This certification comes from the CompTIA association. CompTIA stands for the Computer Technology Industry Association. I have been told that this certification is equal to the hardest of the Microsoft certifications. It means that I can go to anyone's organization, be handed a training program and should be able to train individuals on that topic. I have learned the skills and techniques to be successful as a trainer and to allow the individuals that I train to be successful too.

I am very proud to have this after my name because it means I took on yet another challenge and emerged victorious.

I have also joined the IT Pro association – part of CompTIA to keep in touch with updates, colleagues and changes to the profession.

More information about this certification and others can be found at: <http://www.comptia.org/>.

Pam Casey CTT+

Letters to the Editor

Disgruntled Follow-up

I just re-read Stacey's gutsy column in our January 2005 Newsletter (yes, I'm trying to clean off my cluttered kitchen table). At the time I sent her a kudos (which included a private kudos to the Association for publishing it!) and remarked that I hoped to see some action on the listserv as a result. Did I? No.

At the end of last month we saw Marie Kraus "Looking to connect with others in the School Library Chapter". Did she? I don't know. I only recently sent her my reply. I have a suggestion. Can the Association Membership Coordinator compile a list of School Chapter members and

share it amongst said members? How else will we know who we are?

We are oh so very quiet these days on the listserv. Where are our congratulatory comments to the 2005 Conference Planning Committee? What a fantastic registration package! Kudos for getting it out in hard copy SO EARLY. I could have used it to get funds from THIS fiscal year (something I don't remember happening very often)! You'll see me at the banquet. I wouldn't miss hearing our guest speaker for the world!

Perhaps we are all in February survival mode due to the cold and with Spring we will begin thriving again. Sorry for the corn but it's the Conference theme and our President's message too. They must be on to something!

Tracy Morgan
Halton-Peel & School Chapter Member

Genealogy in action

I really enjoyed reading Annette Derosier's story about finding her husband's relatives in the CEF database and at the National Archives. I too have searched the database and found relatives, but since I did it all by computer and by mail, it was nice to read about visiting the actual repository for all these items and hear her description on handling the documents. It gives me a picture of what lies behind the photocopies I received. What a marvelous resource!

Stacy Goddard

Looking For Niagara College Library Technician Graduates

If you graduated from the Niagara College Library Technician Program between 1969 and 1989 we would love to hear from you. In the months ahead we would like to plan a reunion, so watch for details.

Please take a moment to send your name, address, year of graduation, email and phone number to Doug Willford at: dwillford@coqeco.ca.

Hope to hear from you!!!

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Abbey Market Post Office, Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Road West
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