
TECH TALK

Volume 30, No 4. February 2003



President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the beginning of 2003! I trust the holidays went well and way too quickly, as always, and we're now all settled into that marvelous groove of daily life – funny how that groove occasionally morphs into a rut and then you quickly alter some small thing (i.e.: diet, haircut, room colour) and suddenly you're grooving along again. My life in a nutshell. Just thought I'd share that "New-Year-type" musing!!

Coming up in February, we are hoping to hold a workshop on genealogy. More information and details will be supplied. March brings our annual dinner and general meeting at the Slovak Legion where new executive will be chosen for the up-coming year. Please consider contributing to OALT by becoming a member of the executive. I'm afraid I'll be stepping down from my role as president sooner than expected, so there will be opportunity for someone else to share more working experience and time than I was able to.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon,

Cyndy MacKenzie
President



Director's Report

The OALT/ABO Board of Directors and Executive meeting took place via teleconference on Saturday January 18, 2003. The 2003 annual conference entitled *Network/Réseautage* will be held in Toronto May 21-25. TALTA has arranged for some very interesting workshops. There will be two sessions dealing with the proposed Constitutional changes for OALT/ABO. It is hoped that delegates will attend a session either Friday or Saturday before the ABM and familiarize themselves with these changes so that discussions can take place during the ABM. Conference packages should be out in early March.

The Constitutional Committee will be sending the proposed changes to the regional Presidents in February. Once Thunder Bay receives a copy we will send the document to our members. We will be discussing the proposed changes at our annual dinner meeting in March.

The OALT/ABO Salary Survey has been sent out to all members. Please fill it in and return it in the envelope provided. If you did not receive one or have misplaced yours please contact me and I will get you another one. The Salary Survey is extremely important as many employers use it to determine wages, job responsibilities, job classifications, etc.

Marina Dranitsaris, the Provincial President, has been in contact with Laraine Tapak of Confederation College and reports that Confederation College will be offering the LIT (Library and Information Technicians) program starting in September 2004. This is great news and we will keep you posted.

Our Annual Business Meeting/Dinner will be held March 27 at the Slovak Legion. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Elections will be taking place and I will be stepping down as Regional Director. I have enjoyed representing Thunder Bay for the past two years at the Provincial level and I thank the Thunder Bay members for their support.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Barten
Thunder Bay Regional Director

OALT/ABO REGIONAL EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Cyndy MacKenzie
H: 345-5161
macnorth@tbaytel.net

TREASURER

Caron Naysmith
H: 345-9572
cnaysmith@lhbc.edu.on.ca

SECRETARY

Donald Henderson
H: 344-4029
dnhender@tbaytel.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR

Kathy Crowdon
H: 345-6414 ; W: 343-8728
kcrowdon@mail.lakeheadn.ca

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Linda Bukowy
H: 577-5430
lbukowy@hotmail.com

David Taylor
H: 622-6221
dctaylor@mail.lakeheadn.ca

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Valerie Barten
H: 475-3668
rbarten@tbaytel.net
vbarten@lhbc.edu.on.ca

ARCHIVIST

Helen Hecrema
H: 767-4987
hccrcma@confederationc.on.ca

Treasurer's Report
(As of January 31, 2003).

Expenses:

Valerie Barten (Travel Expenses)	206.88
Thunder Bay Museum (Jingle Mingle)	350.00
Public Relations (Flyer)	24.57
TOTAL	\$581.45

Revenue:

Regional Subsidies:	148.00
TOTAL	\$148.00

Assets:

Cash in Bank:	2444.45
G.I.C.	<u>2144.30</u>
Total	\$4588.75

Bank Balance:	\$2444.45
Cheque Book Balance:	\$2444.45

Membership Statistics:

Graduates -	21
Students -	0
Senior -	0
Retired -	2
Unemployed -	2
Institutional -	0
Associate -	2

Total	<u>27</u>
--------------	------------------

As of Jan 31, 2003

"Graphology or Psychology?"

written by Donald M Henderson



On October 30 several members from Thunder Bay regional OALT/ABO showed up at PARO to partake of a workshop presented by Erika Maki. Erica, who is a certified graphoanalyst, analyzes handwriting in order to gain insight into the character of the scribe. According to Erika this has become quite a useful tool for personnel departments of the majority of industries in continental Europe. People in North America are beginning to see benefits from using this tool, so positions are being created that will subscribe to the work Erika has been trained to do.

Erika received accolades for her presentation "Sign on the Dotted Line" during the conference in March. At that time she was able to analyze the handwriting of most of the participants. This is a point that the present group would have been well advised to remember. She suckered us. We were given enough information to make us believe we could overcome her scrutiny and then revealed our hidden wounds to all present when she examined us word by word.

Erika told us about how pressure was an indicator of emotional depth while slant was a sign of emotional release. Then she revealed that the high and low of the main body of writing in relation to the center line showed a tendency to be heavenly to community bound respectively. Add to that the graduation from a friendly to hostile attitude indicated by how the letters in one's writing are connected. Our writing can tell a lot about who we are in our innermost being.

Our signature on the other hand tells us what image we wish to portray. Or so we think. Signatures are for show but still do their part to reveal all. You sign your image and write your essence. When looking at the signature the size relates to the introvert/extrovert dyad, while the legibility hints at how open you really are. Add to that how the

underscore exposes your independence, indecision, sadness, or protectiveness and you should become very aware of who you are. As I said "Graphology or Psychology?"

Then Erika had each of us write a sentence and give a specimen of our signature. If you thought you could change your style in order to keep some secrets forget it -ch!! I was first in line to sign on the line and had my soul exposed. When Erika went to the board to analyze me (or is that really my writing), suddenly there were all kinds of nuances on the basics that she taught us that explained so much more about the things I do and say. In the end it was very informative and not all that painful as most of us seemed to have a fun time. I had to leave early, so the rest of you are still mysterious to me in many ways. If you want to dig deeper, Erica Maki has produced a video which is now available at Waverley Library.



**SO MUCH INFORMATION ...
HOW DO WE FIND IT?**
written by Linda Bukovy

The dissemination of information is always changing: from notches in stone, incisions in clay, ink applied to papyrus and paper, to billions upon billions of "pages" written in digital script and made accessible to millions through the use of the Internet. With so much information being made available, technology must keep up, not only in the formation of these pages, but in the retrieval, storage, and archiving. In reaction to this, web services grow, and libraries have been shifting towards this trend, providing e-books, information packaging, digital collections, and on-line library services featuring a user-centered design. But still, with so much information, how is a person able to retrieve it?

On January 13, 2002, Mr. Alexander

Lyubechansky, MA, MLIS, Director of Library and Information Services at Health Sciences North, stated his thoughts on the information presented at the Internet Librarian 2002 Conference that took place in November 2002 in Palm Springs, California. He provided a list of web sites that covered search engines and tutorials, directories, the invisible web, web blogging sites and other topics.

Due to the amazing span of information covered at the workshop, I'll be listing only a few search engines that may prove invaluable.

Teoma (<http://www.teoma.com>) . Launched in April 2002, this site identifies metasearches and clusters, and the results have been referred by experts in their fields of knowledge. A refine option allows for narrow and sharper searches throughout the web communities. Weaknesses for this site are the relatively small size (its newness is the cause) and limited Boolean search strategies.

Metacrawler (<http://www.metacrawler.com/>) . It queries multiple search engines, pulling up the top ranking web sites. However, not all web sites support Boolean searching.

Google (<http://www.google.ca>) searches 2 billion pages. It has cached archives and provides many options in the advanced searching. An asterisk can be used as a wildcard, standing it for plural forms, word in exact quotes, etc. As an aside, Google uses DMOZ to group its directories. A drawback is that it only indexes the first 101 k of an article, so watch out: some very good information just won't get grabbed by Google's spider due to that limit.

All The Web (<http://www.alltheweb.com>) is a big, fast and good search engine with great advanced search feature fields. It indexes full web pages, and its database is frequently refreshed.

Kartoo (<http://www.kartoo.com>) is a metasearch engine developed in France and is laid out in a map design; the bigger the ball, the more the sites that have been found. A click-on menu is on the left.

Gigablast (<http://www.gigablast.com>) is a new search engine which can search by page, fields, URLs or subURLs, and advanced searches. One drawback is that OR is the default connector, not AND.

DMOZ (<http://dmoz.org/>) is a subject directory that has been developed and maintained by librarians and experts in different fields of knowledge. It is arranged by subject, i.e. Humanities, Sciences, etc.. Google uses DMOZ as its directory.

However, as Mr. Lyubechansky points out, there is more information available than meets the eye. The visible web accesses approximately 4 million pages; the invisible web holds an estimated 4 billion X 400!!! This astronomical number includes search engines/subject directories, formatted text, searchable databases, subscriptions and library catalogues. Here are some URLs that may prove to be helpful.

Librarian's Index to the Internet (<http://www.lii>), Virtual Chase (<http://www.virtualchase.com>), Profusion (<http://www.profusion.com>) and The Invisible Web (www.invisibleweb.com) are some of the many URLs mentioned.

IMPORTANT NOTE: No two search engines are alike, so be prepared to spend time to find out how they work.



Hear ye! Hear ye!
It's almost time for our Annual Dinner/General Meeting. It will be held on March 27, 2003 at the Slovak Legion. Watch for further details in the upcoming flyer.

**Books More Popular than Donuts:
1999 Library Statistics
Ottawa, November 27, 2002**
article submitted by Caron Naysmith

"At the start of the new century, there are more libraries in Canada than Tim Hortons and McDonald's restaurants combined - 22 000 compared to 2 049 'Tim's' and more than 1 200 McDonald's. And for every three donuts sold by Tim Hortons in 1999, one book or other item was accessed by someone in a library somewhere in the country."

This remarkable information is part of an impressive report that was released today by the Library and Archives of Canada entitled National Core Library Statistic Program - Statistical Report 1999: Cultural and Economic Impact of Libraries on Canada. The Statistics Program collects information on the facilities and services of our country's library network and measures the overall impact on Canadian society of library services.

Data from 1 490 public, academic and special libraries nation-wide was collected and analyzed. For example, in 1999, each library answered an average of 21 000 inquiries, circulated 186 000 publications, facilitated 69 000 on-site uses of collections, owned 202 000 items and spent \$1.1 million on staffing and collections.

Results of the study demonstrate the significant role libraries of all types play in Canadian society. In 1999 alone, library users asked librarians and their staff more than 40 million questions, an average of 110 000 inquiries per day every day of the year. This works out to 1.3 questions posed per year by every man, woman and child in this country.

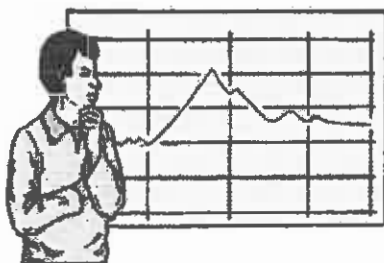
"Libraries have made and continue to make a difference in the quality of life of every Canadian," said Dr. Roch Carrier, National Librarian. "They symbolize freedom of expression, they promote literacy and reading and they provide both young and old with access to new worlds."

Dr. Alvin M. Schrader, who along with Michael R. Brundin co-authored the report, adds that Canadian library users are estimated to have consulted well over one million library publications per day every day of 1999, on average more than 13 items per person.

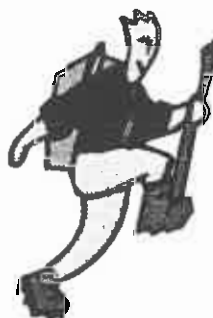
The Statistical Report 1999 was released on the 10th anniversary of the Advisory Committee for the National Core Library Statistic Program. Other reports have provided vital information for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996. Of the 1,490 libraries surveyed for the 1999 report, 60% of them were public libraries, 15% academic, and 25% special libraries.

Funding for the Statistics Program was received from the Department of Canadian Heritage and the National Library of Canada, with additional support from the Canadian Library Association, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, the Council of Administrators of Large Urban Public Libraries, the Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la document and members of the Provincial and Territorial Library Directors' Council.

The report is available online at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/3/r3-203-e.html>.



CHILDREN'S LIT CONFERENCE



Going to Ottawa for the summer holidays? Celebrate the National Library of Canada's 50th anniversary by participating in *The Fun of Reading: International Forum on Canadian*

Children's Literature from June 26-29, 2003 (Thursday to Sunday). Many people (writers, illustrators and storytellers, children's librarians, teachers, researchers, booksellers, young readers, and literature specialists) will come together to discuss current and future challenges and issues. Themes include public libraries' and school libraries' role, reading habits and patterns, tales, illustration as a visual language and stories of self-discovery. The conference activities include discussions, public readings and book signings, presentations by the above-mentioned groups, exhibitions and a trade fair.

For more information on the International Forum on Canadian Children's Literature, contact the National Library at (613) 992-2501, mail: National Library of Canada, IFCCCL, 395 Wellington St., Room 196, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4 or at www.nlc-bnc/forum.

Editor's Message / Job Contact

If you have stories or information (library related or other) you'd like to share, please contact me. In addition, if you have any leads regarding upcoming jobs in the library field, please let me know, and I will inform members through e-mail. Important: if any e-mail address changes occur, please let me know promptly at e-mail address lbukovy@hotmail.com or by phone at (807) 577-5430. - Linda Bukovy