



Chinook Regional Library

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Please write or call with your comments and ideas.

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This publication is directed to Library Trustees, Municipal Councilors and is meant also as an avenue of information between the Chinook Regional Library and the general public.

Contributions are encouraged from Trustees, library workers and all persons interested in continuing standards of library service.

Update . . .

A NEWSLETTER FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEES

National Library Celebrates 50 Years

The National Library of Canada celebrated its 50th year in 2003, prompting Prime Minister Jean Chretien to proclaim it "instrumental to democracy itself."

To mark the occasion, on September 8, 2003, Canada Post issued a set of postage stamps featuring some of our country's most celebrated authors. In addition, the Library held a series of special events during the year including an International Forum on Canadian Children's Literature in June.

When the National Library of Canada was created by an Act of Parliament in 1953, it was an event long overdue. Up until that time, Canada's national library functions were assigned to the Library of Parliament. Today, there are further changes. As the Library enters its 50th year, a new institution is being created to bring together again the National Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada.

Initially the Library concentrated on creating a Union Catalogue consisting of millions of records from hundreds of libraries across the country. Once merged into a single file, these combined records - and millions more subsequently acquired - assist libraries and individuals in locating and borrowing books from institutions across the country.

Another project was to produce a definitive annual listing of all the books published in Canada. *Canadiana*, as it is called, has served as Canada's official national bibliography since 1950.

The Library also began implementing the legal depository provisions of the National Library Act, whereby publishers are required to provide - at their own expense - copies of every title published or printed in Canada. In addition, 300 000 volumes were transferred from the Library of Parliament, and many other volumes were acquired from a wide range of individuals and institutions.

The National Library of Canada now houses the world's largest and most important collection of Canadian publications: books, newspapers, magazines, and recordings in paper, microfilm, audio, video and electronic formats. The Library also provides library and information services for the entire Canadian nation directly and in partnership with other libraries.

Today, Canada is one of over 100 countries maintaining a national library. Although far from being the country's oldest or largest library, the National Library of Canada plays a central role in our nation's life, collecting the country's published documentary heritage and providing library and information services for all Canadians.

The heritage and service accomplishments of the National Library during its first 50 years can be attributed to the support of the Parliament and people of Canada and the dedication and leadership of its staff.

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www.city.swift-current.sk.ca/city/chinook/chinook.htm

PROFILE



Tannis Topham
Eastend, Saskatchewan

A busy mother, wife, and community volunteer, Tannis Topham still finds time to enjoy reading and finds the Eastend Branch of the Chinook Regional Library invaluable in supplying just the right books for her.

Tannis likes to read mystery and general suspense, particularly if they contain a touch of humour. At present she is reading books by Janet Evanovich. She also likes to read humorous non-fiction by authors such as Dave Barry.

To find the books she wants, Tannis uses many sources. For new books she mostly scans the websites of Chapters or Barnes and Noble from her computer at home and asks for them at the Eastend Branch. The ones the Branch don't have they get for her on Interlibrary Loan. Sometimes they take a while to arrive due to the popularity of the book and the demands of other

readers.

Tannis has been a member of the Eastend Library Board for over 10 years and often helps out in the library. She says that the most obvious change in the library over the years has been the introduction of computers.

Because she has a computer at home, Tannis does not use the on-line services provided at her local Branch. However, she noted that whenever she is in the library, the public access computers are in almost continuous use with patrons reading e-mail, doing research, or generally surfing the internet.

She is also enthusiastic about the recent expansion of the Eastend Branch. "It has been really good" she says, "It has made it easier to get at books, especially children's books, because of the new children's reading area. It has also reduced congestion around the librarian's desk by moving the public access computers from the front."

Tannis and her husband, Kelly, have two children, Kent aged 14 and Melissa aged 12. When they were younger, Kent and Melissa used the library all the time. Nowadays they use the library less due to school and other activities, but they still borrow books for recreational reading.

Tannis is active in the community. As well as her Library Board duties, she is secretary of the local rink board and treasurer of the Figure Skating Club. In addition, she is a curler in the winter and a golfer in the summer.

An Eye For A Book?

Futuristic technology will be introduced at a school to allow students borrow books and to buy lunch in the blink of an eye.

The Venerable Bede school in Sunderland, England, will install an iris recognition system in September which can identify people by scanning their retina.

The machines will be installed in the school's library and dining room, and, as a student approaches, their eye will be photographed.

A computer will then bring up their individual account, enabling them to take out a book or buy lunch using cash credit.

"We think we are the first school in the country to use this," Headmaster Ed Yates said. "This is not science fiction. This is technology that exists."

Students and staff have decided to try the technology rather than using a swipe card system, as cards can be easily lost.

After concluding that cards were too unreliable, The Venerable Bede school decided to go ahead with the James Bond-style technology so students could leave their cash and meal tickets at home.

Assistant Headteacher David Airey said: "We think iris recognition will be more cost-effective in the long term than cards which need to be replaced and reissued."

Russell Hawes, from CBR Solutions, the Edinburgh-based company chosen to implement the new technology, said: "This recognition system is extremely reliable and misidentification is virtually unknown."

"The kids love it and they're really excited," added David Airey.

Saskatchewan Library Week

Saskatchewan Library Week is a province-wide, annual event, which promotes the wonderful resources and services that libraries have to offer.

Saskatchewan Library Week is celebrated throughout Saskatchewan in all types of libraries, in both urban and rural communities and by all age groups.

The Saskatchewan Library Association has proudly presented this week-long celebration for the past 27 years.

The theme for 2003 is **'Everything from A to Z @ your library'**. Library Week 2002 was so popular that the same graphics are featured again this year on the poster. The A-Z listing on the Saskatchewan Library Week poster shows many of the things that libraries have to offer - from books and magazines; electronic, audio, and video; and internet access.

Bookmarks displaying the Library Week theme will be available at each branch and some branches are planning special events to showcase the library and its services.

The "My Favourite Book Contest" has grown in popularity over the years. Once again it is being promoted by CBC Radio.

Three winning entries will be read each day on the "Afternoon Edition" and the winners will receive book prizes donated by various Canadian book publishers. SaskEnergy will again assist with the judging of the entries and provide financial sponsorship.

Libraries are places of opportunity, self-help and lifelong learning. And with today's library technology, information from around the world is just a few clicks away. Now that is wonderful and exciting news!

For more information, visit
<http://www.lib.sk.ca/sla/slw.htm>

Swords to Ploughshares

A former nuclear shelter has been turned into a massive underground library storage facility by five Massachusetts colleges. The three story facility has been converted into a repository for 500,000 books.

The bunker, bought by Amherst College in 1992, was built in 1957 to accommodate 300 men for 30 days in case of nuclear attack.

"It's so ironic," said Amherst College librarian Willis Bridegam. "Here is something dedicated to war and we are storing library material in it. But there it was 4.5 miles south of the campus. And why not?"

Most materials stored there will never leave the building. Archive staff will retrieve books from the stacks for researchers.

For the Kids

A special 'Thank You' goes to the following individuals and groups for their generous donations over the past year (October 2002 to September 2003) of \$100.00 or more in support of Chinook Regional Library's "For The Kids" Program:

Doris Bratvold
Stewart Valley Recreational Board
Melhoff Electric (77) Ltd
Dorothy Saunderson
Central Butte Donor's Choice
Ponteix Pre-School

The "For The Kids" campaign is an initiative of the Chinook Regional Library to expand the busiest part of the library, the Children's Book Section, by placing the best Canadian Children's Books into its Branch Libraries. All donations are gratefully received. Chinook Regional Library is a recognized charitable organization and income tax deductible receipts are issued.

Summer Reading Program 2003

This summer, children were encouraged to
"Camp Out @ Your Library"

The winners of the Saskatchewan Library Association \$25 Prize were:
Quinn Melenchuk, aged 7 years, of Swift Current
Kelsey Powell, aged 8 years, of Swift Current

The winners of the Chinook Regional Library Reading Log Draw were:
Brooke Clary, aged 7 years, of Leader
Cole Mertin, aged 7 years, of Leader
Shantelle May, aged 10 years, of Central Butte
To enter the draw, each child had to read at least 10 books.

Statistics

Number of Participating Branch Libraries	20
Number of Children Registered in the Program	885
Performing Tour Attendance	695
Number of Books Read	7,222

Librarian's Workshop

The 2003 Librarian's Workshop held on May 26 had an interesting and different program in the afternoon. The morning was spent updating the twenty-two librarians and assistant librarians that attended on library practices and giving a preview of the new RSS interlibrary loan system.

After lunch, Michael Keaschuk, Regional Librarian, introduced **Clayton Desjarlais** of Mawandonan Consulting.

In a presentation that was both interesting and informative, Mr. Desjarlais, a Canadian Status Indian, gave a very educational program on aboriginal culture, history, and current issues.

He explained his status as a member of Canada's First Nations and reviewed the various treaties that affected him and his family.

With great frankness and humour he examined the place of First Nations peoples in present day Canadian society and how the laws affecting First Nations have changed in recent years.

In doing so he dispelled many misunderstandings and preconceptions and he left his audience with a new perception of modern aboriginal concerns.

Chinook Regional Library received a grant to hold this training session to promote Aboriginal Awareness.

Call Her Old-Fashioned

At 93, Elsie Chandler is not only the oldest active librarian in Silverhill, Alabama, she is the Oscar Johnson Memorial Library's only paid librarian—at a salary of \$50 a month. That is "good wages for a woman my age," she notes. Although all transactions are still recorded by hand, the library now has one computer with Internet access. "I hate them, but that's the future," she admits.

Eastend Branch Expansion



Cleo Morvik, Melissa Topham, Ashley Johnson, and Shayla Alexander assisted in opening Eastend Branch's new extension by cutting the ribbon at a ceremony last February. The new extension houses the Branch's children's book collection and a carpeted storytime area. It also allows more room around the public access computers and the library as a whole.

On the same occasion, Tannis Topham was presented with her Long Service Certificate on behalf of the Chinook Regional Library for her 10 years of service on the Eastend Library Board.



Clayton Desjarlais addresses the librarians at the Workshop.

Library Service Awards

Service Awards will be presented on behalf of the Chinook Regional Library at its Fall Board Meeting.

10 Year Service Awards

Staff Member:

Pat Palmer, Swift Current Branch

20 Year Service Awards

Board Members:

Ken Carleton, Regional Board

Germaine Legault, Gravelbourg Branch Board

Lucille Lizee, Gravelbourg Branch Board

Marion Mann, Gravelbourg Branch Board

Ruth Stinson, Regional Board, Ponteix and Mankota Branch Boards

Merle Croteau, Pennant Branch Board

Staff:

Luanne Hancock, Cadillac Corner Library

Judy Mauer, Headquarters

Hans Andersen Letter

A formerly unknown letter from fairy-tale writer Hans Christian Anderson was found at Copenhagen's Royal Library last February, reported the *Copenhagen Post*. The author was 26 years old when he sent the greeting to his mother in 1831. The letter has apparently lain uncatalogued in the library's archives since 1905, when Anderson's papers were deposited there.



Shelley Gilroy (left) and Florence Duesterbeck (right) of Provincial Library instruct Doreen Roberts (centre) in the use of RSS, the new interlibrary loan software at a workshop last spring. The software will be coming into use throughout the Region in upcoming months. Personnel from Swift Current Branch also attended the workshop

Calendar of Coming Events

October 2003	Library Appreciation Month
October 19-25, 2003	Saskatchewan Library Week Theme: Everything from A to Z @ Your Library
October 27, 2003	International School Library Day
November 1-8, 2003	Canadian Children's Book Week Theme: Families and Friends
November 15, 2003	CRL Fall Board Meeting
November 29, 2003	11th Annual Saskatchewan Book Awards Gala, Regina
February 22-28, 2004	Canada's Freedom to Read Week
April 2004	SLA Conference and Spring Seminars

Most Wanted

In July, the BBC reported that the police in Britain have listed Peter Joseph Bellwood as one of the county's 10 most-wanted fugitives. The 50 year-old is being sought for questioning about the theft of rare maps from the National Library of Wales.

Staff at Aberystwyth were alerted to the thefts after reading that Mr. Bellwood was wanted by police following the theft of thousands of valuable maps from libraries in Finland and Denmark, and across Europe. They checked their records and realised he had visited the National Library, and subsequently discovered that rare maps were missing. Two years later, these maps have still not been recovered, and Bellwood has disappeared.

His modus operandi was to visit the libraries and, using a razor, cut out prints and maps from rare antiquarian books dating from the 16th and 17th centuries.

These rare pieces of history belonging to some of Europe's oldest establishments are left permanently destroyed but the maps stolen can be sold for between \$1,000 and \$25,000 to markets across the world. It is estimated that 4,500 maps of this type are missing from libraries across Europe

Although police suspect he may have been 'stealing to order' for a mysterious collector, so far no one has come forward with any names and it is equally possible that the maps were sold on by unscrupulous dealers.

On his visits to the National Library, Bellwood removed a "New and Accurat Map of the World", as well as plates of each of the four continents from Speed's 1627 atlas and a valuable world map and plates of the four continents from Ortelius' *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*. Then he vandalised two valuable atlases by Gerard Mercator, dated 1619 and 1636. The result was that Bellwood succeeded in removing more than 100 plates from the library. At

Nanny Knows Best!

The Flesh Public Library in Piqua, Ohio, had a brand-new Web site, but the library's internet filters wouldn't let the director access it.

"We banned ourselves," Director James Old said in the November 22 *Cincinnati Post*.

The library - named 70 years ago for benefactor Leo Flesh - uses Net Nanny filters, which rejected the library's site name, **www.fleshpublic.lib.oh.us**.

Changing the Web address to **www.piqua.lib.oh.us** finally allowed the library's site through.

Comment

"If our public schools, besides the hockey rink and, increasingly, the soccer field, are our common cathedrals for Canadianizing the young, our public libraries, along with our parks, are the common spaces for adults to forge the common bonds of citizenship. When one thinks of libraries, one thinks of books. The dawn of the electronic age was said to spell the death of books - and newspapers. But the obituaries have proven premature." Haroon Siddiqui, editorial page editor emeritus, *Toronto Star*, Nov 2002.

NOTICE

Fall Board Meeting

Saturday, November 15th, 2003

Place: Chinook Regional Library Headquarters
1240 Chaplin St. West, Swift Current

Time: 12:30 pm - Registration & Coffee
1:00 pm - Meeting

Topics: Appointment of auditors
Proposed budget for 2004
Branch Annual Report
Branch and Corner Library Awards

Please bring your copy of the minutes of the Annual Meeting, March 22nd, 2003, with you

SPECIAL DOOR PRIZE: Computer and Monitor

one stroke—or to be more accurate, with several strokes—Bellwood had reduced the value of Wales' national holdings by £250,000.

Speed's map, for instance, is particularly sought after by American collectors as it was the first to portray California as an island.