



formerly Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions
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BULLETIN

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New unit added to the Canada in the Making educational resource



The expanded and updated Canada in the Making site at: <http://www.canadiana.org/citm> features hundreds of primary source documents interwoven into narratives on the history of Canada's *Constitution*, *Aboriginal treaties*, and **Pioneers and Immigrants** (new), with accompanying summaries. Easy to read, it has been reviewed and approved by one of Canada's senior historians and developed with teaching resources identifying curriculum outcomes, objectives and expectations for all provinces.

The Early Canadiana Online (ECO) database is available free to all Canadian elementary and high schools thanks to the support of Canadian Heritage's Canadian Culture Online Program, Library and Archives Canada, numerous Canadian libraries, and various public and private sponsors.

Special thanks to **The Chawkers Foundation**, and past sponsors The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, The Harold Crabtree Foundation, The Historical Foundation of Canada, and Industry Canada.

We are proud of our team: Educational consultant Ian Bron, Project manager Zachary Houle, Designers/web consultants Dusan Musal and Luc-André Paquette, Historical consultant Christine Veilleux, and Chief historical consultant Jean-Claude Robert.

Chawkers Foundation Grant

Canadiana.org is has been awarded a grant of \$15,000 from the Chawkers Foundation for the **Pioneers and Immigrants** unit. The Foundation, known for supporting heritage preservation of Early Canadiana written works, Education, Youth, Libraries, Literature and Literacy, was among the sponsors of the ECO pilot project in the late 1990s. We are grateful that the Foundation has once again chosen to support our efforts. Thanks to Liz Kane, former Director of Development, who brought ECO to the attention of the Foundation and continues to keep in touch with its Board of Directors.

Educational survey results are in

We very much appreciate the time and effort fifty respondents took to complete the survey, giving Ian Bron an adequate sampling for the assessment of the *Aboriginals: treaties and relations* unit. We are pleased with the results and invite you to read the Evaluation Report which is available at: <http://www.canadiana.org/eco/english/resources.html>

Notice of Annual General Meeting and Board Meeting, 3 & 4 June 2005

The AGM will take place in Ottawa 3 June, followed by the first Board Meeting of the 2005-06 members. More information about the AGM will be made available in the April Bulletin.

Facsimile 2005

The next issue on the topic of early official publications ties in with our current Canada in the Making project.

Readers will get various perspectives:

- “Searching for Canada's past: a historian's take on Early Canadiana Online” by Professor Donald Fyson, Université Laval.
- A science and technology perspective on government documents is given by Professor Bertrum MacDonald, Dalhousie University.
- Senior Librarian Vivienne Monty, York University, provides “A thematic and content approach to the teaching of government documents to students, with references to Early Canadiana Online’s Canada in the Making collection.”
- And Bibliographic Research Coordinator Beth Stover and Cataloguing Coordinator Judi McNeil, Canadiana.org, are contributing an article on some of the problems/issues with government documents and how these are being dealt with.



Check our web site at the end of March/beginning of April to download your copy.

<http://www.canadiana.org/cihm/facsimile.html>

Microfiche purchases

University of Maine has acquired the Post-1900 Monographs, Part 2.

For those interested in adding to or completing their collections, please contact Mariette Philippe at:
mariette.philippe@canadiana.org.

OLA Super Conference 2005

reported by Judi McNeil and Beth Stover

This was the first time that Canadiana.org exhibited at the OLA Super Conference. Overall, it was a very enjoyable experience and we were happy to discover that, out of all the conferences we have attended in recent years, this was certainly the busiest.



With approximately 4,400 people attending the conference, there was quite a steady stream of visitors to our booth on both days of the exhibition. The majority of visitors were either from school or public libraries. However there were also a substantial number of academic librarians, all of whom were already very familiar with Canadiana.org. For them, it was a chance to catch up on the latest developments with our projects, as well as to offer some much appreciated feedback. Personnel from school libraries were very interested to hear about our Educational Resources section, particularly the unit on *Pioneers and Immigrants* and the unit on

Exploration, the Fur Trade and Hudson's Bay Company. They liked the fact that the material is very relevant to the curriculum and that primary resources are used throughout. Staff from public libraries were excited to hear about how our database (including the Official Publications section) can be used to support genealogical and local history research. It appears that we are beginning to become better known by organizations beyond our usual loyal base of academic libraries, as we were delighted to discover that several of the public and school library staff were already referring our database to their clients.

Sessions attended:

Designing for scent: why stinky sites work

Darlene Fichter, Data Library Coordinator, University of Saskatchewan

This presentation was based on recent research (by Peter Perolli and Stuart Card of the Palo Alto Research Centre in California) on “information gathering behaviour”. A person’s quest for information is compared to a wild animal’s search for food (“information foraging theory”). While searching for information, we pick up clues in our environment (“information scent”). We anticipate that the scent will become stronger as we approach what we want to find and we expect the “hunt” to progress quickly. As users delve deeper and deeper into a web site, they expect to get feedback that they are traveling in the right direction. Recent research seems to indicate that the “three click rule” (i.e. users are not willing to click more than 3 times to find information) is not valid. Users are more than willing to click 10 to 12 times to get information, as long as the “scent” continues to become stronger. Other tips for web writing were given: avoid jargon (plain language works best); minimize overly fancy welcoming pages (researchers are looking for content and we need to indicate immediately that our site will meet their needs for valuable, relevant information); links are often better if they are not just 1 or 2 words long (because they are more specific and descriptive, 7-12 words work best)

Designing and Delivering Electronic Surveys

Tim Tripp Clinical Decision Support, Shared Information Management Services, Health Network Toronto

Mr. Tripp demonstrated the use of the “Survey Monkey” software available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com> to aid in creating web-based surveys. The software is relatively easy to implement and text may be copied and pasted from an existing file. The survey may be set as a pop up on your website or mailed out as email attachments. The data may be viewed in various ways online and may be downloaded for use with programs such as SPSS, Access or Excel.

It is available in both subscription and free versions.

All-Conference Plenary Session

Clifford Lynch, Director of the Coalition for Networked Information

As always Clifford Lynch was an entertaining and thought provoking speaker. He discussed the “blurring of the lines” between personalization and privacy. He thought that libraries should be able to provide lists as shopping sites (such as Amazon does). For example, when you choose a book a list of other titles that might be of interest will appear based on the reading habits of people who have also read the same book. This will increase use of library materials. He suggested privacy might be maintained if you have the option of saying which items/books you want to share. In instances where you want to maintain privacy you could opt out.

He also spoke about advertising that does not look like advertising. Are people aware of the differences?

Google Scholar is raising the entry level for new Web indexers. Google is using “deals” with content providers to access their databases. This will lower the ability of new startups to compete. Could we end up with another Microsoft monopoly?

He mentioned how “Blogs” can sometimes be more up to date than the various news media. In the future will legitimate news agencies still be viable?

Marc, Metasearching and Marginalization

Roy Tennant, User Services Architect, California Digital Library

Mr. Tennant has decided that Marc should expire from old age rather than be killed off immediately. He believes that Marc does not meet the needs of our community in the digital era. He states that the library community needs a format that is versatile, extensible and open. The format should be easy to learn, but allow for more complex variations as the learning curve is met. An example would be the Open Archives Initiative (OAI). Another key to success is modularity which allows sections of the information to be independent of each other. The format should also be hierarchical and graceful in failure.

Mr. Tennant sees the challenges to be in:

- record formats (re-creation of bibliographic formats)
- cross walking and merging information (migration of information already available needs to be reformatted for use in new ways)
- system migration (remember that systems will change over time and be prepared)
- staff retraining is a necessary component of any plan

Librarians should look to OCLC and Library of Congress who are the leaders in this research.

Metasearching

We need a one stop shopping tool for searching. We need to know our users and cater to what they want. Search results need to have a ranking system that makes sense to the user. Users do not want to see duplication on the lists. If there is duplication it should be shown after the original display of information. He suggested the “Google” format for displaying information could be used by libraries as it is understood by most users.

To see an example of how a library is using the “Google” solution, Mr. Tennant suggested visiting the search page, for journal articles, at the University of Rochester
<http://www.library.rochester.edu/>

Other sites to check are <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Pathfinder.html> which is designed by librarians for librarians and <http://www.redlightgreen.com/> from RLG and aimed at providing information to undergrads.

Gene-O-Rama 2005

The Ontario Genealogical Society, Ottawa Branch, in partnership with the Ottawa Public Library presents this annual event at the Ben Franklin Centre. It will be held 8-9 April and feature keynote speaker Bruce Elliott, history professor at Carleton University. For more information, visit: <http://www.ogsottawa.on.ca>

Staff News

Cataloguing Coordinator **Judi McNeil** attended the Open Doors on Standards session, the first in a series titled *New Directions in Description* at Library and Archives Canada 13 January. A panel of experts, including Ian Wilson and Ingrid Parent, shared their knowledge and experience related to international archival and bibliographic standards development with organizations such as International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the International Council on Archives (ICA), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

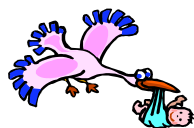
Executive Director **Magdalene Albert** and Electronic Systems Specialist **William Wueppelmann** attended the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) sponsored session “Cultural Memory Institutions in a Digital World” by Clifford Lynch, Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information at LAC 2 February. The talk explored new opportunities, risks and obligations of libraries, museums and archives in a digital environment, with emphasis on the implications of the changing nature of cultural records and the shifting relationships between these institutions, the scholarly world, and the public.

William Wueppelmann attended the Symposium on Web Archiving 3 February at LAC.

The symposium offered an overview of current international web archiving activities. Representatives from the Internet Archive, Library of Congress, the British Library, and the National Libraries of Australia, Norway and France described their institutions' activities, as well as international initiatives such as the International Internet Preservation Consortium which is developing tools and best practices in this new field.

Judi McNeil attended the session *FRBR* and its impact on resource description* 17 February at LAC presented by Chris Oliver, Head of Library Technical Services at the McGill University Libraries and Chair of the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing which provides the Canadian perspective on the revision and development of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules.

- Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (www.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr.htm)



Congratulations to Clerk-accountant **Lyly Léveillé** and her husband Luc Gaudette on the birth of their son Dylan!

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Magdalene Albert, editor

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