

# AABC newsletter

ARCHIVES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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## President's Report

Janine Johnston, *AABC President*

**W**ELCOME TO THIS YEAR'S first newsletter from the Archives Association of British Columbia (AABC). For those who don't know me, I was the AABC Vice-President last year and since last April's Annual General Meeting (AGM), I have been serving as President and coordinating our association's operations alongside our amazing and hardworking Executive Committee. I was born and raised in West Vancouver, did my undergrad degree in Anthropology at Simon Fraser University, and completed my Master of Archival Studies (MAS) degree in 2006 at UBC's School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies (SLAIS). I currently work as a research consultant for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

AABC's 2010–2011 year began last April with our very successful conference, Our Digital Future, held at UBC's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, which provided the sixty participants with interesting and informative presentations, as well as some great networking opportunities. The success of this event would not have been possible without all of the hard work from our Conference Committee Chair Jill Teasley and Conference Committee member Rebecca Pasch. At the end of the conference, we held our Annual General Meeting where the 2009–2010 Executive Committee presented reports on the AABC's activities of the previous year. These reports are available online at [http://aabc.ca/AGM\\_2010\\_pkg.pdf](http://aabc.ca/AGM_2010_pkg.pdf). Audited financial statements for the 2009–2010 year are included below in this newsletter as well. We also nominated new Executive members at the AGM, who I will now introduce.

### *Jane Morrison, Vice-President*

Jane served as the AABC's Secretary from April 2008–March 2010 when she accepted the position of Vice-President. Jane is a MAS graduate and works as the Associate Archivist (Records Management & Access) at the University of Victoria. As Vice-President, Jane chairs the Program Committee and oversees the work done through the AABC's Educational Advisory Service, the BC Archival Preservation Service and our Archival Network Services.

**Linda Nobrega, Treasurer**

Linda served as the AABC's Secretary from 2004–2006 and has held the position as Treasurer since April 2009. Linda graduated from SLAIS with a MAS degree in 2003 and has been working at her current position in Records Management Operations for the Provincial Government since 2004. As Treasurer, Linda oversees the AABC's Finance Committee and ensures proper financial accounting for the Association.

**Jennifer Pecho, Secretary**

Jennifer holds both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts degree in History from UBC and has recently graduated from the MAS program. Jennifer was the recipient of the Harold Naugler Memorial Prize at SLAIS for excellence in the study of electronic records. She recently started a new position as the Archivist/Records Manager and Privacy Officer for the Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver. In her role as Secretary of the AABC, Jennifer not only organizes meetings and minutes for the organization, she is also responsible for the Public Awareness, Advocacy, and Legislation (PAAL) Committee, the newsletter and our regional representatives.

**Peter Johnson, Institutional Member-at-Large**

Peter holds a MA in English and a MAS degree from SLAIS where he graduated in 1999. Peter joined the Surrey Archives in 1998 and began his current role as the Curator-Archivist of Heritage Collections when Surrey opened its new museum in 2005. Prior to immigrating to Canada, Peter was a librarian at Leeds University in the UK. As the Institutional Member-at-Large, Peter's responsibilities include reporting on the work of the Nominations and Elections Committee and chairing the Grants Committee.

**Corinne Rogers, Individual Member at Large**

Corinne is currently a PhD student at SLAIS. Corinne is a Research Assistant in UBC's Digital Records Forensics Project, a 3-year SSHRC funded project

directed by Dr. Luciana Duranti and InterPARES 3 (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems). Corrine's role as Individual Member-at-Large includes reporting on the work of the Membership Committee and Conference Committee.

So far this year, the AABC has been working with Artefactual Systems and, together, are collaborating with Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria and Anglican Diocese of New Westminster Archives to develop a tool/methodology to make it easier for BC archival institutions to import information from their databases into MemoryBC. We have received funding from the National Archival Development Program (NADP) to develop the Data Migration tool/methodology, which will be launched this spring.

The AABC Conference Committee has been busy with event planning for the AABC's 2010–2011 Conference. This year's conference coincides with SLAIS' 50th anniversary, with workshops and events taking place again at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre from April 27th–30th, 2010.

Please take this opportunity to review our financial statements from the 2009–2010 fiscal year available online at the AABC website at [http://aabc.ca/aGm\\_2010\\_pkg.pdf](http://aabc.ca/aGm_2010_pkg.pdf). You may also want to consider the Executive positions that will be opening up next April. We will be seeking a new Vice-President, Treasurer, and Individual Member-at-Large.

I'm looking forward to another successful year for the AABC. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding our association feel free to contact me at any time. ☒

# The Value of Local History Collections

Eunice Robinson, *President, Sea Island Historical Society*

**A**S AN AVID family historian, I am always looking for information and background on my ancestors. Where did they live, how did they live, why did they move from one location to another?

One of the best sources for information that helps to 'fill in the blanks', are local history collections, whose focus is on the area and region, not on the specific families. However, they do collect family information as they learn more about the district. One such Local History Collection belongs to the Sea Island Heritage Society.

Sea Island is one of the islands located at the mouth of the Fraser River, now part of the City of Richmond, British Columbia and the home of the Vancouver International Airport. For the past 15 years, a small group of dedicated former and current residents have been gathering the memories and photographs of any and all residents and workers of the Island.

Sea Island was primarily a farming community until the small fledgling Vancouver Airport was developed on the south side of the Island in the early 1930's. In the early 1940's, housing for workers of the Boeing Canada Aircraft Ltd plant was constructed and this subdivision became known as Burkeville. In the mid 1940's, another subdivision was built on the north side of the Island for returning veterans from World War II. This subdivision



was known as Cora Brown, and adjacent to Cora Brown, another small subdivision known as Tapp Road was built during the late 1950's.

Where did all these people come from? Why did they come to Sea Island? Where did they work? Why did they leave? What were their lives like? Who were their friends and neighbours? What activities did they enjoy? Were there schools, churches, stores, clubs and organizations?

These questions and many more are asked by the Sea Island Heritage Society researchers, as they try to compile a comprehensive history of the Island, past and present.

We have been fortunate to receive information about several of the pioneer families, such as the McDonalds and the Erskines. We have interviewed several of the servicemen and their families who moved to the Island after World War II, as well as generations of families who

came to the Island in the 1940's and are living there today. The Society has gathered information on the various employers such as airline companies that have made Sea Island their home, such as Pacific Western Airlines, Canadian Pacific Airlines and Air Canada. It has also documented the story of the Royal Canadian Air Force base that existed on the Island for many years, and, with the assistance of many other interested volunteers, collected the story of the Vancouver International Airport.

There were businesses that thrived on the Island, such as Grauer's Farm and Store. Grauer's Store was a small but comprehensive grocery store that catered to many of the Island's residents, and even had a delivery service in the 1960's. There was the BA Gas Station which was located close to the Burkeville Subdivision.

Schoolyard memories have been recalled, and written down. Sports teams, Brownies, Cubs, Girl Guides, Scouts and dances at the RCAF Forum and Teen Town, the Island had a busy social networking existence during the 1950's and 1960's.

What was life like? Recollections of party line telephones, clothes lines and laundry days, black and white televisions, as well as skating on the frozen ponds in the fields, fishing in the river, picking beans, and birthday parties have also been captured. Photographs have been donated from many families showing many of these activities, which then tickle the memories of others.

The collection includes many of the school class photographs from the Sea Island and Duncan McDonald Schools. We are working on identifying all

the students in each of the photographs.

We even have some memorabilia such as one of the old wooden swing seats from the Cora Brown park—this was donated to the Society by one of the last residents to live in the Cora Brown area after most people had moved out due to the expropriation for airport expansion. Other unique items include several copies of the Boeing Beam company newsletter that was published during the heyday of the Boeing Company. A silver tray that was presented to the Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Kordal, when she retired. Some pewter mugs given upon departure to retiring or transferred members of Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sea Island.

Our collection has already been used several times by students writing reports for school, by researchers looking up specific

information such as the MARS water bomber, by family researchers looking for those hard-to-find nuggets that make their family histories come alive. We've talked to local school classes, held Open Houses, displayed our extensive photograph and memorabilia collections, participated in several genealogy fairs and seminars, and were one of the original supporters of the Richmond Heritage Days.

Local history groups have a love of their subject and are anxious to preserve this history and memories for future generations. They are happy to share their knowledge. The Sea Island Heritage Society continues to search for anyone who ever spent any time on the Island, and document their stories.

The Sea Island Heritage Society has a website, [www.seaislandhome.org](http://www.seaislandhome.org), and we invite people to log in and check out what we have. ☒



# Saanich Archives Launches School Program

Kathleen Traynor, *Saanich Archives*

**S**AANICH ARCHIVES was delighted to host our first school program on Wednesday, February 17th. Twenty students in Division 5 walked over from Tillicum School to spend the morning learning about the Archives and Saanich history. The activities and information were greeted with great enthusiasm, and we were pleased to have such a happy and curious audience.

Students from Tillicum School looked and touched samples of old paper and photographs that emerged from our new “treasure trunk”. We talked about just how much has changed in Saanich—even how the original name ‘W’sanec’ became the more conventional ‘Saanich’. Activities included pictures of traditional First Nations sites and people, and students tried out the Chinook trade language and discovered that “Tillicum” means “the people who are friends”!

A highlight of this first program was a talk by a living treasure: Mr. Jim Askey, long-time resident of the area. Jim told stories about growing up in Saanich in the 1930’s and 1940’s, from taking the streetcar to being at school. In return, the students shared many of their stories about Saanich today.

The visit concluded with a tour of the reference room and a look at original documents and information. Students were especially fascinated by the high-tech vault, and thrilled to see old photograph albums, report cards from 1900, a 1908 teaching certificate, and a 1912 street map of Saanich up close.

This initial program was developed by Archives staff, and the format and feedback will serve as a foundation for subsequent programs. Thank you to teacher Sherri



Kathleen Traynor with Jim Askey and Sherri Neudorf, Saanich Archives, February 17, 2010

Neudorf and to the students for being a patient first audience. Special thanks to the Saanich Centennial Library, who generously allowed the use of their children’s program area.

School programs are vital for archives: they reach out to an important part of our community, young people. The Saanich Archives program is designed to focus on historical change and cultural interaction, and activities are structured to address provincial social studies curriculum goals. With school programs, the Archives can provide a broad, social-based view of history, one that teaches acceptance and respect for the multiplicity of peoples living in Saanich. A trained staff member guides students through the activities and discussion. Knowledge is taught through discussion, song, movement, and games. Conversation and questions are strongly encouraged as they look and learn.

Saanich Archives hopes to host more schools in the coming year—and can tailor this new program for different ages and groups. For more information on children’s programs at Saanich Archives, contact Kathleen Trayner at (250) 475-1775 ext. 3477. ✨

# Outreach Materials: Educating Donors About Digital Records

Cindy McLellan and Shamin Malmas, *Graduate Research Assistants, InterPARES 3 Project*

**T**HE MAIN GOAL OF INTERPARES 3 is to practically assist small and medium-sized archives in the daunting task of preserving digital records over the long term. As a community archives, InterPARES 3 research partner North Vancouver Museum & Archives (NVMA), is accountable to the North Vancouver community.

NVMA is committed to acquiring records of significance to the community. To acquire, maintain and preserve the digital records being created by individuals, families, volunteer organizations and small and medium-sized businesses in North Vancouver, NVMA must not only put in place the policies, procedures and technology, it must also begin a dialogue with donors. As the community repository of North Vancouver, NVMA has a responsibility to reach out to the community; in the digital age, educating potential donors about digital records is vital.

Through her “Family Recordkeeping” series, NVMA archivist, Janet Turner, was confronted with a desire for increased educational materials from members of various community organizations and North Vancouver families. Without a formal forum to address issues of digital records creation, appraisal and preservation, Turner felt that she was unable to adequately address these community concerns. Current educational materials that address these needs are written for experts in the field. Although comprehensive, these materials are often too complex and are not relevant to community members. Therefore, the need to create formal educational materials targeted at community audiences was realized.

To support the educational needs of NVMA, InterPARES 3 Project Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs), Shamin Malmas and Cindy McLellan,

## Community Archives e-Records Assessment

The goal of this General Study is to better provide tools for small and medium sized archives with limited resources. InterPARES 3 Graduate Research Assistants Cindy McLellan, Shamin Malmas and Anneleen van Dijk thank you for your time and feedback. The survey closed on November 22, 2010. Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill it out. Results of the survey will be available in Spring 2011.

The InterPARES Project welcomes comments and feedback.

[information@interpares.org](mailto:information@interpares.org)

developed a series of four brochures addressing issues related to the creation, maintenance, preservation and potential donation to an archives of digital records. These brochures are written in layperson’s language and will be incorporated into the “Family Recordkeeping” series taught by NVMA. The four brochures are titled as follows:

1. Maintaining Your Digital Records
2. Maintaining Digital Records: The Business Edition
3. Managing E-Mail
4. Consider Donating Your Records to North Vancouver Museum and Archives

Since these brochures encourage the donation of digital records to NVMA, it became apparent that NVMA’s

Acquisition Policy needed to specifically address digital records; consequently, the GRAs also created a Digital Records Acquisition Policy to fulfill that need.

In addition, the GRAs created 'generic' versions of the products with the intent of making them available to other institutions. These versions do not contain any references to NVMA or North Vancouver and it is hoped that institutions will adopt them for their own use. It is assumed that as technology changes, these products will be revised and updated accordingly. For example, constant changes in hardware and software will affect how the steps in these brochures are implemented; therefore, it is important that archivists administering these brochures ensure that the brochures are up to date and include relevant examples (e.g., common accepted formats for preservation do not remain stable; thus, this section will need to be revised periodically).

The four generic versions of the brochures and the generic digital records acquisition policy are now posted to the public IP3 Web site at [http://www.interpares.org/ip3/ip3\\_case\\_studies.cfm#cs08](http://www.interpares.org/ip3/ip3_case_studies.cfm#cs08) (click on the Canadian

flag for Team Canada—then scroll down to Case Study 08: North Vancouver Museum & Archives). Each product is available in three formats: PDF/A, DOC and ODT. You are invited to download, share, format, and customize these as appropriate for your institution. Make them available in paper form in a blog, or on a website.

Please take advantage of these resources! Best wishes in your efforts to preserve digital records in your community!

Inspired by the work being done at NVMA, Malmas and McLellan started the Community Archives e-Records Assessment General Study. The tools created for NVMA are potentially useful to other institutions; we wanted to know if there were other creative solutions that could be shared and what exactly InterPARES could be doing to help. ☒

## News from the Friends of the B.C. Archives

Ann ten Cate, *Archivist, Royal BC Museum*

This fall, The Friends of the B.C. Archives were pleased to be able to award a grant of \$1,000 from the Terry Reksten Fund to the Chase and District Museum and Archives for their project to digitize oral history tapes, made in the 1970's, that are deteriorating. This annual grant is awarded by the Friends, upon application by June 30, to a small archives anywhere in the province. Details about the application process may be found here: [http://www.bcarchives.bc.ca/BC\\_About\\_Archives/terry.aspx](http://www.bcarchives.bc.ca/BC_About_Archives/terry.aspx).

This year the President of the Friends, Deidre Simmons, was able to present the cheque in person to the Manager and Archivist for the Museum, Theresa Scott.



Photo: Deidre Simmons

## News from SLAIS

Michelle Mallette, *SLAIS Student Services Coordinator*, [michelle.mallette@ubc.ca](mailto:michelle.mallette@ubc.ca)

### SLAIS Welcomes New Director

The University of British Columbia's School of Library, Archival & Information Studies welcomed Caroline Haythornthwaite as Director of the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS) for a five-year term beginning August 16, 2010.

Dr. Haythornthwaite received a B.Sc. in Psychology at Trent University, followed by a M.A. in Psychology, plus both M.I.S. and Ph.D. in Information Science from the University of Toronto. Dr. Haythornthwaite was recruited from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she held the position of Professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science. She spent the last year at the University of London as the 2009/2010 Leverhulme Trust Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Culture and Pedagogy, where she researched, wrote and presented on Learning Networks which encompasses overlapping themes of social networks, computer networks and learning.

### SLAIS Inviting Applications for MAS and DUAL Degree Programs

Applications are now being accepted for the Master of Archival Studies and the Dual Master of Archival Studies/Master of Library & Information Studies programs, with classes beginning in September 2011. Nearly 70 SLAIS students were conferred degrees at the May 27 convocation ceremonies at UBC, and another 20 are being conferred at the November ceremonies. The 2010 graduates include 10 new Masters of Archival Studies and 10 new holders of the Dual Master of Archival Studies/Master of Library & Information Studies degrees.

### SLAIS Plans 50th Anniversary Celebration

2011 will mark the 50th anniversary of SLAIS at UBC, so be sure to save the date of our celebration: April 29-30, 2011.



Dr. Caroline Haythornthwaite

We have already begun planning a number of activities designed to encourage all to celebrate from wherever they may be. These include an open house at SLAIS where you can meet our new Director as well as current faculty and students, learn about the research being done at SLAIS and tour our stunning facilities in the state-of-the-art Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. There will also be a celebration dinner and dance, with guests including a number of honoured SLAIS alumni. Consider nominating an outstanding SLAIS Alum for this award – visit <http://www.slaisalumni.org/> and click on the link to the 50th Anniversary Distinguished Alumni nominations page. Don't delay – nominations close December 1.

For those who are unable to join us in Vancouver, the SLAIS Alumni Association has developed a Virtual Memory Wall where alumni can reconnect with friends and post memories and photos. Visit <http://slaismemorywall.wordpress.com/>. The Alumni Association is also planning a fundraising silent

auction, so consider donating an item for the auction. Watch for more details at [www.slais.ubc.ca](http://www.slais.ubc.ca) and [www.slaisalumni.org](http://www.slaisalumni.org) and please help spread the word about our anniversary events.

### Visiting Lecturer, Scholar at SLAIS

SLAIS faculty and students are enjoying temporary new colleagues for the term, as the School hosts two international lecturers until December. Geoffrey Yeo is a lecturer in the Department of Information Studies at the University College London in England, and Alastair Smith is a senior lecturer in the School of Information Management at Victoria University Wellington in New Zealand. Geoffrey has worked in the field of archives and records management since 1976, and is a Registered Member of the Society of Archivists. He first taught in

the UCL program in the mid-1990s, and returned in 2000. Since then he has served as the program director, and is now a part-time lecturer in records management and archival description. He is also a member of the management board of ICARUS, the International Centre for Archives and Records Management Research and User Studies. He is teaching two classes in Fall 2010, Arrangement and Description for first-year students in the archival studies program, and Advanced Management of Current Records to second-year students. Alastair is on a research and study leave, and while at SLAIS he is pursuing his research interests in guidelines for teaching effective Internet searching techniques, effectiveness of Internet search engines in finding NZ information and webometric analysis of institutional repositories. ❖

## Best of the Web: Archives Edition

Sonia Nicholson, *AABC Newsletter*

This edition of Best of the Web highlights the Newfoundland Regiment and The Great War website, hosted by The Rooms, (“Newfoundland and Labrador's largest public cultural space”). Though not from British Columbia, this website is note-worthy for a number of reasons. The site is not only clearly laid-out and user-friendly with colour-coordinated sections and numbered pages, but is also suitable for both adults and children, offering different layers of information about the First World War. Of particular interest is the “Daily Life” section, which includes not only quick-reference photographs and descriptions of food, accommodation, training and other aspects of soldier daily life, but also links to videos and additional material on each topic. The “Soldier’s Outfit” page is interactive; a diagram of a uniform has individual parts labelled, with each of these linked to a photograph of an actual artefact. The site also features a searchable database of soldiers who enlisted in the Newfoundland Regiment, with links to each individual’s attestation papers. An introduction to the database outlines in detail the type of information that the documents contain. An exceptionally well-done website, and a must-see for anyone with an interest in Canadian military history.

Visit the Newfoundland Regiment and Great War site at [http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part1\\_entering\\_the\\_great\\_war.asp](http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part1_entering_the_great_war.asp).

*Do you know an interesting, useful and/or unique archives-related website that you would like to share with other Archives Association members? Send your suggestions of must-browse sites to the Newsletter Editor at [leah.pearse@gmail.com](mailto:leah.pearse@gmail.com). Be sure to include the URL and a brief summary.*

# October in Ottawa, or CCA Demystified!

Lara Wilson, *University Archivist, University of Victoria Archives*

**E**VERY OCTOBER, the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA) holds its Annual General Assembly in Ottawa, Ontario. As 2010 marks the 25th Anniversary of the CCA, it's the perfect occasion to provide those new to the archival field an overview of the CCA and an introduction to what goes on at General Assembly.

## What is the CCA?

The CCA was created in 1985, following the publishing of *Canadian Archives*, a report by the Consultative Group on Canadian Archives. A non-profit organization, the CCA was formed to provide leadership and coordination to an emerging archival system in Canada. Five staff members, including the Executive Director, support the activities of the board and committees.

## Where is the CCA office?

The CCA is located at 130 Albert Street, Suite #501. If you find yourself in the Ottawa area, drop by for a visit! The CCA also shares office space with the Association of Canadian Archivists and the Canadian Historical Association.

## Who are the members?

The CCA membership consists of the 13 provincial and territorial archival councils, 5 volunteer elected board members (chair, vice chair, a past board member and two directors), the Bureau of Canadian Archivists, the Association des archivistes du Québec, Association of Canadian Archivists, the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists and Library and Archives Canada. A representative each from these organizations attends General Assembly. The CCA Board may also appoint Special Advisors, who do not vote at meetings, but who assist with special projects.

## What does the CCA do?

In support of the Canadian archival community and its development, the CCA has a number of committees including archival standards, preservation, archival description, and copyright, as well as that of the archives advisors. The CCA is also a third party delivery body for federal funding programs of the Department of Canadian Heritage and Library and Archives Canada: the National Archival Development Program (NADP) and Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions. The CCA does not collect membership fees and is funded primarily through the NADP.

## What happens at General Assembly?

The CCA's General Assembly is conducted by the CCA Chair and is similar to the Annual General Meeting of the AABC. All provincial and territorial council representatives provide reports, as do committee chairs, the AAQ, LAC, ACA and BCA. There are Board of Directors and Secretariat updates, separate reports on special projects, the different funding programs and their timelines for the upcoming fiscal year, presentation of audited financials for approval and overview of the budget and election of board members. General Assembly is also an opportunity for member representatives to meet and learn about new initiatives and challenges facing archives across Canada. ✦

# News from Canadian Council of Archives

Jane Morrison, *University of Victoria Archives*

THE CANADIAN COUNCIL of Archives (CCA) held a 25th anniversary reception on Friday, October 22 in Ottawa to open this year's General Assembly. There were speeches by Ian Forsyth, outgoing CCA chair; Sean Berrigan,



Ian Forsyth  
Photo: Jane Morrison

Director General of the Strategic Office of Library and Archives Canada (on behalf of Dr. Daniel Caron); and Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist and Director, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and first chair of CCA.

As part of the 25th anniversary celebrations, the CCA and the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists sponsored the creation of banners for all its members which were displayed during the afternoon of the 22nd in the lobby of Library and Archives Canada's public facility on Wellington Street. A representatives of each member was on hand to promote their association. Lara Wilson represented the AABC.

Congratulations and many thanks to the CCA, and keep an eye out for the banner at future AABC events! ❖



AABC Banner  
Photo: Jane Morrison



CCA Cake  
Photo: Jane Morrison

# Memories of World War I—The Walter Draycott Fonds

Susan Pegram, *North Vancouver Museum and Archives*

**F**ROM THE REPOSITORY of North Vancouver, a short reminiscence on the First Battle of Ypres, a conflict culminating in the Massacre of the Innocents or Kindermord, when approximately 182,360 men died in a single month of fighting. Conflict began on April 24, 1914, 86 years ago last week.

after a cramped rail journey...we proceeded in darkness to the village of Blaringham...although the Front was twenty-five miles away, rifles were always carried... the work went on; troops returning from this task [the trench-digging] woolen overcoats weighed down with rainwater and mud."



This later letter to Draycott is from a WWI nurse, Edith M Cowan, who was at the Ypres hospital of which the postcard below was taken. She recalls Peace Day in Newcastle-on-Tyne, in September, some five years later, a celebration of the beginning of the end of the war in Austria:

*September 14, 1919*

"N/C looks just the same, still some blue boys about the town... I can imagine

The Walter MacKay Draycott Fonds, the most well-known of the private fonds in North Vancouver's archival repository, contains this recollection of trench life in Flanders, the following Christmas:

"We had marched from the slippery, slushy camp at Winchester to Southampton, England, on the morning of December 1914, with everyone in high spirits. On entering the streets of Southampton, crowds of citizens had gathered to wish us well; their thanks was returned with a popular song, "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here, What the Hell Do We Care." At dusk we boarded the S.S. Cardiganshire [for Flanders] and took what comfort there was on the upper deck to dodge the cold wind...

how busy you were on Peace Day. I had a very happy day. I marched in the great procession all down the North Rd and past the War Memorial where the Royal Salute was taken and through the town. It was perfect weather and we nurses marched in caps and aprons. The procession took more than half an hour to pass the War Memorial so you can imagine it was long. How the people cheered! In the afternoon and evening there was dancing in all the parks, bands and fireworks and bonfires."

In World War I, fifteen million people were killed, making it the conflict still referred to as the War to End All Wars. ❖

# Museum at Campbell River Digitization Project

Catherine Gilbert, *Promotions and Marketing, Museum at Campbell River*

**T**HIS YEAR, the Museum at Campbell River brought the past into the future with the launching of a new and exciting interactive website dedicated to the logging history of Northern Vancouver Island. With assistance from the British Columbia History Digitization Program and UBC Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, the Museum was able to contract a web design firm to create the site and have a collections assistant scan, edit and upload its large collection of images.

The images were collected and sorted with the help of volunteers and, where possible, they were identified by the Museum's collection manager and archivist, Sandra Parrish. Eventually, over 1400 images in the form of photos, negatives, positives, glass plate and lantern slides were selected. Parrish had been planning the project for some time and was aware of the Ike Barber grant, which first became available in 2007. She applied for the grant in December of 2009, and received confirmation that it was awarded to the Campbell River Museum in early June of 2010. The purpose of the project would be "to promote and enhance access to the history of the unique logging sites and methods in the Northern Vancouver Island region from the Museum's archival holdings, and to make them

available online, in an easily searchable, unrestricted website." According to Parrish, the history of logging is one of the most frequently accessed research topics at the Museum.



Homepage



Gallery

Since the Museum had already created a similar website about sport fishing with the assistance of a local graphic and web design firm, Chameleon Creative, Parrish had a good idea of how to proceed with the new project. She chose to work again with Chameleon's owner Heidi Peterson and they laid the groundwork for the project. Chameleons' general manager, Andy Chapman-Coombs, who had previously worked in software development in the UK, then stepped in to write the program that would launch the site.

Chapman-Coombs' aim was to create a site that could be used intuitively, and employed a tool called "taxonomy," which meant that every element in the website had a tag attached

to it. That way, a researcher could type in a word or phrase like "Elk River Timber Company" and any photos that referenced that name would come up and create its own grouping like a gallery.

"The galleries are dynamically created" says Chapman-

Coombs, “and there is no need to go from page to page.”

Chameleon uses Drupal, a content management system that allows Museum staff to edit on the site (for example, adding information, newspaper articles, correcting text or adding new photos). Even visitors to the site can post comments, which could help in identifying people, places and objects in the photos, and allow for a degree of interactivity. In this way, Chapman-Coombs has hoped to stimulate interest and to “get people on the hook”. Another unique feature of the site is that it is portable - it can be saved to a DVD and projected for example on a kiosk in a location like the Museum lobby. The public will also be able to order and purchase photos through the site.

The project would not have been possible without an able assistant. Parrish needed someone who had “good, strong computer skills, was quick, familiar with scanning, and proficient in Photoshop.” Fortunately, she had recently interviewed Chelsea Pielou for an alternate position at the Museum, and was aware that she possessed the required skills. She asked if Pielou would be interested in participating in the project; she accepted, and began the daunting task on June 16.

Although Pielou’s chief task to take the images of varying quality and size -some very faded or with rips, water stains, folds and dust damage-then photo edit and group them together, she also worked very closely with Chapman-Coombs. Both Parrish and Chapman-Coombs stated that Pielou was key to the success of the project, and commented that “Chelsea has done a brilliant job.” It took four months for Pielou to complete the project – a total of 360 hours.

Chapman-Coombs worked with the Museum from July to October perfecting the program. Because the cost of creating the program went over what was estimated, Chameleon decided to sponsor fifty percent the cost on behalf of the Museum. Now, since the prototype has been completed, a similar site could be created in 35 to 40 hours. The Museum for example, could have a whole new archive in days. This conforms with Sandra

Parrish’s wish to continue digitizing the Museum’s image collection and to create a larger site that encompasses the broader history of Northern Vancouver Island.

To view the logging history site, visit <http://gallery.crmuseum.ca/>, or click on the icon on the Campbell River Museum’s home page. ☒

*Screenshots by Andy Chapman-Coombs.*



# Endangered Archives Programme

Peter Johnson, *Chair, AABC Grants Committee*


## New Funding Opportunity for 2011 posted on AABC Website

The British Library's *Endangered Archives Programme*, funded by Arcadia, awards grants to researchers, archivists and librarians to identify, locate, assess, recover and transfer to an appropriate repository within the country of origin, neglected archival materials relating to its pre-modern period.

The EAP is normally concerned with non-western societies, but if material is located in a developed country where funding opportunities are severely restricted and the archival material is in an especially vulnerable condition, then applications would be considered on an individual basis. A relevant instance might be a strongly argued application for the recovery of significant, endangered archival material (broadly interpreted to include records, publications, aural and visual materials, etc.) scattered in non-public collections across a remote region of Canada.

Applications by Canadian researchers for grants related to the investigation and recovery of endangered archival materials located outside North America and Western Europe are considered on an equal basis with other similar applications.

Funds are available for Pilot projects (especially welcome under the EAP) to investigate the survival of archival collections on a particular subject, in a discrete region, or in a specific format; and for Major projects to locate relevant collections, arrange transfer to a suitable local archival home, and deliver copies to the British Library and a local institution for the benefit of researchers worldwide. A Preliminary Application must be submitted initially by all applicants.

The application deadline for 2010 has now passed, but for further information on the Programme, including a complete list of funded projects, application terms, guidelines, and forms, see <http://www.bl.uk/aboutpolicies/endangeredarch/homepage.html>. 

## AABC Financial Statements for 2009/10

Linda Nobrega, *AABC Treasurer*

It was suggested at the 2010 Annual General Meeting that the Executive Committee release the reviewed financial statements for 2009/10 and the approved budget for 2010/2011. Financial statements for the year are also made available to the AABC membership annually in the AGM package but as the statements are reviewed in August, this earlier release of the statements will allow members more time to review them before the next year's AGM.

Accordingly, to view the 2009/2010 financial statements and 2010/2011 budget, please go to <http://www.aabc.ca/financial2010.html>.

# Andornot Archives Starter Kit Update Released

Kathy Bryce, *Andornot*

**A**NDORNOT HAS JUST RELEASED an upgrade to the desktop version of our Andornot Archives Starter Kit. This was formerly known as Archives Online and is an add-on to Inmagic DB/TextWorks for managing archival accessions and descriptions.

The Archives Starter Kit is designed to allow quick and easy creation of databases for archival accessions and descriptions and is especially suited to small- and medium-sized archives with limited IT resources. It is designed to comply with the following archival standards:

- Canadian Rules for Archival Description (RAD)
- International Standard for Archival Description (ISAD)

The Archives Starter Kit includes ready to use databases for:

- Accessions
- Descriptions
- Contacts (i.e. donors, researchers suppliers, volunteers etc.)
- Research Requests
- Subject thesaurus populated with nearly 5,000 English terms from the Government of Canada Core Subject Thesaurus as of May 2010. These terms can be deleted or modified and are included to provide a starting point for building a local thesaurus.
- Name Access thesaurus
- Geographic Thesaurus which can be populated

with local provincial entries from the Geobase Canadian Geographical Names Data Base (CGNDB).

- Profiles (to fill various forms with the institution address and contact names).

The databases can be adopted as-is, or customized for specific needs. They can also be augmented with other databases available through Andornot's mix and match options. For example, you can add

on databases managing artifacts, a library catalogue, donations, provenance, records management and more.

Reports include forms for printing deeds of gift or loan; hierarchical finding aids and an EAD XML report.

Our Archives Starter Kit—web version has also recently been updated. The web version allows you to create a web interface to your descriptive

data quickly and easily. While the web interface is based on the fields in the Archives Starter Kit fields it can be easily modified to use fields from any DB/TextWorks archival database instead. An alternate web interface is also available for schools or for organizations with just digitized resources, and features gallery style search results. We can also create a customized interface to suit your needs, and blend it with your website template or content management system.

Existing users of Archives Online version 2 and 3 may be able to upgrade for free. You will need a recent copy of DB/TextWorks—preferably the current version which is v12, however version 10 and up should also work. If you have an older version please contact us for upgrade



Menu Screen

pricing. If your databases or forms have been customized since your original purchase, these changes may need to be replicated or merged into the new version. Upgrade assistance is of course available on a consulting basis. Contact us to receive a copy of the upgrade instructions to see whether you would be able to handle this yourself or would need our help. Brad Morrison, Archives Manager for Sidney Museum & Archives recently upgraded from Archives Online version 2 purchased in 2003 and writes that “One of the marked improvements over the previous version is the Digital Asset data entry screen, wherein the ability now to satisfactorily catalogue, describe and view our photographic collection is becoming a significant asset in assisting our clientele. I just want to thank you again for developing and providing us with this useful archival tool which makes my day to day job so much easier to accomplish.”

For more details, please visit the news release on our blog at <http://www.andornot.com/blog/post/Andornot-Archives-Starter-Kit-update-released.aspx>. 