

Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives

Report of the First Vice President, May 2001

My first order of duty is to thank those who have served us so well over the past year. In particular, my gratitude goes to Grace Welch for her outstanding contribution to the DSP negotiations. I also acknowledge with thanks on behalf of the membership the work of the committee chairs and members who give their time so freely to ensure that issues of concern to the Association are attended to with considerable devotion and effect.

1. Ongoing Activities

In addition to participation in Board meetings and email consultations, the major issue that has absorbed attention and a good deal of time has been the continuing effort to reach an agreement to include cartographic publications in the Canadian federal depository program. This effort has built upon earlier groundwork by Grace Welch who continued to provide her expertise and political savvy during the course of numerous meetings from July 2000 through May 2001. This proposal moved to the top of our agenda for 2001 based on the immanent June 30, 2001 deadline for renewal or replacement of the Memorandum of Understanding between CARL, the ACMLA, and Natural Resources Canada and an opportunity to link the issue to GeoConnections developments.

Unfortunately, the DSP changes move very slowly which means that we have not yet achieved the goal that looked so promisingly near last summer. Participants in the various meetings have included Grace and myself on behalf of ACMLA, Tim Mark for CARL, Bruno Gnassi for the DSP, and Jeff Labonte, Denis Genest and Bill Voller of NRCan. Grace provided data to the DSP with respect to product costing and I conducted a non-scientific opinion poll via CARTA to get an indication of interest and needs within the map community. Responses came entirely from academic libraries but the interests of larger public libraries were noted on the basis of their participation in NRCan map depository arrangements. Bruno Gnassi has advised ACMLA and CARL and the Depository Library Advisory Committee that there is DSP funding set aside to accommodate this proposal. It appears that there should be sufficient money to incorporate not only the existing NRCan depository arrangements but to add Geological Survey Series A maps and some Open File access and an as yet undetermined coverage of NTDB digital files. The delivery structure would be by ftp or by direct download from the DSP site as has been the case for the NRC journal project. At the most recent meeting on May 16, there was considerable movement with respect to digital files and we hope to be able to report successful completion of these negotiations shortly.

On a related front, a meeting was held May 9, 2001 under the auspices of the National Library to reopen discussions of legal deposit for cartographic materials. At this meeting were Grace and myself on behalf of ACMLA, Marc Cockburn and Louis Cardinal from the National Archives, Maryna Nowielski, Libby Martin, Pierre Gamache, John Stegenga, and Jean-Eudes Beriault for the National Library. This initial meeting reviewed existing regulations for legal deposit (that exclude maps) and advanced arguments for including maps in upcoming revisions to the act and regulations.

2. Committee Activities

Awards Committee

The Committee, comprising Lori Sugden (chair) Trudy Bodak and Cheryl Woods, has selected for the Honours Award two people who are exemplars of the Canadian cartographic community in Pierre Lepine and Velma Parker. This year the Paper Award will be made; the recipient is Richard Pinnell for his article in Bulletin 107 on data acquisition issues. Congratulations to these members for their excellent contributions to Canadian cartography. In addition, upon recommendation of the Awards Committee, the ACMLA Board will acknowledge, through a Special Award, contributions of NRCan and the former Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton for their effective efforts in making Canadian geospatial data freely available to citizens.

Bibliographic Control Committee

This committee comprises Trudy Bodak (chair), Lorraine Dubreuil, Velma Parker, Donna Porter, Grace Welch, Frank Williams, Alberta Auringer Wood, and Frances Woodward, members. The full report of the committee is on the web. Notable comments include the work of Velma Parker and Grace Welch on the revision of Cartographic materials: an interpretation of AACR2 and continuing oversight of the development of the National Union Catalogue of Maps which now includes nearly 70,000 map records. The committee sponsored students to work on correcting GMDs. Work of the committee is also reflected in articles submitted for the Bulletin.

Copyright Committee

The members of this committee are Carol Marley (chair), Elizabeth Hamilton, Richard Pinnell and Pierre Roy. The committee held a watching brief but noted no significant copyright changes or new issues this year. Carol steps down this year after providing excellent service. A new chair and replacement membership will be announced shortly.

Membership Committee

Bruce Weedmark reports that membership dues together with the opening balance from 1999 brought the Association an income of \$9,057.92. At December 31, 2000, there were 225 members. This is a slight decrease from the previous year.

Conference 2000

Congratulations to David Jones and the Edmonton Conference Committee for their success as seen in the final conference report. In addition to leaving us wiser and with happy memories, they also produced a surplus to enhance the ACMLA Treasury.

Conference 2001

Heartfelt appreciation to Pierre Lepine, Pierre Roy and Carol Marley for their selfless sacrifice of time and energy to act on behalf of the ACMLA in planning this event. They have faced and overcome many challenges in organizing this conference. ACMLA members express their gratitude for their commitment to serve to the benefit of map colleagues. Congratulations and well done! A full conference report will follow later.

3. Future matters

The next conference and the 2003 conference are yet to be confirmed. If anyone can suggest themes and topics of interest, please forward these to me. Offers of organizational skills are always welcome.

Both the DSP and Legal Deposit issues will be pursued on your behalf.

The question of reviving the dormant Map Users' Advisory Committee will be discussed among the Board members and membership.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Jackson