

ACMLA Awards Committee

Annual Report, 2006/07: Preliminary

The Awards Committee consisted of Elizabeth Hamilton (chair), Trudy Bodak and Cheryl Woods. The task of the committee is to ensure that the guidelines and protocols of the ACMLA Awards are carried out according to the wishes of the Association. The Committee conducted its business via email and personal contact at last year's conference.

There are five awards currently offered by ACMLA.

Honourary Membership Award:

The first and most prestigious is the ACMLA Honourary Membership Award. In the ACMLA By-laws, provision is made for a special category of member, above and beyond those awarded with other recognition of accomplishments:

4.2.5 Honourary Members –

Such individuals who the Association chooses to honour by election to such membership status. Such individuals shall be nominated by two full members of the Association and the nomination confirmed by the Board of Directors and ratified by mail by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of at least 40% of the full members of the Association.

As an Association, we have only awarded this membership category to six other individuals: Theodore Layng (1970), Kate Donkin (1988), Lou Sebert (1981), Joan Winearls (2004), Serge Sauer (2004) and Barbara Farrell (2004). Five of the six elected to be honourary members were present at the first annual conference of the ACMLA in 1967 (Barbara's first conference was in 1971). All were extremely active and involved members of the Association until, and even beyond, retirement from their full-time jobs. From the outset, they assumed leadership roles within the association and championed the Association beyond the confines of institutional walls.

This year, the ACMLA have elected one of our members, Betty Kidd, who was at that initial conference in 1967, to be an Honourary Member of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives.

As directed by the By-Laws, the nomination was confirmed by the Board of Directors last Spring and was ratified unanimously by over 40% of the full members of the Association. We applaud this addition to the ranks of those who have sustained support for the Association over their careers.

Honours Award:

A call for nominations is sent to the membership through the ACMLA Bulletin and, this year, through email reminder, and nominees are reviewed for eligibility. A nomination was received by the Committee and that name has been forwarded to the Executive for approval and recognition at the Association's Annual Conference in Ottawa.

Paper Award:

The third award administered by the Awards Committee is the Paper Award. No nominations were received by the Awards Committee, but the Committee members reviewed all the papers meeting the Paper Award criteria in Bulletins 125 and 126. Bulletin 127 arrived late in the process (after the deadline for nominations) and will be reviewed as part of next year's activities.

The Committee recommended that one paper be sent to an external reader and, in consideration of the response of the outside reader and the unanimity of the Committee, a prize will be awarded at the Annual Conference in Montreal.

Student Paper Award:

The fourth award is the Student Paper Award, and the Committee received one excellent submission for the award. The award will be made at the Annual Conference in May 2007.

Certificate of Appreciation:

Following the acceptance and ratification of the Certificate of Appreciation at the Annual General Meeting in 2006, a certificate was presented to Derek Hayes, in absentia, for his work in increasing access to cartographic material through the publication of historical atlases.

This year, a nomination was received for this award and, pending approval by the Executive, the Award will be made at the 2007 Conference, to be held in Montreal in May.

Respectfully submitted by E. Hamilton
April 2007