

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2008-2009

In my numbered days as President, I must express my gratitude to the executive members, officers, and committee members that have made this association a great success. We have seen an increase in members over the last year which is a true testament to the work that has been accomplished by everyone. It was another year of many achievements and the work of the members are acknowledged with thanks!

The following report is a summary of Executive, committee, and members' work over the last year. I refer you to other committee and executive member reports posted on the ACMLA web site at <http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/acml/2009/commrpts.html>

Member acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the (relatively) new members that have committed their time and effort to ACMLA activity. These include:

- Ann Smith, Acadia University, (a returning member) is host to this years conference and responsible for local arrangements;
- Elizabeth Doyle, Library and Archives Canada, is our new ACMLA Archivist;
- Natalie LeBlond, Library and Archives Canada, is our Publications Officer;
- Eight new members are participating in the new mentoring program;
- Siobhan Hanratty, University of New Brunswick will be assuming the responsibilities of Webmaster. Siobhan is responsible for the newly designed ACMLA website that was launched last Fall.

Other ACMLA member achievements:

- Participation in the National Mapping Strategy Initiative workshops: Heather McAdam (ACMLA rep); Larry Laliberte; Lori Sugden; Andrew Nicholson; Dan Duda. This group is currently involved in reviewing a consultants report for the NMS and will be responding at CCoG's request for comments.
- Eva Dodsworth deserves recognition for implementing a GIS course in the UOW LIS program. Kudos!
- Cathy Moulder and her Bulletin staff compiled three stellar issues this year. Well done!

Upon approval at the 2008 AGM in Vancouver, the following activities were implemented:

- ACMLA launched its Mentoring Program with a very successful eight career pairings. A tremendous start to the program and all participants should be congratulated on making the new program a success. A social is planned for all mentoring participants at this year's conference as an opportunity to share experiences.
- A new *Geospatial Data Access Committee* was established with the leadership of Richard Pinnell as Chair. Terms of reference have been established, and details of their activity are outlined in their report.
- With membership approval, the Publications Committee was disbanded and replaced with the concept of forming task groups to address publications issues as they arise. Details about this decision can be viewed at http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/acml/Publications_Committee.pdf As a result, a detailed Publications Policy is being drafted for members approval at the AGM, June 9, 2009.

NRCan update (Douglas O'Brien, May 2009)

After many development delays and technical issues, NRCan is finally in production of the new, revised topo maps! The first of the new maps will cover the lower BC mainland, as well as certain areas in the north. Subsequent maps will cover other targeted priority areas.

The plan is for a quarterly release of the new maps, tentatively starting at the end of June. As such, the ACMLA conference in early June is part of their communication plan for the announcement of the new maps! A presentation and booth at the ACMLA conference will publicize the new maps.

Updated ACMLA documents:

- Policy on Travel Funding to reflect SSHRC criteria
- ACMLA Rules of Procedure document

I will reiterate from last year that the Association is constrained in many ways due to its size and geography, and is difficult to populate committees and achieve the work it so desires. But every little bit helps! Putting a column together for the *Bulletin*, achieving a small committee task as part of a larger one, or taking on a mentoring activity, are all very much appreciated. Thank you to all and I look forward to seeing you in Wolfville.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Beard
President, ACMLA
May22, 2009