

President's Report 2009-10

This past year has been an exciting one for ACMLA! I would like to thank my fellow Executive members, officers, and general members who have made contributions to the activities of the Association over the past year.

Before summarizing our activities from this past year, I would first like to draw your attention to two initiatives by our Executive which we will be presented for discussion at this year's Annual General Meeting at Guelph. I also refer you to the other Executive Reports posted on the ACMLA website.

ACMLA Membership Survey

Throughout our 2009 conference, I heard from many members who had ideas and initiatives for the future of the Association and its objectives going forward. In response to such feedback, the Executive launched a Membership Survey to "assess the current satisfaction of its members; and to determine future activities and needs that appeal to new and potential members of the Association." Designed by Colleen Beard and Grace Welch, the survey heard from 44% of ACMLA members. Thank you so much to Colleen and Grace for putting this survey together; and thank you to all those who took some time to respond to it. Some of the feedback we received has already been acted upon; and we look forward to an open and wide ranging discussion at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

ACMLA Bulletin Digitizing

In recent years, several Associations (including the Canadian Cartographic Association) have begun digitizing past issues of their respective news publications. An opportunity to begin digitizing past issues of the ACMLA Bulletin is currently being explored by First Vice President Dan Duda and staff at Memorial University. Providing electronic access to past issues will be of great benefit for the association, but may also pose challenges as well. Dan will be presenting a digitization proposal and a small sample of what we might expect from electronic back issues of the Bulletin at the Annual General Meeting. We look forward to your feedback.

Other Activities & Highlights of the past year involving the ACMLA include:

- Guidelines on what and how to submit documents to the Archives –Elizabeth Doyle & Sue McKee
- Copyright Consultation Town Hall in Toronto – Attendance by Marcel Fortin
- ACMLA Open Letter to Minister James Moore regarding Copyright Reform
<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/008.nsf/eng/01421.html>
- Completion and release of the "National Mapping Strategy" from the Canadian Council on Geomatics. –Several ACMLA members participated in national consultation and drafting process
- ACMLA Website Migration –Colleen Beard & Siobhan Hanratty
- Travel Policy Review-Andrew Nicholson & Susan Greaves

Some of the goals for the 2010-11 Executive will include:

- Business Plan
- Membership Drive
- Proposal for Teaching & Learning Working Group

As we meet in Southern Ontario for the first time since 2002, I expect that we will have many new faces, along with returning members. Welcome! For those new to the Association, you will find many opportunities to contribute, including through our Mentoring program, as well as perhaps joining one of our many committees. Please consult the ACMLA website or speak with one of the executive for information about these activities.

Looking forward to seeing you at Guelph!

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Nicholson
ACMLA President
June 7th, 2010