

President's report 2010-11

The 2010-11 year has been an active 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 highlighting our activities this past year, I first want to mention that our Icebreaker this year will have a bit of twist. We would like to devote the last 45 minutes of the IceBreaker to a "Fireside Chat". The focus of the chat will be on the Membership Survey, which was sent out in early 2010. Last year, at our AGM in Guelph, we began reviewing the survey results, but had to unfortunately had to end the discussion early due to a busy agenda.

Colleen Beard and Grace Welch spent a great amount of time putting the survey together and many of you also took the time to complete it, so I feel it is important to have a fuller examination of the results and a more lengthy discussion of what the "Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives" means to you as a information professional and where it should be going to best promote our objectives and development as Map/GIS librarians and archivists.

Colleen has graciously written up a summary of the survey results which can be found here: http://www.acmla.org/docs/membership_survey_beard.pdf

Please review the survey results and join us at the Fireside Chat on June 7th!

Teaching & Learning Advisory Group

From the Survey responses and in talking with members over the years, geospatial literacy is a recurring theme. In response to this, I have put together a proposal for a Teaching & Learning Advisory Group that will help:

"raise awareness of emerging Teaching & Learning Technologies and Strategies as they relate to Geographic information"

The proposed Terms of Reference can be found at:
http://www.acmla.org/docs/teaching_learning_advis_comm.pdf

I foresee this group as playing an important role in staying current with new geospatial technologies, innovative approaches to instruction utilizing geographic information, as well as providing suggestions and assistance for future Conference workshops.

As you will read from the Executive Reports posted on the ACMLA website, it has been a busy one for ACMLA members. Activities & highlights from the past year include:

- Posting of an ACMLA Open Letter to Minister Tony Clement to protest the elimination to Mandatory Long Form Census (Andrew Nicholson)
<http://maplib.blogspot.com/2010/07/acmla-letter-to-tony-clement-concerning.html>
- Molyneux Globe Digitization Request (Dan Duda & Andrew Nicholson)
- Library and Archives Canada Stakeholders Forums (Grace Welch & Andrew Nicholson)
- Completion of Bulletin Digitization (Dan Duda)
- Geoconnections Webinar (Richard Pinnell and other ACMLA members)

As we meet for our 44th Conference, I would like to welcome all members to CARTO 2011. I would especially like to those who are attending their first ACMLA conference! For those new to the Association, you will find many opportunities to contribute. We have several active committees that cover just about every aspect of Geospatial librarianship and archival work. We also have a mentoring program to help new members. Please consult the ACMLA website or speak with one of the executive for information about ACMLA activities and opportunities for participating.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Quebec City!

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Nicholson
May 30, 2011