



2013 ACMLA Web Report

Members: Siobhan Hanratty (Chair & Webmaster)
Colleen Beard
Sue McKee

The ACMLA web committee saw a few membership changes this year. Sue McKee, long-time member, has resigned from the committee. Siobhan Hanratty will step down as webmaster after Carto 2013 and Jacqueline Kreller-Vanderkooy has agreed to take over webmaster duties mid-June.

General usage statistics indicate that the ACMLA website had almost 11 000 unique visitors in 2012, with the number of visits totalling almost than 18 000. The most heavily viewed page was the home page, of course, but the historical maps, Bulletin, and useful tools pages were the next highest in order of page views. In particular the "Best Practices" guide was opened or downloaded almost 1 800 times with the OCUL guide and the cartographic citations documents being the next most popular at roughly 1 000 hits each.

The most significant structural changes to the website this year were precipitated by our new subscription to "membee," a service which allows the association to take online payments and manage membership services. Leanne Trimble is currently the designated contact for our membee account; therefore, the webmaster will work with Leanne if any changes are required in the future.

In an effort to facilitate the best display of the membee pages, an aesthetic redesign of the entire site was required. As part of the website review for this endeavour, it was decided that we would begin using php calls for repeated content (navigational menu as well as header and footer information). As a result, all association pages now end with the suffix php instead of html. Announcements were made via the distribution list regarding this change.

The following technical and administrative tasks were also carried out during the year:

- Continued maintenance and updating of website.
- Updated WHOIS data was to reflect appropriate administrative, billing, and technical information as per the requirements of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- Created backups of the ACMLA site (in addition to on-going backup by Canadian Web Hosting).
- New corporate e-mail account was established for the conference local arrangement committee (carto@acmla.org).

An issue regarding French language content on the site arose during the year when a member contacted someone on the executive. This prompted an executive discussion, which in turn generated a request to the web committee regarding French language documents and potential translation of web pages. This, in turn, prompted a discussion regarding the role of the web committee.

In the summer 2011 we renewed our domain registration and our web hosting services with Canadian Web Hosting <<http://www.canadianwebhosting.com>> for two more years (valid until July and August 2013 respectively). As such we shall soon need to renew both domain and hosting services. This would also be a good time to consider changing the registration of our domain to include the French abbreviation.

Respectfully submitted,

Siobhan Hanratty
Chair, Web Committee
10 June 2013