

**DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION AT AGM
ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MAP LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES**

Student Essay Contest

The Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives announces its first annual prize contest. The purpose of the association is to 1) encourage and support the development of high standards in the management of and access to geographic information, 2) encourage and support activities which further the awareness, use and understanding of geographic information by Canadians, especially members of the academic community and 3) encourage and support Canadian students who wish to participate in the activities of the association.

We now call for essays on topics embraced by the Association's statement of purpose. Essays may deal with access to and information about geospatial data, cartography, cartographic materials, map information, map data, GIS data and georeferenced information. The primary purpose is to explore some aspect of the management and access to geographic information.

ELIGIBILITY

A student from Canada or studying in Canada currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution (college or university) is eligible to apply to enter the contest. All papers shall be prepared during the 2004/2005 school year

THE ESSAY

The essay shall be original and unpublished (it may however have been submitted as a paper for a libraries/information studies program or geography/cartography program as part of an internship in a map library/geospatial data centre or other independent studies courses) and of no more than 3,000 words. Illustrative or graphic material is welcomed. The essay itself shall be submitted in typescript, double-spaced and printed on one side of the paper.

DATES

Essays must be postmarked on or before May 1, 2005 and addressed to:

Chair, Honour Award
ACMLA
<Address>

The decision will be announced on or before the Association's annual conference, usually held around June 1.

CRITERIA

Primary consideration will be given to the essay's originality and its contribution to new knowledge and insights. Other considerations will be the author's demonstration of the relevance of the subject, the quality of presentation and documentation, and the literary merits of the essay.

JUDGING

Members of the ACMLA Awards Committee and the ACMLA Bulletin editor will judge each submitted essay based on the defined criteria. The decision of the judges is final.

If no essay is judged to be appropriate in a given year, the right to make no award is reserved.

THE AWARD

The winner will receive a prize of \$250 and free membership in the Association for one year. The award includes an invitation to present the paper at the ACMLA annual conference held end of May/early June. If the winner chooses to attend the conference, the Association will waive registration fees and provide a travel stipend of \$250. The essay will be considered for publication in the Association's Bulletin.

May 14, 2004

Prepared by Carol Marley

Revised by Grace Welch after consultation