The fiscal matters have been front and centre for the ASA Board throughout the year. In the spring of 2019, the status of our funding was unknown, which caused a disruption in distributing the Access to Holdings grants. This disruption resulted in a period of uncertainty -- the participating institutions had to postpone their projects and cancel some positions. When the budget for 2019-2020 was finally announced in the fall, the funding ASA received was cut by 8% from the previous year and the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation who oversaw our funding was dissolved.

At this point, the Board had to make some decisions with regard to resource allocation. Collectively, we were pressed to define the organizational priorities considering immediate impact as well as long-term sustainability. We also agreed that we need to shield the core staff - the people who administer the organization and provide key services to the members.

With the announcement of the 2020-2021 budget, the plans had to be reviewed and reconsidered once again. The government announced a new 11% cut and the COVID-19 pandemic response resulted in new budget reductions. As of May of 2020, the ASA is facing the overall 38% reduction of its annual budget since 2019. In this unprecedented situation, the Board had to make some drastic and rather painful decisions that directly affected the services and the staff. The Access to Holdings program has been discontinued. We had to say goodbye to our Administrative Assistant Soyoung Yun and Financial Coordinator for many years, Gemma Ramayan. The ASA had to cut other expenses - office needs, board travel, advisory expenses and more - to the bare essentials.

As a result, the outlook for the ASA has dramatically changed. With the diminished resources, the ASA is under pressure to re-examine its current model. These tasks are for the new Board. In order to form a new vision and model, the new Board will need support from both individual and institutional members. This kind of broad consultation should illuminate the top priorities and help the organization chart its way forward.
Despite all the challenges, in 2019-2020 the Board managed to achieve some important objectives. We finalized and approved the Communications Plan, which was based on the needs assessment consultation of 2018-2019. Outreach projects have been re-examined and some significant adjustments made. One of the most notable changes was moving Archives Week from October to June and offering more than one outreach event per year. The bi-annual conference in May of 2019 provided an opportunity for the Board to engage the members through events, forums and social interaction.

On behalf of the ASA Board, I would like to extend deepest gratitude to the outgoing executives: Kate Rozon for her exemplary work as Secretary and board member, Carson Murphy for his support and sound judgement. I also would like to extend my thanks to all the ASA staff: Rene Georgopalis for her dedication and skill, also Maryna Chernyavska, Soyoung Yun, and Gemma Ramayan. Personally, I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve the ASA community as President and I wish all the best to the new Board of Directors.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / ARCHIVES ADVISOR REPORT
RENE GEORGOPALIS

I am the only full-time staff member of the ASA and my role includes overseeing the daily administration of the Archives Society of Alberta which includes duties such as supporting and attending board and committee meetings, distributing communications to members, financial and human resource management, grant applications and other general administrative activities. I offer advisory services to archives around the province regarding best practices and I assist organizations that are interested in developing new archival programs.

The following is a summary of the activities accomplished in 2019-2020.

ADVISORY SERVICES

In 2019-2020, site visits were conducted for both members and non-members of the ASA. Site visits to non-members included Alexis First Nation, Piikani First Nation, Edmonton Indigenous Senior’s Centre, and St. Mary’s University Archives. Visits to our members included Athabasca Archives, Milo Library Archives, Sylvan Lake, Ambrose Archives, University of Calgary’s new Glenbow Western Research Centre as well as others. I also had a few coffee and lunch meetings with students interested in pursuing the archival profession, individual and institutional members and with those wanting to develop a new archives program.

In 2017, we were asked by two Indigenous communities to offer an introductory course on Indigenous Archives. Again in 2018-2019, we were asked by another community to offer this course. We are still seeking to secure funding to support Indigenous archives in our province. Detailed advising statistics can be found below.

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

Many other services in addition to advising were conducted in 2019-2020, which include:

• Administering and teaching the 6-day Archives Institute in April 2019;
• Administering workshops - Indigenous Cultural Awareness in Banff, May 2019 and Canadian Archival Information Accession Standard Workshop, October 2019;
• Attending and organizing meetings of the ASA’s Board of Directors, including the Annual General Meeting, and meetings of ASA’s various committees;
• Contributing to the ASA Newsletter as well as communicating to members through our website, e-mailout, list-serv, and social media (Facebook and Twitter) regarding ASA initiatives as well as happenings both at ASA and in the general archival community;
• Administering and implementing Archives Week;
• Administering and implementing ASA’s 2019 Conference in Banff;
• Other tasks included acquiring new committee members, overseeing the completion of ASA’s Communications plan, researching and choosing a new membership database, working on our new office project, and other administrative duties.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / ARCHIVES ADVISOR REPORT (CONT.)

For 2019-2020, we continue to provide advising services and professional development opportunities through our workshops and Archives Institute. For the upcoming year, we are anticipating downsizing our services due to extreme cuts to our funding. This fiscal year ended with the pandemic lockdown starting so the next year should look quite different. Thank you to the ASA Board members, committee members, and staff who help make ASA's initiatives possible and who help me so much with my work.

ADVISORY SERVICES STATISTICS

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<td>FULL DAY</td>
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DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
MARYNA CHERNYAVSKA

As the Database Administrator, I am responsible for maintenance of Alberta on Record (AOR), communication with the developers, user support and training. I reviewed and published archival descriptions submitted by ASA institutional members, updated authority records, and assisted with description upload.

ASA members continued revising archival descriptions and authority records of their institutions in AOR, and contributed new descriptions to the database. There are currently: 179,575 archival descriptions (15,236 of them are top-level descriptions), 23,599 authority record descriptions, and 153,996 digital objects in the database.

Google Analytics feature for Alberta on Record allowed us to generate usage statistics reports for individual institutions. We sent out stats reports to the institutional members for 2019 at the beginning of this calendar year, and have also been providing stats on demand.

AtoM 2.5 was released on May 9, 2019, followed by three upgrades in July, August, and October, 2019. A new version of AtoM software 2.6 is expected to be launched by the end of 2020. This release will include new features and enhancements, most importantly, the Flash-based media player will be removed and replaced with HTML5. Archives Society of Alberta is among organizations who has contributed to this release.

I would like to thank Rene Georgopalis, Soyoung Yun, and the AOR Committee members: Vino Vipulanantharajah, Cristian Udma, Jillian Staniec, Carson Murphy, and former Committee member Elizabeth Walker for their support. I look forward to another year of working with Alberta on Record, and serving the ASA members.

Maryna Chernyavska, teaching the AOR workshop, Banff 2019
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT
SOYOUNG YUN

The Administrative Assistant provides general administrative support to the Executive Director/Archives Advisor. My tasks included communications, membership, event planning and general office support. Duties included:

Communications
- Answer phone or email inquiries from members and from the public, and send mail-outs to members, such as membership invoices, receipts, etc.;
- Design layout and publish the ASA quarterly newsletter;
- Manage evaluations of events.

Membership
- Maintain membership information in ASA membership database. The membership year runs from April 1 to March 31.

Event planning
- Arranged catering, confirmed registration and ensured all materials were in place for the workshops.
I want to start off by thanking all of our institutional members for continuing to contribute to the AOR database. Over the past year, our steady linear growth in the number of descriptions in the database has continued from recent years.

There has been an increase again in the number of descriptions in all areas, including around 1,600 more total archival descriptions in the database.

Breakdown of Alberta on Record database:
- Total archival descriptions 179,575
- Fonds-level descriptions 13,836
- Collection level descriptions 1,334
- Scanned textual records 101,513
- Images 52,436

Statistics for traffic on the AOR website were gathered from April 2019 to March 2020. Overall, pageviews and users are fairly consistent from previous years. Also, the average time a user spent on an AOR webpage is close to 2 minutes again this year, so our users are spending more time on our webpages viewing descriptions.
Alberta on Record (AOR) Committee Report (Cont.)

Something that our committee has been considering this coming year is updating the AOR subject headings, which have become antiquated. Our committee will be reviewing some options, including the PAASH system from the Provincial Archives of Alberta once it is available. Once our committee does a review, we can make a recommendation for our institutional members to consider.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members, Cristian Udma, Jillian Staniec, Carson Murphy, our Executive Director, Rene Georgopalis, and Database Administrator, Maryna Chernyavska. A special thank you to Elizabeth Walker who was with our committee for a very long time and helped us so much in getting AOR started. We all wish Elizabeth well in the Yukon. I would also like to introduce our newest committee member, Jia Jia Yong, who is the archivist at the Franciscans of Canada Archives.

A reminder to all members that your institutional usage statistics on AOR through Google Analytics are available upon request with our database administrator.

We look forward to hearing from our ASA members, which will help us to determine what kind of reference/help tools we need to create or adapt. Please feel free to contact our committee if you have any comments, questions or concerns. We look forward to members continuing to add their descriptions to AOR. We know that our end users are finding this collaborative database as a great resource, and we hope to continue provide these users with a centralized place for them to gain access to all archives across Alberta.

Alberta on Record web traffic statistics:
(please note there was an outage in recording from Jan 20, 2020 to April 7, 2020):

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<th>Month</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Pages / Session</th>
<th>Avg. time on page</th>
<th>Bounce rate</th>
<th>Pageviews</th>
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<td>100.00%</td>
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The Access to Holdings program has in the past provided ASA institutional members with funding for archival projects, including but not limited to:

- projects to arrange and describe unprocessed records
- RAD compliance projects
- projects to improve access to holdings, such as digitization (with an arrangement and description component), indexing, retroactive conversion, or institutional guide
- projects to help institutions with digital records initiatives

After delays in receipt of funding and consequent delays in disbursing grants last year, the decision was made at the ASA Annual General Meeting to defer accepting applications until the money was transferred from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation (AHRF). Unfortunately, due to funding cuts, this money has not been made available, and so the ASA Board has been forced to cease offering grants for the time being.

I would like to thank the following people for their offer to volunteer for the 2019-20 grants committee, which unfortunately did not have occasion to meet:

- Nicole Ensing
- Erin Hoar
- Regina Landwehr
- Valla McLean
- Philip Pype

The committee also thanks Rene Georgopalis and the ASA staff for facilitating the process for so many years.

The Grants Committee gratefully acknowledges the past support of the Alberta Historical Resources
This past year, the Outreach and Communications Committee experienced a great deal of change, challenges, and success. It carried on its regular course of duties, while at the same time, going through a great deal of self-examination as the committee re-thought its purpose and direction in large part as a result of feedback received from ASA’s Needs Assessment Survey and the committee’s Member Outreach and Advocacy Survey.

One of the most notable changes this year saw the committee rebrand itself as the Outreach and Communications Committee. This change will reflect members’ desire for the committee to support them in conducting outreach and advocacy in a manner that is manageable by providing resources and organizing Alberta-wide collective outreach initiatives throughout the year. This direction is reflected in an update to the committees Terms of Reference.

The committee also expanded its scope of activities in order to provide members with new opportunities to connect with audiences, leverage their ability to support one-another, and develop new skills. “Ask an Archivist Day” will be added as an initiative in October 2020 and will be promoted by the Committee to members as a means of public engagement that offers users insight to the profession. In addition to this addition, the committee will be establishing a closed Facebook group that will allow members to ask questions, and share resources and ideas . Also, the Outreach and Communications Committee and Education Committee are planning on establishing new workshops in the future which includes workshops on social media and using metrics and measuring value. The social media workshop was planned for 2020 but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the addition of these exciting initiatives, 2019 was the first year that the committee did not produce the ASA calendar, as it was failing to serve in an advocacy capacity. Although we are disappointed that we will not be producing it, we are excited for the new opportunities that we will be pursuing.

With all of the changes the committee experienced this past year, Archives Week continued as one of the significant accomplishments of the Committee in 2019. Each year, the Outreach and Communications Committee coordinates Archives Week and provides tools to ASA members that will assist them in participating in the event. This year’s theme was “Visit Us!” and celebrated the diverse range of archives’ users. The committee was responsible for promoting the event to our institutional members and providing them with tools and templates to launch social media campaigns as part of the event.

The committee is excited to continue to serve ASA members in outreach and advocacy activities. It hopes that by responding to feedback it received from the surveys issued over the past year we are offering an agenda that truly has value for our members.

Over the past year, committee members have included:

Andrew Chernevych
Angie Dilts
Emily Guthrie-Plouffe
Peter Houston
Charles Hunt
Jaclyn Landry
John Yolkowski
One of the objectives of the Archives Society of Alberta is “to encourage and develop archival skills among those engaged in archival work by holding seminars and workshops on archival principles and practices.” In 2019-2020, the ASA hosted the following opportunities for members.

**SPECIAL TOPICS WORKSHOPS**

Course: Indigenous Cultural Awareness, Pre-conference workshop  
Location: Kinnear Centre, Banff, Alberta  
Dates: May 23, 2019  
Instructors: Sharon Morin and Daryl Kootenay  
Participants: 15

The two-part workshop taught about the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada and the specific history of Treaty 7 to create better awareness and empathy towards Canada’s Indigenous peoples. Participants engaged in the Blanket Exercise and heard the history of the Stoney Nakoda people and those of Treaty 7 prior to contact, during contact, and to present day. There was also an opportunity to participate in a smudge ceremony and to learn from an Elder.

The ASA would like to thank the Banff Centre, Kinnear Centre for Creativity and Innovation for the use of its facilities.

Course: Canadian Archival Accession Information Standard Workshop  
Location: Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, Edmonton, Alberta  
Date: Friday, November 22, 2019  
Instructor: Raymond Frogner, Chair, CCA’s National Archival Accession Standard Working Group  
Participants: 18, waitlist 8

The Canadian Archival Accession Information Standard provides information elements for archivists to use in the accessioning process. The workshop walked participants through the standard and explained what information to include in each element. The Raymond Frogner discussed the rationale and use of each field. He discussed the history and making of the standard and how it can come together with other standards.

The ASA would like to thank the Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre for the use of its facilities.

**FUNDAMENTAL ARCHIVAL EDUCATION**

A main activity in the area of archival education is the delivery of the annual Archives Institute.

Course: Archives Institute  
Location: Provincial Archives of Alberta, Edmonton  
Dates: April 8 - 12, 2019  
Participants: 18, waitlist 5

The ASA would like to thank the Provincial Archives of Alberta for the use of its facilities.
**ARCHIVES SOCIETY OF ALBERTA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2020 – 2021**

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**Institutional Affiliation (Individual Members)**

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP**

- [ ] Archives Employee .......................... $60.00
- [ ] Students, Volunteers, Seniors .................. $30.00
- [ ] Associate Institutional Member ................. $90.00
- [ ] Institutional Member (Please contact the ASA for further information)
- [ ] Yes, I would like to volunteer for an ASA Committee

Credit Card No. ________________________________

Expiration __________ Visa [ ] MasterCard [ ]

Card holder name (please print) ________________________________

Signature ________________________________

Please make cheque or money order payable to the Archives Society of Alberta and mail to:
Archives Society of Alberta
Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre
114C-10440 108 Ave NW
Edmonton AB T5H 3Z9