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This edition of the newsletter features content from:

Chris Bourdeau, Leslie Latta-Guthrie, Dennis Hyduk, Karen Langley, Eileen Hendy, Jonathon Davidson, Claude Roberto, Marlena Wyman, Scott Goodline, Lori Podolsky-Norland, Glynys Hohmann, Michael Gourlie

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Garth Clarke*



As the Archives Society of Alberta wraps up its Centennial Legacy Project grant, it is time to extend our collective thanks to the Government of Alberta for its financial support, and to all those institutional and individual members who have actively contributed to the vision and the success of the various Archives Network of Alberta projects we have undertaken. Those projects would not have occurred without the voluntary contributions of ASA members.

New projects and new demands lie ahead. The ASA continues to depend upon volunteer participation, participation that will be insufficient to meet the needs of this organization. As with any professional body, only a few actively contribute. That pool naturally dwindles and new blood is constantly required. It is, in my mind, contingent on new members of the archival profession to consider giving back to their profession — locally, provincially or nationally. And it is time for some of the old timers to step back up to the plate. Service to the professional community is a corollary to membership in a profession. We archivists strive to be a profession; but, without support of our organization, why should we consider ourselves to be professionals?

Several ASA committees are short of members, and one does not even have a chair. These are not onerous voluntary duties, even for a busy archivist. Please contact the Executive Director, Michael Gourlie, for information on available positions.



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**A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Michael Gourlie*

Continuing with the newsletter's series of theme issues, this edition of the newsletter focuses on recent developments at the Provincial Archives of Alberta. While it is unusual for the newsletter to focus on the activities at one archival institution, the upcoming Archives Week 2005 marks the second anniversary of the opening of the new headquarters, and the variety of new program initiatives and special events described in this issue serve as illustrations of how the new site has expanded the capacity of the PAA in more ways than just its ability to store archival records.

All members are invited to submit suggestions for additional theme issues, profiles of sectors of the archival community, or examinations of issues within the archival community. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact me at [mgourlie@connect.ab.ca](mailto:mgourlie@connect.ab.ca).



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# CENTENNIAL HAPPENINGS AT THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

By Chris Bourdeau, Public Affairs Officer & Leslie Latta-Guthrie, Provincial Archivist

Images from the Provincial Archives' photograph collection have been popping up all over the place through their use by the Alberta 2005 Centennial Initiative. They have been showcased on the postcard series associated with the Premier's Invitation Program (to view, go to [www.albertacentennial.ca](http://www.albertacentennial.ca)); within *Celebration Times: News from the Alberta 2005 Centennial Initiative*; and through links within the online *Alberta Centennial Bulletin* that is distributed almost on a weekly basis. In addition to this exposure, the Provincial Archives has lead or played a key role in the following centennial initiatives.

**Phone Cards Connect with Alberta's Past**  
Steamers, rodeos, landmarks and distinctive portraits are just a sample of the striking historical images represented on a new phone card collection honouring Alberta's centennial.

The phone cards are a joint venture among the Provincial Archives of Alberta, the Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association and OPCOM Hospitality Solutions Inc. The Archives specially chose the 16 images for the phone cards from its collection of more than two million photographs, while OPCOM and the Association are producing and distributing the cards across the province.

The Provincial Archives of Alberta will receive a percentage of total sales, which will go directly back to preserving future additions to the Archives extensive photograph collection.

The phone cards are embossed with a holographic version of Alberta's centennial logo, and are serialized and individually packaged. They are available at participating hotels and retail outlets throughout Alberta, or by visiting [www.opcomphonecards.com](http://www.opcomphonecards.com).

**Posters, Posters, Posters**

To celebrate Alberta's Centennial, the Provincial Archives produced a series of six posters that promote the province's unique and exciting history. These eye-catching pieces were distributed to 2,500 K-12 schools and public libraries throughout the province prior to the end of March, in the hope that they would find their way in these facilities' classrooms, libraries and public areas as an enjoyable reminder of the last 100 years of Alberta's life and growth.

**1939 Royal Visit Captured in One-of-a-Kind Diary**  
Enchanted by the festive atmosphere gripping her hometown and the rest of the country, Edmontonian Vera Collins described the 1939 Royal Visit in a diary. Sixty-six years later, the original diary, preserved in the Provincial Archives of Alberta, is now available in a book. *The Visit to Canada of King George and Queen Elizabeth: A Journal by Vera Collins* is an exact reproduction of the original penned by Collins including her captivating prose and beautiful watercolour paintings.

The diary follows the month long visit by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth that spanned the country by train. Collins would listen to the radio and read the newspaper to track the first visit by reigning monarchs to Canada. The diary culminates with the stop by His and Her Majesty in Edmonton on June 2. The city swelled from its usual 90,000 residents to more than 200,000 as people from across northern Alberta came to Edmonton for the historic day.

Vera Collins, known as Vera Webb after her marriage, donated the diary shortly before her death in 1998 to the Provincial Archives of Alberta, where it has since been available for public use in the facility's reading room. The diary has been published so Albertans can enjoy an engaging, personal narrative about a very public event. *The Visit to Canada of King George and Queen Elizabeth: A Journal by Vera Collins* can be purchased at Greenwood's Bookstore, Volume II Bookstore, Audrey's Bookstore, the Alberta Legislature gift shop, the Provincial Museum of Alberta gift shop and the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Contact the Archives at (780) 427-1750 to inquire about delivery and special orders.

# THE STORY OF SALES AT THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

*By Dennis Hyduk, Archives Service Centre Coordinator/Conservator*

Then and now... When the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) was still in its infancy some 30 years ago, the public could purchase a photographic print (one size, one finish) or a photocopy (8.5x11") from the PAA as a regular public service component. Today, the sales and services arm of the PAA cannot only provide you with the same image, but can provide it to you in half a dozen different formats.

Back in 1974, tickets for a performance at the Jubilee Auditorium ranged from \$3.50 to \$6.50, a new 1400 square foot home in St. Albert cost \$27,500, and bread was 5 loaves for \$1.00. The average journeyman earned \$5.25 per hour and the assistant fire chief made \$13,000 per year. The cost of a photocopy from the Provincial Archives was 15 cents and an 8x10" black and white photograph was \$3.00.

Today, that photocopy is 35 cents and the 8x10" print is \$20.00.

What changed? Options. Today's clients can receive their PAA image electronically, as well as order acid-free file folders for their family archives and have a custom enclosure fabricated for them – all by way of a single email communication.

The Provincial Archives has been diversifying and expanding what is available to clients for the past 10 years. In 1999, the Archives Service Centre (ASC) was opened, providing technical assistance, archival services and products to smaller province-wide institutions or groups needing assistance with their holdings.

Over 40 different clubs, societies and archives have used the Archives Service Centre throughout the past six years for a variety of services. The ASC has provided museums, clubs and other institutions with archival quality copy and duplicate negatives, as well as display and museum quality reprints of their images. Documents have been de-acidified and encapsulated, audio tapes have been duplicated, and letters have been cleaned, flattened and sleeved. Custom enclosures have also been specially built for some artefacts. The ASC has also serviced some 70 different client groups with archival products, including acid-free file folders, half-size storage cartons, photo-pages, buffered tissue, photo envelopes, four flap envelopes, encapsulation tape and of course, white cotton gloves.

Upon moving into its new facility two years ago, the Provincial Archives opened "The Archives Store" – meaning that anybody can now access archival products for their own personal archive. Everything from Pigma pens to soft pencils, boxes for 45 rpm record collections to acid-free photo albums, and photo corners and textile storage boxes can be purchased directly from the Archives. As an added bonus, the general public can now utilize the expertise of the PAA staff in order to deal with personal archival problems. Current services include restoration of vintage photos, humidifying and flattening of certificates, custom made portfolios for treasured posters and audio CDs burnt from old family taped gatherings.

In January 2005, the ASC website ([www.cd.gov.ab.ca/preserving/PAA](http://www.cd.gov.ab.ca/preserving/PAA)) was launched, complete with details on sales and services products and prices. The site gives the client the opportunity to choose from hundreds of archival products and services online. A multitude of local history and Alberta themed books, as well as a moderate line of gifts were added to the site. With the growing technology constantly improving, clients can now digitally receive advice and service by email. Requests can be either mailed or emailed to customers, and books or posters can be perused directly on-line.

In the past, any monies from the sales of archival images or photocopies went into the Government's general revenue fund; today, the monies derived from these sales go directly back to the Archives in the form of funding for preservation supplies, contracts for conservation, new products for the store or photographic needs for the lab.

Back then, a public need was fulfilled in a minimalist way; today, a public need is fulfilled in a much more rewarding fashion.

## CAIN EN- "ABLE" S THE PAA

*By Karen Langley, Previous CAIN Project Archivist*

The Canadian Archival Information Network (CAIN) project at the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) was started in 1998 and over time, has received funding from both the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA) and the Archives Society of Alberta (ASA). The purpose of the project was to retro-describe both the Private Records and Government Records at the PAA in accordance with Rules for Archival Description (RAD) standards, and to make the resultant fonds level descriptions available to researchers on both the Archival Network of Alberta (ANA) and CAIN Internet databases. A number of different archivists over the years have been responsible for not only researching and describing the records, but for articulating the policies and procedures needed to ensure the uniformity of arrangement and description principles at the Provincial Archives during the project and into the future.

The Government Records at the Archives were described from a maximalist approach, and this portion of the project was completed by the spring of 2004

with over 65 fonds level and 163 sous-fonds level descriptions produced. Captured within the descriptions are 10,067 accessions and over 24,200 linear metres of records, and all of the descriptions have been made available on the ANA and CAIN databases to date.

The Private Records portion of the project has not been completed, although a significant amount of records have been described and made available on the ANA and CAIN databases at this time. This includes the majority of records accessioned from 1970-1977 and 1980-1986, as well as two significant groups of records at the Archives, the United Farmers' of Alberta records and the records of over 180 individual rural mutual telephone companies. Altogether, over 1600 fonds level descriptions have been produced which capture over 3,000 accessions and approximately 1,000 linear metres of records. The retro-description of Private Records at the Provincial Archives will be continued in the future in part through the funding efforts of the Friends of the PAA Society.

### USING ASA-L

Notices of events, job postings, and questions directed to the Alberta archival community as a whole can be sent out on asa-l, the listserv of the Archives Society of Alberta. Visit the asa-l webpage at <http://www.mailman.srv.ualberta.ca/mailman/listinfo/asa-l> and follow the easy instructions to subscribe. Once you've subscribed to the listserv, you can post messages to all the members of the list by sending an email to [asa-l@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:asa-l@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca). Any user subscribed to the listserv can post messages promoting events at their institution, advertising job postings, or passing along information of interest to the archival community throughout the province.

The ASA thanks Bryan Corbett of the University of Alberta for his continuing administration of the asa-l listserv.

# THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES GETS A LOT OF HELP FROM ITS FRIENDS

By Eileen Hendy, President of the Friends of the PAA Society

The Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) Society was established in 1991 and is an incorporated, non-profit organization that acts as a "Friends" group of the PAA.

The objects of the Friends of the PAA Society are to support the programs and services of the PAA by: promoting public awareness of Alberta's documentary heritage; advocating the value of preserving records related to the history of Alberta; providing volunteer services, and accessing community resources for the benefit of the Archives and its clients.

Since 1991, the Society has supported and provided a variety of services to the PAA and its clients by raising over \$272,000 for various projects such as the processing, documentation and conservation of archival records. Other activities conducted over the years included providing photocopying and photographic reproduction services; operation of a genealogy help desk in the reference room staffed by volunteers; production of numerous indexes and other finding aids to assist researchers in locating historical records at the Archives; acquiring the Alberta Newspaper Index database from United Western

Communications; developing and delivering an education program to schools in the Edmonton area that complements the grade four social studies curriculum; and collaborating with the PAA on the development of an educational resource package that will be used to increase awareness and use of the Archives among high school students and their teachers.

The Friends of the PAA Society held their annual general meeting on June 1, 2005 and the following board was elected:

- Eileen Hendy, President
- Diane Sweet, Vice-President
- Karen Hesson, Secretary
- Lorraine Snyder, Treasurer
- Michael Gourlie, Director-at-Large
- Lee Onisko, Director-at-Large
- Kathleen Jurisprudencia, Director-at-Large

The next Friends' Board meeting will be in late September. Everyone is welcome! For more information, please call 427-0605.

## Provincial Archives of Alberta staff team



## WEB REFERENCE RESOURCES AT THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

By Jonathan Davidson, Reference Archivist

Since the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) relocated to our spacious new building more than two years ago, Access Services staff has made much more material accessible in the Reading Room and the Library.

All of the unrestricted microfilm holdings, for example, are now available on a self-service basis. These include Alberta newspapers, census, passenger lists and homestead records. A selection of highly-used maps (including township plans) have been duplicated and are now available in the Reading Room.

Five computers in the Reading Room provide limited public Internet access to selected websites such as library catalogues, archives databases and genealogy-related sources.

The Provincial Archives Reference Library continues to grow by both purchases and donations; it now includes about 10,000 volumes. A particular strength of the library collection is the holdings of published local and community histories. These holdings include histories of churches, schools, local businesses and community organizations.

The Reference Library is also developing its holdings in the area of material relating to Alberta's Aboriginal people. There is a particular emphasis on published works relating to history and culture.

Beyond the additions to the Reading Room, the Provincial Archives website has recently been updated to include several guides to the holdings.

In preparation for the Anniversary celebrations in September, a detailed list of both the photographs and textual records relating to the Inauguration ceremonies has been created. Other new online finding aids include a guide to Royal Visit sources and a guide to the holdings of records of the former Premiers of Alberta.

Recognizing that genealogists represent an overwhelming majority of the Provincial Archives users, a guide to the Major Genealogy Sources has been made available on our website. Related to this is the online guide to searching homestead records.

### Provincial Archives of Alberta staff team

Left to right:

Kathleen Jurisprudencia, Sharry Watson, Claude Roberto, Nora Brown, Wendy McGee, Dawna Manderson, Leslie Latta-Guthrie, Sarah Patterson, Irene Jendzjowsky, Karen Mitra, Connie Yaroshuk, Wayne Murdoch, Marlena Wyman, Emily Bucknell, Anna Gibson, Donna MacNeil, Lori Nordland, Alison Freake, Pat Mitchell, Louis Gauthier (Alberta Infrastructure), Diane Lamoureux (Oblate Archives), Tom Anderson, Alvina Mardhani, Scott Goodine, Robin Chowdhury, Dennis Hyduk.

## ARCHIVES IN YOUR ATTIC 2005: ANOTHER OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

By Claude M. Roberto, Ph.D.

A new state-of-the-art building, the Alberta Centennial and a sunny Family Day with a touch of spring... these three combined for *Archives in Your Attic 2005* resulted in another unprecedented outcome. Several families, wishing to improve their knowledge of archives, even brought their children and infants with them. A few seniors had special needs but did not want to miss the opportunity to celebrate the Centennial at the PAA and to discover what happens behind the staff entrance.

*Archives in Your Attic* was intended to give the general public a greater understanding of the role of archives within society as well as encourage the proper preservation and retention of archival material that has potential value to the community.

Visitors came from as far as Olds to visit the PAA; many came from communities around Edmonton, such as Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, Leduc, Sherwood Park and Beaumont. They came from different areas and backgrounds but all shared the wish to learn and preserve with the best possible conditions their own pieces of history.

The event included tours of the new building and the viewing of a display on the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of Alberta, as well as demonstrations on the preservation of various archival media and a workshop on the Archives Society of Alberta's online resources. The PAA staff had set a timetable for these activities, but in order to accommodate a very high number of about 300 visitors, the staff decided to offer non-stop tours and demonstrations. Their efforts were very much appreciated. The ASA workshop was also repeated because of public demand. Even the PAA store, offering supplies for sale, raised major interest among visitors who had the opportunity to purchase items to take back home as a souvenir of the day.

Visitors came for various reasons. Several did not have to be convinced about the need to collect and preserve archives; many of them had kept family records through generations and brought this precious material with them to get advice on conservation. Several seniors who had generously offered their services for Centennial activities within their local communities, wanted to know more about the history of the province in order to improve the services they planned to deliver. Local historians were looking for ways to develop archival programs in their communities. Other families thought their children should be exposed to history and made more aware of the importance of archives. Some visitors from local businesses in the neighbourhood of the PAA were just curious to know what was going on behind the walls at the PAA. Others came just for fun because the event was announced in local newspapers and the visit was for them a different learning experience.

Visitors improved their understanding of the importance of archives and they said they would not wait for the next special event to come back to the PAA. Seniors seemed to leave with additional energy and for sure, with an abundance of new ideas for developing archival projects in their communities. Children received balloons and went back home with many stories to share with their friends. *Archives in your Attic* began as a National Heritage Week Event in 2000. Don't miss the next one in 2006!

## **HEADLESS VALLEY: PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA'S 20TH ANNUAL FILM NIGHT**

By Marlena Wyman, Audio/Visual Archivist

The Provincial Archives of Alberta's film nights have served as excellent promotional and awareness events for the Archives' extensive film collection as well as for the institution itself. The film nights help create an understanding of the film collection as a valuable historical and cultural record and often inspire donations of films to the Archives. Partly through ticket sales, film nights also provide a vehicle for the preservation of films in the Archives' holdings. Since the Provincial Archives policy is not to project original films, an internegative and print of the film screened at the 2005 event were produced. This means that not only can the public now view this film in our Reading Room without fear of damage to the original, but the primary step in the preservation of this important film has now been made.

The Provincial Archives' 20th Annual Film Night was held April 22, 2005. An audience of 245 enjoyed this year's event which was held at Metro Cinema, Edmonton's film house dedicated to the exhibition and promotion of Canadian, international and independent film and video.

Filmgoers were treated to a screening of the feature length travel film *Headless Valley*. This film documents the amazing adventure of independent Calgarian filmmakers Melvin and Ethel Ross's two-month canoe trip alone on the Fort Nelson, Liard and South Nahanni Rivers in 1957. Theirs was one of the first films to be shot of this remote region, and Ethel was one of the first women to have made the trip.

The Provincial Archives recently acquired the Melvin and Ethel Ross fonds of travel films. In the early 1950s, the Rosses decided to abandon the conventional lifestyle and live on the road in their homemade camper truck, and in the case of *Headless Valley*, in their aluminum canoe and canvas tent. They taught themselves how to use a 16mm camera and proceeded to make their living producing travel films and lecturing for the next few decades. Their productions were filmed in Alberta and various locations around the world. The Rosses took their films on the road throughout North America, with Ethel manning the projector and Melvin providing live commentary to their silent films.

Melvin and Ethel Ross are now 90 and 86 years of age and live in Calgary. As Melvin is no longer able to travel to give his commentary with the film, Calgary author and Nahanni enthusiast David Finch recorded Melvin's voice at his home and this recording accompanied the film at Film Night, transporting the audience back to the time of the Ross's adventure.

Fabulous door prizes were given away throughout the evening, including camping and canoeing equipment from Camper's Village and Mountain Equipment Co-op, and wilderness books by Calgary author David Finch.

Other remarkable films in the Ross fonds include their 1955 film "Dinosaur Badlands" which was commissioned by the Royal Ontario Museum and filmed in Alberta, and "Pan American Highway," which documents Melvin and Ethel's 1961 trip by truck and camper from Calgary to the southern tip of South America.

The screening of *Headless Valley* generated calls for a Calgary screening as well requests to purchase VHS and DVD copies of the film. We are presently looking into these possibilities as well as taking Film Night on the road. Watch for Film Night coming to a theatre near you!

## HISTORIC EDMONTON WEEK: EVENTS AT THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

By Scott Goodine, Private Records Archivist & Tom Anderson, Government Records Archivist

The Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) held a number of special events to mark the 2005 Historic Edmonton Week and to showcase its position in Alberta's archival and historical community.

The people of Alberta were invited take part in behind-the-scenes tours of the Archives, featuring areas not normally available to the general public. Tours occurred on Saturday, July 23 throughout the day.

On Thursday, July 28, an official celebration of the publication of *The Visit to Canada of King George and Queen Elizabeth, 1939: A Journal*, by Edmonton native Vera Collins, took place at the Provincial Archives. The diary is a beautiful mixture of watercolour drawings and text that captures the excitement Edmontonians felt during the 1939 Royal visit. Scheduled speakers included Provincial Archivist Leslie Latta-Guthrie and Professor Kenneth Munro, acting chair of the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta.

This published monograph is an exact reproduction of the original penned by Collins chronicling the 1939 Royal Tour. Vera Collins Webb donated the diary to the PAA shortly before her death in 1998, where it has since been available for public use in our reading room. The Provincial Archives published the diary so Albertans can own an engaging, personal narrative about a very public event that many of them may have experienced. Dr. Munro introduced the book and put the visit into historical perspective. The diary has been well received by both the media and the general public and has been featured on A Channel's morning show "The Big Breakfast," Shaw Cablevision, and was given a positive review (during the Queen's visit) in the *Edmonton Journal*.

In addition, two half-day workshops on encapsulation, the construction of portfolios and folders, as well as the humidification and flattening of documents was offered on Saturday, July 30.

A fourth event that coincided with, but that was not directly related to Historic Edmonton Week, was the opening on Monday, July 25 of a fifty-year time-capsule created by the Ministry of Economic Development, now in the care of the Provincial Archives. This event was closed to the public for conservation reasons, but material from the time capsule will be showcased in an exhibit in the Archives gallery throughout the summer.

# DIGITAL PRESERVATION AT THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

By Lori Podolsky-Norland, Digital Archivist

In a unique partnership between the University of Calgary and the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA), a digital archivist position was created. This position is funded through the University of Calgary with employment at the PAA. The digital archivist is part of a Government of Alberta partnership that focuses on the development of standards and practices for the long-term preservation and access of digital records.

I am presently enrolled in the University of Manitoba Archival Studies graduate program, which will also be my second Masters of Arts degree. Aside from my academic background, my work experience in the archival field includes the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections, the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, the International Development Research Centre and now the University of Calgary/Provincial Archives of Alberta. As well, I have had the opportunity to attend Cornell University's Digital Preservation Management Workshop, and participate in the National Research Centre Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (NRC-CISTI) Digital Archiving Research Framework brainstorming session. In addition to my education and work, I have published two articles, of which one has been published in *Archivaria* 58 (2004).

As the digital archivist for the PAA, I will be developing a digital preservation plan for a high-standard quality digital archives that is based upon the Government of Alberta's Information Management Framework and the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) reference model. As such, the Digital Archives Project encompasses a digital preservation pilot study for the development of a digital preservation checklist, plan, and standard through a three-phase implementation strategy. The PAA is the lead agency on the digital preservation standard to outline the roles and responsibilities for the management and access of archival digital records in a shared responsibility model.

In addition to the Digital Archives Project, I shall be presenting the "shared learnings" of the project to PAA staff, the University of Calgary and the broader archival community through workshops, conferences, and forums. These communications regarding the shared learnings shall be incorporated into a series of articles that are to be published in leading archival journals. The communication goal of the Digital Archives Project is based upon the collaborative drive in the development of partnerships between the PAA and other organizations.

## CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES GRANTS 2004 TO 2005

*By Glynys Hohmann, City of Edmonton Archives*

The City of Edmonton Archives (CEA) is excited to announce the completion of a Canadian Council of Archives' grant for Preservation Activities (Appropriate Storage and Housing of Materials) for its Large Format Photograph Holdings and the completion of an Archives Society of Alberta grant for the Digitization and Virtual Display Development of the Ella May Walker fonds.

Phase I of the CEA Large Format Photograph Holdings project, done in 2003, inventoried and assessed over one thousand of the CEA's large format photographs. At that time, the Project Archivist also re-housed several of these items as required. However, due to the extent of the holdings, it was decided to focus the enclosure efforts on the catalogued images only.

In Phase II, completed in 2005, a Project Team, consisting of Project Archivist, Glynys Hohmann, Archives' Assistant, Tj Lewis, and Archivist, Susan Stanton, continued from where Phase I ended. The team produced appropriate storage and housing for over two hundred accessioned photographs at the CEA. The skills of conservator Cynthia Ball were enlisted to advise the Archivists on conservation methods. Under Cynthia's guidance, the Project Team used a warming plate and scalpel to remove pressure sensitive tape, carefully mended tears, created hinges using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste, and reviewed how to re-humidify photographs. The team also constructed sink mats and mat enclosures using a newly-purchased mat cutter. The project was challenging and has given CEA archivists many skills to practice in the future.

With the grant monies received from the Archives Society of Alberta, the City of Edmonton Archives hired Project Archivist, Glynys Hohmann, to digitize and create an on-line display for the twenty-three centimetres of textual documents and forty-six pieces of art created by Ella May Jacoby Walker (1892-1960), an Edmonton author, musician and artist who depicted aspects of Western Canadian and Edmonton life. Through her book, *Fortress North* (1947), and her works of art, Ella presented a view of Western Canadian life. Using a variety of mediums including oil, watercolour, gouache, pastel, tempera, charcoal, and paint, Ella revealed in her modernist style, landmarks of Edmonton such as Fort Edmonton, John Walter House, and the Municipal Airport.

Although Ella only became an artist in 1932, she was very successful. Nearly every year during the late 1930s and early 1940s, Ella participated in solo or group exhibitions of her work. Even after her death, her work continues to be displayed. Most recently, two of her watercolours were featured at Government House in the exhibit, "Edmonton: A Pictorial Journey" (2004). Digitizing her fonds ensures the ongoing accessibility of Ella's unique artwork and papers and offers insight into a woman's perspective of the history of Edmonton and Western Canada. These images can be viewed by going to the CEA's website at [www.edmonton.ca/archives](http://www.edmonton.ca/archives).

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

**Winstan Morris Jones**, former University Archivist for the University of Lethbridge Archives, died June 12, 2005 at the age of 69. Born in Wales, he received his B.A. (Hons.) library degree at the Kings College of the University of London, England, and his archives qualifications at the University of British Columbia. Arriving in Lethbridge in 1966 to work in the library of Lethbridge Junior College, he became a founding member of the University of Lethbridge, working initially as a librarian and later as University Archivist until his retirement in June 1996. He served as the ASA's treasurer from 1992-1994.

Effective July 2005, **Karen Langley** was appointed as the Document and Records Coordinator/University Archivist of Athabasca University. A graduate of the University of British Columbia School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, Karen previously worked for the Archives Society of Alberta on the RAD redescription project at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

**Regina Landwehr** joined the permanent staff at the University of Calgary Archives as an Assistant Archivist in July. Regina comes to the University from the City of Calgary Archives where she worked since 1999. She completed her MAS degree at the University of British Columbia in 1996 after completing a BSc in Archaeology at the University of Calgary in 1993. She received a certificate in Records Management from UBC in 1998. Regina will be working on projects in both the Information Management Program and the Archival Program at the University Archives. She has a history of involvement with professional associations, having served as Treasurer of the Archives Association of British Columbia (1997-1999) and as a surveyor for the 1997 Membership Committee of the Association of Canadian Archivists. She has recently joined the Membership Committee of the ACA and we look forward to her becoming more involved in the activities of the ASA. Welcome Regina!

**Anna Gibson**, formerly Freedom of Information Officer and Private Records Archivist at the Provincial Archives of Alberta, will be working in the Provincial Archives' Government Records Section as of August 2005.

In recognition of his many contributions to the Canadian archival community, **Bryan Corbett** of the University of Alberta Archives received the Association of Canadian Archivist's Membership Service Award at the 2005 ACA conference in Saskatoon.

**Bonnie Woelk** of the University of Calgary Archives was on a three-week tour of Scotland, Ireland and England with the Choir of Christ Church of Calgary, which included a performance at Yorkminster Cathedral. This is the choir's third UK tour, with previous tours featuring performances at St. Georges Chapel at Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, and the cathedrals at Salisbury, Chester, Ely and St. Albans.

**Raymond Frogner** of the University of Alberta Archives participated in the World Masters Games in Edmonton held from July 22-31. His soccer team won the bronze medal for the males 38-44 age group.

## **DR. SANDRA THOMSON BOOK FUND**

Dr. Sandra Thomson was a passionate advocate for the archival and heritage communities. The new Provincial Archives of Alberta building, the ASA's \$1.225 million Centennial Legacy Grant, and numerous other projects large and small have benefited from her support and input. To pay tribute to these contributions, the Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society and the Archives Society of Alberta are partnering to create a fund to purchase books for the reference library of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. The ASA will provide a donation, but it is also asking archival institutions, archivists and friends of Dr. Thomson to contribute to the fund. Collection of funds will conclude on October 3, 2005, and the total amount collected will be presented to the Provincial Archives at the Archives Week launch event.

The Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society has agreed to coordinate the collection of the donations and provide tax receipts to donors who contribute \$10 or more to the fund. Please make cheques payable to "Friends of Provincial Archives of Alberta Society" and send them to the Society at 8555 Roper Road, Edmonton, AB, T6E 5W1. Please indicate on the cheque that it is a donation to the book fund. All books purchased through the fund will be acknowledged through a book plate placed within the book.

## **ASA SPECIAL TOPICS WORKSHOPS, 2005-2006**

The ASA will offer two special topics workshops in 2005-2006. This year's professional development offerings include:

- Occupational Health and Safety Issues for Archivists, presented by Alison Freake of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. This workshop will take place October 21-22, 2005 at the University of Calgary.
- Making Friends with Film, presented by Marlena Wyman of the Provincial Archives of Alberta. This workshop will take place at the Provincial Archives in spring 2006.

Further details and reminders will be posted on the asa-l listserv as deadlines for registration approach. Registration information will be available on the education page of the ASA website ([www.archivesalberta.org](http://www.archivesalberta.org)).



## Alberta Museums Association Conference 2005

**Celebrate! Our Communities, Our Heritage**  
Chateau Louis, Edmonton, Alberta, October 19 – 22, 2005

The Alberta Museums Association's 2005 Centennial Conference is all about the diverse and complex relationships between heritage organizations and their communities. With this special theme for Alberta's Centennial in mind, the Alberta Museums Association would like to invite the many other heritage organizations in the province to come and participate in the 2005 Conference. This year we have a special discount rate for organizations that send more than one representative; please see the conference brochure for more details.

Conference delegates will enjoy:

- Captivating speakers
- Dynamic sessions
- Unique Mystery Tours
- A Heritage Showcase featuring museums, heritage groups and trade show vendors
- The popular Mobile Resources Library from the Resource Centre for Voluntary organizations

We are pleased to announce well-known and respected historian, author, journalist and Senator

**Laurier LaPierre**

who will present a keynote address at

**An Evening at the Royal Alberta Museum**  
**Thursday, October 20, 2005**

*Tickets for this event are also being sold separately through Tix on the Square at [www.tixonthesquare.com](http://www.tixonthesquare.com)*

We are also pleased to offer a special pre-conference symposium:

**Revitalizing Community: Heritage as a Catalyst**  
**Wednesday, October 19, 2005**

This special offering from the Alberta Museums Association Learning Program will look holistically at the role and value of heritage in the revitalization of communities.

Visit [www.museumsalberta.ab.ca](http://www.museumsalberta.ab.ca) or contact the office at (780) 424-2626 for more conference information and registration.

# SUBMISSIONS? QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

The *Archives Society of Alberta Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Archives Society of Alberta. Submissions, questions and suggestions should be directed to the Newsletter Editor c/o

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Fax: (780) 425-1679  
Email: mgourlie@connect.ab.ca

Individuals and institutions are encouraged to submit articles, reviews, reports, photographs or Letters to the Editor to the *ASA Newsletter*, Issues #2, 3 and 4. Submissions are preferred in electronic format as DOC or TXT files for textual submissions, or as JPG files for graphic submissions.

Submission deadlines are:  
September 30th Issue #2 - Winter  
January 15th Issue #3 - Spring  
April 30th Issue #4 - Summer

\*Issue #1 is reserved for Annual Reports of the Society and its committees

The views expressed in the *Archives Society of Alberta Newsletter* are not necessarily those of the Archives Society of Alberta or its Editor.

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## *Archives Society of Alberta Membership Application 2005 - 2006*

Name (Institution or Individual)

Address

City

Province

Postal Code

Telephone

Business Phone

Fax

E-mail

Voting Delegate (Associate / Institutional)

Institutional Affiliation (Individual Members)

### *Type of Membership - Please Check*

- Archives Employee \$40.00
- Students, Volunteers, Seniors \$20.00
- Associate Institutional Member \$60.00
- Institutional Member (membership fee is based on the archives operating budget. Please contact the ASA for further information)
- Yes, I would like to volunteer for an ASA Committee

*Please make cheque or money order payable to the Archives Society of Alberta and mail to:*

*Archives Society of Alberta  
P.O. Box 4067, South Edmonton P.O.  
Edmonton, AB T6E 4S8*