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Benefits of joining NSLA
Throughout this issue, you will find different perks of being a member of the Nova Scotia Library Association. Keep your eyes open for these boxes highlighting the benefits.

Through NSLA you have membership in Perkopolis, which grants you savings on Cineplex movies, VIA train tickets, hotels, attractions, and more at Perkopolis – just 1 of many NSLA membership perks!
A Message from the President

Dear NSLA Members,

It's hard to imagine, but here we are, heading into the Winter Months. As the newly minted President, I want to personally thank the Past-President, Cindy Lelliott, for her patience in teaching me the "Presidential" ropes, and the excellent example she has set for me to emulate. We've had some changes on the Board! The meeting on November 3rd, 2017 saw some familiar faces and some new Board Members. I know I speak for everyone when I state our heartfelt thanks to those Board Members who retired in September. Our newsletter is going to feature a section "get to know the NSLA Board Members". I'd like to thank the Vice-President (Denise Corey) for setting the "tongue in cheek" tone for our bios, as I support the Association having a bit of fun while working hard for the library community.

These past few months have seen some exciting events in our world. In June 2017, the Honourable Leo Glavine was appointed Minister for Communities, Culture, and Heritage (CCH). Minister Glavine is a former educator and high school administrator. NSLA is very excited to have the opportunity to work with Minister Glavine. On Saturday, September 16th, Minister Glavine gave remarks at the launch of Nova Scotia Reads - 150 Books of Influence. Those present were heartened to hear Minister Glavine's supportive words for libraries, and literacy, and his obvious passion for Nova Scotia literature. As Minister Glavine states in his letter of support in the 150 Books of Influence..."books are our finest calling card to the world. The stories they share travel far and wide, and contribute greatly to our global presence. Books have the power to profoundly express the complex, and rich cultural life that makes Nova Scotia a place people want to visit, work, and play". How very true, indeed.

As well, Minister Glavine attended the NSLA/LBANS Conference Banquet and provided remarks that underscore the importance of libraries throughout Nova Scotia.
On a personal level, I was really pleased at how well attended, and well received the 2017 NSLA/LBANS Conference was. Hosted by the Annapolis Valley Regional Library, my home region, I am extremely proud of the AVRL Co-Convenors, Charlotte Janes and Wendy Trimper. It was truly an outstanding job by everyone involved in the planning and delivery of this event.

Priorities for the coming year include a continued focus on our membership drive - emphasizing the benefits of membership, which include access to this Newsletter, the Professional Development Fund, discounts at the Library Marketplace and Perkopolis, and professional development opportunities through the Partnership Education Institute.

Another priority for this year is a redesign of our online presence - stay tuned for that!

The last topic of note from the November 3rd Board Meeting is that the Board unanimously approved a motion to support the recommendations presented in the CFLA-FCAB Truth and Reconciliation Report and Recommendations. The Board is excited at the prospect of demonstrating "leadership" to the Nova Scotia library community on this very important topic.

In closing, and to those Board Members continuing on, thank you in advance for your commitment to NSLA for another year - it's going to be a great one!

Ann-Marie Mathieu, President, NSLA

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Benefits of joining NSLA

NSLA offers FREE memberships for students enrolled in either a Library & Information Technology Diploma program or an MLIS program. Visit Join NSLA at www.nsla.ns.ca for details.

NSLA Institutional Members savings on job postings on the PARTNERSHIP JOB BOARD

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Photo and article submitted by Ann-Marie Mathieu
Vol 45, No. 1 (Fall 2017)
NSLA/LBANS Conference 2017

The 2017 joint Nova Scotia Library Association and Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia Conference was hosted by the Annapolis Valley Regional Library and held September 29th-October 1st. Library staff and board members from across the province participated in professional development workshops, opportunities, and networking that will compel us to move forward, do better, and keep learning. Workshops ranged from Library Advocacy to Puppet Storytime, and Treaty Education to Coding, and everything in between.

Thanks to Libraries 150 funding, a public component was part of the conference. Readings and presentations by authors Ami McKay, Wade White, Jon Tattrie and Lance Woolaver, as well as the One Book Nova Scotia winner Gloria Ann Wesley were open to the public by pre-registration. The Friday night reception with Ami McKay was enjoyed by all, and the showing of the movie Maudie (also open to the public) on Saturday night in the ABCC theatre was a highlight.

The conference offered 22 sessions with over 40 guest presenters to over 160 registrants. The 10 exhibitors, and our many conference sponsors helped make this an excellent professional development event.
NSLA/LBANS Conference 2017

Libraries 150: a Celebration

We were honoured to have Leo Glavine, Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage as guest speaker at the Saturday evening banquet. Awards were given to deserving recipients. Faye MacDougall, Chief Librarian of Cape Breton Regional Library, received the Norman Horrocks award for library leadership; and Doug Vaisey of the Board of Halifax Public Libraries received the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia Trustee Award.

Overall conference feedback has been positive. The hospitable facilities staff, delicious food, and the scenic location were added bonuses to an engaging weekend.

The Council of Youth Services (COYS) presented a plaque to John Kennedy of the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program (AALLP) at the recent Nova Scotia Library Association Conference in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia in September.

John Kennedy has been a huge supporter of the public library Summer Reading Programs in Nova Scotia. For the last 3 years, through the Adopt-A-Library program, John has donated one box of books for each library across the province, as well as one bike for each Library Region, to use as prizes and incentives, to keep kids reading and coming back to the library all summer long.

Please note that any of the workshop presentations and/or handouts which have been shared with us are now posted on the conference website and can be found here: http://renewyourcuriosity.ca/nsla-2017-presentation-files/
Hackmatack is Back!
http://hackmatack.ca

The Hackmatack program is back for its 19th year. The program for children in Grades 4, 5 and 6 introduces young readers from Atlantic Canada to great Canadian books and authors.

The program is a great way to get kids reading. It empowers them by giving them a say in choosing the most popular books in four reading categories: English fiction and non-fiction, and French fiction and non-fiction.

Participants read from the selected Hackmatack books—ten in each category—and cast votes for their favourites in March 2018.

Nominated authors tour across Nova Scotia May 28-31, 2018, and the winners of the Hackmatack Children’s Choice Book Awards, determined by the children’s votes, are announced at the awards ceremony, taking place June 1 in Saint John, New Brunswick.

Every school across Nova Scotia (with grades 4 to 6) will be receiving a set of the Hackmatack titles, in both “fiction” and “non-fiction” categories, from the Nova Scotia Department of Education & Early Childhood Development.

Registrations are now being accepted from schools, libraries and community groups in the Atlantic region. The deadline for registrations for this year’s Hackmatack program is December 31, 2017.
The Council of Youth Services (COYS) are pleased about the success of the annual Children’s Performer Tour that featured five Nova Scotian children’s performers who toured across Nova Scotia this summer, performing 71 shows in public libraries across the province.

The Tour included five children’s performers from diverse backgrounds and representative of Nova Scotia’s four founding cultures. Performers included an African Nova Scotian Dancer, a Mi’kmaw Storyteller, a Gaelic/Acadian Multi-Instrumentalist, as well as a Circus Performer and Children’s Singer/Songwriter. A true celebration of Nova Scotia arts & culture.

2,899 children and their families attended the shows. The reviews were overwhelmingly positive! Of the 106 Program Evaluation Forms received, 94% rated the shows as "Excellent", and 26% stated that it was their first time attending a library program. Many of the largest and most enthusiastic audiences were in smaller communities.

It is hoped that the shows will be remembered as "special events" in the collective memories of the young audiences who attended. The tour was presented as part of the public libraries' Summer Reading Program, to promote and highlight programs and activities public libraries offer to children and their families in Nova Scotia all summer long.
Hooting & Hollering at CBRL

Science Literacy Week Activities

A few CBRL branches were able to offer programs during Science Literacy Week, Sept 18-22, 2017 thanks to Island Wise (Women in Science and Engineering) and funding by NSERC (National Science and Engineering Research Council) and Cape Breton University.

The programs were facilitated by CBU science faculty, staff and students. They featured free hands-on science activities for school-aged children, with Geology and Engineering (including discovering fossils in rocks and more) in Glace Bay, Physics and Chemistry (including Elephant’s toothpaste and more) in North Sydney, and Biology and Psychology (including Cape Breton owls and optical illusions) in Sydney. Island Wise is also, generously donating $1000 from its funders for purchase of more science themed books for all ages at CBRL branches.

Cape Breton Regional Library Storyteller in Residence
Ronald Labelle reappointed for a second term

The Library enjoyed hosting Ronald Labelle as our Storyteller-in-Residence for a two year term (July 2015-July 2017) and are pleased to announce that he’ll be staying on for a second term. Ronald has participated in various library events during his first term always ready to share a story or two that fit the occasion. A few of these events include, ‘Telling Folktales’ workshops; Haunted Tales; a March Break program “Create an ending to a traditional folktale”; Lumière; and even an “Enchanted Woods” tale told while walking on the Baille Ard Trail. Ronald was also an important contributor to our inaugural Isle of Storytelling Festival in March 2017 – offering his experience in the planning, organizing, hosting and of course storytelling at this festival. We are looking forward to more from Ronald Labelle!

Benefits of joining NSLA

Member discount at The Library Marketplace, another great NSLA member benefit!
Regional Librarian, Faye MacDougall receives the Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership

CBRL staff and library friends in the communities we serve are very proud of our Regional Librarian, Faye MacDougall who was presented with the Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership, at this year’s NSLA Conference, in September.

From the nomination - "Faye MacDougall is a special person. As Regional Librarian, she has worked extremely hard to provide top quality service to the library users she serves. She is calm, thoughtful and knowledgeable, encouraging staff to get her advice when needed. She embodies the best leadership qualities we value such as honesty, integrity, vision, confidence, passion, innovation and patience. Her contributions to the Cape Breton Regional Library have been, and continue to be, highly valued by the Cape Breton Regional Library Board, library staff, and the library users she serves."

Celtic Colours Conversation Series

The Cape Breton Regional Library has a longstanding and successful program partnership with the Celtic Colours International Festival, by hosting the Celtic Conversations Series each year. In spite of the growing audience size, which can range from 50-125 people, the free hour-long lunch events maintain a light-hearted and informal tone and move swiftly with stories, music, dance (on occasion), laughter, and Q&A.

Over the years, our guest presenters have been both local musicians and musicians/performers visiting Cape Breton from other provinces, or other parts of the world (Scotland, Ireland, Denmark, Australia…). The common thread from all performers is their love of music – everyone on stage is a high caliber musician/performer and everyone offers to share their unique musical journey that has brought them to the Festival.

Performers for this year’s Conversation Series included: Paul McKenna (singer/songwriter); Hanneke Cassel & Mike Block (fiddle and cello); Rhiannon Giddens & Dirk Powell (singers and multi-instrumentalists) and Margaret Stewart (Gaelic singer).
Knitting group a perfect library partner

In celebration of Canada’s 150th birthday, Mona Foged has knit 150 colourful, lifesaving pneumonia vests. The vests save young lives in developing countries around the globe and were on display at McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne and Lillian Benham Library in Lockeport.

“I started knitting them in February,” Foged says. All of the yarn for the project was donated by members of the Shelburne library knitting group and the community, Foged says. She says it takes 2.5 to four hours to complete a vest, depending on the pattern and the person doing the knitting.

The group is a perfect example of a library-community partnership says Western Counties Regional Library Deputy Director Joanne Head. “It is a perfect partnership because it is grassroots,” she says. “It started as a program and grew from there.”

You don’t need a library card to join the knitting group or to contribute to the cause, adds Shelburne library clerk Suzanne Grear. She believes partnerships with organizations such as the knitting group are very important. “They’ve done beautiful displays for us,” she says, adding that they are open to everyone.

Foged says the group continues to thrive because of its partnership with the library. She says the library is the ideal meeting place with its open environment, wonderful surroundings, daytime availability, access to materials, and no fee for the space used by the group. “It’s very welcoming,” Foged says.
Fundraising brings in over $12,000 for fund

Dining Among the Stack raised over $12,000 for the Literacy Legacy Fund on Saturday, Oct. 21. An important fundraiser for Western Counties Regional Library, the event offered people fine dining, live music, humorous storytelling and a silent auction at Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library in Yarmouth.

“We all had a wonderful time. The night was filled with great conversation, fine dining and lots of laughter” says Regional Library Director Erin Comeau.

The evening included wine, appetizers, a three-course meal, live music and storytelling. The music was performed by members of Zebo, based in Yarmouth County. Acadian storyteller Laurent d’Entremont had people in stitches with his selection of local tales. The silent auction brought in close to $1,300 and the book bonanza raised $1,400 toward the total.

During the book bonanza, Gwen Ducharme purchased the book containing the golden bookmark and took home the reading nook consisting of a La-Z-Boy chair from W.L. Nelson Ltd., a rug and side table from Canadian Tire and a reading lamp from Kent Building Supplies. The event helped push the library’s charitable association Literacy Legacy Fund toward the initial target of $100,000. Sponsorship was critical to the evening’s success, says Ian White, Public Relations Manager at the library.

“A big difference-maker was when Scotiabank wanted to be presenting sponsor again,” White explains. “We also had all kinds of support from businesses and artists, helping to make our silent auction, book bonanza and the event as a whole a success.”

“A wide range of people attended the event, with many being either from the business or library community,” says Comeau. “It was encouraging to see everyone gathered together to help celebrate libraries and to donate in support of literacy. The Western Counties Regional Library Board recognizes the value of keeping libraries open and as such, is working to grow the Literacy Legacy Fund so that libraries can remain accessible to all in the future.
Summer in the City

Libraries, We Love You: A Photo Spree for Canadian Library Month

Posting on Facebook nearly every day for Canadian Library Month made our hearts grow a little larger. Finding photos in reports and sharing what was happening was a sure reminder of how easy it is to zoom by the days without pausing to see what other libraries are doing. Perhaps, in part, this is why the NSLA newsletter is so important.

**We had a mission.** Our objective for Canadian Library Month was to focus on the value libraries bring to our communities, and to show people enjoying their Library. Our top 5 posts for Canadian Library Month:

Matt: "I have lots of amazing pinball machines." Library: "Love them. Wait, we have lots of space." For Canadian Library Month, we say let's share our passions with each other and grab onto that feeling of everything being possible. Results: reached 2988 and liked by 49 people.

For Canadian Library Month, we say create experiences for people to enjoy. Results: reached 5347, shared by 1, liked by 38 people.

Halifax Central staff really enjoying pinball thanks to The Halifax Pinball League.

Water balloon fight on the back plaza of Halifax Central.

Benefits of joining NSLA

NSLA membership discount on the Partnership Education Institute courses

Nova Scotia Library Association

Photo and article submitted by: Kasia Morrison

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It's cozy in here, we're in our pajamas. And hanging out After Hours in the Library. For Canadian Library Month, we say step outside the big ol' world and build your own space. Results: Reached 2823, shared by 1, and liked by 26 people.

For Canadian Library Month, we say step outside the big ol' world and build your own space.

The perfect pairing is sometimes so simple and so right, like Pop-Up Libraries and beaches. For Canadian Library Month, we say: walls should never confine us. Results: reached 2823, shared by 1, and liked by 48 people.

Smiles are gorgeous. Feeling a part of a community is priceless. For Canadian Library Month, we say: let's always stay connected. Results: reached 2243, shared by 4, and liked by 28. So, thank you library workers. Every little thing you do is a big deal to all of us.

Smiles are gorgeous. Feeling a part of a community is priceless.
Getting Lit in Lunenburg

LUNENBURG LIT FESTIVAL
The Second Annual Lunenburg Lit Festival was held in Lunenburg on September 29 & 30, at 4 locations throughout the town.

Friday Evening @ The Lit Fest saw a full house gathered at the Lunenburg School of the Arts to hear poet Patrick Woodcock and General Romeo Dallaire. The well traveled Patrick shared Poems from several of his works, that featured themes from North America as well as developing countries around the world. Mr. Dallaire held the audience in the palm of his hand as he spoke about his career and the Child Soldier initiative that he heads at Dalhousie University.

Saturday started off with a Story Mob at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic. Festival goers who wanted to experience the literary highlights of the Town of Lunenburg joined our partner, Lunenburg Walking Tours, and Interpreter Ashlee Feener at The Academy for a tour through town at 11 am. The afternoon panel, highlighted Nova Scotian talent, with Janet Maybe, Pauline Dakin and Stephen Kimber. A near capacity crowd listened to these 3 read from their books and talk about the advantages and perils of writing non-fiction. Our Deputy Chief Librarian Jeff Mercer handled the introductions and Q & A session.

Saturday nights closing session showcased two heavy weight Canadian Lit stars; Nino Ricci and Terry Fallis and local author and journalist Vernon Oickle. The host for the evening was Stephen Kimber. Each author had a chance to read from their latest works and answer some lively questions from the audience. Closing remarks and thanks were delivered by SSPL CEO Troy Myers.
Summer Reading Road Trip
South Shore Public Libraries hosted a series of weekly outdoor literacy events for children in 4 locations served by our Mobile Library; Petite Riviere, Mahone Bay, Caledonia, and New Germany. We called our series the "Summer Reading Road Trip", kids were able to sign up for library cards and the TD summer reading program. Children enjoyed story time, physically active games and a snack. The Road Trip was a great vehicle that helped us increase SRP participation and program completion significantly across all outlets this summer.

Benefits of joining NSLA
• CONNECTION with other members
• INVOLVEMENT on the NSLA Board, committees, and advocacy activities
• ACCESS to NSLA’s Professional Development Fund
• SAVINGS on registration for the NSLA conference; on joint membership with APLA; and, member discounts at Perkopolis and The Library Marketplace; plus much more.
• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES — including the Education Institute’s (EI) webinars, at a reduced rate; Continuing Education Certificate, and more.

Membership types:
- Personal $25
- Student FREE*
- Institutional $50
- Joint NSLA/APLA Professional $65
- Joint NSLA/APLA Support $35

For more membership benefit information contact the Membership Convener at membership@nsla.ns.ca

*NSLA offers FREE memberships for students enrolled in either a Library & Information Technology Diploma program or an MLIS
Diversity & Creations at PARL

100 Books to Celebrate Diversity Initiative and launch
As you browse the shelves at public libraries in Pictou and Antigonish counties, you’ll see more reading material added to our existing collection. These books have been purchased as part of our ‘100 Books to Celebrate Diversity’ initiative, aimed towards youth. Titles in this list have been chosen by library staff and vary, from picture books for babies to novels for young adults. Copies of these books are available thanks to the financial support of TD Financial Group, and we thank them for their generous gift. The reading list as diverse as the communities we live in!

The list of book titles, accessed in full on our website or divided into categories, also acts as a great resource for teachers, facilitators, group leaders and other interested in including diverse reading material for youth who are looking for suggestions. We also celebrated the launch of these additional books to our collection on Friday, September 29 at the New Glasgow Library during Culture Days with a special event that included guest readers Nanda Shirke and Henderson Paris, entertainment provided by West African Dancer Abena Tuffour, and food that was reflective of our multicultural community.

A special thanks to Kathy and Jeremy from TD in the New Glasgow location who spoke. Also a special thanks to our guest readers Nanda Shirke and Henderson Paris, speaker Deputy Mayor Clyde Fraser and library staff and board members. Thanks to Abena Tuffour who shared her poetry, her passion for West African dance and helped teach us some of her moves too. Food was provided by Alladin Syrian Canadian Take Out (located in Pictou), Mamatsu Fresh Asian Kitchen and the cool cake courtesy of Cakes and Things in downtown New Glasgow.

Photo & article submitted by: Holly MacLean
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Creative Creations – celebrating your inner maker at the library!

Sometimes libraries are seen as places to stay informed, and borrow reading and learning materials. This summer, the ‘150 Library Makers: Handcrafting our Future’ initiative and its accompanying programs and events reminded everyone that libraries can also be places to get creative and learn hands-on.

The 150 Library Makers project, aimed to celebrate 150 days of learning, creating and making at public libraries across Nova Scotia, featured a wide variety of free, hands-on workshops at local libraries in Pictou and Antigonish Counties led by artists, volunteers and library staff alike as a way to learn more about the cultural diversity and accomplishments of the artists, artisans, crafts people and makers in their communities. All sessions welcomed people of all abilities, from the aspiring artists to the advanced ones as well. Works generated by Nova Scotians of all ages will be curated into a collection of 150 Things Made at The Library made available for viewing online at the project’s website. The goal of this special collection is to demonstrate, in a tangible way, the power of Nova Scotians to handcraft a better future for our province. A few of the workshops that took place ranged from felting and rug hooking to acrylic painting, creating clay wall hangings, and even pebble and beach art created from items found locally!

This is a province-wide Canada 150 initiative made possible by funding from the Department of Communities Culture and Heritage (CCH)’s 150 Forward Fund, the Community Technology Network of Nova Scotia (also known as CT Net) as well as support from regional libraries across the province.
Retirements & Anniversaries

Bonnie Doucette celebrates 20 years at Western Counties: Bonnie Doucette, Catalogue Maintenance/Collection Exchange/Interlibrary Loan clerk, received her 20-year work anniversary certificate on July 7.

Yarmouth library clerk Janet Miller (right) retires: is pleased with her retirement cake during a farewell luncheon in July. Janet retired after 19 years of service. Fellow clerk Carol Wing is pictured left.

Future Submissions
Have some Nova Scotia library news?

Submissions for the next newsletter are due:

March 15, 2018

For more information contact newsletter@nsla.ns.ca

Each June the South Shore Regional Library Board recognizes long term employees at an annual reception. This year we were delighted to recognize Executive Assistant Lynn Robart with a 35 year plaque. Lynn started at SSPL as a Library Clerk typing triplicate copies of MLF’s on a manual typewriter, now as an Exec Assistant, she adds minutes to the webpage from her cell phone. How times have changed!
Meet the Board

Ann-Marie Mathieu

President
Chief Executive Officer,
Annapolis Valley Regional Library

Ann-Marie has had her position since August 2015. Have lived and worked in five different Provinces - and am not in the Witness Protection Program! Most recently was the Deputy Library Director with the Saskatoon Public Library. Was likely a "Lounge Singer" in a previous life. Can't knit, but am hoping to get some lessons from the Vice-President.

Denise Corey

Vice-President of NSLA
Chief Librarian, Cumberland Public Libraries

Reads… a lot. Drove to PEI to have Rainbow Rowell sign a book. Kinda nerdy. Thinks zombies are a thing. Self-proclaimed delicate flower who has been described as “delightful”. Loves chatting about books. Thinks wine is a food group. The best at being humble. You can follow her on Twitter @dhcry.

Angela Reynolds

PR and Promotions Convenor
Community Engagement Coordinator,
Annapolis Valley Regional Library

As a result of her job, Angela spends a lot of time on the road, spreading the good word about libraries. She reads a lot of picture books. She thinks the Internet was invented for watching cute cat videos. Follow her on Twitter @annavalley. And follow NSLA, too @NSLAssn