



The Friends of
Library and Archives Canada
Les amis de
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada

A Note Among Friends

WINTER 2009



Marianne Scott becomes President of the Friends

At a special general meeting on Oct. 2, Marianne Scott was elected president of the Friends of Library and Archives Canada. After working as Law Librarian and then Director of Libraries at McGill University, Miss Scott served as National Librarian of Canada, 1984-1999. She played a key role in setting up the Friends of the National Library in 1991.

Also at the meeting on Oct. 2, Nicole Senécal was elected vice president. A law professor, diplomat and public servant, Ms Senécal is especially interested in promoting literacy among young people.

Congratulations to Marianne Scott and Nicole Senécal, and best wishes in their work for the Friends!

Important Message About This Newsletter

The Friends have recently developed a new website, which we hope will provide even more information than we have been able to give you up to now, about our various current and future activities as well as our past accomplishments. After many delays, the website is now ready.

The address is: www.friendsoflibraryandarchivescanada.ca

In the interests of becoming more environmentally friendly, and to reduce costs, we plan to publish future issues of the newsletter electronically, as part of the website. We know that not all Friends have access to a computer. If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter on paper, please let us know. Our address is: Friends of Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N4. Or you may telephone us at 613-943-1544 or 613-992-8304.

We hope you will understand and we hope you like the website.





Message from Ian Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada

The year 2008 has been an exciting one for Library and Archives Canada (LAC), and I know I share with the Friends a real sense that we are now recognized as a major cultural institution in Canada. Transforming the elements of two former national icons with a new 21st-century profile has resulted in a world-class knowledge organization. As the new President of the International Council of Archives, I have discovered firsthand how well respected we are abroad, as well as nationally.

LAC attracted a great deal of attention in August at the 74th Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) held in Quebec City. More than 4,000 library and information professionals from 120 countries gathered to discuss global information challenges which have an enormous impact on our society. Suddenly local Canadian libraries became international superstars, as

they shared their successes while a global audience assembled to hear how LAC was approaching issues like open source library systems, the management of electronic resources, and the question of copyright in the digital age.

These are exciting times. LAC launched in August the publication *Reaching Out: Innovations in Canadian Libraries*, with our partner Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. This book illustrates just how innovative Canada's libraries really are, providing world class models of community outreach, collaboration and partnerships, user-centered services and cutting edge technologies. LAC also released *Access*, a new publication which profiles our wide range of programs and services.

And thanks to the Friends' involvement, we have continued to raise funds for the acquisition of rare and valuable library and archival materials. In 2008, LAC

was able to purchase the balance of the Peter Winkworth collection. The LAC collection continues to evolve as we acquire more digital materials and digitize existing collections to reach more Canadians.

These are the examples the Friends can take to Canadians as they work tirelessly at being our most important ambassadors. Whether it is through the ever-popular Kaleidoscope lecture series or the annual used book sales, in negotiations for a new acquisition or in general conversations, the Friends spread the word that we are fast becoming one of the most important forces for growth, change and discovery in today's knowledge economy.

I thank you for your many achievements and wish you continued success in the coming years.

Ian E. Wilson
Librarian and Archivist of Canada

Book Sale 2008

The annual Friends' book sale was held September 19-21, 2008, at the St. Laurent shopping centre. Ottawa booklovers who relish the opportunity to peruse a great variety of books always look forward to this event, and the volunteers from the Friends, who enthusiastically handle the sales, enjoy it too.



Helen Miller, Bob Lamoureux, and Kathleen Shaw, organizers and supervisors of the book sale.



Anne of Green Gables with Friends' president Marianne Scott.



Anne of Green Gables (Ashley Beaton) visits the book sale.



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