



The Progressive Librarian Bulletin

Volume 1, Issue 3

May, 2012

PLG Meetings at ALA Conference

The PLG will be having its annual meeting at the ALA conference in Anaheim, California. The meeting will be on Sunday, June 24 at 4:00 pm in Royal Ballroom A, Hyatt Regency Orange County.

Also, there will be a PLG dinner including the presentation of this year's Braverman Prize to Sara Zettervall. The dinner will be on Sunday, June 24 at 7:00 pm at Spicy Thai Restaurant (4715 Chapman Ave., Anaheim).

To submit information to the bulletin, please send an email to Braden Cannon (PLG Edmonton and Coordinating Committee member) at:

**bradenkcannon
@gmail.com**

Congratulations to Sara Zettervall! There will be more details on her essay in the June Bulletin.

St. John's University PLG Update

The St. John's University Chapter of the Progressive Librarians Guild was established in February, 2011. We currently have 9 members and a listserv that reaches another 15 individuals.

In March we sponsored a panel at the St. John's Division of Library and Information Science Spring Symposium entitled "An Introduction to Progressive Librarianship." Over 30 people-- including ALA president-elect Maureen Sullivan-- were in the audience. We hold regular informal meetings and are currently laying the groundwork for two service projects involving collaboration with local community organizations. We are also very interested in reaching out to the progressive librarian community in the New York Metro area and exploring the possibility of creating a larger regional alliance. For more information contact Christian Collins: christianjordancollins@gmail.com

London (Ontario) PLG Position Statement on the Cancellation of the National Archival Development Program

In the 2012 Federal Budget, the Federal Government significantly reduced funding to Libraries and Archives Canada (LAC). This budget reductions have led to a reduction in staffing at LAC and, significantly, the cancellation of the National Archives Development Program (NADP).

The National Archives Development Program has, for more than 25 years, supported the development of archives across Canada. The monies distributed from this program supported the operations of the Canada Council of Archives and the thirteen provincial and territorial archives associations. Monies were distributed as grants to local archives institutions to fund a wide array of project that improved access and the preservation of Canada's rich documentary history.

The cancellation of the National Archives Development Program is a threat to the long term preservation and access to Canada's rich information history. Without the NADP or a successor program, the ability of Canadian archivist to preserve Canada's documentary past will be limited significantly reduced. The fund distributed from the NADP were used to leverage financial and partnership opportunities for local archives across Canada. Archives will find it increasingly difficult to take

advantage of these opportunities without Federal support. As a result, archives' ability to preserve and provide access to Canada's rich collection of historical documents, photographs, maps and audio-visual materials will be severely diminished.

The London Ontario Chapter of the Progressive Librarians Guild believes in the founding tenets of the the Guild and recognizes that libraries, and by extension archives, are foundation of an enlightened citizenry who can engage and participate in a independent democratic civil society. Further, the chapter is opposed to the commodification of information.

The decision of the Federal government led by Stephen Harper to cancel the National Archives Development Program threatens the ability of Canada's archives to serve Canada's citizens and help promote democracy in our country.

The Progressive Librarians Guild – London Ontario Chapter calls upon the Federal government to reinstate the National Archives Development Program so that Canadian archivists can continue their work, preserving and providing access to Canada's rich documentary history.

Remember, the Bulletin needs updates from the PLG membership so we can spread the word about all of the good work that we are collectively doing! Got an update? Send it to
bradenkcannon@gmail.com

Edmonton PLG Update

The Edmonton PLG participated in the annual Edmonton May Day march on May 1. The march was the inaugural appearance of our brand new, handmade banner that was lovingly created by PLG members and allies. We have been increasing our visibility in the Edmonton progressive community and have formed strong partnerships with allied organizations through participation in events like the May Day march.

Below are Edmonton PLG members at the beginning of the May Day march. From left to right are Sean Luyk, Amanda Bird, Amanda Wakaruk, Stephen MacDonald, Braden Cannon, Rene Georgopolis, and PLG supporter Erin Cannon.

Reported by Braden Cannon

