

## CHLA/ABSC Chapter President's Report

**Official Chapter Name:** Northern Alberta Health Libraries Association (NAHLA)

**Operating year for this report:** October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2006

**Number of Members:** 32 total (30 regular members, 2 student members)

### Executive for the operating year being reported on:

President/Présidente : Liza Chan  
AHFMR Research Librarian  
John W. Scott Health Sciences Library  
2K4.09 Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB  
CANADA T6G 2R7  
Phone: (780)-492-9659  
Fax: (780)-492-6960  
E-mail: [liza.chan@ualberta.ca](mailto:liza.chan@ualberta.ca)

Vice présidente/Vice-President :	Liz Dennett ( <a href="mailto:liz.dennett@ualberta.ca">liz.dennett@ualberta.ca</a> )
President-Elect/ Présidente-elu:	Liz Dennett
Présidente sourtante/Past President:	Janice Varney ( <a href="mailto:jvarney@ihe.ca">jvarney@ihe.ca</a> )
Secretary/ Secrétaire:	Connie Clifford ( <a href="mailto:CCliffor@cha.ab.ca">CCliffor@cha.ab.ca</a> )
Trésorière/Treasurer:	Linda Seale ( <a href="mailto:Linda.Seale@ualberta.ca">Linda.Seale@ualberta.ca</a> )
Editor/ Rédactrice:	not applicable
Correspondent to/Correspondant a JCHLA:	Liz Dennett
Other Officers:	not applicable

### Executive for the forthcoming year (if known at this time):

President/Présidente: Liz Dennett  
AHFMR Research Librarian  
John W. Scott Health Sciences Library  
Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB  
CANADA T6G 2R7  
Phone:(780)-492-9023  
Fax: (780)-492-6960  
E-mail: [liz.dennett@ualberta.ca](mailto:liz.dennett@ualberta.ca)

Vice présidente/Vice-President: not known  
President-Elect/Présidente-elu: not known  
Présidente sourtante/Past President: Liza Chan  
Secretary/ Secrétaire: not known

Trésorière/Treasurer: not known  
Editor/ Rédactrice: not applicable  
Correspondent to/Correspondant a JCHLA: not known

**Chapter Website URL (if available):** [www.nahla.ca](http://www.nahla.ca)

## **OUTLINE OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ON WHICH YOU ARE REPORTING:**

On September 27, 2005, the Northern Health Libraries Association (NAHLA) met in Corbett Hall on the University of Alberta campus for its Annual General Meeting. An election was held for the new Executive, revision to the Bylaws was approved, and members gathered for a catered dinner following the business meeting.

NAHLA Executive took the opportunity to partner with the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (Edmonton Office) to co-sponsor the MLA Webcast "[Keeping Patients Safe: Roles for Information Professionals](#)" on November 16, 2005. Positive feedback and evaluation were received. Not only were the presentations intriguing, the participants also had an interesting discussion on the topic of patient safety.

The NAHLA Annual Christmas Luncheon was held at the south side Café Select on November 24, 2005. A scrumptious three-course meal and visit were shared by all in this cozy and elegant venue. The "re-gift" exchange was a fun way to celebrate the season.

The School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) at the University of Alberta had informed NAHLA that there is a surplus in the "Partners in Education" fund, and therefore a contribution to the Partners' Day Program was not required for this year. Representatives from all the Partners were invited to meet and discuss future planning surrounding the Partners' Day events in Spring of 2006. The program provides an opportunity for students enrolled in the MLIS program at the University of Alberta to connect with the professional community by partnering for a day with library and information professionals in the workplace. NAHLA funds support the Partners' Day reception, which is celebrated in January every year.

In February and March NAHLA continued to sponsor the highly popular information workshop series-"The Leading Edge". **Workshop #1: Evidence Based Medicine: The Role of the Information Professional** was held on February 7th, 2006. It took on a daringly different format where an introduction to critical appraisal was presented in a "dramatic" question and answer exchange between an experienced Health Sciences Librarian (Liz Dennett) and a novice researcher (Linda Seale. Participants enjoyed the "play", popcorn, and an informative discussion of our current roles in EBM. **Workshop #2: Systematic Reviews: The Process** was held on March 16th, 2006. Jeanette Buckingham, who has been involved in numerous systematic reviews, shared her expertise and experiences in this complex area of research. She also invited participants to share practical tips and pitfalls in systematic review work. These two workshops keep on the tradition of our successful Leading Edge series, and a sequel series of workshops is being planned for 2006/2007.

The Fourth [NAHLA TRENDS Mini-Conference](#) was held at the Edmonton Petroleum Club on April 21, 2005. Two SLIS students were selected from a random draw to be sponsored to attend this event as the Executive would like to support the School and encourage students to have exposure to health sciences librarianship and the local network.

The presentations included the following:

- **Locating Aboriginal Health Information on the Internet?**

Janice Linton - Aboriginal Health Librarian, University of Manitoba

- **Be Seen; Be Heard – Advocating on Behalf of Health Libraries**

Margaret Law – Associate Library Director (Science, Technology and Health Sciences), University of Alberta Libraries

- **The Contribution of Qualitative Research to Health Care: What, Why and How...**

Dr. Alex Clark- Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta and Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Population Health Investigator

The afternoon ended with a catered reception and received excellent evaluations from participants. The variety of topics, networking opportunity, and immense knowledge and excellence of the presenters were identified as the highlights of the mini-conference. (TRENDS stands for: Teaching, Research, Education, 'Nnowledge, Direction, Strength)

NAHLA has now been in existence for 20 years as a very active Chapter of CHLA. In 2004 the Executive applied with success for funding support from the Chapter Initiatives Fund to work on the Oral History Project, beginning with the documentation of the history and activities of the Chapter. The additional goal is to gather and systematically organize existing NAHLA documents for delivery to the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Two members of the current Executive have been working on the initiative, with Marlene Dorgan as the Project Leader. Progress has been made on collecting all the names of the Executives through the years, and a call for NAHLA-related records had been made. The team will continue to work on this initiative and expect to make progress this summer. Chapter members will be invited to express their interest to be involved in the project as well.

Respondent's name: *Liza Chan, President, NAHLA*

Date: April 27, 2006