

CHLA/ABSC Chapter President's Report

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

Current operating year: October – September

Number of Members for the past operating year: 38 (33 regular, 5 students)

Executive for the past operating year:

President: Denise Koufogiannakis
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Vice-President/President Elect, and BMC Correspondent: Marlene Dorgan

Past President: Tanya Voth

Secretary: Sheila Fynn

Treasurer: Connie Winther

Outline of Activities for the Current Year:

On November 26, Linda Slater from the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library presented an informative session entitled "Issues in Bibliographic Management Software: Overview of the Big Three." Linda provided an excellent overview of the three programs, demonstrating their unique features and indicating which program would be best suited for particular needs. This was a very popular session, heavily attended by NAHLA members and other interested individuals from the Edmonton library community.

The traditional annual NAHLA Christmas luncheon was held once again at the Manor Café on December 5, 2002. Members had a good visit and had a great deal of fun with the "recycled" gift exchange. It was noted that some of the gifts were recycled from last year's luncheon.

On February 19, 2003, NAHLA held a general business meeting, followed by a "Members Corner: Roundtable Discussion" session on the topic of getting to know more about what each of us do in our positions and the issues we face on a daily basis. Members were asked to come prepared to contribute by letting others know about their job, main duties, the top two issues they face, and their main area of expertise. Much was learned and shared while members munched on popcorn during this informal event.

NAHLA sponsored the Partners in Education Program, a joint venture between the local professional community and students enrolled in the MLIS program at the University of

Alberta, which pairs professional librarians with students for a “Partner’s Day” event and reception.

The Executive also agreed to cover the registration costs for a local student to attend the CHLA/ABSC 2003 Conference. The “Student to CHLA” prize was awarded to Shelagh Genuis, a student at School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta. Congratulations, Shelagh!

In May we will host a brown-bag lunch session, with special guest speaker Terena Solomons, Library Manager, Hollywood Private Hospital, Perth, Australia. Terena is visiting the University of Alberta to learn more about PDAs, and has agreed to speak with NAHLA members about Australian Health Libraries.

Our chapter is also a sponsor of the upcoming 2nd International Evidence Based Librarianship Conference, being held June 4-6, 2003 in Edmonton. Our sponsorship money will be used to fund a prize for runner-up in the “Best Presenter” category.

This is a very busy time for many NAHLA members who are involved with planning for the CHLA/ABSC 2003 Conference and the EBL 2003 Conference. Both events promise to be interesting and exciting, and we look forward to welcoming our colleagues to Edmonton!

NAHLA’s website:

<http://fn2.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/~nahla/nahla.htm>

Submitted by:

Denise Koufogiannakis,
President, NAHLA
May 15, 2003