

**CHLA/ABSC Chapter President's Report
2004-2005**

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

Current operating year: October – September

Number of Members for the operating year: 29; including one member in the UK

Executive for the operating year:

President: Janice Varney
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Past President: Marlene Dorgan

Vice-President/President Elect, and JCHLA Correspondent: Liza Chan

Secretary: Connie Clifford

Treasurer: Linda Seale

Outline of Activities for the Current Year:

On September 28, 2004 the Northern Health Libraries Association met in Corbett Hall on the University of Alberta campus for its Annual General Meeting. An election was held for the new executive, and members gathered for a catered dinner following the business meeting.

The NAHLA annual Christmas luncheon was held at the Faculty Club at the University of Alberta on December 2, 2004. An excellent meal and visit were shared by all. The “recycled” gift exchange was a fun way to celebrate the season, and a reservation has already been made for a private room at the Club for the 2005 Christmas luncheon.

Once again, NAHLA, being part of the “Partners in Education”, coalition, contributed to the Partners’ Day Program at the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta. The program provides an opportunity for the 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. Our funds support the Partners’ Day reception which is celebrated in January every year.

In February and March NAHLA sponsored a two-part information workshop: “The Leading Edge: Electronic Health Resources” in which various members shared insights

on electronic health information resources. In Part One they focused on the “Top Ten Electronic Resources: What? When? How? In Part Two, “Free for All” they discussed and demonstrated free resources. These two workshops were a big success and a sequel series of workshops is being planned for 2005/2006.

The Third NAHLA TRENDS Mini-Conference was held at Edmonton Public Library on April 15, 2005. This half-day conference has proven to be very popular and sold out very quickly. Over half the attendees were non-members from the local library community. The presentations included the following:

- **Roles and Responsibilities at Work: Which Hat Am I Wearing Now?**
(Margaret Law – Associate Library Director; Science, Technology and Health Sciences; University of Alberta Libraries);
- **Getting Medieval: Insights from the Golden Age of Information Science, 1200-1350**
(Peter Binkley – Digital Information Technology Librarian, University of Alberta);
- **Understanding and Creating Community in the Workplace**
(Dr. Virginia Sauve -- Portals: Educational Consulting Services, Inc.)

The afternoon ended with a catered reception and received very high evaluations from participants who indicated that they look forward to the Fourth TRENDS Mini-Conference in 2006. (TRENDS stands for: Teaching, Research, Education, ‘Knowledge, Direction, Strength)

NAHLA has been in existence for 20 years as a very active Chapter of CHLA. Last year, 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. Three members of the current Executive have agreed to work on the initiative, with Marlene Dorgan as Project Leader. The intention is to have the project completed by spring of 2006. The current Executive is also undertaking a revision of the Executive job descriptions section of the NAHLA by-laws.

Keep up to date on NAHLA activities – check out our NAHLA website (we acquired our very own domain name this year as well):

www.nahla.ca

Submitted by:

Janice Varney, President, NAHLA

April 25, 2005