

ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MAP LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES  
**BULLETIN**

**Regional News**

Compiled by Marilyn Andrews

**Alberta**

**Edmonton Map Society**

**David Jones**

Tea Anyone? / ELLA / CARTO 2019

Spring 2019 saw a flurry of map activity in Edmonton.

Taking advantage of Dan Duda's (Map Librarian, Memorial University) presence in Edmonton, Dan was the guest speaker at the Edmonton Map Society's Spring Meeting, held May 7.

We were delighted to hear and learn about the *Mazawattee Tea Atlas*. The atlas, an ephemeral publication, was used by the Mazawattee Tea Company for the purpose of promoting the sales of its products – tea, coffee, cocoa, chocolates, etc. However, the 20-page atlas may have had an additional purpose which was to promote the British Empire, especially for people who did not have access to public education. The publication date is c1906 and many of the marketing images for the tea company, such as people enjoying a cup of tea or tea leaves being read, are inserted throughout the atlas. Thus one could argue that the success of the tea company is part of the “glory” of the British Empire.

Dan Duda's real reason for being in Edmonton was to teach two fully-subscribed classes, i.e., 40 attendees in each, which were offered by the Edmonton Lifelong Learning Association (ELLA). The courses were: “And Where Are We?”– The Story of Maps (EL25) and Maps & Cartography (EL45 )- <https://my-ella.com/home/>. The session ran from April 29 through May 19; the students are lifelong learners, being defined as 50+ years of age.

On a personal note, I was delighted to attend CARTO 2019 held at McMaster University, my alma mater. It was great to reconnect with CARTO colleagues and to catch up on interesting new developments. A highlight was the WWII maps digitization project, a collaboration between McMaster University and the University of Alberta. Revisiting the campus where I studied from 1965-1970 and also the residence where I had lived in 1965 was an experience.

**University of Alberta**

**Larry Laliberte**

Indigenous University of Alberta

From the University of Alberta *folio* - July15 2019:

A walking map created by Robin Howse, an undergraduate student in Native studies, is providing an Indigenous lens to the buildings, art and spaces of the University of Alberta. The map entitled

*pîtos-mâmitoneyihtamowin (Reimagine) UAlberta* lists a number of prominent sites on campus—including Sweetgrass Bear, Nîpisîy House, Rutherford House and the Faculty of Native Studies' tipi—that have, or seem to have, Indigenous or colonial ties. Read more: <https://bit.ly/2xR7jkS>:

*Once people are able to understand the complex history of this space, they can better understand our contemporary issues and why things are the way they are. Understanding that this place was already named before the university came along and expressed dominion over it really changes your understanding of it.* (Robin Howse)

## Ontario

Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa  
René Duplain

New roles / Organizational Renewal Project / ArcGIS Pro / What do we do at the GSG?

### New roles

The Geographic, Statistical, and Government Information Centre (GSG) has seen a few changes this past summer. René Duplain, Data Analyst at uOttawa from 2014 until 2019 is now in the permanent position of Research Librarian (GIS), effective April. René recently returned from an academic leave during which time he completed his MIS at uOttawa. While on leave, Hugo Crites, a recent uOttawa Master of Arts Geography graduate, replaced René as Data Analyst. Hugo played a key role in providing data and GIS support during the recent transitions at the GSG. Pierre Leblanc, the Cartographic & GIS Support Specialist, continues to be a bedrock of knowledge both at the GSG and in the Library. All three are part of a newly created team, the Interdisciplinary Data Team (IDT), which also includes the two Data Librarians and the E-Research Librarian. The entire team now shares space in the GSG and are better positioned to provide more robust data services and support to the entire uOttawa community.

### Organizational Renewal project

The uOttawa Library recently completed its Organizational Renewal (OR) project, which was to overhaul the overall governance and organizational structure at the Library to strengthen its ability to focus on strategic priorities and better respond to new and evolving needs. This project was a major undertaking that took approximately two years from its inception to its completion, and is now in the final wrapping up stage. The new organizational structure favours strong service, allows flexibility, and promotes collaboration within and across the new groups in the Library. The IDT is an example of a specialized team that will collaborate across all research branches to better support users.

### ArcGIS Pro

One of the summer initiatives for GSG staff was to further promote the use of ArcGIS Pro within the GIS community. As Esri's future flagship software, making the transition from the traditional ArcGIS Desktop to Pro will be a significant and important change that may take years for faculty

and students to make. As a starting point, the GSG staff designed and delivered a workshop for biology graduate students to introduce them to Pro and to teach them how to use it by providing some hands-on exercises. The workshop garnered very positive feedback and will be adapted and given again in the fall and winter semesters, open to a wider audience where any and all students will be welcome.

What do we do at the GSG?

Due to many recent changes in staff and in the uOttawa Library's overall organizational structure, GSG staff recognize that there is a general lack of awareness as to "what we do" in the GSG. To help others learn more about the potential of GIS and data services and the kinds of projects we support, René, Pierre, and Hugo are preparing a presentation for uOttawa Library staff, to be given later this summer. The presentation will be a "show and tell", where attendees will be shown selected case studies accompanied by neat visuals to highlight services which will, hopefully, open their minds to the "art of the possible" when utilizing these tools and technologies. Delivering this presentation in the Tinkering Lab with the large 8K visualization wall, in the Learning Crossroads can only increase the "WOW" factor!

## Saskatchewan

**University of Regina**  
**Marilyn Andrews**

### Air Photo Project / Passages

Come September, the University of Regina Library and the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies will be welcoming a library school intern, Vickery Pentz, from Western University who will be undertaking a one-semester work term with us.

While in Regina, Vickery will be working on an air photo project which is closely modelled after a similar one that Rhys Stevens planned and orchestrated at the University of Lethbridge a few years ago. The Map Library is part of the geography department and mentors from both the library and the department have been identified. We look forward to having a valuable collection curated and live in hope that ultimately the photos will be digitally preserved – will likely take more than one work term to complete! We also recognize that this will be a learning experience for all of us.

Marilyn Andrews will be retiring on September 30 and, hence, has tendered her resignation as the Regional News Editor for the ACMLA *Bulletin*. It has been both an honour and a pleasure to have assumed this task and I encourage others to now consider it. I have enjoyed my encounters with ACMLA and thank everyone who has encouraged and assisted me over the years. *Au revoir*.