

ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MAP LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

# BULLETIN

## Regional News

Edited by Martin Chandler

### British Columbia

#### University of Northern BC (UNBC) – Roger Wheate and Susie Wilson

##### Giant floor map of Indigenous Canada

We hosted the Canadian Geographic giant floor map of Indigenous Canada at UNBC in May 2019 in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Canadian Cartographic Association and annual convocation ceremony. The map author, Chris Brackley (in photo), ‘As the Crow Flies Cartography’, gave the keynote address which can be watched here: <https://cca-acc.org/2019-cca-conference-keynote-presentation.html>

The map design is also described in the 4-volume atlas that most map libraries should have: <https://indigenouspeoplesatlasofcanada.ca/>

##### Jack Challenger map

Even the giant floor map however would be dwarfed by the Challenger map of British Columbia completed in 1954 and exhibited in the BC Pavilion in Vancouver until 1997. This amazing 3D map handcut in plywood by Jack Challenger and his family, now sits in blocks in a warehouse until someone can provide a permanent home. All it needs is a 2000m<sup>2</sup> area and building maintenance costs - scale is 1:50,000 and measures ~ 45 x 45 metres. <https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/history/challenger-map-1954-1932659>



## Alberta

### University of Alberta – David Jones

The Edmonton Map Society held its Winter 2020 Meeting on March 11, 2020.

Our topic was: Alex McPhee's Province of Alberta: A new integrated wall map of Alberta.

Alex explained how project of personally traveling to every Alberta county sparked the desire to create the most detailed provincial reference map of all time.

Included are a great many features never before printed on a single map: every Hutterite colony, every abandoned railway right-of-way, every campground, every Indian reserve surrender, forest fire burn scars to 2019. Choice details and the map's historical background were explained, before a copy was unrolled on the table for public inspection. As a new 2nd Edition is currently underway and being prepared for publication, feedback was encouraged. After the presentation there was a lively discussion.

Alex McPhee is a final year student in the Geophysics (Specialization) program at the University of Alberta. The map won the Best in Design (Student) award at the 2019 NACIS conference in Tacoma. Alex may be contacted at: [awmcphee@ualberta.ca](mailto:awmcphee@ualberta.ca)

## Québec

### Université de Québec à Trois-Rivières - Catherine Leduc

Nous (en fait Annie Fréchette, ma collaboratrice) travaillons à la numérisation, en format vectoriel, d'index de photographies aériennes du MFFP. Nous avons plus de 12000 photographies aériennes pour lesquelles seules des images (.tif) des cartes-index sont disponibles : le repérage et l'utilisation de cette collection est donc très difficile, ce à quoi nous tentons de remédier.

Au fait, si quelqu'un a rencontré et résolu un problème de géoréférencement de cartes-index au format .tif qui ne s'alignent pas lors de la production de mosaïques : vos conseils sont les bienvenus.

We (in fact Annie Fréchette, my collaborator) are working on the digitization, in vector format, of indexes of MFFP aerial photographs. We have more than 12,000 aerial photographs for which only index-maps in image format (.tif) are available: locating and using this collection is therefore very difficult, which we are trying to remedy.

If anybody has faced and solved problems in georeferencing index-maps in .tif format that don't align when trying to produce mosaic: your advice is welcome

### McGill University – Martin Chandler

After taking over responsibility for the Map Room, and thereby McGill University's Map Collection, I have secured support to begin a cataloguing project of our physical maps. While parts of this have been undertaken in the past by previous librarians, there is no current inventory of maps, and therefore no method for communicating to our users what we have available. The project will begin with series, from which we hope to expand to include individual maps. While we are only in the early days, already some interesting gems have been found, and we look forward to advancing this project over the summer months and into the coming years.

I have also started an inventory of the air photos in our collection, along with related indexes. Once complete, we will use the inventory to begin digitizing and georeferencing the index maps, georeferencing the air photos, and creating a usable index of our air photo collection for researchers.