

Archives

# NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA



**Cover illustration:**

*Canoe Manned by Voyageurs Passing a Waterfall,*

1869, by Frances Anne Hopkins.

Oil on canvas. C-002771.

For more information, visit our Web site at

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# The mission

The National Archives of Canada preserves the nation's recorded memory, including the Government of Canada's documentary records. By making these records accessible to all Canadians, the National Archives contributes to the protection of the rights of every Canadian and enhances their understanding of Canada. The National Archives of Canada is therefore able to serve Canadians by connecting them to the sources of their past and their histories.

# The vision

To connect Canadians to the sources of their past and their histories.

# MESSAGE

## from the National Archivist of Canada

PHOTO BY: YANISHEVSKY/TARDOLI



**Ian E. Wilson**  
National Archivist of Canada

«My ambition aims at the establishment of a great storehouse of the history of the colonies and colonists... in every aspect of their lives as communities... It may be a dream, but it is a noble dream».

Douglas Brymner, 1888

In 1888, our first national archivist, Douglas Brymner, worked from basement rooms in the West Block. Since his appointment in June 1872, he had worked diligently as an advocate of archives and the need to preserve records for future generations of Canadians. His vast storehouse may have been a dream, but without a dream of what might be, can anything of lasting value be accomplished?

For well over a hundred years, the National Archives has pursued Brymner's dream and what has been achieved is far beyond anything he could have imagined in the 1880s. Archives are the record of our past experience: the words, voices and even the images of those who have preceded us form an indissoluble link between past and present. These are our records as a society: letters, diaries, photographs, maps, paintings, diskettes. Whatever form they take, archives speak directly to us and recall the hopes, aspirations, accomplishments and failures of the men, women and children who have gone before us.

The simple truth is that Canadians want to know more about their country. Young and old, those who can trace their Canadian roots back four or five generations to those who arrived here in the 1990s need to know that they have access to their past at the National Archives. And history is not only names

and facts and dates, it is an understanding of our collective experience as Canadians, a sense of what sets us apart from others. Archives allow history to be written in the first person – our history, our family, our community, and this has never been more true than it is today.

With advances in technology, we have an unprecedented opportunity, even an obligation, to make available to Canadians the archival resources that will allow them to tell their story. Millions of Canadians now have the means to access their heritage in their homes, offices and even in the palms of their hands. If Canada wants to be «the most connected nation» in the world, the National Archives can help make this dream a reality by connecting Canadians with their past, by sharing our archival heritage that has been carefully collected, preserved and made available since 1872.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ian E. Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Ian E. Wilson  
National Archivist

**TO DISCOVER YOUR PAST, THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA OFFERS YOU:**

- 21 million photographs on metal, glass, paper, celluloid and plastic.
- 2 million maps and architectural plans. The oldest original map, which is also the oldest document about Canada in the Archives' holdings, dates from 1508.
- 142 000 linear metres of textual documents from public and private sources.
- Films, videos and sound recordings offering over 337 000 hours of listening and viewing.
- 330 000 works of art, including paintings, watercolours, caricatures, prints and drawings.
- 3 million gigabytes of electronic documents.
- Over 800 000 items in philately collections.
- Posters, postcards, medals, seals, political buttons, heraldic devices and coats of arms.

... And these collections are becoming larger and more diverse every year, offering all Canadians ever broader access to the sources of their past and their histories.

# Key Facts for the Year

PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA



Their Excellencies, the Governor General of Canada, Adrienne Clarkson, and John Ralston Saul, visited the Gatineau Preservation Centre on December 29, 1999.

- The launch of the on-line research tool, *ArchiviaNet*, on May 5, 1999, attended by Susan Mann, historian and university professor, and Gene Allen, Director of Research and Director of the CBC series *Canada: A People's History*.
- On May 18, 1999, as part of the Year of La Francophonie in Canada, Antonine Maillet officially opened *Critical Acclaim: Portraits from the National Archives of Canada*, an exhibition presenting a selection of the numerous portraits held at the National Archives.
- To commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the signing of Treaty 8, the National Archives held an exhibition on the subject and loaned the original treaty to representatives of the First Nations that had signed the document. The document was presented to them on May 31, 1999, at a pipe ceremony on Parliament Hill, attended by Phil Fontaine, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, and the Honourable Jane Stewart, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.
- Ian E. Wilson was appointed National Archivist of Canada on July 5, 1999, and officially began his duties on July 19, succeeding Jean-Pierre Wallot and Lee McDonald who was acting National Archivist from 1997 to 2000.
- The National Archives and the National Library officially opened their fully renovated auditorium on September 10, 1999. This hall, which is now more appealing and versatile as a result of architectural and technical improvements, is essential to both institutions' public programs, programs that seek to highlight their collections.
- The film *Act of the Heart* was shown in Montréal during the World Film Festival on August 31, 1999. This well-known film, directed by filmmaker Paul Almond in 1970, had just been restored by the National Archives with a generous contribution by Astral/MOVIEPIX.
- In the October 1999 Throne Speech, the Government of Canada expressed the desire to digitize the collections of the National Archives and the National Library. The budget speech of February 29, 2000, reiterated this commitment.
- On December 29, 1999, Their Excellencies the Governor General of Canada, Adrienne Clarkson, and John Ralston Saul visited the Gatineau Preservation Centre.
- The Clerk of the Privy Council invited the National Archives in September 1999 to prepare an exhibition on Canada's constitutional evolution. Displayed in Parliament's prestigious Hall of Honour, this exhibition was officially opened on May 1, 2000, by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien.

# The Nation's Living Memory

## A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

To protect Canadians' rights and to put them in touch with sources about their past, their personal history and historical heritage, essential elements of their Canadian citizenship, the National Archives acquires and preserves public and private documents in every imaginable format. Electronic documents, photographs, parchments, watercolours, manuscripts, films, maps, paintings, personal diaries, architectural drawings, official documents, video and sound recordings are all valuable and unique records of Canada's origins and its evolution over the centuries.

These pieces of the past, many of which are extremely valuable or exceptionally beautiful, illustrate the history and accomplishments of our country and its people. Not only do they commemorate actions by individuals or the nation, they also show how and why governments make their decisions. They give insight into how we lived at different times in our history, and they attest eloquently to how we live today.

The Archives does not wish to hoard these items, but rather to make available to all Canadians, present and future, the documents that recount a constantly evolving history in order to offer new perspectives on the Canadian experience. The fonds and collections of the National Archives are an invaluable heritage that helps Canadians better understand the history of their country and of their

fellow citizens. By giving the public access to these rich documentary resources, they help protect the rights of all citizens, while helping them to better understand their country. The National Archives serves Canadians by making the documentary memory of the nation available to all.

## WHAT PURPOSE DOES THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES SERVE?

The Archives not only documents Canada's innumerable stories, but also serves as the guardian of crucial information that proves without a doubt that actions were taken, decisions made and transactions concluded.

### For example, this information has served:

- to justify the First Nations' land claims;
- to show that some individuals in several residential schools were abused. The files held in the Archives were also used to confirm the identities of victims and accused parties. In some cases, they provided explicit information on incidents currently under investigation;
- to demand justice. A powerful episode in the CBC series *the fifth estate* was broadcast in March 2000, following the inquiry that lasted for over a year into the well-known murder case involving Steven Truscott in 1959. Truscott

had always maintained his innocence. Items in a military file found at the National Archives pointed to another suspect. With this new evidence in hand, Truscott asked the federal Minister of Justice to review his conviction;

- to trace the beginnings of the tainted blood scandal in Canada in the 1980s;
- to reconstruct the environmental history of an area or region. Documents may provide information as to where industrial buildings, now long gone, were located, and may also help to explain how the ground in certain areas came to be contaminated.

### The Archives are also used:

- to trace ancestry. Genealogical research is becoming a favourite activity for Canadians. Searching for family roots would be impossible without archives;
- to discover buried treasure, potential sources of business. The June 2000 issue of the magazine *L'Actualité* reported on two entrepreneurs who, having conducted painstaking research using logging reports from the past 200 years, were able to estimate the amount of lumber lying on the bottom of the Gatineau River, in Québec. This helped them evaluate the financial viability of efforts to recover this lumber;



- to produce exhibitions, films, radio and television programs, documentaries, plays, novels. For its series *Canada: A People's History*, the CBC made extensive use of the Archives' collections;
- to write books and articles, not only about history, but also about a host of subjects, both scientific and literary.

These are but a few specific examples of the many uses of archival documents, which speak volumes about the importance of continuing to acquire and carefully preserve the documents that are created every day.

### Did You Know That...

The National Archives of Canada was founded in 1872. One of the oldest Canadian cultural institutions, its founding was the first major initiative by the Government of Canada in the cultural sector. This desire to preserve important documents is nothing new. As early as 1790, the Québec Council had taken measures to better protect and equitably distribute the archives of the French regime.

## Role of the Archives:

### The National Archives of Canada:

- acquires and preserves public and private documents of all kinds and of permanent national interest in order to make them accessible.
- serves as a permanent repository for the Government of Canada's historical documents and facilitates the management of government documents.
- uses the very latest archival methods and techniques and plays a leading role in this regard for specialists in Canada and abroad.

# ARCHIVES for everyone

The National Archives has the duty to promote access for all Canadians to archival documents and uses the latest technology to achieve this. The Internet has fundamentally changed the way in which heritage resources are used. With the democratization of research, we are witnessing a new kind of history, a «personal» history, history in the first person. To meet the demands of the thousands of people interested in their own personal history, the Archives offers reference services in person and on-line in order to answer questions, direct research, assist with the consultation of original archives, use microfilms on loan, examine government documents in accordance with access to information and privacy legislation, and provide copies of archival documents.

## WITNESSES TO THE PAST IN CYBERSPACE

With the Internet, the Archives now has a marvellous communication tool to make Canadians aware of its collections. In 1999-2000, some 1.5 million people explored and consulted the National Archives Web site. There they found information about our services, publications and The Friends of the National Archives, and enjoyed virtual tours of several of our exhibitions, but above all made use of the *ArchiviaNet* research tool to find documents relating to their information searches.



The image shows a screenshot of the National Archives of Canada website's navigation menu. At the top left is the NA logo. To its right is the text "National Archives of Canada". Below the logo is a list of menu items: "ABOUT THE NA", "NEWS & EVENTS", "ON-LINE RESEARCH TOOL: ARCHIVIA NET", "SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC", "SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT", "PUBLICATIONS", "EXHIBITIONS", "THE FRIENDS OF THE NA", "NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA", and "FRANÇAIS". To the right of the menu items is a photograph of a group of people in a canoe on a river. Below the photograph is the text "Explore in Archives class".

[www.archives.ca](http://www.archives.ca)

## Did You Know That...

The National Archives Web site has had over 43.6 million hits, and the number of individual research sessions is estimated at over 1.5 million.

Launched on May 5, 1999, *ArchiviaNet* gives access to thousands of descriptions of textual, visual and sound documents. These descriptions are presented in specific databases (such as *Soldiers of the First World War*, the *Home Children* and *Post Offices*) or through thematic guides (*Aboriginal Peoples* and *The Canadian Postal Archives*). Since it was launched, *ArchiviaNet* has undergone several changes. The information was restructured to provide simpler links, and the presentation was standardized. Over time, it has acquired new databases, including several now being tested in the Archives' reference room that will soon be available on the Internet. These include the Colonial Archives and the Prime Ministers' fonds prototypes. The most noteworthy addition was no doubt that of the *General Inventory* in March 2000, which provides a continuously developing view of the National Archives' holdings.

Some archival documents described in *ArchiviaNet* can now be consulted instantaneously. In particular, the 200 000 pages of the Canadian Expeditionary Force soldier enlistment papers have been digitized thanks to Canada's Digital Collections Program at Industry Canada. These databases of photographs and works of art contain 5 000 digitized images included in the archival descriptions.

But that's just the beginning! The Throne Speech given in the House of Commons in October 1999 and the Budget Speech of February 29, 2000,



PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA

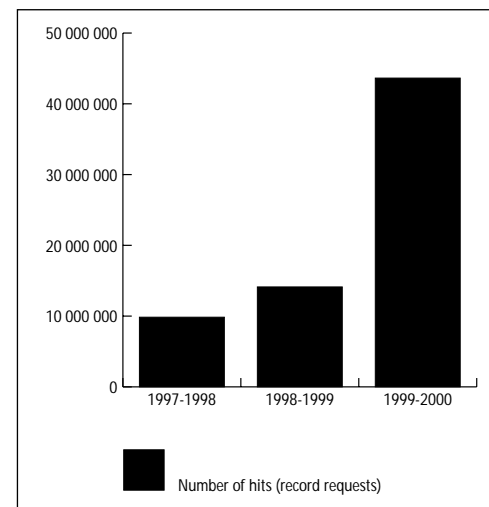
Launch of *ArchiviaNet*, May 5, 1999.

emphasized the government's intention to become more accessible to the public and to make government information available to all Canadians. The government is planning to implement a massive digitization project that will open the Archives' collections to the entire population via the Internet. Having already examined the move toward on-line services in a study entitled *Serving Canadians On-line*, the Archives created a task force on digital access and a special team whose first digitization projects will be presented starting in the fall of 2000.

However, all of these databases and new projects only represent a small part of the Archives' collections. With the influx of visitors to the Archives' Web site, there have also been urgent requests, to which

the Archives has not yet been able to respond. For example, until recently, most of the research tools describing the collections were created with a traditional clientele in mind; the conversion of these records and lists of paper documents will take time. As a further example, the Archives has 21 million photographs, very few of which are individually described, which can be frustrating to researchers. It is, however, important to remember that it would be impossible to digitize the millions of documents held by the Archives. The Archives is nevertheless doing its best to get through this demanding but stimulating transition toward electronic service.

#### RATE OF USE OF WEB SITE AND ARCHIVIANET ON-LINE RESEARCH TOOL



## THE ARCHIVES SERVING CLIENT NEEDS

The Archives cannot hope to provide on-line service without first providing reliable service in person! Contrary to what one might expect, the option of conducting research through the Web site has not reduced the number of requests made directly to staff – just the opposite in fact. This no doubt reflects the public's great interest of late in archival collections. To guide researchers and help them obtain the documents they wish to consult, the Archives needs experienced staff to respond to their requests on site. The reference, genealogy, document consultation and reproduction services staff provide this vital link between the collections and the public.

In 1999-2000, a particular effort was made to improve photocopying services. In order to meet the urgent requests of an increasing number of researchers, the Archives created a quick reproduction service for textual and microfilmed documents, considerably reducing waiting times, which had been a source of frustration in the past. During the 1999-2000 fiscal year, over 1.4 million pages were photocopied. The popularity of microfilmed documents is undeniable, as 77 979 reels were consulted in Ottawa and throughout the country through interlibrary loans and decentralized access points. Researchers visiting the Archives in person in Ottawa can now use a new microfilm reader, a gift from The Friends of the National Archives. The Friends also contributed to the purchase of a reader-printer, which had been on the wish list for a long time.

## STATISTICAL TABLE ON THE USE OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES BY THE PUBLIC

In 1999-2000, Archives staff:

- responded to over 118 000 requests for information
- received 41 412 visits by researchers
- put 77 979 reels of microfilm into circulation
- removed 56 294 document containers from the shelves for consultation purposes

## NUMBER OF PAGES PHOTOCOPIED

1999-2000	1 467 649
1998-1999	1 518 717
1997-1998	1 200 795

## WORK SESSIONS BY RESEARCHERS

1999-2000	41 412
1998-1999	32 165
1997-1998	33 540

## REELS OF MICROFILM IN CIRCULATION

1999-2000	77 979
1998-1999	69 834
1997-1998	69 532

## ANSWERS TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

1999-2000	118 457
1998-1999	120 256
1997-1998	109 750

Over the last decade, Canadians have become increasingly aware of their right of access to government information and to their personal information held in government institutions, in particular the government records held by the National Archives of Canada. While the majority of government information in the Archives' custody is open to the public, certain government documents must first be examined in accordance with the provisions of the *Access to Information* and *Privacy Acts* (known as the *ATIP Acts*).

The National Archives is responsible for administering the ATIP legislation for the Government of Canada's historical and personnel records in its custody. This is the largest, most complex body of records in the Federal Government subject to

these acts. Requests for information generally consist of three categories of records: 1) records of former military personnel and federal civil servants; 2) archival records of federal government institutions which have been transferred to the National Archives; and 3) operational records of the National Archives itself.

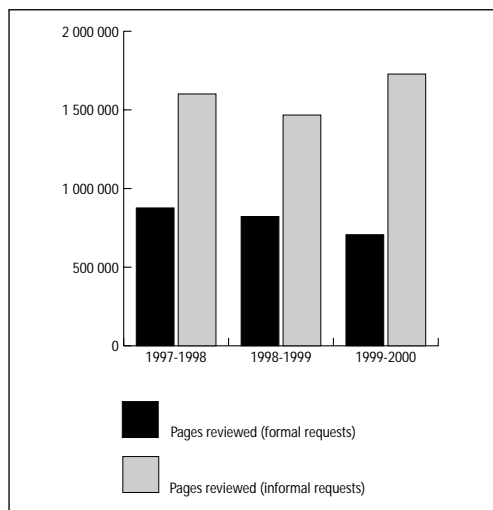
Because of Canadians' growing fascination for their country's heritage, their awareness of their roots and interest in Canada's recorded history, combined with access to the Internet, the National Archives is experiencing a steady increase in the number of ATIP requests received annually.

To better serve Canadians, the National Archives also offers a complementary method of access to government information. This procedure typically allows for the release of a large amount of historical records in response to client requests, without the need to apply formally under the ATIP legislation. Consistent with the provisions of the *ATIP Acts*, this method of access, also known as «informal review», has been expanding steadily over the past few years. In 1999-2000, over 1.7 million pages were reviewed in response to client requests.

The National Archives is also working pro-actively on implementing a multi-year plan for the systematic or «block» review of restricted historical documents en masse. This process allows the National Archives to identify, review and release a large amount of frequently requested government information for public research, without the need

for clients to apply formally or informally. In 1999-2000, over 4.2 million pages were released as a result of block review. Priority has been given to this activity in order to provide Canadians with timely access to their documentary heritage.

### ANSWERS TO REQUESTS FOR REVIEW



#### Statistics:

In 1999-2000, the ATIP Division received 2114 formal applications under the *Access to Information Act* as well as 3814 formal applications under the *Privacy Act*. The National Archives ranked second among all federal government departments in the number of formal access requests received and fourth in the number of formal privacy requests.

### Did You Know That...

The Archives welcomed 58 964 visitors and researchers this year and loaned 134 273 reels of microfilm and document containers.

# The fonds and collections of the National Archives

## A GROWING NATIONAL TREASURE

Year after year, the National Archives acquires new documents from the public and private sectors. With institutional and private bequests from all parts of the country, transfers from various federal offices, purchases and gifts, the Archives strives to create complete archival fonds, in all media, that reflect the multiple facets of Canadian society.

## HUNDREDS OF NEW ACQUISITIONS

Working conditions for automobile workers, ethnic associations, environmental issues, clothing styles in New France, the development of federal policies on science and technology, cultural and artistic life, the impact of the passing of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982, the development of amateur sport, patents, military files – these are just some of our most recent acquisitions. The research possibilities are limited only by the user's imagination.



Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil de Cavagnial, Marquis de Vaudreuil (1698-1778). Unknown French artist. Oil on canvas, ca. 1753-55. C-147536.

- Portraits of the last Governor of New France, Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil de Cavagnial, Marquis of Vaudreuil, and his wife, Jeanne-Charlotte de Fleury Deschambault. These two oil paintings, painted in about 1753-55 by an unknown artist and the property of a Parisian family descended from Vaudreuil, were acquired by the Archives through a subsidy provided by the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board. These canvases make a fine addition to the collection of national portraits the Archives has steadily been gathering for several years. The last Governor of New France, the Marquis de Vaudreuil was also the first Canadian-born person to hold this office.



Madame Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, née Jeanne-Charlotte de Fleury Deschambault (1683-1763). Unknown French artist. Oil on canvas, ca. 1753-55. C-147537.

- **The Greenpeace Canada fonds.** Greenpeace Canada is one of this country's best-known and highly respected environmental organizations. It marks one of our first successful attempts to document the history of Canada's environmental protection movement, filling an important gap in our private holdings of social records. Environmental protection is an area of research not well explored in historical literature, at least in part because it is not well documented in archival holdings. The addition of these important records to the holdings of the National Archives, which complement the valuable records of the environmentalist Dr. Rosalie Bertell, will be of immense benefit to researchers interested in environmental history.



The Right Honourable Antonio Lamer, P.C., on the Bench (Supreme Court of Canada). 1997. Photographer unknown. Source: National Archives of Canada.

- **The Antonio Lamer fonds.** The documents of the Right Honourable Antonio Lamer span his entire career and reflect both personal and professional activities. Appointed as a justice of

the Supreme Court of Canada on March 28, 1980, he became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on July 1, 1990. Over the years, the Supreme Court and its judges have been at the heart of the country's history. Antonio Lamer served as a justice and Chief Justice during an important period in our history. With the passing of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982, the judges were called upon to rule on a new wave of legal disputes. Lamer was one of the chief advocates of this new Charter. An exceptionally powerful tool, the Charter makes it possible to strike down legal provisions that violate fundamental rights. Under the Charter, women, environmentalists, Aboriginals, consumers, institutions, linguistic minorities, and the federal and provincial governments have asked the Supreme Court to interpret their rights and their status before the law. This change has had a crucial impact on the Supreme Court and on society in general. This is why it is so important that the National Archives preserve the documents of judges who made major decisions. For present and future generations of Canadians, these documents are an extremely valuable and essential source of information.

- About 40 hours of sound recordings about sports, primarily from Montréal radio station CKAC, make up the **Robert Tremblay fonds**, created by this private collector and devoted fan of hockey star Maurice Richard. This fonds contains unpublished documents about baseball, amateur hockey in the 1940s and 50s, professional boxing in Montréal and Quebec, as well as about Richard himself.

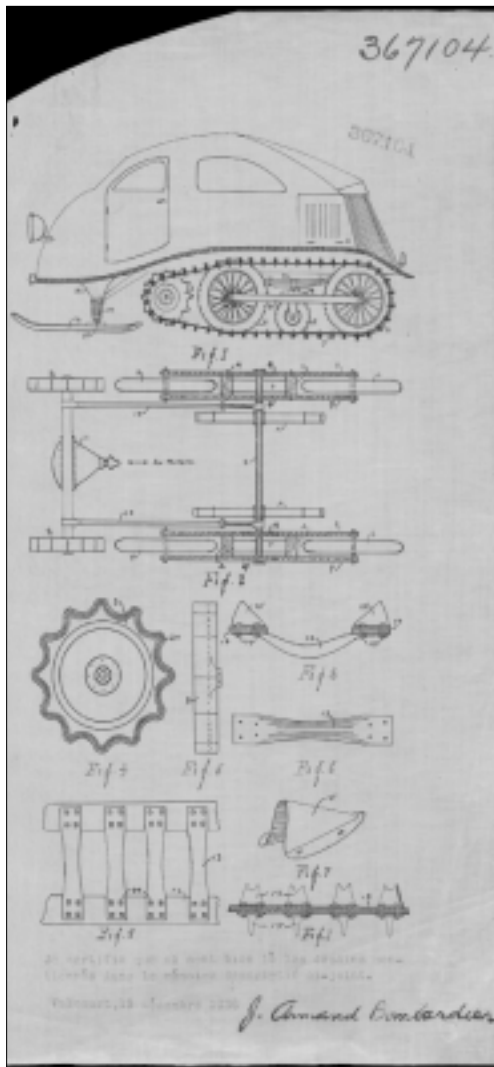
PHOTOGRAPHER: LYNE CHARLEBOIS



Gilles Carle shooting *La Guêpe*, 1986. National Archives of Canada, Gilles Carle fonds, R4308.

- **The Gilles Carle fonds.** A director, screen writer and producer of short and feature films, documentaries and television series, Gilles Carle is a pioneer of Québec and Canadian cinema. Several of his films – *La vie heureuse de Léopold Z*, *Les Plouffe*, *Jouer sa vie (The Great Chess Movie)*, *La vraie nature de Bernadette*, to name just a few – have won national and international awards and have been shown around the world. Gilles Carle won the Governor General's Performing Arts Award in 1997 and was appointed an officer of the Order of Canada in 1999 for his body of work. This fonds acquired by the Archives, the first of a Francophone filmmaker, consists of textual documents, several thousand photographs and hundreds of drawings.





Joseph Armand Bombardier's patent no. 367 104, granted on 27 June 1937 (Automatic caterpillar for snow). Industry Canada Fonds – Canadian Intellectual Property Office, RG 103.

- **The Canadian Intellectual Property Office** (formerly the Patent Office) transferred an impressive series of records recording the issuing of Canadian patents. These valuable records illustrate Canadian inventiveness and innovation in many scientific and technological areas from the time of Confederation to the 1930s. The patent records are mainly textual but also include drawings, plans, and specifications, as well as abstracts written by the patentee.

Among the most interesting and important of the patents is No. 7789 issued by the Minister of Justice on 22 August 1877 to Alexander Graham Bell, a Canadian inventor living in Boston, Massachusetts. The patent was for a device in «electric telephony», the prototype of an invention that would revolutionize the way we communicate. The invention was refined in a later patent (no. 10 705), issued on 18 October 1879. In it, Bell describes his invention as a «speaking telephone», the very first of its kind.

Another equally noteworthy patent was issued as No. 367 104 on 27 June 1937 to Joseph Armand Bombardier, now recognized as one of the most innovative engineers in the development of transportation technology. This particular patent for an «automatic caterpillar for snow» provides us with a shining example of this great Canadian inventor's many contributions to the field. That «caterpillar for snow» was, of course, the first snowmobile in history.

- **Technical and architectural drawings from the radio and electrical engineering division of the National Research Council of Canada.** Between 1916 and 1991, this division produced some 60 000 technical drawings, reflecting among other things the NRC's scientific accomplishments in radar technology, astrophysics and computer design. These documents point to the federal government's important contribution to applied science.
- **Records of the Department of National Defence, Second World War Military Personnel Records.** During 1999-2000, the National Archives began to accession the service records for those 44 927 Canadian men and women who were killed on active service during the Second World War. A record was created for every man or woman who served in uniform during the Second World War and consisted of administrative documents, Attestation Papers, photographs, notifications of death, wills and correspondence between the government and the deceased person's family. Technically, the National Archives already had these records in its custody in the personnel records centre, but it was only last year that this series of records became archival. These are extensive records which will be «acquired» and accessioned for many years to come. The importance of these documents should not be underestimated, as they document the contribution and sacrifices made by a large group of Canadian citizens who served their country during the Second World War.



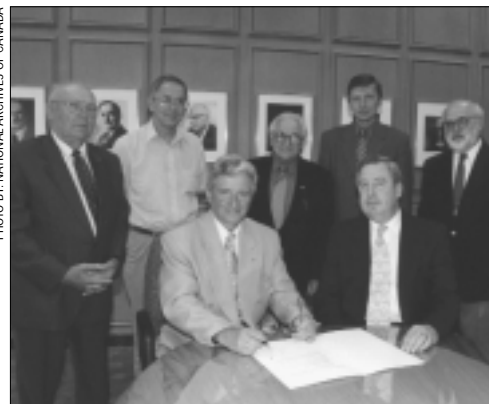


British Columbia, Three pence, in blue. Sheet of 60 stamps. Printed by De La Rue & Company, London [1865]. R3558.

- A complete pane of 60 postage stamps for the British Columbia three pence issue of 1865, the only remaining full pane of a British Columbia stamp, was acquired. British Columbia issued postage stamps between 1860 and 1871 before it joined the Canadian Confederation. The National Archives already owns the artwork design for this particular stamp.
- **Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.** A signing ceremony was held with the National Executive of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians to mark the acquisition of records of the Association, which represents the left wing of the Ukrainian Canadian community and is one of the oldest organizations of that community in Canada. These administrative records, covering the period from 1929 to 1996, consist of correspondence, minutes of meetings, and convention reports.

- *A map exhibiting all the new discoveries in the interior parts of North America...* [Published 1 Jan 1795 by A. Arrowsmith ...Additions to 1811.] Initially published in 1795, this extremely rare map was updated twenty or so times up until 1850. With each new revised and augmented edition, the original map acquired increasingly precise details that allow us to trace the development of geographic knowledge about western and northern Canada during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. With the acquisition of the 1811 edition, the National Archives now has seven editions of this map, considered to be the most important piece of work by the famous cartographer Arrowsmith.

PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA

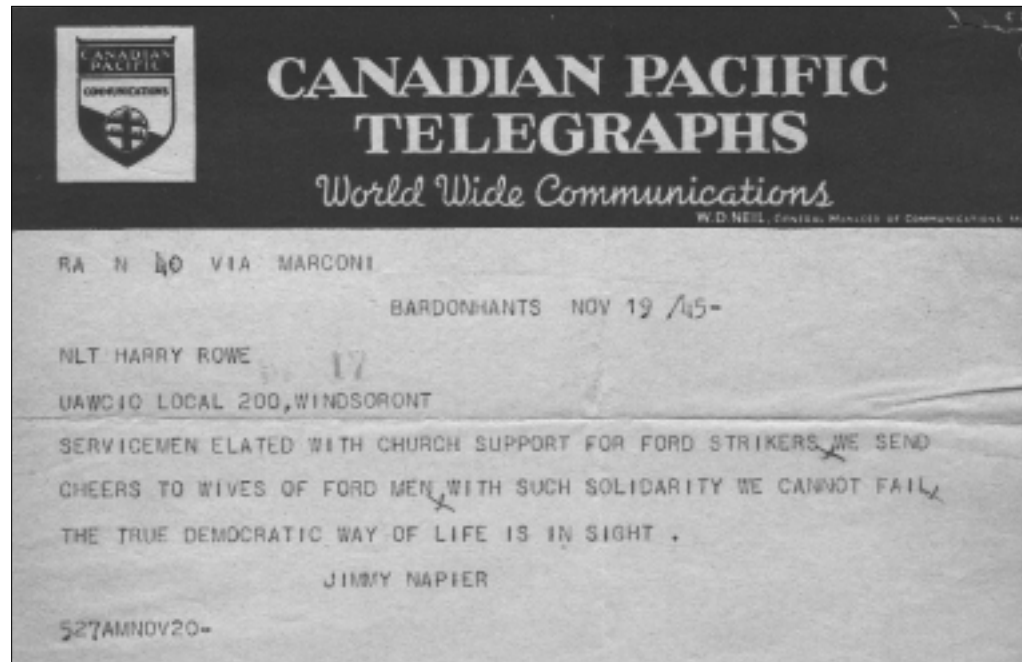


Signing Ceremony for the donation of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians fonds on 23 August 1999. From left to right: Walter Makowecki, Dr. Robert Dabeka, George Moskal, William Harasym, Taras Malyshevskiy, Ian E. Wilson and the archivist responsible for the fonds, Myron Momryk.

- **Records of the Registrar General, Proclamation of the Amendment to the Canadian Constitution.** Transferred last year by the Registrar General, this Proclamation forms part of the Registrar General's collection of Constitutional Amendments. With the *Canada Act* of 1982, the British Parliament allowed for the patriation of Canada's Constitution, as well as providing the authority for Canada to proclaim the *Constitution Act* of 17 April 1982. The Constitutional Amendment Proclamation – dated 12 March 1993 – was concerned with the equal status of the English and French linguistic communities of New Brunswick. As such, this proclamation and its accompanying schedule officially granted bilingual status to the Province of New Brunswick, the only province to have such a distinction. The third of seven Amendments proclaimed since the patriation of the Constitution in 1982, this document has significant historical and archival value as it truly reflects both the duality of official languages in Canada and the evolving nature of Canadian constitutional sovereignty.



Constitutional Amendment, 12 March 1993 (New Brunswick), regarding equal rights for the Anglophone and Francophone linguistic communities in New Brunswick. Registrar General fonds, RG 68, volume 1150. C-147077.



A founding member of and organizer for the United Automobile Workers in Canada (the forerunner of the Canadian Auto Workers), Jimmy Napier was stationed in England with the Canadian army in November 1945 when he sent this telegram in support of Ford of Canada workers, members of UAW Local 200 in Windsor, who were in the midst of a historic 99-day strike for union security. This telegram is from the files of the union's public relations director, Harry Rowe. (Telegram, Jimmy Napier to Harry Rowe, 19 November 1945, CAW fonds: MG 28, I 119, accession 1999-01424-3, container 17).

- The **Canadian Auto Workers** is clearly an organization of national significance and impact in Canadian labour, social, and economic history. The textual records acquired in 1999 (dated ca. 1937-1998, and measuring approximately 41 metres in extent) are in fact an addition to an extensive fonds documenting industrial relations in the automobile, aerospace, agricultural implement, transportation, and other industries. This accrual to the CAW fonds contains important documentation on many of the union's principal functions, and it expands the fonds significantly into the 1980s and 1990s. Included are files containing correspondence, reports, minutes, negotiations records and other material, created by the union's senior officers and staff (including the offices of national presidents Robert White and Buzz Hargrove), pertaining to core activities and concerns such as organizing, collective bargaining, strike action, defending members' interests in health and safety issues, plant closures, and political action.

The records provide important documentation on industrial relations in one of the most important industries in the Canadian economy.

- 150 000 slides from successful grant applications retained by the **Documentation Centre of the Canada Council for the Arts**, produced by various creators, and part of the Canada Council for the Arts Fonds. These slides provide an unprecedented source of information for the artistic record of the country, as well as demonstrating how government records can be used to conduct research into the country's cultural life and changing artistic developments.

### **DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: AN ESSENTIAL PROCESS**

To effectively locate these documents and make them readily accessible, they must be appropriately described. The specialists at the National Archives use exhaustive cataloguing and research methods to provide users with better research and consultation tools.

This year, a large project to accession and describe archival holdings according to a common standard and in a common database came to fruition, when these records were made available in a test mode to researchers visiting the National Archives. After an internal probation period of a few months, they were placed on the Internet in March 2000. Work began on a four-year project to revise older descriptions made over the course of the 128 years of the institution's existence to a standard agreed upon by the Canadian archival community.

Two further research tools were created that will greatly facilitate the work of researchers and thereby expand research opportunities:

- **Finding aid to the court martial records of the Canadian Army for the period 1939-1945.** These records are on double sided microfilm but had no usable finding aid when transferred a number of years ago by the Department of National Defence to the National Archives. The entry of 10 000 files into a court martial database was completed; the entries comprise the name, service number, unit, offence, date, file number and reel number. This body of records allows for genealogical research, but more importantly allows for the study of discipline and military law in the Canadian Army during the Second World War, subjects which were not very accessible until the transfer and release of these records. Thanks to this description work, researchers will now be able to search by units, as well as offences, opening the field to a larger social examination of the military.
- One of numerous descriptive lists of the **Records of the Northern Affairs Program**, finding aid 85-44 provides researchers with a guide to the identification of the files and microfilm reels for the Northwest Territories and Yukon Branch registry series. The completion of the long-term microfilming project and the extensive finding aid means improved service to our clients since these records are now available to northern researchers of all types through interlibrary loan. Previously reference requests were supplied by photocopies which hastened the

deterioration of the fragile originals and added an expense to research conducted by citizens of the territories. With the availability of microfilm, the original records now reach a greater audience. These records, which span a period of sixty years, from 1894 to 1954, contain case files supplying legal precedence and proof of Crown ownership of resources, as well as descriptions of social conditions, the development of the justice system, wildlife and environmental controls. In addition, they present information about many of the early inhabitants of this region. Additional files preserve information about members of First Nations and their cultures in relation to the Canadian expansion into their homeland, helping to document changes on Canada's last frontier.

## PRESERVATION ESSENTIAL TO STRONG ARCHIVES

The National Archives uses a comprehensive strategy featuring the most effective methods for the preservation, reproduction and handling of its fonds and collections in order to ensure access for all Canadians, present and future.

Not only does ink fade, paper disintegrate or become mouldy and film images blur, the National Archives must tackle another relatively new and considerable problem, that of the preservation of electronic documents. The rapid pace of technological progress, its increasing complexity and the quick obsolescence of equipment create problems for conservators and demand significant financial resources. The pressing question is whether we will be able to read (and find!) the information recorded on media that are already obsolete today. Therein lies the challenge!

In 1999-2000, the National Archives treated 172 377 documents, either as a preventive measure or because these items were deteriorating or fading and could no longer withstand the wear and tear of time and frequent handling. This kind of treatment requires painstaking attention to detail on the part of restorers, who this year spent 19 890 hours on such work. In addition to stabilizing and placing fifty or so documents in micro-environments for the *Canada: Milestones in our Constitutional Evolution* exhibition, they restored an album of photos, watercolours and lithographic prints entitled *Reminiscences of North America*, compiled between 1855 and 1862 by Thomas Evans Blackwell, administrative director and vice-president of the

Grand Trunk Railway Company; the album had been partially dismantled at some point, with less than half the pages remaining in the full leather binding. Taking into account the number of missing pages and the fragility of the remaining pages, the oversized album was dismantled, stabilized and housed in unique custom fitted boxes.

The Archives is committed to implementing and delivering state-of-the-art digital imaging conversion and reproduction services from original material. New camera equipment has been acquired to digitize original textual material, and work is ongoing to develop innovative e-commerce solutions for on-line consumers. Digital reproductions of archival documents were provided and used in the creation of the on-line exhibition entitled *Canada: Milestones in Our Constitutional Evolution*. As a result, facsimile copies of key constitutional documents (texts, portraits, maps and medals) relating to Canada's constitutional history have now been made available on the National Archives' Web site. As well, a new digital workstation allows for frame enlargements to be made from a variety of motion picture formats.

### Did You Know That...

The National Archives Preservation Centre in Gatineau, whose surface area is equal to that of two football fields, is home to state-of-the-art conservation laboratories and forty-eight vaults that are climate-controlled according to the requirements for various documents.



The album of T.E. Blackwell, *Reminiscences of North America*, containing watercolours, photographs and lithographs illustrating the life and scenery of Quebec, Ontario and the Prairies in the 1850s-60s.



Removal of binding and spine linings by a book conservator.



Following disbinding, each album page was housed in an archival folder within a customized box.

# The Archives ON DISPLAY

To make the public more aware of its services, the National Archives launched a major promotional campaign in the spring of 2000, using the slogan «Explore in Archives class». Advertising billboards were posted on the inside and outside of buses travelling through the national capital region, ads were published in various newspapers and magazines, and contacts were made with tour operators and tourism stakeholders. In addition to this publicity campaign, the Archives prepared a special program of guided tours of its exhibitions.

## REAL AND VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS

The exhibitions produced by the Archives this year had close to 17 000 visitors. These exhibitions give an overview of the great wealth and diversity of the collections available to researchers and the general public alike.

The season began with the launch on May 18, 1999, of *Critical Acclaim: Portraits from the National Archives of Canada*, an exhibition opened by Acadian author Antonine Maillet. To commemorate the hundredth anniversary of one of the most important Amerindian treaties, Treaty 8, signed in June 1899, the Archives produced an exhibition tracing the history of this treaty using textual documents, works of art, maps and photographs. This was the first time the original treaty document was shown to the public, being displayed for one



PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA

Opening of the exhibit *Critical Acclaim: Portraits from the National Archives of Canada* with Antonine Maillet, 18 May 1999.

day in Grouard, Alberta, as part of the ceremonies commemorating its signing. Open from June 30, 1999, until February 21, 2000, as part of the International Cartographic Conference held in Ottawa in August 1999, *Canada at Scale: Maps of Our History* was the most impressive cartographic exhibition presented by the Archives since 1982. It featured 77 maps, atlases and globes illustrating

the development of geographic knowledge over the centuries. At a seminar of the Canadian Studies Association, the Archives presented an exhibition on the *Québec Act* of 1774, whose 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated in November 1999. The exhibition *Festive Reflections*, which opened on December 22, 1999, gave an overview of the celebrations, traditions and rituals observed and practised by various Canadian cultural groups to mark the winter solstice. At the invitation of the Privy Council Office, the National Archives prepared a prestigious exhibition on Canada's constitutional evolution, displayed in the Hall of Honour on Parliament Hill from April to September 2000. Finally, the permanent exhibition *Treasured Memories*, temporarily closed on November 21, 1999, so the windows of the Archives main building could be redone, was reopened to the public on March 22, 2000, featuring approximately fifty new documents.

These exhibitions can also be visited on-line. The exhibition on Canadian constitutional developments was specially designed for the Web and includes an interactive game for secondary school students.



## Documents on tour

The National Archives lends its documents to other institutions for exhibitions. This year, 133 documents – works of art, films, stamps, medals and manuscripts – were on loan to twenty or so exhibitions in Canada and abroad.

### A few of the items loaned:

- Fourteen works of art were loaned to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, in Halifax, for the exhibition *At the great harbour: 250 years on the Halifax Waterfront* (June 26 to September 30, 1999).
- The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts borrowed 11 major works of art depicting Canada's North for its exhibition *Cosmos: From Romanticism to the Avant-garde* (June 17 to October 17, 1999), which was then on display in Barcelona, Spain (November 23, 1999 to February 20, 2000), and at the Palazzo Grassi in Venice, Italy (March 24, 2000 to July 23, 2000).
- The original ten-page document of Treaty 8, 1899, was officially loaned to the High Prairie Museum at the request of the Treaty 8 Centennial Committee, to commemorate the centenary of the signing of this founding document in 1899. The treaty was on display in the High Prairie Provincial Building from 17 - 20 June 1999, under the care and supervision of the High Prairie Museum staff, several volunteers and members of the RCMP in red serge. On 21 June 1999, under RCMP escort, the treaty was transported to the site of the Treaty 8 commemoration activities at Grouard, Alberta, which was close to the original signing site of 1899, and displayed in a tent for the day. The original document was returned to the National Archives exhibit *Treaty 8* for Canada Day festivities.
- The film *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*, part of the collections of the National Archives, was shown three times at the Toronto International Film Festival, on September 10, 11 and 17, 1999.
- Five oil paintings by Cornelius Krieghoff were loaned to the Art Gallery of Ontario, in Toronto, for its exhibition *Kriehoff: Images of Canada* (November 25, 1999 to March 5, 2000). This same exhibition will be on tour to Quebec City, Ottawa, Vancouver and Montréal, from June 14, 2000 to October 8, 2001.
- In its exhibition *Body Art: Marks of Identity*, the American Museum of Natural History included one of four prestigious paintings of the «Indian Kings», that of Sa Ga Yeath Qua Pieth Tow (November 16, 1999 to May 29, 2000).
- For its retrospective on the cinema of the Balkans, the Venice Biennale borrowed the film *Cossacks in Exile*, which was shown on April 4, 2000.
- An oil painting by Frederick Arthur Verner has been loaned for a two-year period to the Ottawa residence of the Governor General of Canada. Her Excellency, Adrienne Clarkson, along with His Excellency, John Ralston Saul, approved the selection of this painting for the oft-used Canadian Room, which is also part of the public tour that draws more than 70 000 visitors annually.

## A DYNAMIC PUBLIC PROGRAM BASED ON PARTNERSHIP

Several of the Archives' accomplishments would have been impossible without the assistance of partners interested in preserving, restoring and promoting Canada's cultural heritage. This is why the Archives has actively sought to establish ties with other federal organizations and private-sector agencies. The Archives has pursued a partnership with the company Astral/MOVIEPIX, whose generous subsidy was used to restore the film by director Paul Almond, *Act of the Heart*. To mark this accomplishment, the film was shown for the first time on August 28, 1999, at the Montreal World Film Festival, and a second time in the recently renovated auditorium of the National Archives, for the opening of the 1999-2000 Canadian Film Institute season. In cooperation with the National Film Board, the Archives sponsored a special screening of two films, *Keepers of the Frame*, which deals with film conservation, and *Traces d'une histoire oubliée*, about competition in the fur trade between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Revillon brothers.

To mark Black History Month, in February, the Archives welcomed the student recipients of the Mathieu da Costa Award, in cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage and the J'Nikira Dinquinesh Education Centre. Throughout the year, the Archives also cooperated on various projects with partners including the CRB Foundation, the Community Foundations of Canada, the CBC, the Canadian War Museum, the National Arts Centre, the Canadian Postal Museum and Industry Canada.

The Archives also hosted events organized by several cultural associations. Using the newly renovated auditorium the Archives shares with the National Library of Canada, it hosted the Ottawa International Film Festival in the fall (October 21 to 24) and the European Union Film Festival (November 23 to December 8). In addition, at the invitation of the *Famous 5 Foundation*, the Archives produced an article on the «persons» case which was distributed at the unveiling in Calgary in October 1999 of a monument erected in memory of the five famous Alberta women who fought for women's constitutional status as «persons».

All of these activities clearly indicate the National Archives' interest not only in reaching an ever-wider audience but also in playing an active role in the cultural life of the nation.



PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA

Randy Gitsch, director of the film *Keepers of the Frame*, with the National Archivist of Canada, Ian E. Wilson.

## Did You Know That...

The Archives presented eight exhibitions this year which can be visited free of charge, either in person or via the Internet.

# Our government clientele

## Information management

The federal government generates and accumulates an ever-increasing amount of data related to its policies, programs and services. With this proliferation of information, the lack of practices to organize and eliminate these documents can seriously hinder the efficiency of government administration and thereby stand in the way of openness and transparency in the decision-making process. As the Government of Canada's institutional memory, the National Archives is called upon to play a crucial role in the management of federal information.

The Archives works with federal government managers to provide them with tools and to help them fully carry out their information management duties. On average, the Archives receives over 1000 requests for advice from departments every year. Together with the Treasury Board Secretariat, the Archives evaluated the state of information management in the Government of Canada. The report recommendations are expected in June 2000.

The preservation of electronic documents, which has, to some extent, been by trial and error to date, is also a major challenge to managers. The Archives must ensure that these documents remain authentic, reliable and accessible, despite the passage of time, and the need for action in this regard is urgent.

The Archives must also ensure the integrity of government information. To this end, it plays an active role in the Government of Canada's legislative program and is launching cooperative projects with the country's legal, auditing and information management communities. The Archives is also represented on an interdepartmental committee, the Information Management Forum.

By advising the government and serving as a guarantor of the integrity of information, the National Archives serves and protects all citizens by preserving the records of public affairs and government information so that individuals can prove their citizenship, establish their pension rights, resolve land claims or obtain information about their rights, privileges and obligations. Canadians thereby have access to documents that have a bearing on their lives, which is a sign of a healthy democracy.

- The National Archives of Canada is the permanent repository for Government of Canada historical documents and facilitates the management of government documents.
- The Archives develops standards and practices to guide Government of Canada information managers.
- The Archives is responsible for providing advice on the elimination and disposal of documents from all federal institutions.



## FEDERAL RECORDS CENTRES

In order to serve all departments from coast to coast, the Archives has established a regional operations program that circumvents the need for costly travel to Ottawa. This program manages records in all media on behalf of over 80 government departments and agencies in a network of federal records centres from coast to coast. Centres are located in Halifax, Quebec City, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver. Centres take in records of continuing value to government institutions when it is no longer cost-effective for them to be maintained in departmental premises. Centres store and protect the records economically, retrieve them when required for reference or research, segregate for permanent preservation those records designated as archival or historical by the National Archivist, and destroy other records in a timely and secure manner when they are no longer required. In addition, the Centres hold back-up copies of electronic records and other records essential to the operations of government and the protection of rights in the event of disaster or emergency. The Centre in Ottawa also manages the records of former federal public servants and military personnel.

### Did You Know That...

The Archives operates eight intermediate storage centres throughout Canada.

- In 1999-2000, the eight Centres managed over 2.2 million boxes of government documents for departments and agencies, in addition to holdings of various media including maps, plans, photographs, electronic records of various kinds, and sound recordings.
- Staff responded to nearly 1 300 000 requests for information from the holdings, and returned or added almost 570 000 files to storage locations. In addition, there were over 275 000 requests, refiles and interfiles to the millions of files of former federal public servants and military personnel.

# The Archives' Influence in the Archival Community

The participation of the National Archives in national and international archival activities reflects the leading role it plays here and abroad.

Nationally, the Archives shares its professional and technical expertise by working closely with all Canadian archival institutions. The Canadian archives system consists of more than 800 archives centres of various types and sizes that are dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of Canada's documentary heritage. By virtue of its mandate, the National Archives has an obligation to support the objectives of these centres, which it does through grants and yearly contributions to the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA), which in turn is responsible for administering various shared-cost financial assistance programs.

In 1999-2000, a total of 184 archival institutions, provincial and territorial councils, and professional associations shared in \$1.3 million distributed by the CCA. These funds supported 207 archival projects in the following programs: the Control of Holdings Program; the Professional Development and Training Program; the Special Projects Program; the Preservation Management Program; and the Preservation Training and Information Program.

More directly, the Archives gives workshops to address specific archival problems. For example, the «Photographic Fundamentals for Archivists» workshop was given to the Association for Manitoba Archives, and the disaster prevention seminar was given in several Canadian cities.

The National Archives of Canada continued to support the development of the Canadian Archival Information Network (CAIN). This initiative will be a key tool in adding significantly to the amount of Canadian content on-line. It will link together hundreds of archival institutions across Canada and enable Canadians to have direct access to millions of archival treasures. The National Archives is actively participating in the CAIN project by creating and making available descriptions of its own vast holdings of historical records.

Internationally, the National Archives participates in the activities of the International Council on Archives (ICA), providing technical and administrative assistance for their Web site. The National Archives is also represented at the Conference of the Round Table on Archives (CITRA), whose 34<sup>th</sup> meeting was held from October 6 to 9, 1999, in Budapest, Hungary. The theme was «Access to Information: Preservation Issues», which helped to raise the awareness of the crucial role of preservation in support of access to information as well as introducing managers to cost-effective preservation planning in archives management. The National Archives of Canada played a leading role in coordinating the program for the conference. The National Archivist, Ian E. Wilson, will chair the CITRA for four years, starting in September 2000.

## Some of the archival projects funded by the CCA:

- The archives and document management department of the Université du Québec à Montréal received funding to preserve the photographic archives of the Claude Jutras fonds.
- The City of St. John's Archives in Newfoundland was able to arrange and describe its architectural drawings.
- The Saskatchewan Archivist Society organized a two-day workshop designed to introduce participants to the management of small archives institutions.
- Funds were provided to the Council of Archives New Brunswick for the treatment of a collection of unstable oversize bound volumes containing land grants issued between 1763 and 1803.

# The Archives' Primary Resource ITS EMPLOYEES

## THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

The National Archives seeks to be a centre of excellence and will take the steps required to ensure that it remains a stimulating and innovative work environment for its employees. In 1999-2000, the National Archives established a new planning and performance management program, the first key element in an overall human resources strategy that will address, among other things, manager responsibility, succession planning, career planning, professional training and development, as well as basic skills. This strategy will also allow the Archives to find solutions to the problems identified in the 1999 survey of public servants. The Archives will thereby enable employees to acquire the knowledge and skills required to maintain the National Archives' expertise in archival matters, the preservation of documents, information management and client services.

The new National Archivist, Ian E. Wilson, officially took office on July 19, 1999, and implemented an administrative structure promoting horizontal networks, multi-disciplinary project teams, coordination and flexibility at all administrative levels, as well as broader participation in the senior management decision-making process.

## Generous Employees

In the Workplace Charitable Campaign, the National Archives was awarded a certificate of excellence for the highest rate of participation among institutions with 500 to 1000 employees. In addition, the employees of the Federal Records Centre in Halifax received the 1999 gold medal for their participation in this federal government campaign.

## SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYEES

At an awards ceremony in March 2000, the Archives recognized the exceptional skills and professionalism of the following employees:

### Individual Merit Award for 1999

**Mario Gasperetti:** for contributing to the excellence of the documentation used to plan and carry out major National Archives accommodations projects.

**Roanne Mokhtar:** for improving reprographic services for textual and microfilmed documents.

**René Paquet:** for repairing and rendering operational one of the few computers that can read old electronic documents.

### Team Merit Award for 1999

**Victoria Gebert, Normand Fortier and Caryn St.Amand:** for developing a sophisticated electronic tool to facilitate and enhance the Government Records Disposition Program.

**Robert Lamoureux and Brian Schorlemer:** for their remarkable service in the physical preparation of National Archives exhibitions.

**Gordon Belyea, Paul Carpentier, Winston Gomes, Louise Goulet, Mary Ann Kelly, Charles Lemieux, René Paquet and Rita Smith:** for completing, within very tight deadlines, the Y2K computer conversion operations.

# Strength in Numbers

## Our partners

To achieve some of its objectives, the National Archives of Canada relies on the support and cooperation of other federal departments and agencies. It also works with numerous cultural associations to carry out some of its projects.

### ESSENTIAL PARTNERS IN ALL COMMUNITIES

Since they share the same building and have common interests, it is only natural that the National Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada should pool their efforts. Given the mandate in March 1998 by the Minister of Canadian Heritage to report on the role of these two institutions, Commissioner John English published his report in July 1999, proposing an extension of the common services offered by the National Archives and the National Library. He recommended among other things that a single information technology service be created for the two organizations, a suggestion which has already been acted upon.

The National Archives regularly consults its federal heritage partners to rationalize its acquisition activities and to identify areas of potential cooperation. In 1999-2000, the National Archives, the Canadian War Museum and the Canadian Museum of Civilization negotiated the acquisition

of documents and artefacts from the Canadian Nurses Association. Archival items are shared in accordance with each institution's acquisition mandate. The National Archives and the National Library also cooperate regularly on acquisitions to ensure that important documents are preserved.

On February 21, 2000, the National Archivist and the directors general of seven other federal cultural institutions signed a historic agreement providing for the sharing of staff, resources and knowledge should any of these institutions face an emergency. This agreement emphasizes partnership for the preservation of national heritage. Similarly, the National Archives helped prepare the brochure for the Safe Guard Program (*Floods – What to do before and after*). Available on-line at [http://www.epc-pcc.gc.ca/publicinfo/self\\_help\\_ad/index.html](http://www.epc-pcc.gc.ca/publicinfo/self_help_ad/index.html), this brochure offers Canadians practical advice in the event of a flood and describes how to save antiques and family belongings damaged by water.

As more and more records to be preserved for future generations are created in electronic form, archives the world over are seeking the means of doing so in a way that preserves not just information, but also the structure and context which contribute to the meaning and usefulness of the records. Recognizing that this challenge is beyond the ability of individual institutions to meet alone, the National Archives has joined with other

major archival institutions, academic researchers, technology experts and private industry in the InterPARES Project (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems). The Project conducted its research during 1999-2000 by investigating different types of electronic records and the various archival activities which affect their authenticity through time. Research results are expected in 2001.

The National Archives has entered into a unique collaboration with the CBC/Société Radio-Canada which saw the culmination in October 2000 of a thirty-hour television documentary series entitled *Canada: A People's History*. By providing office space and support to a project staffer and facilitating access to its collections, the Archives has demonstrated the type of cooperation necessary to bring such an ambitious project to fruition. This unprecedented series aims to make Canadian history accessible and engaging to a vast audience. It also intends to showcase the documentary and visual wealth of the National Archives, as well as other archives, museums, and libraries across the country.



Filming a document for the CBC series *Canada: A People's History*.

## OTHER EXAMPLES OF COOPERATION

- In order to strengthen the partnership created five years ago through Industry Canada's Digital Collections Program, the National Archives of Canada has digitized the enlistment papers of members of the First World War Canadian Expeditionary Force. In 1999-2000, 38 000 new images were digitized through this significant partnership.
- Throughout the year the National Archives continued to work in conjunction with the Halifax-based Pier 21 Society on a project to input information relating to immigrants to Canada for the 1925-1935 period. The National Archives holds name indexes for this time frame, and in a twelve-month period two teams working for the Society were able to input information from these indexes relating to more than 500 000 individuals. The project's goal is to create an interactive database to assist researchers interested in immigration records. The two primary objectives of the Pier 21 Society are to transform the former immigration shed on Pier 21 in Halifax into an interpretative centre, and to interpret the experience of those who passed through Pier 21.
- The National Archives of Canada supports the Masterworks Project of the AV Preservation Trust by offering its vaults for the storage of the designated Masterworks, in original or copy form. With the assistance of funds provided by MOVIEPIX, the National Archives also helps to restore some of those works; in addition, the funds enable the repatriation and description of Canadian films, particularly newsreels.
- In cooperation with Natural Resources Canada, the entire Canada Land Inventory map series has been placed on the GeoGratis Internet site. This site is managed by Natural Resources Canada as part of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure and is making National Archives geomatic records more readily available to researchers.
- A cost-sharing agreement with the National Film Board and the Imperial War Museum in the United Kingdom allowed the identification of First World War films and subsequent copying.
- The National Archives maintained its ongoing relationship with the Canadian Heritage Information Network on which more than 40 000 descriptions of works of art from the Archives' holdings are now posted.

## THE FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Friends of the National Archives of Canada is a charitable, non-profit volunteer organization that exists to support the work of the National Archives. As stipulated in its constitution, its principal goals are:

- to help the National Archives in acquiring, preserving, and making available archival records of national significance;
- to promote awareness of Canada's archival heritage and the programs and activities of the National Archives; and
- to generate revenues and raise funds in support of these activities.

The priorities for the use of funds raised by The Friends are the development of an Acquisition Fund, and the purchase of equipment for the use of researchers. During the past year, the organization purchased a much-needed microfilm reader for the consultation room on the third floor of the National Archives, and contributed towards the purchase of a microfilm reader-printer.

In 1999-2000, The Friends continued to build bridges with like-minded organizations. Exchanges of publicity material occurred with the Canadian Historical Association and Canada's National History Society. The Friends also continued to develop its relationships with the Ontario Genealogical Society and the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa. Future plans involve expanding

these contacts, and branching out into the French-language archives, historical, and genealogical communities in the National Capital Region.

The Friends also publishes a newsletter, thanks to the financial help of Bowater Corporation, maintains regular mailings to its members, and operates a boutique in the National Archives building, offering books and souvenir items for sale to the public.

PHOTO BY: NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA



Acting National Archivist Lee McDonald, President Jay Atherton, and Executive Director Margaret Crook, at the Annual General Meeting of The Friends of the National Archives of Canada, Gatineau Preservation Centre, June 1999.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During 1999/2000 the following people generously volunteered their time to serve on the Board of Directors of The Friends:

<b>Jay Atherton</b>	(President)
<b>Chad Gaffield</b>	University of Ottawa (Vice President)
<b>John Smart</b>	Algonquin College (Secretary)
<b>Marcel Lauzière</b>	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (Treasurer)
<b>David Moorman</b>	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (replaced M. Lauzière as Treasurer midway through the year)
<b>Nancy Adamson</b>	Carleton University
<b>Louise Beaulne</b>	policy analyst
<b>Patrice Cayouette</b>	Bowater Corporation
<b>Norman Crowder</b>	genealogist
<b>Norman Kummer</b>	Nortel Networks
<b>Wanda Noel</b>	lawyer
<b>Cecilia Sev</b>	free-lance archivist
<b>Douglas Treado</b>	Challenge Industries, Ithaca (New York)

Information on activities, categories of membership, and the offerings of the boutique may be found on The Friends' Web site at [www.archives.ca/friends-amis](http://www.archives.ca/friends-amis). The office of The Friends can be reached by calling (613) 992-9367.

## Explore in Archives class



[www.archives.ca](http://www.archives.ca)

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