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SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'INDEXATION

# Bulletin



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# Editor, Comments from

The end of the year always brings with it an opportunity to look back *and* to plan ahead—and I fancy that’s what this issue of the *Bulletin* strives to do!

If you haven’t already started thinking about professional development in 2020, consider ISC/SCI’s annual conference in St. John’s, Newfoundland, in June. Be sure to read Trine Schioldan’s excellent article on the attractions of St. John’s and suggestions on how to get the most out of your stay there. Also, be sure to take a look at Maggie Billard’s summary of the Society of Indexers conference, held this past September, and her thoughts on the value of travel for professional development.

This issue also offers the chance to take a look at the some of the history of ISC/SCI, with Lisa Fedorak’s profile of Peter Greig and the early days of the Society. There’s also a brief report from the Archives Committee and a call for documents. It’s just possible that you may have something in your filing cabinets that the committee would be interested in. See page 15 for more information.

Siusan Moffat’s interview with Dr. Funké Aladejebi touches on issues of access and limitations in archives and also highlights some qualities of helpful indexes. Mary Newberry provides a brief report on a training session for parliamentary information management officers. And ISC/SCI’s monthly chat sessions are set to resume in January. These sessions are open to all members—see page 14 for details.

Finally, do not put this issue aside without looking at the Ewart-Daveluy call for nominations and tips for applying! (See pages 18 to 19.) This year, nominations will be accepted for indexes in books published in both 2018 and 2019. Who’ll be the next winner of the award? It could be you.

**Catherine Plear**

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

### **January 2020**

ISC/SCI monthly video chat: January 11, 2020. Open to all ISC/SCI members. See page 14 for details and times.

ISC/SCI Central Region Meeting: January 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meeting is in the Waterview Room at Winward Coop.

ISC/SCI executive meeting: January 25, 2020: ISC/SCI at 1 p.m., Toronto time. Location: online.

### **April 2020**

American Society for Indexing annual conference: April 23-25, 2020, held this year in Raleigh, North Carolina. This year’s theme is “Indexing Crossroads.” More information: <https://www.asindexing.org/conference/2020/>

### **June 2020**

ISC/SCI annual conference: June 12-13, 2020, in St. John’s, Newfoundland. More information: <https://indexers.ca/annual-conference/conference-2020-congres-2020-newfoundland/>

Editors Canada annual conference: June 19–21, 2020 This is the 2nd International Conference, held in Montreal, Québec. Location: Le Centre Sheraton Montréal, 1201 Boulevard René-Lévesque West. See page 15 for more details.

# President's Message

## President's Remarks for the Bulletin, Winter 2019

I love this time of year. I live in the woods and they are so beautiful in all their glorious colour in October. It's a lot of fun to index and to contribute to this wonderful society, but I do love to take a minute or two to get outdoors and away from the computer! I hope you do too.

I had the great fortune to travel to London, UK, this September. François Trahan, our international liaison, was unable to go this year, so I went on his behalf. It's always fun to go to another organization's conference and see how they do things.

I really enjoyed myself, although I have to confess I did have to pipe up after several people talked about how far it was to get to a meeting. I finally explained that the meetings my regional rep holds are either a fifteen-hour drive or a two-hour flight away!

It was super to see another Canadian in London... someone I had met at the Ottawa conference. Maggie very graciously agreed to write up some notes about the SI conference (see her article on page 8). I also ran into someone wearing one of our magpie pins. She explained that Mary Newberry had given it to her years ago (thanks, Mary!). Ruth Pincoe has made quite an impression on the UK folk: four people came up to ask to be remembered to

her. Yay, Ruth!

Conference planning is well underway, and by the time you receive this you should be able to book your room at the Murray Premises Hotel in St. John's, Newfoundland. If you have any doubts about going, I'm sure you will be persuaded by Trine Schioldan's article on page 6. I am so grateful to the members of the conference committee for their hard work, and I am really looking forward to being at the conference next June.

I'm delighted to tell you that the Society is purchasing a subscription to Zoom video-conferencing software. This means a couple of things: Soon members of the executive committee (and shortly afterward, committee chairs) will be able to hold video meetings. The regional reps will be able to accommodate people from all areas of their region, not just those who are physically able to attend. And the monthly chats that we used to hold will now be replaced by monthly Zoom chats. We are hoping to start these in the new year. Please note the blurb, with more information, on page 14.

Finally, thank you to all of you who work hard on behalf of the Society. We are reaping the benefits of your efforts and of those who have volunteered in the past.

## Notes de la présidence pour le *Bulletin*, hiver 2019

J'aime cette période de l'année. Je vis entourée de forêt, elle est si magnifique avec toutes ses extraordinaires couleurs d'octobre. C'est très très agréable d'indexer et de contribuer à notre merveilleuse société, mais j'adore tellement prendre quelques instants dehors, loin de l'ordinateur! J'espère que vous aussi.

J'ai eu l'immense chance de voyager jusqu'à Londres (Royaume-Uni) en septembre. Comme François Trahan, notre coordinateur à l'international, ne pouvait se déplacer cette année, j'y suis allée à sa place. C'est toujours agréable d'aller au congrès d'une autre association et de voir comment se font les choses. J'en ai vraiment profité, même si je dois vous confesser que je suis intervenue après avoir entendu plusieurs personnes dire à quel point elles trouvaient éloignés leurs lieux de réunion : je leur ai dit que les réunions de ma délégation régionale étaient à 15 h de route ou 2 h d'avion!

C'était super de voir une autre Canadienne à Londres... quelqu'un que j'avais rencontré au congrès d'Ottawa. Maggie a gentiment accepté d'écrire quelques notes à propos du congrès de la SI (voir son article p. 8). J'ai aussi croisé par hasard une personne portant notre épinglette avec la pie. Elle m'a expliqué que Mary Newberry lui avait donné il y a quelques années (merci Mary!). Ruth Pincoe a fait forte impression au Royaume-Uni : quatre personnes

sont venues me demander de lui transmettre leur meilleur souvenir. Oui, Ruth!

La planification du congrès va bon train et au moment où vous aurez ce Bulletin entre les mains vous serez déjà en mesure de réserver votre chambre au Murray Premises Hotel à Saint-Jean de Terre-Neuve. Si vous avez encore le moindre doute, je suis sûre que l'article de Trine Schioldan p. 6 achèvera de vous convaincre. Je suis tellement reconnaissante envers les membres du comité pour tout leur travail, et je suis vraiment impatiente d'aller au congrès en juin.

J'ai également le plaisir de vous annoncer que la Société s'est abonnée au logiciel de vidéoconférence Zoom. Cela signifie plusieurs choses : les membres du bureau de direction (et peu de temps après, ceux des comités) vont pouvoir tenir leurs réunions par ce biais. Les délégués régionaux vont pouvoir aider tous les membres de leur région, pas simplement ceux proches physiquement. Et les discussions mensuelles que nous avons par clavardage vont être remplacées par des vidéoconférences mensuelles. Nous espérons entamer cela dans l'année qui s'en vient. Voir à ce propos la note avec davantage de détails p. 14.

Pour terminer, merci à vous tous qui travaillez tellement pour notre Société! Nous bénéficions des résultats de vos efforts et de ceux des bénévoles qui vous ont précédés.

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# Conference 2020: St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

by Trine Schioldan

More years ago than I care to remember, I was attending a textiles conference in Madison, Wisconsin. In conversation with the spouse of a fellow attendee, he lamented his disappointment over the lacklustre atmosphere of the location of our conference. He said that when he travelled somewhere, he liked to really feel that he was “somewhere different” (he was from Ohio). To his surprise, I disagreed with him wholeheartedly. I said that whenever I had had the good fortune to visit Wisconsin or Minnesota, I was always keenly aware that I was certainly somewhere different. I began then to see travel destinations through the lens of appreciating being “somewhere different.”

If you haven't been to St. John's or to Newfoundland and Labrador before—or even if you have—the 2020 ISC/SCI conference provides a practical opportunity to experience what makes it a “different” place to visit. People who visit my home province of the past 25 years find it friendly, yes, but I think that term is too broad. Newfoundlanders

and Labradorians are genuinely warm and welcoming.

Come and experience how down to earth people really are. If you think you've experienced the relaxed east coast vibe but haven't been to St. John's ... well, you're in for a treat! Come to hear some Newfoundland English. Did you know we have our very own dictionary and a wealth of dialects? Come to see our icebergs; in early June there's a very good chance of seeing them. Come to enjoy the brightly painted houses of downtown St. John's, that stretch uphill from the harbour in a riot of happy colours. Come to enjoy the views from Signal Hill, where Marconi received the first transatlantic wireless transmission. Come to experience the trails and views at Cape Spear, the easternmost point of North America, and the first spot in North America to experience every new sunrise.

Come to experience downtown the city's George Street, which consists entirely of bars, clubs, pubs, and other places to eat, drink, and experience live music. Try



*Iceberg, St. John, NL. Pixabay License.*

some live traditional music to get into the spirit of the place. You might find yourself being “screeched in” at Christian’s Pub, thereby becoming an honorary Newfoundlander. And Newfoundland and Labrador is known not only for its music but also for its storytelling, humour, and art and craftsmanship.

Come to sample our celebrated and increasingly diverse cuisine. You might want to try some classic Newfoundland dishes like toutons, fish ‘n’ brewis, cod tongues (yes, they’re actually the tongues of cod), bakeapples and partridge-berries. We have sophisticated restaurants too. Raymonds Restaurant has been ranked one of the 50 best restaurants in the world! I won’t lie to you—Raymonds is outrageously expensive, but I’ve heard that it’s a very memorable gustatory experience.

Come to learn about the history of St. John’s, the oldest city in North America. Did you know that Newfoundland was its own dominion under the Commonwealth, and that, being an island, it maintained its unique culture apart from mainland North America? Shockingly, Newfoundland’s was one of the only legislatures in the world to give up self-governance; it was governed from England by the Commission of Government from 1934 to 1949. After that there were two referenda, and Newfoundland became Canada’s tenth province in 1949—a mere 70 years ago.

Come to see our amazing wildlife. Puffins are real crowd-pleasers, but we have many other marvellous seabirds, from murres and guillemots to kittiwakes and gannets. We’ve got bald eagles galore, too. We’ve got moose and barren-ground caribou, and many whales, including the world’s largest concentration of humpback whales, which are famous for their truly magnificent displays of breaching and lunge feeding. You might want to check out the East Coast Trail for some amazing hiking along our coastline, or rent a car to take a drive, stopping in at the picturesque historic fishing villages that dot our coastlines. You may feel that you’ve stepped back in time.

Our conference will be held at the Murray Premises Hotel, a national historic site. It comprises the oldest collection of mercantile buildings pertaining to the fishery

and soul of this place. The Murray Premises were originally built on pilings sunk into the harbour floor. These buildings are also unique in having survived the great fires of the early 1800s.

There are many attractions within walking distance of the hotel, including excellent restaurants, cafés, shops, and galleries. Nearby you can visit The Rooms, a world-class facility that houses the provincial art gallery, museum, and archives. The Rooms boasts some of the very best views of the city, and it has an excellent café/restaurant as well. There are many beautiful old churches downtown, and you might also want to visit the historic Newman Wine Vaults or the Johnson Geo Centre.

It will be a pleasure to be able to say “Welcome and bienvenue to Newfoundland and Labrador” next June. Do consider travelling a little further afield to attend this conference. “Come from away” and I’m pretty sure you’ll know you’re somewhere different—and that’s a good thing.

#### *Useful links:*

*Dictionary of Newfoundland English:* <https://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/second-edition-preface.php>

*Signal Hill:* <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/nl/signalhill>

*Cape Spear:* <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/nl/spear>

*George Street:* <http://www.georgestreetlive.ca/>

*Christian’s Pub:* <https://www.facebook.com/christianspub>

*Raymonds Restaurant:* <http://www.raymondsrestaurant.com/>

*East Coast Trail:* <https://www.eastcoasttrail.com/en/index.aspx>

*Murray Premises Hotel:* <https://murraypremiseshotel.com/>

*The Rooms:* <https://www.therooms.ca/>

*Newman Wine Vaults:* <http://www.seethesites.ca/the-sites/newman-wine-vaults.aspx>

*Johnson Geo Centre:* <https://www.geocentre.ca/>

# Society of Indexers Conference 2019

by Maggie Billard

This year I decided, on the heels of the successful and enjoyable experience I had going to the Indexing Society of Canada's May conference, that I would attend the British Society of Indexers conference in London in September. I'm lucky to live closer to England than Canada at the moment, but I won't be for much longer, so I will take these chances while I have them! And I had a great time. I feel so fortunate to be a part of this community of indexers, who all seem to be the same smart and lovely kind of people anywhere you go.

I arrived at Queen Mary's University London without a hitch, having been very kindly told about Tube closures in advance by the excellent conference organizers. While I was grabbing my keys, I was pleasantly surprised to discover that Alexandra Peace was there as well. What a wonderful thing to see a familiar face so far from home! The dorm rooms were standard, but I was delighted to have my own bathroom and an embarrassment of outlets for (perhaps) my travelling collection of decorative lamps—if only I had remembered to pack it. They would all have been useless anyway, because I had forgotten to pack converters for my EU plugs. So much for being prepared (and for my lamp collection).

This conference was just two days, from midday Saturday until midday Monday, to allow for train travel from the various corners of the British Isles. Two other North Americans there—Alexandra, of course, and the American Indexing Society delegate—had arrived several

days before and were making a trip of it, playing tourist and visiting friends. My touring consisted of figuring out how to get in and out of London (I flew into Luton and out of Gatwick) and then playing the game Harry Potter Wizards Unite in King's Cross Station (a special moment for a huge Harry Potter fan such as myself).

After registering, it was time to get a cup of tea and a biscuit (it was England, after all), mingle, and start the sessions. The theme this year was "Investigate, Invigorate, Innovate," so I settled in, prepared to do those very things!

There were three plenary sessions on Saturday. The first was on facet analysis, including a short history of different classification schemes, by Vanda Broughton. As someone with a library science background, I found it incredibly interesting. Indexers and cataloguers perform similar roles in classifying and categorizing information so that others can find it more easily. This connection is important to consider, I think, and not just because so many indexers started in library school or as librarians (including me). We are all sorters and stackers and book lovers, after all (I even organize my Smarties by colour before eating them). So librarians and indexers have a lot to discuss about the organization of information, and cross-pollination of ideas is what a conference is all about. It's invigorating to share and adopt new ideas in a profession that is as old as ... well, that kind of brings us to the second talk.

The second speaker was Dennis Duncan, who has written a book about the history of indexes. His talk, "Indexes and Scale in the First Centuries of Print," was quite funny and illuminating. I'm sure all of us will be interested in reading his book when it comes out in 2020: *Index, A History of the*, (Penguin/W.W. Norton). The talk focused on the index as a miniature of the work itself—if everything is in the index, then isn't it just the book? So only having relevant (or amusing) information is the true heart of an index, and finding it is the job of an indexer. Along the way, he showed us examples of some of the first recorded indexes—absolutely fascinating. Investigating the evolution of our craft is important, even if just to remind ourselves occasionally how good we have it with indexing software.

The last session of the day involved breaking out into groups and discussing indexing software. The representative from Indexing Manager, Katherina Munk, was there



Alexandra Peace, speaking at the SI Conference 2019, London, UK.  
Photo: Maggie Billard.





*ICRIS representatives at the SI Conference 2019, London, UK: Ann Kingdom (SI), Pierke Bosschieter (NIN), Alexandra Peace (ISC/SCI), Caroline Diepeveen (NIN), Devon Thomas (ASI), and Katherina Munk (DNI). Photo: Alexandra Peace.*

from Berlin, and there were multiple sessions throughout the conference for those who wanted to learn how to make embedded indexes. Unfortunately I didn't attend, but I heard that they were really helpful sessions. It's my one conference regret.

The first night, first-timers were invited to the school's cafeteria for a free glass of wine and dinner. Afterwards I snuck off to the corner shop to get a UK plug converter (and some licorice allsorts).

The next morning, after everyone had had their morning tea and full English breakfast, there was a panel on the importance of local groups. Listening to this panel from the perspective of living and working in the UK was interesting; although it seems like such a small country (at least compared to Canada), the distances between cities can still feel prohibitive. And, let's face it, sometimes even having to take a short drive or train trip feels like an enormous effort. The purpose of this session was to convince people that it is never useless to travel to meet with people who love to do what you do. Solving problems with coworkers is always invigorating, especially since we mostly work freelance and often in isolation. In Canada your closest group could be hundreds of kilometres away, but the message still stands. As someone who travelled 1,100 km to get to that conference, I didn't need any more convincing.

The rest of Sunday was spent in breakout sessions, where you could choose from different groups depending on your interests. While I liked the format, I found it difficult to decide between sessions—everything sounded so good! I think I made the right choices though. I started in the Indexing for Beginners session by Nicola King, since that is what I am (a beginner). The other beginners in the room were all just finishing the accreditation courses run by the Society and were preparing to be released into the wild as accredited professional indexers. You cannot be listed on the Society's database without this accreditation, so it's regarded highly by those who hire indexers. Quite different from our system, but useful information to know.

I was also excited to attend the session on editing, led by the Society for Editors and Proofreaders (sfep) representative, Melanie Thompson. It was especially exciting because I'm a full-time copyeditor at the moment, but even if I weren't, it's always good to investigate other professions involved in publishing books, how we all work together, and just how much work it takes to produce a book. It was a very fun presentation, involving a game where we had to try to write down all the people involved in publishing a book (hint: it's a lot!).

I also attended the session on "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" indexes by Philippa Jevons, which is always a

great exercise for beginners, especially when there are experienced indexers in the room too. This type of session provides priceless information that allows us to investigate bad habits (perhaps even our own!) and learn from each other.

After the AGM, members were encouraged to sign up to speak about any topic they chose for five minutes, in a session called “Lightning Talks,” which I think is a fabulous idea for practising public speaking in a safe environment. Four or five people got up to talk about personal projects. Then Alex Peace got up and very persuasively invited everyone there to come to Newfoundland next year for our 2020 conference. She (along with some videos of icebergs) was very convincing. Even I was convinced (and I was already convinced), so don’t be surprised to hear a few British accents next May!

At dinner that night, the Society of Indexers’ president, Sam Leith, regaled us with excellent stories about Boris Johnson from his days as a journalist. It was an incredible experience, worth the price of admission.

On Monday the morning session was “The Innovation Imperative,” by Kathryn Munt, who spoke about innovations in the publishing industry (including things like

offshore printing), how indexers are affected, and what role they may have in the future, with an eye to being included and benefited, especially since we are freelancers and often suffer the brunt of budget cuts.

The last session, by financial coach Catherine Pope, was on managing your money as a freelancer. This was really useful and interesting. It can be so confusing and scary, but also absolutely vital and mandatory, to know about finances—unless you don’t want to get paid. It was, of course, British-centric, but the principles are universal: have a separate business account; save money, especially for emergencies (!!); and pay yourself first, then the taxman, then the rest (I liked that bit especially).

Overall, it was a great conference. An investigation of indexing’s history, a look forward to the software of the future and innovations in the publishing industry, and an invigoration of our knowledge through information-sharing with librarians, editors, historians, and each other. We aren’t so different after all, no matter where we live and work or which part of the publishing process we toil away at. We’re all here for the love of books and information-sharing. And tea and biscuits ...

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## Profile: Peter Greig and the Early Days of ISC/SCI

by Lisa Fedorak

Peter Greig likes books. He’s also rather humble about his role in the early days and formation of what is now ISC/SCI.

I met Peter Greig at the banquet of the 2019 ISC/SCI conference in Ottawa to speak with him about the early days of the society, then known as the Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada (IASC). An Ottawa resident and former librarian at the National Library, Peter had in his possession the archives of the early days of ISC/SCI, and he was going to be giving them to the Society in the coming months. I wanted to get to know him a bit better.

He’s a collector of old books with a focus on Canadiana and books on books, and he values information and what it can reveal. He said when he looks at an old book he feels that someone needs to save that book and he is that person. As he talked about the shelves of books and archives he has, I was amazed at the quantity he was describing. Five shelves—over fifteen linear feet—of indexing manuals alone!

At the banquet Peter addressed the group and shared a bit about the early days of the Society. The Tamarack Award was presented at the banquet, and he noted that in the early days they’d wanted to have an award but it didn’t happen. He spoke about the demographics of the society and PRECIS (the PREserved Contact Index System), which was used by many IASC institutional members who indexed periodicals and journals.

It was when I needed to confirm my handwritten notes and turned to some early editions of *The Indexer* that I realized the instrumental role Peter Greig had played in establishment of the Society. He was chairman of the Committee of the Bibliographic Society of Canada in 1973–74 when he travelled to England for postgraduate studies at Leeds. He took with him a set of newsletters from the Committee, which he took to the Society of Indexers (SI) library and introduced himself to SI.

A few years later, in March 1977, the Committee of the Bibliographic Society of Canada convened in the National



Peter Greig at ISC/SCI's 2019 conference. Photo: JoAnne Burek.

Library of Canada. Because of the lack of a forum for indexers and abstracters, a recommendation was made that one be formed. Shortly thereafter, in Montreal on June 12, 1977, the Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada/Société canadienne pour l'analyse de documents (IASC/SCAD) was established at the annual conference of the Canadian Library Association. Peter Greig was the first president; he notes that in naming the new society, they all felt it was important that the key words were at the front of the organization's name.

At the October 19, 1978, meeting of the Committee of Bibliographical Services for Canada, it was reported that IASC/SCAD had been in existence for more than a year and that an active regional group had been established in Ottawa, with more groups in the works. Additionally, its first annual meeting had taken place in Edmonton, a newsletter had been published, and an affiliation with SI in Britain was under consideration. Peter and Mary Dykstra (an assistant professor in the School of Library Service at Dalhousie University) had attended SI's first international conference and had discussed an affiliation with SI. *The Indexer* notes it was an exciting time, as there was a strong

delegation from France in attendance and they hoped that an alliance with Canada's bilingual society would help to diversify the Society's work.

In 1979 IASC/SCAD had 106 individual and institutional members, which is similar to our numbers today. The Society had a national outlook from the beginning; its main concern was with the teaching of indexing and abstracting. The majority of the members were from large national indexing and abstracting services, the staff of library schools, or librarians—quite the opposite of our membership today. Freelance professional indexers were thought of as entrepreneurs, and they were rare in the early days. The Society attempted to get book indexers in western Canada to form a regional group, but they found that the indexers couldn't find a major goal that justified such a group. However, when someone from federal government's Excise Tax Office contacted the Society looking for an indexer to index documents for use nationwide in offices, it was the first of many times that the Society helped individuals find an indexer.

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*The Indexer* 11, no. 4 (1979)

*The Indexer* 12, no. 1 (1980)

*The Bibliographical Society of Canada BULLETIN* 11 (November 1978)



Peter Greig with Mary Newberry at ISC/SCI's 2019 conference. Photo: JoAnne Burek.

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# Accessing African-Canadian Women in Archives

by Siusan Moffat

While indexing a very interesting text called *Reading Canadian Women's and Gender History*, I came across some ideas that percolated the idea and concepts of indexing itself into my brain. I contacted the authors of that specific chapter, and Dr. Funké Aladejebi was kind enough to answer my questions and elaborate on her experiences in archives and using indexes.

## **How did you prepare to write your “Girl You Better Apply to Teachers’ College” dissertation [a history of Black women educators over a 40-year span]?**

Preparation for my research started with a literature review of Black Canadian historical works and information around the history of education in Canada. I then began reviewing various bibliographies and citations to locate potential sources in the archives. However, a significant part of my research preparation began with my review of teachers’ college yearbooks in the early 20th century. I found many of those yearbooks in OISE’s Ontario Historical Education Collection and worked on locating visibly identifiable African-Canadian men and women who were enrolled in teacher-training programs in Ontario. Their pictures were documented in the yearbooks of the London, Windsor, Toronto, Hamilton, Lakeshore, and Stratford Normal Schools.

Based on those normal-school yearbooks, I was able to create a database and began searching for educators who

worked in those schools. I sent out calls to organizations for retired teachers, asking for information and assistance regarding Black Canadian educators who taught in Ontario schools during my period of study. I was also able to locate important information and research through local museums, archivists, and African-Canadian community organizations that had a strong understanding of local history and were able to connect me with documents and educators in the area. Those local museums included the Buxton National Historic Site and Museum and the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society, which had underutilized sources that helped guide several parts of my research project.

## **Your chapter in *Reading Canadian Women's and Gender History* talks about Black Canadian women's under-representation in history. What was your experience in the archives that you went to for research?**

I found that there were clear distinctions between national and local archives. Smaller and more local archives tended to be underutilized but had a wealth of resources concerning local history and “ordinary” community members. As a result, the archivists guided my searches in a clear way but were also vocal about the limitations of their archives. This was particularly important when engaging with local communities that had higher numbers of persons of African descent.

National and provincial archives presented different and more difficult problems concerning accessibility and knowledge of historical sources around Black Canadian experiences. The most challenging aspect of conducting research on Black Canadian women in particular is that there is little to no disaggregated data available on race and gender. This means that records of Black Canadian women are often subsumed under broader subject categories, including immigration and labour. Working through the sources can be meticulous and painstaking, as a review of these broader categories can garner little to no information on Black women’s experiences in those fields.

Furthermore, because little space is given for intersectional identities—particularly the categories of race and gender—archives document well-known figures in Black Canadian communities at sporadic moments in time, largely concerning enslavement and labour migration, but rarely keep records of women outside of those historical time periods. As a result, finding aids and subject headings tend



*Dr. Funké Aladejebi.  
Photo: University of  
New Brunswick.*

to categorize complex Black Canadian experiences under homogenized notions of Black life and offer little room for subject headings that specifically focus on Black women. In addition, documents concerning education in Black Canadian communities often focus on the experiences of students, making the excavation of Black women teachers' experiences more difficult. As a result of these challenges, relying on sources such as student records, yearbooks, newspapers, obituaries, tombstones, and wills can assist in narrowing down the search for Black women teachers.

***The same chapter talks about the lack of finding aids, the non-existence of explicitly racialized cataloguing terms/labels, and racist or unhelpful archivists. Do you think the idea of colour blindness has led to a refusal to acknowledge race in certain institutions, or do you think the issue lies just in simple marginalization, where only stories of white heterosexual men are prioritized as important history?***

A significant part of addressing the limitations of the archives lies in the collections and subjects that archives and museums deem valuable. Collections tend to focus on innovation, great events, and national heroes, marginalizing the experiences of Black women whose lives intersect under categories such as disability, sexuality, race, and ethnicity. Furthermore, within the national archives there also seems to be a focus on lives that best represent the character and national identity of Canada. As a result, Black Canadian history is constructed as niche, as not valuable to the broader Canadian public. This often means that national archives continue to construct Canadian identity as white, heterosexual, and male, ignoring the diverse experiences of race, gender, and ethnicity that are part of Canada's history. When finding aids and subject categories of Black Canada do exist, they are often separated from broader historical moments, perpetuating the notion that Black Canadians are recently arrived and "other."

***As a researcher using scholarly books as an important source, can you describe how helpful or unhelpful certain indexes have been to you?***

Indexes are incredibly important in helping researchers get an idea of what kinds of information are available at the archives. Researchers and scholars of Black Canada have responded to historical silences and absences in the archives by creating their own bibliographies and indexes to assist in finding information on Black Canadian communities. These sources have been helpful; they speak specifically to the diversity and multiplicity of Black experiences in Canada. Indexes that shy away from this tend to broadly

categorize Black Canada as a separate category, ignoring aspects of community relationships and gendered experiences. They also categorize those experiences as out of context and separate from other institutional categories such as education, feminist organizations, pay equity, etc. These categories can be cross-listed to better integrate Black experiences as part of Canada's national identity.

***Can you describe what qualities would make an excellent and truly helpful index for you?***

A truly helpful index is one that does not just include Black experiences on the periphery, but one that allows for the complexity of Black resilience and knowledge production to be situated within the archive. Finding aids that list details on a variety of subjects that pertain to life in Canada and expand on categories of immigration and labour—to include subjects such as community building projects and local activities—are incredibly helpful. I also believe that helpful indexes are ones that have been created in close consultation with and collaboration from community members. This allows for local histories and knowledges to be part of the archival experience.

***Do you have any recommendations about what archives and libraries should be doing to remedy accessibility issues?***

I believe integrating a stronger focus on anti-racist and anti-colonial frameworks into archives and libraries can significantly remedy accessibility issues. Hiring diverse curators and archivists from a variety of communities can give space and a critical lens for conceptualizing the various intersectional experiences of Black life in Canada. These multiple perspectives can include categories of class, religion, and race, but they also speak to gendered notions of belonging that characterized and informed the experiences of diverse Canadian communities.

*Siusan Moffat is an indexer just edging out of "newbie" land. She is a member of the Inclusivity, Diversity, and Equity Committee (TIDE) of ISC/SCI. TIDE strives to include more diversity in indexing and within the Society through articles, webinars, bursaries, and discussion.*

*Dr. Funké Aladejebi is an Assistant Professor of History and Gender and Women's Studies at the University of New Brunswick. She is currently working on a manuscript titled "Girl You Better Apply to Teachers' College: The History of Black Women Educators in Ontario, 1940s–1980s," which explores the importance of Black Canadian women in sustaining their communities and preserving a distinct Black identity within restrictive gender and racial confines. She has published articles in Ontario History and Education Matters. Her research interests are in oral history, the history of education in Canada, black feminist thought, and transnationalism.*

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# Back-of-the-Book Indexing Workshop for House of Commons Information Management Officers

by Mary Newberry

Martine Rocheleau, Manager of Information, Analysis and Research in the Parliamentary Information Directorate at the House of Commons, contacted the Indexing Society of Canada/Société canadienne d'indexation in late 2018, inquiring about the possibility of arranging for a training session for parliamentary information management officers. They were looking to enhance their understanding of traditional back-of-the-book indexing, since the bulk of their indexing is of ongoing Hansard records, parliamentary committee work, and other, similar texts. Recently, however, they had identified a need to refresh the other side of their work.

Martine was put in touch with Heather Ebbs, at the time an instructor with the University of California at Berkeley indexing program, and Mary Newberry, developer and instructor of the indexing course at Ryerson University. After extensive back-and-forth among them and other members of the Information Management Unit, two half-day workshops were organized. Mary took the lead, as Heather was working hard to retire (rumour is that she finally has!), and in late November in Ottawa, the well-attended workshop was mounted.



*From bottom left, clockwise: Tina Miller, Florina Jucan, Sylvie Gauthier, Martine Rocheleau, Mary Newberry, Brigitte Berthiaume, H el ena Molino, and Christine Fillion.  
Photo: Parliamentary restaurant staff.*

Since the workshop took place before the new Parliament began, some of the indexing team and Mary were able to find room in the Parliamentary Dining Room for a post-workshop meal.

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## Coming in 2020: Monthly ISC/SCI Video Chats

Do you have a burning indexing question, or is there just something you've been wondering about? Would you like to connect with your fellow indexers between the once-a-year conferences? Thanks to a new online video-conferencing platform, you will get your chance in the new year!

ISC/SCI will be hosting monthly online video chats using Zoom, starting in January 2020. These monthly video meetings will be open to all ISC/SCI members across the country. They will be held on the second Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. in BC, 11 a.m. in Alberta, 1 p.m. in Ontario and Quebec, 2 p.m. in the Maritime provinces, and 2:30

p.m. in Newfoundland and Labrador. Each meeting will be hosted by an ISC/SCI regional rep. The first one will be hosted by Jason Begy, the Eastern Canada rep, on **Saturday, January 11, 2020.**

Here's how you can participate: about two weeks before the meeting, the membership secretary, Lisa Fedorak, will send out a link. Just click on the link at the appointed time. If you have not used Zoom before, it will ask you to download some software. Lisa will also send out a reminder about a week before the meetings.

See you there!

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## ISC/SCI Archives Committee

The ISC/SCI Archives Committee has been reconstituted and, with the help of an intern studying archives and records management, we have been working through the inventory of approximately 15 boxes of records that, thanks to Peter Greig in Ottawa, were kept from the early years of the Society. It has been very interesting to read about the roots of the Society ca. 1974.

We are trying to get a handle on what print and electronic records are out there from approximately the mid-eighties onward, scattered among various members. The committee is interested in anything to do with ISC/SCI—conference planning info, photographs, meeting minutes, committee deliberations, executive discussions, brochures ...

If you have sat on the executive and/or been on a committee and have kept documents of any type, please send us a brief description of the type (e.g., meeting minutes, conference publicity) and form (e.g., electronic, email, print) of the documentation you have to Carlisle Froese, at [cfroese.edits@gmail.com](mailto:cfroese.edits@gmail.com). She will gather and organize the information so that we can analyze it.

Thanks in advance for your help!



*Peter Grieg, Alexandra Peace, Christine Jacobs, Paull Leamen, Mary Newberry. Photo: Alexandra Peace.*

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## Editors Canada Conference 2020 Announcement

As a member of the Indexing Society of Canada/Société canadienne d'indexation, you can get the member rate for the Editors Canada second international editing conference. That means you can save up to \$200 on registration fees for this weekend of learning, networking, and fun.

The conference will be held from June 19 to 21, 2020, in Montréal, Québec.

### *Early-Bird Discount*

Early-bird pricing for the conference is in effect now, but only until April 6, 2020. Don't delay! Register early for the best rates.

**Register now! at <https://www.editors.ca/professional-development/conference/2020/fees-and-registration>**

### *Take Your Training to the Next Level*

The conference will offer three days of sessions to help you enhance your editing skills and boost your career. You can also take advantage of in-depth professional development opportunities with Editors Québec premium seminars. These four half-day workshops will be held on Friday, June 19. They are not included in the conference registration fee, but you can sign up for them when you register for the conference.



**EDITORS  
RÉVISEURS  
CANADA**

# Executive Committee News

## Summary of the Executive Meeting held on October 5, 2019

Due to a series of unfortunate events, it took us a while to get going—our starting times ranged over a full hour! We had a guest: Mary Newberry. Although Mary had been attending executive committee meetings for more years than I care to count and had finally extricated herself, I had to ask her to come to this meeting, as neither Margaret de Boer nor Pierre Joyal was able to be present. She graciously agreed, and we were very pleased to hear her opinions.

Our agenda included reports from the Prairies rep, Conference 2019 chair, membership secretary, outreach committee, special projects committee, ad hoc committee to develop translation policies and procedures, BPC rep, web administrator, communications director, and president. There are lots of great activities happening.

Then we got to the meat/beans of the meeting. We had lots to discuss. Everyone had thoughtful ideas and concerns to share. I appreciated hearing from both those more experienced and those new to the executive committee. We may not be the most formal or serious of executives, but we get things done and we have a few chuckles along the way.

The signing officers were voted in. Thanks to Margaret, Gillian Watts, and JoAnne Burek for being the signing officers.

François Trahan brought the executive up to speed on what has been happening with ICRIS and brought an amendment to the international agreement for a vote.

We voted to reimburse JoAnne for her expenses. As treasurer, she is not allowed to give herself permission for reimbursements!

We were very pleased to see the information from Pierre on video-conferencing software. Look for more information coming out on that!

We had a fruitful discussion on the executive travel funds proposal that Mary brought. We will be having more discussions on the proposal and then bringing it to you, the membership.

I am pleased to say that the executive committee

approved the venue, theme, and budget for Conference 2020. The team is working hard to make this a great conference. Hope you can make it!

We threw around some ideas for National Indexing Day. Martin Gavin is taking the lead on this. We'll be letting you know what's happening next time.

We had a discussion about membership and how we can better serve the members. If you have ideas about how we can do that, do let me know ([presidents@indexers.ca](mailto:presidents@indexers.ca)). We also came up with some suggestions on how better to recruit volunteers. If you have a yen to donate some of your time and energy to the Society, we have some opportunities for you!

We gratefully accepted the copyright policy, written up for us by Janice Logan, and we accepted the revised *Bulletin* policies and procedures. That committee has now completed its task. Our new *Bulletin* editor, Catherine Plear, will now use them, and they will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

The mentorship committee had some interesting questions. We didn't come to any conclusive answers for them, but we'll be thinking about the questions and will discuss them further at the next meeting.

We sorted out how to get the international travel expenses committee back on track and look forward to seeing something from them in the future.

We were very happy to hear the archives report. We were unable to get to answering the questions from the committee, but Christine told us that we have some time.

Mary was able to tell us that the question on awards had been answered, and we were happy for that!

We did (very) briefly note that it would be beneficial to members to do another rate survey and publish the results, but as we already had some big-ticket items to work on, we left it until another time.

As always, we got quite a bit done, but there is always more to do. If you would like to join in the fun, do let me know.

**Alexandra Peace**



# Membership

## ISC/SCI MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Lisa Fedorak, Membership Secretary

As of October 22, 2019 we have 105 members. Nine new members joined since the July 4th report and two former members rejoined.

### Within Canada 86

British Columbia	19
Alberta	11
Saskatchewan	2
Manitoba	3
Ontario	44
Quebec	4
New Brunswick	2
Prince Edward Island	1
Newfoundland & Labrador	1
Nova Scotia	1

### International 17

United States	16
Germany	1

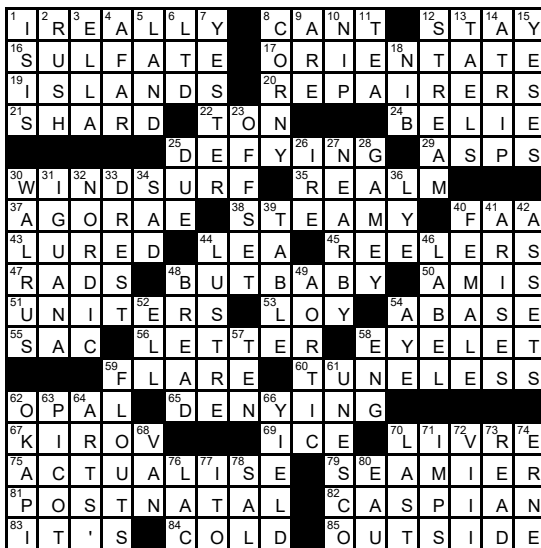
### Membership Types

<b>Individual</b>	<b>98</b>
Listed	65
Basic	25
Student	1
Emeritus	3
<b>Institutional</b>	<b>7</b>
British Columbia	1
Alberta	1
Ontario	3
USA	2

### New Members

Eileen Allen, Pompey, NY, USA; Leslie Barker, Guelph, ON; Paul Butler, Toronto, ON; Diane Ellis, Banff, AB; Louise Fairley, Calgary, AB; Caroline Helmeczi, Vancouver, BC; Boyd Holmes, Toronto, ON; Melina Ponak, Wellesley, MA, USA; Laurel Rush, Vancouver, BC; Marta Steele, Washington, DC, USD; Joanne Woods, Toronto, ON.

## Crossword Solution



### Solution: Classic Controversy

In December 2018, CBC and other broadcasters pulled “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” (Loesser, 1944) from its holiday playlist in reaction to criticism about its lyrics. After substantial debate across all types of media, CBC reinstated the song, which has been covered more than 50 times by a broad array of artists, including Louis Armstrong and Velma Middleton (1951), Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gormé (1964), Rod Stewart and Dolly Parton (2004), Anne Murray and Michael Bublé (2008) and Kelly Clarkson and John Legend (2019).

The song was originally written by Frank Loesser to sing with his wife, Lynn Garland, at their own housewarming party to tell their guests that it was time to go. Loesser sold it to MGM for the 1949 film Neptune’s Daughter, and the song went on to win that year’s Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Heather Ebbs

# Announcement

## Call for Nominations: ISC/SCI Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award, 2020

Nominations are open! The application has never been easier.

- It's all [online](#).
- You don't need a hard copy — a PDF of the book with the index is enough.
- The cost is only \$30.

We provide feedback for up to three runners-up. That's feedback from three experienced indexers!

We are looking for print book indexes that

- creatively overcome challenges,
- resulting in an outstanding, well-structured, easy-to-navigate, clear, and comprehensive guide for all its users.

There are no restrictions on subject matter or genre. Textbooks, cookbooks, guidebooks, memoirs, art books, how-to books, travel books — all kinds of books — it's your index that we will be looking at.

"Oh," you might say, "but I'm too new!"

But maybe you suspect that the index you wrote for that odd little guide to breaking up with your phone was really effective. Or you're pretty sure you did a big favour to people looking for answers to their ailments by the way you exposed the hidden gems in that dense book about digestion. Or you amazed yourself by managing to build a clear guide to too many pages in the limited space allotted by the press.

You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Maybe you'll get the prize (which won't happen if you don't apply). And if not, you're very likely to get expert confidential feedback. That's worth a lot.

This year you can submit books published in **2018** or **2019**. If you are a Canadian indexer or a Canadian resident, 2020 is the time to apply.

The deadline for nominations is February 24, 2020. Please see the ISC/SCI website for guidelines, criteria and nomination forms: <http://indexers.ca/isc-awards/ewart-daveluy-indexing-award/>

### Past Recipients

2018: Audrey McClellan, for Churchill and Fisher: Titans at the Admiralty, by Barry Gough (Seaforth Publishing)

2017: Judy Dunlop, for One Child Reading, by Margaret Mackey (University of Alberta Press)

2016: Mary Newberry, for The Letterbooks of John Evelyn, vols 1 and 2, edited by Douglas D.C. Chambers and David Galbraith (University of Toronto Press)

2015: François Trahan, for Ancient Pathways, Ancestral Knowledge, by Nancy Turner (McGill-Queen's University Press)

**Mary Newberry, Coordinator, 2019 ISC/SCI Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award**

**Judy Dunlop, Noeline Bridge, and Audrey McClellan, Committee member**

## Objet : Appel de candidatures pour le prix d'excellence en indexation Ewart-Daveluy 2020 de la SCI/ISC

Le processus de mise en candidature est ouvert! Il n'a jamais été aussi simple.

- Tout se fait [en ligne](#).
- Inutile d'envoyer une version imprimée : un PDF de l'ouvrage avec l'index est suffisant.
- Le coût est de seulement 30 \$.

Nous offrons une rétroaction (feedback) pour les trois premiers candidats classés. Cette rétroaction est réalisée par trois indexeurs experts.

Nous sommes à la recherche d'index pour ouvrages imprimés qui

- résolvent des défis de manière créative,
- offrent un outil pour tous les types d'utilisateurs, à la fois original, bien structuré, de navigation facile, clair et complet.

Il n'y a pas de restriction en matière de thème ou de genre d'ouvrage : manuels, livres de cuisine, guides de voyage, mémoires, livres d'art, tout ouvrage — c'est votre

index que nous prenons en considération.

« Ah, mais je suis trop novice ! », allez-vous peut-être penser.

Malgré tout, vous êtes convaincue que l'index que vous avez créé pour ce singulier petit guide visant à rompre avec son téléphone est vraiment clair. Ou bien vous êtes sûr que vous avez rendu un fier service aux personnes cherchant des solutions dans leur alimentation, par la manière dont vous avez présenté les trésors cachés de cet ouvrage dense à propos de la digestion. Ou encore vous vous êtes surprise vous-même en créant un guide clair renvoyant à des pages bien trop nombreuses, et ce, dans l'espace limité alloué par l'éditeur.

Vous n'avez rien à perdre et tout à gagner. Vous pourriez peut-être être récipiendaire du prix – ce qui ne risque pas de se produire si vous ne postulez pas. Et si vous ne l'êtes pas, vous courrez néanmoins la chance d'obtenir une rétroaction de la part d'un expert. Ce qui est de grande valeur!

Cette année, vous pouvez soumettre un ouvrage publié en **2018** et **2019**. Si vous êtes indexeur du Canada ou résident au Canada, 2020 est le bon moment pour soumettre votre candidature.

La date limitée de nomination est le 24 février 2020. Veuillez consulter le site de la SCI/ISC pour les lignes directrices, les critères et le formulaire de candidature : <https://indexers.ca/fr/laureats-du-prix/le-prix-dindexation-ewart-daveluy/>

### Lauréats des prix précédents

2018 : Audrey McClellan, pour *Churchill and Fisher: Titans at the Admiralty*, by Barry Gough (Seaforth Publishing)

2017 : Judy Dunlop, pour *One Child Reading*, de Margaret Mackey (University of Alberta Press)

2016 : Mary Newberry, pour *The Letterbooks of John Evelyn*, vol. 1 et 2, sous la direction de Douglas D.C. Chambers et David Galbraith (University of Toronto Press)

2015 : François Trahan, pour *Ancient Pathways, Ancestral Knowledge*, de Nancy Turner (McGill-Queen's University Press)

**Mary Newberry, coordinatrice du prix d'excellence en indexation Ewart-Daveluy 2019 de la SCI/ISC**

**Judy Dunlop, Noeline Bridge, et Audrey McClellan, membres du comité de sélection.**

## Tips on Applying for the Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award

It's that time of year again and you're thinking about that index you thought was really good. Should you send it in? Yes!

### *It's Easy—and There's Feedback*

This year it couldn't be easier. Take a look at the Call for Nominations directly above to find out what to do. And don't forget that there'll be feedback from experienced indexers for up to three runners-up.

### *What Kind of Books?*

We are looking for indexes that really work for both the text and all of its readers. We're looking for that special index. It's maybe not a really complex book, but it has a great fit between book and index. Everything will be taken into account when judging.

### *Describing the Merits of Your Index*

The application asks for a paragraph indicating why your index merits the award. This is where you tell us about all of the challenges and how you met them. For example,

the book is meant for a super-wide audience; its organizing structure is odd; the publisher severely restricted the number of pages; the names were confusing; the recipes were buried in an avalanche of nutritional information. What did you do?

Tell us about the index you created for that dense little how-to book that gives quick and easy access to a huge range of readers. Or how you distinguished between the two types of entries for easy access to a cookbook that was as much travel guide as recipe book. Or how you managed to modernize a well-loved index for a new edition. Or what you did to make the index child-friendly, knowing that kids were going to be part of the audience. Give us a sense of the audience and how your index serves all its members.

### *You Have Nothing to Lose*

You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. You might be the next winner of the prize. Alternatively, there's the possibility of receiving confidential expert feedback on your work. That's a unique and valuable opportunity all in itself!

## Classic Controversy

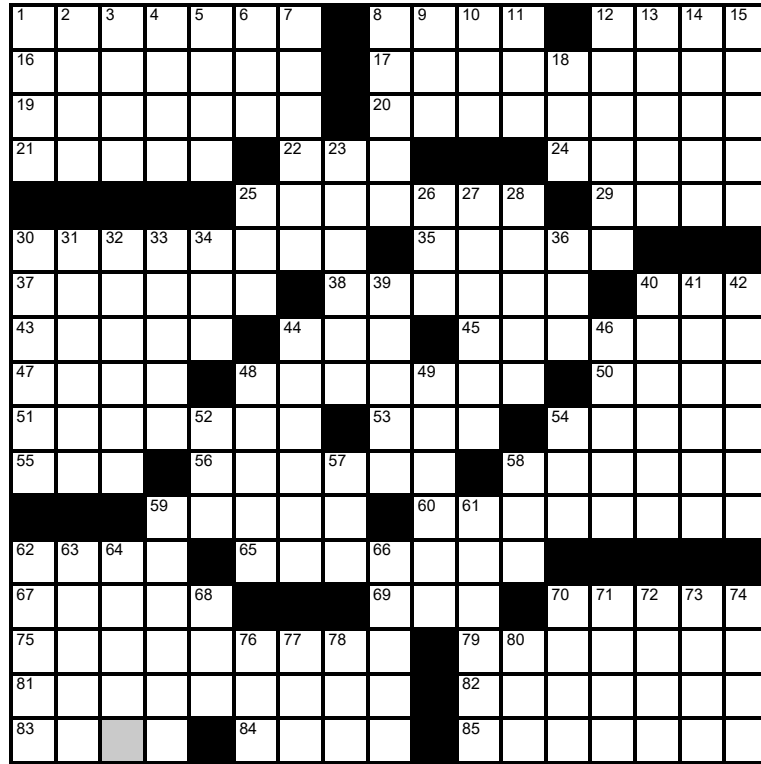
by Heather Ebbs

### Across

1. START of timely but controversial lyrics
8. PART II of lyrics
12. PART III of lyrics
16. American ester
17. Use a compass
19. Ontario and New York share 1,000
20. Fixers
21. Pottery fragment
22. Big load
24. Contradict
25. Bucking
29. Snakes
30. Sail on a board
35. Kingdom
37. Ancient meeting places
38. Torrid
40. US regulator
43. Fished
44. Pastoral place
45. Fishers or dancers
47. X-ray units
48. PART IV of lyrics
50. François's friends
51. Blenders?
53. Moviedom's Myrna
54. Belittle
55. Anatomical pouch
56. A, B or C
58. Lace place
59. Distress signal
60. Unmusical
62. October birthstone
65. Contradicting
67. Former name of Mariinsky Ballet
69. Winter coat
70. François's book
75. Make real
79. More disreputable
81. After birth
82. Prince of Narnia
- 83.\* PART V of lyrics
84. PART VI of lyrics
85. END of lyrics

### Down

1. Egyptian goddess
2. Canadian rock band
3. First name in jazz
4. Miles away
5. Touch down



6. Part of many a corp. name
7. Start of day
8. Sentimentally trite
9. "\_\_\_ we having fun yet?"
10. Frostiness
11. Leaves in the afternoon?
12. Fishing spot
13. Asian weight units
14. Take \_\_\_ (travel)
15. Affirmatives
18. Pen point
23. Type of printing
25. Owing
26. Anger
27. Close
28. Wildly scented?
30. Marine mammal
31. Large lizard
32. Type of skiing
33. "No arboret with painted blossomes \_\_\_" (Spenser)
34. Down
36. Strong cleanser
39. Place for eating or meeting
40. Dame or doe
41. Gets up
42. Holdings
44. Sheen
46. Tag
48. Dough
49. Artery-related
52. Annex
54. Sailor's affirmative
57. Half a score
58. School subj.
59. Bucks
61. International org.
62. Safari sight
63. Decorative loops
- 64.\* Not the sciences' possessions, but the \_\_\_
66. Produce
68. Delivery vehicle
70. Final
71. Tricksters
72. Henry \_\_\_
73. Go through volumes
74. Marine flier
76. François's lake
77. "Who am \_\_\_ say?"
78. Moviedom's Mineo
80. François's lake?

\*The shaded square contains something a little unusual in a crossword puzzle.