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SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'INDEXATION

Bulletin



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Editor, Comments from

Dear Indexers,
After four and half years as the *Bulletin's* managing editor, Vicki Gregory has passed the torch to me (it's Olympic season, see what I did there?). In her time as editor, Vicki thoughtfully produced 13 issues—350 pages!—of must-read indexing tips and tricks. Thank you, Vicki, for this impressive contribution to the Society, and for your guidance as I move into my new role!

I would also like to thank the editorial team for welcoming me on board: Gillian Watts (*Bulletin* copyeditor since 2003!), Sergey Lobachev, Anna Olivier, Jolanta Komornicka, and Alexandra Peace. We also appreciate Tere Mullin's contribution: a *Bulletin* proofreader for over four years, Tere is looking to pass her proofreading torch to a new volunteer. She says that proofreading for our newsletter has been an enjoyable way to stay connected with the Society. Does joining our team speak to you? Reach out to us!

As this issue came together, the "Art of Connection" theme of ISC/SCI's spring conference seems to have carried forward naturally. You'll enjoy reading Jolanta Komornicka's recap of the conference and the AGM, as well as Alexandra Peace's report on the ASI's first in-person conference since 2019. Conferences provide a direct path for connection through the networking opportunities they offer, and by teaching us how to create deeper connections between readers and the books they read. But it was

the synchronicity of Siusan Moffat's choice for this issue's "Focus on" interview—Mary Newberry—that made me think how indexers are connected by lineage—a family tree of sorts.

In addition to answering our "Focus on" questions, Mary Newberry also authored the touching tribute to Ruth Pincoe (presented at the Society's AGM in June), who passed away this spring. Though I never had the chance to meet Ruth, her legacy lives on in students such as myself. Ruth mentored Mary, who developed and taught the first indexing course at TMU and also mentored Alexandra Peace, who in turn taught me and connected me with ISC/CSI. Indexing practices are inherited, much as culinary traditions and special recipes are passed down from master chefs to their apprentices.

As valuable as connection is, I hope you've been able to disconnect and enjoy the summer weather. (For my lakeside vacation, I took this issue's crossword by Heather Ebbs for a test drive. The five resident geese who kept me company were surprisingly unhelpful with 6 down, which had me stumped!) If you feel a connection with any of this issue's articles, or if you have ideas for future editions, email me at bulletin_editor@indexers.ca. We look forward to sharing more of your adventures in indexing in the winter issue!

Alexis Anderson

Le mot de la rédaction

Chers indexeur(e)s,
Après 4,5 ans en tant que rédactrice en chef du Bulletin, Vicki Gregory m'a passé la flamme (c'est la saison olympique, voyez-vous mon idée?). Durant cette période, elle a sagement produit 13 numéros —350 pages!— des meilleurs trucs et astuces à lire en matière d'indexation. Merci, Vicki, pour cette contribution à la Société et pour ton aide lors de mon entrée dans mes nouvelles fonctions!

Je voudrais remercier aussi l'équipe éditoriale de son accueil : Gillian Watts (révisseur du Bulletin depuis 2003!), Sergey Lobachev, Anna Olivier, Jolanta Komornicka et Alexandra Peace. Nous voulons aussi remercier Tere Mullin pour sa contribution : correctrice d'épreuves du Bulletin depuis plus de 4 ans, Tere voudrait passer la flamme de la correction à une nouvelle bénévole. Selon elle, la correction d'épreuves de notre infolettre a été une manière agréable de rester connectée à la Société. Est-ce que rejoindre notre équipe vous parle? Contactez-nous!

Au fur et à mesure que ce numéro a pris forme, le thème « Art de la connexion » du congrès annuel de la SCI/ISC au printemps est apparu tout naturellement. Vous allez apprécier la lecture de la synthèse de Jolanta Komornicka sur le congrès et l'AGA ainsi que le rapport d'Alexandra Peace sur le premier congrès en présentiel de l'ASI depuis 2019. Les congrès offrent une voie directe de connexion, grâce aux opportunités de réseautage qu'ils offrent et grâce aux apprentissages sur la manière de créer une connexion plus profonde entre les lecteurs et les livres qu'ils lisent. Mais c'est la synchronicité du choix de Siusan

Moffat pour l'entrevue de la rubrique « Focus on / Lumière sur » de ce numéro – avec Mary Newberry – qui m'a fait penser que les indexeurs étaient reliés par une même lignée – comme un arbre généalogique.

Outre ses réponses aux questions de la rubrique « Focus on / Lumière sur », Mary Newberry a également rédigé la contribution touchante (présentée à l'AGA en juin) en l'honneur de Ruth Pincoe, qui est décédée ce printemps. Même si je n'ai jamais eu l'occasion de rencontrer Ruth, son héritage s'est transmis à des étudiants comme moi. Ruth a été la mentore de Mary, qui a créé et donné le premier cours d'indexation à la TMU, et elle a aussi été la mentore d'Alexandra Peace, qui à son tour a été ma formatrice et m'a connectée à la SCI/ISC. Les pratiques d'indexation se transmettent, comme les traditions culinaires et les recettes spéciales sont transmises des chefs cuisiniers à leurs apprentis.

Aussi valable que soit la connexion, j'espère que vous avez été capable de déconnecter et de profiter de l'été. (Depuis mon lieu de vacances près du lac, j'ai pris le mot croisé de Heather Ebbs comme essai. Les cinq oies résidant ici qui me tenaient compagnie ont été curieusement peu utiles avec le 6 vertical, qui m'a fait sécher! Si vous avez connecté avec un des articles de ce numéro, ou si vous avez des idées pour les prochains, écrivez-moi à bulletin_editor@indexers.ca. Nous sommes impatients de diffuser davantage de vos aventures en indexation dans le numéro de l'hiver!

Alexis Anderson

Co-Presidents' Messages

It's been a good year for the Society. We officially incorporated in September 2023 and, at our Annual General Meeting in June, the membership confirmed our by-laws, so we are, for all intents and purposes, squared away on that front. We have continued to run programs that further our mission of encouraging the production and use of indexes, promoting the recognition of indexers, disseminating information on indexing techniques, and providing a means of communication among individual indexers. ISC/SCI has operated booths at two book-related fairs/conferences, we held a fantastic conference with more than a hundred registrants, added new material to our New Indexers' Resources, enjoyed lively national and regional chats, lent out books from our library, mentored new indexers, awarded two bursaries, gave presentations to editors and publishers about the value of indexes and indexers, and mailed over a hundred letters to publishers! We also welcomed Alexis Anderson as our new managing editor for the Bulletin. Whew!

Not all our initiatives this year panned out, unfortunately. For several months we did a trial run of a Zoom room for side-by-side indexing, where indexers could find accountability and fellowship during long days of working solo, but ultimately it was deemed not what the membership wanted. We remain committed, however, to thinking about how best the Society can serve you; as the Zoom

room shows, we're always willing to try out new things. So, if you have any ideas, write to presidents@indexers.ca.

It's been great working with Maggie this year. She holds my wild ideas in check and keeps me on task, which I need! She is also clear-eyed about the needs of the Society and eager to take on tasks that move things from the idea stage to reality. I'm looking forward to another year of working with her as co-president.

Jolanta Komornicka

What a first year it has been! Jola has outlined the many accomplishments of the Society this year and, after a bit of a celebration, we look forward to what we get to do next. With Conference 2024 behind me (although the paperwork is most definitely not), I look forward to a new team's taking on the task of our next in-person event while I take on a more involved role as president. Next year we'll be looking at the ISC/SCI financials, reviewing our email provider, and finding new ways to connect indexers with one another and with the publishing industry at large—and having some fun while we do it.

Thank you for trusting us with the Society, and please, always let us know if you have any ideas, questions, or concerns! Complaints will be accepted only in the form of a poem.

Maggie Billard

Messages de la Présidence

Ce fut une bonne année pour l'association. Nous avons procédé officiellement à l'incorporation en septembre 2023 et, à notre assemblée générale en juin, les membres ont confirmé nos statuts, ce qui fait que, en pratique, nous sommes en règle sur ce plan. Nous avons maintenu nos programmes visant à améliorer notre mission pour encourager la production et l'utilisation d'index, à promouvoir la reconnaissance des indexeurs, à diffuser l'information sur les techniques d'indexation et à fournir des moyens de communication individuellement auprès des indexeurs. La SCI/ISC a tenu des kiosques à deux congrès/foires en lien avec les livres, nous avons eu un congrès fantastique avec plus de 100 inscrits, nous avons ajouté du nouveau matériel à nos Ressources du Nouvel Indexeur, nous avons profité de nos clavardages nationaux et régionaux, nous avons prêté des livres de notre bibliothèque, nous avons mentoré de nouveaux indexeurs, nous avons décerné deux bourses, nous avons offert deux présentations aux équipes d'édition et de publication à propos de la valeur des index et des indexeurs et nous avons envoyé plus de 100 lettres aux éditeurs! Nous avons aussi accueilli Alexis Anderson comme nouveau rédacteur en chef de notre Bulletin. Fiou!!

Malheureusement, nos projets de l'année n'ont pas tous fonctionné. Pendant plusieurs mois, nous avons fait un essai d'espace Zoom offrant aux indexeurs de travailler côte à côte en obtenant assurance et camaraderie durant les longues journées de travail solitaire, mais finalement ce n'était réellement pas ce que les membres désiraient. Nous demeurons attentifs aux moyens que la Société peut mettre en œuvre pour vous aider et, comme la présence

des espaces Zoom l'a montré, nous sommes toujours disposés à essayer de nouvelles choses. De ce fait, si vous avez des idées, écrivez-nous à presidents@indexers.ca.

Cela a été vraiment super de travailler avec Maggie cette année. Elle a contenu mes idées et m'a maintenue à mes tâches, ce dont j'ai besoin! Elle a aussi vu clairement quels sont les besoins de la Société et elle était impatiente de passer aux actions permettant de transformer les idées en réalité. J'ai hâte à une nouvelle année de collaboration avec elle en tant que co-présidente.

Jolanta Komornicka

Quelle première année!! Jola a souligné les nombreux accomplissements de la Société cette année et, après une courte période de célébration, nous nous tournons vers ce que nous avons à faire afin d'avancer. Avec le congrès 2024 derrière moi (même si le travail administratif ne l'est définitivement pas vraiment), j'ai hâte à la prise en charge des tâches par notre nouvelle équipe lors de notre prochaine rencontre en personne où je serai davantage investie dans mon rôle de présidente. Pour l'année qui vient, nous allons étudier les finances de la SCI/ICS, revoir le contrat avec notre fournisseur de courriels et trouver de nouvelles manières de faire se rencontrer les indexeurs entre eux et avec l'industrie de l'édition en général, tout en ayant du plaisir à réaliser tout cela.

Merci de nous faire confiance avec la Société et, s'il vous plaît, écrivez-nous si vous avez des idées, des questions ou des inquiétudes. Les plaintes seront acceptées uniquement sous forme de poème.

Maggie Billard

Executive Committee News

by Jolanta Komornicka

Since the last issue, the board has held one executive meeting (25 May 2024) and the annual general members' meeting (22 June 2024).

Executive Committee Meeting, 25 May

At the May board meeting, we tackled the suggestion (made by members during a National Chat) that we appoint a volunteer coordinator. The discussion on this point was wide-ranging, with board members wrestling with what the role would look like and whether it created too much overlap with other, existing positions (such as the regional reps). In the end, we didn't come to a resolution on the matter, agreeing to resume the conversation at our fall board meeting on 7 September.

We also talked about helping our new ICRIS rep, Alexandra Peace, get to the indexing conference that's being held in China this October. The board agreed to increase the funds available in light of the length and expense of the flight, the likelihood that no other ISC/SCI member would be attending, and the importance of the conference as both that of a sister society and its focus on AI in indexing.

In addition, we examined the fraught question of our emails—the amount of spam the official email addresses receive (and the risk that our emails end up as spam in other people's systems) and the need to switch to a business-class email service. We considered several possibilities, from the well-known, such as Google, to the obscure (to me), such as Fastmail. The board members' homework was to do more research into the options before coming back to the question, and no later than our fall meeting.

Our final piece of major business at the meeting involved confirming the co-presidents' selection of a new managing editor for the Bulletin. We're all going to miss Vicki Gregory, but, as you can see from this issue, Alexis is already doing a great job!

Annual General Meeting, 22 June

Our annual meeting took place over Zoom on the afternoon of Saturday, 22 June. Twenty-three people were in attendance, making a quorum. The AGM is always a fun

time to toot the Society's horn—from the booths staffed at conferences and book fairs to the bursaries we've awarded, presentations given on indexes, and of course the conference. All these and more can be found in the Annual Report, available in the members'-only section of <https://www.indexers.ca>.

What you won't find in the report are the discussions we had at the AGM. The big ones were about how we handle our financial reports and whether it makes sense to occasionally hire a public accountant to review our books, something we either have to do or unanimously agree not to do on a yearly basis.

Among the announcements made were that Alexandra Peace is the incoming ICRIS rep, Jolanta Komornicka is the incoming Book and Periodicals Council rep, and Alexis Anderson is the new Bulletin editor. Mary Newberry gave a moving tribute to Ruth Pincoe, who died this spring.

Other business of the AGM included reports on our technology updates (both websites and email), the incorporation process and our new by-laws (which the members confirmed), and a motion to dispense with a public accountant for this year's books (which passed).

Then came the highlight of the AGM: the awards! Alexandra Peace was presented with the Tamarack Award for her unflagging enthusiasm, endless willingness to help out, unwavering cheerfulness, and ability to see promise in the rawest of volunteers. The co-presidents also recognized four people for their efforts for the Society this past year, presenting them with Certificates of Recognition: Tanvi Mohile, Céline Parent, Christine Dudgeon, and Brittany Vesterback.

And finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention everyone who volunteered for the Society this past year. We would never be able to do things such as host a conference, run a mentorship program, put out a must-read newsletter three times a year, and more if it weren't for the willingness of our members to help out. I know I thanked them all by name at the AGM, but I'm thanking them again here, because I want everyone to know just how amazing you all are! If you're wondering how you too can see your name on this list next year, check out the Call for Volunteers

on page 25 or email presidents@indexers.ca. And if I've inadvertently left off your name, I sincerely apologize. Email

presidents@indexers.ca and I'll be sure there's a correction in the next issue!

Alexis Anderson
Maggie Billard
Mercedes Brian
JoAnne Burek
Paula Butler
Margaret de Boer
Christine Dudgeon
Heather Ebbs
Lisa Fedorak
Jannaya Friggstad
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Anna Olivier
Diana Palardy
Céline Parent

Alexandra Peace
Patti Phillips
Wendy Savage
Ronnie Seagren
Do Mi Stauber
Dina Theleritis
François Trahan
Stephen Ullstrom
Brittany Vesterback
Gillian Watts
Julia White
Nancy Wills
Angela Wingfield
Enid Zafran



ISC/SCI Annual General Meeting on Zoom. Photo provided by Alexandra Peace.

ISC/SCI Conference 2024: The Art of Connection

Jolanta N. Komornicka

Over 31 May–1 June 2024, ISC/SCI held its virtual conference, *The Art of Connection*. Things kicked off for the more than 100 registrants on Thursday, 30 May, with a variety of pre-conference sessions. These included an event for new indexers (including students still taking training courses) and a series of software sessions, two for back-of-book and two for embedded. The conference proper started on Friday when, in true indexing fashion, conference chair Maggie Billard deftly wove indexing into her land acknowledgement during the opening welcome.

After a quick fifteen minutes of speed networking via breakout rooms, the first session of the conference was Pierke Bosschietter's "Software Miscellany, or Connecting Better with Your PC or Mac." Pierke gave attendees a lot of resources (helpfully collated on a handout) for computer programs that can aid indexers in a variety of tasks. I won't try to summarize every piece of software she mentioned, but she did leave us with a useful checklist for deciding whether a given technology is worth adopting: the steepness of the learning curve, feature density, customization options, support and compatibility, and price.

The day's second session was a joint presentation by Stephen Ullstrom and Enid Zafran on the survey they'd conducted on embedded indexing, "A Worthwhile Pursuit? Embedded Indexing Today and in the Future." With an even mix of part-time and full-time indexers and those who do embedded and not, the results of the survey were an insightful peek into how indexers decide what makes an indexing job worthwhile. The factors mentioned included learning curves, software considerations, enjoyability, opportunities, staying competitive, indexing workflow, and publishing timeline; for all of these a mix of pros and cons was expressed by the respondents. Stephen and Enid intimated that an article will be forthcoming.

An invigorating movement break led by Carol Fellowes had us re-energized for the next set of sessions, beginning with Iva Cheung's "Connections between Qualitative Research and Indexing." Iva walked conference-goers through the software programs NVivo and Quirkos, which are relied upon by qualitative researchers and which have a lot of similarities to indexing. Presenting an examination of the overlaps between thematic analysis and indexing, Iva sparked a lively chat conversation on the crossover

possibilities, much of which focused on wish-list features for indexing software inspired by the qualitative research software.

Themed discussions in breakout rooms followed Iva's talk, and then it was time to contemplate all the places indexing can take you—literally—with Alexandra Peace and JoAnne Burek's "Connecting from Afar: How to Travel Joyfully While Running a Thriving Indexing Business." Providing useful checklists and travel tips, Alex and JoAnne talked about how travel needn't be something squeezed in around indexing projects but rather a part of indexing life itself. Even for those of us who may never spend a month indexing in a tent in Australia, there was plenty of handy advice (such as photographing every layer of your suitcase for insurance purposes, in case it gets lost), not to mention fun anecdotes.

Saturday opened with an informational presentation about ICRIS and its current initiatives. The conference's keynote talk, "I Want to Be an Indexer When I Grow Up," was by Larry D. Sweazy, author of over a thousand indexes and more than twenty books—not the least of which being the Marjorie Trumaine mystery series, which features an indexer as its protagonist. Largely a reflection on how life events and personal proclivities paved the way for his interest in indexing, Larry's talk offered a glimpse at the often serendipitous journey of an indexer. Along the way, he talked about the work habits and time management techniques he uses to be so prolific in both of his careers. Not a few indexers got a real kick out of his account of doing an embedded index for Macmillan twenty-five years ago.

Enid Zafran's presentation, "Authors Amok! Indexing Multi-Authored Texts," offered a basic introduction to the challenges of and techniques for indexing books with chapters written by different authors (i.e., contributed works rather than co-authored works). Some of the advice Enid offered included thinking about nesting the topics of each chapter and thus limiting double-posting, handling contributors mentioned by others in the book (depending on the discipline, something that can matter quite a bit for citation calculations), advocating for unruly locators, and not being afraid of numerous undifferentiated locators. A useful hack for anyone indexing a contributed volume: spend extra time indexing and editing the author-editor's

chapter and introduction, because if that bit is stellar they're unlikely to request extensive edits.

Another energizing session of chair yoga from Carol Fellowes helped us shake out the kinks and aches that arise from sitting in front of the computer. Then it was time for the ISC/SCI trivia game, which saw lively participation from the attendees.

The final session of the conference was given by Iva Cheung, who led a guided discussion, "Advocating for Indexing." The thrust of the conversation was what indexers can do, both as individuals and as societies, to advocate for changes that can increase the profile of indexing and improve indexers' working conditions. I was fascinated to learn that Australia requires all printed government reports to have an index; what an opportunity lies over here in North America! Iva also talked about her work on plain language and getting it adopted at the governmental level in Canada, not to mention the connection between plain language's principles and those of indexing. The discussion was lively, and hopefully the energy people expressed during the session will carry over into action.

The conference closed with indexers showing off their

craft projects. The Conference Committee had provided attendees with two cross-stitch patterns and a colouring page, all featuring the Society's magpie mascot. Not everyone had taken to the provided projects, though many people were merrily knitting or stitching away during the sessions. My favourite show-and-tell moment, though, came from the daughter of an indexer, who, inspired by the colouring page, had drawn her own magpie perched on a branch and busily indexing a book!

I want to give a shout-out to all the amazing people who did the hard work and put in the long hours of organizing this conference: Maggie Billard (conference chair), Brittany Vesterback (programming), Nancy Wills (registration), Mercedes Brian (publicity and documentation), and JoAnne Burek (website). The conference was brilliant! Lots of great talks, fun breakout rooms, head-scratching trivia questions, and a demonstration of what makes indexing and indexers such a special community. Based on the fact more than 100 people registered for the conference, and going by the engagement in the chat during the talks, I know I'm not the only one who thinks so. Thank you!

ASI Conference 2024: Spread Your Indexing Wings

Alexandra Peace

The American Society for Indexing (ASI) conference was held in Philadelphia on 5–6 June. It was great fun to be at an in-person conference again. There were about fifty people in attendance. We stayed on the Bryn Mawr College campus, which was beautiful—large trees, vast lawns, and I heard cardinals!

At least six members of ISC/SCI were there: Jolanta Komornicka, JoAnne Burek, and Lisa Fedorak as presenters, and Sylvie Gauthier, me, and the winner of “ISC/SCI member who came the farthest,” Mamta Jha. I think there may have been more, but it’s hard to tell sometimes, as many people belong to both ISC/SCI and ASI.

We started out Tuesday evening with a wine-and-nibbles reception. Lovely, as always, to see people I’ve met before and also to meet people I’ve met online but not in person!

Keynote: “Dominate Your Day, Stop Being Busy, and Leave Burnout Behind”

The first session was a keynote by Sarah Ohanesian. Sarah talked about burnout and how to avoid it, defining burnout as being busy but without progress toward your priorities. Productive people (who may still be busy) are in control of their day; they choose how they spend their time. Sarah suggested that to avoid burnout you should value your own time. For some portion of your day, make one good decision: choose to spend a part of the day on the one thing that will have the most impact. Her other recommendation was to do a “distraction audit”: that is, identify the things that distract you the most (such as email or looking out the window). Spend some part of your day on a task with the distractions removed (turn off your email, close the blinds).

“Leaving the Flock: Knowing When to Break the Rules”

One of the difficult parts of an ASI conference is choosing the sessions to go to! There were two sessions running concurrently most of the time. I chose to go to Kendra Millis’s session on breaking the rules. She spent a few minutes at the beginning talking about where the rules come from, why they are important, and why should you break



Canadian indexers at the ASI Conference, June 2024. Left to right: Sylvie Gauthier, Lisa Fedorak, Alexandra Peace, JoAnne Burek, and Jolanta Komornicka. (Photo credit: Gwen Henson.)

them; she then went into some detail about certain situations. It was fun to hear not only Kendra’s examples but lots of from the audience as well. In most cases, the overriding concern was to serve the needs of the reader.

“Black Hawk, White Bird, and Tsubasa (Wing): Dealing with Unusual Names”

Judy Staigmillier and Anna Aridome talked about their experiences with Native American and Asian names. Very interesting!

“Game On! The Game Show for Indexing Knowledge”

After lunch, we had a bit of fun and games—literally. Nan Badgett hosted; Connie Binder, Theresa Duran, and Amron Lehte answered the questions. Each of them volunteered some interesting facts about themselves. I won’t out them individually, but ask them about hula-hooping, travelling to all fifty states, and fire baton twirling! The game-show questions were varied. Each of the three contestants had a bell to ring to indicate that they wanted to answer. It was enormous fun, with a wheel, sound effects, and best of all, lots of great answers, both from the contestants and the audience. It is always interesting to hear how other people think and work.

“Flying High with Index Manager”

Pilar Wyman gave a demonstration of Index Manager. First she demonstrated the software using an InDesign file, then with a Word file. It was a good initiation into the program.

“Wings in Flight: The Naked Indexer”

For the last session of the day, I chose to go to the live indexing session, in which Maria Sullivan indexed a book before our very eyes. She talked about her way of using outlines first, from the chapter headings and subheadings, then going back afterwards to pick up some of the finer details. As Maria indexed, she chatted about her thought process, talking about passing mentions, illustrations, and epigraphs. Again, fascinating to see someone else’s process!

At lunches and breaks, we chatted about indexing. Oh, how much fun!

“Cookbook Indexing: Strategies for Success”

The second day began with a great presentation by our own JoAnne Burek. JoAnne started off by talking about why people still buy cookbooks. She was preaching to the choir; I don’t cook, but I buy lots of cookbooks! She mentioned the ASI specialty book *Indexing Cookbooks* as a resource, particularly chapter 4, by Thérèse Shere. JoAnne then talked about some decisions she made in cookbooks she has indexed, for example, whether an ingredient was there as a “filler” or as a main ingredient. She mentioned that the decisions are often about which ingredients to leave out.

And Do Mi Stauber’s rule was invoked: if you are going to pick up something, pick up all the instances.

The attendees had some very particular opinions about indexing cookbooks! JoAnne and the audience discussed capitalization, and whether it might indicate whether an entry is an ingredient or part of a recipe title. We also discussed whether to put all the titles in, even if they start with a generic modifier, such as Very Berry Crumble. Some cookbook publishers have a very tight space requirements.

JoAnne also talked about how to find prospects: show your passion in your communications.

Both her presentation and the audience participation contributed to a good session.

“Indexing Lives”

Kendra Millis talked about indexing biographies. She outlined the various kinds of biographies, including some with a particular focus. She reminded us that biographies are not just made up of names (unless that is all that’s in the book!). When she mentioned married names, the audience groaned—it sounded like we all had experience with that challenge! Kendra reminded us that though a person may change their name, they remain the same person and so should be indexed in a single place, with cross-references from the other names. There was some discussion, including from the audience, about the various ways to subdivide a person’s life. (I mentioned the modified em dash method—my favourite!) And of course the order of subentries was covered: alphabetical, chronological, or page order. Someone (cough, cough, Kendra) may have confessed to using *passim*.

“Starting an Indexing Career: A New Indexer’s Journey”

Mylinh Hamlington has been indexing for one year. Having wrestled lots of things that new indexers need to know, she offered up her experiences. I spoke to a new indexer after the presentation, and they found it very helpful.

“Editing Your Index to Ensure Quality”

Joan Shapiro talked about editing your index. She had a handout, including her own checklist, for the audience, which I found very helpful. When I looked at her checklist, I discovered that it was very close my process, but I am not as organized. I do the same things, but with a more scattered approach. Joan suggested that the items on her checklist and the order they were in is but one way of creating quality indexes, and she encouraged us to develop our own.

“Indexing Revised Editions”

Connie Binder drew the short straw and gave one of the last presentations of the conference. I found it very interesting, but I’ve never done a revision of an edition, so I just watched. Connie is a great presenter and very informative.

Conferences are a valuable way to improve your indexing and to meet other indexers. And, as I’ve said before, they’re lots of fun!

Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award 2024

The award committee did not present the Ewart-Daveluy Award in 2024.

The indexes submitted did some things very well and tackled the challenges of complex texts. Nonetheless, we agreed that none reached the level of consistent excellence that merits the award.

The committee doesn't expect perfect indexes, but meeting most of the criteria is essential. All of these criteria are best practices that we should be applying in our indexing work. You can find them on the ISC/SCI's website.

Take some time over the summer to review the [criteria](#) and make use of them in your upcoming projects. Then

you'll be well on your way to submit an index for the 2025 Ewart-Daveluy Award.

The call for submissions for the 2025 award will come out in the fall. There are no restrictions to the subject matter or genre you can submit—we look at all kinds of books: textbooks, cookbooks, art books, how-to books, memoirs, and more.

Show us how you have creatively overcome challenges, resulting in a well-structured, easy-to-navigate, clear, and comprehensive guide for all users.

**François Trahan, coordinator,
2024 ISC/SCI Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award,
Stephen Ullstrom and Heather Ebbs**

Prix d'indexation Ewart-Daveluy 2024

Le comité ne décernera pas de prix Ewart-Daveluy en 2024.

Les index présentés ont fait plusieurs choses très correctement et ont relevé les défis de textes complexes. Cependant, nous sommes tombés d'accord sur le fait qu'aucun n'a atteint le niveau d'excellence associé à ce prix.

Le comité ne s'attend pas à des index parfaits, mais remplir la plupart des critères est essentiel. Tous ces critères relèvent des meilleures pratiques associées au travail d'indexation. Les critères sont disponibles sur le site Web de la SCI/ISC.

Prenez quelques moments durant l'été pour revoir ces [critères](#) et utilisez-les pour vos projets à venir. Ensuite,

vous serez sur la bonne voie pour soumettre un index pour le prix Ewart-Daveluy en 2025.

L'appel aux candidatures pour le prix 2025 aura lieu à l'automne. Il n'y a aucune restriction en matière de thématique ou de genre, nous prenons en compte toutes les sortes d'ouvrages : manuels scolaires, livres de cuisine, livres d'art, manuels d'instruction, mémoires et bien d'autres.

Montrez-nous comment vous avez surmonté de manière créative les défis, conduisant à un guide bien structuré, facile à consulter, clair et exhaustif destiné à tous les utilisateurs!

**François Trahan, coordonateur du prix
d'indexation Ewart-Daveluy 2024,
Stephen Ullstrom et Heather Ebbs**

Awards

Tamarack Award for Volunteer of the Year

The Indexing Society of Canada/Société canadienne d'indexation (ISC/SCI) is pleased to announce the 2024 recipient of the Tamarack Award. Alexandra Peace (Canning, Nova Scotia) is being recognized for her contribution and commitment to the Society.

Alexandra was chosen for her unflagging enthusiasm, endless willingness to help out, unwavering cheerfulness, and ability to see the promise in the rawest of volunteers.

Alexandra's colleagues had the following to say about her:

Alex's deep commitment to community engagement shines through everything she does. I'm guessing it is this that is at the base of her exuberance.

The scope of work that the effervescent Alex undertook during her presidency was staggering: she was dogged in her determination to document the roles and how-to handbooks for all the executive positions and the procedures to transition from one executive to another, enabling seamless transitions after elections. It was a passion project and transformation for the Society.

She is not just a ball of energy, but a ball of light. Always happy to answer a question or give a bit of feedback or helpful advice, even when she's halfway across the world.

"We are thrilled to present this award to Alexandra, and we are honoured to have her as a member of our Society," said Jolanta Komornicka and Maggie Billard, ISC/SCI Co-Presidents. "Thank you, Alex, for all you have given to the Society and its membership."

The Tamarack Award was instituted to recognize members who go "above and beyond the call of duty" in their volunteer work for the Society. Past recipients can be found on the website here: <http://indexers.ca/isc-awards/>.

Jolanta Komornicka and Maggie Billard



Alexandra Peace accepting the Tamarack Award from Mercedes Brian. Photo provided by Alexandra Peace.

Le prix Tamarack pour la bénévole de l'année

La Société canadienne d'indexation / Indexing Society of Canada (SCI/ISC) est heureuse de dévoiler la récipiendaire du prix Tamarack 2024. Il s'agit d'Alexandra Peace (Canning, Nouvelle-Écosse) en reconnaissance de sa contribution et de son dévouement à l'association. Alexandra Peace a été choisie pour son enthousiasme indéfectible, sa volonté sans limite de donner un coup de main, sa bonne humeur inaltérable et sa capacité à voir les promesses dans les nouvelles recrues bénévoles.

Voici ce que ses collègues ont à dire sur Alexandra :

L'implication profonde d'Alex dans l'engagement collectif brille dans tout ce qu'elle fait. Je devine que c'est ce qui est au fondement de son exubérance.

L'éventail des tâches que notre effervescente Alex a accomplies durant sa présidence est ahurissant : elle a été tenace dans sa détermination de documenter tous les rôles et tous les guides sur la façon de fonctionner associés à chaque position du bureau de direction et les procédures de transition d'un bureau élu au suivant, favorisant des transitions faciles après une élection. Cela fut un projet passionnant et transformateur pour notre association.

Ce n'est pas seulement une boule d'énergie, c'est aussi une boule de lumière. Toujours heureuse de répondre à une question ou de donner un retour ou un conseil avisé, même en étant à mi-chemin du bout du monde.

« Nous sommes ravies d'offrir ce prix à Alexandra, nous sommes très honorées de la compter parmi nos membres », ont déclaré Jolanta Komornicka et Maggie Billard, coprésidentes de la SCI/ISC, en ajoutant : « Merci, Alex, pour tout ce que tu as offert à notre association et à ses membres ».

Le prix Tamarack a été créé en l'honneur des membres qui « vont bien au-delà des attentes exigées par leurs fonctions » dans leur travail de bénévolat pour la Société. Les noms des récipiendaires du prix Tamarack sont en ligne sur le site de la SCI à : <https://indexers.ca/fr/isc-awards/>.

Jolanta Komornicka et Maggie Billard



Diversity in Canadian Publishing Bursary 2024

The Indexing Society of Canada (ISC/SCI) is pleased to announce the opening of the application period for its Diversity in Canadian Publishing Bursary. This bursary is part of ISC/SCI's special program to contribute to filling a proven lack of diverse voices and the demand for them in the Canadian publishing industry to help achieve equality of opportunity for aspiring indexers belonging to under-represented and/or marginalized groups.

Indexing is a specialized field, involving close reading, analysis, and organization. Beyond writing back-of-book indexes, indexers use their skills in areas as diverse as embedded (digital) indexing, metadata and database maintenance, cataloguing, glossary writing, thesaurus construction, and project management, to name only a few! Indexing provides endless opportunities for learning, professional exploration, and growth, aided by offerings of the Indexing Society of Canada and other societies worldwide, welcoming individuals from a wide range of educational and professional backgrounds.

In 2023 we awarded the bursary to Pascale Hutton and Sade Cooke and are very excited to assist them on their journeys in the indexing world.

The application deadline for the 2024 bursary is

6 October 2024. It will be granted to one person and will cover fees for an approved indexing program, two years of ISC/SCI membership with listing, and entry into the Mentorship program. Please refer to the bursary application for more information, including eligibility requirements.

On 17 September at 6:30 p.m. EDT, we will be holding an open info session for anyone interested in applying to the bursary. You can ask questions about the bursary, ISC/SCI, and indexing in general. Please check the bursary application website for the Zoom url closer to the date.

The ISC/SCI and the TIDE (The Inclusion, Diversity and Equity) committee look forward to fostering connections within and outside of the publishing industry while working toward diversification, cultural education, and inclusion. Please share this information with your contacts and join us on this exciting and necessary path—one forged by many thoughtful and hardworking people and organizations before us—toward embracing diversity and expanding our knowledge and understanding together.

LEARN MORE: <https://indexers.ca/volunteer/tide/>

APPLY HERE: <https://indexers.ca/tide-application/>

CONTACT US: tide@indexers.ca

Bourse pour la diversité dans l'édition au Canada 2024

La Société canadienne d'indexation (SCI/ISC) est heureuse d'annoncer l'ouverture de la période de candidature de la bourse pour la diversité dans l'édition au Canada. Cette bourse fait partie d'un programme spécial de la SCI/ISC dont l'objectif est de combler un manque prouvé et de répondre à un besoin de diversité dans le monde de l'édition au Canada en aidant à promouvoir l'égalité dans les opportunités offertes aux futurs indexeurs qui appartiennent à des groupes sous-représentés et/ou marginalisés.

L'indexation est un domaine spécialisé, qui requiert des compétences de lecture détaillée, d'analyse et d'organisation. Le travail d'un indexeur ne consiste pas simplement à créer des index de fin de livres; il comprend également l'indexation intégrée (numérique), l'entretien de métadonnées et de bases de données, le catalogage, la rédaction de glossaires, le développement de thésaurus et la gestion de projets, mais ceci ne représente cependant qu'une partie des tâches d'un indexeur! Le monde de l'indexation offre des occasions illimitées d'apprentissage, de découverte et de développement professionnels appuyées par les offres de la Société canadienne d'indexation et d'autres sociétés du monde entier, qui accueillent des personnes venant d'horizons très divers sur le plan professionnel et de l'éducation.

Nous avons décerné une bourse à Pascale Hutton et Sade Cooke en 2023 et sommes ravi(e)s de pouvoir les accompagner dans leur voyages dans le monde de l'indexation.

La date limite pour le dépôt des candidatures à la bourse de 2024 est le 6 octobre. Cette bourse sera décernée à une seule personne et permettra de couvrir le coût d'un programme de formation en indexation approuvé, d'une adhésion de deux ans à la SCI/ISC avec inscription dans l'annuaire et la participation au programme de

mentorat. Merci de vous reporter aux documents de candidature à la bourse pour plus de renseignements, ce qui inclut les critères d'admissibilité.

Nous offrons une session d'information en ligne gratuite le 17 septembre 2024 à 18h30 (heure de l'Est) à l'intention de toute personne intéressée à poser sa candidature pour la bourse pour la diversité dans l'édition au Canada. Vous pourrez poser des questions sur la bourse, la Société canadienne d'indexation (SCI/ISC) et l'indexation en général. Veuillez consulter la page du site dédiée à cette bourse quelque temps avant la date afin d'obtenir le lien Zoom.

La SCI/ISC et le CIDE (Comité Inclusivité, Diversité et Équité) sont impatients de créer des liens au sein de/en dehors du monde de l'édition, tout en travaillant à promouvoir la diversification, l'éducation en matière de cultures et l'inclusion. Merci de partager cette information avec vos contacts et de vous joindre à nous dans cette démarche passionnante et nécessaire—qui a été lancée bien avant nous par des personnes et des organisations bienveillantes et travailleuses dont l'objectif est de promouvoir la diversité et d'améliorer les connaissances et la compréhension de tous.

Merci de partager cette information avec vos contacts et de vous joindre à nous dans cette démarche passionnante et nécessaire—qui a été lancée bien avant nous par des personnes et des organisations bienveillantes et ayant énormément travaillé—visant à promouvoir la diversité et à améliorer les connaissances et une compréhension réciproque.

Pour en apprendre davantage, allez à: <https://indexers.ca/volunteer/tide/>

Formulaire de dépôt de candidature: <https://indexers.ca/fr/tide-application/>

Renseignements: tide@indexers.ca

Conscious Language and the Indexer

Jolanta Komornicka

The discussions in this column are to help indexers make decisions when a text does not provide guidance. Nothing here should be taken as prescriptive, nor is it meant to replace the author's words with the indexer's.

Indexers index the book in front of them. For many of us that means, whatever the author's terminology, no matter how outdated or offensive it is, the indexer shouldn't change things to be more inclusive, less biased, or more current. For some indexers this advice would seem to fly in the face of the idea that indexes need to be accessible to readers, using words that readers would look for, which might deviate from the text's language. For those indexers, the idea that indexes should follow the precepts of plain language applies. While reading Karen Yin's just-published *The Conscious Style Guide: A Flexible Approach to Language That Includes, Respects, and Empowers*, I came across a discussion that I think indexers might find enlightening as they make their decisions around the language of the text versus the language of the user.

Yin writes that "using a suboptimal word may be necessary when we are short on space"—a challenge every indexer confronts at least once. At other times, the choice of words is as much about offering an invitation into the conversation (or text) as it is about accuracy: "we can use the term weather instead of the appropriate but potentially aggravating term climate change," or "we can call a corporate training session racial-bias education instead of antiracism training to improve attendance."¹ These examples are not one-to-one comparisons with indexes, but they invite us to think about how index entries are themselves invitations into the text, as well as information about the text. If an index entry is click-bait, is the hook suitably baited for the fish you want to catch?

1. Karen Yin, *The Conscious Style Guide: A Flexible Approach to Language That Includes, Respects, and Empowers* (Little, Brown, 2024), 197.

Focus on ... Mary Newberry

Siusan Moffat

How long have you been indexing and how long have you been a member of ISC/SCI? Where did you get your indexing training?

I completed my first index in 2001, after doing the copy-editing course in the TMU [then Ryerson University] publishing program. Rosemary Shipton was my instructor—a brilliant editor, then co-director of the publishing program and still active today as executive editor at Simon & Schuster. She included one class on indexing. She respected indexers and the work they did, but she knew it wasn't something she enjoyed or understood well. What she gave me was enough. By 2001 I had completed my first book-length index, and loved it.

Oh, and did I mention that I had mentors? Ruth Pincoe first, Heather Ebbs next, and many others followed, without whom I would have been lost. Ruth made sure that I joined IASC/SCAD (as ISC/SCI was then) immediately, so I'm guessing it was in 2001.

Which indexing software do you use?

Cindex.

What did you do before you started your indexing career? Do you see these things as having any relation to indexing? What was it that attracted you to indexing? Why did you think it would be a good fit?

In 2001 I was 49 years old. I had dropped out of high school at 16 to dance. Aside from Toronto, as an adult I'd lived in London, England; Palm Beach, Florida; and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia—sometimes on my own, other times with roommates, and for many years in a commune. To list most but not all, I'd worked as an au pair, a professional dancer, owner of a dress store, a cashier, a multi-location deli supervisor, manager of a fancy food store, and finally, while I went to university, manager of a massage therapy clinic. I'm guessing that everything I did has worked its way into my indexing and editing in one way or another, even if only as an influence on what I choose to work on.

I went to university for the decade of my forties and graduated in 1999 with a master's in English literature and a BA in political science. I loved studying and couldn't imagine going back to working as a manager in any of the many businesses I'd worked in before. Someone I met at university, a woman the same age as me, said we must



Photo provided by Mary Newberry.

become editors. So we did. While looking for work, I enrolled in the evening editing program at TMU, and found I had a talent for it.

After university, I wanted something that gave me a skill that was mine, that didn't require managing and relying on others. I was a very good manager, but to do it well and kindly takes a lot and doesn't give a lot back. I was ready for something else. Something less emotionally draining, more intellectually challenging, something that would continue to expand the skills I'd begun to develop at university. I had loved that experience. Indexing and editing seemed to have the potential to fulfill those requirements. And they have done that and more.

What do you hope to do next that isn't related to indexing?

I volunteer at the Bird Research Station in the Tommy Thompson Nature Reserve in Toronto. We monitor bird migration and local bird breeding. I promised myself, when I gave up the indexing contract I had with the postsecondary education website for the Alberta Government, that spring I would get up before dawn and watch the slow arrival and departure of the birds eastward and north, along the shores of Lake Ontario. I did that on my own in the spring of 2020. In the fall of 2022 an opening for volunteers at the station came up and I was accepted. This spring has been the most exciting since I began.

Since the summer of 2023, I no longer work full-time as an indexer and editor. My plan is to leave time to watch the birds.

What is the most interesting index you have ever worked on? What index was the most fun to work on?

In 2016 I worked on the index to *Canada's Residential Schools: Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*. With my fellow indexers, I wrote about this experience for *The Indexer* (vol. 35, no. 2, June 2017). The same year I was honoured with the Ewart-Daveluy Award for excellence in indexing for the index to *The Letterbooks of John Evelyn*, volumes one and two, edited by Douglas D. C. Chambers and David Galbraith and published by University of Toronto Press. I talk about this experience in my article "A Retrospective of a Scholarly Indexer," published in *The Indexer* (vol. 42, no. 1, March 2024).

Share a nightmare index experience, one where everything that could go wrong did.

It was 2003, and I'd successfully completed 14 book indexes. All my clients had been happy and most would

go on to be repeat clients. In fact, even this client returned, and it was a better experience. This was my first book with Cambridge University Press. The author was happy with the index, we reviewed it together, and everything was fine. The author signed off on it and I got on a plane for a much deserved vacation. And then, *bang*—the press hated everything about it!

This is how I remember it, but I think in reality I must have heard from the author before I left. We must have begun working on the revisions, so by the time I got on the plane I was completely wiped and filled with uncertainty about how it was going to work out. The press gave the author the impression that everything was wrong, but as I started working on their complaints, it became clear that they had two main issues: They didn't like the main headings—I had used well-known noun phrases that begin with adjectives, and they said adjectives should never be main headings. And the second problem was that it was too long.

I can't now remember all the logistics of how we managed the revisions. Shortening the index was the hardest part. As far as I can remember, I was able to convince everyone that the entries they were unhappy with were actually fine and correct in the context of the book. But I do remember how difficult it was to maintain my confidence that I was correct, even though the author was pretty good about supporting me. She was an experienced professor, but I think this was her first book, so she had a lot riding on it. I felt ill for days.

Finally the press accepted the revised and shortened index. I remember sitting with the author and poring over the entries to get them reduced to an acceptable number for the press and still have a serviceable index. This, of course, was after the press had told the author that the length of the index was up to her. I remember wondering if the people at the press who we were dealing with were inexperienced. I did once try to look them up, and as I reflect on it at this distance in time, I think that's the most likely explanation for how I and the author were treated.

The worst part? When the book was published, there were six or more blank pages following the index!

The ISC/SCI mentorship program is named after you. Can you tell us a little bit about your history of mentoring?

I can't think of an honour I would rather have than a mentorship program known by my name. Although I have to admit that I don't do a lot of mentoring now. I don't keep up with the technology anymore, for one thing. And I don't have the kind of energy needed to be a good mentor. The

Society's program is very well managed; I've taken on a few mentors through it and have loved the process. Mentoring on one's own can be more difficult.

I don't remember exactly how it came about. Maybe it was a way of engaging others in what can be a lonely occupation. I think I thought of my first forays into mentoring as collaborations. Except I do remember that it was way more work than it would have been if I'd done it myself. On the other hand, it was a huge learning experience for me also. Many people have said that you learn through teaching, and that was certainly true for me. My mentees always asked questions that I wouldn't have, and it was through working out the answers that we both learned.

The kind of rigorous learning that comes from working with others, either as a mentor or in collaborations, is invaluable. For me, it meant I became a bolder and more creative indexer. When confronted with difficult or unusual texts, the deep understanding I was gaining gave me the courage to innovate and the tools to think through the challenges. There are many examples in my resumé of this: the work I did for the Alberta website OCCinfo; the online index I and a number of colleagues created for a local oral history project; the index to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report on Residential Schools—to name only a few.

You started an indexing program at TMU. How did that come about?

I thought this was a great question until I sat down to answer it and realized that I couldn't remember! I had to do a lot of digging into very old emails to remind myself. I found that I had written in July 2008 to one of the coordinators of TMU's publishing program, someone I knew slightly as an editing colleague through the Editors' Association

of Canada, proposing that they add a half-course on indexing. I didn't realize I was so bold, but apparently I was.

By that time I had quite a lot of teaching experience and was getting good feedback from students. As well as one-day workshops here and there, I was teaching a number of editing and writing courses part-time in the magazine publishing program at Centennial College. They were about to make it a full-time position, which I didn't want, so I was looking around for some way to continue teaching while also building my freelance business.

I received a positive response from TMU: "As a matter of fact, we are considering adding *exactly* such a course ... I'm delighted that you're interested! I was actually wondering just the other day—yesterday, in fact—if you were interested in teaching generally, and what you were working on these days." I couldn't have hoped for a better response.

From then it took until winter 2010, when I taught the first TMU indexing course in-class. They then hired me—as a "subject-matter expert"—to develop an online indexing course, for which I was paid separately. I have noted in the 2013 version of my CV that "module one [for the online indexing course was] included in the Chang School's style guide as an example of 'an ideal module.'" I first taught the indexing course online in 2010. In 2018 I experienced a number of severe threats to my health, and Margaret de Boer and Alexandra Peace (both former students of mine) jumped in to help with the teaching I had taken on. Alex and I continued teaching together for a few years, until she took over completely in 2020. It's now her course. She's updated it and by all reports is doing a great job. Just ask Jolanta Komornicka, our current co-president, who took the course from Alex!

Tribute to Ruth Pincoe

Mary Newberry

Before indexing, music was there for Ruth Pincoe, reflected in her degrees, a bachelor of music and a master's in musicology. I knew her first through the Quakers (another of her passions) as I was growing up in the sixties, and remember her always with a guitar in hand, singing Pete Seeger and Joan Baez songs. After graduating she worked in libraries, archives, and cataloguing before realizing she could combine many loves into one career. In 1982 she began editing, indexing, and archiving as a freelancer, and that same year she married David Peebles (who predeceased her in 2016). He soon joined her as an editing colleague. Together they were lovers of hiking, food, and theatre—with Ruth acting as stage manager for as many as 50 productions.

She became hooked on indexing, and on our indexing society (then known as Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada, or IASC/SCAD), after a full-day course in indexing from Editors Canada—which amounted to the formal aspect of her training. But as well as many mentors and much reading, she credits her mother, Grace, for giving her a leg-up as an indexer. As she explains in a 2003 profile in the *Bulletin*, “I literally inherited it from my mother, a professional librarian who worked as a cataloguer. She lived and breathed classification. The Dewey Decimal system dominated our house. When extra milk wouldn't fit into the fridge, there would be a note attached to the milk jug that read ‘See also back shed.’”

Ruth became a renowned indexer and mentor (she was my first mentor), editor (awarded the Tom Fairley Award for Editorial Excellence in 1994), archivist, and abstractor. As an indexer she could work in almost any field, but her focus was scholarly, in music, history, religion, and literature. She was also a talented cookbook indexer (and cook!). Ruth's favourite early indexing project, which combined many of her skills, was the arrangement and description of the Glenn Gould Papers at the National Library of Canada. It's still available as two volumes, *Glenn Gould: Descriptive Catalogue of the Glenn Gould Papers*, and Ruth is clearly credited.

Ruth was a special person in indexing both in Canada and all around the world. Many things we take for granted in the Society can be traced back to her tenure as president, beginning in 2003, and her too-many-to-name volunteer contributions before and after. As president, Ruth



Ruth Pincoe presenting on the history of the Tamarack Award at the 2015 conference in Winnipeg. (Photo provided by Mary Newberry.)

instituted the Tamarack Award, to be presented annually at the subjective discretion of the president, to a member for their “above and beyond” contributions. The first winner, in 2004, was Beth Macfie; I was given it in 2016; and in 2024, at the most recent AGM, our current co-president, Jolanta Komornicka, presented it to Alexandra Peace. With more to come, as of today there are 22 recipients who can thank Ruth!

Ruth was on the committee led by Christine Jacobs, with Noeline Bridge and Mary Sue Stephenson, that put together the impressive report and planning for the Ewart-Daveluy Indexing Award, with eight recipients to date, beginning with François Trahan in 2015. To my surprise and delight, I was a recipient in 2016, thanks in part to Ruth's mentoring. Ruth's advice to me as my mentor in 2001 was the same advice she gave in her 2003 *Bulletin* profile: “Do really good work, no matter how long it takes you. It is important, right from the beginning . . . You'll pick up speed as you develop your craft, but you need the excellence in order to get the chance to do the second, third, and fourth jobs for your client.”

Ruth was very proud of the impact she made internationally. In 2003 she had been to only two international conferences, but that was about to change. In 2006, as ISC/SCI's international liaison, she chaired the triennial meeting of the international indexers' organization, not yet named ICRIS (International Committee of Representatives of Indexing Societies), in Toronto as an adjunct to the ISC/SCI

co-conference with the American Society of Indexers. In March 2009, at the following triennial meeting, held near Johannesburg, South Africa, she took on the newly created role of international coordinator. During her time as ISC/SCI's representative, Ruth was instrumental in structuring and strengthening international ties and in increasing the exchange of ideas, communication, collegiality, and friendliness among indexers globally.

She immensely enjoyed everything about this role. As Greg Ioannou, a well-known member of Editors Canada and colleague of Ruth's, put it, "Ruth had lots of great anecdotes. My favourite was about the time she was attacked by a monkey while attending an indexing conference in South Africa." He added, "Editors' conferences are so tame in comparison."

Ruth was kind-hearted and generous. She didn't like saying no to something that interested her, and she was interested in almost everything. Christine Jacobs recalls that Ruth "was frantically busy all the time. I don't know how she juggled it!" In an email to Christine in January 2023, Ruth explained to her: "This week I have 9 online (Zoom) meetings, plus three or four scheduled telephone calls. My schedule is very complicated." All this sometimes made Ruth difficult to track down. On one occasion Alex Peace finally gave up emailing and called her. When Ruth answered, which she did promptly, she matter-of-factly explained that she received hundreds of emails daily.

Very little ruffled Ruth. As she aged, she underwent various joint replacements, getting through each recovery with little fuss. Even after David passed on, she carefully

planned each convalescence so she could remain living in their downtown Toronto home with its multiple staircases. She would arrange for minimal help from her large community of friends and managed very well and happily, enjoying her independence. At the 2017 Montreal conference, not too long after a hip replacement (or was it her knee?), in the middle of one night she ended up in the Hôtel-Dieu hospital with a dislocated hip. Other than being annoyed with herself for allowing that to happen, she just carried on, treating it all philosophically and with humour. Ruth had a dry wit and a distinctive laugh when something hit her funny bone, which happened quite frequently.

Ruth Pincoe will be remembered with great warmth and missed by many worldwide, as both a colleague and a friend. She died on the morning of 27 May 2024, at home, where she wanted to be, surrounded by friends.

Notes

Thank you to Christine Jacobs for important edits and additions.

To find the Glenn Gould Papers at the National Library of Canada, go to <https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.653123/publication.html>.

For the ICRIS story, see Jill Halliday, "A Short History of Matters International," *The Indexer* 30, no. 3 (September 2015): 148–50, <https://www.theindexer.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/ICRIS-history.pdf>.



Former ISC/SCI presidents at the 2019 conference in Ottawa.
 Back row, left to right: Noeline Bridge, Margaret de Boer, Heather Ebbs, Gillian Watts.
 Front row, left to right: Ruth Pincoe, Mary Newberry, Alexandra Peace, Christine Jacobs.
 (Photo provided by Mary Newberry.)

Membership

ISC/SCI MEMBERSHIP REPORT, 30 APRIL, 2024

Tanvi Mohile, Membership Secretary

As of 30 July 2024, we have 122 memberships. Since the previous report in March, 4 new members have joined.

Within Canada	99
British Columbia	20
Alberta	10
Saskatchewan	3
Manitoba	3
Ontario	45
Quebec	8
New Brunswick	2
Northwest Territories	1
Nova Scotia	6
Prince Edward Island	1
Newfoundland and Labrador	0

Outside Canada	23
India	1
Netherlands	1
United Kingdom	2
United States	19

Membership types	
Individual	114
Basic	33
Listed	74
Student	0
Emeritus	4
Bursary	3
Institutional	8
British Columbia	1
Alberta	1
Saskatchewan	1
Ontario	3
Outside Canada	2

New Members

The following members have joined since the previous report.

- Alexis Anderson, Montreal, QC (basic)
- Matthew Doering, Winnipeg, MB (basic)
- Olga Sushinsky, North York, ON (basic)
- Suzanne Hall, Maple Ridge, BC (basic)

Changed Your Address?

If you have moved recently, please send your new mailing address to Tanvi (membership@indexers.ca) so that she can update your subscription to *The Indexer*.

Volunteers Needed

Thank you as always to all the volunteers who devote so much time and energy to the Society. We all benefit greatly from this, but if you are unable to volunteer at this time, no worries!

Please contact presidents@indexers.ca to find out more about the following volunteer positions.

Mentors

The Mary Newberry Mentorship Program is actively looking for members willing to serve as mentors.

Conference 2025

Conference 2025 will be in person next year! We're looking for people interested in programming, venue coordination, documentation, and registration. Conference organization is a great way to get to know more about the Society, meet other indexers, and gain experience in event planning. Plus, who doesn't like getting a shout-out during the conference?

Social Media Committee

We have someone at the moment (thanks, Ren Hartwell!) who is posting what is given to them by the communications director, but we really need a few people to be on a committee to determine what to say and when.

Magpie Kudos

The Magpie Kudos award provides members an opportunity to thank other members who have made a difference to them. To give an award, fill out the short form available on the website at <https://indexers.ca/send-a-magpie-kudos>. Include the recipient's name and a few sentences on how that member was distinctly helpful—the more specific, the more effective the award! The recipient will receive a special thank-you email and recognition in an upcoming issue of the *Bulletin*. You can express your gratitude anonymously or you can include your name so the recipient knows who to thank in return.

Book and Periodical Council

If you're interested in liaising between ISC/SCI and the BPC, let us know!

Webinars

As we move forward with giving more webinars, we would love to have some brilliant people help with generating topics and finding speakers. Anyone?

Ad Hoc Committees

If you would like to help somehow but are not excited by any of the above opportunities, please let us know that you might be available for an ad hoc committee. All this means is that we would email you once in a while asking if a new committee is the one for you, and then you can decide if you're interested.

Bulletin Proofreader

The *Bulletin* is looking for a volunteer proofreader to assist with reviewing page proofs three times a year. Our ideal proofreader has training and experience in cold-read markup using Adobe Acrobat's comment tools according to Editors Canada's Professional Editorial Standards. Please contact Alexis at bulletin_editor@indexers.ca if you're interested.

The following member has received a Magpie Kudo:

JoAnne Burek was thanked by an anonymous member: "I so appreciate how smoothly our website has been developed and how communications are sent to members when changes occur. I am watching a disaster happen in another organization and I realized how lucky we are that JoAnne just does everything!"

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Regional Meetings

BC Region — BC Regional meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. PST, every other month. For more information contact Judith Nylvek at bc_rep@indexers.ca.

Central Region — Meetings are held every other month on Zoom, with occasional in-person meetings in the Greater Toronto Area. For more information contact Ronnie Seagren and Emma Warnken Johnson at [central_rep@indexers.ca](mailto:centeral_rep@indexers.ca).

Eastern Region — Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. EST, every other month. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Wendy Savage at eastern_rep@indexers.ca.

Prairies & Northern Canada Region — If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Jess Herdman at prairies_rep@indexers.ca.

Members' Monthly Video Chat

The national monthly video chats are held on either Wednesday or Saturday in alternating months. Dates and

Member-Initiated Groups (MIGs)

Jolanta N. Komornicka

Are you feeling inspired after the software sessions at the ISC/SCI conference? Do you miss the interaction of the breakout rooms? Have you wanted to learn more about cookbook indexing or to brainstorm with others on how best to market your indexing business? Then you might want to start a Member-Initiated Group (MIG). MIGs are managed and led by an ISC/SCI member—you don't need to be on the board or any other committee. Groups can have open or closed membership; that is, they are either accepting new members (open) or they're not (closed). Their purpose is to facilitate indexers' learning and networking with other members around a specific topic, whether you choose to meet in person or over the ISC/SCI Zoom account.

Currently, ISC/SCI has three MIGs running:

- Accountability Group (closed membership)
- Index Manager Study Group (closed membership)
- Dungeons & Dragons for Indexers Group (open membership; contact jnk@closereadingie.com)

links can be found on the website at <https://indexers.ca/events/> or look under "Upcoming Events" on the home page. The next national chat will be held on 14 September at 1:00 p.m. EDT.

Executive Committee Meetings

The next executive committee meeting will be held on 16 November at 1:00 p.m. EST. Please let your regional rep know if you have any concerns or questions for the executive committee.

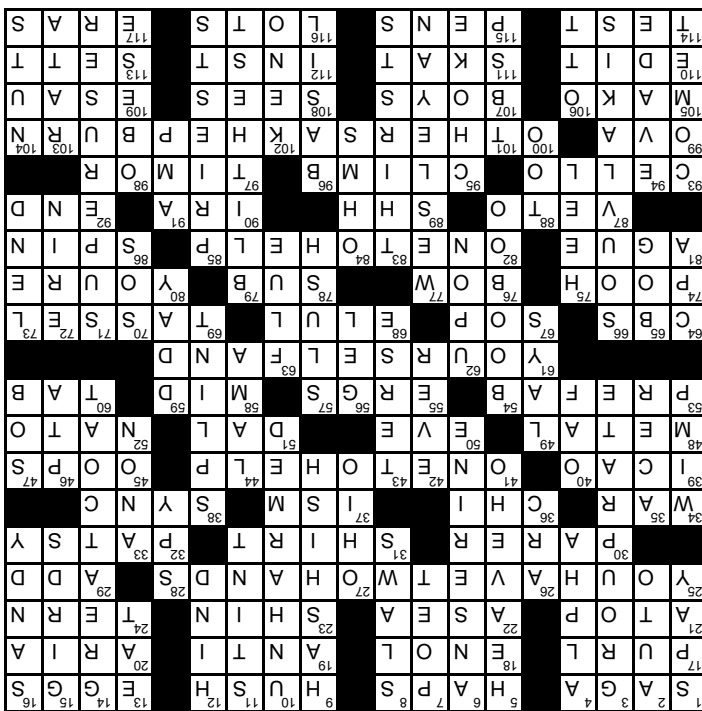
Other Events

The Society of Indexers will be hosting an online conference, "Human Indexing in a Digital World," on 18–19 September 2024. More details will be found on the SI's conference website: <https://www.indexers.org.uk/training-development/conferences/conference-2024/>.

As you can see from the list, MIGs can address a variety of indexer needs, such as professionalizing your indexing business practices (Accountability Group); learning new software or improving your skills with software you already know (Index Manager Study Group); sharing common interests with fellow indexers and socializing in our otherwise siloed profession (Dungeons & Dragons for Indexers Group). Previous MIGs have included book clubs (both for professional development and social) and software study sessions.

Have a look at <https://indexers.ca/member-initiated-groups> for more information on forming or joining a MIG.

Crossword Solution



Solution: *Motto of a Fair Lady*

Born into an aristocratic family in Belgium, Audrey Kathleen Hepburn-Ruston was 10 when World War II began. She lived with her mother and half-brothers in the Netherlands under Nazi occupation, where the family lost everything. Audrey witnessed horrors and suffered malnutrition.

After the war, although she had hoped to become a ballerina, her height and weak constitution worked against her, so she turned to acting. She played a number of minor roles on stage and screen, then had her first starring role in *Roman Holiday*, for which she won an Oscar, a BAFTA, and a Golden Globe. She never looked back.

Despite her fame, Audrey was known in the industry for her work ethic and kindness. She was always on time, she studied her lines till letter-perfect, and sometimes she cooked spaghetti dinners for cast and crew.

Her favourite role was that of mother to her two sons. Once they were grown and she retired from acting, she became a Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF, helping children around the world.

Heather Ebbs

The Indexer

The International Journal of Indexing

Articles in Volume 42, Issue 3 (September 2024) include:

Editorial
Mary Coe

Dictionary of basic indexing terminology: Japanese
Jochen Fassbender

Dictionary of basic indexing terminology: Welsh
Susie Marques-Jones

Indexing Classic Mayan, Part 2
Donald Howes

Picardy book-indexing software: an appraisal for amateur indexers
Michael Wyatt

Picardy book-indexing software: an appraisal for professional indexers
Walter Greulich

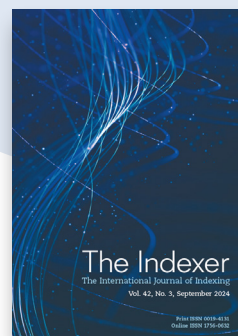
Training on how to create ebook indexes: a gap analysis
Pilar Wyman and Ronnie Seagren

Raising the profile of indexing: National Indexing Day 2024
Tanya Izzard

The Indexer forty years ago (October 1984)
Hazel K. Bell

Indexes reviewed
Christine Shuttleworth

Book reviews
Glenda Browne and Pierke Bosschieter



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Crossword

Motto of a Fair Lady by Heather Ebbs

Across

1. Heroic narrative
5. Chance occurrences
9. "Quiet!"
13. Baker's dozen?
17. Knit stitch
18. Carbon compound
19. Against
20. *Tosca* tune
21. On high, perhaps
22. On deck, perhaps
23. Leg bone
24. Beach bird
25. START OF QUOTE
29. Put two and two together
30. Peeler
31. Blouse
32. Cline
34. Combat
36. Greek letter
37. How belief ends?
38. Lip-___
39. UN's air safety council
41. PART 2 OF QUOTE
45. "My bad!"
48. Rock type
50. Twilight, to bard
51. Pappu
52. Int'l military alliance
53. Home built in a day?
55. Work units
58. Season opener?
60. Bar bill
61. MIDDLE OF QUOTE
64. It keeps an eye on TV
67. Absorb

Down

1. Fix
2. Saturn or Mercury
3. Tour discount, e.g.
4. Top dog
5. Dismissal
6. Goose-like
7. Service or Livesay
8. Chopped salads
9. Intoxicant
10. Safe and intact
11. Stretch
12. Rear
13. Absorb
14. Long, heavy jacket
15. Prepares
16. *Grease* role for Olivia
26. Narrative plot
27. Buckeye State
28. Something I do
33. Soon, to bard
34. Chicken
35. Maple genus
38. Break brace
40. Big galoot
42. At any time
43. To the point
44. Holy one
46. "Harper Valley ___"
47. Weep
49. Big name in chips
54. Little bear
56. Come together
57. Winter woe for walkers
59. June 6, 1944
62. "Once ___ a time..."
63. Chimney channel
64. Number cruncher, for short
65. Mire
66. Shish kebabs
70. "Help!"
71. Computer whiz
72. Ireland, to bard
73. Give for a while
75. Scoundrel
77. Methodist
79. Most lighthearted
83. Desires
84. Resistance units
85. Holy ones
88. Also
91. Band aid?
93. One of Santa's deer
94. Dodge
95. Clog
96. Pesto base
98. Corpulent
101. Baker's meas.
102. Bingo relative
103. Pro follower
104. Daft
106. Baseball's Mel

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