

# Note from the General Editor



When I joined the archival profession in 1988, I was fortunate to be invited to become a member of the *Archivaria* team. Since that time, I have been continuously involved with this journal in a number of roles, from production assistant, to member of the editorial team, and, lastly, technical advisor to the Editorial Board. While I cannot speak for the changes that occurred in the first thirteen years of the journal's operation, I am hard pressed to think of a time since then when so many potentially significant changes have occurred at one time, several of them affecting editorial and production-related elements behind the scenes that *Archivaria* readers do not normally see. Let me just say then as I embark on my term as General Editor that 2007 promises to be an exciting and challenging year.

Although from the early days of *Archivaria* there have been different types of editors involved in production (associate, managing, and regional, to name but three), for the past two decades, the General Editor has had full responsibility for the entire production of the journal, from gathering submissions and overseeing the peer review process, through the entire copy edit and publication process. This situation has changed considerably with the establishment of the position of Managing Editor in January 2007. The General Editor, as the primary contact for *Archivaria* and Chair of the Editorial Board, will continue to be responsible for managing the journal's content and the peer review process, with its associated revisions; the new Managing Editor will be responsible for the entire production process, taking the "accepted" text from the other members of the editorial team and ensuring the publication of the paper and electronic versions of the journal. I am pleased to welcome to this new position, Michael M. Dufresne, and I look forward to working with him and the other members of the editorial team – Kara Quann (Book Review Editor), Sarah Stacy (Exhibition Review Editor), and Marcel Barriault (French Language Editor). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew Horrall, our previous Book Review Editor, for all of his work over the past three years.

After more than six years of discussion, planning, and implementation,

I am also pleased to announce that *Archivaria* has fully entered the world of electronic publication. The creation of the digitized collection, known as *e-Archivaria*, was undertaken by the Association of Canadian Archivists in 2005–2006, using the services of Simon Fraser University Library Systems and the Open Journal Systems (OJS) software. The great majority of the published issues, from 1975 to 2002, are now available to the public in an open collection, which is found at <http://journals.sfu.ca/archivar/index.php/archivaria>; the most recent eight issues (presently volumes 55 to 62 inclusive) are retained in the Reserved Collection, which is accessible only to members of the ACA and individual and institutional subscribers at <https://www.members-archivists.ca/>. I encourage all of our readers to come visit us at these sites, but rest assured, it is our intention to continue to produce both a print and an electronic journal for the foreseeable future.

In 2007, we will be continuing our foray into the world of electronic publication with Phase II of *e-Archivaria*, which will include the digitization of back issues of its predecessor, *The Canadian Archivist*. To facilitate this, and assist with the ongoing development of *e-Archivaria*, we have formalized the position of Technical Coordinator. I am pleased to welcome to the team our new Coordinator, Mark Levene, who will be working closely with the Managing Editor and the ACA office staff (Duncan Grant and Judy Laird) for all issues related to *Archivaria*'s electronic publication.

In addition to the changes in our editorial staff roles and the launch of *e-Archivaria*, we are making several changes to the production process itself, including a move towards desktop publishing for the initial setup, which will place much more production control into our hands. We will also be exploring the use of a variety of new software tools that will facilitate shared workspaces for the editorial and production teams, and further streamline the production of future issues and the enhancement of *e-Archivaria*. My intention is to create a working environment that will allow *Archivaria* to function smoothly and efficiently regardless of the physical location of the editorial and production teams.

Finally, as readers will notice in perusing this latest issue, the ACA has recently established the new Hugh A. Taylor Prize for *Archivaria*. This new award honours the doyen of Canadian archival thinkers whose wide range of scholarly publications sparked the Canadian archival imagination. The prize will be awarded annually to the author of the *Archivaria* article that presents new ideas or refreshing syntheses in the most imaginative way, especially by exploring the implications of concepts or trends from other disciplines for archival thinking and activity, and by extending the boundaries of archival theory in new directions. Watch for the first winner of the Hugh A. Taylor Prize, as well as the winner of the W. Kaye Lamb Prize, to be announced at the ACA Awards Luncheon in Kingston in June 2007 and recognized within

*Archivaria* 64 (Fall 2007).

Ultimately, *Archivaria* is the “journal of the Association of Canadian Archivists,” and our goals remain unchanged. As my predecessor Robert McIntosh put it so well in his inaugural note in *Archivaria* 58, “*Archivaria* publishes research reflecting leading archival thinking nationally and internationally which is relevant to the practitioner, engaging to the scholar, and stimulating to the student of archives. We aim to address the major challenges facing the discipline across the archival spectrum.” In keeping with this tradition, we will continue to rely upon our readers and contributors to ensure the journal’s ongoing success. If you have comments, ideas for articles, or suggestions for exhibitions or books to review, I encourage you to contact me or any other member of the editorial team to share those thoughts and ideas – we would like to hear from you!

**Catherine A. Bailey**  
**General Editor**  
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