

Flin Flon Public Library Board
Archive Meeting
Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Present: Buz Trevor, Phyllis Stadnick, Don Peake, Andy Burbidge, Graham Craig, Debbie Kuzub, Kristin Imrie

Regrets: Gerry Clark

INTRODUCTION

Buz introduced attendees and outlined objectives of the meeting, namely to try and make the material in the Archives more accessible to the public. The discussion was initiated by requests from Don Peake and Debbie Kuzub.

CURRENT STATUS

Phyllis outlined what the archive is and how it has evolved.

The archive is housed in a climate control room. At one time there was some funding and someone was employed in the archives but for many years any work has been done on an ad hoc volunteer basis. Most recently a group did substantial work sorting material, particularly newspapers and photographs. Many photographs have been sorted and identified and classified.

A number of books that were in the archives were identified as having no relevance to the archives and put into piles for disposal.

The group appears to have folded, although Joan Bowman is still busy typing collecting anecdotes from a Reminder series.

WHAT DO PEOPLE WANT?

After discussion, it was agreed that the Archive should represent material of local interest. It was pointed out that there were a lot of newspapers which might have local interest material (Opasquia Times, Winnipeg Free Press). It probably means that these papers will have to be scrutinized to see if this is the case.

All attendees were agreed that the archive should be more accessible to the public. The problem is how to achieve this without compromising the archive.

HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD?

Don Peake wants to scan all the photographic material. Debbie wants to help with this project. She has programs to fix and improve photographs.

The issue of copyright was raised. Buz said he would check with Mark Kolt.

There was discussion about what material is needed to move forward.

This raised the issue of funding. Buz pointed out that the library does not have any additional funds. There may be grants available. Phyllis will look into this. It was suggested that we might organize a fund raiser – one of the suggestions was that we could sell off old copies of Northern Lights (there are many duplicate copies in the archive). Phyllis also suggested the Joe Brain fund.

Don said he would provide his own scanner. It was felt that the archive would need a scanner of suitable size to scan larger items (deck scanner).

We need to see if we can access a grant to fund a summer student (or something like that)

The stuff that has been identified as not needed (old books, computers) needs to be removed. (Graham and Buz)

Buz will go to the board with the suggestion that Don and Debbie make a start on scanning the photographs that have already been sorted and classified.