



**Annual Report**  
*of the*  
**British Columbia  
Legislative Library**  
**2006**



## Cover Story

Linocut print of the entrance to the Library by an unknown artist. The block was found in the attic in November 1985. The print appeared on the cover of the ***British Columbia Library Association Bulletin, January 1955.***



May 30, 2007

The Honourable Bill Barisoff  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, British Columbia  
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am pleased to present the Library's Annual Report for the year 2006. The report is submitted pursuant to order 116 of the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly, 1987.

In keeping with our efforts to provide more information to the Members of the Legislative Assembly via electronic services, this report will also be made electronically available on the Library's Intranet site.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Taylor  
Director

## Highlights

2006 was a year marked by new staff, new services, new electronic resources, and expanded staff training.

### New research service

Beginning in June, the Library began to publish background papers on aspects of provincial history and public policy. This year, the Library produced three: *British Columbia's provincial emblems*, *Mandatory retirement* and the *History of the Agricultural Land Reserve*. Reference staff also authored five briefing papers for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Canadian Regional Parliamentary Seminar held in October. The topics covered were electoral reform, sustainable aquaculture, budget surpluses, foster care and the Maritime Forces Pacific.

In honour of Women's History Month, the Library researched and wrote an article on Grace MacInnis, a BC MLA who went on to become BC's first female MP. It was published in the October edition of *Orders of the Day*, the newsletter for former Members of the Legislative Assembly.

### Electronic resources added in 2006

The Library has started a process of evaluating and expanding access to electronic resources. Three subscription services were added this year: **Canadian Newsstand Major Dailies**, which gives full text access to Canadian national and leading regional papers, back to 1985, **PAIS (the Public Affairs Information Service)**, a database providing citations for documents on public affairs, public and social policies and international relations, with coverage from 1972, and finally, the **Worldwide Political Science Abstracts**, with coverage back to 1975.

### Noteworthy print resource

In November we purchased 29 dictionaries – updates or titles for languages not previously collected. We now have dictionaries in the following languages (and English): Arabic, Carrier, Chinese, Chinook, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Fijian,

Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hawaiian, Hebrew, Hindi, Hindustani, Hungarian, Indonesian, Inuit, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Maori, Niska, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Quebecois, Russian, Scottish Gaelic, Serbian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Welsh and Yiddish.

### British Columbia Government Publications

Well over 2,000 new BC Government publications were added to our collection during the year. Most government publishing is now done via the Internet, and these titles were downloaded to the Library's intranet site for permanent retention, bringing the online collection to almost 10,000. Most were printed on acid-free paper for long term preservation.

About 3,000 BC Government news releases were added this year, bringing the total to almost 17,000. This material was migrated into a more robust database with improved searching options.

### Implementing the New Library System

Migration to the new library system purchased in 2005 was completed in January, with two exceptions: the BC Newspaper and BC Periodical Indexes, and the Online Catalogue. While waiting for the new products to be delivered, the Library continued to provide access to clients and the public through its old online catalogue.

### British Columbia Legislative Assembly Archives

At the request of the Clerk of the House, the Library put together an archival collection of the following published legislative documents:

- Bills (Bound edition including Third Reading Bills), 1890-
- Official report of debates of the Legislative Assembly (Hansard), Jan. 22, 1970 (1<sup>st</sup> Session, 29<sup>th</sup> Parliament) –
- Journals, 1851-
- Sessional papers of the Province of British Columbia, 1872 (1<sup>st</sup> Session, 1<sup>st</sup> Parliament) – 1981/1982 (4<sup>th</sup> Session, 32<sup>nd</sup> Parliament)
- Statutes (including the early Proclamations and Ordinances, and the Revised statutes), 1858-

The collection was compiled, documented, and boxed to archival standards, ready for storage off-site in a safe, environmentally friendly, earthquake-proof location.

### Staff training

Library staff participated in numerous training opportunities in 2006. There were several web conferences hosted by SirsiDynix, the company which provides our integrated library system. Staff attended user group meetings for the library system, sessions on Google Scholar, content management and on a variety of work-related topics such as workplace safety and managing email.

### Staff appreciation

The staff are the experts who produce the high quality products and services relied upon by the Members of the Legislative Assembly, their staffs, the Officers of the House, Legislative Assembly staff, the Press Gallery, researchers from the public service, other libraries and members of the public. It is their skill and energy that makes the Library the great institution that it is.



Library Dome Gargoyle