



The Keepers of Knowledge

Fourth International Indigenous Librarians' Forum

Daily Forum Newsletter

Saturday – 17 September 2005

Welcome Back Indigenous Delegates!

On the last day of the Forum, delegates were enlightened by presenters representing Alaska, New Mexico, Australia, and New Zealand.

Keynote

Sharon Shorty, representing the North, expressed the importance of sharing stories. The story "Bad Boy and Brother Mouse," narrated in English by her mother Winnie Peterson and in Tlingit by Winnie's cousin Bessie Cooley, conveyed the importance to respect everything big and small. She reminds us that we are creating communities with libraries.

Sessions

Linda Wynne, in the first Alaska panel, discussed intellectual cultural property rights as they relate to tribal archives.

June Degan reminds us that our stories are alive and living and they

must be told. We need appropriations of voice.

Nellie Sears and Lucy Ivanoff demonstrated how libraries in rural Alaska communities can persevere with or without technology.

During lunch, Rick Favel gave us all the information we wanted to know about the pow-wow but were afraid to ask. His explanation of pow-wow protocols, grand entry, and background information on the dances/dancers will surely help those both unfamiliar and familiar with pow-wows. His powerful voice provided a preview of the songs we will enjoy Saturday.

Taina H. Tangaere McGregor brought us along on a tour of her educational experiences and of how she started on her path of becoming an oral historian. A book based on her oral history project, which focused on the experiences of the C Company 28 Maori WWII battalion WWII veterans, will be released August 2006.

Elizabeth Wacondo, of the K'awaika (Laguna) Public Library shared her

31-year career at her Pueblo's tribal community library. She concluded with a traditional winter story,

Melissa Jackson introduced her work with the New South Wales State library with the history of the museum and its relations with Aboriginal people. Melissa demonstrated the INFOKOORI website at www.sl.nsw.gov.au

Mereana Coleman discussed Maori tertiary institutions. Ruth Ivey, of the University of Waikato Library in New Zealand, shared with us how the library staff strives to work with the Maori population through various support mechanisms (the MOD Squad), student-centered activities (Waka Week), and bilingual resources.

Delegates made first steps to developing an action plan. These steps might include: 1) creating a Forum planning document; 2) develop a strategy to include Indigenous information workers from around the world at Forum events; 3) to collaborate with IFLA; 4) to take steps to document the history of the Fora; and 5) to review and, if appropriate, revise documents arising from previous Fora. Send your comments to the Canadian Organizing Committee.

If you missed the banquet, we will be looking for your participation in the social dances at the pow-wow.

Announcements

Congratulations to the winners of another set of beautiful door prizes:

Melissa Jackson
Mari Russell
Diana Doxtdator
Jean McKenzie
Inez McLeod
Phyllis Lerat
Mereana Coleman

And the winners of the afternoon drawing were:

Deborah Pelletier
Rob Yazzie
Lucia Ivanoff
Harriet Roy
Taina T. McGregor
Loriene Roy
Marie-Louise Perron

The staff of the newsletter appreciates the opportunity to support the forum through this medium. It has been a pleasure to meet and work with the delegates and provide this service. Feel free to email us.

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