Editorial

I am slightly alarmed by the photo I have chosen for the cover of this tenth volume of Partnership. An ominous dark cloud hovers in the giant prairie sky, threatening the tiny human-made elements in the far background. The photo speaks to me of fear, loneliness, isolation, and foreboding. What was I thinking to choose an image like this for my first issue as Editor-in-Chief?

But as I continue to contemplate it, more hopeful feelings emerge: space, beauty, resilience.

Next, my mind turns to the artist behind this photo and I smile, thinking of the patience, humility, courage, craft, commitment, and luck it takes to capture the “decisive moment” of a thundercloud right before the rain.

Finally I arrive at the word that this photograph has subconsciously conjured for me: partnership. To survive in that isolated place way in the distance of the photograph, I imagine you must rely on strong partnerships. The rain and the field are in partnership. Sandra’s unhesitating willingness to share her photograph with the journal is an act of partnership.

Partnership really is all about partnerships. It is the journal of the eponymous Partnership, a network of the twelve provincial and territorial library associations which also collaborate to provide the Education Institute, the Job Board, and the Continuing Education Certificate.

The journal comes to life every six months because of a hard-working and talented partnership of authors, peer reviewers, editors, and technical support genies. This collaborative work is done virtually, and in separate offices and cubicles across the country in six time zones, entirely on a volunteer basis, with no budget, and it has been going for ten years!

I want to lift the curtain to reveal the talented editorial and technical team whose collaborative efforts put together this issue of Partnership:

Stefania Alexandru, Proofreader (since May 2015)

My day job: British Columbia Bibliography Digitizer at the University of British Columbia Library, Digital Initiatives; Principal, Alexandru Editorial Services

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: A storm is coming or clearing up.

Why I contribute to Partnership: I am starting out in my career as a librarian so proofreading for Partnership is not only an excellent opportunity to keep up with current literature and network with colleagues, but also a chance to contribute my skills as an editor.
Karen Bordonaro, Copyeditor (since August 2014)

*My day job:* Liaison Librarian, Brock University

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo:* Storm clouds are gathering, but they are bringing needed rain.

*Why I contribute to Partnership:* Copyediting is a great way to help other librarians hone their writing, and it lets me learn about the mechanics of getting a journal article successfully published.

Michael Dudley, Viewpoints Section Editor (since March 2013)

*My day job:* Indigenous and Urban Services Librarian, University of Winnipeg

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo:* Ominous!

*Why I contribute to Partnership:* I’m motivated to contribute to *Partnership* because of how socially, economically, and politically important the issues are that relate to libraries, information, and information technologies; and that by writing about these issues and editing the works of others, I gain a greater understanding of them and how they relate to my practice.

Jennifer Easter, Innovations in Practice Section Editor (Since 2011)

*My day job:* Academic Liaison Librarian, University of Guelph-Humber

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo:* My friend and colleague Sandra Herber is an amazing photographer!

*Why I contribute to Partnership:* The opportunity to learn aspects of librarianship that I would probably never learn otherwise. I also really enjoy participating in the progress of a manuscript from submission to final publication.

Linda Ecclestone, Business Manager (since 2014)

Corinne Gilroy, Layout Editor (since May 2015)

*My day job:* Coordinator of Resources and Acquisitions, Mount Saint Vincent University Library

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo:* Contrast filters and large format cameras. (I’m working on a Certificate in Photography at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design.)

*Why I contribute to Partnership:* I’m driven to contribute because *Partnership* delivers top-notch support to our profession. This is my way of paying it back and saying thank you.
Michael Hohner, Media/Publication Reviews Section Editor (since the beginning!)

*My day job:* Head of Systems, University of Winnipeg

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo*: Even with an unclouded sky, there may be winds of change; better to be aware of an approaching storm front, than not see potential trouble on the horizon (it is never just black and white…there are so many (copies of) shades of grey (and yet I have not read it). Life here on this land is vast and open and there is plenty of room for growth.

*Why I contribute to Partnership*: It has been a pleasure connecting colleagues from across Canada with recent literature of and about our profession. Too little knowledge too often may indeed be a dangerous thing, and to be valued as a profession and as professionals, we need to drink more and celebrate. Cheers!

Catherine Jeanjean, Copyeditor (since 2010)

Chris Landry, Copyeditor (since May 2015)


*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo*: Enormous prairie sky.

*Why I contribute to Partnership*: I appreciate reading about the work and ongoing challenges across many institution types and sizes. Copyediting for *Partnership* gives me a window into projects, technologies, and trends in an exciting field.

Jessica Lange, Professional Development Section Editor (since 2012)

*My day job:* Liaison Librarian, McGill University

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo*: Open skies!

*Why I contribute to Partnership*: I’ve really loved liaising with the Canadian librarian community to develop articles on professional development topics. I love the immediate application of the articles and I hope our readers have found the articles to be useful in their practice.

Michael Lines, Copyeditor (since 2012)

*My day job:* Learning and Research Librarian, University of Victoria

*First reaction to this issue’s cover photo*: This reminds me of some of the stories my dad used to tell me about growing up in Saskatchewan – like how his dad, back in the ‘20s, went around “recharging” lightning rods for 50 cents.

*Why I contribute to Partnership*: As copyeditor, I’ve learned a fair amount about bad grammatical advice, and how to keep it to myself. I like to see the finished product, and it does keep me a little more current that I’d otherwise be.
Allana Mayer, Copyeditor (since 2014)

Lindsay McNiff, Copyeditor (since 2014)

My day job: Learning & Instruction Librarian, Dalhousie Libraries

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: It’s coming…

Why I contribute to Partnership: I get a feeling of satisfaction from improving the flow of other people’s writing!

Dahlal Mohr-Elzeki, Copyeditor (since May 2015)

My day job: Patient Resource Librarian, McConnell Resource Centre, McGill University Health Centre - Glen Site

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Beautiful but foreboding – where are all the birds?

Why I contribute to Partnership: What I love best about my work is that it allows for constant interaction with fantastic, fresh ideas! In other words, I have the constant opportunity to learn about new trends and practices in the library world. It's marvellous.

Leanne Olson, Profiles Section Editor (since 2013)

My day job: Metadata Management Librarian, Western University

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: I want to live in this photo. The clouds are stunning. I've never been to the prairies but now I want to visit. The photo feels ominous and peaceful at the same time.

Why I contribute to Partnership: I edit our Profiles section and I absolutely love it. It's so interesting seeing what types of library jobs are out there and where different people find their passions. If I'm having a bad day, reading a profile always makes me smile, laugh, or consider librarianship in a new way. It's also a great excuse to keep in touch with people I've met at conferences or went to school with.

Melanie Parlette-Stewart, Web Designer (since June 2015)

My day job: Blended Learning Librarian, University of Guelph

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Reaching for the horizon – there’s always further to go.
Why I contribute to Partnership: I think that design can entice the user – I’m excited to be a part of the evolution of a journal that brings together such diverse members of the profession.

Alessya Quattrociocchi, Conference Spotlight Section Editor (since 2014)

My day job: Librarian, Toronto Public Library

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: The calm before the storm.

Why I contribute to Partnership: Contributing to the journal allows me to combine my two passions: editing and librarianship. I also love learning about the trends in the library industry by getting a sneak peek of what authors submit before it’s published publicly.

Rainer Schira, Layout Editor (since 2009)

My day job: Reference and Electronic Services Librarian, John E. Robbins Library, Brandon University

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Home and unending possibilities.

Why I contribute to Partnership: Making sure that library researchers have a voice and to continue to share their thoughts with others.

Ann Smith, Theory & Research Section Editor (since 2007)

My day job: University Librarian, Acting, Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Oooooh. The Wizard of Oz. Canada. (I arrived in Canada in 2001).

Why I contribute to Partnership: I’m always delighted by both the quality and variety of research submitted to the journal. I’m a firm believer that every practitioner has at least one research project waiting to be written up and published. The thoughtful and comprehensive reviews produced by the peer-reviewers are always a joy to read.

Nathalie Soini, French Language Editor (since April 2015)

My day job: Head, Information Services at Queen’s University

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Johnny Cash.

Why I contribute to Partnership: My desire to make things bilingual in many aspects of Canadian librarianship and bring attention to Francophone researchers/librarians and their work to as many people as possible.
Tanya Ulmer, Proofreader (since May 2015)


First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: The prairies look like home; foreboding sky; light on the horizon.

Why I contribute to Partnership: I really like having the sneak preview on the most up-to-date information on library practices and LIS research in Canada.

Wayne Johnston, Open Journal Systems Technical Support (since before the beginning!)

My day job: Head, Research Enterprise and Scholarly Communication, University of Guelph

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: The future laid out before us.

Why I contribute to Partnership: It's a great opportunity for me to connect with librarians across the country from every sector – in other words, not just academic librarians but also public, special, and school librarians.

Plus…

David Fox, Former Editor-in-Chief, 2011-2014

My day job: Librarian Emeritus, University of Saskatchewan and Councillor, Rural Municipality of Corman Park, SK

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: Prairie storm coming! Love the grain bins standing on the horizon. As a resident of Saskatchewan for the past thirty years, I've seen this sight many times. It has been such a dry year so far, we would welcome a good thunderstorm about now (as long as there's no hail!).

Why I contributed to Partnership: A long interest in promoting the scholarship of librarians. To give something back to the profession from which I made a good living for thirty-eight years.

Jennifer Richard, Founding Editor-in-Chief, 2006-2010

My day job: Academic Librarian at Acadia University

First reaction to this issue’s cover photo: A long journey ahead, a far distance to go, and apprehension. I think I have more negative feelings about the photo because it is black and white. It appears to me as the start or end of a prairie storm. If I can imagine it as bright blue sky, white clouds, yellow (canola) and green on the ground, I believe I would have much more positive feelings, freedom, openness, calm, and a way forward.
Why I contributed to Partnership: What I enjoyed most about being part of the journal was the collaboration and the people I got to work with and know (some of them without ever meeting in person). The most important aspect for me was the sense of accomplishment – that we did something good and meaningful for the profession.

As you can see, this journal is made up of an interesting and diverse bunch who are devoted to advancing the profession through scholarship. I feel very happy and privileged to be a part of this group, as well as the next link in the Editor-in-Chief chain that started with Jennifer Richard, and then David Fox.

In the coming months, Leanne, Nathalie, and I will be focusing on the reader’s role and experience in this partnership. We are conducting a study on the value and relevance of this journal to you, the readers. Is it continuing to fulfill its mission of being a useful and reliable source for library practitioners in all library sectors across Canada? We look forward to your responses.

Best wishes,

Robin Bergart
Editor-in-Chief
July 2015