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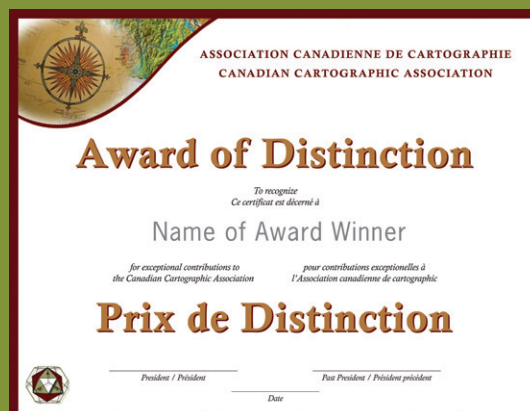
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FEATURED
AWARD

CCA
Award of
Distinction

AWARD OF DISTINCTION: General Call for Nominations

The CCA Awards of Distinction were initiated in 1994 to recognize individuals or groups who have made exceptional contributions in the field of cartography. The list of recipients to date is provided at: www.cca-acc.org/awards-past.asp

The deadline for receipt of nominations will be January 31, 2010.

Nominations are sought in three categories:

- I. Individuals who have or are making exceptional professional contributions to the practise of Cartography;
- II. Individuals who have or are making exceptional scholarly contributions to Cartography; and
- III. Individuals who have or are making exceptional contributions to the CCA.

The Committee will confer to select the award recipient from among the nominations received and determine the selection by February 28, 2010. Up to a maximum of two individuals in each of the three categories identified above may be granted awards per year. The awards may be granted posthumously. The Committee shall recommend their selection to the Executive for approval.

The Committee Chairperson will inform the award recipients shortly thereafter and will invite them or representatives to receive the award at the following Annual General Meeting (AGM) or the associated banquet. In any event, the names of the award winners will be announced at the AGM. The CCA is not able to reimburse the award winners or their representatives for their expenses in travelling to the



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www.cca-acc.org

AGM to receive the awards unless they qualify for reimbursement under the regulations of the CCA Travel Policy.

The names of the award recipients and the award citations will be published in the first issue of *Cartouche* published after the AGM.

CCA Awards Committee

Clifford H. Wood, Chair

drchwood@sympatico.ca



Author **Clifford H. Wood** is Past-President of the Association and Chair of the CCA Awards Committee. Cliff is a Professor (retired) from Memorial University and Co-Editor of *Cartographica*.

Editor's Notes



One of my favourite online finds lately is the Thinkmap Visual Thesaurus, “An online thesaurus and dictionary of over 145,000 words that you explore using an interactive map.” < <http://www.visualthesaurus.com> >

How appropriate then to look up the adjective describing the nature of the contributions that warrant the CCA being conferred: exceptional. The most apt connotation of that word for the purposes of the awards is: “far beyond what is usual in magnitude or degree”, or those “surpassing what is common or usual or expected”. Please take a few minutes to consider individuals or groups who have made or are currently making exceptional contributions to cartography, to the practice of cartography, or to our association and send in your nomination.

Patricia Connor

Cartouche is published quarterly by the Canadian Cartographic Association. Members are welcome to submit articles for publication. Articles and notices submitted for publication are subject to editorial approval. Please address your submissions to the editor. All other articles will appear in the language of submission. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy of content, the editor cannot be responsible for errors in compilation, or loss of any item submitted. Opinions expressed in the editorials, submitted articles and letters are not necessarily those of the Canadian Cartographic Association. The Canadian Cartographic Association gratefully acknowledges the financial support given by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Cartouche est publié trimestriellement par l'Association canadienne de cartographie. Tous les membres peuvent soumettre des articles à l'éditeur du bulletin (voir coordonnées ci-dessous). Les articles et annonces soumis sont sujets à l'approbation de la rédaction. L'éditeur du bulletin ne peut être tenu responsable pour des erreurs de compilation ou la perte d'article. Des efforts particuliers sont déployés pour éviter de tels problèmes. Les opinions exprimées dans le cadre des éditoriaux, des articles et des lettres publiés dans le bulletin, ne reflètent pas nécessairement celles de l'Association canadienne de cartographie. L'Association canadienne de cartographie remercie particulièrement le Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada pour son apport financier.



Dear Fellow Members of the CCA/ACC

For many of our membership, September brings a new term of classes. Seeing young (and not-so-young) students eagerly learning new geospatial skills is heartening. These students are often in for a surprise to learn how much fun it is to analyze spatial data in a GIS and then effectively communicate that analysis through a well designed map. Yes, our field is fun, although I grant that I personally know of people who think that mapmaking tasks can be summed up as a torturous activity. Nonetheless, since nearly all cartographers currently operate in the digital realm, the production cycle has been eased in recent decades within the editing and revision stages. I doubt that any older cartographers among us miss revising pen-and-ink or scribed linework at all.

For others, the seasonal change may simply bring a change of focus with new cartographic or GIS projects to be undertaken. Whether mapping archeological or paleobiological sites, demographic or economic data, zoological or botanical distributions, cartographers have the advantage of learning a great deal about other fields from their assignments. Simultaneously, we are helping our clients interpret new aspects of their collected spatial data sets and then delivering that message to the map readers. Our jobs thus have a powerful and important responsibility: transmitting spatial data through a well-designed map that enhances the message intended by the author.

I am currently reading a new map design book written by a non-cartographer. I find this publication troubling in two respects: First, while most of the author's instructions fit the standard cartographic mold, some do not; so the unwary would be none the wiser or even misled. Second, the author falsely claims that available cartography books are either outdated, or lack depth, or concentrate on a single piece of software. This misconception could stem from map design publications not being well-marketed outside of academia to instruct the current crop of non-traditionally trained digital mapping/GIS practitioners.

On the positive note, recently, I received a request from a mother with home-schooled children who wanted to learn more about maps, both in general and specifically in relation to their home in southern Quebec. After passing along their request to the CCA membership, I am pleased to report that many of you quickly provided this family with plenty of on-line maps and other cartographic links. Thanks to you all.

Author **Daniel G. Cole** is President of the Association. He is the GIS Coordinator, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

VICE-PRESIDENT



A New Look and More Maps in the Atlas of Canada

The staff at the Atlas have been working hard to bring our site to a new common look for the Federal Government. If you have a look you will see that we a slightly more streamlined look and you can see that we belong to the Federal family. This meant a delay in publication but we are happy to announce that many new maps have been recently published. These include,

2006 Census Maps

For those interested in national and regional data results from the 2006 Census, the Atlas of Canada, in partnership with Statistics Canada, has produced a series of maps and analytical texts which are now available online. The most recent releases focus on Canadian Population, Age, Marital Status and Mode of Transportation. Future releases will cover topics such as Educational Attainment, the Labour Force, Languages, Housing and Income.

Atlas of Canada 2010 Winter Olympics Mapping Project

The Atlas of Canada has published a special series of interactive maps in advance of the Vancouver 2010 Olympics and Paralympic Winter Games, contributing to a better understanding of Canadian Olympic medalists and winter sports in Canada through a national geographic perspective. Newly released are maps on Winter Sports and Physical Activity of Adults and Youth.

Energy Maps

The Atlas of Canada has released maps and information on a variety of energy sources including coal, uranium, crude oil, natural gas and hydropower resources. Also included are maps showing generating stations and the national pipeline infrastructure.

Other new maps from the Atlas of Canada include the official results of the 40th Federal Election, a newly updated interactive Reference Map of Canada, and a map of Hydrogeological Regions.

Author **Donna Williams** is Vice-President of the Association. She is the Manager / Gestionnaire at the Atlas of Canada / Atlas du Canada, Mapping Information Branch / Direction de l'information cartographique, Natural Resources Canada/Ressources naturelles Canada, Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada.



Spatial Thinking Good For Your Brain

The other day I was browsing the web and came across a site discussing brain research. According to a recent study, juggling increases gray matter in the area of the brain related to motor control. Further to that, researchers at Mind Research Network in Albuquerque did a study involving brain imaging and a computer game to examine the effects of playing a game requiring spatial thinking and cognitive skills on the human brain. The study showed an increase in brain efficiency as well as a thickening of parts of the cortex. The affected areas are believed to be related to planning of complex, coordinated movements, coordination of visual, tactile, auditory, and physi-

citing research that in addition to the well-known benefits of physical exercise and healthy eating, brain exercise can prevent or delay many age-related cognitive disorders, such as memory loss. Some examples of brain exercises I've found include reading, writing, doing puzzles, learning something new, going to plays, even brushing your teeth with the other hand or taking a different route to or from work.

So all this spatial thinking is great activity and we've all chosen a healthy profession, despite the many hours spent sitting at our desks. I think for all of us in the Geomatics field, spatial thinking probably started at a young

cortexes and gray matter might reveal about us as a profession?

Convert – A Work Tool Application

I'm again closing with a work tool that I find myself using regularly, though it isn't a GIS application. It is called Convert and is created by Josh Madison, and you will find it easily through a web search. This free program converts the most popular units in a variety of fields, including acceleration, computer memory, mass, time, and both wet and dry volumes. The user can also create up to twenty custom conversion units of any sort. (I tested it by converting 1 pavel to 0.75 chekovs, and it worked fine!) According to the website, it is in use in 105 countries and the International Space Station. No installation is required ... just plug and play. Caveats are as before: read the documentation, always check for supported software\platforms and software conflicts, and when in doubt check the user forum.

Author **Fiona Ryle** is Chair of this Interest Group.

... all this spatial thinking is great activity and we've all chosen a healthy profession.

ological information, critical thinking, reasoning, language and processing. The study was done with adolescent girls over a three month period, and the researchers hope to study further whether these effects remain once the game-playing stops.

This reminded me of something I'd read some time ago stating that brain exercise can help to ward off Alzheimer's. So I did more searching to verify my memory and found numerous pages

age and may have led us to the careers we have today, so we have many years of brain exercise under our belts. I know that maps and geography have always been a part of my life and seemed to be a natural progression towards GIS. Like most of us working in the Geomatics field, I think I get pretty good brain exercise every day at work. The challenge is to give my brain a vacation at the end of the work day! I wonder what an examination of our collective



Current Knowledge: Early Oceanographic Works and the Great Pacific Garbage Patch

Marc Garneau, Canada's first astronaut, sparked the imagination of an audience a few years ago when he compared images of 16th-century maps of the Atlantic Ocean portraying currents with the thermal maps taken in 1985 from on board the Challenger using the Earth Radiation Budget Satellite. Did highly advanced technology promote a more accurate imagery of the ocean's currents? Despite the phantasmagoric spending of funds devoted to new technology, the improvements were minimal, comparatively speaking. The worthiness and reliability of maps from the post-Renaissance period were striking.

His presentation planted a seed of wonderment in my mind as I then contemplated the extent to which early maps of ocean currents would have been able to configure the contemporary North Pacific Subtropical Gyre (informally known as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch"), located in the central North Pacific Ocean located roughly between 135° to 155°W and 35° to 42°N and estimated to be twice the size of Texas. By some accounts it is 10 metres deep, containing "exceptionally high concentrations of suspended plastic and other debris"

trapped by currents. The impact on marine life is virtually beyond repair.



Matthew Fontaine Maury as a U.S. Navy Lieutenant.
(Source: File is from the Wikimedia Commons.)

Any researcher would be drawn to Matthew Fontaine Maury (1806-1873), the first to have authored a book on every aspect of the ocean, *The Physical Geography of the Sea* (1858). It is an absorbing work that details the interactions among salinity, currents, the atmosphere, marine life, icebergs,

etc. Within months of its publication, a second edition had to be printed.

Maury made extended voyages to Europe, around the world, and to the Pacific coast of South America, later also producing works on sea navigation, oceanography, and meteorology. He became internationally recognized and the world adopted his ideas about naval vessels and merchant marine ships.

Like many of his contemporaries such as Darwin, Maury's language is beautiful and evokes wonder about the "laws" of the oceans that dictate their currents. Compiling hydrological data obtained through the British Admiralty and the Astronomy Office in Washington, Maury and others (such as Thomas D. Smellie and George Buist) noted "[a]s it is there are constant currents flowing from torrid to frigid Zone to supply the vast amount of vapour there drained off while other whirlpools and currents like the Gulf Stream perform their part in the same stupendous drama (Smellie, 1885: 18).

Currents are never a matter of chance or accident. Rather, Maury says, "Nature grants us all that this postulate demands repeating it to us in many

forms of expression she utters it in the blade of green grass which she causes to grow in climates and soils made kind and genial by warmth and moisture that some current of the sea or air has conveyed far away from under a tropical sun She murmurs it out in the cooling current of the north the whales of the sea tell of it and all its inhabitants proclaim it" (Maury, 1856: 148). Ocean whirlpools and ocean "rivers" held a particular fascination for him, as is evident in this description—one of many: "Currents of water like currents of air meeting from various directions create gyrations which in some parts of the sea ... assume the appearance of whirlpools as though the water were drawn into a chasm below" (p. 149). He acknowledged the then-familiar Sargasso Sea, as "the general receptacle of the drift wood and sea weed of the Atlantic."

Given the fact that his *Physical Geography of the Sea* (1856) is generally considered the first oceanographic textbook (Britannica), he was likely among the first to note that, "in like manner to the west from California

of this other southwardly set lies the pool into which the drift wood and sea weed of the North Pacific are generally gathered." He painstakingly catalogued the fact that even "near the edge of this pool specimens of drift wood from the Columbia and also of the red cedar of California" could be seen. The immense trees from Oregon and California that have been cast up on these guano islands were probably drifted down with the cool California current into the northeast trades and by them wafted along to the west thus showing that the currents of the North Pacific flow in a sort of circle on the outer edge of which lie the Japanese and Aleutian Islands and the north-west coast of America" (p. 191). For images of Maury and his chart of the North Pacific Ocean, I refer the reader to Images: <http://www.eraoftheclipper-ships.com/page14web.html>

Just like the 21st Century stands for the meticulous rendering of Outer Space, the 19th Century stands for the substantial rise of our knowledge of the Ocean. However, will history repeat itself? We did not act on our knowledge

of currents which might have prevented the coming into being of the North Pacific Garbage Patch 150 years later. Will we face a similar dilemma in the year 2150 when we shall be confronted with huge patches of debris encircling the "Blue Marble," our beloved Earth?

Sources:

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/458685/The-Physical-Geography-of-the-Sea>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Pacific_Garbage_Patch

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ug97/monument/maurybio.html>

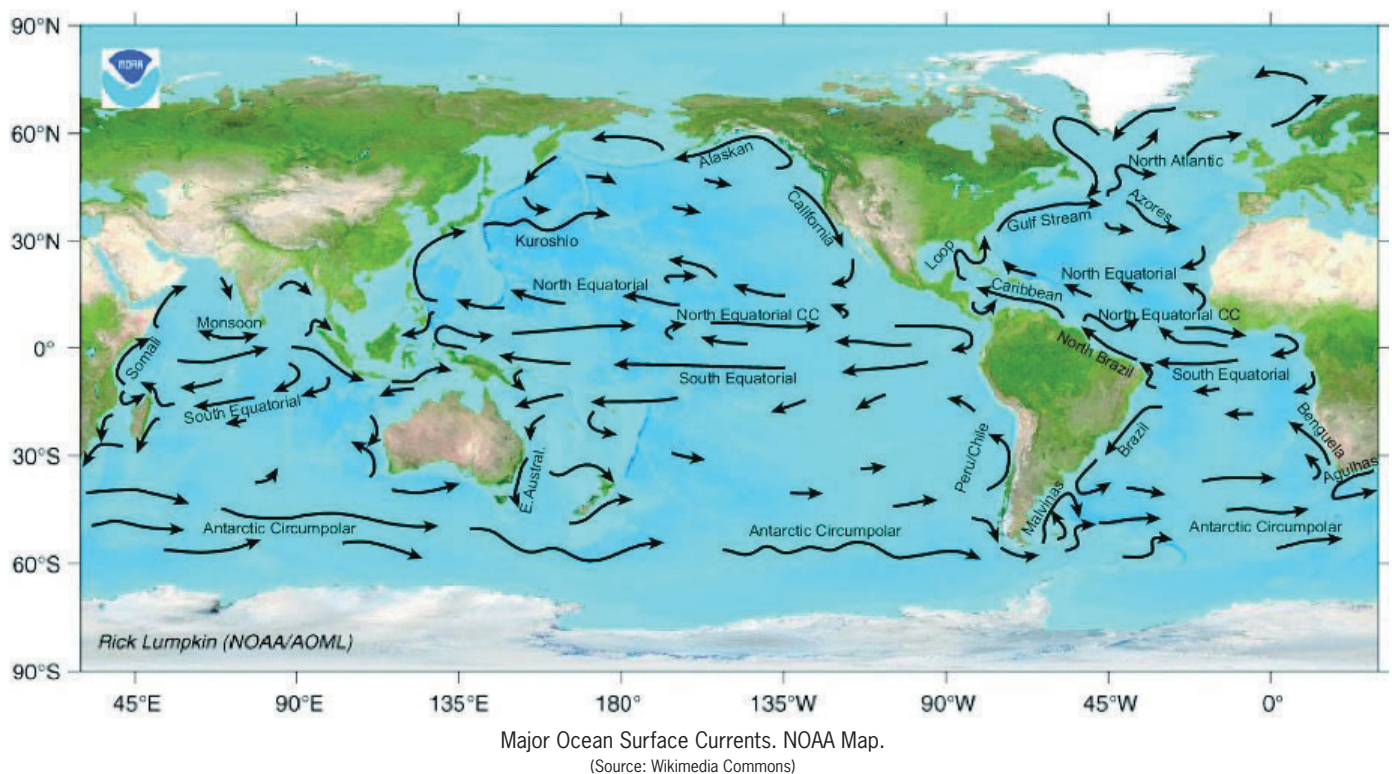
Buist, George. (1859 [1856]). "Physical Geography of India." Transactions of the Bombay Geographical Society. Vo. 14: xxvii <http://www.archive.org/stream/transactionsbom00unkngoog#page/n16/mode/1up>. Accessed 1 October 2009.

Maury, Matthew Fontaine (1856). *The Physical Geography of the Sea*. New York: Harper & Bros.

Smellie, Thomas D. (1885). *Ocean and Air Currents*. Glasgow: John Smith & Son.

I wish to express my thanks to Alberta Auringer Wood for setting me on this voyage of discovery, and to Patricia Connor Reid for related editorial work.

Author **Will van den Hoonaard** is Chair of this Interest Group. He is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB.





CAN Topo Be Topped?

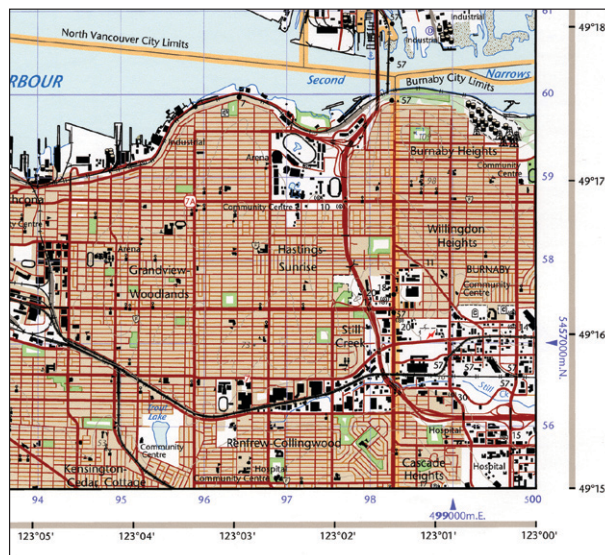
I want to touch upon a subject that is, I believe, quite familiar to CCA members. I speak of course about Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) National Topographic System (NTS) maps.

I think we've all had at some point or another seen and/or used the venerable NTS map. In June of this year, while attending the annual CCA conference at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, delegates were treated to a look ahead to the next generation of NTS maps.

The future NTS product is, in my opinion, a positive step in the right direction in terms of a well-designed, user-friendly map. NRCan refers to the new NTS maps as their CAN Topo product and will be made available free of charge through the GeoGratis web portal. The sheets are available as downloadable GeoPDFs or in a bitmap format (TIFF). I'll discuss this delivery method later.

Three design elements stood out for me on the new NTS sheets. Firstly, is the relocation of the symbology legend from the back of the sheet to the front. This affords the user a quick and easy reference to the meaning of the map symbols.

Secondly, is the offset of the graticule info line away the neat line (easting/northing reference line). This makes the interpretation of latitude/longitude and UTM coordinates information easier to distinguish from one from another.



This map was derived from the GeoGratis site. (<http://geogratis.gc.ca>)

And finally, is the change of colour of 'built-up areas' from the somewhat over-powering magenta of older sheets to a more subdued brown-red tone with the new version. This colour offers a more pleasing appearance to the eye and compliments the hue of other features on the map.

Aside from design issues, I would like take a few moments to discuss the delivery method for the CAN Topo product. As stated previously, the maps are available through the GeoGratis web portal at: www.geogratis.ca. The samples files currently available are for the most part covering the lower mainland of British Columbia. Files are available through a file transfer protocol (FTP) site on GeoGratis.

The file formats are as bitmaps and/or GeoPDFs. The latter is a vector-based file that reproduces well on a large format plotter. I have plotted out a sample 1:50k sheet on a light-weight bond on our HP plotter, and the result was comparable to printed sheets one would get from an offset output.

Viewing the GeoPDFs is best done after one downloads the free Adobe reader plus the free GeoPDF toolbar available from www.terragotech.com. This plugin enables the user to amongst other things, dissect the GeoPDF file by layers. NRCan provides documentation and metadata for the files as part of the download.

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Bridging the Gap: Recognizing the Impact of Ever-changing Mapping Technology

I was fortunate to attend the executive meeting in Wolfville this past June and to have the opportunity to discuss mapping issues with current, new and outgoing executive members. I got a sense from the outgoing chair of this interest group that compiling relevant information for articles and maintaining the profile of map production technology would be a challenge.

Leading the challenge is the speed at which mapping technology has advanced especially in the last 10 years. There is now more than enough computing power for producing and consuming map information and data (using even the most basic PC's on the market today), growing availability and improved functionality of software, a wave of freely available spatial data (that unfortunately still suffers from metadata, copyright, and evolving standards issues), and a vastly improved world wide web user environment that have all combined to blur any distinction of who can produce maps and how they can be used. The question becomes one of how to maintain the tradition and art and science of cartography and how to identify what is relevant to mapping and production of good quality maps.

A quick look at "What's New in ArcGIS 9.3.1" (<http://www.esri.com/software/arcgis/whats-new/index.html>):

- High-Performance Dynamic Map Publishing
- Better Sharing of Geographic Information
- Fast Access to Bing Maps and Imagery
- Enhanced Support for Java Developers

highlights some of the current trends that are echoed or exemplified by other providers such as:

- Autodesk
http://images.autodesk.com/adsk/files/autodesk_geospatial_broch_07.pdf
- Bentley
ftp://ftp2.bentley.com/dist/collateral/docs/bentley_map/product_data_sheet_bentley_map.pdf
- CARIS
<http://www.caris.com/products/gis/indepth.cfm>

and applications like:

- MapInfo

<http://www.pbinsight.com/ten/new.php>

- Global Mapper
<http://www.globalmapper.com/>
- Google Earth
<http://earth.google.com>

Even though ESRI is a leading provider of mapping software and has put a great deal of emphasis on improving the ability to produce high quality maps, we have to be mindful that the additional providers and applications listed only scratches the surface of what has become a very healthy and continually growing business sector centered around spatial awareness and mapping. One of the latest emerging trends is providing maps for hand held devices such as the iPhone <http://www.spatiallyadjusted.com/2008/09/18/using-svg-to-create-interactive-maps-on-the-apple-iphone/> where the use of scalable vector graphics (SVG) might be making a comeback <http://www.w3.org/Graphics/SVG/> even though support for the Adobe® SVG Viewer has recently been dropped <http://www.adobe.com/svg/viewer/install/>.

The challenge is in deciding what is relevant technologically and to the Cartouche readership. Providing tips and tricks for the range of applica-

tions available seems somewhat onerous. However, it may be possible to identify more general themes that honor the cartographic tradition, are common to a range of mapping solutions, and at times still include practical information for cartography practitioners. Hopefully a holistic approach that will take a more general look at mapping technology in this way will be of interest to the broader CCA readership and still maintain awareness of what is relevant for this particular interest group.

Author **Paul Wozniak** is Chair of this Interest Group. Paul is a Geospatial Data Specialist with the Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada.

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Overall, I am happy with the direction that NRCan is taking with their design choices for the next generation of NTS maps. The question is can NRCan's Can Topo product be improved in the future? Only time and future user feedback would I'm sure answer this. I do however, look forward to NRCan's future release of other sheets from different areas of the country. I would encourage my fellow CCA members to check out the CAN Topo product at GeoGratis and provide not only NRCan (topomaps@NRCan.gc.ca)but myself with any views you may have on the next generation of NTS maps.

Have a pleasant autumn.

Author **Gerald Stark** is Chair of this Interest Group. Gerald is a cartographer at Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development in Edmonton, Alberta.

CCA Awards of Distinction 1994 to Present

Exceptional Professional Contributions to the Practice of Cartography

2009.....Not awarded
 2008.....Not awarded
 2007.....Not awarded
 2006.....Cynthia Brewer
 2005.....Canadian Geographic Magazine
 2004.....Gerald McGrath
 2003.....Not awarded
 2002.....GeoAccess Division, Canada Centre for Remote Sensing
 2001.....Lou Sebert
 2000.....Lillian Wonders
 1999.....College of Geographic Sciences and Sir Sandford Fleming College (two awards)
 1998.....Steven Fick
 1997.....Not awarded
 1996.....Paul Pugliese
 1995.....Claire Gosson
 1994.....Lou Skoda

Exceptional Contributions to the CCA

2009.....Not awarded
 2008.....Not awarded
 2007.....Not awarded
 2006.....Patricia Connor
 2005.....Gary E. McManus and Monika Katerine Rieger (two awards)
 2004.....Monika Rieger
 2003.....C. Peter Keller
 2002.....Roger Wheate

Exceptional Scholarly Contributions to Cartography

2009.....Not awarded
 2008.....Not awarded
 2007.....Not awarded
 2006.....Fraser Taylor
 2005.....Judy Olson
 2004.....Alan MacEachren and David Woodward (two awards)
 2003Richard I. Ruggles
 2002.....Mark Monmonier
 2001.....Jean-Louis Raveneau
 2000.....Raymond Boyle
 1999.....Michael Goodchild
 1998.....Arthur Robinson
 1997.....Leonard Guelke
 1996.....J. Ross Mackay and Henry Castner (two awards)
 1995.....Ron Eastman and the Idrisi Project
 1994.....Historical Atlas Project

2001.....Ed Dahl
 2000.....Henry Castner
 1999.....David Douglas
 1998.....Clifford Wood
 1997.....Carolyn Weiss and Michael Coulson (two awards)
 1996.....Barbara and Bernard Gutsell
 1995.....Norman Drummond
 1994.....Fraser Taylor

Maps, Novels, and Songs: When Maps Inspire Artists

One would believe that only geographers, cartographers, and GIS specialists use maps in their daily routines, their livelihood, their entertainment. True, they develop concepts, borrow from others, produce analysis methods, design maps for all sorts of reasons.

Yet, sometimes other “artists”, who toil in creative fields far distant from cartography, compose works in which maps have a place. They feed their relations with space, their experiences, their involvements, their loves, and drink from their dreams, their ambitions, their hopes.

That is the case, at least, in French Canada. Here are two cases in which I was in some way involved.

A Map-librarian's Conference

One day in the early 1990's, my home phone rings. Our university cartography technician informs me that someone is at his office and would like to see me to discuss geomatics, as he has a project for a conference in Stockholm, Sweden. Initially, I thought that it was one of my friends from Québec City who, I knew, had just returned from Scandinavia and probably wanted to say hi and give me an account of his trip, and maybe compare stories and observations I had myself made 20 years earlier in that same part of the world.

I ask the technician if the individual wears a moustache... no. Does he have short hair? Not at all. So, this is not my friend, I tell myself. He tells me that the man is a young writer who wants to place maps at the centre of the action in his next novel, and the main character needs to have sound knowledge of geomatics.

As I was nearly ready to head for the office, I ask him to wait for me, I should be there shortly. A man in his thirties with the mop of an artist was scribbling notes when I arrived at the laboratory. It was André Girard, whom I knew by reputation since he had won the Rober-Cliche award in 1991 for his novel “Deux semaines en septembre”. So, a serious writer. We talk for some time and then he leaves with enough information to fly solo.

Three years hence he published his second novel “Orchestra”, in which the main character runs the library at UQAM (Université du Québec à Montréal). As the plot unfolds, while

he is dealing with difficulties with management, personnel, coordination, through his nights out and love affairs, he is also preparing for a conference, which he makes about three-quarters of the way through the novel, on “The Maelström phenomenon to illustrate the inherent limits of all digital data gathering operations”!

The interesting thing about the novel is, of course, cartography and all that it entails: topography, thematic maps, geology, plate tectonics (which the character uses to make analogies with his love affairs with prostitutes). Another strong point of the novel is where the action takes place: a library, a map library, a university in a lively downtown setting.

He signed a copy for me: “To you Majella, with complicity, as there is a little bit of you in the novel. A kind of presence, a geographical spectre. I would have liked to have been a geographer”¹.

My Atlas

Some time ago I was on vacation in the Georgian Bay area, in Ontario. I was admiring the landscapes, the habitats, the lakes and rivers. We had had the pleasure of staying a few days in a country bed & breakfast in Lafontaine, owned by the Robitaille family. They were, as are many B&B owners, very much involved in their community. They were particularly active in the municipal French-Ontarian community for schools and services in French; since, it goes without saying, French speakers are a minority in that region. They were especially concerned with keeping Molière's language alive among the young population.

In January 2009, imagine my surprise as I saw, while browsing the Web, a reference to an Atlas on Utube. A young songwriter sang a song called “Mon Atlas”; Damien Robitaille, a French-Ontarian living in Lafontaine on Georgian Bay. Strange! What a coincidence! He is obviously from the same family. Could it be that young boy with whom I talked about geography on the porch as evening descended? Maybe?

He has developed a repertoire aimed at young French speakers and is established in Québec. He is an accomplished musician. He is a very particular musical artist who paints his songs with layers of meaning. At first the subject matter

and the language seem childish, but as one listens the message and substance come through – the tune seduces the ears and the mind! (www.lastfm.fr/music/).



PHOTO OF DAMIEN ROBITAILLE REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION.

I invite you to read the lyrics of “Mon Atlas”, to listen to it, to learn it, to sing it aloud if you wish.

Mon Atlas (original French lyrics)²

*Quand j'ai mon nez dans mon atlas,
J peux survoler tous les pays,
J tourne la terre en tournant les pages,
Je joue à la géographie.*

*Mon atlas,
J vois ma planète terre vue de l'espace,
Quand je me perds je me ramasse,
Dans mon atlas, mon atlas, mon atlas.*

*Quand je plonge dans ses cartes routières,
Mon cerveau perd toute trace du temps,
J m'étends sur les fuseaux horaires,
J deviens un homme omniprésent.*

*Comme un ami comme un frère,
L atlas me prend par la main,
Il me sort de ma misère,
Quand je m'écarte du bon chemin.*

*Je ne lis pas la poésie,
Ni les nouvelles ni les romans,
J préfère la lecture des légendes,
Qui expliquent les symboles des plans.*

*Bonsoir, les scientifiques du monde,
Toutes vos croyances sont incroyables,
Vous me dites que la terre est ronde,
J ai la preuve qu'elle est repliable.*

My Atlas (English translation)

*When my nose is buried in my atlas,
I can fly over all countries.
The Earth turns when I turn the pages,
I play the geography game.*

*My atlas,
I see my planet as if from outer space.
When I am lost, I find myself
In my atlas, my atlas, my atlas.*

*When I dive into road maps,
I lose all sense of time,
I lay across all time zones,
I become the omnipresent man.*

*Like a friend, like a brother,
The atlas takes me by the hand,
It leads me out of misery,
When I stray from the righteous path.*

*I don't read poetry,
Newspapers, or novels,
I prefer reading legends,
That explain maps' symbols.*

*Goodnight, scientists of the World,
All your beliefs are unbelievable,
You tell me the Earth is round,
I have proof that it is foldable.*

REFERENCES

¹ GIRARD, André, 1994, Orchestra, Montréal, VLB Éditeur, 189 p. ISBN 2-89005-591-4. The novelist is originally from La Baie (Saguenay), Québec, Canada.

² Damien Robitaille (Author-composer), Avenue Editorial (Publishing house).



Author **Majella Gauthier** is a Professor Emeritus, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi. The author is in charge of the production team for the Atlas électronique du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean: www.uqac.ca/atlas

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Announcements

Thank You, John Fowler, Soon-To-Be Retiring Treasurer



John is wrapping up his term as Treasurer at the end of this year. He began supporting the association as our Student Representative in 2003 (to 2005). From 2005 to the present, John has been Treasurer. His term has been ear-marked by his vigilance with cost-saving measures as reflected in the past four budgets. The excess of revenue over expenditures during that time was transformed from “red” to “black”:

2005: **-\$8,192** 2006: **-\$794** 2007: **-\$685** 2008: **\$2,528**

John has streamlined and improved the processing of memberships, delivering receipts to us with lightening speed. Cliff Wood, President during much of John’s term, writes that John “has done his utmost to ensure the financial security for the CCA, and didn’t hesitate to comment on topics of relevance. He has done his tasks with aplomb!”

Editor’s Note: John has juggled this volunteer work for our association with other commitments, e.g., his regular job. John is the Senior Laboratory Instructor at the Department of Geography, University of Victoria. His work on that front entails creating geomatics labs, updating older ones, organizing lab materials, supervising Teaching Assistants, teaching, and certainly last but not least -- grading student assignments and reports.

Introducing Paul Heersink, Incoming Treasurer, Jan. 1, 2010



Paul has stepped forward to work on the CCA Executive as Treasurer after a short break following his term as Education Chair. Paul was very active during his previous term, among other things initiating and maintaining the well-read CCA weblog for a year and a half. The last post appeared in October 2006 <<http://ccablog.blogspot.com/>>.

Our incoming Treasurer is Manager of GIS and Cartography at Canadian Cartographics Corporation (formerly Rand McNally Canada), a company that produces road and street maps of places across the country as well as road and street atlases (including Perly’s). He ensures that production schedules are met and quality standards are maintained and met, and is also involved with new product development. Thanks for volunteering to work in this position, Paul.

Welcome New Member

Daniel Livesey



Information/Information

All fees are in Canadian dollars (no GST). Please note the additional mailing costs for members outside of Canada.
Tous les frais indiqués sont en dollars canadien (TPS non-incluse). Veuillez noter qu'un coût postal supplémentaire s'applique pour les membres hors-Canada.

A \$25 fee will be charged for any NSF cheque.
Des frais de 25\$ sont applicables pour les chèques sans fond (NSF).

Donations may be made to the Nicholson Scholarship fund.
Nous acceptons les dons pour le fond de la bourse Norman Nicholson.

The CCA provides its postal and e-mail mailing lists to Cartography and/or GIS related companies and uses the proceeds of these sales to support its activities.

L'ACC met à la disposition des entreprises oeuvrant dans le domaine de la cartographie et des SIG, sa liste postale et de courriel. Les revenus de la vente de celles-ci servent à supporter les activités de l'association.

☐ Please remove my name from such mailing lists.
S.V.P. cocher la case pour être retiré de la liste.

Address / Adresse:

Please make changes where necessary.
S.V.P. indiquer les modifications s'il y a lieu.

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(must provide email to receive Cartouche/
fournir courriel pour recevoir Cartouche)

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Please indicate relevant interest groups/
S.V.P. indiquez vos groupes d'intérêt:

- ☐ Map Production Technology/Technologie Cartographique
☐ Cartographic Education/Éducation Cartographique
☐ Map Use and Design/Conception et Utilisation des Cartes
☐ History of Cartography/Histoire de la Cartographie
☐ GIS and Geovisualization/SIG et Geovisualization

New Member/Nouveau membre: ☐ 1 Yr/année

Regular/Régulier: ☐ \$90

Retired/à la retraite: ☐ \$45

Student / Étudiant: ☐ \$45

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Family/Famille: ☐ \$110

Two names / Nom des deux membres:

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2. _____

Corporate / Entreprise: ☐ \$200

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Signature _____

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Membership forms are available in digital form online at
http://www.cca-acc.org/docs/Membership_Renewal_2009.pdf



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