

CASTLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

In the Spring of 1987, I resigned as Castleton Women's Institute representative on the Cramahe Township Public Library Board to become Chief Executive Officer, Secretary and Treasurer of the Library Board and branch librarian, effective April 1st, 1987. There was one assistant.

At this time, cataloguing information of titles was typed on cards and filed, book pockets and pocket cards were placed in the back of each book and magazine and circulation was the pocket card being removed and the due date was put on the card and then filed.

When an interlibrary loan request was made, a form was filled out and mailed to the Toronto office of the Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS).

A number of librarians requested the library service put in place training sessions. In the Fall of 1987, the Ontario Ministry of Culture, through SOLS offered the EXCEL course which gave training on how to manage a small public library. Modules could be taken as needed but to obtain a certificate a specific number of modules must be completed and I received my certificate in 1990.

There was real heavy rain the weekend Hurricane Andrew hit Florida and the library and municipal office carpets were soaked as well as anything laying on the floors.

In 1990, the Chief Executive Officers of the five independent library boards, along with Donna Breathet of the Northumberland County library system were called to the Northumberland County offices to discuss restructuring and if the library boards could be amalgamated with the county library system. This was turned down but CEO's felt we could still work together.

As a result, I met Katherine High and Pat Johnston of the Colborne Public Library Board and we attended meetings and workshops together for a few years.

As a result of the meetings with the County, the Cramahe and Colborne Boards decided to offer residents of Northumberland County memberships without payment of non-resident fees.

SOLS offers networking meetings, workshops and clinics to librarians which meet two or three time a year. Castleton and Colborne belong to the Northumberland, Hastings and Prince Edward Counties group and I had the opportunity to attend these meetings with other librarians.