sonnel (cf. Ken Haycock's analysis, *The Crisis in Canadian School Libraries*).

■ As soon as the new Standards for School Libraries document (currently available in print only) is available in electronic form, it will be posted on the Standards page. Currently there is a link to the source for purchasing the Standards.

■ Best practices in School Library Programs, which support the goal of educating for information literacy and Canadian citizenship, are linked to the School Library Program page.

Promotion of the site has been carried out through the production and printing of bookmarks featuring the address and contents, which have been revised for the Fall/Winter 2004 distri-

Gwynneth Evans cutting the ribbon to open the site.

bution. These have been and continue to be distributed at national and provincial levels through conferences, workshops, and other meetings (e.g., Coalition for Canadian School Libraries, Fun of Reading International Symposium, National School Library Day, and Word on the Street).

Funding has made several face-to-face meetings with members of the steering committee possible, and it is hoped that it will continue to do so in June 2004. SliP is becoming a place for both

national organizations (Canadian School Library Association, Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada) as well as provincial associations to showcase their best practices and new documents. The Canadian Coalition for School Libraries has also promoted SliP as the place to go for information. Links to the ATLC and CSLA listservs are provided on the home page to give access to electronic meeting places.

Changes for 2004

Changes for 2004 include:

1. The creation of a similar site in French for those working and teaching in a francophone environment. Personnel were found in Quebec to begin this process in the winter of 2004.

2. Changes to the data management program to allow smoother searchability and more interaction with visitors to the site through online newsletters.

3. A link to the international community via International Association for School Librarianship will appear on the new version of the home page.

4. Quotes from a variety of writers, teacher-librarians, and others have been added to each Category page, along with the full text of the presentation given at the National School Library summit in June 2003.

5. Research will be done to find and connect to more programs, policies, school library Web sites, and professional resources.

Skills Required to Create a Portal

In my experience, I have found that good partners and supporters are the first priority. Without people such as OLA's Executive Director Larry Moore, who recommended me in the first place, Gwynneth Evans, who supported my vision of an online collection, the steering committee and people at CLA, CSLA, and ATLC, SliP would not have become a reality. My model was Kathy Schrock who created her Schrockguide <http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/> .

As a newly retired person, working at home initially, I found my most important skills to be resourcefulness, persistence, time management, basic curiosity and a good imagination! ■