

# “tête-à-tête”

**Ontario Association of Library Technicians/  
Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario  
Ottawa Regional Branch/Section régionale d'Ottawa**

P.O. Box 1094, Station/Succ. “B”  
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## Editor's Comments

Happy Year 2000!

We trust that everyone is surviving the Winter and looking forward to all the Activities being planned this year. Your support and participation in these Events are very important to Ottawa Regional Branch/Section régionale d'Ottawa!

Each midterm issue of “tête-à-tête” provides an opportunity for the Regional Executive and Committees to update members on a great variety Regional Projects. For example, in this edition, you will see items such as: a Message from the Regional President, a report on our Christmas Dinner, some Provincial news, a review of our bowling night and some further OALT/ABO Conference details.

Speaking of which, let's not forget: **Turning the page / Tournez la page, Sam Jakes Inn, Merrickville, May 3-7, 2000 / 3 au 7 mai 2000.** From everything that I have heard, this promises to be a terrific Conference!

Linda Landreville  
Chairperson, “tête-à-tête” Committee

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## Commentaires de la rédactrice

Bonne année 2000

J'espère que tout le monde survit à l'hiver et anticipe avec enthousiasme les activités prévues pour cette année.

Le numéro du mois de février de tête-à-tête permet à l'exécutif régional et aux différents comités régionaux d'apporter une mise à jour aux projets de la région. Par

exemple, dans cette édition vous verrez un message de la présidente régionale, un rapport sur la fête de Noël, quelques nouvelles provinciales, un article sur la soirée de quilles et des détails sur la conférence de l'OALT/ABO.

En parlant de la conférence, ne pas oublier **Turning the page/Tournez la page du 3 au 7 mai, 2000 à l'auberge Sam Jake, Merrickville, Ontario.** D'après les rumeurs la conférence en promet!

Linda Landreville  
présidente, comite “tête-à-tête”

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## A Word from the President

Hello,

What a busy year we've had! Can you believe that we are almost at the beginning of March and that Winterlude is already finished?! But, the good news is I think that spring is not too far away!

The Christmas Party was a very nice evening with good company and a nice meal.

And what about this new Millennium?

In January, we had a general meeting to discuss the Huronia Proposal for restructuring the Association, and the upcoming Conference. I hope that we have answered all the questions that you had. Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any comments or questions.

Guess what?, the Bowling night is coming I can only anticipate the participation and fun that we will have.

The Executive is busy planning activities and workshops

for this year. I would like to take this opportunity to mention to you that in March we will have a Games nights and in April we will have a good Stress management workshop. I hope that you will come and participate in those events.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Conference that is being held in our region in May. This is coming faster than what you can think. I can only hope that your participation will make this a great success.

Have a nice Spring!

Have a nice and good time at the Conference!

Marie-Andrée Leroux  
President  
ORB / SRO



**Un Mot de Votre Présidente**

Bonjour,

Quelle année occupée que nous venons de passer! Croiriez-vous que nous sommes presque au début du mois de mars et que Bal de neige est terminé! La bonne nouvelle est que je crois que le printemps approche. La fête de Noël fût une très belle soirée en compagnie de gens agréables et un bon repas.

Que pensez-vous de ce nouveau millénaire. En janvier nous avons eu une réunion générale pour discuter de la proposition d'Huronion (restructuration de l'association) et de la conférence annuelle. J'espère que nous avons répondu à toutes vos questions. N'hésitez pas en entrant en communication avec moi soit par téléphone ou par courriel si vous avez des commentaires et des questions. Devinez quoi? La soirée des quilles sera bientôt là et j'anticipe le plaisir que nous aurons.

L'exécutif est occupé à planifier les activités et les ateliers futurs. J'aimerais profiter de l'occasion pour vous annoncer qu'il y aura une soirée de jeux en mars et qu'en avril il y aura un atelier sur la gestion du stress. J'espère que vous viendrez et que vous participerez à ces événements.

J'aimerais profiter de l'occasion pour vous rappeler que la conférence aura lieu dans notre région cette année. Ceci

approche plus vite que l'on pense. J'ose espérer que votre participation en fera un succès.

Bon printemps!

Ayez du plaisir à la conférence!



Marie-Andrée Leroux  
President/Présidente  
ORB/SRO



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Committees/comités:

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**Christmas Dinner of the  
Century!**

As members of ORB/SRO, their family and friends met at  
Chez Buntha Restaurant for a delicious Christmas dinner  
to end the 20th century.

Even though few attended, everyone seemed to enjoy  
their meal. The service was good, with a welcoming  
atmosphere.

In my opinion, I would dine here again and recommend it  
to friends.

Colleen Moffatt



**La fête de Noël du siècle!**

Les membres de l'ORB/SRO, leur  
famille ainsi que des amis se sont  
réunis pour célébrer la fin du siècle avec un délicieux  
repas de Noël au restaurant Chez Buntha.  
Même si nous étions peu nombreux, tous ceux qui ont  
participés, ont semblés jouir de leur repas. Nous avons  
joui d'un bon service dans une atmosphère accueillante.

Mon opinion est que je retournerais avec joie au  
restaurant Chez Buntha et le recommanderais à mes amis.

Colleen Moffatt



### Bowling Night!

On Thurs. February 24 a small but enthusiastic group of members met at Kent Lanes to bowl away the evening and catch up on each other's news. In an effort to curb any over enthusiastic feelings of competition this year the award categories of high and low score were eliminated. Since this left people with nothing to aim for, play was relaxed and in those immortal words, "a good time was had by all."

At the end of the evening Linda Landreville was recognised, for fluid and balletic hand movements, with the Year 2000 Award for Most Graceful Delivery. Diana Brown took honours as the player to deliver up the most gutterballs of the evening. But the most tense moment of the evening came when, despite our attempts to curb competition, myself and Marie Andr'ee Leroux tied for the award for the highest total of spares during two games of play. A nail biting play-off frame ensued that ended with..., you guessed it, both of us sparing up. With only one ball each left to us, our fate rested on the outcome of a single bowl. You could hear a pin drop (well actually lots of them -- we were in a bowling alley) as we watch each ball make its way down the alley, resulting in a strong 13 and win for...ME! Rah! Rah! Shish-boom-bah! But of course, all that's not important. Because after all -- it was not a competitive evening.

Ann Censner,  
*Winner of the Year 2000 Most Spares Award*

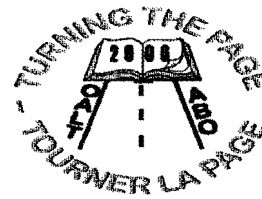


### Soirée de quilles

Jeudi, le 24 février un petit mais très enthousiate groupe de membres se sont réunis à la salle de quilles Kent pour passer la soirée à jouer aux quilles et se mettre au courant des différentes faits divers de la vie de chacun. Afin d'éliminer tout sentiment de compétition pour le plus et le plus bas pointage, ces catégories furent éliminées. Comme les gens n'avait pas de but à atteindre nous avons tous joui d'une atmosphère plus relax et tout le monde a eu du plaisir. À la fin de la soirée on a présenté à Linda Landreville le Prix pour les mouvements les plus gracieux pour sa fluidité. Diana Brown a volé l'honneur pour le plus grand nombre de boules dans le "dalot". Mais le moment le plus tendu de la soirée fût quand Marie-Andrée et moi, malgré

l'élimination de compétition, nous sommes retrouvées avec le même nombres de réserves après 2 parties de quilles. Nous avons dû joué un carreau d'élimination vous l'avez ... bien deviné quand nous avons terminé au même point toutes les deux c'est à dire ... avec le même nombres de réserves. Vous auriez pu entendre une épingle tombée tant que la situation était tendue, il nous restait chacune une boule à jouer et nous étions toute les deux au même niveau, nous avons lancer nos boules, nous les avons regardés rouler sur l'allée, avec le résultat de 13 pour moi, J'AI GAGNÉ! Rah! Rah! Shish-boom-bah!, ce n'est pas très important car comme de raison ... il n'y avait pas de compétition.

Ann Censner  
*Gagnante pour l'année 2000 du plus grand nombres de réserves*



All the registration packages will have been sent by February 29th, 2000. If you have not received yours by March 15, 2000, please contact us.

Toute l'information concernant l'inscription à la conférence sera mise à la poste le 29 février, 2000. Si vous ne l'avez pas reçu d'ici le 15 mars, veuillez entrer en contact avec nous.

*Conference Committee / Le comité de la conférence*



## The Future of Our Association is At Stake!

Those of you who are on the OALT/ABO listserv will be aware of some heavy discussion over recent weeks concerning a proposal for the restructuring of the Association.

Huronion Region has presented this proposal as a catalyst to discussion. Each region has been asked to present this document to their membership and illicit response. ORB/SRO held a general membership meeting on January 13, at which this proposal was discussed at length. A document outlining the comments and suggestions of our members has been created and will be presented to the Board of Directors at an upcoming meeting.

Many members did not make it to this meeting, and the Executive is concerned that all members be aware of the issues under discussion. This concerns the very future of our Association. Therefore, below you will find a copy of the proposal as it was presented by Huronia Region.

We encourage you to get involved in the discussion taking place on the listserv, or forward any comments you might have concerning this important issue.

Executive Officers,  
Ottawa Regional Branch/  
Section régionale d'Ottawa



## Le futur de l'association est en jeu!

Ceux d'entre vous qui sont membres de la "listserv" de l'OALT/ABO devez être au courant du récent débat qui se poursuit concernant la proposition de la région d'Huronion sur la restructuration de l'association.

La région d'Huronion a présenté cette proposition comme point de départ pour la discussion. On a demandé à chaque région de soumettre ce document à leurs membres et d'obtenir leur réponse. ORB/SRO a tenu une réunion générale le 13 janvier, une discussion de la proposition a suivi. Un document comprenant les suggestions, les commentaires et les questions de nos membres a été produit et sera présenté à la prochaine réunion du Comité de direction.

Comme plusieurs membres n'étaient pas à la réunion générale, l'exécutif régional se soucite de ce que tout les membres soit au courant des questions présentement en discussion. Ceci concerne le futur même de l'association, alors vous trouverez ci-dessous une copie de la proposition tel que présenté par la région d'Huronion.

Nous vous encourageons à vous impliquer dans la discussion qui a cours sur la "listserv", ou à y faire parvenir tout commentaire concernant cette très important question.

Membres de l'exécutif  
Ottawa Regional Branch/  
Section régionale d'Ottawa

## PROPOSAL RE: OALT/ABO STRUCTURE

*[English only - seulement en anglais]*

### I. Current structure of OALT/ABO

#### A. Provincial executive and board of directors (see appendix 1)

1. 5 elected/3 appointed executive
2. director from each of 7 regions

#### B. Autonomous regions (see appendix 1)

1. regional executive (typically 5 elected, 1 or 2 appointed)
2. director to provincial board

### II. Problems with current structure

#### A. Widespread regions

1. travel expenses or teleconference expenses for 4 provincial meetings/year
2. travel expenses for regional meetings (usually 4 per year)
3. mailing of membership fees/cards back and forth between regions and provincial
4. mailing of regional newsletters and provincial newsletters

#### B. Internal problems for both far-flung and close regions

1. cost of travel to meetings/workshops prohibitive
2. time to travel for same prohibitive
3. larger (number-wise) regions appear to have many paper-only members
  - a. looks good on resume?
  - b. No apparent interest in networking and workshops
  - c. No apparent interest in promoting organization
4. small number of members, yet large number of library types
  - a. wide variety of interest in relatively small group
  - b. difficult to plan workshops wide appeal

**III. Proposed new structure**

A. Make-up of provincial governing body

1. elected regional/district representatives (appendix II) OR
2. elected interest group representatives (appendix II)
3. paid part-time executive director, paid part-time membership coordinator (retirees?) or one full-time to cover both, or any other workable combination of duties would include correspondence and newsletter publication
4. elected executive to include president, vice president, treasurer (appendix II)

B. Meetings of governing body

1. annual meeting to coincide with annual conference
2. contracts between representatives, executive and paid staff via fax, e-mail, etc.
3. main-in or proxy voting for representatives

**IV. Benefits of proposed system**

A. Cost effective

1. membership fees directly to provincial organization
2. one newsletter, not one per region and one provincial
3. provincial funds available for interest group workshops

B. Consistency with other professional and library organizations as becomes a provincial organization with regional/interest affiliations, not regional organization with provincial affiliations

C. Promotes interest groups based on type of library for improved networking

D. Less paper heavy with more streamlined membership procedure and fewer newsletters, minutes, etc.

E. Natural evolution for the organization after 25 years of existence

F. Web page updated at regular intervals by paid executive (last updated April/99)

G. Centralized office, central telephone and fax lines, central mailing address

H. Other organizational models exist so no need to reinvent the wheel

I. Opportunity to piggy-back conference with other large organizations if desired (very economical)

- J. Easier to implement yearly membership renewable every 12 months rather than fixed dates as now
- K. Easier to implement membership with no cards mailed out, just a receipt and database of members
- L. Answer to proposed merger with OLA as would become a cost-effective, more efficient organization
- M. More efficient dissemination of information as no longer need to rely on directors to disseminate

**V. "Problems" to be considered (with some answers)**

- A. Current regional funds could/should be donated to new provincial organization to fund newsletters, workshops, conferences, paid staff, etc. Not an unreasonable suggestion since most of accumulated funds came from conference profits, thus technically belong to members at large?
- B. Reluctance of regions to "disband"
  - 1. more interest group interaction should appeal to many
  - 2. "social" get-togethers still an option for those who wish
- C. Time frame for implementation should be set out by a representative, province-wide group agreeing on a time-line.



**Appendix I**

**Current Organizational Structure Chart of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliotechniciens de l’Ontario (OALT/ABO)**

<b>OALT-ABO Executive</b>
<b>President (elected)</b>
<b>Vice President (elected)</b>
<b>Treasurer (elected)</b>
<b>Secretary (elected)</b>
<b>Treasurer (elected)</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor (elected)</b>
<b>Archivist (appointed)</b>
<b>Membership (appointed)</b>

<b>Directors (elected)</b>
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<b>Huronia Executive</b>	<b>Sudbury Executive</b>	<b>Ottawa Executive</b>	<b>Thunder Bay Executive</b>	<b>Lohania Executive</b>	<b>TALTA Executive</b>	<b>Halton Peel Executive</b>
<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>	<b>Vice</b>
<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>	<b>President Director</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>
<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Archivist</b>

**Appendix II**

**Proposed Organizational Structure Chart of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliothécaires de l'Ontario (OALT/ABO)**

**OALT-ABO Executive Director/Membership  
Coordinator**  
 Full time or Part-time paid  
 Include secretarial, newsletter, etc. duties

**President (elected)**

**Vice President (elected)**

**Treasurer (elected)**

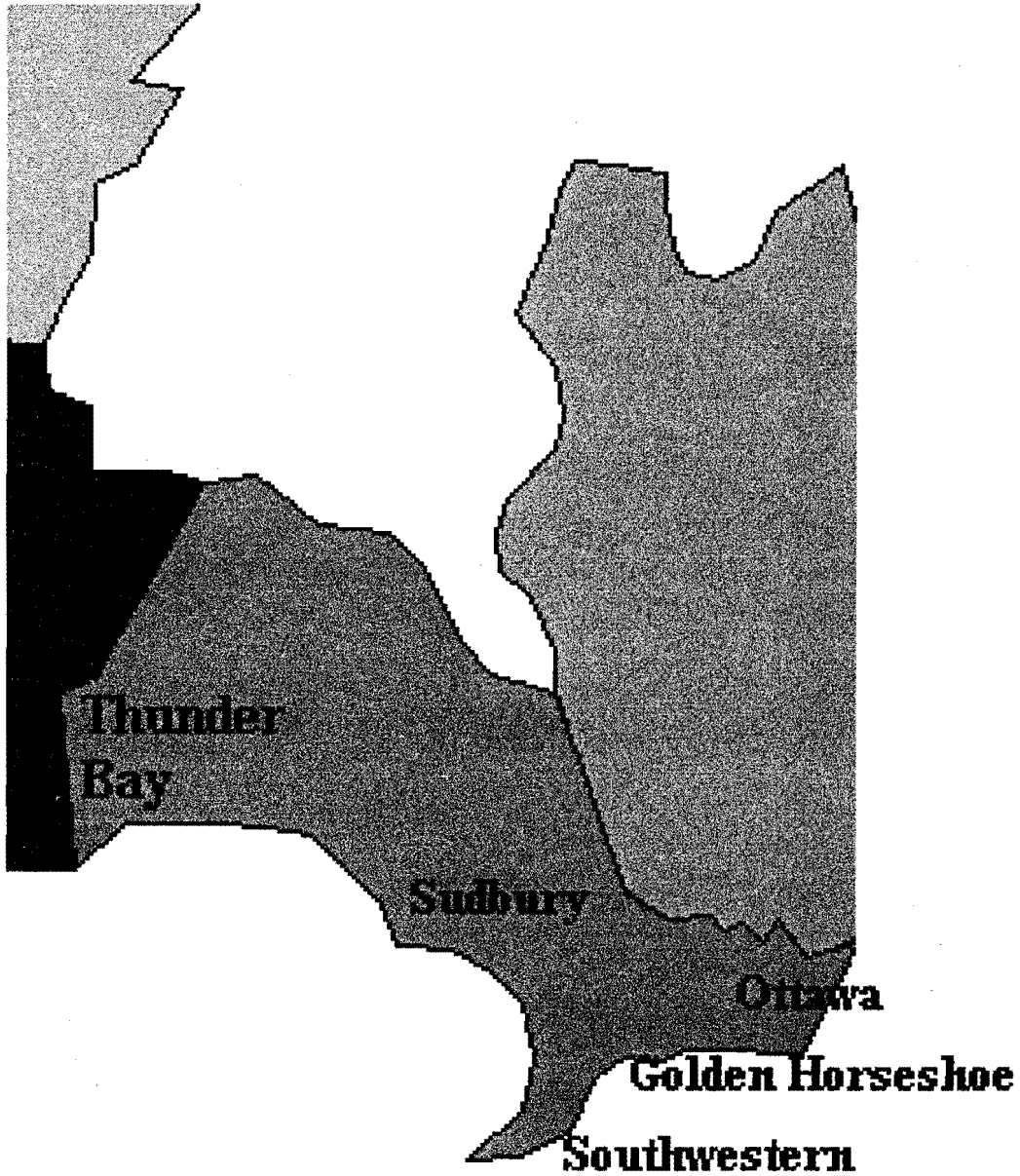
**Directors (elected)**

<b>Thunder Bay (807)</b>	<b>Sudbury (705)</b>	<b>Ottawa (613)</b>	<b>Golden Horseshoe (416, 905)</b>	<b>Southwestern Ontario (519)</b>
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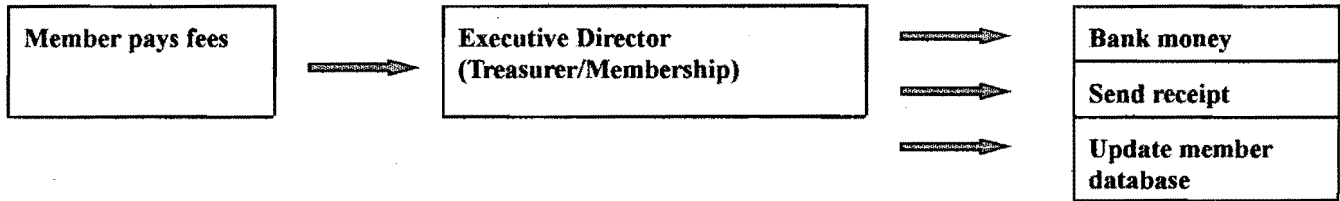
**or**

<b>School Libraries</b>	<b>Special Libraries</b>	<b>Public Libraries</b>
Elementary High School	Corporate Medical Law Government University	

**PROPOSED GEOGRAPHIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE  
FOR  
OALT - ABO DIRECTORS**



### Proposed Membership Flow Chart



**Note simplicity of function**

[English only - seulement en anglais]

## The Courier

### Volume 37, no. 2 Winter 2000

#### The Library Technician Job Market is Sizzling – Help Us Keep You Well-Staffed!

[ By Frances Davidson-Arnott and Susan Marshall, Seneca College ]

#### Website Source:

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/ctor/courier/v37/v37n2a9.htm>

The job market for library technicians in and around Toronto is really hot. If you've tried to hire a library technician recently, you've probably noticed a significant drop in the number of applicants. The biggest growth area for jobs is in the special library community, particularly in financial and legal libraries. Unquestionably, technicians are in demand.

School boards just outside Toronto having been snatching up library technician graduates, and jobs can be found in community college libraries, university libraries and other academic institutions. While public libraries within Toronto are not currently hiring technicians as the amalgamation continues, public libraries outside the city are filling vacant technician positions. Diverse career opportunities in the broader information industry, such as client services, user training and help desk support, are also increasingly becoming available to library techs.

As the only library technician diploma program in the GTA, Seneca College currently funnels the most students into the area job market. Seneca graduates from 45-60 library technicians each year. Currently, the number of graduates is not fulfilling the employment demands of area libraries. In many respects, this can be seen as a positive.

The Seneca program is graduating well-qualified technicians who are being readily accepted into a thriving library community. Graduates arrive at their place of employment with skills that will equip them to use the new technologies for traditional library functions (i.e., cataloguing, acquisitions, reference, circulation and inter-library loan) as well as newer "information" skills that are of increasing importance (e.g., Internet and

database searching, library automation, web-page design, end-user instruction). Seneca technicians are well-trained, readily employable and embark on interesting careers. Our only complaint is that we need more students to train!

If the trends continue, the library community could face a shortage of library technicians. So, we would love your help in recruiting more people into the program. Please encourage unqualified staff in your library to consider embarking on a diploma. Spread the word to people in your organization, friends and relatives. The program can be completed full-time, part-time or accelerated, so there are lots of options to suit different schedules. The current average starting salary for graduates is \$30,000.

Our marketing campaign for the millennium is in full-swing, so please talk it up! If you could display information on the program in your library, or circulate to people who may be interested, please call or e-mail requesting literature. Please refer prospective students to our program:

Seneca College Library and Information Technician Diploma Program

Day programs (full-time, part-time day, accelerated):

Call: (416) 481-5050 ext. 2744

E-mail: [frances.davidson-arnott@senecac.on.ca](mailto:frances.davidson-arnott@senecac.on.ca)

Evening program (part-time evenings, some weekend classes)

Call: (416) 491-5050 ext. 2508 or 4121

E-mail: [julie.taylor@senacac.on.ca](mailto:julie.taylor@senacac.on.ca) or [smarshal@interlog.com](mailto:smarshal@interlog.com)

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## INTERESTING WEB SITES:

### OALT/ABO:

<http://www.interlog.com/~oaltabo>

Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/>

Special Libraries Association: <http://www.sla.org/>

CLA: <http://www.cla.amlibs.ca/>

"Libraries on the World-Wide Web":

<http://www.freenet.victoria.bc.ca/libraries.html>  
[it links to a number of other library sites]

NLC: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/>

Research-it! Your one-stop Reference Desk:

<http://www.itools.com/research-it/research-it.html>

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca>

The Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers held by the National Library of Canada is now available at: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/checklist/intro-e.htm>

La liste de contrôle des index de journaux canadiens conservés à la Bibliothèque nationale du Canada est maintenant disponible à <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/checklist/intro-f.htm>

### Search Engines:

Metacrawler: [www.metacrawler.com](http://www.metacrawler.com)

Altavista: [www.altavista.digital.com](http://www.altavista.digital.com)

Hotbot: [www.hotbot.com](http://www.hotbot.com)

Infoseek: <http://www.wwinfoseek.com>

Northern Lights: <http://www.nlsearch.com>

Altavista Canada: <http://www.altavistacanada.com>

Yahoo Canada: <http://www.yahoo.ca>

Canada.com: <http://www.canada.com>

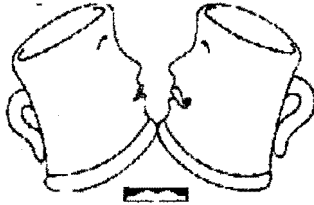
### Software Sites:

Tucows: <http://www.tucows.com>

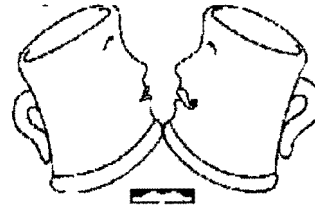
Shareware.com: <http://www.shareware.com>

Download.com: <http://www.download.com>

Jumbo!: <http://www.jumbo.com>



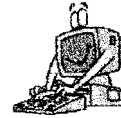
"tête-à-tête" is published three times a year by ORB/SRO. Copies are available to all members.



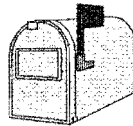
"tête-à-tête" est publiée trois fois par année par ORB/SRO. Les copies sont disponibles à tous les membres.



**Keep in Touch! We wish to hear from you and find out what you would like us to do for you!**

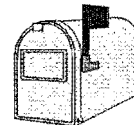


**Gardons le contact! Nous désirons connaître vos idées et savoir ce que l'on peut faire pour vous!**



**Correspondance should be forwarded to:**

**OALT/ABO  
ORB/SRO  
P.O. Box 1094, Station B  
Ottawa, Ont.  
K1P 5R1**



**Correspondance doivent être remise à:**

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