



AMIA the association of moving image archivists

2000 Dan & Kathy Leab Award Winner: Doug Kirby

The winner of the 2000 Dan and Kathy Leab Award, which acknowledges an "unsung hero" in the moving image archival field, was Doug Kirby. Kirby's under-graduate degree was in Fine Arts at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (B.F.A. 1969-73), and he also completed a post-graduate year of study in Public Administration, at Dalhousie University (CPA in 1974). He has worked at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) since 1978, starting in Supply and Services and becoming Media Coordinator for CBC Halifax's Broadcast Material Library/Television Archive in 1997. Over the years at CBC he has served as Film Librarian, Telecommunications/Records Management Assistant and Broadcast Material Library supervisor. He has served as major researcher on many CBC productions and co-productions using archival material, such as Remember Africville, a NFB/CBC co-production on the sad history of the relocation of part of Halifax's Black community in the name of urban renewal during the 1960's. He is particularly proud of his research work for PIER 21, a new national historic site and interpretation center opened in 1999 celebrating Halifax as the main entry point for Canadian immigration in the 20th century <<http://pier21.ns.ca/>> ; and also for setting up the Media Library (using a LEITCH Video-Server) for Public Television's twenty-third annual screening conference "INPUT 2000" - where CBC Halifax hosted 1002 delegates from 48 countries from around the world. <www.input2000.ca/> . Kirby has also coordinated the use of material for web sites such as the Canadian Communications' Foundation History Of Broadcasting In Canada. He is currently coordinating the CBC TV's maritime region portion of a Canada-wide major access and preservation project—known simply as the "Archives Project" 1998-2001. CBC Maritimes is also a partner in a local Cold Storage Vault Consortium along with the Council of Nova Scotia Archives (CNSA is a professional association representing both the small and large archives within Nova Scotia) and Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management (NSARM - formerly the Public Archives of Nova Scotia). Besides preserving the consortia partner's moving, and still film collections, they will also be marketing the rental of one-third of the vault's space to independent producers in the area.

Besides his substantial responsibilities at CBC, over the last twenty-two years Kirby has been active in many voluntary and professional associations: the Canadian Broadcasting League, the Association for the Studio of Canadian Radio & Television (ASCRT/AERTC), the Canadian Communications Foundation (CCF), the International Federation of Television Archives (IFTA/FIAT), the Motion Picture Heritage Fund of Nova Scotia (MPHFNS), the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA), the Council of Nova Scotia Archives, and, of course, AMIA. Kirby currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Cultural Network <www.culture.ns.ca>, which is dedicated to trying to bring together five major cultural sectors—the arts, cultural industries, design, heritage, and performing arts—in an effort to effect political change, and to promote awareness of the importance of the cultural sector to Nova Scotians.

Doug Kirby is an active and effective advocate for moving image archives and for the wider cultural heritage, and his work speaks for the continued relevance and vitality of these sectors. In his own words he is "an enthusiastic promoter of the use of archival material in current programming,.....excited about the converging digital media streams at the CBC, and ... elated and exhilarated about [his] work at the Nova Scotia Cultural Network."