

Celtic Music Interpretive Centre

Global Assessment Project Completed

The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre Archives has recently completed a Global Assessment of the archives with the help of conservator Julia Landry of Leaf by Leaf Book & Paper Conservation Service.

Through the National Archival Development Program, the conservator did a study of the archives within the organization and listed short-term, medium and long-term goals for the archives and provided a professional report to CMIC archivist Virginia MacIsaac. The report is a document that the CMIC Archives will use for planning future development and is an important step for an institutional archive in preparing preservation policies and procedures.

MacIsaac says “The report points out the high points and the low points of the archives at the present time and discussions with the conservator who visited the site provided feedback for developing our best practices in acquiring, assessing and preserving material.” An institutional archive such as the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre provides services to local musicians and local and international researchers.

It also provides a place for Nova Scotia families to deposit materials that relate to musical family histories so they will be preserved and accessible for future generations. The climate controlled vault already holds original letters, sheet music, audio and video tapes of community and family events such as weddings, picnics, and funerals. Photographs of such events are also collected and will help to document the story of the music in Cape Breton communities. The archives’ reference service is open to the public as is the reading room with a collection of tune books and history books. The CMIC acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through Library and Archives Canada for the completion of this project.

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