



Western Counties Regional Library names new regional director

Western Counties Regional Library has hired its new library director from within, elevating French Services Coordinator Erin Comeau to the position.

“The selection committee was impressed with Erin’s (Comeau) enthusiasm for, and her knowledge in the field of the public library service to the community in general and the users in particular,” said Gary Archibald, chair of the regional library board. “She has been a valued worker for our Western Counties Regional Library Board during her tenure with us.”

May 2 was her first day on the job as Regional Library Director, a post previously occupied by Trudy Amirault before her retirement in early December 2010.



New Western Counties Regional Library Director Erin Comeau’s first day on the job was May 2.

“I want to work with staff as well as the community to establish goals to provide innovative, quality services,” Comeau says. “Being a recent grad, I bring fresh ideas to the table.”

Comeau has been very involved in the community, especially in the Municipality of the District of Clare where she grew up. She believes that experience gives her a good understanding of the region and the possible partnerships for the library.

She says the biggest challenge, aside from funding, is to keep up with new technology and stay current while still providing traditional library services.

“Public libraries are very lean operations,” she says. “Our funding is static which means we face challenges in that area because our operating costs continue to climb.”

“But technology is changing at a rapid pace and we have to find a way to stay with it and remain relevant.”

Comeau joined the management team as French Services Manager on June 13, 2005. She completed her Masters in Library and Information Service at the University of Western Ontario in 2007, becoming the librarian for the Clare, Pubnico and Weymouth branches.

In addition to her duties as librarian, she is the library’s webmaster and developed the French side of the library website.