About 200 Canadian books donated to University Library

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA, Mont.--

Approximately 200 books about Canada have been donated to the University of Montana Library by the Canada Council for the Performing Arts (CCPA) and the Association for the Export of Canadian Books (AECB) to generate an interest in Canadian studies at UM.

Peter A. van Brakel, the Canadian vice-consul from the Canadian Consulate General's office in Seattle, Wash., made the presentation at the UM Library Thursday, Dec. 4.

Van Brakel was welcomed by UM President Richard C. Bowers; James L. Talbot, acting academic vice president at UM, and Earle C. Thompson, dean of UM library services.

The books include a wide variety of Canadian literature, poetry and nonfiction. Such books as "Women in Canada," edited by Marylee Stephenson; "The Story of Canada" by Donald Creighton; "Survival," edited by Margaret Atwood, and "Kamouraska" by Anne Herbert are included in the collection.

Last year, the CCPA and the AECB made a similar donation of books to the UM Library.

In his remarks during the presentation Thursday at the UM Library, Van Brakel said there is a great need to promote Canadian studies in U.S. universities.

"It is important for Americans to appreciate the subtle distinctions between the United States and Canada," Van Brakel said. "Increased understanding will keep the irritants between the two countries to a minimum."

Van Brakel said many U.S. universities are offering Canadian studies programs. He said he is pleased with the advancements UM has made in offering classes about Canada.

The donation of books to the UM Library by the CCPA and AECB is among book donations to be made to about 100 U.S. colleges and universities by the two Canadian organizations this year.

The Canadian Consulate General's office in Seattle selects the seven universities in this area to receive the Canadian books. The area includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and western Montana.

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