

**Glenbow's Library and Archives Celebrates 50 Year Anniversary**

**April 19, 2006 (Calgary, AB)** – Glenbow Museum's Library and Archives is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this month. In celebration of this milestone birthday, Glenbow is launching the "Dear Miss Griffis" blog with content drawn from its extensive archival collection creating new opportunities to preserve stories from the past by bringing the voice of a First World War soldier back to life.

The "Dear Miss Griffis" blog will feature the more than 200 letters written by First World War soldier, Calgary Dr. Harold McGill to his future wife Miss Emma Griffis. The letters vividly describe Harold's experiences during four years at war and reflect the optimism he carried with him throughout this dark period in history. With very few living Canadian First World War veterans, this initiative provides a unique opportunity to preserve the significant stories of the past and creates a new realm for Glenbow visitors and users to interact with the museum's content.

"In an age when letter writing and penmanship seem a thing of the past, the "Dear Miss Griffis" blog presents historical letters in a format that makes them accessible to new publics," explains Kirstin Evenden, Glenbow's Manager of New Media Initiatives. "The stories about the First World War that Harold tells in these letters are riveting. On the blog, they become available to enthusiasts who can now respond to the letters and discuss them with one another online. The blog allows for two way interaction and communication in a way not possible in the real world and the letters become a catalyst for discussions about love, war, and human tragedy."

Each week Glenbow Museum will post a newly transcribed letter revealing the fascinating correspondence between Harold and Emma which vividly describes this significant moment in time as well as the progression of their relationship with one another. Glenbow Museum welcomes readers to participate in the blog experience by sharing their own comments inspired by Harold and Emma's correspondence.

Visit the "Dear Miss Griffis" blog at <http://www.glenbow.org/connected>.

Glenbow's Archives, Canada's largest non-governmental archival repository, has extensive holdings of unpublished documents and photographs related to the history of Western Canada. Glenbow's Library collection includes over 100,000 books, pamphlets, and journals relating to the history of the southern Alberta region.

Glenbow Museum is one of Canada's largest and most entrepreneurial museums. Through a variety of dynamic exhibitions and programs and a broad collection of artifacts, art, and historical documents, Glenbow Museum builds on a commitment to preserve western heritage while simultaneously providing visitors with a glimpse of the world beyond.