

**British Association for Canadian Studies and Centre of Canadian Studies  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference**

**University of Edinburgh, 24-26 April 2025**

**Conference Programme**

**Thursday 24 April**

14.30	Playfair Library Hall, Old College	<b>Registration desk</b>
16.00		<b>Doors open</b>
16.30	Playfair Library Hall, Old College	<b>Welcome</b>  Followed by <b>Plenary Keynote 1</b>  Debra Thompson, Canada Research Chair in Racial Inequality in Democratic Societies, McGill University.
18.00-19.00		Post-lecture drinks reception  ***

**Friday 25 April – Chrystal Macmillan Building (CMB)**

08.30-09.00	CMB Foyer	<b>Registration</b>
09.00-10.30	Seminar Room 4	<b>Session 1.1 Indigeneity 1: Global and Historical Arenas</b>  Marie-Pierre Bousquet, Université de Montréal, 'More than Tartans, Fiddles and Bannock: Why Canadian Indigenous People are Interested in their Scottish Ancestry'  Faith Decontie, University of Aberdeen, 'Recalibrating Colonial Pain: Reflection on

		Indigenous Canadian and United Kingdom Relations'
		Robert C. Thomsen, Aalborg University, 'Indigeneity and other collective identities at the Arctic Winter Games'
09.00-10.30	Seminar Room 5	<p><b>Session 1.2 Multiculturalism 1: Race and Immigration</b></p> <p>Mary Fowke, University of Lisbon, 'Ways of Remembering: Contrasting Experiences of Displacement in Canadian Immigrant and Emigrant Memoirs'</p> <p>Eyitayo Aloh, Trent University, 'Unmasking the Polite Racist: Humour, Resistance and Black African immigrants in Canada'</p> <p>Karine Coen-Sanchez, University of Ottawa, 'Navigating Identity and Policy: the Afro-Caribbean Experience in Canada'</p>
09.00-10.30	Seminar Room 6	<p><b>Session 1.3 Literature 1: (Re)Imagining Identity and Belonging</b></p> <p>Lindsay Thistle, Trent University, 'A Mirror and a Memory: Exploring Meaning and Identity in Canadian WWII Plays, 1945-1975'</p> <p>Janne Korkka, University of Turku, 'Unstable Spaces in Canadian Writing'</p> <p>Maximillian Rhys, Technical University of Liberec, 'Real and Imagined Communities in Canadian Novels from the 1940s to the 1970s'</p> <p>Linda Morra, Bishop's University, Rethinking Citizenship: Jane Rule's 'Lesbian Image' and Categories of Belonging</p>
09.00-10.30	Violet Laidlaw Room	<p><b>Session 1.4 UK-Canada Relations 1: Historical and Cultural</b></p> <p>Anne MacLennan and Antara Dey, York University, 'A Moveable Feast: Invisible</p>

Cultural Heritage and Scottish Food Identities in Canada'

Colin Coates and Stéphane Castonguay, York University and Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, 'Message in a bottle... in a cheese: Establishing links in the Canadian cheese trade with the United Kingdom, 1880-1914'

Matthew Hayday, University of Guelph, 'Canada, the UK and the Commonwealth in the late 20th Century: Researching Canada Through a British Lens'

Jaroslav Valkoun, Charles University, 'The King-Byng Affair and Its Significance for British-Canadian Relations, 1926'

09.00-10.30 Practice Suite

**Session 1.5 Québec and French Canada 1: Language and Mobilisation**

Yulia Bosworth, Binghamton, SUNY, '*Nous voulons un pays*: Discourse on identity, nationhood in PQ Instagram posts'

François Vaillancourt, Université de Montréal, 'Language Policy in Canada and Québec in the 2020+ period'

Alexandre Turgeon, Université Laval, 'The Future of the Quiet Revolution'

Md Nazmul Arefin, University of Alberta, 'Just Watch Me' A Biopolitical Retrospection on State Control, Terrorism Framing, and Human Rights in Québec's FLQ Crisis'

10.30-11.00 CMB Foyer **Refreshment break**

11.00-12.30 **Session 2.1 Indigeneity 2: Indigenous Governance and Colonial Politics in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

Brian Gettler, University of Toronto,  
'Peregrine Maitland and the Origins of the  
Indian Fund'

Isabelle Bouchard, Université du Québec à  
Trois-Rivières, 'First Nations Governance in  
Colonial Context: the Uses of Official Notarial  
Writing by the Abenaki in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century'

Alain Beaulieu and Stéphanie Béreau,  
Université du Québec à Montréal and  
Professional History Consultant, 'Identity and  
Power among the Indigenous Peoples of the  
Saint Lawrence Valley in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century:  
The Case of the Gill family in Odanak'

Mathieu Arsenault, Université de Montréal,  
'Indigenous Politicians in the Canadian  
Capital and the Implementation of  
Regulations to prohibit them from visiting the  
Seat of Government, 1840-1852'

11.00-12.30

**Session 2.2 Multiculturalism 2: Mechanisms  
of White Supremacy: Media, Migration and  
Multicultural Myth-Making**

Angela Stigliano, York University, 'Modern  
Homesteading, Natural Living and the Far  
Right'

Annela Bose, York University, '(Un)Welcome  
to Canada's Future: White Supremacy,  
Migrant Resistance and Changes to Canadian  
Immigration Policy'

Aaliyah Khan and Fizza Mir, York University,  
'The Violence of Multiculturalism: Producing  
Canada through Carceral Violence, Anti-  
Palestinian Racism and Islamophobic Media'

11.00-12.30

**Session 2.3 Literature 2: Past, Present,  
Future Fiction**

Isabelle Fournier, Trent University, 'Resilience and Hope in Annie Bacon's *Chroniques Post-Apocalyptiques*'

Kait Pinder, Acadia University, 'History's 'Vibe' in Sarah Bernstein's *Study for Obedience*'

Sylwia Borowska-Szerszun, University of Bialystok, 'Seeking Meaning in the Medieval Past: Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Guy Gavriel Kay's Historical Fantasy fiction'

Pauline Montassine, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, '"We've Been Here Before': Mapping Timescapes in Margaret Atwood's *Paper Boat* (2024)'

Andrea Beverley, Mount Allison University, 'Archival Collage and Elizabeth Brewster'

11.00-12.30

#### **Session 2.4 Book Panel 1**

*The Québec-United States Relationship: Political, Security, Economic, Environment and Cultural Dynamics*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2025

Authors: Frédérick Gagnon (Université du Québec à Montréal) and Christopher Kirkey (SUNY, Plattsburgh)

11.00-12.30

#### **Session 2.5 Locating Labour and Social Class**

Daniyal Zuberi, University of Toronto, 'Addressing Youth Poverty in the Peel Region, ON'

Léonard Bédard and Scott Richardson, Queen's University, 'Labouring Under Illusions: How Canada's Temporary Worker Programme Exploits and Restricts the Social Mobility of Economic Migrants'

Robert Wardhaugh and James Flath, Western University, 'Fielding: The Rise and Demise of a Saskatchewan Small Town'

John Belshaw, Thompson Rivers University,  
 “The Spinster and the Spokesman:’ What the  
 Killing of Rachel Shannon reveals about early  
 Vancouver’s elite’

12.25-13.15 CMB Foyer **Lunch**

13.15-14.15 Meadows **Keynote:**  
 Lecture Michael Keating, Emeritus Professor of  
 Theatre Politics, University of Aberdeen, and  
 Honorary Professor, University of Edinburgh

14.30-16.00 **Session 3.1 Indigeneity 3: Cultural  
 Articulations and Knowledge Practices**

Heather Devine, University of Calgary, ‘Digital  
 Family Roots: Genealogical Research and  
 Canada’s Indigenous Identities’

Aafiyah Shaikh, University of Edinburgh,  
 ‘Museums as Sites of Reconciliation:  
 Imperialism, Soft Power and the Rematriation  
 of Artefacts’

Lisa Binkley, Dalhousie University, ‘The  
 Flower Beadwork People: The Evolution of  
 Métis Embroidery and Beadwork’

Monty Montgomery and Margaret Kovach,  
 University of British Columbia, ‘Indigenous  
 Epistemic Space in 21st Century Canadian  
 Society?’

14.30-16.00 **Session 3.2 Multiculturalism 3: European  
 Settlers**

Kristín M. Jóhannsdóttir, University of  
 Akureyri, ‘The Linguistic Landscape of Gimli,  
 Manitoba’

Dagmara Drewniak, Adam Mickiewicz  
 University, Poznań, ‘Photographs, Ghosts and  
 Legacy Memoirs as Testimonies of Eastern  
 European Immigration to the Prairie  
 Provinces’

Venkovits Balázs, University of Debrecen,  
'Exploring and Preserving the Heritage of  
Immigration: A Case Study of Montreal'

14.30-16.00

### **Session 3.3 Literature 3: Aesthetic Hybridities**

Ian Rae, University of Western Ontario,  
'*Blackwood's* in the Backwoods: Galt and  
Dunlop in an Unpublished Novel (c.1900) by  
Kathleen and Robina Lizars'

Cecilia Beecher Martins, University of Lisbon,  
'Identity and Biotext: Looking at Fred Wah's  
*Diamond Grill* and *A Door to be Kicked*'

Elina Valovirta, University of Turku, 'Finally  
Free: Materialist Canadian and Caribbean  
Seascapes in Shani Mootoo's *He Down She in  
Sea*'

Octavian More, Babeş-Bolyai University,  
'"Troubled only by clarity of weather:"  
perspectivism and spiritual experience in the  
poetry of Margaret Aviston and Christopher  
Dewdney'

14.30-16.00

### **Session 3.4 Book Panel 2**

*Les mots de la nation. Au cœur du lexique de  
base de six communautés imaginées : États-  
Unis, France, Angleterre, Écosse, Canada,  
Québec*, Presses de l'Université de Montréal,  
2025

Jocelyn Létourneau (Author) and Discussants,  
Michael Keating (Universities of Aberdeen  
and Edinburgh), Hugh Starkey (University  
College London).

14.30-16.00

### **Session 3.5 Climate Emergency Conversations**

Alan MacEachern, Western University, 'Taking  
our Temperature: How Canadians Talk About  
the Weather'

Tracie Scott, Jyothsna Appiah Singh and Aishwarya Singhal, Heriott Watt University, Dubai, 'Much 'Ad'o about nothing: Legislating against greenwashing in Canada'

Joanna Robinson, York University, 'We are Skipping our Lessons to Teach you One': Intergenerational Conflict in the Canadian Climate Movement'

Ian Urquhart, University of Alberta, 'From Leader to Laggard: The Canadian Climate Change Story'

Jade Laflamme, Arielle Navette, Léonard Bédard, Université Laval, Université Laval and Queen's University, 'À chaque marais sa municipalité: Gouvernance locale et protection des milieux humides au Québec'

16.00-16.20

**Refreshment break**

16.20-17.50

**Session 4.1 Indigeneity 4: Trauma and Rights**

Gabriela Kwiatak and Ewelina Feldman-Kolodziejuk, Jagiellonian University, Krakow and University of Bialystok, 'Speaking the unspoken: Testimonies of Forced Sterilization in *Sacred Bundles Unborn*'

Brian Calliou, University of Calgary, 'Response by Canada's Legal Profession to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action'

Jeremy Patzer, University of Manitoba, 'Beyond the Supreme Court of Canada: Indigenous Rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'

16.20-17.50

**Session 4.2 Multiculturalism 4: A Century of Greek Canadian History and Memory in Toronto**

Sekis Gekas, York University, 'Towards a Transnational History of Greeks in Toronto:'



the case of the 1918 anti-Greek riots and its various afterlives’

Angelo Laskaris, York University,  
‘Remembering the 1940s: Greek Canadian Memory and Historical Awareness in the Present’

Alexandros Balasis, York University, ‘Elites of Migration: Greek Leadership in Toronto’s Diaspora’

16.20-17.50

#### **Session 4.3 Literature 4: Literary Regions**

Ceri Morgan, Keele University, ‘Regional chick lit: shaping l’Estrie’

Vanja Polić, University of Zagreb, ‘Marina Endicott’s *The Little Shadows*: a View of the Western Region from a Vaudeville Stage’

Aritha van Herk, University of Calgary, ‘Canada does not exist. Nevertheless, we yearn to be there’

16.20-17.50

#### **Session 4.4 ‘Canadian’ Wine and Food**

Marcel Martel, York University, ‘Promoting Canadian wine, 1860-1940’

Nicole Neatby, St Mary’s University, ‘Creating a ‘foody’ destination: How Québec cuisine was turned into a tourist attraction and a marker of national identity (1920-1967)’

Adrian Shubert, York University, ‘“The County’: the Making of a Wine Region in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Ontario’

16.20-17.50

#### **Session 4.5 UK-Canada Relations 2: Promoting UK-Canada Relations: the Role of the British Consulates General**

Patrick Holdich, University College London, and colleagues

**Session 4.6 : Québec and French Canada 2 :  
'Culture et citoyenneté Québécoise/Culture  
and Citizenship in Québec A curricular  
paradox'**

Organizer: Joanne Pattison-Meek, Bishop's  
University; Discussant: Hugh Starkey,  
University College London

Denis Jeffrey, Université Laval, 'The  
Sociological Underpinnings of the New  
Culture and Citizenship Curriculum'

Raphaël Gani, Université Laval, 'The  
Dilemma(s) of Curricular Translation for  
Québec's Official Language Minority'

Joanne Pattison-Meek, Bishop's University,  
'PhotoVoices from the Field: Supporting  
Understandings of Culture and Citizenship in  
Quebec in Rural, English High School  
Classrooms'

18.00-18.45 Meadows  
Lecture  
Theatre

**Plenary Roundtable: Whither Canadian  
Studies?**

Stewart Gill, University of Melbourne,  
'Something Still to Find': Why Canadian  
Studies are still relevant'

Paul Keen, Carleton University, 'Still Sleeping  
with the Elephant: Canadian Studies'  
Unfinished Arguments'

Tony McCulloch, University College London  
'Canadian Studies in the UK'

19.30

Playfair  
Library,  
Old  
College

**Conference dinner**

## Saturday 26 April

09.30-10.30 Meadows  
Lecture  
Theatre

### **Plenary Keynote 3**

Sarah Carter, H.M. Tory Chair and Professor of History,  
University of Alberta

10.30-11.00

### **Refreshment break**

11.00-12.30

### **Session 5.1 Indigeneity 5: Health, Language, Politics**

Antonia Maioni, McGill University, 'The development of  
Indigenous health systems in Canada and the US'

Tomasz Soroka, Jagiellonian, University, Krakow, 'Navigating  
Linguistic Diversity: Canada's Language Policies Towards Non-  
Official and Non-Indigenous Languages'

Cora Voyageur, University of Calgary, 'Leading the Nations:  
First Nation Chiefs in Canada'

11.00-12.30

### **Session 5.2 Multiculturalism 5: Attitudes toward Immigration: Belonging and Deservingness**

Ailsa Henderson and Antoine Bilodeau, University of  
Edinburgh and Concordia University, 'The Terms of Belonging  
in Minority Nations: Markers of National Identity in Québec  
and Scotland and Attitudes toward Minority Groups'

Luc Turgeon, University of Ottawa, 'Immigration and the  
housing crisis: a comparison of Canada's English- and French-  
language press'

Antoine Bilodeau and Luc Turgeon, Concordia University and  
University of Ottawa, 'Attitudes toward immigrants in  
Québec: A look at territorial and generational variations'

11.00-12.30

### **Session 5.3 Literature 5: Indigenous Stories 1: Healing, Spectrality, Hauntings**

Lucie Altmannová, Masaryk University, 'Traditional Healing as Decolonial Resistance in Tanya Tagaq's *Split Tooth*'

Cynthia Sugars, University of Ottawa, 'Unreconciled Monsters: Intergenerational Hauntings and Canadian Residential Schools in Armand Ruffo's *Windigo Tale*'

Diane Bélisle-Wolf, Universität Trier, 'Territory, art and identity in Natasha Kanapé's novel *Nauetakun, un silence pour un bruit*'

11.00-12.30

#### **Session 5.4 Policy Transformations in Health, Sex and Gender 1**

Christopher Dummitt, Trent University, 'Sixties Social Transformation from Unexpected Places: the Divorce Act of 1968'

Marie Moreau, Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, 'Promoting Involved Fatherhood? Canadian Institutions and the journey forward towards a more gender-equal Canada'

Claire Mountford, Queen's University, 'How do Canadian Political Parties respond to allegations of sexual violence: To sanction or not to sanction?'

Holly Dickinson, Dalhousie University, 'Materializing Reproductive Justice: The Metro Family Planning Association and Women's Health Advocacy in Nova Scotia, 1969-1988'

Guilia Rovelli, Università degli Studi di Bergamo, 'Health, Prosperity, Intellectual Advancement. The Evolution of the Concept of Well-Being in Canada (1791-1920)'

11.00-12.30

#### **Session 5.5 Governance and Political Institutions**

Raymond Blake, University of Regina, 'It is all about Freedom: The Rhetoric of Canadian Prime Ministers Since Mackenzie King'

Gregory Marquis, University of New Brunswick and Saint John, 'The Past, Present and Future of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police'

Penny Bryden, University of Victoria, 'Political Scandal in Canada: Historical Insights for a Post-Scandal Age'

		Tim Cook, Canadian War Museum, 'Renewing the Canadian War Museum'
12.30-13.30	CMB Foyer	<b>Lunch</b>
13.00-13.30	Meadows Lecture Theatre	<b>BACS AGM</b>
13.30-15.00		<p><b>Session 6.1 Indigeneity 6: Developments and Responses 2: Encounters and Reconciliations</b></p> <p>Patrick Holdich, University College London, 'Canadian Politics and Indigenous Issues: Where is Public Opinion?'</p> <p>Kiera Ladner, University of Manitoba, 'Restoring Pluralism: Imagining a Way of Living Together'</p> <p>Hannah Wylie, Concordia University, 'Examining Economic Reconciliation'</p>
13.30-15.00		<p><b>Session 6.2 Art, Stories and National Identity</b></p> <p>John Bessai, Trent University, 'Art and Public Service: Shaping Canadian Identity through Visual Storytelling'</p> <p>Joan Schwartz, Queen's University, 'Photography and the Art of Nation-Building'</p> <p>Michael Follert, Saint Francis Xavier University, "'Grim Excitement' Listening to the North over CBC Radio, 1945-58"</p> <p>Claire Smerdon, University of Edinburgh, 'Susannah of the Mounties: A Childhood Encounter with Residential Schools'</p> <p>Anne MacLennan, York University, 'Competing Canadian Identities'</p>
13.30-15.00		<p><b>Session 6.3 Literature 6: Indigenous Stories 2: Land, Truth, Narrative</b></p> <p>Fernando Pérez García, University of Oviedo, 'Should I be here? A Transmodern Reading of Black and Indigenous Relations with Land and Solidarity in Wayde Compton's <i>The Lost Island</i>'</p>

Kamelia Talebian Sedehi, Mount Allison University and Spienza Università di Roma, 'Whose Truth Is It? A Reading of Vermett's *Real Ones: A Novel*'

May Wang, National Defense University, 'First Person Narration and Interpellation in Thomas King's Short Stories'

### **Session 6.4 Book Panel 3**

*Québec's Eastern Townships and the World: A Region and its Global Connections*, McGill-Queen's University Press, 2025

Authors: Andrew Holman (Bridgewater State University) and Christopher Kirkey (SUNY, Plattsburgh)

13.30-15.00

### **Session 6.5 Policy Transformations in Health, Sex, and Gender 2: Complexities of Reproductive Rights: Immigrant and Indigenous Women Activists (1960s-1990s)**

Annalee Lepp, University of Victoria, Chair and Commentator

Karissa Patton, University of Edinburgh, 'Expert or Interloper? Birth Control Centres in Alberta, 1969-1979'

Sarah Nickel, University of Alberta, 'Planned Parenthood and Indigenous Women's Reproductive Autonomy, 1970s-1980s'

Margaret Little, Queen's University, 'The Complexities of Reproductive Justice Politics for Immigrant Women Activists in Toronto, 1970s-1980s'

Cherene Ayian, Rutgers University and Lynne Marks, University of Victoria, 'The India Mahila Association's Campaign Against Sex Selection Clinics, Vancouver, 1993-1998'

15.00-15.30 CMB Foyer **Refreshment break**

### **Session 7.1 Indigeneity 7: Beothuk Ghosts**

John Harries, University of Edinburgh, 'Banishing Beothuk Ghosts: kinship, the unhaunting of Newfoundland and settler colonial futures'

Julia Laite, Birkbeck University of London, 'Reframing Beothuk Histories: Re-narrating the life of Shanawdithit and the colonial history of Newfoundland'

Suzanne Owen, Leeds Trinity University, 'The past in the present in Newfoundland'

15.30-17.00

### **Session 7.2 International Orders: Past and Present**

Wayne Hunt, Mount Allison University, 'Power Politics and The Weaponization of The Working Class: The Dynamics at Work Behind Trudeau's Surprise Dinner with Donald Trump at Mar-A-Lago on 29 November 2024'

Mark Williams and Anna Toderas, Vancouver Island University and University of British Columbia, 'Canada and the Shattering of World Order'

Stephen McBride, McMaster University, 'Trade and Trump 2.0: Challenges to Canadian Strategy'

Daniel Guedes, York University, 'Not so nice Canada: Canadian sub-imperialism in Central America'

Paula Hastings, University of Toronto, 'The Eyes of the World are on Vancouver: The Panama Canal and Shifting Oceanic Narratives in Canada'\*(tbc)

15.30-17.00

### **Session 7.3 Literature 7: Coloniality**

Denisa Krásná, Masaryk University, 'Chosen People, Chosen Species: Decolonizing Exceptionalism in *The Marrow Thieves*'

Shelly Hulan, University of Waterloo, 'Raspberries of Discord: Colonial Ingratitude in Two Early Canadian Novels'

Rūta Šlapkauskaitė, Vilnius University, 'This Thing of the Darkness: Petro-memory and Kinship Time in David Hubert's *Oil People*'

Jose Romaris, National University of Distance Education (UNED), Spain, 'Murder and Resurrection of Ganymede: The Impact of Colonialism on Two-Spirit/Queer Representations in the Literature of Canadian Indigenous Nations'

15.30-17.00

### **Session 7.4 Québec and French Canada Panel 3: Rights and Citizenship**

Christina Keppie, Western Washington University, 'Acadians of Maine and Their Complex Relationship with the *Congrès mondial acadien*'

Lorraine O'Donnell, Concordia University, 'Resources on English-speaking Québec: A Field Map'

Patrick Donovan, Concordia University, 'The Shifting Complexity of Identity in English-Speaking Québec, from the 19th century to today'

Janice Denoncourt, Nottingham Trent University, 'Challenging Financial Opacity: Corporate Transparency Obligation in Québec and Canada'

15.30-17.00

**Session 7.5 Governance and Political Institutions: The Canadian Federal Election, 2025**

Patrick Holdich, University College London, and colleagues