



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CANADIAN STUDIES  
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL D'ÉTUDES CANADIENNES

## **ICCS / CIEC | Association Reports / Rapport de l'association | 2025**

### **Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland**

**Website / site web :** <https://www.canadianstudiesireland.com/>

**President / présidente :** Dervila Cooke

**Association members / Membres de l'association :** 120

**Canadian Studies Centres and/or universities that belong to the Association / Nombre de centres d'études canadiennes ou universités liées à l'Association :** 7

**Graduates in 2024–25 / Étudiants membres qui ont obtenu leur diplôme, 2024–25 :** N/A

### **Activities / Activités**



*Visit Marie Andree Beaudet to University College Dublin, 23 October 2024. Photo © Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland*

- Conference paper by Dervila Cooke on “Naomi Fontaine’s cultural adaptations: poetic memoir, fictionalised autobiography, essays, film, and theatre” at the Adaptation, Translation, Identity Conference. The Humanities Institute, University College Dublin, 14 May 2024.
- Visit of Marie-Andrée Beaudet (from Université Laval) to University College Dublin, co-delivering with Michael Brophy a seminar on the poet Gaston Miron, and later delivering a research seminar entitled 'Gaston Miron: une vie en poésie', 23 October 2024.
- In October and November 2024, to mark the 75th anniversary (1949–2024) of Newfoundland and Labrador joining Canada, the SETU (South East Technological University), under the auspices of the Centre for Newfoundland and Labrador Studies at the Waterford site in Ireland, coordinated a series of Canadian-themed



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lectures titled 'The Three Sisters Lecture Series'. The Government of Canada partially funded this initiative. Further information on the lecture series and recordings of the lectures are available online at [The Three Sisters Lecture Series](#).

- Conference paper on internationally renowned Québec poet Hélène Dorion: Michael Brophy, 'Pour une écologie du poème: l'œuvre d'Hélène Dorion', Poésie et Écologie conference, Université de Lorraine, Nancy, 28–29 November 2024.
- Raymond Blake (University of Regina) delivered a talk at the South East Technological University (Waterford campus), entitled “Canada’s Prime Ministers and the Shaping of a National Identity,” 26 February 2025. Prof. Blake also spoke at University College Dublin on 14 April 2025 on “Donald Trump, Canada and the Shaping of National Identity”.
- On 03 March 2025, John Maher gave a lecture as part of the ICCS/York University doctoral lecture series entitled “Ireland and Newfoundland - reaching out to distant cousins in cultural space and time.”
- At University College Cork on 24 March 2025, ACSI council member Sylvia Ross was part of Professor Oliver Davis’s workshop entitled “Exploring traditions of psychedelic use in Ireland and Canada: land, language, and post-colonial revival,” with significant Canadian content. Two prominent elders from the Native American Church in Canada, Reanna Daniels and its former president of 18 years, Kelly Daniels, spoke and sang at the research day, together with internationally leading historian of psychedelics, University of Saskatchewan professor Erika Dyck. Celebrated Irish writer and documentary maker Manchán Magan also spoke.
- Poet and scholar Catherine Morency (Université du Québec à Chicoutimi) visited University College Dublin on 27 March 2025 for a public talk as part of the annual Franco-Irish Literary Festival in Dublin (Catherine Morency in conversation with Michael Brophy).
- The [Craig Dobbin Legacy programme](#) in Dublin was officially launched on 14 March 2024, with 30 associated scholarships and a two-year programme of events running until June 2026 at University College Dublin. The programme was launched by Paul Halferty (ACSI council member, director of the Centre for Canadian Studies at University College Dublin, and board member of the Ireland-Canada University Foundation (ICUF) and James Kelly, CEO of ICUF, in the presence of the Canadian ambassador to Ireland, Nancy Smyth. The Craig Dobbin Legacy Programme (CDLP) is an initiative between ICUF, the UCD Centre for Canadian Studies, and UCD’s College of Arts and Humanities. Celebrating the legacy of Newfoundland-born entrepreneur and philanthropist Craig Dobbin’s contribution to Ireland-Canada academic relations, the programme aims to plant seeds for a whole new phase of UCD engagement with Canadian universities over the coming years, including a flagship seminar series. The inaugural event took place in December 2024, when



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Clemens Merkel & the Bozzini Quartet, from Concordia University, Montreal, were hosted by Dr. Seán Clancy, Assistant Professor and Ad Astra Fellow in the School of Music, University College Dublin

- October 2024 saw the announcement of awardees of the [Craig Dobbin Legacy Programme Scholarships](#) at a reception on 17 October 2024 at the University College Dublin University Club.
- Spring and Summer rounds (2025) of the first instalments of the Craig Dobbin Legacy Programme, to run until June 2026, included talks at University College Dublin by Danielle Clarke (UCD School of English, Drama, and Film); Philip Branigan, Department of Linguistics, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Lindsay Thistle, Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario; and Robert J. Currie, K.C., Viscount Bennett Professor of Law, Dalhousie University.



*Launch of the Craig Dobbin Legacy Programme in Dublin, 14 March 2025. Photo © Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland*



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### Publications by members of the Association / Publications par des membres de l'association

- Blake, Raymond (2024). *Canada's Prime Ministers and the Shaping of a National Identity*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press.
- Conrick, Maeve and Tracie Lea Scott (eds.) (2025). *British Journal of Canadian Studies*, 37, no. 1.
- Conrick, Maeve and Tracie Lea Scott (eds.) (2024). *British Journal of Canadian Studies* 36, no. 2.
- Conrick, Maeve (ed.) (2024). *British Journal of Canadian Studies* 36, no. 1.
- Cooke, Dervila (2024). *Indigenous and Transcultural Narratives in Québec, Ways of Belonging* (Palgrave Macmillan). This monograph foregrounds critical approaches, societal analysis and narrative critique of works by Abila Farhoud, Naomi Fontaine, Anita Aloisio, and Akos Verbovczy. Launched at the ACSI Biennial conference at Queen's university Belfast in 2024. Nominated for the Pierre Savard Award in November 2024 in the category of books written in either French or English.
- Lea Scott, Tracie (2025). "Book review of *Canada's Prime Ministers and the Shaping of a National Identity* by Raymond B. Blake." *British Journal of Canadian Studies* 37, no. 1: 116–17.
- Maher, John (2025). "Book review of *Inspiring Canadians: Ideas for a Better Tomorrow* by Mark Bulgutch." *British Journal of Canadian Studies* 37, no. 1: 128–29.
- Ross, Sylvia (2025, forthcoming). *Subverted Sites: Textual Representations of Conflict in Tuscany*. University of Toronto Press. One of the chapters (Wounded Bodies, Wounded Spaces: Post-Conflict Ruins and Regeneration in Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*) concerns the representation of Italy by Ondaatje.



Photo © Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland of the launch of Dervila Cooke's new book, QUB Quebec, May 2024



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### **Grants/Prizes awarded and received / Bourses/Prix décernés et reçus**

- Approximately 30 scholarships for visits between Canada and Ireland were awarded under the [Craig Dobbin Legacy Programme](#) in September/October 2024.
- Several ACSI members received awards, including Michael Brophy for work on Eco-soundings in French-Canadian poetry, and Lindsay Thistle for work on the representation of war in literature in Ireland and Canada.

### **Upcoming activities and events / Activités et événements à venir**

- One day online symposium on "Canada in a changing world", Autumn 2025. Keynote speaker on the biographies of early nineteenth century Beothuk women in Newfoundland is Julia Laite from Birkbeck, UK, originally from Newfoundland.