

A Tribute to John Long

On March 2, the history community lost a major figure, great scholar, and terrific colleague when John Long passed away in North Bay, Ontario. Born in Brampton on December 18, 1948, Professor Long's career as an educator and researcher took him across the country, but the Mushkegowuk people and Treaty 9 territory had a special place in his life and work.

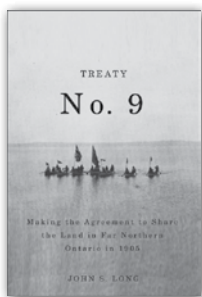


As an undergraduate student, Long studied anthropology at the University of Waterloo before heading to North Bay for teachers' college. Following his return to southern Ontario to obtain master and doctoral degrees in Education at the University of Toronto, he moved to Moose Factory where he taught and served as a principal in the community's public schools. His educational career also included appointments as an advisor with the Mushkegowuk

Council and as principal at Francine J. Wesley Secondary School in Kashechewan.

Nipissing University and North Bay have been Professor Long's home since 2000, when he joined the faculty of the Faculty of Education to teach new generations of educators the lessons he had learned through his career. He was particularly pleased when Ontario required all teacher education programs to ensure that students were exposed to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit traditions, cultures, and perspectives.

In 2010, he published his groundbreaking book *Treaty No. 9: Making the Agreement to Share the Land in Far Northern Ontario in 1905*. The book shows how the government omitted and misrepresented central elements of the treaty in its conversations with the Mushkegowuk people. In its description of the book McGill-Queen's Press says that it "sets the record straight while illuminating the machinations and deceit behind treaty-making." In a review, historian J.R. Miller writes "Dr. Long has done the First Nations of far northern Ontario an enormous service, and shows scholars of Native-newcomer relations how ethnohistory should be done." Long's research inspired award-winning filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin's latest documentary – *Trick or Treaty*.



Certainly, Professor Long's lengthy relationship with and deep commitment to the Mushkegowuk people is part of the book's success. In remembering her colleague and friend, Dr. Katrina Srigley explains: "John, in his commitment to fatherhood and friendship, and in his deeply ethical work as a teacher and researcher, gifted us important lessons about reconciliation and respectful relationships."

In a 2013 interview, Professor Long summarized the ultimate goal of his research by saying "what I'd like to see is treaty implementation." Foreshadowing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, he added that "I'd love to see federal and provincial governments working with aboriginal communities to actually implement the treaties in ways that support people's views of self-reliance, education, housing and infrastructure – but really for their vision of their future in Canada."

For him, education was critical and he was central to Nipissing University's efforts to serve as a place for these important conversations: "when the university privileges voices and holds things like the *Ka Na Ta Conversations*, inviting people to hear what aboriginal leaders are saying it's part of public education. We have this important role to help people become aware of the issues."

As he leaves us, the movement for reconciling relations with Indigenous people in this country gains ground, and in that his work will live on for generations to come. Meegwetch, John.

Sean Graham, ActiveHistory
Katrina Srigley, Nipissing University

Frederick Henry Armstrong

With the passing of Fred Armstrong on April 15, 2016, Ontario lost one of its distinguished historians and heritage conservationists. Fred earned his MA (1951) from the University of Toronto, worked in the insurance business for eight years before entering doctoral studies at Toronto in 1959, graduating with his PhD in 1965. During graduate studies, he came under the tutelage of JMS Careless and Gerald Craig. Maurice Careless, who fueled Fred's interest in urban studies and the theory of metropolitanism, supervised Armstrong's thesis, an examination of the development of the City of Toronto as the first emerging metropolitan centre in Ontario from its incorporation in 1834 until the Rebellion three years later. Gerald Craig's influence on Armstrong's research focus was no less profound. He directed Fred's attention to the local political scene of Upper Canada, and the role elites played in political and economic affairs.

Fred joined the history department of The University of Western Ontario in 1963 where he remained until retirement in 1991. At Western he quickly established his reputation as an indefatigable scholar, a student-friendly academic, and an ardent heritage conservationist activist. As he pursued his research interests, Armstrong eschewed (some would say excoriated) the quantitative analysis of the "new urban history" of the 1970s, preferring instead traditional approaches. He wrote or edited some fifteen books and pamphlets. They included: a new edition of Henry Scadding's *Toronto of Old* (1966); *Handbook of Upper Canada Chronology and Territorial Legislation* (1967; 2nd. rev. ed, 1985); *The Forest City: An Illustrated History of London, Canada* (1986); *Progress, People and Perils in Victorian Toronto* (1988); and *The Iveys of London: An Entrepreneurial and Philanthropic Family* (2005), a *tour de force* of family business history. Regrettably, this volume, commissioned by the family and privately published, had an extremely limited print run and did not receive the accolades it deserved. Beyond the books, Fred contributed thirty-nine biographies to the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, and published some sixty articles in various academic journals, anthologies and heritage magazines. For a more popular audience, he penned seventy-seven articles in his *Looking Back over Southwestern Ontario* column (2002-7) in the *London Free Press*.

Dr Armstrong proved to be as conscientious and successful a teacher as he was a researcher and writer. His classes were always popular and often over-subscribed. Fred did not flinch from teaching undergraduates; he enjoyed his undergraduate courses immensely. He taught the pre-Confederation segment of the



Canadian history survey course, as well as senior British North American courses. His graduate seminars combined the study of business history with the study of urban development and the activities of local elites. Fred supervised nineteen MA and PhD theses, all of which focussed on aspects of early Ontario history, most dealing with urban issues. At Western, initially with James J. Talman, Fred assisted in the development of the university's exceptional Regional History Collection.

Outside the university, Dr Armstrong played a prominent role in local and provincial historical and heritage groups. Provincially, beginning in 1974, he served as an executive member of The Champlain Society; during his presidency (1988-91), he initiated a process of considerable reorganization. As a member of the Ontario Historical Society in the late sixties through his presidency in 1978-9, he spearheaded the successful effort to re-energize the organization, resulting in closer collaboration between university-based and other historians, and an intensified focus on the conservation of the province's built heritage. Locally, Fred did yeoman's service for the London and Middlesex Historical Society. As a long-serving member (President 1988-9), he gave papers regularly at meetings, and co-edited and contributed to the society's impressive publications. For his selfless contributions, the Society presented Fred in 2001 with a life-membership and the position of Honorary President.

Fred also worked tirelessly in support of heritage conservation in London, as a member of the local branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario from the late sixties to 2014, and as a founding member and chair (1979) of the City of London's advisory committee on architectural and historical conservation (today the London Advisory Committee on Heritage). Fred edited the committee's first four publications, co-authoring the first.

For his scholarship and community involvement, Fred earned numerous awards: a fellowship in the Royal Historical Society (1971); an Award of Merit from the American Society for State and Local History (1984); and the Ontario Historical Society's highest honour, the Cruikshank Gold Medal (2006). Western presented him with the President's medal for the best Canadian scholarly article published in 1978, and a coveted university research professorship in 1989. It was fitting that Fred Armstrong's career was capped in 2009 when he received the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement in preserving Ontario's Heritage.

Gerald Killan, Professor Emeritus
King's University College at Western University,
London, Ontario

La SHC/CHA est attristée d'apprendre le décès de l'un des plus éminents historiens du Canada, un pionnier qui a transformé l'écriture de l'histoire du Canada depuis les années 1960. Ramsay Cook a été président de la CHA / SHC en 1983-1984.

Hommage à l'historien : Ramsay Cook (1931-2016)

Le décès de Ramsay Cook, le 14 juillet, a créé une onde de choc chez ses anciens étudiants et l'ensemble de la communauté des historiens du pays. En effet, le pays a perdu un de ses ambassadeurs à l'âge de 85 ans. Originaire d'Alameda en Saskatchewan, Cook a exercé son métier d'historien pendant trente-six ans dans la Ville-Reine après avoir obtenu son doctorat de l'Université de Toronto sous la supervision d'un autre géant de l'histoire canadienne : Donald Creighton. Ce dernier a souvent indiqué qu'il admirait le travail de son protégé, bien qu'ils étaient souvent en désaccord.

Cook est connu au Canada anglais notamment en raison de sa conception des « limited identities », soulignant l'importance de la classe sociale, du genre et de l'ethnicité non seulement comme facteurs fondamentaux dans la construction des identités canadiennes, mais comme des cadres d'analyse en histoire. Il est un des pionniers de la Nouvelle histoire sociale au pays. Il a également dirigé 39 doctorants – tant canadiens que québécois – dont plusieurs ont mené de longues carrières dans les universités du pays. Il était un des artisans du *Dictionnaire biographique du Canada*, une entreprise massive entre les universités de Toronto et Laval, a été directeur de la *Canadian Historical Review* en plus d'assurer la présidence de la Société historique du Canada pour l'année 1983-84.

Cook a été un grand ambassadeur de l'histoire canadienne à l'étranger. Il a fait des séjours aux universités Havard (1968-69) et Yale (1978-79; 1997), et a multiplié les séjours à l'étranger, visitant des universités dans l'ancienne Union soviétique, en Chine, en Inde, en Australie et au Japon. Bref, nous venons de perdre un bâtisseur.

Un interprète du Québec

Un grand francophile, il faisait partie des intellectuels du Canada anglais qui cherchaient à comprendre le Québec et à le réconcilier avec le Canada. Il était un lecteur assidu du *Devoir* et a signé de nombreux articles pour André Laurendeau et Claude Ryan qui étaient, pour lui, de bons amis. Il croyait fermement aux bienfaits du bilinguisme et a inscrit ses enfants à la *Toronto French School*. Sa fille, Margaret Michèle Cook est d'ailleurs devenue une écrivaine et poétesse franco-ontarienne décorée à Ottawa.

Cook était un intellectuel, largement engagé dans les débats entourant l'unité nationale et la place du Québec dans le Canada. On peut dire qu'il occupait le rôle « d'interprète » du Québec pour le Canada anglais, notamment par ses livres *Canada and the French Canadian Question* (1966) et l'anthologie des principaux textes nationalistes québécois, *French Canadian*



Photographie : l'Université de Winnipeg

Nationalism (1969). Il réfléchit aux conséquences du nationalisme au Canada dans *Maple Leaf Forever* (1971) qui cimenter son rôle comme intellectuel.

L'historien a également tenu une impressionnante correspondance avec de nombreux intellectuels et historiens du Québec, ayant correspondu avec Fernand Dumont, Michel Brunet, Jacques-Yvan Morin, Fernand Ouellet et d'autres encore. Il a donné plusieurs cours sur l'histoire québécoise et canadienne-française en plus de diriger de nombreuses thèses à ce sujet.

Cook ne laissait personne indifférent. Homme de principe, il défendait farouchement les droits individuels. Il rappelle à plusieurs reprises que les livres de George Orwell étaient une inspiration pour sa pensée. Antinationaliste, il faisait partie de la tradition philosophique de Lord Acton. En ce sens, il admirait Pierre Elliott Trudeau et il l'a vigoureusement appuyé lors de sa course au leadership du Parti libéral du Canada en 1968. Grand batailleur, il aimait mettre au défi les intellectuels nationalistes du Québec comme Michel Brunet.

Le legs de Cook est énorme. Il cherchait à pousser les historiens et les intellectuels du pays à s'améliorer et à communier à l'excellence dans leur travail. Il a participé à bousculer les frontières de la discipline à l'extérieur de sa zone de confort. Il était l'archétype de l'universitaire engagé par son œuvre d'intellectuel par sa recherche, par son enseignement et par la formation de toute une génération d'historiennes et d'historiens du Canada et du Québec.

Serge Miville

Professeur adjoint

Chaire de recherche en histoire de l'Ontario français

Université Laurentienne

The CHA/SCH is saddened to hear of the passing of one of Canada's foremost historians who pioneered and transformed the writing of Canadian history since the 1960s. Ramsay Cook was President of the CHA/SCH in 1983-1984.

Ramsay Cook (1931-2016): In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that I must inform you that Ramsay Cook, a distinguished member of the History Department from 1969 to 1996, passed away on 14 July 2016.

Born in Alameda, Saskatchewan, Ramsay Cook began his academic career by taking his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Manitoba in 1954. He then went on to Queen's to complete a Master of Arts thesis in 1956, under the direction of Arthur Lower, on civil liberties. In 1960, he completed his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto with a dissertation on John W. Dafoe. The revised thesis became his first book, *The Politics of John W. Dafoe and the Free Press* (1963), a study which reveals some of the basic characteristics of his scholarly work. He looked at an individual, John Dafoe, who was not a traditional politician but rather an inveterate prairie journalist who played an influential role in shaping ideas in the public domain, including the West, Ottawa, and Canada's role in the international community. This first study revealed his fascination with ideas and the process of nation building, themes that would occupy him throughout his career.

In the 1970s, Ramsay Cook focused his attention on the social reform and social criticism movements which emerged in English speaking Protestant Canada at the turn of the century. His research into the history of the ideological origins of these movements and the proposals of some of their most prominent leaders appeared in a study entitled: *The Regenerators: Social Criticism in Late Victorian English Canada* (1985). This study demonstrated how and why many of the thinkers who promoted 'social regeneration' contributed in unforeseen ways to the various forces promoting secularization. This influential study contributed to launching a debate on the impact of the scientific and social revolutions on Protestant theology in Canada and the responses of various Protestant clergy and Christian socialist labour militants to the crisis that ensued.

Author of some fifteen books, editor of eleven books, and author of more than sixty articles in refereed and non-refereed journals, Ramsay was editor of the *Canadian Historical Review* from 1963 to 1968, became the executive editor of the *Canadian Centenary Series* between 1983 and 1988, and was the executive editor of the multi volume *Dictionary of Canadian Biography/Dictionnaire biographique du Canada* from 1989 to 2006. Several of his books have been translated into French and Japanese.

Throughout his academic career, Ramsay Cook's many accomplishments were widely acknowledged. In 1986 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and Member of the Order of Canada. He won the J. B. Tyrell Medal from the Royal Society of Canada in 1975, the Governor General's Literary Award for

Non Fiction in 1985 for his book *The Regenerators*, which was released in a second edition this year, and the Molson Prize in the Social Sciences and Humanities in 2005, a prize that marks a substantial and distinguished contribution over a significant period of time to the cultural or intellectual heritage of Canada. Twice, he received the President's Medal from the University of Western Ontario for the best scholarly article. In 2005 he was named a member of York University's Founders Honours Society. He was a Visiting Professor of Canadian Studies at Harvard University in 1968-69 and Visiting Professor at Yale University in 1978-79 and 1997. He was also the recipient of six honorary doctorates as well as being named to the Order of the Sacred Treasure by the government of Japan in 1994. On his retirement thanks to generous donations from colleagues and friends of Ramsay, as well as some important foundations, the department established in his honour the Ramsay Cook Research Scholarship for graduate students.

For 36 years as a professor of Canadian history, first at the University of Toronto and then at York University, Ramsay Cook motivated countless numbers of undergraduate and graduate students to take up the study of Canada. He also sought out and offered encouragement and mentorship to scholars of Canadian history in Canada and beyond whose work he admired. As a visiting professor to universities in the United States, the former Soviet Union, Japan, India, Austria and China, he introduced dozens of international students and professors to Canada and its past. Not least Ramsay was a historian who believed that it was important to speak to multiple audiences about Canada and its history. Throughout his career he engaged in broad debates about Canadian identity and Canadian nationalism through his writings and other media appearances.

As a colleague, he participated vigorously in departmental life and, when he deemed it necessary, intervened in characteristically feisty manner at departmental meetings. He also had a great love for the Canadian outdoors; he was a gifted swimmer and dedicated birdwatcher, and was an informed admirer of Canadian painting and Northwest coast native art.

He will be greatly missed.

The Department will hold an event in the Fall to mark Ramsay's distinguished career.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Edmondson
Professor and Chair
Department of History