

Aboriginal History Studies Group /  
Groupe d'étude d'histoire autochtone

Jennifer Pettit, Mount Royal University, Co-Chair, Aboriginal History Studies Group

Formed in 1982 after the first Laurier Conference on Ethnohistory and Ethnology, the Aboriginal History Studies Group (AHSG) brings together scholars interested in the study of Aboriginal history. Membership in the group is free and is open to all interested in Indigenous history, broadly conceived, and includes scholars from many disciplines in addition to history, federal and provincial government employees, representatives of Aboriginal organizations and public historians / independent researchers. In the words of one of its founding members, "the primary aim of the group was to act as a clearing-house and avenue of communication for those active in the field of Aboriginal history." To meet these goals, the AHSG engages in a number of activities including: organizing an annual business meeting at the CHA; sponsoring sessions; organizing special events and field trips that coordinate with the CHA's annual meeting; sharing information about publications and upcoming events; and maintaining a web page where members can network and share information and ideas.

At the 2013 business meeting at the University of Victoria, Jennifer Pettit and Liam Haggarty of Mount Royal University were chosen to act as the new Co-Chairs of the group. They would like to thank Keith Carlson, outgoing Chair, for his service on the committee.

In 2013 the AHSG engaged in a number of activities including sponsoring a Brown Bag Teaching Workshop at the CHA which focused on teaching Indigenous Histories in Canada. The session was so popular that attendees spilled into the hall and some had to be turned away from the session due to lack of space. Many attendees asked if materials from that session could be posted on the AHSG web page at which point it was decided that the web page needed to be redesigned and updated. That work should be complete for the 2014 business meeting of the AHSG (the new site will be accessible from the main CHA web page). New goals for the AHSG web page rebuild include finding better ways for AHSG members to network and communicate and making it easier for new members to join the group. A Facebook page for AHSG is also being considered.

Another important activity of the AHSG has been the awarding of the annual book and article prizes. The recipient of the 2013 article prize was Miles Powell for his article entitled "Divided Waters: Heiltsuk Spatial Management of Herring Fisheries and the Politics of Native Sovereignty" published in the Winter 2012 issue of *The Western Historical Quarterly*. Leslie A. Robertson



Drum Making / Fabrication de tambour

with the Kwagu'z Gixsam Clan received the book prize for their work entitled *Standing Up with Ga'axsta'las: Jane Constance Cook and the Politics of Memory, Church, and Custom* published by the University of British Columbia Press. The 2014 book prize committee is chaired by Susan Neylan of Wilfrid Laurier University and the article prize committee is chaired by Peter Cook of the University of Victoria. More information on the prizes can be found in the "What We Do" section of the CHA web page.

It is hoped that the annual business meeting in 2014 will stimulate ideas for future activities for the AHSG such as finding ways to collaborate on student participation in Aboriginal field schools such as the Treaty 7 field school hosted by Mount Royal University. Attracting new members, particularly graduate students, is also a priority. The date and time of the 2014 business meeting of the AHSG will appear in the main program for the CHA annual meeting. Please consider taking part and new members are always welcome.

Nathan Smith, PhD

It is hard to believe, but ActiveHistory.ca is now five years old! Originally our site was envisioned as a Canadian version of Britain's popular History and Policy website. Our first piece of content was a hyperlink to Paul Axelrod's "Universities and the Great Depression: Then and Now?" At that time our focus was publishing short accessible and peer-reviewed essays while also posting announcements about upcoming events related to the broader themes of Active History.

Today, ActiveHistory.ca is quite different. Although the "papers" section of our site continues, it is by far the least developed aspect of the project. By the end of 2009, blogging had become our backbone (we now have over 800 posts) and the editorial collective began to develop a series of partnerships with like-minded organizations. The most fruitful ones, such as the Toronto Public Library's History Matters Lecture series and THEN/HiER's Approaching the Past workshops, have become important institutions of their own. In recent years, the website has also added a book review section and monthly History Slam! podcasts. In addition to our growing content, the size of the project continues to grow. Although ActiveHistory.ca operates on a volunteer basis (we currently have no ongoing funding beyond individual contributions to pay for domain name and server costs), the editorial collective has expanded from five members based at York University, to a team of eight located across the country. Unique visitors to the site have also continued to grow. The site currently receives between 16,000 and 20,000 visitors each month and it is not uncommon to have 1,000 visitors in a day. If you want to contribute, don't hesitate to touch base with us at [info@activehistory.ca](mailto:info@activehistory.ca).

As much as the project has evolved, some elements have remained consistent. One of the wisest decisions we made early in the project was to publish Gérard-François Dumont's "The Berlin Wall: Life, Death and the Spatial Heritage of Berlin" in November 2009. This essay, found in our papers section, continues to be a favourite for visitors and remains our most popular content. Over 14,000 people have read Dumont's paper since it was first posted. ActiveHistory.ca continues to post short, topical and blind reviewed essays as part of its papers section. If you have a paper that you think would be appropriate consider sending it to us at [papers@activehistory.ca](mailto:papers@activehistory.ca).

The Active History Committee of the CHA keeps in touch with the editors of ActiveHistory.ca, with members of the Active History group, and schedules a meeting at the annual CHA conference. In the past, committee Coordinators have organized a mini-conference on the War of 1812, and a panel on teaching as a form of active history. Our plans for the upcoming CHA conference at Brock University involved promoting knowledge about useful digital tools. We look forward to using social media

during Congress 2014 to increase connections at the meeting, and to engage with those who cannot attend. We will be holding a meeting at the 2014 CHA conference and encourage anyone interested in the group, or in being a co-chair for next year, to attend. Look for an announcement about the meeting time!

### **Business History Group / Groupe d'histoire des affaires**

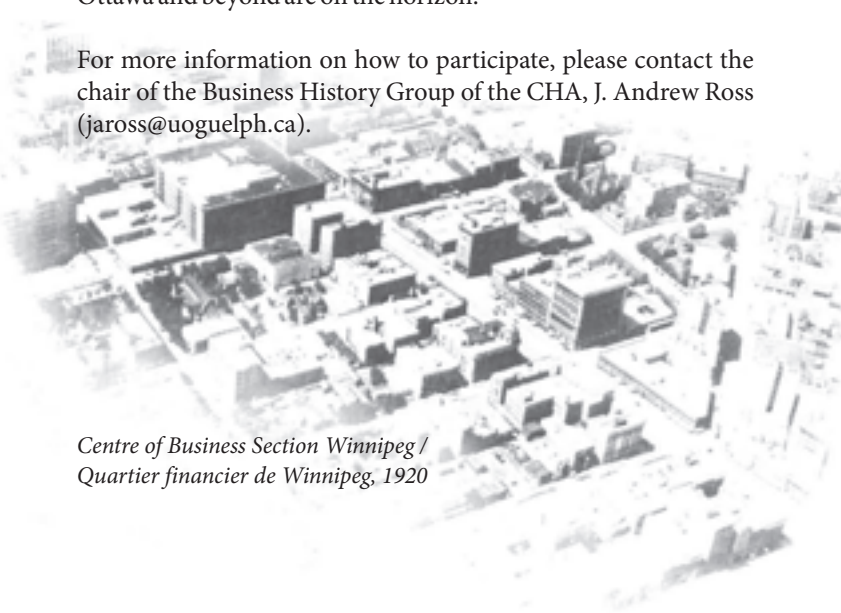
Andrew Ross, Chair

Recent years have seen a revival of interest in business history in Canada. In January 2010 a small conference was held at the Centre for International Governance Innovation on the theme of Canada's place in the global business world (the conference proceedings are now being published), and from that gathering a mailing list was generated for a proposed group called the "Canadian Business Historians/Historiens des affaires canadiens." In 2012, several members of the group held a planning session at the meeting of the Business History Group of the CHA, and discussed future directions of business history in Canada. Mainly, they committed to holding a Friday afternoon Canadian Business History workshop once a semester featuring discussion on two works-in-progress by both students and established scholars.

After successful events at Laurier (Brantford), York (Shulich), and Guelph, the enthusiasm continues, and a fourth workshop is scheduled to be held in April 2014 at the Rotman School of Business at the University of Toronto. In addition to the regular format of commentary on two workshop papers, we will also feature a panel on the application of Alfred D. Chandler's model to Canadian business, with special guests Philip Scranton of Rutgers University and Walter Friedman of Harvard Business School. This event will be sponsored by the L.R. Wilson/R.J. Currie Chair in Canadian Business History, held since 2012 by Professor Chris Kobrak of ESCP Europe in Paris.

Developing a network of business historians in Canada is particularly challenging given the size of the country and the country's linguistic duality. For now, the Workshop has only travelled in the southern Ontario, but invitations to host in Ottawa and beyond are on the horizon.

For more information on how to participate, please contact the chair of the Business History Group of the CHA, J. Andrew Ross ([jaross@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jaross@uoguelph.ca)).



*Centre of Business Section Winnipeg /  
Quartier financier de Winnipeg, 1920*

**Canadian Committee on the History of Sexuality /  
Comité canadien d'histoire de la sexualité**

Steven Maynard, Co-Chair

The Canadian Committee on the History of Sexuality (CCHS), first formed in 1996, continues to grow. Through our email list and website (<http://www.chashcacommittees-comitesa.ca/cchs>), the CCHS helps to connect historians of sexuality in Canada, and provides a wealth of resources – bibliographies, lists of archives, current history projects, etc. – for anyone teaching or researching in the field.

2014 is already proving to be an exciting year. In January, the CHA extended its advocacy work to include LGBT issues by writing a public letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin to express the Association's opposition to Russia's "anti-gay propaganda" legislation and its "inhibiting implications for scholarship in history" (<http://www.cha-shc.ca/download.php?id=1228>). The CCHS would like to applaud and thank the CHA for taking this important initiative.

In May, as part of the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women to be held in Toronto, the CCHS will sponsor "Together & Apart: A Historical Walking Tour of Queer Sites of Celebration and Resistance." The walking tour is a joint effort by the CCHS and community-based historians. Already sold out in advance, the tour will be researched and led by CCHS members Elise Chenier and Steven Maynard and longtime community historian-activists Maureen FitzGerald and Amy Gottlieb.



*Mensuel Birth  
Control Review 1919*

The CCHS is also looking forward to awarding its bi-annual prize for best article on the history of sexuality in Canada at the upcoming CHA meetings in St. Catharines. If you're interested in finding out more about the Committee, why not join us? It's free!

**Canadian Committee on Labour History (CCLH) –  
Workshop, Sunday, May 25 /  
Comité canadien sur l'histoire du travail (CCHT) –  
Atelier, le dimanche 25 mai**

Alvin Finkel, president, Canadian Committee on Labour History

Since 1990, it has become an annual tradition for the Canadian Committee on Labour History to host a labour history workshop the day before the CHA meetings begin in earnest within and focused on the community where the CHA meetings are happening. The idea is to host an off-campus workshop that will have presentations and events of interest both to historians and to local labour and other activists. We rely on local labour scholars to organize the event. This year our labour history workshop is scheduled for Sunday, May 25, at the UNIFOR (previously CAW)

Hall in St. Catharines. Brock historians Tami Friedman and Carmela Patrias, aided by labour scholars in other departments, are putting together this year's program for the CCLH. It's a program not to be missed! The morning program includes a labour history panel with speakers on the history of radical immigrant workers in Niagara and on the history of the CAW in St. Catharines. A second panel examining contemporary challenges will have speakers on migrant worker organizing in the region as well as worker/union responses to deindustrialization in the region. In the afternoon, there will be a tour of Salem Chapel BME Church, Harriet Tubman's last stop on the Underground Railroad. Afterwards, we will visit the St. Catharines Museum (at Lock 3 on the Welland Canal) to view a small labour history photo exhibit and learn about the proposed memorial to honour workers who died building the Welland Canal. Then, in the early evening, we'll end the day's festivities with a wine-tasting and a la carte dinner at one of the area's unionized wineries. If you'd like more information about this event, please contact me at [alvinf@athabascau.ca](mailto:alvinf@athabascau.ca).

CCLH would like to take this opportunity as well to announce its Eugene A. Forsey Prize winners for 2013, graduate and

undergraduate. They are: Bruno-Pierre Guillette, " 'Le Jour du Seigneur vendu à l'encan': regard sur la Commission d'enquête sur l'observance du dimanche dans les industries de pâtes et papiers du Québec (1964-1966)," M.A. thesis, Université du Québec à Montréal, 2012, and Rick Duthie, "What Struck in '58: A Drama Representing the Culture of Mine Mill Local 598, Sudbury, Ontario, 1942-1962," undergraduate thesis, Mount Royal University, 2013. Congratulations to both winners!

CCLH has recently revamped its website – <http://www.cclh.ca/> Check out our site for both CCLH events and news and for an array of reports on the history and current struggles of working people and social movements worldwide.

Two Greek workmen / Deux  
travailleurs grecs, c. 1948-1955



**Canadian Committee on Women's History /  
Comité canadien de l'histoire des femmes**

Magda Fahrni, Université du Québec à Montréal, Chair,  
Canadian Committee on Women's History – Comité canadien de  
l'histoire des femmes, 2013-2014

The Canadian Committee on Women's History – Le Comité  
canadien de l'histoire des femmes is one of the oldest and largest  
committees affiliated with the CHA. Founded in 1975, we now  
have over 200 members across the country, including teaching  
faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars. Our  
ongoing activities include an Annual General Meeting, the  
awarding of the Marta Danylewycz and Barbara Roberts Prizes,  
and the publication of a yearly newsletter; members also stay  
abreast of our activities through our listserv, our website, and our  
Facebook page. We will be involved in two sessions at the  
upcoming Canadian Historical Association meetings at Brock  
University. The first is the CCWH-organized round-table tribute  
to historian (and longtime CCWH member) Bettina Bradbury,



*Canadian political cartoon of a  
woman in Quebec reading a sign /  
Caricature politique canadienne  
d'une femme au Québec faisant la  
lecture d'un panneau 1930*

who will be retiring next summer. Five of Professor Bradbury's  
former PhD students, from the Université de Montréal and from  
York University, will reflect upon her many important  
contributions to the field. The CCWH will also be sponsoring a  
highly stimulating panel entitled "Women and the Law." In  
addition to these two CHA panels, the CCWH has agreed to co-  
sponsor four interdisciplinary panels at Congress; these panels on  
feminist research were initiated by the Canadian Sociological  
Association. As usual, our annual reception promises to be one of  
the highlights of Congress for CCWH members. We also look  
forward to the CHA Gala, where the CCWH will award the Hilda  
Neatby Prizes for the best articles (in English and French)  
published in the field of women's and gender history over the past  
year. This year, for the very first time, we will also be awarding a  
Book Prize to the best book published in the field of women's  
and/or gender history in 2012 or 2013. The juries for both of these  
prizes are currently reading away and we are eagerly awaiting  
their decisions! Finally, the CCWH is the national co-sponsor of  
the next "Big Berks," a hugely important international women's  
history conference that will be taking place at the University of  
Toronto in May, just a few days before the CHA meetings. Many  
of our members will be giving papers at the Berks, and the  
CCWH will also be co-sponsoring a reception there, as well as a

round table entitled "On Feminist Mentors," involving historians  
Linda Kealey, Jill Ker Conway, Natalie Zemon Davis, Elizabeth  
Cohen, Veronica Strong-Boag, Andrée Lévesque and Susan Hill.



Kris Inwood, University of Guelph

The Canadian Network for Economic History /Le Réseau  
canadien d'histoire économique invites proposals for its next  
meeting Friday October 24 – Sunday October 26, 2014 at Trent  
University in Peterborough. Papers will be considered on all  
topics, with some preference given to those relating to the theme,  
"Markets and Crises." We are very pleased to announce that  
Michael Bordo (Rutgers University) has agreed to give the  
keynote address at the conference, and Leah Platt Boustan  
(UCLA) will be giving the Mary MacKinnon Memorial Lecture.  
To be considered for inclusion on the programme please email a  
1-2 page abstract to Shari Eli ([shari.eli@utoronto.ca](mailto:shari.eli@utoronto.ca)) and Chris  
Minns ([c.minns@lse.ac.uk](mailto:c.minns@lse.ac.uk)). The deadline for proposals is June 1,  
2014. The programme will be set and authors notified by late-  
June. Proposals from graduate students and junior scholars are  
strongly encouraged. Funds may become available to partially  
reimburse the travel and accommodation costs of such  
participants. Information on the venue, registration, and  
programme will be posted at [www.economichistory.ca](http://www.economichistory.ca) as it  
becomes available.

**Graduate Student Committee /  
Comité des étudiants diplômés**

Julie Perrone, Chair

The Graduate Student Committee has been busy this year, both  
preparing for Congress 2014 and working on reaching out to grad  
student members of the CHA.

**Congress News**

The GSC is pleased to announce that the Jean-Marie Fecteau  
prize for the best student article published in a peer-reviewed  
journal will be awarded for the first time at Congress 2014. The  
prize brings with it not just recognition, but also a cheque for  
\$250. Nominations are closed for this year, and the winner will be  
announced at Brock University in May.

The My CHA initiative is back again this year. Indeed, the GSC  
will be sponsoring two students to attend Congress and blog  
about their experience. In exchange for your blogging expertise,

the GSC will pay your registration fees (including CHA membership!). If you're interested in applying, write an e-mail to the Committee at [cedshc\\_gsccha@gmail.com](mailto:cedshc_gsccha@gmail.com).

There will also be a grad student social the evening before the start of the CHA meeting in St. Catharines (May 25th). Stay tuned for more info in the official program!

### Student Database

The GSC has been talking to the CHA executive about modernizing or replacing the association's student database in order to make it more useful and easier to use. We're interested in hearing from student members on this – would you find a database of student research projects a useful tool for networking?

### Funding

Last October the executive sent department chairs across the country a letter asking if they could find it in their hearts to support the GSC financially in 2014. We're happy to report that both York University and the University of Manitoba have pledged their support. If you represent a department and would like to support the GSC, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### The History of Children and Youth Group / Groupe d'histoire de l'enfance et de la jeunesse

Tarah Brookfield and Jason Ellis, Co-Chairs

The History of Children and Youth Group celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2015. This year the Award Committee received forty-one nominations for the Neil Sutherland Prize, awarded to articles or book chapters on Canadian or international topics in the history of childhood and youth. The award honours the pioneering work of Neil Sutherland by recognizing outstanding and innovative contributions to the field.

The group continues to improve resources for its members. This year the website will feature a membership database and a new section devoted to sharing syllabi of history and interdisciplinary courses related to the history of children and youth.



We look forward to promoting the Society for the History of Children and Youth 8th biennial meeting to be held for the first time in Canada, June 24-26 2015 at University of British Columbia. For more information on the HCYG, please contact Jason Ellis ([j.ellis@ubc.ca](mailto:j.ellis@ubc.ca)) or Tarah Brookfield ([tbrookfield@wlu.ca](mailto:tbrookfield@wlu.ca)). Visit our website at <http://www.hcyg.ca/> or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/History-of-Children-and-Youth-Group-affiliated-Committee-of-the-CHA/442784465742126>.



*Engineer E. B. Craft (at left) demonstrating the Vitaphone sound film system / L'ingénieur E.B. Craft (gauche) fait une démonstration du système de son Vitaphone*

### Media and Communication History Committee / Comité de l'histoire des médias et de la communication

Gene Allen, School of Journalism/Joint Graduate Program in Communication and Culture Ryerson University, Toronto

The Media and Communication History Committee marks the fifth anniversary of its founding this year. Operating in both official languages, we welcome scholars from any discipline who are interested in studying any aspect of Canadian media and communication history. We also welcome scholars based in Canada who study the media and communication history of other parts of the world, as well as those interested in how history is represented in the media.

The committee's major new initiative for 2014 is the establishment of an annual prize for the best paper presented by a graduate student (or postdoctoral fellow) on a subject related to the history of media and communication at the annual meeting of the CHA/SHC. (For details of the award, see <http://mchc-chmc.ca/websites/mchc-chmc/Default.en.aspx#>.) In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of our interests, we will also sponsor a special joint session of our group and the Bibliographical Society of Canada at this year's CHA meeting, "Transnational Travels of Books and Print Media: Historical Studies, Theories, Methods and Questions." The session is co-organized by Barbara Freeman on behalf of the MCHC and Janet Friskney on behalf of the BSC. This will be our third joint session with the BSC since 2011. At last year's CHA meeting, we

sponsored a session on “Exploring the Perimeters of the Historian’s Craft: Music as History / L’exploration des périmètres du métier d’historien : Musique et Histoire,” with stimulating papers by Robin Ganey, Kristina Guiguet and Molly Ungar and commentary by Colin Coates.

After five years under the leadership of founding chair Mary Vipond, we are seeking to renew our executive group this year. Anyone interested in the work of the committee is warmly invited to attend our business meeting during this year’s CHA. Please check the CHA program for the specific time, date and location.

Further information about the committee and its work can be found on our website: [www.mchc.ca](http://www.mchc.ca). Urls for other organizations involved with media and communication history are provided there, as well as links to a list of recent books and articles compiled by Barbara Freeman and to a valuable bibliography of Canadian media history developed by Duncan Koerber.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the MCHC’s secretary-treasurer, Gene Allen ([gene.allen@ryerson.ca](mailto:gene.allen@ryerson.ca)), or executive member Barbara Freeman ([Barbara.Freeman@rogers.com](mailto:Barbara.Freeman@rogers.com)) with any questions or comments.

### Political History Group / Groupe d’histoire politique

Jarett Henderson, Mount Royal University

The Political History Group (PHG) seeks to promote and support research in Political history and the study of Political history in Canada. We conceive of “Political history” in very broad terms, and therefore encourage the study of politics, public policy, governance, the state, Political economy, Political sociology, civil society, elections, foreign policy, international relations, legal history and other facets of Political life from diverse theoretical and empirical approaches. This breadth of interest is reflected in the panels that we support each year at the CHA’s annual meeting. This past year in Victoria, the PHG sponsored sessions on Governance, Protest, Remembrance and Disability in Communities of Great War Veterans; Citizen Activism and Urban Planning in Canada, 1950-80; and Archives, Archiving, and the Politics of History. The PHG was also thrilled to co-sponsor, with the Canadian Committee on Women’s History, a session on New Directions in Gender and Political History. Watch for more exciting sessions supported by the PHG this May at Brock!

In addition to supporting scholarship on political history, the PHG awards prizes each year for best article (French and English) and best book (French or English). The prize committees, spearheaded this year by Blake Brown and Stephanie Bangarth, are currently hard at work assessing this year’s nominees. We look forward to the result of their labour and the announcing of the 2014 winner at the CHA Prize Ceremony in St. Catharines. Congratulations, once again,

to last year’s winners: (book) Bruce Curtis. *Ruling By Schooling Quebec: Conquest to Liberal Governmentality – A Historical Sociology*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012; (English article) Peter Price. “Fashioning a Constitutional Narrative: John S. Ewart and the Development of a ‘Canadian Constitution’.” *Canadian Historical Review* 93.3 (2012); and (French article) Mourad Djebabl. « Le gouvernement fédéral et la diète de guerre proposée et imposée aux Canadiens ». *Bulletin d’histoire politique* 20:2 (Automne 2011).

Building on the success of the 2011 “Transformation: State, Nation, and Citizenship in a New Environment” conference held at York University, the PHG is happy to announce that a second Political history conference is in the early planning stages. Stéphane Savard has begun the process of organizing an event, tentatively titled – Mobilisations politiques et prises de parole citoyenne / Political Mobilization and Citizen Engagement – to be held at Université du Québec à Montréal on October 2-4, 2014. Please watch for the forthcoming Call For Papers. If you’d like any additional information, please contact Stéphane directly at: [savard.stephane@uqam.ca](mailto:savard.stephane@uqam.ca)

The PHG is also looking for an individual with the time and resources to revamp our website. If you are interested in completing this task, and have the skills to do so, please contact (Jarett Henderson at [jhenderson@mtroyal.ca](mailto:jhenderson@mtroyal.ca)). Lastly, I’d like to introduce the current Executive of the PHG while asking you at the same time to consider running for one of these positions in the near future:

- Jarett Henderson, Chair, Mount Royal University
- Bradley Miller, Vice Chair, University of British Columbia
- Shirley Tillotson, Treasurer, Dalhousie University
- Stéphane Savard, Secretary, L’Université du Québec à Montréal
- Marc-André Gagnon, Grad Student Representative, University of Guelph

Wishing you all an enjoyable winter semester; see you at Brock!

