

Décès / Obituaries

Kazuo Kimura - 1947-2007. Professor Kazuo Kimura, the leading Japanese historian of Canada, passed away on May 28, 2007 in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan. He is mourned by his many friends and admirers both in the Canadian Studies community in his home country and in Canada by those who had the good fortune to know him. He was a creative scholar whose love of Canada was demonstrated by his devotion to research and publications on several Canadian topics, by his commitment to the advancement of the teaching Canadian history in Japan, especially at Tsukuba University, and to his carefully planned and recorded travels though Canada's past and present. Professor Kimura, who was born in Otaru, Hokkaido in 1947, began his academic research in the field of British Imperial history first with Professor Tatsumi Inoue at Otaru University of Commerce and then at Tohoku University in Sendai under Professor Akihito Yoshioka, an expert in British working-class and imperial history. His thesis, revised and published as *The Imperial Federation Movement and the Self-Governing Colonies* (2000), introduced him to Canadian history. Professor Yuko Ohara, a University of Victoria-trained Canadian historian at the University of Tokyo, encouraged that interest. She became a mentor and close friend. In the summer of 1977, guided by Professor H.V. Nelles who was teaching in Japan, Kimura paid his first of many visits to Canada and to the National Archives in Ottawa. In 1989 Kimura published *The Creation of the Dominion of Canada*, then in 1999 a general history of Canada. He translated W.L. Morton's *The Critical Years: The Union of British North America 1857-73* and Doug Baldwin's *The Island of Anne of Green Gables: A History of Prince Edward Island*. With Doug Francis, Phillip Buckner, Norman Hillmer and others, he edited volumes of essays on regionalism, the Empire and Canadian foreign affairs. In recent years Kimura's interests turned to the fur trade, resulting in the publication of three books: *The Empire of Canoe and Beaver: the History of the Canadian Fur Trade* (2002), *The World Created by the Fur Trade: From Hudson Bay to Eurasia* (2004), and, six weeks before his death, *The "Discovery" of the North Pacific Region: The Fur Trade and the Division of the North Pacific Rim* (2007). These books were carefully researched and well received by Japanese readers. Through them Kimura established his reputation as the leading Canadianist in Japan. After moving from Akita University to Tsukuba University in 1988, he made that university the major centre of Canadian studies in Japan. He regularly invited Canadian historians to in his Tsukuba-Canada Seminar and published the papers. He worked closely with a series of visiting professors of whom Brook Taylor, in 2001-03, was the final appointment. Kimura took great pride in a small but devoted group of graduate students who will continue his work at various universities. During a sabbatical year spent in Canada in 1994-5 Kimura prepared an

unusual study that revealed both his knowledge of Canada's past and his deep affection for a country in which he found many similarities to his home in Hokkaido. He first traveled extensively to major historical sites and places that had personal significance for his history/memoir. Each chapter of *My Travels Through Canadian History* (1995) opened with a painting by William Kurelek; on the dust jacket is a photo of Kimura at Glenn Gould's grave. His love and knowledge of classical music was profound and he admired Gould unstintingly. Among his prized possessions was a small painting by William Kurelek. Another was a beaver pelt purchased at the fur market in Winnipeg. On one of his last trips to Canada "he fulfilled his dream to canoe by himself." He told me that he had paddled in paradise. His hand-made New Year's greeting card for 2003 was his self-portrait in a canoe. Professor Kazuo Kimura is survived by Ruri, his beloved wife of 27 years, and their twins, Tomoyo and Kohshi. He will be remembered by his Canadian colleagues and friends as a conscientious, honest, generous, and good humored historian whose outstanding books have made the history of Canada familiar to colleagues, students, and interested readers throughout Japan.

Ramsay Cook

The many friends and colleagues of **Richard Diubaldo**, Emeritus Professor of History at Concordia University, were saddened to learn of his death on Canada Day 2007 after a long struggle with cancer. Rich, as he was to his friends, was born in Hamilton in September 1940 into a solid blue collar family, his father being a foreman with Stelco. Fifty years ago, attending university and graduate school was more uncommon for working-class boys than it is now, and Rich was proud of being one of the first from his neighbourhood to accomplish this. He majored in History at McMaster (1963) and earned his MA there the next year. He then went to the University of Western Ontario for his PhD, writing a thesis on the explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson under the guidance of Morris Zaslow. In the mid-1960s, Zaslow was virtually the only academic teaching northern history in English in Canada, and Rich was one of his first and most successful doctoral students.

After leaving Western, he spent two years in Ottawa as a researcher for the National Historic Sites Service, then went to Concordia University, where he spent the rest of his career, first as a member of the History Department, and later in various administrative roles: Director of the Mature Students Centre, then Director of Continuing Education and Off-Campus Education, then Director of Recruitment. In 1978

his thesis was published by McGill-Queen's University Press as *Stefansson and the Canadian Arctic*. A critical work that shows its subject warts and all, it was reprinted in 1998, and will undoubtedly remain the standard treatment of this controversial man for many years to come. He also published studies of Canadian-American defence policy and Canadian Inuit policy.

David King, Rich's last doctoral student, writes of him "He was a meticulous academic and teacher, passionate about the Canadian north and the historiography of the field of study, an excellent mentor, and first and foremost a friend. When I applied to the Ph.D. program with Concordia University's Department of History, I wrote that I had never been to Montreal, knew nothing of the program. I applied to Concordia University for one reason. I wanted to apprentice under Dr. Richard Diubaldo. In hindsight, it was one of the best career decisions I ever made."

He is survived by a son, Philip, a daughter, Anne-Marie, and his good friend and former spouse, Joan.

William R. Morrison
University of Northern British Columbia

At the 2007 AGM, the following historians and members of the Canadian Historical Association were recognized with a minute of silence.

John Webster Grant, Richard Arthur Preston,
 James Taylor, John Thomas, Sydney Wise,
 Douglas Wurtele and Elizabeth Chard

Une minute de silence a aussi été respectée à l'AGA 2007 en mémoire des historiens et membres de la SHC.

John Webster Grant, Richard Arthur Preston,
 James Taylor, John Thomas, Sydney Wise,
 Douglas Wurtele et Elizabeth Chard



Publications reçues / Publications Received

Castex, Jean-Claude, *Dictionnaire des batailles terrestres franco-anglaises de la Guerre de Sept Ans*. Québec, Les Presses de l'Université Laval / Les Éditions de l'IQRC, 2007, 624 p. 55 \$

Dagenais, Michèle, *Faire et fuir la ville. Espaces publics de culture et de loisirs à Montréal et Toronto aux XIX^e et XX^e siècles*. Québec, Les Presses de l'Université Laval / Les Éditions de l'IQRC, 2007, 264 p. 30 \$

Douglas, W.A.B, Roger Sarty, Michael Whitby with Robert H. Caldwell, William Johnston and William G.P. Rawling. *A Blue Water Navy: The Official Operational History of the Royal Canadian Navy in the Second World War, 1939-1945 Volume II Part 2*. Department of National Defence and Vanwell Publishing Limited, 2007.

Douglas, W.A.B, Roger Sarty, Michael Whitby avec Robert H. Caldwell, William Johnston et William G.P. Rawling. *Parmi les puissances navales : Histoire officielle de la Marine royale du Canada pendant la Deuxième Guerre, 1939-1945 Volume II Partie 2*. Ministère de la Défense nationale et Vanwell Publishing Limited, 2007.

Péloquin, Marjolaine, *En prison pour la cause des femmes. La conquête du banc des jurés*. Montréal, les Éditions du remue-ménage, 2007, 312 p. 27,95 \$

Rocher, Marie-Claude et Marc Pelchat, dir. *Le Patrimoine des minorités religieuses*. Québec, Les Presses de l'Université Laval / Les Éditions de l'IQRC, 2007, 306 p. 35 \$