



# ACS N Newsletter

Dear ACSN members,

In this issue of the newsletter, we naturally devote a lot of attention to the commemoration of the Second World War which forms one of the ties that indefinitely binds Canada and the Netherlands. We are very proud of the book *Tulips and Maple Leaves*, edited by Conny Steenman Marcusse and Aritha van Herk that you can read about below.

I would like to highlight two upcoming events in close detail as many Dutch students may benefit: The EU-Canada study tour (registration deadline May 24, p.3 of this newsletter) and the European seminar for graduate students in Canadian studies (registration deadline June 15, p. 9). For the former it is necessary to submit your registration via ACSN. For the latter the same applies. Additionally, for the European seminar we will subsidize the travel costs of successful candidates. Further details in this newsletter!

Happy reading,

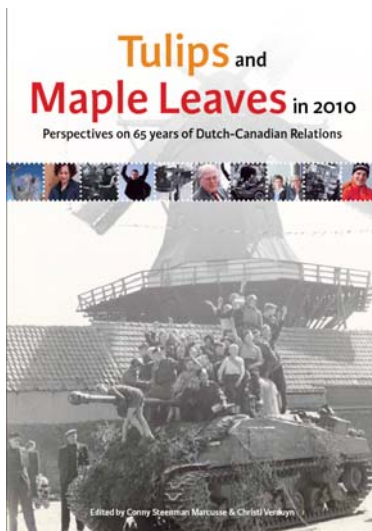
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**ACS N**

**Tulips and Maple Leaves in 2010, Perspectives on 65 years' Dutch-Canadian relation**



Virtually as we speak, the above book (edited by Conny Steenman Marcusse and Aritha van Herk) will be offered to MP Stephen Harper who is joining Canadian War Veterans and 2000 Canadian Highschool students. Ever since July 1, 2009 there have been talks between ACSN and Dutch Foreign Affairs in The Hague what to do to observe this important event. With the financial support of Foreign Affairs, ACSN has been requested to issue a book *Tulips and Maple Leaves in 2010, Perspectives on 65 years' Dutch-Canadian Relations*, to be published by Barkhuis, Groningen, full-colour, hardcover. The book comprises 10 interviews with a high level of human interest content conducted by journalist Olga van Ditzhuijzen. The interviewees have special connections with Canada and the Netherlands. Included in the book are also 10 essays supplied by students from Groningen, Nijmegen en Middelburg. Some of the topics are "NATO: The Importance of Afghanistan", "In

the Land of Lisbon: Canadian relations with the EU", "From G8 to G20: Expanding the Global Framework" and "Copenhagen and After: Coping with Climate Change." The book will be presented to all Canadian guests and Dutch officials, communities and schools on May 6, 2010 in Bergen op Zoom, where a commemoration service will be held at 11.00 a.m. at the Canadian War Cemetery with 1.118 war graves.

*Conny Steenman-Marcusse*

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Impressions from the commemoration ceremony held at Groesbeek, 3 May 2010





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## **EU-Canada Study Tour and Internship Programme 2010 - "Thinking Canada"**

"Thinking Canada" is an exciting new initiative of the European Network for Canadian Studies, a three-and-a-half week study tour to Canada for European students that will take place from 1-26 September 2010, followed for a few selected participants by two-month internships. It will be preceded by four days of briefings in Brussels on the EU and EU-Canada relations.

The aim of the study tour is to offer its participants a unique in-depth experience of Canada through an intensive programme of visits to major private and public institutions, government bodies, think-tanks and NGOs. At each place, the students will receive briefings and have the opportunity to exchange views with representatives of these bodies, many of them leading experts in their fields. The tour will begin in Brussels, and travel to Ottawa, Québec, Montréal, Toronto, Vancouver and Victoria. This immersion in Canada will offer a unique opportunity for an academic experience in a non-academic setting. The tour is focused on a number of themes, in particular cultural diversity (including the English/French relationship, the First Nations and multiculturalism), political issues (federalism, regionalism, the role of government), the environment (including Arctic issues), urban issues and economic topics (business, finance, trade). EU-Canada relations will also be covered and provide a recurring backdrop to the discussions. Two European academic advisors will be accompanying the tour to serve as resource persons and work with the students in helping them complete the specific academic tasks they have previously agreed on with their academic advisors at their home universities.

In addition to the tour, three two-month internships will be offered to participants immediately following the end of the tour. These will take place at the Institute for Research on Public Policy (Montréal), Canada's oldest public policy think tank; the environmentally-focused David Suzuki Foundation (Vancouver); and a Canadian government department in Ottawa.

**Aims:** "Thinking Canada" is designed to enable European students to experience an in-depth exposure to a wide variety of institutions (both private and public), government bodies, think-tanks and NGOs in Canada. These have been chosen to reflect a number of topics that are central for an understanding of contemporary Canada, among them cultural diversity, the English/French relationship, multiculturalism, the position of the First Nations, federalism and regionalism, the environment, urban issues and questions relating to economics, finance and trade. EU-Canada relations will also be examined. This interdisciplinary programme is intended to broaden students' knowledge of Canada and is designed to provide them with opportunities to interact with the specialists and experts who will be leading the sessions at the various places they visit.

**The tour itself - logistics:** The tour will begin on 1 September with a four-day introductory session at Brussels focused on the EU and EU-Canada relations, and then move on to Canada for a period of three weeks that will take it to Ottawa, Québec, Montréal, Toronto, Vancouver and Victoria (5-25 September) and finally back to Brussels (26 September). Accommodation will be in university residences (Brussels) and reasonably-priced hotels (Canada). Travel to and from Canada, as well as from Toronto to Vancouver, will be on arranged group flights; within Canada, ground transportation by coach will be provided in and between cities.



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**Eligibility:** Participation in the tour is open to university students who, at the time of application, are in their third year of studies (or equivalent) or higher and are citizens of the European Union. Third-country nationals who have been legal residents in the European Union for at least three years (and for purposes other than study) before the start of the tour are also eligible; they must be enrolled at a university in an EU member state. A maximum of 27 students will take part in the tour. Note: other students at European universities can take part in the tour, but on the condition that they pay the full cost - 2,750 EUR per person.

**Academic content:** "Thinking Canada" will be a demanding tour academically, providing a rich academic experience in a non-academic setting. Students will be required to attend all sessions, and will also be asked to do some academic work during the tour itself. Each participant must agree beforehand with an academic supervisor at his or her home university on the specific requirements to be recognized after return, ideally in the form of ECTS credits. In addition, two academic advisors will be accompanying the tour to serve as resource persons and to advise the students with regard to the academic tasks they have been set by their advisors. In most of the cities visited in Canada, participants will also have the opportunity to meet with local Canadian academics.

**Language:** Though Canada is of course a bilingual state, and the tour will be visiting both Anglophone and Francophone regions of the country, for practical reasons it was felt that it would not be possible to require every participant to be fluent in both English and French. The great majority of places and institutions on the programme are situated in Anglophone Canada; in the case of Québec, the individuals who will be meeting with the tour participants have for the most part agreed to give their presentations in English; where this is not possible, interpretation can be provided. Naturally, a knowledge of French will greatly enhance the experience gained on the tour; however, it is not a precondition for participation. On the other hand, it is essential for participants to have a good working knowledge of English.

**Costs:** Most of the funding for the tour comes from a very generous grant from the European Commission, with additional contributions from the European Network for Canadian Studies and the national and regional Canadian Studies associations in Europe. Thanks to this financial support, students will only be required to pay a participation fee of 600 EUR. For students from the newer member countries of the EU (Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) the fee will be 500 EUR.

The following costs will be fully covered for participants in the tour:

- accommodation in Brussels and for the duration of the tour in Canada
- return airfare Europe-Canada-Europe on the group flights booked by the tour organizers
- ground transportation in Canada

Students will be expected to pay for their own meals, and to cover incidental costs.

**Internships:** Three internships will also be offered, enabling students to stay on in Canada for two months after the end of the tour itself. They will take place at the Institute for Research on Public Policy (Montréal), Canada's oldest public policy think tank; the environmentally-focused David Suzuki Foundation (Vancouver); and a Canadian government department in Ottawa.



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**How to apply:** Students from countries that have national or regional Canadian Studies associations should send their filled-in application forms in electronic form to these associations (correct e-mail addresses can be found on the study tour website at [www.thinking-canada.eu](http://www.thinking-canada.eu)). Applicants need not be members of these associations. Where no such association exists, they should be directed to [thinking.canada@gmail.com](mailto:thinking.canada@gmail.com).

**Selection process:** The selection process will take place in two stages. In the first, national/regional Canadian Studies associations will rank the candidates from their respective countries/regions, and send their rankings to the central EU-Canada Tour Selection Committee. This Committee will also be responsible for the rankings for applicants not falling under any national/regional association. The committee will then make the final selection, taking into consideration geographical spread, range of disciplines and gender. A reserve list will also be prepared.

**Payment:** Only after applicants have been informed that they have been accepted for the tour will they be sent instructions on how to pay the participation fee.

For further information go to the tour's website at: [www.thinking-canada.eu](http://www.thinking-canada.eu).

**Deadline for applications: Monday 24 May 2010**

## PEOPLE AND ACSNI

### **Studying at universit  Laval and discovering Qu bec - Anouk Baron**

Bonjour/hello! I am Anouk Baron, a third year International Relations student from Groningen, the Netherlands. This semester, thanks to, amongst others, a fund from the ACSNI, I am studying at universit  Laval in Qu bec in order to improve my French skills and to experience studying in another country. So far, my stay here has been very pleasant and interesting! I live on campus, which is good, because it is easy to get to know other people from all over the world. There are a lot of French and African people here, so I only talk French all day long. Moreover, I have become a member of student's association 'Club Laval' here at the campus, which organises trips in nature (hiking, skiing, ski du fond, raquettes, etc.). I like going out with this club and enjoy the endless natural parks, the space and beautiful nature in Qu bec. Furthermore, I have been integrating into the Qu b cois way of living a bit, because my 'marraine' (buddy) who lives in Quebec has invited me several times to go out and visit her friends and family in the neighbourhood. They are very nice. Nevertheless, what strikes me about them and about the Qu b cois society in general is the tension between them and the 'outside world'. For example, the Qu b cois want to receive immigrants in order to develop their province, but not too many, in order to prevent losing their French identity. However, I think the Qu b cois are more American than French, for example given the style they build their towns and their 'fast food' eating culture. Nonetheless, in general, it seems to me that the Qu b cois want to hold on to this 'French' identity, which is very noticeable in their sometimes absurd way of trying to avoid Anglicism's. Just to give some examples: ma s  clat  = popcorn, bo te au mail = mailbox, chiens chauds = hotdog, while in France they do not translate these English words in these literal ways. However, I also heard that some Qu b cois find the general linking of



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Québec with a French nation as opposed to the Canadian nation and expressions of anti-English sentiments too exaggerated and that they do not feel very different from the rest of Canada, except for the language.

Nevertheless, what I find striking about Québec as well are the sentiments between the so-called first nations (autochthones?) and Québécois (allochthones?). Although these first nations - Amérindiens - do have reservations and special minority rights, they are undergoing many difficulties in preserving their culture and in the meantime the need to adapt to the other Canadians/former colonizers/allochthones (?). However, one might argue that the Québécois, being newly arrived immigrants or allochthones in Canada, should adapt themselves to the already established cultures of the first nations. Thus, the notions of (first) nations, immigrants, allochthones and autochthones and Canadian and Québécois (i.e. French?) identities are largely disputed in Québec, which strikes me a lot.

Nonetheless, although Québec and its culture are interesting to discover, I spend most of the time at the campus studying. I follow four courses (les relations internationales en Asie, les relations internationales des États-Unis, minorités et ethnicités, Français : langue orale et écrite), all in French, which is quite a challenge. However, I like studying here very much, because the organisation of my courses here is very different from the way this is done in Groningen. The courses are much more interactive here, as a result of the more informal relations with the teachers and the smaller classes at Laval when compared to Groningen. Moreover, I do not get endless lectures during which I have to take notes and which I then have to integrate with the literature, in order to, at the end of the semester, pass a big exam. Instead, I have to prepare presentations with fellow students, write essays, analyse films or case studies, debate, answer questions, etcetera. This way, my study here is less abstract and more practical than in Groningen, which I like a lot.

Hence, I am very glad to study at Laval this semester and discover the intellectual and student life at the university and go out to enjoy Québec. I am thus happy that I received a grant from the ACSNI: thank you!

*Anouk Baron*

## **My life as exchange student at Concordia University, Montreal - Reinhilde Schmit**

The past four months I had the privilege of living in one of Canada's most lively cities: the city of Montreal. Currently I am in my final year of my bachelor program 'Geography and Planning' at the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. As an exchange student at Concordia I got the chance to experience the city in a very unique way. As an exchange student you are not a local but you are definitely not a tourist either. Because I was here for only one semester I tried to get as much out of this experience as possible and I find it amazing how much I feel at home in Montreal after just four months.

One of the things I like most about Montreal is its characteristics of a student city, even though the city is bigger in size than any Dutch city. With six universities, Montreal has one of the highest concentrations of students in North America. Coming from Groningen, a city with one of the highest concentrations of students in the Netherlands, it is really nice to experience a student city on a larger scale. This brings me to the subject of the student community here at Concordia. One of the best things I experienced here at Concordia is that the student community is a very active one and that students are aware and concerned with the problems and



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challenges of society and the university life. Within one week, one student organization organized a demonstration against the plans of the government of Quebec to increase the university's tuition fees. Another organization was collecting signatures of students to raise Concordia's level of sustainability by clearing the university from the sale of plastic bottles of water. And yet another group of students was showing a film marathon to increase the awareness of students about the history of indigenous people in Canada. Meanwhile the actions to raise money for the relief of victims of the Haiti earthquake continue with full enthusiasm. Another thing about Montreal that appeals to me is the cultural and ethnical diversity of the students and the population in general. During the five-minute walk from my apartment to the Concordia campus it is pretty common to at least hear four or five different languages.

Furthermore I can say that my courses at Concordia were all very interesting. I especially liked my urban planning courses because I got to learn a lot about Canadian cities and city planning which is very different from Dutch cities and city planning.

Now that I am in my last weeks here in Montreal, I can look back on an amazing time in which I made friends with people all over the world and in which I learned a lot about Canada and also about myself. I want to thank ACSNI for their contribution to make this one of the best experiences of my life.

*Reinhilde Schmit*

### **Video conference Danny McLeod**

Bob Hofman (long-time ACSNI member) is managing director of ICT&E in Dieren. ICT&T initiates and coordinates ICT related projects by and for education in over 30 countries. Through ACSNI ICT&T contacted Danny and Sheila McLeod in Kingston, Ontario. Veteran Danny McLeod served in the South Alberta Regiment, and fought his way to Zeeuws Vlaanderen through Normandy in 1944. Of course Danny was happy to speak to Dutch students; but how? A report on a Skype-based meeting with WWII Veteran Mr. Danny McLeod:

<http://www.ict-edu.nl/sjablonen/ictene/index.asp?subsite=139&pagina=1196>

Bob Hofman also is one of the ten people with a special Dutch-Canadian connection who was interviewed by Olga van Ditzhuijzen for the book *Tulips and Maple Leaves* that you can read more about on the cover of this newsletter.



De gerenommeerde emigratielanden ontvangen al vele decennia elk jaar weer nieuwe bewoners. Deze "gelukszoekers en switchers" zullen graag in hun zelf gekozen vaderland aan de slag willen. Integreeren in een nieuw land en daar aan het werk gaan voor langere tijd gaat, zo is algemeen bekend, niet vanzelf en vraagt zowel van het ontvangstland en van de emigrant een eerste toenadering. De overheid zal hiervoor beleid moeten ontwikkelen en instrumenten moeten klaarzetten. Wellicht is dit de reden, dat emigratielanden als Australië, Canada en Nieuw Zeeland ook interessante landen zijn om te benchmarken t.a.v. arbeidsmarkt vraagstukken en van loopbaanbeleid.



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Canada heeft in vergelijking met Australië en Nieuw Zeeland bovendien al langer en op grotere schaal ervaring met het omschakelen van de beroepsbevolking naar een oorlogseconomie (1940-1945) en van een landbouweconomie naar een dienstverlenende economie (vanaf ongeveer 1985). Met veel arbeidsmarktgerichte scholing en een flexibele arbeidsmarkt, hebben zij hun loopbaanbeleid al vele decennia vorm gegeven. Canada spreekt tevens uit, dat loopbaanbeleid en arbeidsmarktbeleid niet alleen onderwerpen zijn van de ministeries van Sociale Zaken (betekenisvol HRSDC genoemd; [www.hrsdc.gc.ca](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca)) en van Onderwijs, maar dat het noodzakelijke beleidsgebieden zijn voor de groei van de economie. Een van de vele resultaten van deze inzichten is bijvoorbeeld de Blueprint voor loopbaanbegeleiding: een overzicht van alle skills, die vereist zijn om in de toekomst mee te kunnen doen aan de samenleving/ arbeidsmarkt. Deze blueprint kan ook als een overzicht van vereisten voor zelfsturing worden gezien en gebruikt. (<http://206.191.51.163/blueprint/using.cfm>)

Inmiddels al meer dan 30 jaar is er jaarlijks een loopbaancongres, waarbij de genoemde gebieden veel aandacht krijgen. Tijdens dit congres maakt men kennis met vele sprekers en bezoekers, die zo samen zorgen voor de verspreiding van producten, diensten, beleid, ideeën, onderzoeksresultaten en nieuwe initiatieven t.a.v. loopbaanbeleid en employability-vraagstukken. Canada is een inspirerend land voor loopbaanbegeleiding! De laatste jaren is de situatie veranderd en heeft Canada zelfs twee conferenties op loopbaangebied: [cannexus.ca](http://cannexus.ca) en [natcon.ca](http://natcon.ca). De eerste eind januari en de tweede in april.

Beide congressen hebben veel sprekers en bezoekers, die mede door hun informatie-uitwisselingen het kennisgebied loopbaanbegeleiding een stevige impuls geven. Een mooi voorbeeld van hoe je als kenniseconomie belangrijke onderdelen voor de groei van je economie stimuleert. De conferenties zijn een stimulerend voorbeeld van het bevorderen van een kenniseconomie en een relevante groep professionals.

## II

Een van de manieren waarlangs de Canadese kenniseconomie vorm krijgt is het regelmatig en op velerlei gebied houden van "national conferences": Op loopbaangebied heet deze conferentie de Natcon (<http://www.natcon.org>). Jarenlang vond deze conferentie plaats in de derde week van januari in Ottawa en de laatste jaren in Toronto (<http://www.natcon.org/natcon2010/default.aspx>). Inmiddels is er een tweede conferentie bijgekomen de Cannexus (<http://www.cannexus.ca/>). Deze conferenties beginnen meestal op een maandagochtend met een keynote speaker, waarna workshops in allerlei vormen en inhoud doorgaan tot woensdag 12 uur. Dan sluit men het congres met een algemene bijeenkomst af en is iedereen zeer vermoeid, maar voldaan met een opnieuw gevulde rugzak vol veranderde kennis en inzichten. Tussendoor geniet men van ongeveer 2 uur durende bijeenkomsten waarin het loopbaandenken centraal staat. Tevens krijgt men op deze wijze een indruk van de vele invalshoeken, waarmee het loopbaangebieden in Canada wordt ingevuld. Bijeenkomsten over doelgroepen, over aanpakken op meso en microniveau, onderzoeksresultaten, creatieve schrijvers en doeners, beleidsmakers en hun doelstellingen en prioriteiten, universitaire medewerkers, gemeentelijke initiatieven, regionale werkwijzen, alles komt aan bod en in deze drie dagen. Even afstand nemen van eigen werk en je onderdompelen in Canadese benaderingen levert - zo leert het verleden van menig bezoeker - veel creativiteit en inspiratie op voor hetzelfde werk thuis.



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### III

Op een van deze conferences heeft de schrijver van deze nieuwsbrief een workshop bijgewoond van professor Norm Amundson ([www.actiefbetrokken.nl](http://www.actiefbetrokken.nl)). Hij heeft voor de overheid arbeidsbemiddelings- en loopbaanmethodieken ontwikkeld. En na veel schrijven, zelf doen en ervaren, heeft hij ontdekt wat wel werkt en wat niet. Deze inzichten zijn in het boek *Active Engagement* vastgelegd. Na een kritische beschouwing over de bestaande loopbaanbegeleiding vervolgt hij met een beschrijving van de aanpak, die zijns inziens het beste werkt. Het boek is inmiddels in het Nederlands vertaald: *Actief Betrokken*.

Norm Amundson is docent aan de UBC (University of British Columbia, Vancouver) en een zeer gewaardeerd internationaal spreker. Norm zelf is professor, communitycenter- medewerker (waar hij ook loopbaanbegeleiding verzorgt) en hij is ondernemer. Samen met Gray Poenell ontwikkelen ze veel loopbaanmateriaal en geven trainingen

Een Nederlandse reactie van een recensent luidt als volgt:

Vilma Lenselink (blad *Loopbaan*) "Een dynamische samenleving vraagt om dynamische loopbaanbegeleiding. Met *Actiefbetrokken* daagt de Canadese hoogleraar Norman Amundson loopbaanbegeleiders uit om hun cliënten te activeren. Hij legt het heft van de loopbaan in handen van het individu en geeft tegelijkertijd een vakbekwame visie op het vakgebied."

Kortom: Canada is voor careercounseling als land een bron van inspiratie en van kennis. En het bezoeken van de congressen levert vele prettige contacten op met sommige inwoners. Zeker een bezoekje waard voor de ontwikkeling van de eigen loopbaan!

*Crit Jamin, de Esdoorn*

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### NEWS FROM ENCS

#### **European seminar for graduate students in Canadian studies - Call for papers**

The 19th European Seminar for Graduate Students in Canadian Studies will be hosted by the Department of History of the University of Milano, Italy, September 23-24, 2010. Any students at European universities working on Master's or doctoral theses in Canadian Studies are invited to share their current research in the form of an oral presentation before a panel of experts and fellow students. Contributions from all disciplines are welcome. Contributions may be in either English or French, and should not exceed 15-20 minutes. A selection of the best papers will be published after the conference. Students interested in participating should submit an abstract (1 page) outlining the topic of their research and the nature of their findings, plus a short C.V. Applications may be submitted by e-mail. Papers will be selected on the basis of the abstract. Invitations to participate will be sent out as soon as the selection process has been completed. Deadline for abstracts: June 15, 2010. Accommodation and meals will be covered by a



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grant from the Government of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to the European Network for Canadian Studies. Travel costs: please apply to your university or your national/regional Association for Canadian Studies. Contact: Prof. Luigi Bruti-Liberati, Department of History, University of Milano, e-mail: [luigi.brutiliberati@unimi.it](mailto:luigi.brutiliberati@unimi.it)

## NEWS FROM ICCS

### **Ageing Societies - The Dynamics of Demographic Change in Canada**

The ICCS announces that the preliminary schedule of biennial, international conference to be held in Montreal, May 29 and 30, 2010, during the Congress of the Humanities and the Social Sciences (<http://www.congress2010.ca/index.php>) is now available on line at [http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/ICCSBiennial\\_en.asp?shownav=2](http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/ICCSBiennial_en.asp?shownav=2). This event will immediately follow ICCS' meetings (May 27 and 28).

### **Modifications to the student exchange programs**

Please note that the following changes have been made to some programs of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada (DFAIT):

- Due to the earthquake in Chile, competition deadlines for Chilean students under the Chile Leadership Scholarship Program is May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and under the ELAP, applications from Chilean students only will be considered after the deadline.
- Under ELAP (graduate and undergraduate) and Canada-CARICOM Leadership Program for undergraduate notification of intent to request two semesters must be provided at the time of application. Remember that this is only for CARICOM college and undergraduate students who are eligible to study in Canada for two terms.
- For all the above mentioned programs, Canadian institutions must confirm by Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 that the scholarship recipient will be arriving in Canada BEFORE March 15<sup>th</sup> to start their study or research program. Failure to do so will result in the cancellation of the offer or Grant Agreement.
- For all the above mentioned programs, professors who submit applications should notify the International Liaison Officer (ILO) at their respective institution so there is a better communication and a streamlined process.

For more information, visit website <http://www.bourses.gc.ca/Home-Accueil-Eng.aspx>

### **Le CIEC aimerait annoncer...**

La parution de *Entre France rêvée et France vécue: douze regards sur les relations franco-canadiennes aux XIXe et XXe siècles*, par Pierre Savard (un recueil d'études de l'auteur), Québec, Éditions Nota Bene, 2009, 330 pages, et présenté par Marc Lebel, avec la collaboration de Madeleine Renaud. Les douze textes de ce livre, qui ont été publiés sur une période de 25 ans, offre un éclairage pénétrant sur les relations France-Canada relations. Il est à noter que depuis le décès de Pierre Savard non moins de douze livres ont été dédié à sa mémoire.

## IN THE MEDIA

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## **Old friends, old wounds: Canada's bond with Dutch runs deep**

On 65th anniversary of Holland's liberation, gratitude shows no sign of dimming  
Elizabeth Renzetti

Holten, Netherlands — From Wednesday's *Globe and Mail* Published on Tuesday, May. 04, 2010  
9:03PM EDT Last updated on Tuesday, May. 04, 2010 11:25PM EDT

Gilles Turcot slowly unfolds several sheets of paper that he's brought with him from Quebec, listing the names of all the men once under his command who are buried in the Holten Canadian War Cemetery, and points to a name: Sergeant Leo Caissy.

While it's a joyful week in Holland as the country celebrates the 65th anniversary of its liberation by Canadian forces, for Mr. Turcot, 92, a painful memory predominates: His failure to save Sgt. Caissy, who lay dying under heavy enemy fire.

"I don't know how many times I called for stretcher bearers during the night," says Mr. Turcot, who was a 26-year-old lieutenant-colonel commanding the 22nd Royal Regiment. "But the fighting was too intense."

In the morning Sgt. Caissy was dead, only two weeks before the German occupiers in Holland surrendered to Canadian forces on May 5, 1945.

It's been six and a half decades since the Dutch ecstatically welcomed their Canadian liberators and the gratitude shows no signs of dimming. Some 400 Canadian veterans are being treated to a week of solemn ceremonies and free lunches, pats on the back from strangers and almost as many kisses as they got that spring when the war in Europe ended. On Thursday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper will attend a commemoration at the Bergen-op-Zoom Canadian War Cemetery along with the Dutch Prime Minister, Jan Peter Balkenende.

But in the back of everyone's minds is the thought that there may not be very many celebrations of this magnitude left. "Of course you want to keep coming back," Mr. Turcot says, "but it brings so many emotions." One more medal was added to Mr. Turcot's already crowded chest this week

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when he received an award of gratitude from Holland's Princess Margriet, who was born in Ottawa in 1943 during the royal family's wartime exile there.

Tuesday, on Dutch Remembrance Day, Mr. Turcot and his fellow veterans were driven to a lavish ceremony at Holten cemetery, where 1,335 Canadian soldiers are buried. Along the way, houses and farms flew Canadian flags, children and motorcycle police waved smaller versions and a banner read, "We will always remember you." Earlier the veterans were served small cakes adorned with maple leaves, and wondered about the etiquette of eating the national symbol.



Holten cemetery on Tuesday (Photography: Isabel Nabuurs)

The green and prosperous Holland of today is unrecognizable from the bleak landscape they fought through in early 1945, when the fields were flooded after Germans blew up the country's dykes and the starving population existed on sugar beets and tulip bulbs.

"I didn't even recognize it as the same place," said Ron Monkman, 86, who is making his first trip back to Holland since he fought here as a corporal with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. "But back then you were soaked and muddy and you couldn't stop because that was quitting. You had to put everything into it to save Holland."

In May 1945 the Dutch, having barely survived what they called the *hongerwinter*, showered the Canadian soldiers with flowers and kisses (to say the least; some 1,800 Dutch war brides came to Canada.) In return, the soldiers handed out chocolate, taken from packages sent from home, and cigarettes. By one estimate, six million cigarettes were handed out in the months after liberation. "In those days," Mr. Turcot says, "smoking wasn't a sin."

"Holland and Canada - no two countries have such a strong bond," says Gerry van't Holt, who remembers being a five-year-old awed by the sight of Canadian tanks rolling into his town, Hardenburg, and watching a soldier, who seemed giant, reach down to hand him his first piece of



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chocolate. Now, Dutch children are taught about the Canadian war effort, and every Christmas Eve at Holten they place a candle on each grave.

Walking among those graves, Jan de Vries stopped to place a Canadian flag next to each comrade from his unit, the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion. He has done this at war cemeteries across Europe. Mr. de Vries, 86, happily shared his war stories - bad Army dentistry, fighting from barn to barn, hanging from a tree after his parachute became snarled in its branches. The war stories are one thing, but increasingly, he says, he's overcome when he visits these sites. "I never used to be so emotional. I guess it's that I'm getting older. You don't like to think it's the last time you might visit."

## CONFERENCES AND COURSES

### **Canada's religions: Utopia and prophecy - call for papers**

The Centre d'études canadiennes interuniversitaires de Bordeaux invites communications for the Congrès Religions Canadiennes (Canadian Religions Conference) that will be held on December 16th and 17th, 2010, at the Université Michel Montaigne - Bordeaux 3. This conference will allow the examination of religions in Canada, an area of this country that lack proper study in Europe. The plurality of religion does not belong exclusively to the United States; Canada shows in that regard a unique and huge historical and contemporary diversity. Proposals for communications must be sent by email at [bcellard@nnumericable.fr](mailto:bcellard@nnumericable.fr) or to [brigal@u-bordeaux3.fr](mailto:brigal@u-bordeaux3.fr). The deadline to submit a proposal for communication is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. For further details, visit website <http://www.msha.fr/cecib/index.html#2008> or send an email to [mcoupal@iut.u-bordeaux3.fr](mailto:mcoupal@iut.u-bordeaux3.fr).

### **Building bridges between countries and disciplines - call for papers**

The biennial conference of the Midwest Association for Canadian Studies will be held from October 22nd to 24th, 2010, at the University of Windsor, Ontario. Conference papers are welcome on all topics related to Canada and Canadian Studies across all fields and disciplines. Research papers pertaining to the conference theme are particularly encouraged. Proposals for communications should be sent by May 15th, 2010, by e-mail at [galatasse@sfasu.edu](mailto:galatasse@sfasu.edu), or through regular mail at: Steven Galatas, Department of Government, Stephen F. Austin State University, Box 13045 - SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. Fax: 936-468-2732. For more information, visit website <http://www.mwacs.org/conf2010/callforpapers.html> or send an email to the above mentioned email address.

### **"Les immigrants français au Canada à l'époque de la grande migration transatlantique" (1870-1914) - call for papers**

An international team (located at Université du Québec à Montréal, University of Ottawa, Université de La Rochelle and Université de Nantes) want to foster the study of the immigration phenomenon of more than 30,000 French to Canada, from 1870 to 1914, i.e. the migratory context, settlement conditions, modalities of integration, etc. Papers will be presented in a preliminary meeting in Nantes in early 2010, then in a wide open colloquium in Montreal and Ottawa, in September of 2010. Proposals for communications must be sent by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. For further details and to submit a proposal, contact Professor Paul-André Linteau by email at



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[linteau.paul-andre@uqam.ca](mailto:linteau.paul-andre@uqam.ca), or visit website <http://reseauhistoire.uqam.ca/histoire/info-histoire-150310i.html#16>.

## **"Les institutions littéraires en question" - call for papers**

Proposals for papers are invited for the 21<sup>st</sup> Colloquium of the Association des professeurs de littérature acadienne et québécoise de l'Atlantique (APLAQA) that will be held at Université Laval, Quebec from October 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. Proposals for papers must be sent to Benoit Doyon-Gosselin, Département des littératures, Faculté des lettres, Pavillon Charles-De Koninck, 1030, avenue des Sciences-Humaines, Université Laval, Quebec (Quebec) G1V 0A6. Email : [benoit.d-gosselin@lit.ulaval.ca](mailto:benoit.d-gosselin@lit.ulaval.ca). The deadline to submit a proposal is August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. For further details, visit website [http://www.crilcq.org/activites/contribution/institutions\\_litteraires.asp](http://www.crilcq.org/activites/contribution/institutions_litteraires.asp).

## **"Migrations, exils, errances, écriture" - call for contribution**

The Centre de Recherche Espaces/Ecritures (CREA, EA 370) of the université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense is undertaking a long term assignment on the above mentioned theme, in cooperation with BDIC and the Cité Nationale de l'Immigration and with the help of McMaster University (Ontario, Canada). In early June 2010, a study session and/or a colloquium will follow, that could bring together scholars from Paris Ouest interested by such an endeavour, along with some of our foreign partners. Then, two international colloquiums will be organized (June 2011 and 2013). For further details, visit website <http://anglais.u-paris10.fr/spip.php?article1516> or send an email to Ms. Corinne Alexandre-Garner at [coalexga@u-paris10.fr](mailto:coalexga@u-paris10.fr).

## **Rentrée littéraire, hiver 2010**

L'AIEQ (Association internationale des études québécoises) a le plaisir d'annoncer la mise en ligne de la rentrée littéraire de l'hiver 2010. Les maisons d'édition québécoises offrent un grand choix de livres dans les catégories aussi variées que la littérature et les études littéraires, l'essai, l'histoire et la société. Pour accéder à la rentrée hiver 2010, consultez le site Web <http://www.aieq.qc.ca/publications/rentree/2010/hiver/presentation.html>.

## **2010 CHA annual meeting "Telling stories/storytelling"**

The preliminary program for the 2010 CHA (Canadian Historical Association) Annual Meeting is now available at <http://www.cha-shc.ca>. The program features ninety-three conference panels that explore the dynamics of history and storytelling in the world of graphic novels ("Getting Graphic with the Past"), on stage ("Theatre, History and Storytelling") and in the digital age ("Researchers, New Media and Archives: Case Studies of Immigrant Subjectivity"), to name just three examples. For more information, visit website <http://www.cha-shc.ca> or send an email to Dr. Barbara Lorezkowski at [shc\\_cha@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:shc_cha@alcor.concordia.ca).

## **Stories matter V. 1.5.1**

This new media application offers oral historians an alternative to transcription and can be accessed at <http://storytelling.concordia.ca/storiesmatter>. The second phase in the development of an easy-to-use open source oral history database software called "Stories Matter" is now completed. In phase I (completed in May 2009), oral historians could download



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the software and build oral history databases on their local computers. In phase II (completed in January 2010), the database is now online allowing the merger of databases and remote access. For more information, visit the above mentioned website or send an email to Steven High, Project Director at [shigh@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:shigh@alcor.concordia.ca).

## RESOURCES

### Statistics Canada - free reliable data

Canada's national statistical agency, Statistics Canada is your source for free, reliable data for associations and non-profit organizations. Most of the online data is available free of charge. In fact, their website has many useful tools and resources to help you in your day-to-day operations and for the long-term strategic planning of your organization. For more information, visit website <http://www.statcan.gc.ca> or send an email to [infostats@statcan.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.ca).

### New website for the aboriginal studies circle

The Aboriginal Studies Circle was set up in 1995 as special interest group within the British Association for Canadian Studies. It now has its own website that can be viewed at: <http://aboriginalstudiescircle.com/>

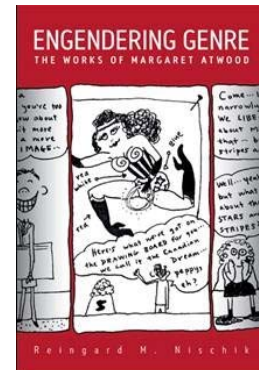
### Aboriginal policy research initiative - new papers available

The Institute on Governance (IOG), in collaboration with the Office of the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-status Indians, has just released several papers for its policy research series on issues affecting Métis, non-status Indians and other Aboriginal peoples residing off-reserve. To download the first of these papers, visit website [http://www.ioq.ca/knowledge\\_areas.asp?pageID=54](http://www.ioq.ca/knowledge_areas.asp?pageID=54).

### New Canlit title from the University of Ottawa Press

ENGENDERING GENRE: The Works of Margaret Atwood by Reingard M. Nischik  
\$34.95, Paperback - 320 pages - 6 x 9, 978-0-7766-0724-5, ORDER at your preferred book retailer or by calling 1-800-565-9523. Instructors may request examination copies by emailing [puo-uop@uottawa.ca](mailto:puo-uop@uottawa.ca).

In *Engendering Genre*, renowned Margaret Atwood scholar Reingard M. Nischik analyzes the relationship between gender and genre in Atwood's works. The author approaches Atwood's oeuvre comprehensively by genre - poetry, prose poetry and short fictions, short stories, novels, criticism, comics, and Atwood's involvement with film - and examines them chapter by chapter. She explores how Atwood has developed these genres to be gender-sensitive in both content and form and she argues that gender and genre are inherently complicit in Atwood's work: they converge to critique the gender-biased designs of traditional genres. This combination of gender and genre results in the recognizable Atwoodian style that engenders her texts, shaking and extending the boundaries of conventional genres and exploring them in new ways. The book includes the first extended and in-depth treatment of Atwood's cartoon art



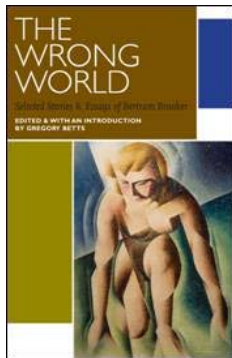
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(reprinting nine of her comics) as well as the first survey of her involvement with film, and concludes with an interview with Margaret Atwood on her career "From Survivalwoman to Literary Icon". Reingard M. Nischik is professor and chair of North American literature at the University of Constance, Germany. She is the author or editor of more than 25 books, including Margaret Atwood: Works and Impact, which won the Margaret Atwood Society Best Book Award, and the seminal History of Literature in Canada (Camden House, 2008).

## Other Canlit titles from the University of Ottawa Press

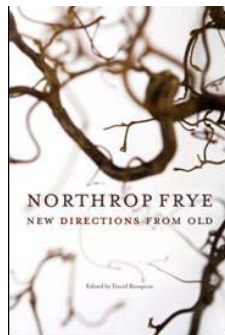
The Wrong World <<http://www.press.uottawa.ca/book/678>>

Selected Stories and Essay of Bertram Brooker, Edited and with an introduction by Gregory Betts



Northrop Frye <<http://www.press.uottawa.ca/book/671>>

New Directions from Old, Edited by David Rampton



## JOURNALS

### Colloquium special issue of Québec studies - call for papers

The Institute on Quebec Studies at SUNY Plattsburgh in partnership with the Quebec Studies Program at McGill University and the American Council for Québec Studies announce a new multifaceted initiative, designed for doctoral candidates and junior professors engaged in research on Quebec issues in the United States. This initiative features a call for papers, the convening of a colloquium and the publication of edited essays in a special issue of the journal Quebec Studies. Papers must be original and unpublished and can be from any academic discipline. Selected submissions will be included as part of ACQS (American Council for Quebec Studies) biennial colloquium in Burlington Vermont, from November 4th to 7th, 2010. Revised select contributions from the colloquium will be featured as a special issue of Quebec Studies. Proposals for articles should be submitted by email to Chris Kirkey at SUNY at [kirkeycj@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:kirkeycj@plattsburgh.edu), by May 15th, 2010. For more information, visit website <http://www.acqs.org/documents/qs.pdf> or send an email to the above mentioned email address.

## INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, VISITORSHIPS AND AWARDS

### 2010-2011 Jean-Cléo-Godin Award - call for nominations



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The Jean-Cléo-Godin Award (previously Cétuq Award) is granted each year to a student at the Masters or PhD level from outside of Quebec whose research is concentrating on Quebec literature. This award worth \$7,000 will allow the recipient to assume the costs of a minimum three month stay at the CRILCQ/Université de Montreal, to pursue his or her research and benefit from all the activities (courses, seminars, colloquiums, conferences, etc.) related to Quebec literature. For further details, visit website <http://www.aieq.qc.ca/bulletins/2010/03/appel.bourse-jean-cleo-godin.2010.pdf>. The deadline to submit nominations is May 14th, 2010. The winner will be selected on June 4th, 2010.

### **2010-2011 CRILCQ postdoctoral award - call for nominations**

The Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature et la culture québécoises (CRILCQ) offers this postdoctoral award for 2010-2011 worth \$20,000. The award is designed for PhD students who successfully defended their thesis. It will allow the recipient to assume the cost of a stay at the CRILCQ/Université de Montréal for furthering his or her research on Quebec literature and culture. The stay must happen on the same year that is covered by the award. Nominations must be received by May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010. For further details, visit website <http://www.aieq.qc.ca/bulletins/2010/03/appel.bourse-postdoctorale-crilcq.2010.pdf>.

### **2010-2011 CRIEC postdoctoral award - call for nominations**

The Chaire de recherche en immigration, ethnicité et citoyenneté (CRIEC) of the Université du Québec à Montréal offers a \$5,000 postdoctoral award for a 4 to 8 months internship during which CRIEC will supply a fully equipped office (computer, access to internet, printer). The recipient of the award will also benefit from the CRIEC's secretariat (copier and fax). Nominations must be sent by regular mail or by email to CRIEC, no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010. For further details, visit website [http://www.criec.uqam.ca/Page/bourse\\_postdoctorale.aspx](http://www.criec.uqam.ca/Page/bourse_postdoctorale.aspx) or send an email to Ms. Anne-Marie Field at [criec@uqam.ca](mailto:criec@uqam.ca)

### **2010 GUTTENBERG CHAIRS - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

The Guttenberg Chairs are structures set up by Alsace local communities, upon proposal from the Cercle Guttenberg to facilitate over a one year period, the hosting of scholars of international repute invited by higher education and research institutions. The recipients of the Guttenberg Chairs receive the Guttenberg Award of €1,000 each and a financial endowment of €50,000 which is attributed to their intake unit entirely dedicated to the completion of their research project. Application files along with charter of the Guttenberg Chairs (in French and English) will be sent upon request by email sent to [cercle.guttenberg@free.fr](mailto:cercle.guttenberg@free.fr). For more information, visit website <https://dri-dae.cnrs-dir.fr/spip.php?article2128> or send an email to the above mentioned email address.



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## ACS N PROGRAMS AND DEADLINES

### ACS N Student Research Award

This award is designed to assist students of higher education, whose M.A. theses or doctoral dissertations are related in substantial part to Canada, to undertake research in Canada in topics within the social sciences and the humanities. The deadlines for applications are March 31 and **October 31** of each year. More information: <http://www.acsn.nl/activities/student.html>

### ACS N Student Networking Award

The aim of the program is to provide opportunities to students to advance academically in the milieu of some of the best Canadian universities by enrolling in challenging courses with Canadian content, and meet with Canadian experts in their discipline in the Humanities and Social Sciences. More information: [www.acsn.nl](http://www.acsn.nl).

### European Speakers Program

In order to promote European co-operation in Canadian Studies, the ACS N has established this program to give financial support to teaching faculties at Dutch universities to bring in expert Canadianists from Europe as guest lecturers. We also have a seminar support program and a conference participation program.

More information: <http://www.acsn.nl/activities/programs.html>

### Faculty Enrichment program

This is a program of the Government of Canada to increase knowledge and understanding of Canada abroad by assisting academics in higher education institutions to develop and teach courses about Canada in their own discipline, as part of their regular teaching load. The program enables academic award holders to come to Canada and gather the necessary information and material to devise a new course on Canada. Deadline is **October 31** of each year. More information: [http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/pages/5\\_govprogs/b\\_FEP\\_countries/netherlands.html](http://www.iccs-ciec.ca/pages/5_govprogs/b_FEP_countries/netherlands.html)

*The next newsletter will appear in September 2010; deadline for contributions: August 15, 2010. Everyone is most welcome to contribute! So if you have any news, a publication or a book review for us, let us know! Please send contributions to: [ACS N@amandahelderman.com](mailto:ACS N@amandahelderman.com).*