

Canadian History at the University of Alberta



In Honour of the Generation now
Retiring from University Service



Faculty of Arts 1937

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Henry Marshall Tory

President of The University of Alberta, 1908-1928

H.M. Tory also served as the first Head of the History Department



Alfred Leroy Burt (1888-1971)

Alfred Leroy Burt – U Alberta, 1913-1930

A.L. Burt was born November 28, 1888 in Listowel, Ontario to parents Sarah Jane (Large) and Christian Kimbal Burt.

He received a BA from the University of Toronto (1910) before going on to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He received an Oxford BA in 1912 and an MA in 1916.

Burt's career with the University of Alberta began in 1913, when he joined as lecturer of history and economics, a position he held until he was made an associate professor of history in 1916. Burt married Dorothy Duff, who taught in the Biology Department at the University of Alberta in 1915 and they had four children, Joan, Mary, Forrest, and Arthur.

Taking military leave from the University from 1917-19, Burt served as a lieutenant in the First Canadian Tank Battalion (1917-18) and as instructor in history at Khaki University in England (1918-19).

In 1920, Burt returned to his position as associate professor of history at the University of Alberta and became professor and department head in 1921, positions he held until 1930 when he joined the University of Minnesota as a professor of history.

In addition to teaching European and British History, Burt also taught Canadian Political and Constitutional History,

for many years the only Canadian History course on the curriculum.

His areas of research specialization during his years at the University of Alberta were Conquest and Post Conquest Quebec. In the 1920s Burt made the Public Archives of Canada his summer home as he had come to the conclusion that secondary sources were entirely inadequate to write/rewrite the history of Canada. He, along with a handful of other Canadian historians including H.A. Innis, A.S. Morton, J.B. Brebner, George Brown, and Chester Martin, were in the forefront of a new generation of Canadian historians who made archival research central to the historical profession in Canada. When classes ended in the spring, Burt boarded the train for the long trip from Edmonton to Ottawa leaving his family behind. According to L.H. Thomas, Burt's biographer, one of the reasons Burt moved to the University of Minnesota in 1930 was to be nearer the PAC.

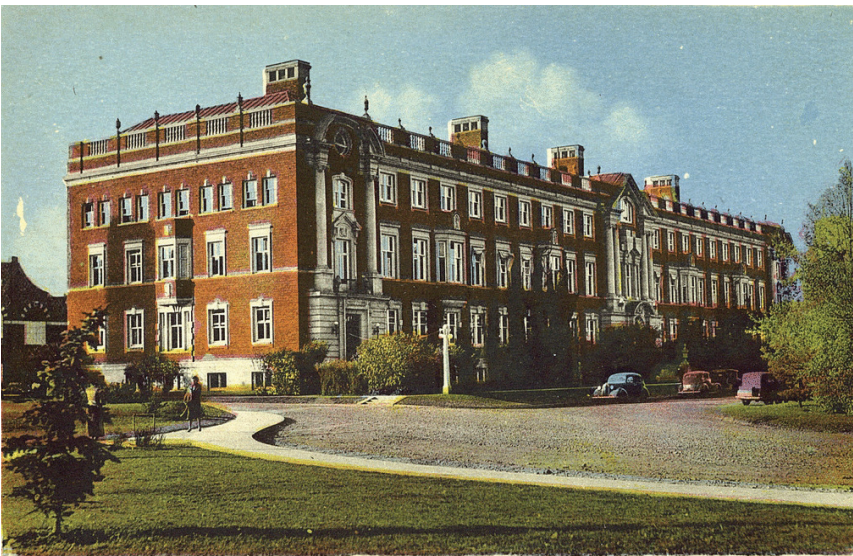
While at the University of Alberta he published or did the research for: *Imperial Architects: Being an account of the Proposals in the directions of a Closer Imperial Union* (1913); *The Romance of the Prairie Provinces* (1930); and *The Old Province of Quebec* (1933).

In recognition of his achievements, Burt was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree (LLD honoris causa) by the University of Alberta in 1966. He is also the recipient of the 1946 Tyrrell Gold Medal by the Royal Society of Canada.



A.L. Burt in later Life

Professor Burt passed away June 21, 1971 in Wellesley, Massachusetts.



The Arts Building

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY 1921-22

President Tory, Professor Burt, Assistant Professor Long.

Junior Courses.

1 . General History. 3 hrs.

Outlines of General History from the Renaissance to the present day.

2. British History. 3 hrs.

From the Tudor period to the present day.

3 . British History. 3 hrs.

From the beginnings to 1485.

Senior Courses.

53. European History. 3 hrs.

From the Barbarian Invasions to the fall of the Hohenstaufen.

54. European History. 3 hrs.

From the Renaissance to the end of the Wars of Religion.

(Not offered 1921-22.)

56 . European History. 3 hrs.

From the Congress of Vienna to the present day.

57. English Constitutional History. 3 hrs.

58. Canadian History. 3 hrs.

Political and constitutional.

(Not offered 1921-22.)

Honours and Graduate Courses

101. English History, 3 hrs

From the accession of James I to the Restoration.

(Not offered 1921-22.)

102. European History. 3 hrs.

From the outbreak of the French Revolution to the Congress of Vienna.



Morden Heaton (Shorty) Long
(1886-1965)

Morden Long – U Alberta, 1918-1952

Shorty Long was born in Brantford, Ontario in 1886 to parents Alice Grace (Heaton) and Ralph Robert Long. Long attended McMaster University, earning a BA in 1908. A Rhodes Scholarship from McMaster in 1909 allowed him to study at Oxford University where he graduated with a BA (1912) and an MA (1924). In 1927 Long married Isabella Winnifred McGoun; they had two daughters, Alice (Kulak) and Isabella Grace (Dukelow).

Beginning in 1913, Long taught at Victoria Composite High School in Edmonton before joining the University of Alberta in 1918. Long served the University as a lecturer of history (1918-20), an assistant professor of history (1920-24), an associate professor of history (1924-35), and professor and head of the Department of History (1935-52). Long's other contributions to the University of Alberta include membership in the Senate (1930-32), General Faculties Council for Arts and Sciences, the Philosophical Society and the History Club, and acting as secretary for the Graduate Studies Committee (1918). He was named a Professor Emeritus in 1953.

Although primarily occupied in assisting in the growth of the University, he was a member of the Alberta Historical Society, the Edmonton branch of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, and the Royal Overseas League. From 1944 to 1956 he represented Alberta on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, and for nineteen years prior to his death he was chairman of the

Long was primarily a historian of Britain and Europe, but after World War II, when the enrolment of the University increased very rapidly, he also taught the very large survey course in Canadian history. Canadian history had always been an interest of his and in 1918 he published *Knights Errant of the Wilderness: Tales of the Explorers of the Great North West*, and in 1943 his *History of the Canadian People, Volume I* was published. For all of these services and achievements he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1949, and he became President of the Canadian Historical Association in 1953.

He died on May 16, 1965 in Edmonton, Alberta.



R. W. Collins, L. G. Thomas, M. H. Long

The History Department in 1946



The History Department in 1950

Ross Willam Collins M.A. B.D. PhD. F.R. Hist. S.

Lewis Gywne Thomas B.A. M.A.

Morden Heaton Long B.A. M.A. F.R.S.C.

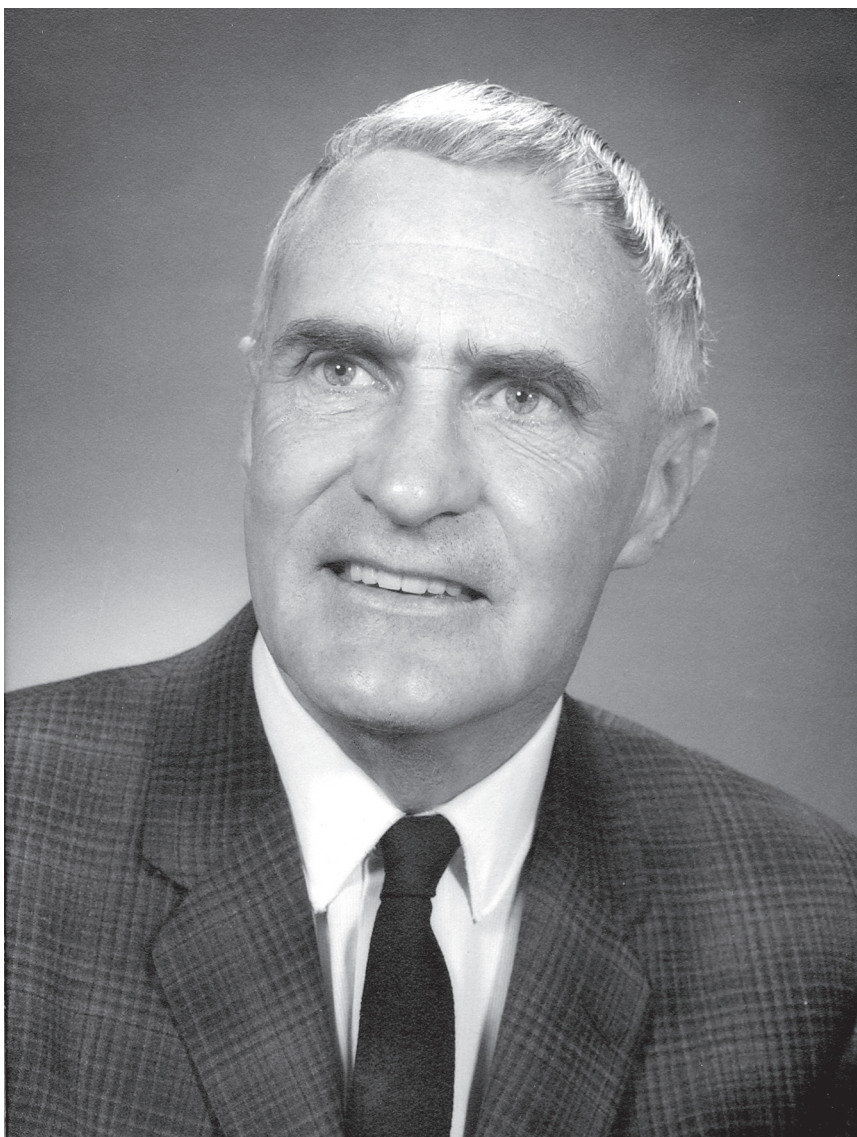
Charles Samuel Burchill B.A. M.A.

George Moore Self B.A. M.A. PhD.



Rutherford House in 1913





Lewis Gwynne Thomas (1914-2001)

L.G. Thomas – U Alberta, 1938-1974

L.G. Thomas was not only the bridge between the first generation of Canadian historians at the University of Alberta and the third generation just now retiring from departmental work, but he was also the *éminence grise* to this later generation. He knew personally every individual who had taught history at the University from 1908 to the 1970s with the exception of Gordon Stanley Fife who died in World War I. Thomas was also chair of the department during its transition from a cosy five-member coterie in the mid 1950s to the large and fractious group it became in the mid 1960s when it had doctoral programs in any number of areas. He was, in a sense, both the architect and the heart and soul of the department from the 1940s to the 1970s.

Thomas was born in 1914 at his family's ranch, Cottonwoods, near Millarville, Alberta to Edward Harold Thomas and Edith Agnes Louise Thomas. His early childhood was spent on the ranch but as soon as he started school he moved, with his mother, to Okotoks while his father and partner remained on the ranch. Although L.G. has written fondly and widely of ranching in southern Alberta, he never worked the ranch himself and was little interested in riding horses, which he found boring, or herding cattle.

He attended high school in Calgary at Mount Royal and at the age of 16 (1930) he entered the University of Alberta boarding at Assiniboia Hall. His arrival at the University of Alberta coincided with the departure of A.L. Burt for

the University of Minnesota, and Thomas was much influenced by the incoming head of history, George Malcolm Smith. Smith, unlike Burt, distained archival research and believed it more important to teach students how to write and talk about history; history was about writing well to get at the truth and Smith took enormous trouble to ensure his students learned to write well. Research was secondary.



George Malcom Smith

Thomas remembered Smith's cosmopolitan air, his excellent lecturing style, and the Oxford-style tutorials he introduced to the History Club. Smith would have a large influence on L.G. including where he did his graduate training to his topic of study, and was in large part responsible for hiring Thomas as a professor in 1938.

Thomas graduated in 1934 writing his honours paper on the ranching community of southern Alberta, and he returned in the fall to do his Masters under the supervision of Morden Long, again on the ranching period in Alberta.



L.G. Thomas in 1934

Thomas had wanted to work on international affairs, Smith's speciality, but he was encouraged by both Smith and Long to write about ranching because he knew about it. At the time Smith was writing the prairie section of one of the books in the Carnegie Foundation project entitled *Canada and Her Great Neighbour: Sociological Surveys of Opinion and Attitudes in Canada Concerning the United States*, and Smith had hired Thomas to do the surveys in southern Alberta. Given that there were few archival sources on ranching, that summer's research for Smith provided L.G. with many of the oral sources he needed to write his MA thesis.

He completed his M.A. in 1935 and for a short time tried his hand at writing short stories and acting as a theatrical agent, but in the midst of the depression neither of these ventures made any money. In consequence of this Thomas decided to return to graduate school and enrolled in the PhD program at Harvard University in the fall of 1936.

Given that his mentors, Smith and Long, were both Oxford men the choice of Harvard seems odd, but according to Thomas he chose Harvard at the urging of George Smith who told him he was already too British. Rod Macleod has also argued that in the 1930s Canadians were increasingly choosing to study in the United States, as opposed to in Britain, because it was cheaper and one didn't have to pay for a transatlantic voyage. Harvard at that time cost \$500 a year and Thomas had enough money saved to last two years.

Arriving at Harvard, Thomas found himself some-what out of his depth. The University of Alberta had not prepared him for the much greater emphasis on research methods that were current at Harvard. What kept him afloat, Thomas would later admit, was his ability to write. At the end of his first year he decided he would not return for the second year, but just before returning home for the summer he was offered the opportunity to house sit for an aging Boston bachelor. He was offered a car and \$50 a month and so he decided to return in the fall.

He chose to work on Canadian history as that seemed to be the future and he did not have the languages to do European history. His supervisor was Frederick Merk, the noted American frontier historian, but, as Thomas would later admit, he was not much influenced by Merk's ideas on the frontier. For Thomas what really counted on the frontier was what people brought in their cultural baggage. Indeed, Harvard seems to have generally left little of a mark on Thomas's thinking. More important in his two-year sojourn in Boston was the New England social life outside of Harvard, in particular a group of Anglican friends who had connections to families in Millarville. They were, in Thomas's words, the "English Upper Crust" – a society that was decaying in New England, but one that influenced L.G.'s mindset a great deal. In his second year at Harvard he was offered a sessional job at the University of Alberta since George Smith was moving to the Dean's Office. In light of this development, Thomas, in consultation with Merk, decided to write his thesis on the political history of Alberta. Given he would be teaching in Edmon-

ton for the sum of \$800 a year he could hardly afford to travel to do any research and so his topic would have to be Alberta centered. Merk suggested he write about Alberta politics in the style of Henry Adams' history of the United States. This thesis would become the book *The Liberal Party in Alberta: A History of Politics in the Province of Alberta 1905-1921*.

Coming back to Alberta, Thomas spent most of his first years (on term contracts) preparing lectures and doing research for his thesis, but the outbreak of World War II interrupted his scholarly career. From 1942-1945 he was in the Naval Service stationed in Ottawa and Newfoundland as an intelligence officer rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. During the war he also married Muriel Massie (Jonesy), a University of Alberta graduate in household economics then working in Ottawa.

He returned to the History Department in 1945 as a permanent faculty member. Returning soldiers were then entering the university in large numbers and everyone in the History Department was teaching very large classes (it took five years for this post-war bulge to work its way through the system).

In addition to teaching British history L.G. was also trying to develop his speciality in Canadian history. He found this difficult as Morden Long was very protective about his academic turf and as Long was a nationally accepted historian of Canada, Thomas had little alternative but to wait his turn. He was, however, allowed to develop and



L.G. Thomas as a Naval Officer, 1942

teach a course on Western Canadian history in 1949 to take some pressure off Long's very large Canadian survey course. This would be the first lecture course in Western Canadian history ever taught (A.S. Morton had earlier taught a seminar on the Canadian West at the University of Saskatchewan). The course, which went up to 1945, had a unique subject matter and appealed to city teachers upgrading their qualifications.

After the war, Thomas had little contact with other Canadianists. He could not afford to travel to the Public Archives of Canada or the annual meetings of the Canadian Historical Association and so he worked on his new courses and doctoral dissertation. He got his first study leave in 1952, which he spent in England, and during this time he was able to both complete his thesis and embark on new research projects. His thesis was perfunctorily accepted by Harvard and a few years later was published by the University of Toronto Press as part of their Social Credit series.

In 1952 Morden Long retired and Thomas assumed sole responsibility for the teaching of Canadian history. The 1950s were also years of rapid growth in both funding and enrolments. With this came new hires and the addition of William John Eccles in 1957 did much to relieve the strain of teaching Canadian history. The hiring of Eccles and Wallace Farnham (American history), both of whom became close supporters of Thomas, paved the way to L.G.'s assumption of the chair of History when Ross Collins retired in 1958.



Through the 1950s and early 1960s the offices of the History Department took up the 2nd floor of the Arts Building and the upper floor of the Power Plant pictured above.



In 1966 the History Department moved into the 2nd floor of the newly-built Henry Marshall Tory Building.

Thomas's greatest challenges as head/chair of the department were trying to maintain collegiality among faculty as the department expanded, developing a doctoral program, and the hiring and retention of faculty. During these years the demand for historians in Canada far outstripped the supply. This was particularly the case in Canadian history which had the greatest number of students. Indeed, most hires during this period were made sight unseen – hired on the basis of letters and phone calls.

In 1964 Thomas stepped down as chair establishing the precedent that chairs or heads would serve fixed terms. He said he was getting tired of administration and wanted more time for research and writing, and he was also active in the establishment of a provincial archives program. He would continue to teach for another ten years supervising graduate students such as David Breen, John Foster, Ted Regehr, Ted Hart, and Carl Betke. He also continued to write on topics related to church history, ranching, and the fur trade and in 1973 would publish a new edition of A.S. Morton's *A history of the Canadian West to 1870-71* adding the footnotes and citations that Morton had never included in the original edition.

Throughout his career Thomas saw himself as a Western Canadian historian rather than a Canadian historian but he did not consider himself a narrow regionalist. His Western Canada was connected to the rest of the world. While he studied local or small communities he considered them a better basis to understand national and international processes. As L.G. Thomas noted in his presi-

dential address to the Canadian Historical Association, the CHA and its development mirrored the growth of Canadian interregional communication generally. In this and other writings, Thomas argued that Canada was a pattern of regions and provinces. What united them was less a common nationality, which was often divisive, but a social contiguity that fostered better relations through common habits, values, and speech patterns: associations and communications. The greatest satisfaction for L.G. came from writing and talking about, and teaching Canadian and Western Canadian history, in a pastoral and enabling way.



A more casual Thomas at his cottage on Lake Wabamun during the Algae Outbreak of 1971.

William John Eccles (1917-1998)**U Alberta 1958-1963**

W.J. Eccles was born in Thirsk, Yorkshire on July 17, 1917. In 1930 he moved to Canada with his recently widowed mother, Jane, to escape scrutiny by his father's solicitors. Growing up in Montreal, Bill was taught French by the gardener. Later, working as a log driver with French Canadians, he developed a sympathy for the underdog and a partisanship for French Canada. He briefly enrolled at McGill but dropped out after a year and then enlisted in the air force when the war broke out. Returning to Montreal after the war he reenrolled in McGill University making New France his specialization. He completed his BA in 1949 and then worked with the iconoclastic E.R. Adair, finished his MA in 1951 by writing a thesis on the Intendant Jean Bochart de Champigny.

He continued his studies with Adair enrolling in the PhD program at McGill to write about Frontenac. He spent the year of 1951-52 at the Sorbonne in Paris and returned to Canada in 1953 to take up a term teaching position at the University of Manitoba, a position that was renewed yearly until 1957. At Manitoba he completed his PhD thesis on Frontenac in 1955 which was published in 1959 as *Frontenac: the courtier governor*. This first book overturned Francis Parkman's reverential treatment of Frontenac and gave Eccles the reputation of an iconoclast garnering both praise and approbation from the historical community.

In 1957 he received a permanent job at the University of

Alberta and he began teaching there in 1958. In an effort to retain a historian whom he considered to be the best young Canadian historian in the country, L.G. Thomas gave Eccles a very light teaching load in the winter terms allowing him to complete the writing of *Canada under Louis XIV* (1964) for the Centenary Series while he was at the U of A. During his tenure there Eccles taught Canadian history as well as some European history courses. While he enjoyed his years at the University of Alberta, Eccles moved on to the University of Toronto in 1963, in large part to be nearer the archives in Quebec. He taught for another twenty years in Toronto retiring in 1983. He would publish three more monographs during this time: *Canada during the French Regime* (1968), *The Canadian Frontier 1534-1760* (1969), and *France in America* (1972). In the process he convincingly developed the theme of the uniqueness of Canadian society and revived English Canadian interest in New France. Though refusing to allow his name to stand for election to the Royal Society of Canada, that body awarded him the Tyrrell Medal in 1979. He died of a pulmonary embolism on October 2, 1998.

108	Eccles, William J., Professor	77
108	Eccles, Mrs. M. Jean, Tea.-H.W.	78
108	Eccles, Michael J., Student	79

1972 Voters List - Rosedale Constituency - Cluny Dr.



University of Alberta Campus in 1963



Rutherford Library



Barbara Jean Lovat Fraser (1931-1964)

Barbara Fraser – U Alberta, 1960-1964

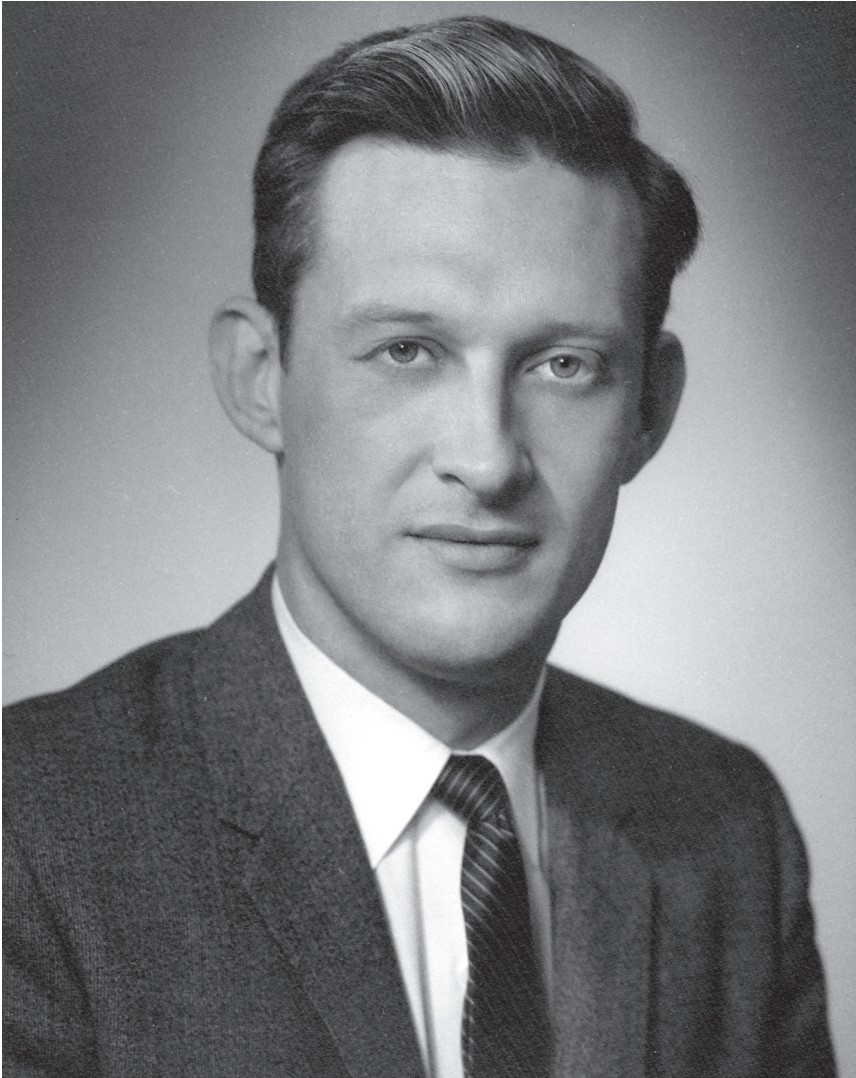
In his study of the professionalization of historians in English Canada, Donald Wright has noted that prior to 1960 the old boys clubs that constituted history departments across Canada hired almost no women to permanent positions. The few exceptions occurred in Western Canada and in particular he notes Hilda Neatby and Jean Murray at the University of Saskatchewan, and Margaret Ormsby at the University of British Columbia. Missing from Wright's list, however, is Barbara Fraser who was hired at the University of Alberta in 1960 to teach Canadian history. The probable reason for this oversight is that Fraser only taught four years before she died in an automobile accident in 1964.

Fraser was born in Toronto in 1931 to Frederick A. Fraser, an artist and art teacher, and Hazel M. Fraser. She received her BA from the University of Toronto in 1955 and an MA from the same institution in 1959, writing a thesis on the political career of Sir Hector Langevin under the direction of John Saywell. She also attended graduate school at Bryn Mawr and was hired by the University of Alberta in 1960 after she had taught one year on contract at the University of British Columbia. At the time of her death she was working on her doctorate focussing on the position of the governor generalship in Canada, again directed by John Saywell who was now at York University.

At the University of Alberta she quickly became a very popular teacher, and, as a frequent television panellist

and guest lecturer for women's organizations, she also had a high profile in the community. But if the Department of History at the University of Alberta had been more open minded than most in hiring a woman in 1960, it proved somewhat less liberal when, as an unmarried women, Fraser became pregnant in 1964. She was apparently on her way to a faculty meeting where her "situation" and suitability to teach in the winter term were going to be discussed when she had her fatal accident. Police reports note that her compact car lost control and jumped the median on Groat Road before colliding head-on with a truck traveling in the opposite direction. Suffering head and chest injuries and pinned in the car for some time, Fraser died on the operating table at 3:20 p.m. on November 4, 1964.

Her death shook up and divided the department. L.G. Thomas, on sabbatical leave that year, noted that this concatenation of events was traumatic causing heartache and endless difficulties in the department, and within a year a number of faculty left the University for other teaching positions. An indication of the feelings stirred up by Barbara Fraser's death was the quick decision to set up a memorial to her life and shortly thereafter students, colleagues, and friends set up a scholarship in Canadian history in her name.



Donald L. Wiedner was Chair of the History Department at the time of Barbara Fraser's death. He left for Temple University shortly thereafter.



Marc La Terreux (1935-1978)

Marc La Terreux – U Alberta, 1964-1967

Marc was born at Pabos in Gaspé, Quebec in 1935. He completed classical studies at le Séminaire de Joliette and did his university work at Laval completing his PhD dissertation under J.-C. Bonenfant in 1963. This dissertation

on the Conservative Party in Quebec between 1930 and 1956 would eventually be published by Laval University Press in 1973 as *Les tribulations des conservateurs au Québec de Bennett à Diefenbaker*. Specializing in political history and an expert on Laurier, Borden, and Bourassa, as well as any number of minor figures of Canadian political life between 1896 and 1940. La Terreux also published studies on Armand Lavergne, the correspondence between Wilfrid Laurier and Mme Joseph Lavergne, and in 1965 became editor of Volume X of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

Before coming to the University of Alberta he taught at the Collège Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière (1959-62), and the University of Ottawa (1962-64). In 1964 he was hired by the University of Alberta but did not stay long. After being appointed editor of Volume X of the DCB in 1965 he got a leave of absence from the University and in 1967 he was hired by Laval University where he held the positions of Director of Advanced Studies and Chairman of the Department from 1973-76.

In 1969 Marc was also appointed to the National Historic Sites and Monuments Board, becoming its Chair in 1972. This last appointment would eventually lead to his death in a plane crash in 1978 en route to St. Anthony, Newfoundland to unveil a plaque commemorating the arrival of the Vikings in America. He and seven other members and employees of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board died in this crash.



Lewis Herbert Thomas (1917-1982)

L.H. Thomas – U Alberta, 1964-1982

If L.G. Thomas was the heart and soul of the history department from the 1940s to the 1960s, L.H. Thomas was the moral conscience and stabilizing influence that held the department together after the death of Barbara Fraser in 1964. He became chair of the department after Don Wiedner left for Temple University in 1965 and served in that capacity until 1968. In the words of Brian Heeney, then the University's Anglican Chaplain and Professor of British History, the chairship of Thomas marked the end of the leadership crisis in the department as L.H. had the confidence of all faculty.

Lewis Herbert Thomas was born on April 13, 1917 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to Robert Thomas, a Methodist minister, and Margaret Ross. He received his elementary education in Nova Scotia and went to high school in Saskatoon. He completed his B.A. at the University of Saskatchewan in 1939 and his M.A. in 1941, writing a thesis on the "Constitutional Development of the North-West Territories, 1870-1888." Soon thereafter he entered the PhD program at the University of Minnesota to work with A.L. Burt, completing a dissertation in 1953 entitled "Responsible Government in the Canadian North-West Territories, 1870-1897." This was published by the University of Toronto Press in 1955 as *The Struggle for Responsible Government in the North-West Territories*. Long before he finished his dissertation, however, Thomas was back at the University of Saskatchewan working as a research assistant (1944-45), and in 1946 was appointed Assistant

Provincial Archivist in Regina. In 1948 he was promoted to Provincial Archivist, a position he held until 1957. During this period (1949-1957) he also edited the journal *Saskatchewan History*. In 1946 he married Margaret E. Telford with whom he had two children. During his tenure as Provincial Archivist he was instrumental in drawing up the first archives legislation for the Province of Saskatchewan and in establishing the policies governing these archives.

In 1957 he was appointed Associate Professor of History at the University of Saskatchewan (Regina Campus) – a position he held until 1964 when he moved to the University of Alberta. A year later he became Professor and took over the chairship of the department. He served as chair until 1968 when his declining health (colitis and asthma) necessitated a break from the stress and heavy workload associated with being chair.

He continued to teach and supervise graduate students for another fourteen years, and played a major role both in developing Canadian history at the University of Alberta, and in the reexamination of western Canadian history. His graduate students during this time included: David Richeson, John Gordon Unger, C. Bev Koester, Lee Clark, Joseph Cherwinski, Carl Wallace, Raymond Huel, and Andy Den Otter (PhD); John Gilpin, Sylvia Van Kirk, Richard McCarty, Jean Kendal, and Keith Stotyn (MA).

During his career Thomas also served on the Historic

Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (1968-1976), received the Order of Canada (1982), and published six books and countless articles. Despite all these accomplishments he noted at the end of his life that “the aspect of my work which has given me the greatest satisfaction is teaching, and association with students.” He retired with Margaret to Regina in 1982 and died shortly thereafter on 17 November 1982.



The two Thomases

Robert Ralph Hett – U Alberta, 1965-1990

Bob Hett was born on December 29, 1927 in Kitchener, Ontario. After receiving his primary and secondary education in Kitchener he was employed for nine years in banking and industry in his home town. He then entered the University of Western Ontario (Waterloo College) graduating with an Honours BA in 1960. During his final undergraduate year he was awarded a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and he used the scholarship to study Renaissance and American history at Cornell University for one year.

In 1961-62 he taught in the Thomas L. Kennedy secondary school in Cooksville, Ontario and in 1962 entered graduate school enrolling in the PhD program in Canadian Studies at the University of Rochester. Under the tutelage of Mason Wade, he completed his dissertation in 1969 entitled "John Charlton, Liberal Politician and Free Trade Advocate." By that time he was already teaching at the University of Alberta, having been hired in 1965. At the University of Alberta he introduced both lecture and seminar courses on the topic of Upper Canada from 1784-1864 teaching these courses regularly for the next twenty years.

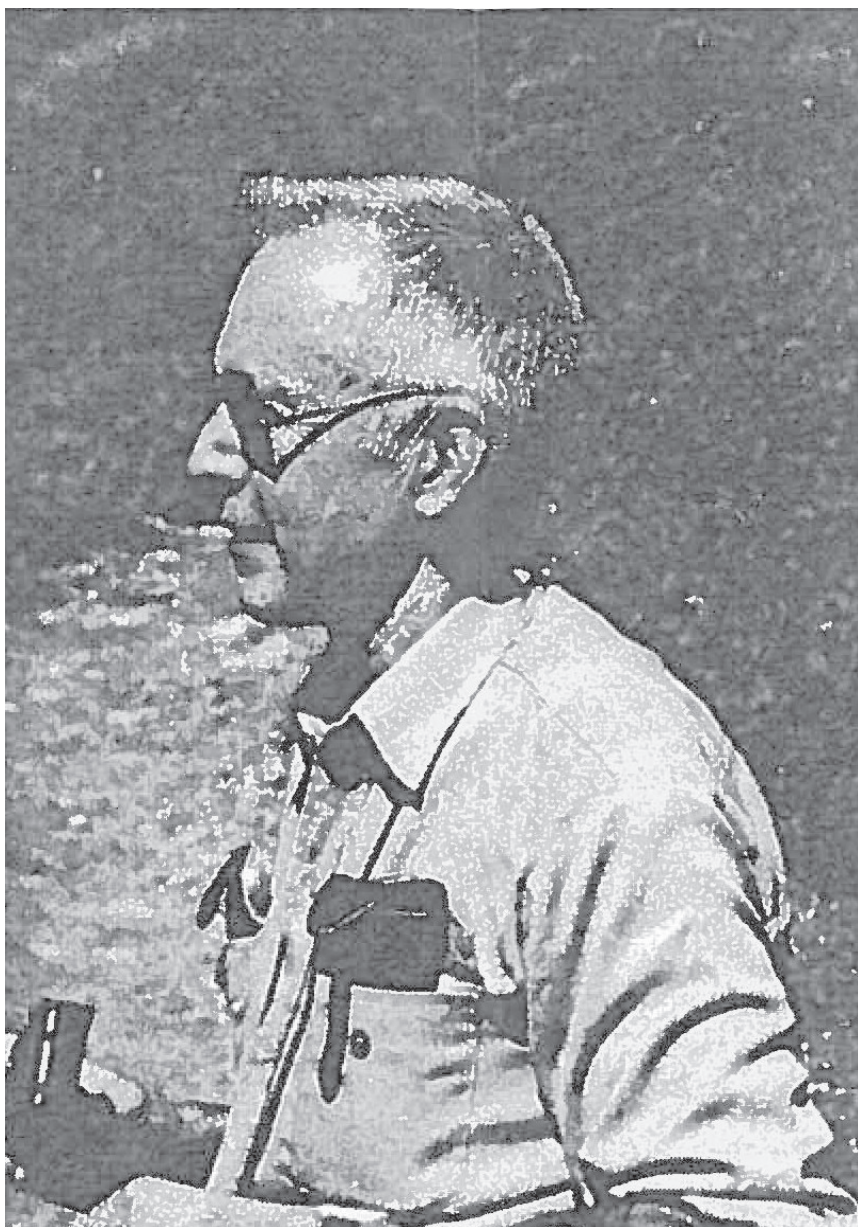
His research interests focused on biography and the justice system in Upper Canada, particularly the Court of Chancery. Glimpses of his intellectual interest can be found in his biography of James Christie Palmer Esten in volume

9 of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, and in his article “Judge Willis and the Court of King’s Bench in Upper Canada,” *Ontario History* 65 (1973).

He served as acting chair of the department in 1975 and chair from 1977 to 1980. He was promoted to full professor in 1980, and he retired in 1990. When he retired, he and his wife Eileen decided to stay in Edmonton. They have one son.



Henry Marshall Tory Building in 2008



Clarence Stuart Mackinnon (1934-2004)

Stuart Mackinnon – U Alberta, 1965-1994

Stuart was born in Montreal on December 29, 1934. He was the son of Alistair and Ruth MacKinnon and was raised in a family steeped in the traditions of the Presbyterian Church and the United Church of Canada.

He completed his BA at Bishop's University (1956), his MA at Dalhousie (1959), and his PhD at the University of Toronto (1965). At Toronto he worked under C.P. Stacey and completed a dissertation entitled "The Imperial Fortresses in Canada: Halifax and Esquimalt, 1871-1906."

In 1965 he was hired as a sessional instructor at the University of Alberta and in 1967 was offered the position of Assistant Professor in the History Department. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1982 even though Stuart had little interest in, and indeed resisted, promotion. At the University of Alberta he taught Canadian, European and World history. He had a special interest in British Empire and Commonwealth history but reoriented his interests to the history of northern Canada, which he researched and taught for the last two decades of his career in the department.

Almost all of Stuart's publications after coming to the University of Alberta dealt with the north. They included: "Some Logistics of Portage la Loche (Methe)," (*Prairie Forum*, 1980); "The Rise and Decline of Agriculture and Horticulture in the Mackenzie District and the Yukon," (*Musk-ox*, 1982); "The Wintering-Over of Royal Navy

Ships in the Canadian Arctic, 1819-1876,” (Beaver, Winter 1984/85); “The British Man-Hauled Sledging Tradition.” (The Franklin Era in Canadian Arctic History, 1845-1859, 1985); and “Canada’s Eastern Arctic Patrol, 1922-1968,” (Polar Record 1991).

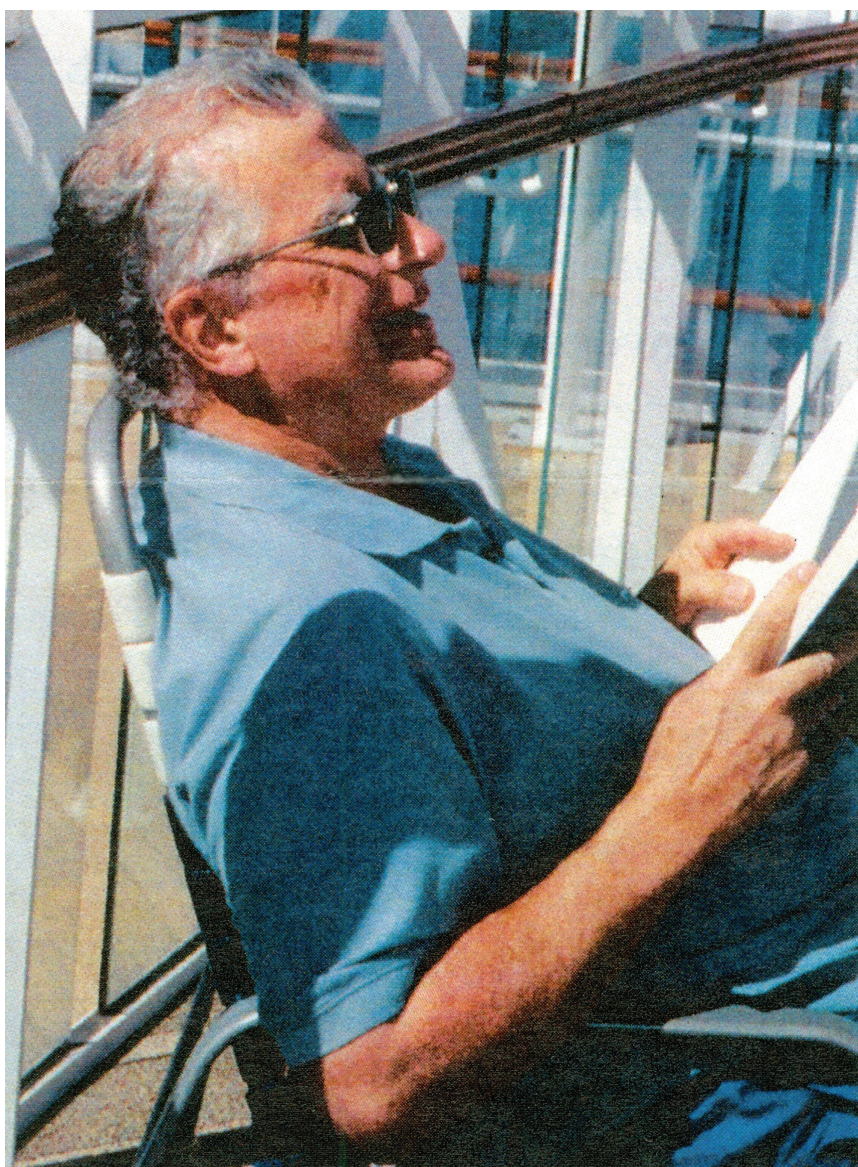
In his research on the north Stuart believed that he should see and experience the sites and locales he wrote about and he travelled extensively in the north often canoeing to remote locations. After his retirement in 1994 he continued these trips and regularly undertook long-distance bicycle trips around western Canada and New Zealand. He was embarking on one of his regular summer rides from Edmonton to British Columbia when he was hit on the highway by a motor vehicle just outside of Edmonton. After undergoing several operations he died six weeks later on September 12, 2004.



Rutherford House, University of Alberta Campus



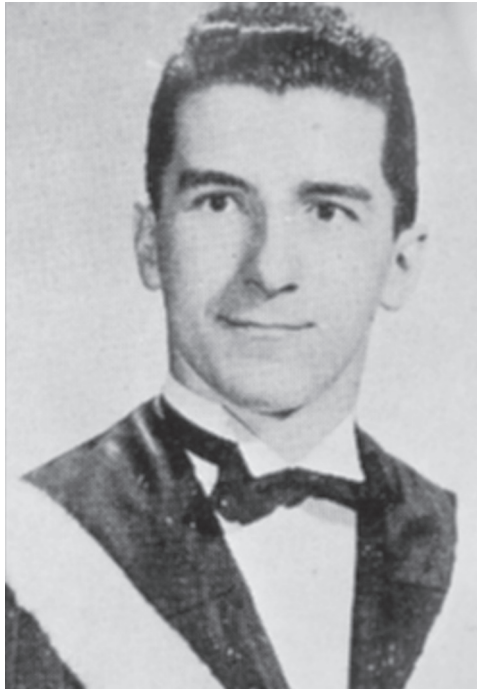
University of Alberta Campus in the early 1970s



John Andrew Eagle (1939-2009)

John Andrew Eagle – U Alberta, 1968-2006

John Eagle was born in Toronto, Ontario on July 11, 1939 to Edwin D. Eagle, a Classics Professor, and Anne Eagle, a librarian. At the age of two he and his family moved to Winnipeg where his father had gained a position at United College. He received his BA (1960) in history at United College and his MA (1962) and PhD (1972) at the University of Toronto. At the University of Toronto he worked under Donald Creighton who supervised his dissertation entitled “Sir Robert Borden and the Railway Problem in Canadian Politics, 1911-1920.”



**John Eagle at the time of his
Graduation from United College**

In 1968 he was hired to teach Canadian history at the University of Alberta and he and his wife Margaret, whom he married in 1966, settled in Edmonton where they raised their two children. At the University of Alberta he introduced courses in the history of Canadian business and, as a strong advocate of social justice, a course on the history of social welfare in Canada. In 1989 McGill-Queen's University Press published his *The Canadian Pacific Railway and the development of Western Canada, 1896-1914*.

John retired from university service in 2006 but continued his research and writing and was working on a history of Social Welfare in Canada when he died.



John Eagle with his grandson in his retirement years.



University of Alberta in 2006



David John Hall (1943 -)

David Hall – U Alberta, 1969-2004

David Hall was born in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1943. He received his BA at the University of Alberta (Calgary) in 1965 and completed both his MA (1966) and PhD (1973) at the University of Toronto.

At the University of Toronto he worked with R. C. Brown and wrote his doctoral dissertation on the political career of Clifford Sifton in 1973. This was published in two volumes by the University of British Columbia Press: *Clifford Sifton: The Young Napoleon, 1861-1900* (1981); and *Clifford Sifton: A Lonely Eminence, 1900-1929* (1985). This study is now the standard work on the subject. In following Sifton's career from his early days as a Manitoba politician, to being one of Laurier's most important cabinet minister, to his resignation from the Liberal government in 1905, and his life after, Hall provides new perspectives on Canadian immigration policy, Indian policy, Canadian-American relations, the various schools' questions, the reciprocity question of 1911, the conscription crisis of World War I, and Union Government. In addition to this biography, David will probably be remembered for his spirited defence of the great Canadian historian, Donald Creighton, and his position on the nature of Confederation – that Canada's founders never intended to establish either a bilingual or bicultural country, and certainly not in Manitoba and the North West. ["The Spirit of Confederation: Ralph Heintzman, Professor Creighton, and the Bicultural Compact Theory," *Journal of Canadian Studies* 9 (1974).]



Michael Bliss, David Hall, and Paul Voisey at a reception for Michael Bliss at the Faculty Club of the University of Alberta.

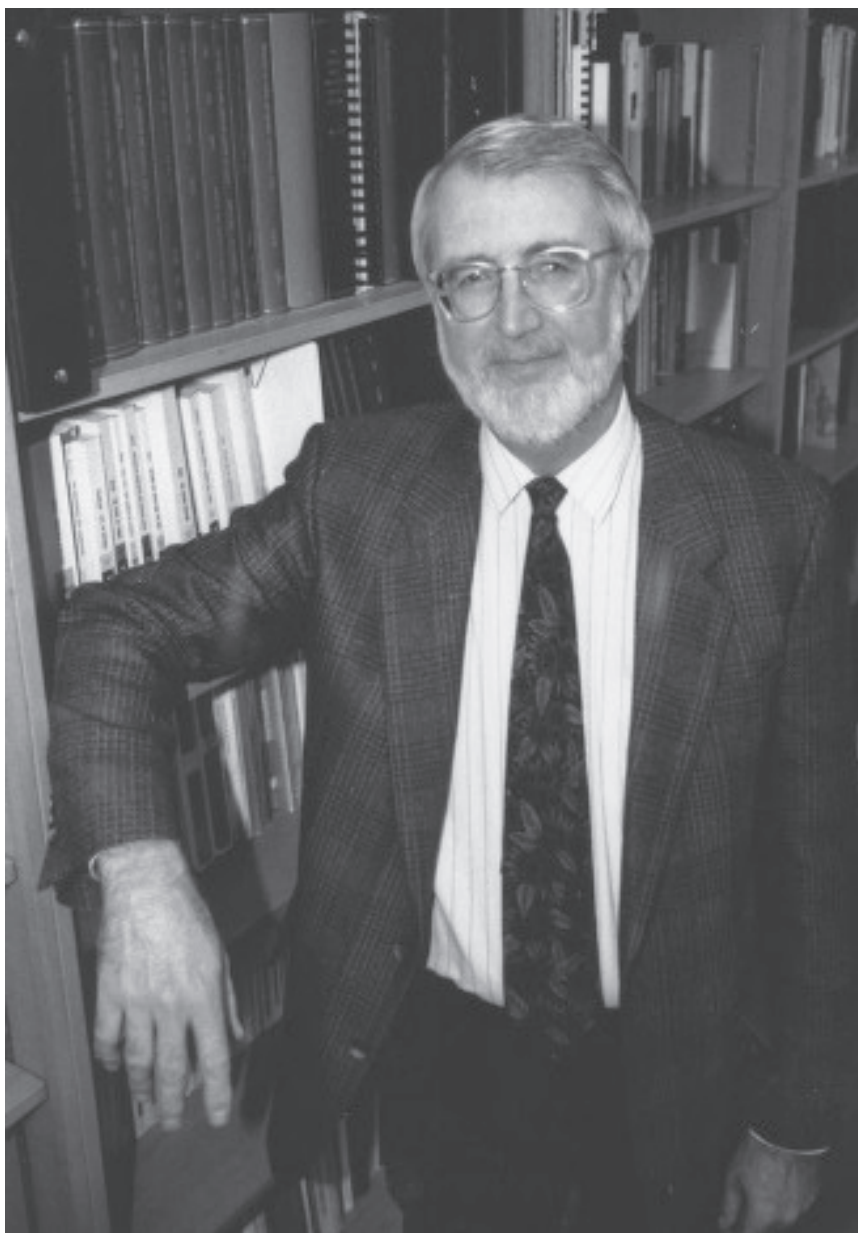


University of Alberta Faculty Club, 2010

While pursuing his doctorate at Toronto, David rented a room on the third floor of the home of Helen Forbes. He soon fell in love with her daughter, Ann Forbes, with whom he shared a deep enthusiasm for classical music. David and Ann were married in 1968 and one year later they moved to Edmonton as David had been hired to teach Canadian history at the University of Alberta. David would spend the rest of his career in Edmonton and it was here that he and Ann raised their son. Tragically, Ann was to die of cancer in June of 2001.

At the University of Alberta he taught a variety of courses in Canadian and Western Canadian history as well as the study of history as a discipline. Among other duties, he served as Chair of the Department from 1986 to 1991, from 1992 to 1993, and again from 1994 to 1998. He retired as Professor Emeritus in 2004 and continues to research the history of territorial Alberta (1870 - 1905).





Roderick Charles Macleod (1940-)

Rod Macleod – U Alberta, 1969-2005

As the pre-eminent western Canadian historian at the University of Alberta Rod Macleod has continued a tradition that stretches back to Morden Long, L.G. Thomas, and L.H. Thomas. During a career now spanning more than forty years, Rod's involvement with history and heritage has included not only his role as history professor, but also work with various heritage organizations and his community.

Rod Macleod was born in Calgary on May 11, 1940. His family moved to Turner Valley, Cremona, and Sundre, where he went to school. In 1959 he entered the University of Alberta, and he noted years later that prior to that time he had only been in Edmonton once. He initially enrolled in the science program thinking he would become a physicist but realized quickly that history was a more congenial home. After graduating in 1962 he enrolled in the Faculty of Education and taught for two years at the Queen Elizabeth High School in Edmonton. During this period he met and married his wife Elaine, then a physiotherapy student at the University, and they had two daughters.

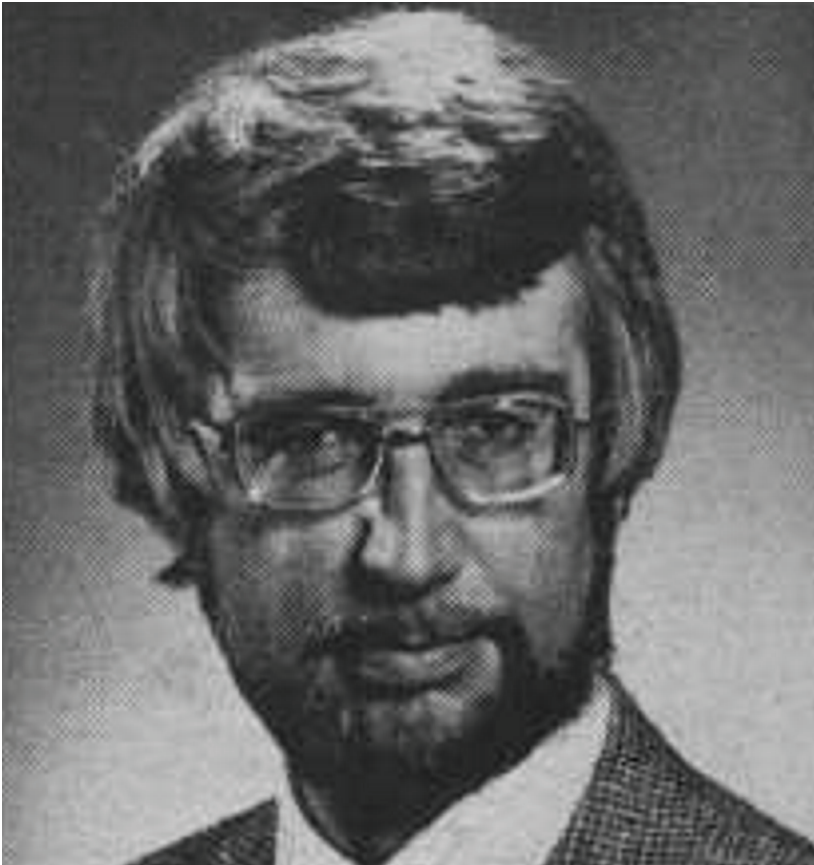
After teaching high school for two years Rod decided to go into graduate studies and received his MA in history at Queen's University in 1967. While at Queen's, Professor Donald Swainson peaked his interest in the North-West Mounted Police and he decided to study the force in more depth at Duke University under Professor Richard

Preston. This eventually resulted in the dissertation “The North-West Mounted Police 1873-1905: Law Enforcement and the Social Order in the Canadian North-West,” completed in 1971. The revised thesis was published by the University of Toronto Press in 1975 as *The North West Mounted Police and Law Enforcement 1873-1905*.



Rod and Elaine Macleod in the 1980s

This dissertation was completed while teaching at the University of Alberta as Rod was hired after only two years at Duke in 1969. At the University of Alberta he taught World history, Canadian history, Western Canadian history, and developed new courses in Canadian Legal history and Canadian Military history. Over the course of his career he supervised twelve PhD theses, fourteen MAs and 12 Honours theses. He also served a term as department chair and later as Associate Dean of Arts.

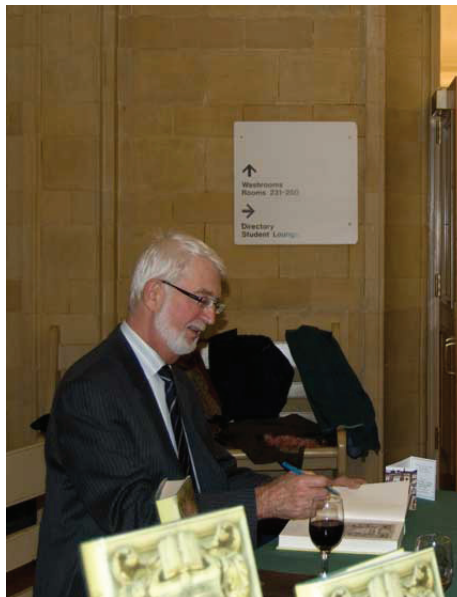


**Rod Macleod in 1980 when he became Chair of
the History Department**

During his career, Rod researched and wrote on a number of topics of interest to him, particularly in the area of military and legal history, but his most important work dealt with themes related to the problems of establishing law and order in new societies – especially in the North-West of Canada. In his history of the North-West Mounted Police he not only explained the success of the police in structural and sociological terms but in the process demolished Turnerian assumptions about the nature of the Canadian frontier, and clearly showed how the Canadian west differed from its American counterpart. His argument that the political culture of the North-West was almost entirely derived from eastern Canada and that it was partly the creation of the police themselves is still convincing today.

His book *Prairie Fire: The 1885 North-West Rebellion* (co-authored with Bob Beal) examined the one glaring exception to an orderly settlement period by looking at the failure of institutions and political legitimacy. That this rebellion remained a small scale revolt, Macleod attributed to the skill of the NWMP in keeping most of the Blackfoot, Cree, and Metis, outside of the South Saskatchewan valley, from joining the rebellion. It is, more than twenty-five years after it was published, still the best book on the topic.

Most recently he published *All True Things: A History of the University of Alberta, 1908-2008* as part of the University of Alberta's centenary celebrations.



Signing copies of *All Things True*

He has also edited six books and written dozens of articles. In addition to his academic work, Rod has been involved with a number of local and national heritage organizations. He worked closely with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment to record its history and published a history of the regiment for the museum's website. He also produced a history of Edmonton for Edmonton's centennial website, and he served as president of the Alberta Aviation Museum and Society from 2004-2009. On the national stage he has been the Alberta representative to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada since 2002.

Rod Macleod retired from the University of Alberta as Professor Emeritus in 2005, but he continues to be active in research and in the heritage community. He is presently working on a project involving the diaries of Sam Steele, one of the original North-West Mounted Police officers posted to Edmonton in 1874. He is also writing a history of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police musical ride being prepared for a planned visit to Canada by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in conjunction with her Diamond Jubilee. In 2010 Rod was honoured by the Edmonton Historical Board with its Historical Recognition Award.





**Presenting The Canadian Pacific Western Canada Lecture
on the History of the University of Alberta**



John Elgin Foster (1938-1996)

John Foster – U Alberta, 1970-1996

When John Foster died in 1996 he was working on three major projects: a guide to Metis Historical Studies, A History of the Wintering Village at Buffalo Lake, and a general history of the Metis in North America. These projects promised to bring into print over twenty years of researching and interpreting the Metis in the Western Interior. Through his writing, and especially his teaching, he played a major role in the re-imagining of Western Canada that took place between the 1960s and 1990s. In particular, John was one of a handful of scholars who reinvigorated the field of fur trade and Native history in Canada. His work on Metis ethnogenesis inspired his students and introduced new perspectives and questions to the field.

John was born in London, Ontario on October 19, 1938. His parents moved west when John was fifteen years old, joining his maternal grandparents who lived in Calgary. His grandfather was a Baptist minister and his grandmother ran three boarding houses in Calgary. John graduated from high school when he was sixteen and moved further west to attend Royal Roads Military College in Victoria with the intention of becoming an engineer. By his second year he realized he had chosen the wrong career and he left Royal Roads by mutual agreement after an incident in which he put his foot through a portrait of Queen Elizabeth.

John returned to Alberta and enrolled at the University

of Alberta, completing his BA in History in 1959. After graduating he went back to get a degree in education and began teaching high school. In the mean time he had also met and married Marie Ann Fedoruk. While he was teaching high school (Ross Shepard 1962-67) he continued his history studies completing a MA in history in 1966.



John and Marie Foster in the 1980s

As a graduate student at the University of Alberta John came under the influence and guidance of Lewis G. Thomas. Thomas, whose research interests included the western fur trade, exploration, and missionary activity in the west, sparked John's interest in western Canadian history and fur trade studies. Thomas was not only John's PhD supervisor, but also became a close friend and mentor. In the 1950s, L.G. Thomas avidly pursued the history of missions in the Canadian west and visited the archives of the various missionary societies in London bringing a microfilm copy of the Church Missionary Society records back to the University of Alberta. These records became the basis of John's MA thesis which examined the Anglican Clergy in the Red River Settlement from 1820-26.

This research began to change John's perspective of both the fur trade and western Canadian history. Up until the 1960s the fur trade had been examined almost solely within an economic and metropolitan context in which indigenous traditions were obscured. If one viewed these developments from the hinterland, however, the fur trade became a socio-cultural complex in which Indians, mixed-bloods, and whites were intertwined. One of the striking features of the history of Rupert's Land that caught John's imagination was the emergence of communities of mixed Indian and European ancestry. This topic would become the subject of his doctoral dissertation defended in 1972.

John was hired by the University of Alberta in 1970. The stress related to preparing new courses, finishing

his dissertation, and the birth of his first child prevented him from revising his thesis for publication. He preferred moving on to the next project and developing new research ideas. In particular he became fascinated with the process of ethnogenesis and this subject would occupy the next twenty years of his research and writing producing at least a half dozen seminal articles, the most important of which was “Wintering, The Outsider Adult Male and Ethnogenesis of the Western Plains Métis,” which appeared in *Prairie Forum* (Spring 1994). All of these articles were part of a conscious attempt by John to construct a model of Metis ethnogenesis. His research and writing in the 1980s and 1990s focussed on both elucidating this model and demonstrating how it operated both in the lives of specific individuals and communities. Along with Bob Beal and Louise Zuk he undertook a comprehensive study of the Metis wintering community of Buffalo Lake which flourished in central Alberta in the early 1870s. Using archaeological evidence, parish records, oral histories, and other documentary sources, John tried to reconstruct the history of this community in accordance with his model of Metis origins. While a preliminary report was completed in 1987, he was still working on this larger project when he died.

John was an inspirational teacher whose influence can be seen in the work of his graduate students (Heather Divine, Heather Rollason, Ted Binnema, and Gerhard Ens). He not only altered the way we understand Metis ethnogenesis, but helped open new avenues of exploring fur trade and native studies. John was also a valued colleague and

friend to almost all members of the department and many other members of the university community. When his office was not occupied by students, there was usually a group of faculty members present.



The Three Amigos



John doing some field research

John's goal in everything he did from classroom teaching, to committee work, to his interim directorship of the School of Native Studies was to advance the course of scholarship and learning. From 1988 to 1993, he was the founding co editor of the multi disciplinary scholarly journal, *Alberta: Studies in the Arts and Sciences*, and in 1992 he was lead editor of an issue focusing on the buffalo. This volume, when republished as a book, won the Alberta Book Publishers Association award as the best book published in Alberta in 1993. John's death on September 13, 1996 from the effects of colon cancer robbed us all of a friend and valued colleague.





Kenneth J. Munro (1945-)

Ken Munro – U Alberta, 1972-2012

Although Ken was born in Toronto in 1945 his ancestral roots are in the prairie west which might explain why, after coming to the University of Alberta in 1972, he stayed for forty years. His grandparents homesteaded in Saskatchewan but left the land towards the end of the Great Depression (1939) and moved to north-western Ontario. His father, Glen Munro, stayed on in Saskatchewan until Canada entered World War II and then enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was posted to Ottawa where he met his wife, Beth Shaw, a nurse. The two were married during the war. When Glen returned from overseas the family moved to Longlac, Ontario where he worked for a pulp and paper company. Ken spent his first eighteen years in the small community of Longlac which at the time was half French, and it was this experience that got Ken interested in the history of French Canada.

In 1964 he entered the University of Toronto studying history and attending classes taught by Carl Berger, Donald Creighton, and J.M.S. (Maurice) Careless. He graduated with a BA in 1968 and then went to McMaster University completing his MA in 1969 in the field of Ontario history. Ken, however, wanted to study French Canadian history and consequently enrolled in the PhD program at the University of Ottawa in 1969 to study with Father Jacques Monet s.j. He completed a dissertation entitled “The Political Career of Sir Joseph Adolph Chapleau” in 1973. By that time he was already teaching at the University of

Aberta having been hired as a sessional instructor in 1972. In 1974 he was hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor.

At the University of Alberta Ken's academic career, split fairly evenly between teaching and administration, was interrupted briefly between 1980 and 1983 when he served as the executive assistant to the then Minister of Economic Development, Bud Olsen. Besides serving as acting Chair of History and Classics (2004-05), he has served as Associate Dean of Arts (1996-97, 1999-2004), Director of Inter-disciplinary Studies in the Faculty of Arts (2005-10), and Academic Dean of St. Joseph's College (2007-12).



**Ken's management style as
Acting Chair of History and Classics 2004-05**

Ken has taught the Canadian history survey for nearly forty years and he also taught both lecture and seminar courses on French Canadian history from New France to the present. In 1992 his PhD dissertation was published as *The Political Career of Sir Adolphe Chapleau* and in 2001 he published *A Biography of François-Xavier-Anselme Trudel*. In his books and articles, Ken's work is permeated by his belief that the French- and English-speaking communities in Canada will flourish best under a constitutional monarchy within a single federal state. He subscribes to the notion that there was an understanding at Confederation that Canada would be a bilingual and bicultural country. He continues to research and publish on topics related to the Crown in Canada and Franco-Albertan history. His plans for retirement are to continue to research and publish on local and Franco-Albertan topics.





Olive Patricia Dickason (1920-2011)

Olive Dickason – U Alberta, 1975-1992

Olive was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on March 6, 1920 to Francis Leonard Williamson and Phoebe Philomene Cote. After the family lost everything in the Great Depression of the 1930s, they moved to northern Manitoba where they lived in the bush. This experience and Olive's native roots gave her a perspective different from most Canadian historians, and it influenced the way in which she wrote about both Canadian and Native history.

While living in northern Manitoba, Olive completed her high school by correspondence courses. She then moved to Saskatchewan where she completed her BA in 1943 in French and Philosophy at Notre Dame College, an affiliate of the University of Ottawa.

After graduation, Olive married Anthony Willis Dickason in 1946 and had three children. She also worked for twenty-four years as a journalist for a succession of newspapers that included the Regina Leader-Post, the Winnipeg Free Press, the Montreal Gazette, and the Globe and Mail. Then, at the age of fifty and her children grown, she decided to go back to university enrolling in the Masters Program at the University of Ottawa. She completed her MA in 1972 and her PhD in 1977 at the University of Ottawa working under the supervision of Cornelius Jaenen in the field of First Nations History. Her doctoral dissertation, entitled "The Myth of the Savage and the Beginnings of French Colonization in the Americas" was published by the University of Alberta Press in 1984.

In 1975, Olive was hired as a sessional instructor at the University of Alberta, and a year later was appointed Assistant Professor of history. She would teach Canada and Native history at this institution until she retired in 1992 at the age of 72.



Olive in her office in the Tory Building



Olive lecturing to a class at the University of Alberta

In 1975, Olive was hired as a sessional instructor at the University of Alberta, and a year later was appointed Assistant Professor of history. She would teach Canada and Native history at this institution until she retired in 1992 at the age of 72.

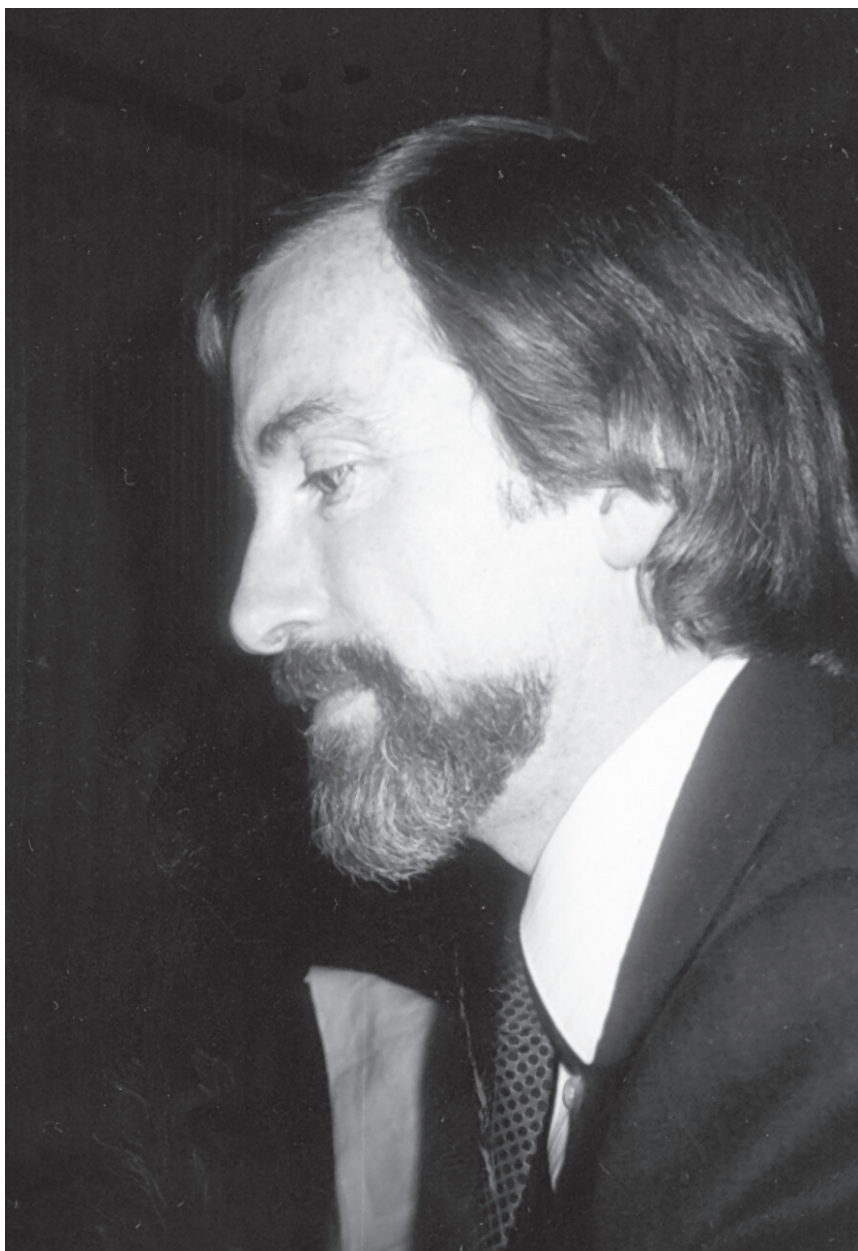
Her last years at the University of Alberta were anything but placid as Olive challenged the University's mandatory retirement policy when she reached the age of sixty-five. Having begun to study and teach history late in life, Olive believed things were just coming together when she was asked to retire. She challenged the policy in the Alberta Human Rights Commission and the Court of Queen's Bench where she won her case. The University appealed, however, and the case was sent to the Supreme Court of Canada where Olive lost. During the seven years when the

case was in the courts, however, Olive was allowed to keep her faculty position, which gave her the time to complete more research and writing and receive promotion to full professor. It was during these years that Olive was able to complete the writing of *Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples from Earliest Times* published by McClelland and Stewart in 1992. This book, which won the Macdonald Prize in 1992, a prize awarded by the Canadian Historical Association for the best scholarly book in Canadian history in that year, is now in its third edition and published by Oxford University Press. It is used by many History and Native Studies courses as a text, and is noteworthy in that, while following a conventional chronological framework, it reverses the perspective of Canadian history by telling the story from the point of view of the First Nations of Canada.

After 1992 Olive continued to stay active in research and writing, but in 1996 moved to Ottawa to be nearer her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was working on another book when she had a stroke in 2000, which stopped most of her work.

Among the many awards she has won are the Order of Canada (1996) and the National Aboriginal Lifetime Achievement Award (1997). As a teacher and author, Olive has been instrumental in documenting the impact of Aboriginal participants at every stage of Canadian history. She died on March 12, 2011 at the age of 91.





Douglas Robb Owram (1947 -)

Doug Owram – U Alberta, 1976-2006

Doug had two careers at the University of Alberta. One as a professor, supervisor, and historian, and a second as one of the more effective administrators of the university. The two careers did overlap somewhat but as Doug has admitted the two do not go hand in hand. “Your mental metabolism changes. Long-term focus gives way to short-term meetings. Erudite treatises yield to hasty e-mails. In effect, you serve teaching and research by abandoning teaching and research.” Indeed, most of his students and colleagues divide the last quarter of the twentieth century as WD (with Doug) and AD. After his last term as Vice-President and Provost Doug came back to the Department briefly (2003-06) but he was soon seeking other administrative challenges and in 2006 he became the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of British Columbia, Okanagan.

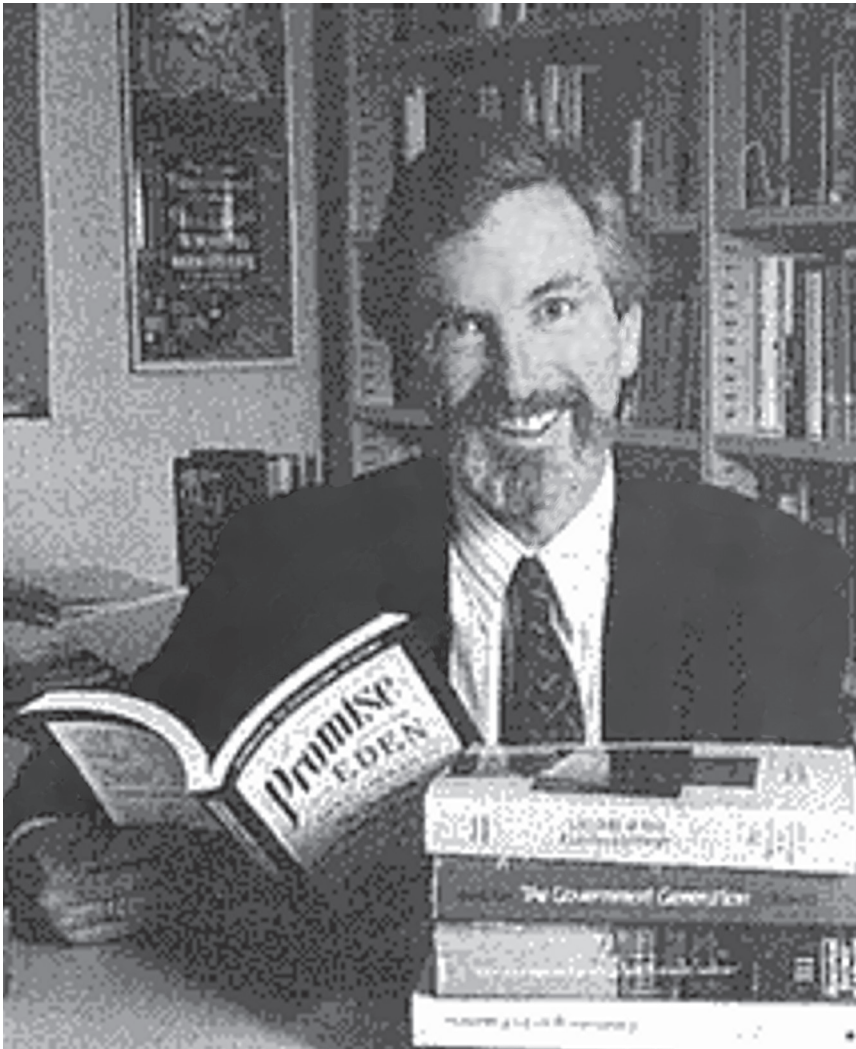
Douglas Robb Owram was born in Aurora, Ontario on November 8, 1947 to Ernest Lees Owram and Myrtle Hope Robb. He completed his high school in 1966 attending the all-boys St. Andrew’s College. He attended Queen’s University receiving a BA in history in 1970 and an MA in 1972. His master’s thesis was entitled “White Savagery: Some Canadian Reactions to American Indian Policy 1867-1885.” He entered the PhD program in history at the University of Toronto in 1971 and graduated in 1976 having written a thesis entitled “The Great North West: The Canadian Expansionist Movement and the Image of the

West in the Nineteenth Century,” supervised by Carl Berger. While at the University of Toronto he married Deborah Walton in 1972.



In 1976 he was hired by the University of Alberta and quickly made a name for himself in the Canadian historical community publishing *Promise of Eden: The Canadian Expansionist Movement and the Idea of the West* in 1980 and *The Government Generation: Canadian Intellectuals and the State 1900-1945* in 1986. *Promise of Eden*, based on his doctoral dissertation, was an examination of the myths, perceptions, attitudes and stereotypes of the Canadian Northwest held by a group of central Canadian expansionists that included journalists, propagandists and promoters. Owram argued that these perceptions, as they grew and changed from seeing the west as a wilderness to envisioning it as a garden, determined the Canadian expansion into the west and the development of the region and a regional consciousness. By the 1880s, however, the image and reality no longer coincided and the earlier utopianism turned to disillusionment producing western alienation. This study owed much to the ideas of his thesis supervisor, Carl Berger, who emphasized the impact of ideas on broad political and social movements. Berger would also influence his second monograph, *The Government Generation*, in which Doug studied the social and intellectual forces that underlay the technocratic drive for planning and efficiency within the Canadian State in the first half of the twentieth century. He described and analysed a eclectic range of intellectuals who, by the sheer force of their ideas and convictions collectively shaped the modern welfare state in Canada. This participation of Canadian intellectuals in government, he argued, passed through the stages of social criticism, policy advisory

roles, and finally direct participation in the government bureaucracy where they directly shaped policy in the 1930s and 1940s.



Doug Owram in 1995 on winning the Kaplan Award

Over the next five years Owram continued his scholarly output co-publishing two additional monographs: *Imperial Dreams and Colonial Realities* (with R.G. Moyles) and *A History of the Canadian Economy* (with Ken Norrie). In 1995 he was awarded the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Research Excellence by the University of Alberta. Though Owram would publish another important monograph in 1996 (*Born at the Right Time: A History of the Baby Boom Generation*), by the 1990s he was fairly well ensconced in administration. He was Associate Dean of Arts from 1988-90, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies from 1992-94, Associate Vice-President Academic in 1994, and in 1995 became Vice-President Academic (1995-2003) and in 1998 Provost (1998-2003).



An indication of his reputation outside the University was his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1990, and the presidency of the Humanities and Social Science Federation of Canada from 2001-2003. From 2004 until 2006 he was the Chair of the Campus Alberta Quality Council. He left the University and Alberta to become Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of British Columbia, Okanagan in 2006.





The Department Office and Hallway in 2011



David Clifford Lorne Mills (1952 -)

David Mills U Alberta, 1980 -

Although David was very much a child of Ontario, both in upbringing and ideas, he has over the last thirty years slowly transformed himself into a western Canadian. He was born on June 13, 1952 in Owen Sound, Ontario to Harold David Mills and Marion Mann. When the family farm failed in 1954 his father became an agricultural sales representative which meant the family moved a great deal. David started grade one in Waterloo, attended grades two through six in Brampton, and grades 7 through high school in Orangeville. Leaving high school after grade twelve in 1969, David attended Brock University where he completed a degree in Honours History. At Brock he was much influenced by Bill Ormsby and his emphasis on the emergence of the federal concept in pre-confederation Ontario. Ormsby recommended he do graduate work at Carleton University so as to be closer to the Public Archives of Canada and in 1973 David entered the Masters program there, receiving his MA in 1975. He decided to stay at Carleton to do his PhD and study with Sydney Wise. Wise, however, was planning to move to the University of Toronto and so David shifted to Stan Mealing as an advisor. Though Wise decided to remain at Carleton, David stuck with Mealing with whom he had developed a good rapport. Interestingly, Mealing had been a student at the University of Alberta.

Having done a paper on the Alien Question for Wise, David became very interested in the concept of “loyalty” in

Upper Canada, which had never been investigated in any detail. This would become the subject of his dissertation which, when revised, was published in 1988 as *The Idea of Loyalty in Upper Canada 1784-1850* by McGill-Queen's University Press. In it David traced the evolution of the concept of loyalty in the first half of the nineteenth century, a concept that he argued was not only at the centre of political legitimacy in Upper Canada but acceptance into provincial society. Examining the political debates, correspondence, and pamphlets of the era, David discerned a transformation in the complex of ideas that constituted loyalty from the aristocratic apologia of the Family Compact in the 1820s to a much broader and accommodative concept by the 1840s. This change in the meaning of loyalty was the work of moderate reformers who redefined the concept for their own purposes, and, as moderate Tories adhered to it, became the conservative consensus in Upper Canada. It now included an acceptance of the party system, the legitimacy of opposition, responsible government, and a kind of Upper Canadian nationalism. In sketching out this transformation of the political ideas in Upper Canada, David sketched the intellectual background to political developments in Ontario in the succeeding half century.

This dissertation and book, however, were some distance in the future. In 1980, having completed his comprehensive exams and most of his research, David was offered a sessional teaching job at the University of Alberta. Completing his dissertation in 1982, David won the competition for the tenure-track appointment in Canadian history at the University of Alberta.



Just before entering the PhD program at Carleton University David married Janice Rickard on June 21, 1975. They have two children.

Given that Bob Hett was teaching the Upper Canadian history courses at the U of A, David switched his teaching focus. In addition to teaching the pre- and post-confederation survey courses, David also developed lecture and seminar courses on the social and intellectual history of British North America, Canadian women's history, popular culture, and the history of sport in Canada. This change of teaching focus also altered his research agenda, and over the next dozen years David would publish a series of articles on the business history of hockey, sports in Alberta, and baseball. At present he is working on the history of the creation and development of a sport for girls (ringette) in Canada and internationally.



David in 1983

David was also involved in the organization of ringette. When his daughter Laura started playing ringette in the mid-1990s he started coaching and getting involved in the organization and administration of the sport. He would be instrumental in developing ringette at the university level and by the time his daughter attended the University of Alberta he was helping coach the team. At the international level, David was director of competitions for the International Ringette Federation, and in 2010 he was elected President of the organization at a meeting in Tampere, Finland.



**David served as Acting Chair of History and Classics
in 2008-09.**



The Department Mailroom

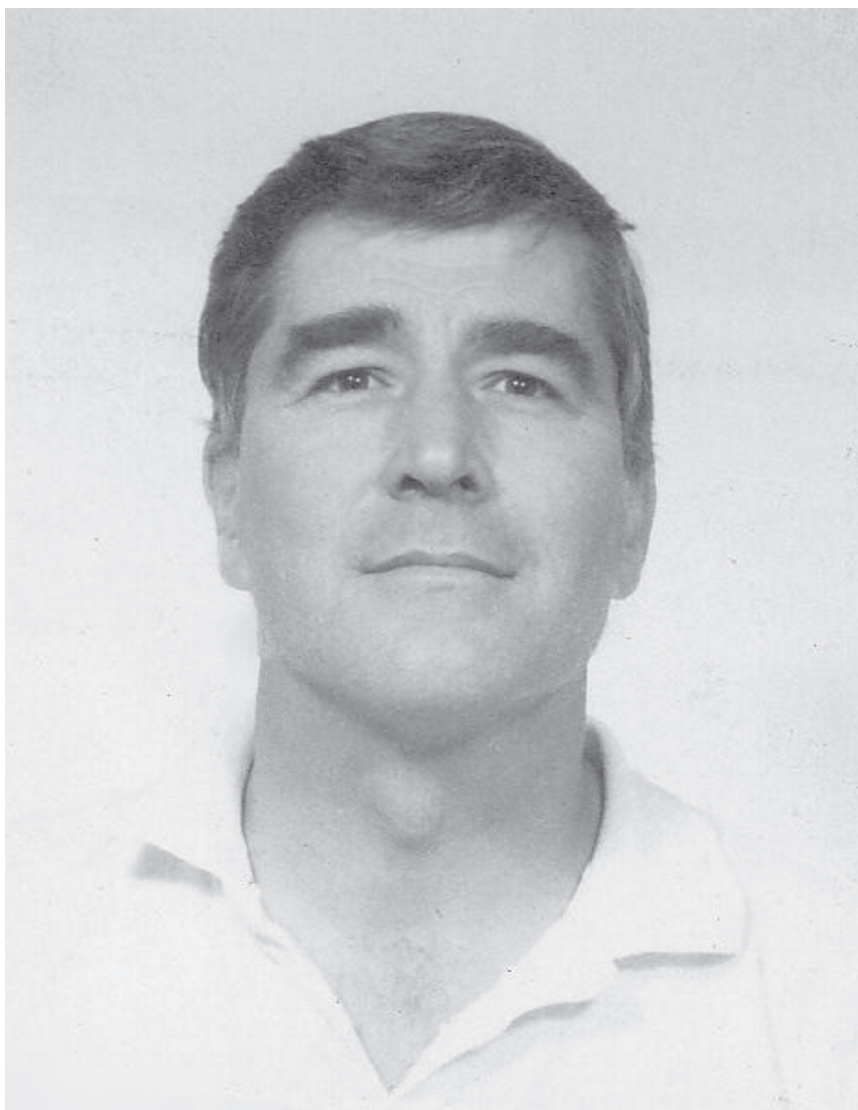




Reading Room in Rutherford South Library



Bruce Peel Special Collections in Rutherford South Library



Paul Leonard Voisey (1948 -)

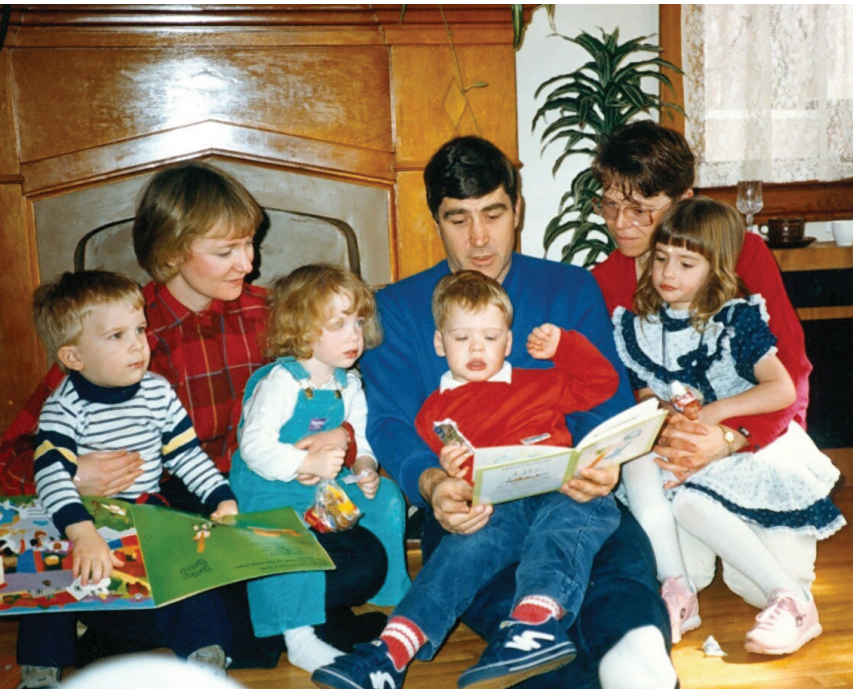
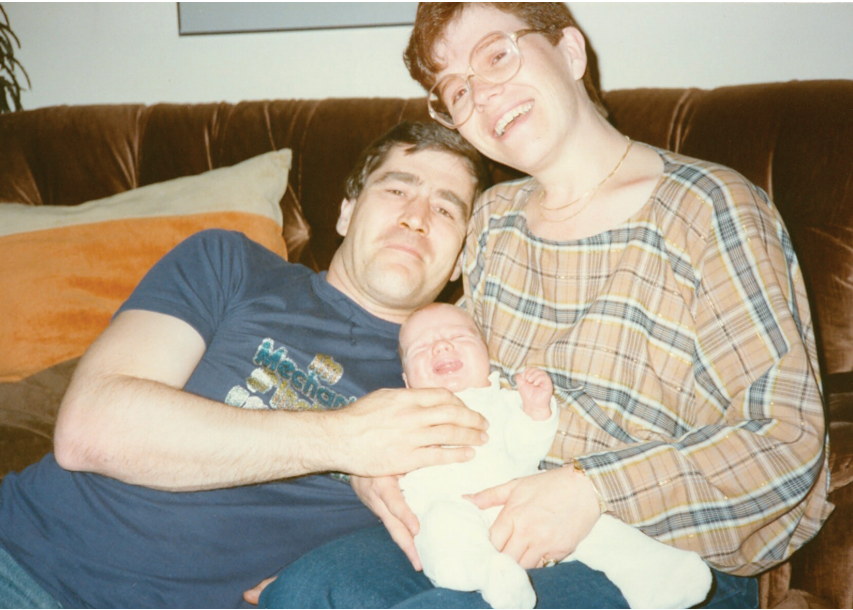
Paul Voisey – U Alberta, 1981-2013

With the arrival of Paul Voisey at the University of Alberta in 1981, the Department of History again acquired an expert in western Canadian local and regional history of the settlement era that it had lost with the retirement of L.G. Thomas. Like L.G., Paul situated local and regional history in the broadest context to illuminate historical trends not only at the provincial and national levels, but international ones as well. His study of the locality of Vulcan, Alberta was read as much in the universities of the U.S. Midwest as it was in Canada. It is perhaps fitting that when the University of Alberta finally hired Paul to a tenure-track position in 1985 it did so for a position advertised as “World History”.

Paul was born on December 23, 1948 in Vulcan, Alberta to Leonard Voisey and Alice Johnston. He completed all of his elementary and secondary education in Vulcan and entered the University of Calgary in 1967 graduating with a BA in 1971. During this time he also married Donna McNiven in 1969. He went on to complete his MA in history at the University of Calgary studying under the mercurial Ray Ginger who considered Paul one of the few bright lights at the university. Under Ginger’s direction Paul wrote a thesis entitled “The Impact of the Frontier on Prairie Canada: Selected Themes, 1870-1916”. This thesis presaged some of the themes that would occupy the next few decades of his research. Unfortunately Ray Ginger died before the thesis was completed.

In 1975 Paul and Donna moved to Toronto and Paul enrolled in the PhD program at the University of Toronto studying Canadian and American history as well as historical geography. His supervisor was Robert Craig Brown and his thesis topic, arising out of his MA research, was entitled "Forging the Western Tradition: Pioneer Approaches to Settlement and Agriculture in Southern Alberta Communities."

After completing his course work and comprehensive exams in 1977 Paul moved to Ottawa to work for Parks Canada while he completed the research and writing of his thesis. In 1981 he was hired as a sessional instructor at the University of Alberta and in 1982 he completed his dissertation graduating in 1983. In that year he received a SSHRC post-doctoral scholarship and he stayed in Edmonton to revise his thesis for publication. The resulting book would be published in 1988 by the University of Toronto Press as *Vulcan: The Making of a Prairie Community*. Based on exhaustive research in newspapers, censuses, homestead files, land titles, and the records of railways, municipalities, churches, agricultural societies, departments of agriculture, and a multitude of private records Paul presented a compelling and thoroughly revisionist portrait of the development of prairie society in the semi-arid dry plains of southern Alberta between 1904 and the mid-1930s. Frontierism, metropolitanism, and environmental and cultural determinism combined in extremely complex ways to determine the settlement dynamics, patterns of agriculture, and social make-up of Vulcan and dozens of other communities like it.



The Baby Boomers have a bit of a boom themselves

His analysis of social mobility, town boosterism, and the ways in which farmers adapted to markets, the dry environment, and technological innovations offered new insights into the social and economic mentalities of rural communities in this region. Frontier conditions and the abundance of land worked against diversification and led to a concentration on wheat farming as this offered better profits. Realizing substantial capital gains from both farm and town real estate, pioneers struggled to build up saleable properties and to promote their new communities. But despite considerable variation in wealth there was little class segmentation or conflict. What emerges from the study is a portrait of a capitalist farm society with a community ethos and, in Paul's words, a "new western tradition that permitted the agricultural economy to compete successfully in world markets."

Before the book came out, indeed before he was able to finish revising the manuscript, Paul was offered a tenure-track job in the department in 1985. Besides working on his book he now had to develop new courses in world history, the urban history of Canada, western Canadian history, Alberta history, and modern Canada. This, along with finishing his book and raising a family would occupy most of his time for the next decade. During this period he finished most of a manuscript on the urban history of Canada but abandoned the project when he came to the conclusion that there was not enough secondary literature on the subject to warrant a synthetic survey. Instead, his next book concentrated on the same geographic region

as his first but from a different perspective. Whereas Paul had utilized a wide range of community newspapers in his Vulcan book to recreate the perspective of the settlers of the area, he now studied one specific newspaper, *The High River Times* to reveal both the role and function of weekly rural newspapers.



Chatting with an award winning student

In the process Paul demonstrated how the *High River Times* constructed and reconstructed the image of the town. Over six decades the newspaper fashioned three distinct visions of the High River district to suit the Zeitgeist. In the settlement period it boosted High River as a modern and progressive place destined for metropolitan status. When these hopes of grandeur faded after World War I the *Times* presented the town as encompassing the virtues of rural and small town life. After World War II, trying to promote tourism in the region, the *Times* constructed a mythical self-image of a ranching district with a colorful past.



Mary Mahoney-Robson, Joe Clark, and Paul Voisey at the Book Launch in High River, Alberta for *High River and the Times: An Alberta Community and its Weekly Newspaper, 1905–1966*

In the last few years Paul has been working on an economic history of the prairie west since World War II. In keeping with his theory of working on no one project for more than eight hours a week, he does so at a leisurely pace.



Paul accepting a teaching award from David Mills





Ian S. MacLaren (1951 -)

Ian MacLaren – U Alberta, 1985 -

With Ian's arrival in the Department of History and Classics in 2002, following the collapse of the Canadian Studies Program at the University of Alberta, the department regained the expertise in northern studies it had lost with the retirement of Stuart Mackinnon. Ian also brought an expertise in travel and exploration literature, as well as a research and teaching interest in the history of the Rocky Mountain National Parks. Although the department shared Ian with English and Film Studies, he has strengthened both the breadth and depth of the Canadian history program at the University. The story of Ian's migration into history, however, is not straight forward.

Ian was born on July 27, 1951 in Toronto, Ontario to Mr. and Mrs. J.W. MacLaren. We know little of his pre-university years except that his parents sent him canoeing across the Barrens at the age of fifteen which we assume left an indelible mark on his consciousness. Ian started his undergraduate career at the University of Toronto in 1970 but would finish all three of his degrees at the University of Western Ontario. The main import of his short stay at the University of Toronto was that was where he met his future wife, Margaret, in 1972. They were married during their undergraduate years. Ian graduated with an Honours BA in 1975 and between then and starting his graduate career he and Margaret started a family (three children) and spent a year in France. He would complete his MA in English in 1977 and his PhD in 1983.



Ian's Research Methodology #1

As a doctoral student in English, Ian was initially interested in Renaissance studies and Milton as this was a particular strength of the department, but he slowly came to realize that studies of early North America were in far greater need than more books on Milton. Venturing farther afield geographically also prompted him to the genres of exploration and travel writing rather than poetry, novels, sermons and epistles. It was the shift to these genres, which also comprise some of the documents on which historians rely, that brought him to an understanding that his wish to be a literary historian had to do as much with history as literature.



Ian's Research Methodology #2

He switched to Canadian literature before beginning his dissertation under the direction of David Bentley, an expert on early Canadian poetry. This dissertation, completed in 1983 was entitled “The Influence of Eighteenth-Century British Landscape Aesthetics on Narrative and Pictorial Responses to the British North American North and West 1769-1872.”

Following the completion of his PhD in 1983, Ian was awarded a SSHRC post-doctoral fellowship which he held for one year at the University of Toronto and for one year at the University of Waterloo. By the end of it he was offered positions at both the University of Alberta and University of Waterloo. He chose the former because Edmonton offered a better opportunity for Margaret’s career (teacher of French Immersion) and because southwestern Ontario was beginning to feel stuffy.

Though tenured in the Department of English, Ian found the waves of literary theory, postcolonialism, and gender studies that swept the English discipline in the late eighties and nineties to be unsympathetic to his history-based interests. As a result, he began shifting some of his teaching assignment to Canadian Studies, and eventually was able to split his appointment between English and Canadian Studies. When the Faculty of Arts made the short-sighted decision to close the Canadian Studies program Ian was given the choice of rejoining English full time or continuing with a split appointment and making History and Classics his home department. Having lost Stuart

Mackinnon to retirement, and wanting to regain a teaching and research expertise in northern studies, the Canadianists in the Department of History and Classics were more than happy to have Ian join them. Ian was hardly an unknown entity to them. He had co-edited the short-lived periodical *Alberta: Studies in the Arts and Sciences* (1990-1992) with John Foster, had taught with Doug Ooram, Rod Macleod, and David Mills in the Canadian Studies Program, and knew Gerhard Ens from various fur trade conferences.

After joining the Department of History and Classics in 2002 Ian taught and researched Arctic history, early Canadian literature, the evolution in English of the genres of exploration and travel writing and book history. In consequence of his abiding interest in the writing and paintings of Paul Kane (1810-1871), Ian also developed an interest in Jasper National Park, the transcontinental fur trade route through the Mountains, and the historical uses made of the Upper Athabasca Valley. These interests led to lecture and seminar courses on the history of the Rocky Mountain National Parks, and the publication of two books: *Culturing Wilderness in Jasper National Park: Studies in the Two Centuries of Human History in the Upper Athabasca River Watershed* (2007), and *Mapper of Mountains: M.P. Bridgland in the Canadian Rockies, 1902-1930* (with Eric Higgs, and Gabrielle Zezulka-Mailloux, 2005).

In addition to these and other books Ian has published more than five dozen articles in scholarly journals and

books. For historians of the early Canadian west, Ian's work on exploration and travel literature and the evolution of the author has been an education in how to read, and not read, published travel literature. In the case of Paul Kane, Ian has conclusively shown, by comparing Kane's field notes and journals with the published *Wanderings of an Artist*, that the real Paul Kane is not the voice of the gentleman traveller depicted in *Wanderings*. The published text, written to satisfy the expectations of the audience, is significantly removed from Kane's actual observations.



Ian Talking Paul Kane on the Big Screen

Nearing the end of his university career, Ian is preparing an exhaustive study of all phases of Kane's writings, art work, and field sketches. In the process of writing this study, he has not only travelled to almost every site on Kane's itinerary, but has reconstructed the ethnological and historical records of the dozens of Native groups Kane visited and painted. By keeping one foot in literary studies and one in the historical camp Ian has blazed a new trail not only in the study of exploration and travel literature, but in Native and environmental history as well. As Ian has noted "whether I analyze writing as an example of a literary genre or as a document, I have been fortunate to spend more than half my career working to reconcile the centrifugal (English) and centripetal (History) energy of the two disciplines, which spend more time ignoring one another than sharpening their identities off each other. The effort has given me a unique career though not one that either of the disciplines instantly recognizes as belonging to it."





Frances Ann Swyripa (1951 -)

Frances Swyripa – U Alberta, 1989 –

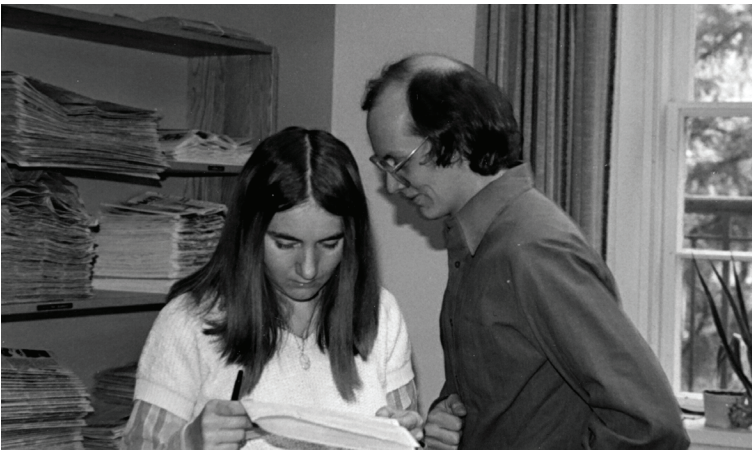
Although Frances only began teaching in the Department of History and Classics in 1989 as a Canada Research Fellow, she had been part of the University of Alberta community since 1969. Not only did she take all three of her degrees at the University of Alberta, but she has had an ongoing relationship with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University since its founding in 1976. Her hiring gave the department an expertise in Canadian Ethnic and Ukrainian history and helped make western Canadian history an area of excellence within the University. These two main foci in her professional career had their roots in her early childhood and youth.

Frances was born in 1951 in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. She was the only child of Vasyl (William) Swyripa, a farmer just outside Kitscoty, Alberta, and Audrey Pickles. Their farm, located on the eastern fringe of the Ukrainian Bloc Settlement, where her paternal grandparents had settled in 1901-02, was also close to various First Nations, Metis, French, and British communities. This physical and cultural geography made a deep and lasting impression on Frances. She remembers driving with her father and mother along dirt roads on Sunday afternoons looking at crops and abandoned houses, and checking out every church and cemetery they came across. These trips, as Frances noted years later, gave her an appreciation of her roots in the prairie and the land, the importance of ethnic and religious differences of the settlers, and the visual impact of the landscape.

These impressions and influences led to an interest in the history of the region and locality, and the topic of her first school essay was Louis Riel and the Metis of the northwest. It was always assumed that she would go to university, and in 1969 she enrolled at the University of Alberta completing her BA Honors in History in 1973. Her most memorable experience during these years was her exposure to Professor Ivan L. Rudnytsky, her Honors advisor, and the courses he taught on Ukrainian history. His lectures made history relevant for Frances, and he also talked to her about the discipline of history, various historians, and generally treated her as a colleague more than a student. This, in no small way, convinced her to go into graduate studies.



Frances entered graduate studies at the University of Alberta in the fall of 1973 completing her MA in 1976 under the supervision of Professor Rudnytsky. Her thesis, entitled “Ukrainian Canadian Histor-iography in the English Language: A Survey,” would be published by the University of Alberta Press in 1978. Following the completion of her MA, Frances married George Richardson and moved to Lac La Biche where he was teaching school. She did not let her historical studies drop, however, and worked for Manoly Lupul researching and collecting material for the Ukrainian volume in the Generations Series, as well as working for the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings. In the fall of 1977 she and George moved back to Edmonton, and Frances began a long-time association with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) which was just getting established on the campus of the University of Alberta. Working part-time for CIUS she travelled across Canada microfilming Ukrainian-Canadian newspapers.



Frances pouring over her Newspaper Collection at CIUS



Professor Ivan L. Rudnytsky



**Some Early members of the Canadian Institute of
Ukrainian Studies**

While working at the institute she also enrolled in the doctoral program in the History Department at the University of Alberta (1982). After completing her course work in two years she quit her job at CIUS to concentrate full-time on her upcoming comprehensive exams and thesis preparation. Her PhD dissertation, supervised by Professor R.C. Macleod, started out as a study of the relationship between the law and Ukrainians in Western Canada. As she got deeper into her research, however, her topic became more closely related to women's history – more specifically the depeasantization of Ukrainian women into Canadians. After struggling to make this topic come together, she started looking at images which changed her focus once again. Her thesis, entitled "From Princess Olha to Baba: Images, Roles and Myths in the History of Ukrainian Women in Canada," was defended in 1988, and after some revision was published by the University of Toronto Press in 1993.

This book, now titled *Wedded to the Cause: Ukrainian-Canadian Women and Ethnic Identity, 1881-1991*, explored the activities and goals of various Ukrainian-Canadian women's organizations and their members' sense of identity, both within the Ukrainian-Canadian community and the larger Canadian context. Her main argument was that a wide gulf existed between the "grassroots" conception of the Ukrainian-Canadian identity, embodied in the apolitical image of Baba the homebody, and the "community elite" (male) conception of a politically-engaged pioneer heroine drawing her inspiration from historical models in

Ukraine. The male-dominated Ukrainian elite largely determined the agenda of women's organizations and placed the burden of nurturing a sense of Ukrainian identity on these women's roles as wives and mothers. Ukrainian-Canadian women, however, exacted a certain price for being burdened with this male agenda of being politicized yet kept out of positions of power. If they were to be "wedded to the cause" they would affect an unspoken divorce within this marriage by focussing on the apolitical aspects of their experience. By examining the prevalence of the image of Ukrainian women as the embodiment of Ukrainian-Canadianness, Frances concluded that the apolitical Baba, amid her womanly crafts, was the most pervasive myth held through successive generations. In contrast, her male counterpart, Dido, is virtually invisible in the mythical landscape – Baba was mythically powerful because she was politically powerless.

After the completion of her doctorate in 1988, Frances won a five-year Canada Research Fellowship at the University of Alberta. This post-doctoral fellowship morphed into a tenure-track position in 1992 when she was jointly appointed as Director of the Ukrainian-Canadian Program at CIUS and Assistant professor in the Department of History and Classics.

At the University of Alberta, Frances taught Canadian and Western Canadian history, Women's History, and introduced new courses on Ethnicity and Immigration, and Public History and Commemoration. She published widely in all of these fields.



Frances and Paul Voisey outside the Tory Building in 2001



Frances and Helena Fracchia

The most important and most recent of these publications was the monograph entitled *Storied Landscapes: Ethno-Religious Identity and the Canadian Prairies* published in 2010. Dedicated to her father who died when she was in grade eleven (her mother died in 2006), the book examines the nature and implications of ethno-religious identity in the Canadian west among those European immigrants who came to Canada between 1870 and 1920. It focusses on how their sense of identity or belonging was shaped by the complex interplay among a physical and emotional attachment to the land at personal and group levels, the particular ethno-religious group experience, and the history each group shared with other westerners. It also examined how that sense of identity or belonging among both the original immigrant generation and its descendants was influenced by a series of relationships internal, and external, to the prairies. These relationships were with the prairie society at large, the Canadian nation, group members in the rest of Canada, and the homeland and its diaspora. Ultimately the study demonstrates the importance of ethnicity and religion to prairie identity, especially the little-explored intersection between “ethnic” and “mainstream”, as well as the importance of the prairie west to ethno-religious identity both within the region and nationally. This book has re-invigorated both the regional and ethnic history of the prairie west, and brought to the forefront how myths, symbols, commemorative traditions, and physical landmarks underpin our identities.

Among her other achievements, Frances was awarded the McCalla Research Professorship in 2005, has served as

Associate Chair (Graduate Studies) of the Department of History and Classics (2008-11), and was appointed Full Professor in 2009. She is currently researching a new book on the Christianization of the prairie landscape tentatively entitled *Prairie Saints and Prairie Shrines: Faith, Place, and Ethnicity in Western Canada*. Her other interests include her ongoing connection to the Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Ukrainian Community Archives, her consulting for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, and the Canadian Museum of Immigration.



**Flood Rescue work at the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and
Museum of Alberta**



**Tina Loo, Mrs. L.H. Thomas, and Frances on the occasion of
the L.H. Thomas Lecture**



Some ethnic politics



History and Classics Hockey Draft 2009



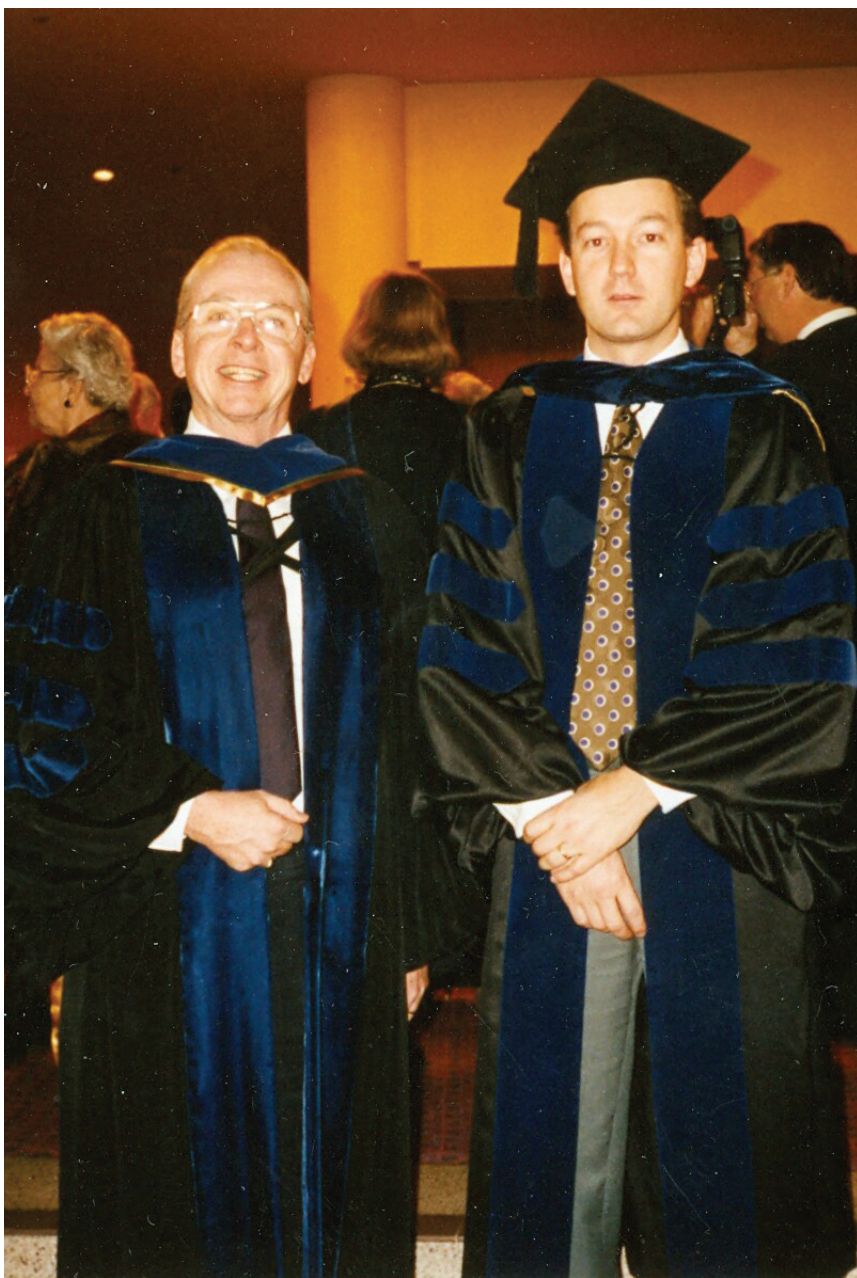
Gerhard Ens – U Alberta, 1997 –

Gerhard was hired by the University of Alberta in 1997 after teaching at Brandon University from 1990-1997. He was born and raised in the Mennonite Commonwealth of Southern Manitoba, and received his BA and MA from the University of Manitoba. His PhD was from the University of Alberta where he studied under John Foster and

completed a dissertation entitled “Kinship, Ethnicity, and Class and the Red River Metis: The Parishes of St Francois Xavier and St. Andrews.” His teaching areas include Aboriginal history, Metis ethnogenesis, Canadian and Western Canadian history, and environmental history. He has spent much of his professional career researching and writing about the fur trade, the Metis, and First Nations communities in Canada. He has also worked as a consultant and testified as an expert witness in various Metis and First Nations land claims and treaty rights court cases. His books include: *Homeland to Hinterland: The Changing Worlds of the Red River Metis in the Nineteenth Century* (1996); *A Son of the Fur Trade: The Memoirs of Johnny Grant* (2008); *The HBC Fur Trade and the Saskatchewan District: Edmonton House Journals and Reports 1806-1821*(2012); and he has just completed *From New Peoples to New Nations: Aspects of Metis History and Identity from the 18th to 21st Centuries*.



**The William Hardy Alexander Library
during the great move of 2011**



Gerhard and his advisor, John Foster, at Gerhard's graduation



Sean W. Gouglas – U Alberta, 2001 -

Sean was hired by the University of Alberta in 2001 in the Humanities Computing Program. Given his training in history Sean is tenured in the Department of History and Classic where he occasionally teaches Canadian history. Sean completed his PhD in history at McMaster University in 2001 writing a thesis entitled “The influences of local environmental factors on settlement and agriculture in Saltfleet Township, Ontario, 1790-1890.” Sean has undertaken a number of large historical research projects including the investigation of sudden and violent deaths in western Canada between 1859 and 1930, and, at present, he is the Director of the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies.



Sarah Carter – U Alberta, 2006 -

Sarah came to the Department of History and Classics in 2006 when she was selected Henry Marshall Tory Chair in History and Native Studies. Prior to this she had taught at the University of Calgary from 1992-2006 having received her PhD from the University of Manitoba in 1987. Her research focuses on the history of Western Canada and on the critical era of the late nineteenth century when Aboriginal people and newcomers began sustained contact. Her work has touched on many aspects of this history, including the place of Aboriginal people in the new agricultural economy and the creation of race and gender categories and hierarchies in the key decade of the 1880s.

Her work stresses the interconnected lives of Aboriginal people and the early non-Aboriginal settlers. She has published a number of books including *Lost Harvests: Prairie Indian Reserve Farmers and Government Policy* (1993), *Capturing Women: The Manipulation of Cultural Imagery in Canada's Prairie West* (1997), and *The Importance of Being Monogamous: Marriage and Nation Building in Western Canada to 1915* (2008). This last study examines the efforts of government, plus legal and religious authorities to impose a monogamous, Christian model of marriage on the diverse population of Western Canada, including Mormons and Aboriginal people. In addition to these monographs she has edited numerous books and published dozens of articles. She is now working on a history of land grants, gender and Indigenous people in the U.S. and Canadian Wests, and settler dominions.

Sarah was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2007.



The L.H. Thomas Conference Room





Liza Piper – U Alberta, 2006 -

Originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia, Liza Piper was hired in 2006 having completed her PhD at York University in 2005. She only arrived at the University of Alberta in 2007 after completing her two-year Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of British Columbia. Her doctoral work examined the transformation of Canada's subarctic from low-energy to high-energy economies between 1921 and 1960 and in particular the rise of gold, uranium, and industrial fishing operations. Her dissertation was published by the University of British Columbia

Press in 2009 and was entitled *The Industrial Transformation of Subarctic Canada*. Her present research considers the relationship between ecological disruption and epidemic disease in the Canadian North since 1860. She also directs the Early Canada Environmental Data project for the Network in Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE). This project seeks to facilitate access to and promote research using historical data on pre-20th century Canadian environments. Besides teaching Canadian history Liza also teaches northern history, environmental history, and western Canadian history.



**Liza accepting the 2006 Rachel Carson Prize
for the best dissertation in environmental history**



James W. Muir – U Alberta, 2006 -

James was hired by the University of Alberta in 2006 as a joint appointment in the Faculty of Law and the Department of History and Classics after receiving his PhD in history at York University in 2004. His dissertation was entitled “Civil law in colonial Halifax: Merchants and craftsmen, creditors and debtors.” Tracing debtor-creditor, commercial, divorce, employment, and vice-admiralty

law in the period after 1749, he analysed who sued whom and why. A significant part of this project was an analysis of how Nova Scotians made law or applied law from England, New England, and elsewhere. In general, he is interested in the intersection of law, colonialism, and the economy. In addition to the work on Nova Scotia, he has studied liability and tort law in nineteenth century Nova Scotia, laws about the natural environment in New Zealand between 1840 and 1920, and labour regulation in Hudson's Bay Company posts in the eighteenth century. In addition to teaching legal history he also teaches Canadian history, and British Empire and Commonwealth history.





Canadianist Christmas Dinner 2009



Canadian History Sessional Instructors

Jean Murray 1928-31

Lewis G. Thomas 1938-1942

Gilbert Stelter 1964-66

C. Stuart Mackinnon 1965-67

David Richeson 1965-66

Joseph C. Cherwinski 1967-68

Andy den Otter 1971-72

André Lamalice 1971-73

Denis Paquin 1972-73

Ken Munro 1972-74

Howard Welch 1974-76

Olive Dickason 1975-76

Alvin Finkel 1976-78

Gratien Allaire 1978-79

Barry Ferguson 1978-81

Donald Wetherell 1978

Stanley Gordon 1979

David Mills 1980-82

Patrick Dunae 1981-82

Paul Voisey 1981-83

Brian Beavan 1982-84

George Davison 1983-85

Diane Stretch 1984-85

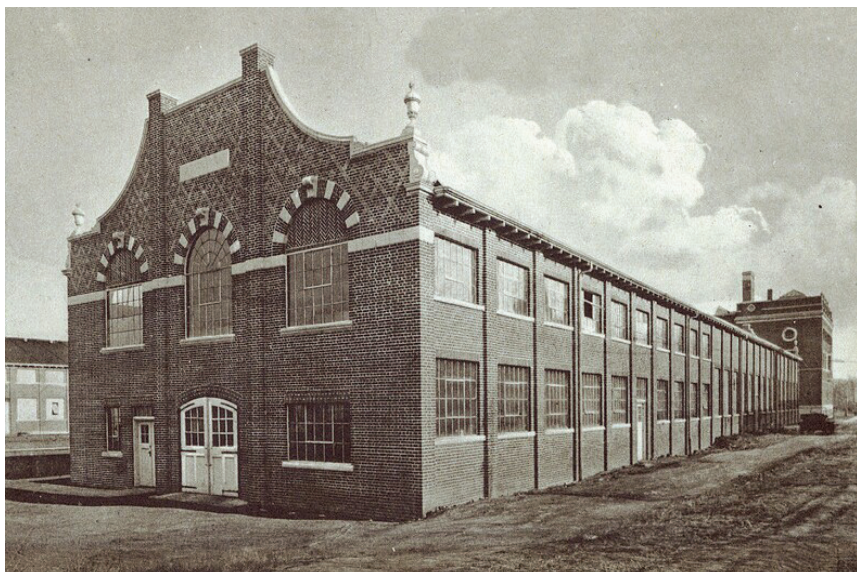
Carl Betke 1985-93

Desmond Brown 1986-88

Cecelia Danysk 1986-88

David Elliott 1986-88

Gerhard Ens 1987-89



South Laboratory 1919



North Laboratory 1930

Frank Milligan 1987-91
Frances Swyripa 1988-90
Ernest Levos 1988-94
Gregory Johnson 1989-96
Linda Kerr 1989 –
Joanne Stiles 1990-92
Robert Hesketh 1991-98
Robert Irwin 1991-98
Raymond Blake 1992-93
James Dempsey 1992-93
Christopher Hackett 1993-98
Brian Gobbett 1994-95
Richard Vaudry 1995-98
Theodore Binnema 1996-99
Robynne Healey 1996-2004
Carolee Pollock 1996-2001
Phillip Massolin 1996-2003
Douglas Baillie 1997-98
Heather Devine 1997-98
Heather Rollason 1997-98
John Herd Thompson 1997-99
Galen Perras 1998-2000
Carol Janigo 1998-2002
Tony Hollihan 1998-2000
Howard Welch 1999-2000
Tracy Pelland 2000-07
Bradford Rennie 2001-03
Tolly Bradford 2006-07
Eric Strikwerda 2006-

Roberta Lexier 2008-09
Allan Rowe 2008-10
Krista Li 2010-
Aya Fujiwara 2011-12

Canadian Post-Doctoral Fellows

Desmond Brown
Gregory Johnson
Jeff Keshen
Robert Hesketh
Kenneth Sylvester
Claire Campbell
Shannon Stunden Bower
Zac Robinson
Laurie Bertram

