MESSAGE FROM PETER LUDLOW,
PRESIDENT CANADIAN CATHOLIC
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

It is my great honour to serve as the new president of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association (CCHA). Over the past 85 years, our association has brought together historians from coast to coast who are interested in documenting and preserving the rich history of Roman Catholicism in Canada.

A scholarly organization with a respected peer-reviewed journal, Historical Studies, our association continues to provide a forum for enquiry and debate, offer senior and junior scholars an opportunity to publish their research, and build strong links between the campus and the community.

Since its founding in 1933, the CCHA has encouraged public interest in the field of Catholic history. Over the past few years, however, the association has also become a leading voice in the preservation of Catholic archival materials. Demographic shifts, finances, and Church closures in some parts of the country have forced Catholic historians and archivists to consider the long-term preservation of Catholic records. As a national organization, the CCHA recognizes the importance of community-based stakeholders in promoting and preserving this Catholic heritage. The conservation of important historical records for future generations of scholars is a collaborative effort of great importance.

I presented my first paper to the CCHA in 2005 at the University of Western Ontario, have attended many annual conferences, and have served on the association’s executive since 2014. In that time, I have been privileged to meet and work with some of our country’s finest scholars. More importantly, I have also recognized that, throughout membership, we are also very much a family, each in our own way committed to the rich history of Catholicism in Canada.

So, as we begin a new year of events, I wish you luck in your research (big and small), and encourage you to remain in contact with the association through the Bulletin and the website. While we are an old organization, we are always encouraging new speakers, new papers, and new members.

DR. ROSA BRUNO-JOFRÉ HONOURED
WITH THE G.E. CLERK AWARD

A professor and former dean (2000-2010) of the Faculty of Education, cross-appointed to the Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Queen’s University, Kingston, Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré was honoured with the 2018 G.E. Clerk Award, the Canadian Catholic Historical Association’s annual prize for excellence in Catholic Studies. Throughout her distinguished career, Dr. Bruno-Jofré has published and lectured on the history of Canada’s women religious, Canadian Catholic education, educational theory from a historical perspective, and Latin America.

Dr. Bruno-Jofré’s employer, Queen’s University, Kingston, received news of the Clerk Award warmly. “On behalf of myself and the Queen’s Faculty of Education,” notes Dean Dr. Rebecca Luce-Kapler, “I would like to extend congratulations to Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré. This award demonstrates Rosa’s record of excellence in research and teaching. An eminent scholar in both education and history, Rosa’s passion, meticulous research, and commitment are invaluable assets to the University, the Faculty, and her students.”

President-general of the CCHA, Dr. Peter Baltutis, echoes these thoughts: “the Canadian Catholic Historical Association has benefited immeasurably from Dr. Bruno-Jofré’s scholarship and service, and, as importantly, the association continues to benefit from her professionalism and collegiality.”

Dr. Peter Baltutis, President of the CCHA (2016—2018) presents Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré with the G.E. Clerk Award during the Annual CCHA Banquet, May 31, 2018
NOTICE OF CCHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
VANCOUVER June 5 and 6, 2019

Program committee members Peter Ludlow, Peter Baltutis, and Rankin Sherling are working with local coordinators Peter Meehan, President of St. Mark's College, Vancouver, and Valerie Burke. The theme for this year's conference is Circles of Conversation as put forth by the Congress for Humanities and Social Sciences. See the Congress website for information on the overall congress, registration and travel at www.congress2019.ca.

The Call for Papers for the CCHA Annual Conference 2019 is on the CCHA website www.cchahistory.ca. The deadline for proposals is February 15 2019. Please watch the website for updates on the CCHA 2019 conference. Under the conference tab there will be a detailed conference overview. We hope that you will join us in Vancouver. If you wish to call or email regarding further information, please contact Valerie Burke, Administrator for the CCHA, by email, valerieburke@cchahistory.ca or text or call her at 705-795-9754 (cell).

CONFERENCE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
May 30 and 31, 2018

On May 29, 2018, the day before the 85th Annual Conference of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association began in Regina, members were treated to a tour of Blessed Sacrament Church, the oldest faith community and church building in Regina. Diocesan Archivist Susan Klein spoke to us on the Catholic history of Regina and this church, built in 1905. Father Barry Anwender, the pastor, guided us through the building, explaining current renovations.

The 85th Annual Conference of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association opened at the University of Regina on May 30, 2018 with a keynote address by Dr. Luca Codignola-Bo, St. Mary’s University Halifax and the University of Notre Dame. In his presentation “Rome and Early North America: a Transatlantic Relationship of Love and Hate, 1783—1830.” Dr. Codignola-Bo drew on his wide-ranging research on the Roman Catholic Church in the North Atlantic world. He enriched his presentation with anecdotes about Canadian and American clerics – their love for Rome the place but their hatred of Roman bureaucracy. North American seminarians educated at the Urban College in Rome took back cultural influences, shared experiences and language skills as well as the fruits of their theological studies.

Professor Codignola-Bo's address was a joint session, co-sponsored by the Canadian Catholic Historical Association, the Canadian Historical Association and the Canadian Society of Church History. The CCHA expresses its appreciation to the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Aid for Interdisciplinary Sessions Fund for financial support for this session.

Next on the program May 30, 2018 came two sessions on Catholics in Atlantic Canada and on Women Religious from Canada serving in Latin America. Terry Murphy’s “Bermuda Triangle: Propaganda Fide, the Archdiocese of Halifax and the British Government, 1836—1863, complemented the previous presentation by Professor Codignola-Bo. Murphy noted that the British officials appreciated the pragmatic cooperation of Roman Catholics at the height of the famine in 1847. Edward MacDonald spoke on Edward Whelan as a “Tragic Hero.”
A politician from Prince Edward Island supported his province joining confederation whereas his colleagues did not. After his death in 1867 he was both beloved and reviled but not memorialized. Rankin Sherling spoke about the continuation of Gaelic in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island and the significance of the teaching of Gaelic at St. Francis Xavier University.

The Session on Women Religious in Latin America Since Vatican II featured three fine presentations. Rosa Bruno-Jofré discussed the Missionary Oblate Sisters from Manitoba going to Brazil in the 1960s, and encountering social change at a time of rapid radicalization of the national church. Christine Gervais drew on oral history research with Ontario congregations in presenting “Beyond Development: Solidarity, Activism and Resistance.” She concluded that the education and health care endeavours of the Ontario women religious in Latin America were less a reflection of charity and more an indication of social justice-based solidarity. Heidi MacDonald found that the Latin American service of women from three congregations based in Atlantic Canada, the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, the Newfoundland Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Charlottetown Sisters of St. Martha, had an impact there and at home.

At the Annual General Meeting after this session a new slate of officers were elected, led by President Peter Ludlow. The membership expressed their appreciation to Terence Fay for his many years of service as Treasurer.

At 5 p.m. on May 30 the members of the CCHA gathered at Blessed Sacrament Church for the Eucharistic Liturgy for Living and Deceased members. Father Barry Anwender joined Fathers Edward Jackman, Terence Fay, Dan Ryan in celebrating the Mass.

At 6:30 p.m. the CCHA members and guests met for the Annual Reception and Dinner at Memories Restaurant at the Quality Inn. A highlight of the evening was Dr. Peter Baltutis presenting Dr. Rosa Bruno-Jofré of Queen’s University with the G.E. Clerk Award for outstanding contributions to Canadian Catholic history.

On May 31, 2018 the sessions continued to reflect the Congress theme of gathering diversities of cultures, times and places. At the first session, “New Directions in Catholic Education and Spirituality,” Brett Fawcett spoke on the debate over publicly funded Catholic Schools in Canada; KM Gemmell on the integration of Indigenous students and Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, 1951—1965; and Terence Fay on John Veltri and the Guelph Retreat Renewal in the 1960s.

The roundtable discussion on Mark G. McGowan's landmark book, The Imperial Irish: Canada's Irish Catholics Fight the Great War, 1914—1918 included presentations by Rankin Sherling, and Terence Fay and a response by Mark G. McGowan. The panel discussion and the question period were lively and informative. Speakers stressed the diversity of the Irish and their history, raising questions about possible comparisons with other ethnic groups.

At the next session on Catholicism and the First Nations of Canada all three speakers looked at their topics from new perspectives. Katelyn Arac looked at the hagiographic accounts of the Mohawk Saint, Kateri Tekawitha, from an understanding of Mohawk culture. Sheldon Krasowski presented the Oblate missionary Constantine Scollen not as an agent of colonialism, but rather as a critic of government promises in Treaties Six and Seven. Scollen supported Cree and Blackfoot leaders who petitioned the government on land issues during the 1880s. Jacqueline Gresko spoke on researching Indigenous Sisters in Western Canada. She focussed on Métis women who joined the Grey Nuns at St. Boniface in the nineteenth century and served in missions, schools, and hospitals.

The final session on Catholicism in Western Canada emphasized the cultural diversity of Saskatchewan in the twentieth century. Paul Paproski discussed the ‘prophetic’ journalism of the Benedictine Monks of St. Peter’s Abbey in producing the Prairie Messenger. Parker Love outlined the life and works of the colourful and dynamic Monsignor Athol Murray, founder of Notre Dame College in Wilcox and the school sports teams. Robert Dennis spoke on Saskatchewan Catholics in the 1930s and 1940s and the growth of the CCF.
CURRENT PUBLICATIONS compiled by Fred McEvoy


COAST-TO-COAST FALL 2018

The University of New Brunswick announces the appointment of Heidi MacDonald, as Dean of Arts on the St. John Campus, beginning January 2019. Congratulations to Dr. MacDonald on her appointment.

Dr. MacDonald is an associate professor in the department of history at the University of Lethbridge where she served as department chair, as well as director of the Centre for Oral History and Tradition. She holds a PhD in Canadian history from UNB, a master’s degree from Saint Mary’s University and a bachelor’s degree from Mount Saint Vincent University. Dr. MacDonald is an historian of 20th-century Canada. She has been recognized for her contributions on Atlantic Canada, the Great Depression, women’s religious, and youth.

Peter Ludlow, Adjunct Professor of Catholic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University, is the incoming President of the CCHA. The local newspaper, The Casket, August 20, 2018 featured Corey LeBlanc’s story: “Antigonish native Ludlow named president of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association.” In it Ludlow discusses the links between St. Francis Xavier and Antigonish and the CCHA: the role of historians from eastern Nova Scotia in developing the association, and that of the association publishing their work. The CCHA meeting of 1953 at St. Francis Xavier inspired work on the diocesan history. Ludlow talks about areas for future CCHA efforts: “We want to get a little bit more known, nationally.”


CCHA members who enjoyed Luca Codignola-Bo’s keynote on Rome and Early North America at the CCHA Annual Meeting in Regina, May 30, 2018, will also be interested in a new book by Matteo Binasco, Roman Sources for the History of American Catholicism, 1763-1939, Notre Dame Press, 2018. It features an historical introduction by Luca Codignola-Bo and Matteo Sanfilippo.

David Sylvester took up his appointment as President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of St. Michael’s College, Toronto in August 2018. He has served as president of Corpus Christi College and St. Mark’s College at the University of British Columbia and of King’s College at Western University. Sylvester began his undergraduate studies at St. Francis Xavier University, and then completed his M.A. and Ph.D. in medieval history at Fordham University in New York.

M.C. Havey, archivist of the Sisters of Service and the Edmonton-Toronto Redemptorists, was presented with the Alexander Fraser Award on May 11, 2018 at the annual conference of the Archives Association of Ontario (AAO). The award, named for Alexander Fraser, the first Provincial Archivist of Ontario, recognized MC’s contributions in the advancement of the archival community in Ontario and her role in “championing religious archives and in preserving the stories and legacies of the Canadian Catholic community.” M.C. is a leader of the Catholic Archivist Group. She has “mentored countless archivists, sharing her experiences and wisdom about working as a “lone arranger” within small religious archives. Her participation in the Canadian Catholic Historical Association fostered a connection between historians, the most common users of religious archives, and the archival community.”

MC Havey is also the incoming treasurer for the CCHA.


Richard Lebrun sends word of his new book. Published by Brill, it is entitled Lamennais: A Believer’s Revolutionary Politics. “Edited by myself and my colleague Sylvain Milbach at the Universite Savoie Mont Blanc, it offers English translations, by myself and Jerry Ryan, of the most influential and controversial writings of Félicité de Lamennais, a French priest who began his career as a Traditionalist, became the founder of Liberal Catholicism in the 1830s, and then left the Church after his ideas were condemned by Rome. Sylvain Milbach’s comprehensive Introduction and Annotations place these writings in the context of the author’s intellectual history and the political, religious, and intellectual situation in France in the first half of the 19th century. You are probably aware that Lamennais’ writings were also influential in French Canada in the 1830s.”


In Victoria, B.C., the Sisters of St. Ann marked the 160th anniversary of their arrival in the province. On May 27, 2018 the CBC Radio Sunday Edition featured a segment “The Sisters of St. Ann confront the end with dignity and grace: The Sisters of St. Ann is a fiercely self-reliant Roman Catholic order of nuns. In the 1960s, there were about 300; today, only two dozen remain. The sisters have begun to divest themselves of their possessions and property as they face the truth that their lives, and that of their order, are coming to an end. Jennifer Chrumka’s documentary In Our End is Our Beginning” includes interview with Province Leader Sister Marie Zarowny and archivist Carey Pallister. You can listen to the program at www.cbc.ca/radio/thesundayedition.

The Archivist’s Pencil blog from the Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto noted in November 2018 the 100th anniversary of the Scarboro Missions with an account of the first missionaries going to Asia, “A Pleasant Journey Across the Pacific.”

The CCHA Twitter noted November 5, 2018, the 90th Anniversary of the St. Francis Xavier Extension Department, one of the most important Catholic Social movements in Canada.

The Catholic Research Resources Alliance has a new website in 2018, www.catholicresearch.org. CCHA members will be interested in accessing the Catholic Portal and the Catholic Newspaper Program.
MEET YOUR CCHA EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2018-2020

Peter Baltutis is Associate Professor of History and Religious Studies and the CWL Chair for Catholic Studies at St. Mary’s University in Calgary. His research focuses on the historical and theological development of Catholic Social Teaching in Canada, especially after Vatican II.

Jacqueline Gresko, Faculty Emerita at Douglas College, has researched Indigenous peoples and Catholic missions and schools in Western Canada. Her recent work centers on women religious there, in particular the four congregations who taught Japanese Canadians in British Columbia during World War II.

MC Havey, as an archivist for two religious communities, strives to acquire, preserve, make accessible, and present the legacy of the Canadian Catholic Church with an emphasis on the social and cultural history of Canada.

Peter Ludlow is an Adjunct Professor of Catholic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He has focused on religion, migration, sport, and culture in the North Atlantic World. Recently, he has completed studies of the Catholic Church in eastern Nova Scotia and a history of the St. Francis Xavier Extension Department.

Edward MacDonald is an historian of place with an abiding interest in the social, cultural, religious, and environmental history of Prince Edward Island within the larger context of Canadian history and the comparative study of small islands. He is a Professor of History at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Rankin Sherling in a tenured-instructor of history at Marion Military Institute: the Military College of Alabama. He studies the migration of people, culture, religion, and ideas from Ireland and Scotland to North America.

Laura J. Smith is a historian of Irish Catholic migration, settlement, and religion in British North America.

Veronica Stienburg is the archivist for the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul, based in Kingston, Ontario. She is interested in the history of women religious, especially in Canada.

NEW MEMBERS’ CORNER: INTRODUCTION AND INVITATION

At the November 12, 2018 CCHA Executive Meeting it was suggested that the CCHA Fall 2018 Bulletin should include a new section, “A New Members’ Corner,” where new members could introduce themselves and their research interests as a way of connecting with scholars with similar interests. If new or old members would like to introduce themselves in the New Members’ Corner please send submissions [50 to 100 word limit] for the Spring 2019 Bulletin by March 1, 2019, and for the Fall 2019 Bulletin by October 1, 2019, to jgresko@cchahistory.ca.

As we were going to press on the CCHA Fall 2018 Bulletin, Valerie Burke, the CCHA Membership Coordinator, invited the newest CCHA member, Lucille Otero to send the Bulletin Editor a description of her research interests in Canadian Catholic History. Thanks are due to Margaret Sanche for encouraging Lucille Otero to join the CCHA.

Lucille Otero, PhD, Professional Affiliate
Department of Educational Administration, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan

Lucille Otero completed her PhD in Educational Administration at the University of Saskatchewan in 2017. Employing historical methodology, her doctoral research study was an educational historiography regarding the training and development of adult religious educators and leaders for Canadian Catholic parishes. She focused on the Catholic Church’s educational mission through the lens of educational administration and leadership, concentrating on community-based, non-formal and informal adult religious education/faith formation in parishes and other types of faith communities, such as associations, movements and small Christian communities.

CCHA ON TWITTER

Peter Ludlow, CCHA Vice-President, coordinates a Twitter account for the CCHA (@cchahistory). You can find a direct Twitter feed on our website cchahistory.ca. Thank you to all who tweeted from the 2018 CCHA Conference in Regina. We look forward to your tweets from Vancouver in 2019.

CONFERENCE NOTICES


The Global History and Catholicism Conference will be held April 4-6, 2019 at the University of Notre Dame. Information at http://cushwa.nd.edu/events.

The annual conference of the Catholic Archivist Group, an organization of archivists of Canadian Catholic dioceses, religious congregations and institutions, will be held in Winnipeg, MB May 12-16, 2019. The planning committee includes the archivists of the Roman Catholic Archdioceses of Winnipeg and St. Boniface and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg. The conference theme is “Community, Faith and the Future.” Details about the conference, CAG membership and the Catholic Archivist Group Listserv are available on the website: https://www.catholicarchivist.ca.


FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK:

I would like to thank Valerie Burke, Father Edward Jackman, Lucy Belpedio, Fred McEvoy, and Laura Smith for assistance with production of the CCHA Bulletin. Thank you to all members who sent information on research, publications, news and events. If you take photographs of CCHA conference events please consider forwarding copies to Valerie Burke or myself for the website and the Bulletin.

You are invited to contribute a book note or one on archival developments, a review of a digitization project or a review of an historical blog. Professors and students in Catholic Studies programs are encouraged to send reports on their projects, especially field studies. Your suggestions on the CCHA Bulletin are welcome.

Would you be interested in assisting with the Bulletin? Opportunities include gathering current information from CCHA members, liaising with Website and Twitter editors, and working on editing and production. After five years as Editor of the CCHA Bulletin I have asked the CCHA Executive to consider the possibility of the appointment of an associate editor in 2019 and then transition to a new editor by 2020. The CCHA Executive will make the appointment after reviewing policy and procedures.

March 1 and October 1 are the deadlines for submission.

Send emails to jgresko@cchahistory.ca.

Regular mail can be sent to me at the CCHA address:

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The Canadian Catholic Historical Association publishes the Bulletin in the spring and the fall of each year. Notices, letters, calls for papers, and short articles are welcome on topics of interest to historians. Deadlines for submission are 1 October and 1 March. See the CCHA website for more details: www.cchahistory.ca.

The Canadian Catholic Historical Association would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Jackman Foundation and our personal benefactors of 2018.