



Rupert's Land  
Research Centre

# NEWSLETTER



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## RUPERT'S LAND RESEARCH CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, #1 (July 1993)

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE FROM TIM BALL

Everyone is suffering from cutbacks and reductions in support during these difficult times. Greater demands are being made of all of us, and we are all doing whatever we can to help wherever possible. Rupert's Land Research Centre has not been able to expand its services, but fortunately, it is no worse off than it was last year. Membership remains stable and we continue to function with minimal income. Of course, we always seek new members and new sources of funding. There is so much more that could be done.

Our Members' Selections have been well received and plans for future publications are outlined in the Report from the Editor. It seems that we continue to evolve to two types of publications: the working documents of brief but important studies, and large scale scholarly works of the Record Society. So far we have been able to afford both, but are ever mindful of the problems that small publishers face as publication costs rise.

Plans are afoot for our next biennial Colloquium. It will be held in Edmonton and environs in the spring of 1994. I urge you to set the time aside because interesting events are planned. It will be a great opportunity to see the Rockies, and the famous mountain passes that were the focus of so much fur trade history. Albertans are excellent hosts who love to show visitors a good time, and I have no doubt they will surpass themselves next spring. A Call for Papers and a brief description of some of the activities planned for the Colloquium will be found later in this Newsletter.

A magnificent display of material and artifacts commemorating the centenary of the death of Dr John Rae is currently at the National Museum of Scotland. After the Edinburgh showing it is scheduled to go to the Museum in Kirkwall, Orkney. Dale Idiens is primarily responsible for the exhibit and I urge anyone heading that way to pay a visit. We had hoped to bring the exhibit to Canada following the Orkney sojourn, but the costs have proved prohibitive. Even so, it is still a good year to remember this remarkable man, who suffered for daring to pay heed to different cultures and questioning the behaviour of his own.

I would like to offer my personal congratulations to Olive Dickason, as well as those of Rupert's Land Research Centre and its members. Olive has been awarded the Canadian Historical Association's Sir John A. Macdonald Prize for her newest book, *Canada's First Nations*, which appeared in 1992.

It is also the time of year when our current Harington Fellow leaves The Centre to take on new activities and responsibilities. I want to offer my thanks to Ingrid Botting, the 1992-93 Harington Fellow for her contributions to Rupert's Land Research Centre during the past year. She has kept the office running smoothly, while completing an honours degree in history. In the fall she will enter the Masters program in history at Memorial University, St John's, Newfoundland.

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**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK  
FROM JENNIFER S.H. BROWN**

Elsewhere in this Newsletter, you will find information about the Members' 1992 and 1993 volumes. We regret that they will not reach members within those calendar years, but we assure you that members who have paid for those years will receive each of the volumes as soon as they appear. The co-publication arrangements on these volumes allow us to offer better quality and value in their production, but they have also brought delays.

A hardbound copy of our 1993 selection, **The Selected Papers of the Sixth North American Fur Trade Conference, 1992** (working title only) will be mailed to our 1993 members early in 1994, directly from Michigan State University Press, with whom we are co-publishing it. It promises to be the most attractive fur trade conference volume ever, with 27 carefully edited and revised papers from the conference at Mackinac Island, and ample illustrations and maps. Our limited Rupert's Land Members' edition will be a very good value, compared to the price of the hardbound trade edition. To assure that you receive it promptly, please make sure that your membership is current. Note that multi-year membership rates were discontinued two years ago: a three-year membership paid in 1990 would have expired in December, 1992.

Authors are hard at work completing the final editing of two publications which we plan to bring to our 1994 members if finances allow. Watch for their announcement in the next Newsletter.

We hope to see many of you at the Columbia Department Fur Trade conference (Oct. 1-3) at the University of Victoria, and at the Sixth Biennial Colloquium of the Rupert's Land Research Centre, May 25-27, 1994, in Edmonton (this is scheduled to precede the Canadian Historical Association meetings at "The Learned's" in Calgary, so that you have the opportunity to attend both). Please see details elsewhere in this Newsletter.

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## RLRC MEMBERS' SELECTIONS, 1992 AND 1993

As the RLRC General Editor, Jennifer Brown, noted in the preceding comments, people who were members of RLRC during 1992 and 1993 will receive their Members' Selections later than anticipated. Numerous unpredictable delays have held up publication of the 1992 selection, Shepard Krech's comprehensive 2nd edition of the **Bibliography of Native Canadian Anthropology and History**. The volume is being co-published with University of Oklahoma Press. Major advantages of the co-publishing arrangement are that the second edition will be produced with high quality paper and binding. The down side is that RLRC has had to accept the University of Oklahoma's Press publishing timetable.

The 1993 selection, **The Papers of the 6th North American Fur Trade Conference (Mackinac)**, is being edited by Jennifer S.H. Brown, William J. Eccles, and Donald P. Heldman. The volume, co-published with Michigan State University Press, will be of high quality both in its physical form and in the excellence of its editing. Once again, however, co-publication means that RLRC must accept the publishing schedules and demands of another institution. We apologize for the delays, but are convinced that members will find the two volumes well worth the wait.

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## RLRC COLLOQUIUM 1994

### RLRC COLLOQUIUM 1994 CALL FOR PAPERS

The next colloquium of The Rupert's Land Research Centre will be held at Edmonton, 25-27 May 1994. The Programme Committee invites proposals (up to two pages) for papers or completed papers suitable for delivery in twenty minutes. **The deadline for receipt of proposals and papers is 30 September 1993.**

Submissions are welcome on any topic pertaining to the Canadian West. A particular invitation is extended for submissions pertaining to the following topics:

- the fur trade on the Saskatchewan, the Athabasca, or the Peace rivers, and their tributaries;
- the fur trade in the Rocky Mountains;
- archival and other resources for the history of the fur trade and/or western Canada;
- topics of broad general interest.

The fur trade to-day, missionary history especially at fur trade sites, the Scots in the fur trade, Métis and Freeman and their families, the history of treaties, archaeology, genealogy, and cross-cultural exchanges of traditions, from music and film to material culture, comprise themes that might be addressed by these and other topics.

Groups of prospective participants are invited to submit proposals for an entire (three-paper) session.

Given sufficient interest, the conference will be preceded by an optional excursion to Rocky Mountain House and Jasper (23-25 May), and followed by another to the Peace River

country, including Dunvegan (28-30 May). A banquet, musical evening, and tour of the Fort Edmonton archaeological dig are also planned.

Please submit proposals and papers to: Professor I.S. MacLaren, Chair, Programme Committee, Canadian Studies Program, The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E1. Fax (403) 492-8142. Proposals may also be sent by electronic Mail: [imaclare@ualtavm](mailto:imaclare@ualtavm) (Bitnet), or [imaclare@vm.ucs.ualberta.ca](mailto:imaclare@vm.ucs.ualberta.ca) (Internet).

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### SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD PRIZE

Rupert's Land Research Centre extends hearty congratulations to **Olive Patricia Dickason**, winner of the Canadian Historical Association's Sir John A. Macdonald Prize. Professor Dickason's most recent book, **Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples From Earliest Times**, was published last year by McClelland and Stewart.

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### CANADIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING, 1993

Papers given at the 1993 Annual Conference of the Canadian Historical Association held at Carleton University on June 5-8 emphasized Latin-American history, historians and their publics, the Black experience in the Americas, and capital cities and their communities. Rupert's Land Research Centre members were well represented at the meetings, as presenters and as observers. Among presenters were:

Jennifer S.H. Brown & Maureen Matthews, *Fair Wind: Medicine and Consolation on the Berens River*.

Laura Peers, *The 'Colony Chief': Peguis and the Nature of Leadership among the Red River Ojibwa*.

Erica Smith, *Letitia Hargrave and the Problem of Ethnographic Authority*.

Barbara Angel, *Pacification, Resettlement and Resistance: The Reconstruction of Rural Society in the Aftermath of the Mayan Rebellion of 1847*.

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### SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Arctic Institute of North America has announced the Lorraine Allison Scholarship. The award, valued at \$2000., is open to graduate students demonstrating a commitment to northern research, and is tenable at any Canadian university. Write: Mike Robinson, AINU, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive, Calgary, Alberta, T2N 1N4.

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## DE SMET EXHIBIT

An exhibition of materials from **Sacred Encounters: Father De Smet and the Indians of the Rocky Mountain West**, researched and collected by Jacqueline Peterson and Laura Peers, will travel to major museums in several cities in 1993-95, including Vancouver in 1993. For more information, and for the exhibition catalogue and related publications, write De Smet Project, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164.

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## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

**THE CONFERENCE ON HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF NORTHERN RESEARCH**, the **REGIONAL STUDENTS' CONFERENCE ON NORTHERN STUDIES**, and **ACUNS Council Meeting** will all be held at Arctic College, Fort Smith, NWT, **October 1-3, 1993**. Further information is available from the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies, Suite 201, 130 Albert St., Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4. Tel: (613) 238-3525.

The **51st PLAINS ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE** will be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, **October 13-16, 1993**. The conference is being hosted by the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society. Symposia proposals are due August 1, 1993, Paper abstracts are due September 1, 1993. Submit abstracts or reports on disk in WP5.1 or ASCII format. Inquiries: Plains conference Secretariat, \$5 - 816 First Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 1Y3. Tel: (306) 664-4124; Fax: (306) 665-1928.

A colloquium on **THE SYMBOLICS OF SPIRIT AND POWER IN NORTH AMERICAN NATIVE TRADITIONS** will take place in Ottawa/Hull, **October 14-16, 1993**. Registration is \$35 Cdn. Proposals for papers and enquiries should be addressed to: Marie-Francois Guédon, Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6N5. Telephone: (613) 564-2300; Fax: (613) 564-6641.

The **AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ETHNOHISTORY** has announced its Call For Papers for its meetings, **November 4-7, 1993**, in Bloomington, Indiana. The notice gives a deadline of July 15, but in consideration to our member-readers, the Program Chair, Raymond DeMallie, will accept proposals from readers of this Newsletter until the end of July since our notice is just appearing. His address is: American Indian Studies Research Center, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 47405. Telephone: (812) 855-4086.

The **15th POLAR LIBRARY COLLOQUY** will be held in Cambridge, England, in **July 1994**. The Colloquy will be co-hosted by the British Antarctic Survey and the Scott Polar Research Institute. For information, contact Christine Phillips, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge, England, CB3 0ET

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## THE COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT FUR TRADE CONFERENCE

*Rupert's Land Research Centre wishes to pass on to members and Newsletter readers information recently received from the COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT FUR TRADE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. The Conference will be of special interest to RLRC members.*

The first COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT FUR TRADE CONFERENCE will be held at the University of Victoria's Dunsmuir Lodge, October 1-3, 1993, the year of the city of Victoria's one hundred and fiftieth anniversary. Registration is \$50 (students \$25); banquet tickets \$30 (students \$15). Make cheques payable to: Columbia Department Fur Trade Conference. Mail to: Richard Mackie and Jamie Morton, c/o Department of History, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 3045, Victoria, B.C., V8W 3P4. Participants are eligible for the special University Rates at Dunsmuir Lodge: single \$299; double (shared) \$231; accommodation to be paid for on arrival at the lodge. The rates include meals, banquet, and reception. The conference is multi-disciplinary and international, with seven presenters from the United States. Fourteen sessions are planned, with a total of thirty-six presentations.

The preliminary programme includes sessions as follows:

### 1. New Approaches to the Maritime Fur Trade

Barbara Belyea, Aita-Aita Meares: Notes on Fur Trade Exploration of the Northwest Coast, 1786-1790.

Dan Clayton, Islands of Truth: The Classical and the Modern in the Maritime Fur Trade.

Robin Fisher, Vancouver's Vision of the People of Hawai'i and the Northwest Coast.

### 2. Revisiting Fur Trade Social History

Lorne Hammond, Adulterers, Murderers, Orphans, and Transvestites: A Look at the Periphery of Fur Trade Masculinity.

Jean Barman, Revisiting Family Formation During the Fur Trade.

### 3. Native Responses to the Fur Trade: New Caledonia and the Southern Interior

Frieda Klippenstein, The Carrier People as Provisioners, Labourers, and in Transport.

Duane Thomson, Resource Tenure Regimes on the Interior Plateau, 1821-1861.

Elizabeth Vibert, 'Paupers, Beggars, Thieves' and the Construction of Cultural Knowledge in the Fur Trade.

### 4. Fur Trade Biography

Ken Favrholt, The Life and Times of John Tod.

William D. Lang, Lord of the Columbia?: Historians and John McLoughlin.

### 5. Native Responses to the Fur Trade: The Northwest Coast (1)

Carol Cooper, Intertribal Relations on the Northern Pacific Coast During the Land-based Fur Trade, 1830-1870.

Leland Donald, The Fur Trade and the Indigenous Slave Trade.

Steven Acheson & James Delgado, *A Ship for the Taking: The Schooner Vancouver*.

#### **6. Images and Records of the Fur Trade**

Dan Savard, *Early Photographs of the Fur Trade and First Peoples*.

Kathryn Bridge, *Images of Fort Victoria, 1843-1865*.

Deirdre Simmons, *Misplaced Records: Some Amusing and Interesting Stories about Hudson's Bay Company Records*.

#### **7. Native Responses to the Fur Trade: The Northwest Coast (2)**

Georgiana Ball, *The Tahitian and the Hudson's Bay Company's Attempted Expansion into Northwestern British Columbia, 1824-39*.

Susan Marsden, *An Uneasy Place: Legaic, the Gispakloats, and the Struggles to Control Trade along the Skeena, 1785-1869*.

Robert Galois, *From Laxwallams to Fort Simpson: Organizing the Fur Trade in the Lower Skeen/Nass Region, 1830-1860*.

#### **8. Strategies of Commerce and Finance**

Lloyd Keith, *The Voyage of the Colonel Allen*.

Ann Harper Fender, *Competitive and Pricing Strategies in the Columbia Department, 1821-1856*.

#### **9. Native Responses to the Fur Trade: Gulf of Georgia Region (1)**

Cole Harris, *The Scope and Range of European Power around the Gulf of Georgia, 1827-1853*.

Hamar Foster, *Law and Conflict on the Pacific Coast: the Peter Brown Murder Case, 1852-53*.

#### **10. Sailors and Seamen on the West Coast**

Judith Beattie, *Letters from home: Undelivered Letters to Seamen and the West Coast, 1832-1867*.

Dick Wilson, *Below Decks" A Social and Economic Profile of Hudson's Bay Company Sailors in the Columbia District 1821-1850*.

#### **11. Native Responses to the Fur Trade: Gulf of Georgia Region (2)**

Cairn Crockford, *The Fort Victoria Journals, 1846-1850*.

Jamie Morton, *'An Ostentatious Reception at the Great Emporium': Fort Victoria's Effect on Fur Trade Society in the Columbia Department, 1843-1858*.

#### **12. Transport Strategies on the Mainland**

James R. Gibson, *The Columbia Brigade System and the Fur Trade of the Columbia Department, 1812-1847*.

Steve Anderson, *On the Cowlitz: The HBC's Inner Track from the Columbia*.

Robert Turner, *The Limits of Navigation: Inland Sternwheeler Navigation in British Columbia, 1850-1930*.



### 13. Fur Trade Archaeology

John Adams, Burying the Fur Traders.

Stephanie Toothman & James Thomson, An Overview of Archaeological and Historical Research Conducted for Hudson's Bay Company Sites Managed by the United States National Park Services' Pacific Northwest Region: Fort Vancouver, Fort Colville, Bellevue Farm.

James Delgado, *SS Beaver*: The Archaeology of the First Steamship on the Pacific Coast of North America.

### 14. Colonial Society on Vancouver Island

Jennifer Iredale, The Role of Women at Craigflower Farm.

Betty Schmidt & Jeanette Taylor, The Women of Fort Rupert, 1849-1882.

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## NATIVE HISTORY STUDY GROUP, CHA

*The following excerpt is from the NHSG Newsletter, April 1993.*

The Native History Study Group was formed in 1981 as a sub-group of the Canadian Historical Association. It has since become a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary group comprised of scholars of every academic stripe and members of organizations and institutions concerned with Aboriginal affairs. The NHSG Newsletter/Bulletin GEHA (ISSN 1183-871X) is published twice a year, in April and October. As of the April 1992 issue, a subscription rate applies as follows: in Canada, \$5.00 for students; \$10.00 for regular members; \$12.00 for institutional members; outside Canada, rates are in US currency, plus \$2.00 S&H. Receipts are available on request. Organizations with similar publications may wish to become 'newsletter exchange' members.

Submissions are welcome. These can include short articles; notices of publications, conferences, and other academic news; letters; reviews; and any other items that are felt to be of interest to members. People willing to act as regional representatives to collect information from the region/country are encouraged to volunteer. If possible, send longer items on diskette, either 3.5 or 5.25, in any version of Wordperfect. Diskettes will be returned if requested. Submissions and subscriptions should be sent to: S. Barry Cottam, Editor, NHSG Newsletter, Department of History, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6N5.

The Newsletter carries advertising from publishers of scholarly books, both as line art within the newsletter and as inserted brochures. Rates and deadlines are available from the editor at the address given above.

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## PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

A new periodical, **Striker: Newsletter of the Friends of Fort George-Buckingham House**, published its first issue, Volume 1, No. 1, in the fall of 1992. The newsletter is produced by Alberta Culture and Multiculturalism, and edited by Louis Verhagen. Contributors to the first issue include Gail Kozicky, Louise Crane, and Shirley Wishart. For more information on the newsletter, please contact The Friends of the Forts, The Elk Point Historical Society, Box 358, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0. Telephone: (403) 724-2611; Fax: (403) 724-2003.

The Glenbow Archives announces the publication of **Glenbow Archives: A Guide to the Holdings**, containing detailed descriptions of nearly 2,000 archival collections, in all media, documenting the social, economic and political history of the Prairie West. The guide is available in most libraries, and can also be purchased for \$20.00 from The Glenbow Archives, 130 - 9 Avenue S.E., Calgary, Alberta, T2G 0P3. For information on the Glenbow Archives and Library services, including the custom on-line searches, write to the above address or telephone (403) 268-4204 or fax (403) 265-9769.

A new printing of Isaac Cowie's **The Company of Adventurers: A Narrative of Seven Years in the Service of the Hudson's Bay Company During 1867-1874** has been produced by The University of Nebraska Press. The recent volume is a reproduction of the 1913 Bison Book edition, with an introduction by Professor David Reed Miller of the Department of Indian Studies at Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, University of Regina.

**The Oblate of Mary Immaculate in Oregon, 1847-1860**, edited by Paul Drouin, OMI, is a volume of original documents relating to the history of the missionary activities of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Old Oregon from 1847 to 1860, recently published by The Archives Deschatelets of Ottawa. Over 400 documents have been reproduced, nearly 300 of them being original previously unpublished manuscripts in the Deschatelets Archives. The documents have been reproduced exactly as they originally were written, without selection or editorial changes. Most are in French. Printing is desk top, 1080 pages, soft bound in 3 volumes. Price: \$115. Order from: Romuald Boucher, OMI, Archivist, 175 Main Street, Ottawa, K1S 1C3.

**Canadian Exploration Literature** edited by Germaine Warkentin has just been published by Oxford University Press Canada. Suggested list price is \$24.95, which may vary from place to place.

**No Ordinary Journey: John Rae, Arctic Explorer, 1813-1893**, by Ian Bunyan, Jenni Calder, Dale Idiens, and Bryce Wilson, has just been released by The National Museums of Scotland and McGill-Queen's University Press. A handsome, soft-cover volume of 116 pages, with over a hundred superb photographs, illustrations and maps, the work marks the centenary of the death of Dr John Rae.

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**NEWS FROM THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ARCHIVES  
FROM JUDITH BEATTIE, KEEPER**

Since our account of the state of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in the fall 1991 issues, there have been a number of new developments.

**STAFF** Judith Hudson Beattie continues as Keeper, and Anne Morton as Head of Research and reference. David Arthurs left the Archives in October 1992 and his position is still vacant, although we hope it will be filled in the near future. However, we were able to hire a new employee in the fall who shares her time between HBCA and Sound and Moving Images, Geraldine Harris. Besides working with our films and tapes, she is involved in organizing the Northern Stores records in the Archives and is expanding her work as a thesis for the completion of her degree in Archival Studies, University of Manitoba. This work will tie in with initiatives being taken to continue the fur trade and northern connection of the Hudson's Bay Company by acquiring the records of the North West company, formed in 1987 from the Northern Stores Department of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Debra Moore and Maureen Dolyniuk, who work as a jobshare team, concentrate their attention on arranging and describing our photograph collections, numbering approximately 175,000 images, and handling orders for photographs. Our photographic services are now contracted out to a private firm, Custom Images. The prices are, in general, lower than previously, and we are confident that the quality of the work will not suffer.

Marie Reidke continues to handle the Interlibrary Loan of Microfilm and fills the orders for photographic reproductions, along with her duties relating to the microfilm program. Bill Hopper continues to film the 1870-1904 records, a requirement imposed by the British Government before the Archives could be transferred to Canada. Pending the appointment of a new archivist in charge of the Microfilm Program, Faye Bennett is not filming endangered records, but she is preparing the French Government records which document the company's role in supplying the French Government during the First World War.

Leslie Clark has replaced Nell Tardi as Administrative Secretary for the unit. Full time employees are supplemented by contract employees and volunteers. Over the past year we have had Canadian Council of Archives grants to process store photographs, as well as Archives Department and Northern Stores records. The Hudson's Bay Company funds some special projects such as identification of nitrate negatives and producing viewing copies of films from the collection. We also had ten volunteers working on projects such as the identification and description of power journals and the cataloguing of photographs, maps and library holdings. Without the help of these people, we would accomplish far less.

**ACQUISITIONS** Many readers will be surprised to hear that the Archives continues to receive records from the Hudson's Bay Company. When the Company's operations moved to the Simpson's Tower in Toronto from scattered buildings in the city, a number of cubic feet of documents were sent in. Among the regular transfers are such items as Shares Registers, Dividend Books, Minutes and background papers for Committee meetings, marketing Research Reports, Store Position Descriptions, Personnel files, Financial and Planning documentation, and other policy files. After the fur auction business was sold off,

we acquired HBC (New York) records including Minutes Books and Corporate records from Fraser, Lampson and Huth. The bulk of new material was related to another discontinued operation, Simpson's, which has ceased to operate under its own name.

Private donations, while not voluminous, have also been of interest. Probates of the wills of William Smith (1843) and Richard Hardisty (1866) were donated by the British Record Association; letters and genealogical notes of George Budge, who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company in 1812-1826, came from descendants in California via the Provincial Archives of Alberta; the journals of HBC employees Robert Miles (1818-1819), and Donald McKay (1800), a Moose Factory letterbook (1795-1813), and a private account of a trip on the Nascopie in 1924 arrived from descendants. Peter C. Newman continued to send his working papers as part of an agreement he made with the Archives.

Many of the significant new acquisitions are photographic. The receipt in 1987 from the Hudson's Bay Company Library of the approximately 100,000 photographs used and acquired by The Beaver provided a valuable deposit of photographic images on most aspects of the Company's operations. Important recent additions include the 342 photographs from C.H.M. and Walter Gordon (c1900-1940s) documenting life in Fort Hope, Martin's Falls, Pine Falls and Duck Lake; Jock Gibb's photographs of Trout Lake, Ogoki, and Kasbanika taken 1950-1954; images of Mackenzie River Post Offices in the 1920s; more than 4,000 images of posts across the north, 1930-1974, taken by Richard Phillips, HBC Director of Human Resources; and 206 photographs taken in the 1890s by E.K. Beeston, an HBC Inspecting Chief Factor.

PUBLIC SERVICE The pool of biographical, post history and ship's history sheets continues to grow as a summary of specific documentation available in HBCA. These are particularly helpful as guidance to those using our Interlibrary Loan of Microfilm, a service that continues to expand. The availability of microfilm copies of HBCA records in London, England and in Ottawa, Ontario makes the HBCA one of the most accessible of Archives.

Those who visit the Archives will note that the various Reading Rooms of the Archives have been amalgamated on the main floor. The Microfilm Reading Room is expanded and self-serve: no more delays waiting for machines or film! And the overlap between HBCA and Provincial Archives collections has meant more varied and complete documentation on many topics. Researchers can now be directed to general sources by the staff on duty, but it is even more important to make an appointment with staff members for specialized guidance and advice. Do not hesitate to ask for help or share your research interests with the Keeper or other staff. It is only through such personal contacts that we can fully serve your needs and keep abreast of research developments. From September to May the Archives operates Tuesday to Saturday, 9-4, and the rest of the year Monday to Friday, 9-4. However, this year the Government has instituted Friday closings for seven Fridays in July and early August as well as the three days between Christmas and New Years. Visiting researchers are encouraged to write ahead since the Archives is also closed on statutory holidays and for Inventory during the first full week in September every year. The address is: Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba, 200 Vaughan Street Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1T5.

## THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

*The activities, reports, and recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples will have profound and lasting effects on all Canadians. Rupert's Land Research Centre hopes to be able to keep its members informed of the proceedings and progress of the RCAP. To that end, the following brief report was put together using material from the available publications of the RCAP.*

In April, 1991, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced the establishment of a Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples to "examine the economic, social and cultural situation of the Aboriginal peoples" of Canada. A month later the Speech from the Throne announced the appointment of the Right Honourable Brian Dickson, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, to the position of special representative to the Prime Minister.

After a process of intensive consultation, Mr Dickson recommended a Commission composed of seven people, four from aboriginal communities and three to represent non-aboriginal peoples. In recommending the members of the Commission, Mr Dickson was concerned to achieve a balance among status Indians on reserve, urban and off-reserve Indians, Métis and Inuit, as well as a geographic, linguistic and gender balance. His choices were approved and appointed by a federal Order-in-Council in August, 1991. The members at that time were:

Allen Blakeney, former premier of Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan);

René Dussault, Justice of the Quebec Court of Appeal (Quebec);

Paul Chartrand, Head of the Department of Native Studies, University of Manitoba (Manitoba);

Georges Erasmus, former National Chief of Assembly of First Nations (NWT);

Viola Robinson, former President of the Native Council of Canada (Nova Scotia);

Mary Sillet, former President of the Inuit Women's Association of Canada and former Vice-President of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador);

Bertha Wilson, former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada (Ontario).

Mr Justice Dussault and Mr Erasmus were appointed co-chairs of the Commission.

From the beginning the Commission emphasized that the Commissioners and their offices would be accessible to all Canadians. To this end, hearings, presentations, and publications will be in six languages -- Ahnishnabe, Dene Yac Tiye, English, French, Inuktitut, and Nehiyawewin. Toll-free telephone lines have been set up. An Intervenor Participation Program has been established to provide financial assistance to eligible recipients to enable them to prepare for and participate in public hearings. David Crombie was appointed chair of the eight million dollar program.

The consultation process began in 1991 when the commissioners undertook a tour of provincial and territorial capitals where they met with Premiers, government leaders and cabinet ministers responsible for aboriginal affairs, and with representatives of over one hundred aboriginal organizations.



Public Hearings and Round Tables have taken place across Canada at frequent intervals providing forums for consultation with a wider public. Round One (1991) was the Commission's first series of public hearings, held in 36 communities across Canada. It was the public's first opportunity to articulate some of its concerns. For the Commission it was an exercise in listening. In the words of the Commission's Round One report:

*We heard powerful and moving testimony from many Canadians, but especially from Aboriginal people about the problems facing their communities and their hopes and aspirations for the future. As we listened to evidence of discrimination, paternalism and deception, it was clear that the anger and frustration expressed are symptomatic of a more fundamental problem -- a problem in the basic relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada. It is this relationship that the Commission will address in Round 2. (from Framing the Issues, 1992, p.1)*

The key themes identified during Round One were: aboriginal self-government; the provision of culturally-appropriate health care services; the implementation of Treaties; the establishment of aboriginally-controlled justice systems, public services, and education; and provisions for the protection and development of aboriginal languages and cultural traditions.

Round Two (1992) concentrated on looking for solutions to the questions raised in Round One. The Commission has identified four key concepts which it feels should underlie changes in the position of aboriginal peoples in Canada. These are self-determination, self-sufficiency, healing, and reconciliation between aboriginal and non-aboriginal peoples.

**Self-determination** "means the right of Aboriginal peoples to control their collective futures -- the right to define themselves and their place in society and the right to consent to the means by which they are governed."

**Self-sufficiency** implies more than "subsistence or sheer survival -- it implies the chance to thrive, to flourish, to prosper.... Among the dynamic ideas for solving the complex puzzle of self-sufficiency, most revolved around one of three themes: access to and control of land and resources, strengthening the traditional economy, and access to the modern economy."

**Healing** refers to the "physical, emotional and spiritual healing needed to remedy the cumulative effects of decades of mistreatment and neglect of Aboriginal people -- not just direct harm to individuals but countless acts and policies of intentional and unintentional assault on Aboriginal communities and cultures."

**Reconciliation** involves a new relationship which "requires Canadians to honour the right of Aboriginal people to be different -- not just different in an individual, private sense, but collectively and publicly different."

(from Focusing the dialogue, 1993, p. 1-6)

Round Three of the hearings took place in May and June of 1993. It is still too soon for the Commission's report on Round Three.

Round Four will take place in October and November, 1993. The Commissioners will return to many of the places where earlier hearings and round tables took place, will present their conclusions and recommendations for public scrutiny and comment.

In order to keep the Canadian public informed of progress of the Commission, several publications are available. They include:

**The Mandate.** Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, Background Documents (August 1991)

**The Right of Aboriginal Self-Government and the Constitution: A Commentary** (February 1992)

**Intervenor Participation Program Guidelines** (March 1992)

Video, **Forging a New Relationship** (November 1992), available only to groups.

**Terms of Reference** (pamphlet)

**Ethical Guidelines for Research** (pamphlet)

Speeches by Co-Chairs Erasmus and Dussault. **Official Launch of the Public Hearings, Winnipeg, April 21, 1992**

Poster - "A Time to Talk -- A Time to Listen"

**Framing the Issues.** Discussion Paper No. 1 (October 1992)

Video, **Framing the Issues** (October 1992), available only to groups

**Overview of the First Round** by Michael Cassidy (October 1992)

**Focusing the Dialogue,** Discussion Paper No. 2 (April 1993)

Video, **Focusing the Dialogue** (April 1993), available only to groups

**Overview of the Second Round** by Michael Cassidy (April 1993)

The RCAP also publishes a newsletter, **The Circle**, which will be of wide interest. For example, Volume 2, Number 1 (January 1993) "presents an overview of research being done in the areas of treaties and land, the North, social-cultural affairs, urban perspectives and statistics. The next newsletter will describe research to be conducted on governance and economy, as well as on historical, women's and youth perspectives." (from **The Circle**)

Most of the above publications are available from the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People. Ordering information is available from the address or telephone numbers below.

Other documents will be published from time to time. **Aboriginal Peoples in Urban Centres** (Catalogue No. Z1-1991/1-11-3E) is the Commission's report on the National Round Table on Aboriginal Urban Issues. Publication date has been announced as April 1993. Copies will be available through retail booksellers or from Canada Communication Group, Publishing, Ottawa I1A 0S9

Information on the Round Four Hearings Schedule, on ordering publications, or on other matters concerning the activities of the RCAP is available from: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, P.O. Box 1993, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1B2

Telephone: (613) 943-2075; Facsimile: (613) 943-0304;

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## RUPERT'S LAND RESEARCH CENTRE COLLOQUIA PAPERS ORDER FORM

Photocopies of the following papers, read at Rupert's Land Research Centre Colloquia, are available at \$2.50 each, plus postage and handling.

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Belyea, Barbara 1988 Captain Franklin in Search of the Picturesque.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Belyea, Barbara 1992 Historical Positions/Editorial Strategies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coutts, Robert 1990 The York Factory Ethnohistory Project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cronenwett, Philip 1988 Manuscript Resources in the Vilhjalmur Stefansson Collection of Dartmouth College.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Duckworth, Harry 1988 The London Fur Sales, 1750-1800.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ewart, W.B. 1992 Thomas Hutchins, Surgeon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fossett, Renée 1990 Genesis of the Keewatin Inland Inuit.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Geller, Peter 1992 The Fur Trade in Photographs: From Private Moment to Public Image.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Harper-Fender, Ann 1988 Applied Location Theory: The Situation of HBC Posts, 1815-1840.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Helm, June 1988 Matonabee's Map.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Houston, C. Stuart 1990 Dr John Rae: The Most Efficient Arctic Explorer.
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