



## Online Newsletter

January 2011

### **Launch of the New ETRC Website**

We are happy to announce that our wholly redesigned website will be launched on 14 February 2011. As of that date, please visit us often at [www.etric.ca](http://www.etric.ca) and sample the pleasures of the new site. See where the changing collages of archival pictures will guide you and check out what's new under "Did You Know?" or "Testimonies". Use the easy method for subscribing to the *Journal of Eastern Townships Studies / Revue d'études des Cantons-de-l'Est* (JETS/RÉCE) found in the "Knowledge Transfer" section, then browse through the Archives Department's digitized photo collection. Learn about attractive student placement possibilities in the "Community Service" section, and discover several other items of interest by browsing the site at your leisure.

### **Colloquium on English-speaking Communities**

As it did last year, the ETRC is joining forces with the Quebec English-speaking Communities Research Network (QUESCREN) to hold a colloquium on Quebec's English-speaking Communities as part of the upcoming 79<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l'Acfas (the 79<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the *Association francophone pour le savoir*), which is to be hosted by Bishop's University and Université de Sherbrooke from May 9 to 13.

In organizing this year's colloquium, the ETRC and QUESCREN are partnering with Townshippers Association and the Équipe de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature anglo-québécoise (ÉRILAQ). The event will bring together numerous academics, researchers, government policy makers, and community organizers to further the knowledge-building that was begun in 2010. Through presentations and roundtable discussions, participants will seek to develop English-speaking communities of Quebec (ESCQ) studies as a research field. They will also promote community-university collaboration by presenting reports on some action-research projects, and provide evidence of the need for community and government decision-makers to design policies and programs to enhance the vitality of the ESCQ.

The event promises to offer an exciting space for learning and sharing knowledge. To participate, please follow the link below to the call for papers:

[http://icrml.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=388&Itemid=133&lang=en](http://icrml.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=388&Itemid=133&lang=en)

### **From Our Partners: Colloquium on “Identity and Difference: Interdisciplinary Reflections”**

As part of the 79<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l’Acfas to be held in May at Bishop’s and the Université de Sherbrooke, a two-day colloquium is being planned on the theme “Identity and Difference: Interdisciplinary Reflections”. Organizers Cristian Berco (Department of History, Bishop’s University) and Sophie Boyer (Department of Modern Languages, Bishop’s University) are particularly eager to encourage participation by those community organizations and community activists in the region that feel especially touched by this theme. Contributions can take the form of independent presentations, topic-based sessions, or roundtable discussions. For more information, those interested may contact the organizers directly at the email addresses below: [cberco@ubishops.ca](mailto:cberco@ubishops.ca) and [sboyer@ubishops.ca](mailto:sboyer@ubishops.ca)

### **The *Tableau de bord des communautés de l’Estrie* (Estrie Community Dashboard) Presented at Bishop’s**

On 16 December 2010, the ETRC welcomed Ginette Boyer, a researcher with the Centre de santé et de services sociaux -- Institut universitaire de gériatrie de Sherbrooke (CSSS-IUGS), and Michel Des Roches, a researcher with the Direction de la santé publique et de l’évaluation (DSPÉ), who presented the *Tableau de bord des communautés de l’Estrie* (Estrie Community Dashboard) to the Bishop’s community. This tool, designed to help local communities better target their development goals, constitutes one of the main projects conducted by the Observatoire estrien du développement des communautés (OEDC) in cooperation with a dynamic team of 60 community players including community groups, cooperatives, public and parapublic organizations, and academics. At the event itself and during informal discussions over the lunch that followed, researchers interested in the lives of Eastern Townships’ residents were able to meet and mingle with OEDC members and discuss possible approaches to future cooperation.

### **An Impressive English-Language Collection of Studies on Quebec Society**

The ETRC is pleased to inform the Newsletter’s readers of the publication of *Quebec Questions: Quebec Studies for the Twenty-First Century* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2010), one of whose editors is Dr. Christopher Kirkey, Director of the Center for the Study of Canada at State University of New York – Plattsburgh (SUNY – Plattsburgh) and a member of the ETRC’s Board of Directors.

Bringing together contributions from many disciplines, the book examines topics in Quebec studies such as language, citizenship, historical figures, a Quebec identity, and the place of Quebec on the international scene. Each chapter defines a framework and context for the topic focused on and provides such helpful materials as timelines, biographical sketches of key

figures, critical-thinking questions, and website addresses, thus allowing readers to obtain a comprehensive view of the topic covered.

As stated on the Oxford University Press Canada website, “Editors Stéphane Gervais, Christopher Kirkey, and Jarrett Rudy bring together experts from a variety of fields to create an original volume on Quebec that is the first of its kind in the English language.”

For more information about the book please don't hesitate to contact the ETRC or to visit <http://www.oupcanada.com/catalog/9780195432480.html>.

### **News from the Experiential Learning Program 2010-2011**

Once again the November competition for awards under the Experiential Learning Internships Grant Fund (ELIGF) saw over 20 applicants submitting innovative, community-based, creative projects. Following the process of awarding grants, several Bishop's students are being helped to implement their classroom knowledge during internships and practicums in various health institutions and non-profit and community organizations.

Thanks to the ELIGF, students will be able to travel to such destinations as the Wales Home in Richmond, the Nuhab Centre in Ascot Corner, and the children's psychiatric ward at the CHUS in Fleurimont, Sherbrooke. Locally, grants were also awarded to students working with community organizations in Sherbrooke and Lennoxville, namely the Lennoxville Library, which will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012, and the Service d'aide aux Néo-Canadiens (SANC).

Other students will equally have the opportunity to take on art-related projects through their enrolment in a Museology Practicum Course at the Foreman Art Gallery and contribution to the themed garden at the front of the Bishop's campus. This project had its first phase last year with the design of the garden (much appreciated by the Bishop's community) by Canadian artist Ron Benner. Similarly, grants will be awarded to students who will work for Townshippers' Association and to others who will reproduce the magnificent statue *Winged Victory of Samothrace*, and create eco-friendly gardens with the students of a local elementary school with the aim of raising eco-awareness among the school's kindergarten students.

### **From Global Humanitarian Concerns to Local Integration into the Community: Refugee Journeys**

On 1 February 2011, a forum on immigration was held on the Bishop's campus. Introduced by International Studies student Daniela Alves Mello E Silva, participants in the forum were: Claude Belleau, Coordinator of the Volunteer Program of the Service d'aide aux Néo-Canadiens (SANC) in Sherbrooke (and a member of the ETRC's Board of Directors); Mary Purkey, Co-Coordinator of the Bishop's-Champlain (BU/CRC) Refugee-Student Sponsorship Committee; and

two students, Peter Frank and Mlamueli Mpofu, who courageously shared their personal stories of life as refugees and the journeys that had brought them to Sherbrooke.

Peter Frank was sponsored to come to this campus as a student refugee by the BU/CRC Refugee-Student Sponsorship Committee. His testimonial reminded those present of the importance of education in young people's lives and of the sacrifices some are forced to make to receive their education. Mlamueli Mpofu's seemingly simple recollections of some moments from more than two years lived with a refugee's uncertainty drew all those present directly into a reflection on the multiple identities that one does not seek but that one necessarily develops on such a journey.

These testimonials were placed in a more general context by Claude Belleau's and Mary Purkey's presentations. Ms. Purkey provided suggestions for the concrete gestures we can all make to help refugees, for example through financial support or involvement in sponsoring a refugee through the BU/CRC Refugee-Student Sponsorship Committee. Mr. Belleau briefly presented the welcoming practices for new Canadians in the Sherbrooke area and reflected in depth on immigration in our region.

### **News from the Archives Department**

The ETRC's Archives Department is pleased to inform Newsletter readers of our most recent exhibition on display in the Old Library, McGreer Hall, which features items related to life in **winter in the Eastern Townships**. Activities from harvesting ice from the frozen rivers and lakes to braving snow drifts as high as houses to enjoying simple winter pastimes and sports are all evoked in the items displayed. Photographs, letters, and a book presenting aspects of winter work and frivolity have been drawn from records in the ETRC Archives, including the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club fonds (P150), the Sherbrooke Winter Club fonds (P140), the ETRC Graphic Collection (P998), the Elvyn M. Baldwin family fonds (P173), and the Mildred Waldren Collection (P170).

Over the past few months, the Archives Department has received one new acquisition and a number of accruals to existing fonds. The Gisla Cemetery Inc. fonds, now preserved in the Archives, contains information on the cemetery's history and its organization and funding activities. Of particular interest is the fact that this Scottish burial ground is the resting place of the infamous "Megantic Outlaw," Donald Morrison. The Archives Department also received new documents to add to the North Hatley Library Association fonds, the Philip Harry Scowen Collection, the ETRC Graphic Materials Collection, and others.

**Check us out in the *Sherbrooke Record*:** Articles by the Archives Department are now featured bi-weekly in the *Record*. The articles and accompanying photographs depict a variety of aspects of Eastern Townships history, including sports, railroads, prominent people, and events.