

*Our monthly e-Bulletin provides quick updates on activities of THEN/HiER and its partners.*

## What's new with THEN/HiER?



\* **Jan Haskings-Winner** has been nominated for a 2013 Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching for her work at Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute in Toronto, Ontario. Congratulations, Jan! Read about all the finalists.



\* **Alan Sears** recently published "Crossing Boundaries on the Battlefield: The Possibilities of Teacher Study Tours for Substantial Professional Learning," in *Canadian Military History* 22(1) (2013): 71-81. The article was jointly authored with Blake Seward, Cindy Brown, and Lee Windsor.

\* **Stéphane Lévesque, Jocelyn Létourneau** and **Raphaël Gani**, Master's student at the Université Laval, recently published "A Giant with Clay Feet: Québec Students and Their Historical Consciousness of the Nation," in the *International Journal of Historical Learning, Teaching and Research* 11(2) (2013): 156-72.

\* **Penney Clark, Margaret Conrad, Jocelyn Létourneau**, and THEN/HiER Members **Marc-André Éthier** (Université de Montréal) and **David Lefrançois** (Université du Québec en Outaouais) presented at the Association for Canadian Studies (ACS) *Planning 150* conference at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Québec on June 26.



Canadian Museum of Civilization

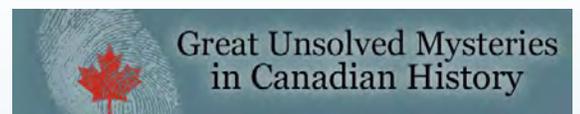
## What's new with our partners?



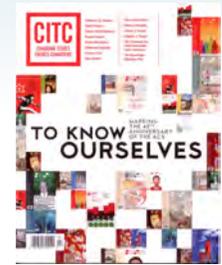
\* **The Canadian Museums Association (CMA)** is partnering with **Canada's History** to present the third annual Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Museums: *History Alive!* The CMA is now accepting nominations for this year's award which will be presented in November by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston during a special ceremony at Rideau Hall. The deadline for applications is August 16, 2013.

\* **The Museum of Vancouver (MOV)**, in partnership with the Musqueam First Nation, the UBC **Museum of Anthropology (MOA)** and the University of Waterloo, is developing an exhibition on the history of the Marpole Midden titled, "The Marpole Project: The History and Politics of Indigenous Heritage Sites in Canada," which will open in November, 2014. This project is funded by a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant as well as contributions from all participating organizations.

\* **Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History (GUMICH)** has developed a new critical challenge for students ages 14-16. Cold War Issues Through Political Cartoons invites students to revise political cartoons created during the Cold War based on information found in newspaper articles published at that time.



\* **The Association for Canadian Studies (ACS)** celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at its *Planning 150* conference on June 26 in Gatineau, Québec. The conference also commemorated *To Know Ourselves*, the 1975 report of the Commission on Canadian Studies, headed by Dr. Thomas H.B. Symons who was in attendance. In addition, the ACS has published a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue of its journal *Canadian Issues*. Contributors include His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, The Honourable Stéphane Dion, Stephen J. Toope, Thomas H.B. Symons and Penney Clark.



\* **Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres (IUFM) Nord-Pas de Calais** has released its publication *Nos collègues publient* (*Our Colleagues Publish*) for 2012, which lists publications by IUFM Nord-Pas de Calais instructors, including books, reports, IUFM-supported reviews, chapters in edited books, special issue journals, journal articles, conference presentations, and textbooks.



\* **The Critical Thinking Consortium (TC<sup>2</sup>)** is pleased to announce it has developed a partnership agreement with The Virtual Historian™, a project led by Stéphane Lévesque at the University of Ottawa, for the production of online historical thinking lessons. The first four lessons, to be offered in English and French, are *Residential Schooling and the Life of Children*, *Daily Life in WWI Internment Camps*, *Understanding the Causes of WWI Internment*, and *Investigating Images as Historical Texts*.



## Graduate Student Committees

Anglophone Graduate Student Committee. Have you posted any scintillatingly brilliant comments about your favourite blog post yet for the THEN/HiER Blog Contest? Be part of the conversation!



Kate Zankowicz

The authors of the three blog posts that receive the most comments will win incredible prizes. There are six posts (four in English, two in French) for you to read and comment on, in English or French, on either site. You can post comments multiple times. We would also like to thank all the 2013 Agricultural History Society's Annual Meeting student participants who sent in their blog posts reflecting on the conference. We look forward to posting these insightful musings on food history in the fall. In addition, we are finalizing details for our Annual Regional Conference in Vancouver on October 7 at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. Look for more details about *Objects Matter: Making Histories in Museums* on our website and in upcoming e-Bulletins. Contact Kate Zankowicz.

Francophone Graduate Student Committee. Although it's summer, the francophone blog has not been idle. Four articles were published in July which should pique your interest. Marc-André Lauzon examines the type of assessment proposed by third and fourth year secondary exams in History and Citizenship Education. Frédéric Yelle, our new member, considers the values underlying the Québec Education Program. And I have posted two articles: the first presents some obstacles to students' understanding of historical agency, and the second offers an analysis of the presence of women in the Progression of Learning in History and Citizenship Education in Québec. We also encourage you to comment on the articles submitted for the Blog Contest; you have until August 31 to make comments before the winners are announced. Whether you are on vacation or working, we wish you a sun-filled August to re-energize for the fall! Contact Marie-Hélène Brunet.



Marie-Hélène Brunet

## Research Snapshots

This section of our monthly e-Bulletin highlights our members' research projects.

**Sean Kheraj, Assistant Professor**  
**Department of History**  
**York University**

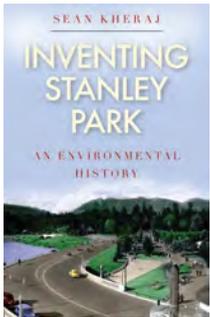
### History Beyond Humanity



What does history look like from a non-human perspective? How would our stories of the past change if we considered people as part of a broader biological community? What if history did not place humans at the centre of the narrative?

These are the types of questions that interest environmental historians and they are the broad questions that animate my own research. Of course, environmental historians are still concerned with the role of people in the past. Their focus, however, includes the relationships between people and the ecological communities of which they are a part.

My first book explores the many relationships between humans and a relatively small peninsula in southwestern British Columbia, known today as Stanley Park. Situated directly to the west of Vancouver's downtown core, Stanley Park has come to hold tremendous cultural and ecological value for the residents of the third largest city in Canada. In fact, following a series of violent windstorms in 2006-07 private donors and all levels of government raised millions of dollars to clean up and restore the park. Such financial generosity illustrates the extraordinary significance this forested peninsula holds. *Inventing Stanley Park* (UBC Press, 2013) attempts to explain how this came to be. My book covers the long history of Vancouver's Stanley Park from its deep geological past to the present, from its original occupancy by Coast Salish First Nations to its resettlement by European and Asian colonists to its transformation into an urban park. Throughout this history, non-human forces constantly altered the ecology of the peninsula. Rain washed away roadways, wild animals preyed upon zoo animals, fire and wind cleared forest growth, and insects plagued trees. At each step the relationship between people and Stanley Park was mediated by persistent and often erratic non-human actors.



This research led me to wonder whether the same was true of the relationship between people and the cities in which they lived. To what extent was the creation and growth of industrial urban environments in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries influenced by non-human forces? In particular, I wanted to know how urban environments were shaped by the thousands of human and non-human animals that co-inhabit cities. How did those environments change as the relationship between people and other animals changed over time? In my new work, I look at the regulation of domestic animals in nineteenth-century Canadian cities during a period when humans kept tens of thousands of horses, pigs, cows, and chickens in burgeoning urban centres, including Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver.

My development and training as an environmental historian has been greatly influenced by my online work with the Network in Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE). This unique network of historical researchers has provided me with the opportunity to experiment with new forms of scholarly communication, including blogging, podcasting, and mobile application development. In 2008, I launched *Nature's Past*, a Canadian environmental history audio podcast and the following year I started to keep an online research blog called *Sean Kheraj, Canadian History and Environment*. These projects in digital history led me to explore further forms of scholarly communication, including digital video, and the development of mobile phone applications. Each of these projects has helped me to reach new audiences and bring environmental history research to more people.

**\* MORE TO COME NEXT MONTH!**