



An Cumann le Léann Ceanadach in Éirinn  
Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland  
Association irlandaise d'études canadiennes

## Canada Today and Tomorrow

Online Conference

Thursday 18 May 2023

Programme

\*\* All paper presenters are asked to keep to 12-15 minutes each \*\*

\*All times are local times for Dublin, Ireland\*

### WELCOME

13.00-13.15

Welcome address on behalf of  
*An Cumann le Léann Ceanadach in Éirinn / Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland (ACSI) / Association irlandaise d'études canadiennes*

Dr Niall Majury (President, ACSI) & Dr Dervila Cooke (Secretary, ACSI)  
[n.majury@qub.ac.uk](mailto:n.majury@qub.ac.uk) [dervila.cooke@dcu.ie](mailto:dervila.cooke@dcu.ie)

Welcome address on behalf of  
*International Council of Canadian Studies (ICCS) / Le Conseil international d'études canadiennes (CIEC)*

Professor Kerstin Knopf (Universitaet Bremen)  
[kknopf@uni-bremen.de](mailto:kknopf@uni-bremen.de)

Welcome address on behalf of  
*Embassy of Canada to Ireland*

David Kyffin (Counsellor & Program Manager – Political and Public Affairs)  
[David.Kyffin@international.gc.ca](mailto:David.Kyffin@international.gc.ca)

Welcome address on behalf of  
*Délégation générale du Québec à Londres*

Martin Dionne (Directeur – affaires politiques et publiques)  
[martin.dionne@mri.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:martin.dionne@mri.gouv.qc.ca)

### ESTABLISHED SCHOLARS SESSION

13.15-14.15

Chair: Dr Julie Rodgers (School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Maynooth University)  
[julie.rodgers@mu.ie](mailto:julie.rodgers@mu.ie)

13.15-13.30

Dr Dervila Cooke (Dublin City University)  
[dervila.cooke@dcu.ie](mailto:dervila.cooke@dcu.ie)

*Qui est "Québécois"? Who is Québécois? Ethnocultural minorities in Québec from 1977 to 2023*

13.30-13.45

Professor Simon Harel (Université de Montréal)

[simon.harel@umontreal.ca](mailto:simon.harel@umontreal.ca)

*Enjeux transculturels et intergénérationnels de l'écriture migrante dans 'Comme un trait/ Le fil d'or et d'argent' de Stéphane Martelly et Claudia Brutus.*

13.45-14.00

Professor Michael Cronin (Trinity College Dublin)

[croninm8@tcd.ie](mailto:croninm8@tcd.ie)

*Les enjeux traductionnels de la mosaïque canadienne*

14.00-14.15

Professor Brigitte Johanna Glaser (University of Göttingen)

[brigitte.glaser@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:brigitte.glaser@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

*Narrating Migration: New Ways of Presenting Global Mobility in Contemporary Canadian Fiction*

## **DISCUSSION**

**14.15-14.45**

Facilitated by Dr Julie Rodgers (School of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Maynooth University)

[julie.rodgers@mu.ie](mailto:julie.rodgers@mu.ie)

## ***Comfort/Refreshment Break***

**14.45-15.15**

## **EARLY CAREER AND EMERGING SCHOLARS (ECEMS) SESSION**

**15.15-16.15**

Chair: Dr Silvia Ross (Department of Italian, University College Cork)

[s.ross@ucc.ie](mailto:s.ross@ucc.ie)

15.15-15.30

Evangeline Kroon (York University)

[ekroon@yorku.ca](mailto:ekroon@yorku.ca)

*Charting a Greener Future: Is Climate Change Anxiety enough to Impact Canada's Tomorrow?*

15.30-15.45

Manuel José Sousa Oliveira (Universidade do Porto)

[msoliveira@letras.up.pt](mailto:msoliveira@letras.up.pt)

*Peri-apocalyptic Petrocultures: An intermedial approach to energy ethics in Canada*

15.45-16.00

Rebecca Lazarenko

[rlazaren@yorku.ca](mailto:rlazaren@yorku.ca)

*'Civiliser les sauvages' : A Preliminary Look at the Francophone Communities of Alberta and Saskatchewan's Colonization and Treatment of Indigenous Peoples.*

16.00-16.15

Dr Angele Alook (York University)

[alook@yorku.ca](mailto:alook@yorku.ca)

*Indigenous Feminist Decolonial Caring Economies is the Solution for a Just Transition*

**DISCUSSION**

**16.15-16.45**

Facilitated by Dr Silvia Ross (University College Cork)

[s.ross@ucc.ie](mailto:s.ross@ucc.ie)

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**16.45-17.00**

Dr Niall Majury (President, ACSI) & Dr Dervila Cooke (Secretary, ACSI)

[n.majury@qub.ac.uk](mailto:n.majury@qub.ac.uk)

[dervila.cooke@dcu.ie](mailto:dervila.cooke@dcu.ie)

**Registration is through Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/492267564537>



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**ABSTRACTS & BIOS**

**ESTABLISHED SCHOLARS SESSION**

13.15-13.30

Dr Dervila Cooke (Dublin City University)

[dervila.cooke@dcu.ie](mailto:dervila.cooke@dcu.ie)

**Qui est “Québécois”? Who is Québécois? Ethnocultural minorities in Québec from 1977 to 2023**

**Abstract:** As noted by Haitian-born Québécois poet and publisher Rodney Saint-Eloi in 2017, Québec needs new inspiration: “nous avons besoin de pensées nouvelles” (Woolley 2017 online). This brief discussion poses the thorny question of what it is to be Québécois, including as represented in a recent work by a Greek-born Allophone who has made Montreal her home, Toula Drimonis, author of *We, the Others* (2022). We will also look at Marco Micone’s series of impassioned essays in his 2021 work, *On ne naît pas Québécois, on le devient*, which can be translated roughly as “Québécois is not an essence, but something that one becomes”. Micone argues that labels like “Francophone” and “Québécois” are too often appropriated by the historically established Francophone population, and should not exclude other types of Francophones and other types of inhabitants of Québec. For example, most people from First Nations communities in Québec are Francophone, though many also speak their own language, and should be able to self-identify as Québécois if they so wish (as well as having the right to reject the identifier). We will touch on the cultural fears inherent in recent laws such as Bill 96 (enacted in May 2022), which seeks to create new safeguards for French, building on protection first laid out in Québec’s famous 1977 law, Bill 101. Likewise, we will look at the perception among Québec’s ethnocultural minorities in relation to Bill 21, a 2019 act that was influenced by laws on religious symbols and face coverings in France from 2004 and 2010, and that grew out of the aborted *Charte des valeurs québécoises* (2013). Bill 21 promotes State secularism, by prohibiting the wearing of religious symbols by certain public employees in positions of authority, but has proved particularly divisive. Is Québec self-sabotaging by dictating what it is to be Québécois?

**Bio:** Dr Dervila Cooke’s research interests lie primarily in highly contemporary studies in French-speaking culture (life-writing, fiction, film, urban studies, photography, and some song), mainly for France and Québec. Dr Cooke edited the 2016 thematic issue of the journal *Comparative Literature and Culture* on new work on immigration in contemporary writing in France, Québec and Ireland. Her initial research focused on the work of French writer Patrick Modiano, on whom she has published widely, including a monograph, and a special issue of *French Cultural Studies*. She has two monographs forthcoming with Palgrave MacMillan on narratives of transcultural youth in France and Québec. The first of these is focused on Indigenous, Migrant and Allophone Youth in Québec (Fontaine, Farhoud, Aloisio, Verboczy). The second is focused on Life Writing and Transcultural Youth by authors of dual culture in France (Begag, Madjidi, Alcoba). Dr Cooke has a strong interest in Canada, particularly in Québec. She has been secretary of the Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland since summer 2018. In April 2016 she received the Prix de la délégation québécoise (Irlande) for a project on memories of

childhood in recent autobiographical writing in Québec. Dr Cooke is also interested in ecocritical approaches and in hands-on environmentalism.

13.30-13.45

Professor Simon Harel (*Université de Montréal*)

[simon.harel@umontreal.ca](mailto:simon.harel@umontreal.ca)

**Enjeux transculturels et intergénérationnels de l'écriture migrante dans *Comme un trait/ Le fil d'or et d'argent* de Stéphane Martelly et Claudia Brutus.**

**Résumé :** Le recueil de poèmes et dessins de Martelly et Brutus décrit un partenariat avec des élèves de communautés racialisées qui vivent l'exclusion en milieu scolaire. À travers la lecture de ces poèmes et dessins, nous étudierons une dynamique de collaboration dialogique, émancipatrice, autour de créations qui constituent la mise en commun de savoir-faire dans le respect des voix des jeunes qui veulent bien traduire et partager leurs expériences scolaires, sociales et communautaires. Ainsi reprenons-nous la notion de maître- ignorant (Rancière, 2004) dans un renversement des perspectives qui fait de l'apprenant un sujet qui sait et qui est en mesure d'énoncer un point de vue, mais aussi une orientation quant à la poursuite de ses apprentissages en dehors des balises institutionnelles habituelles. Compte tenu des enjeux soulevés par le recueil *Comme un trait / Le fil d'or et d'argent*, il y a lieu d'offrir aux enfants de communautés racialisées l'opportunité de réfléchir au devenir-ensemble à partir d'une définition étendue du *care*, soit un *care* sans frontière entre soi et la « nature », comme l'entend l'écologie queer, courant de pensée communément lié aux travaux de Foucault de Butler, et qui trouve des échos épistémiques forts autant dans les textes de Spinoza que dans de nombreuses cultures autochtones. Notre visée englobe les relations non dualistes qu'entretient l'individu avec sa communauté et son écoumène, un soi qui n'est pas *dans* le monde, mais qui se conçoit en tant que partie intégrante de son devenir. **Keywords :** exclusion apprentissage école racialisation migration intergénérationnel Québec transculture

**Bio:** Simon Harel is a Trudeau Fellow (2009-2012) and a member of the Royal Society of Canada. Over the past 25 years, he has pioneered an innovative field of research at the crossroads of literary and cultural studies. He was one of the first to examine the particularities of the experience of migration in Quebec. His book *Voleur de parcours*, published in 1989, is recognized as one of the most noteworthy publications in Quebec cultural studies in the 1980s and 1990s. The author or editor of over thirty publications, he is interested in intercultural issues and the role of the stranger in society, and has conducted research into vulnerability in the spaces in which we live. Recognizing the failings of certain kinds of critical discourse (on hybridization, *métissage* and cookie-cutter identity), he is presently concentrating on delineating the vacillating, often conflicting, forms of cultural mobility.

13.45-14.00

Professor Michael Cronin (TCD)

[croninm8@tcd.ie](mailto:croninm8@tcd.ie)

**Les enjeux traductionnels de la mosaïque canadienne**

**Résumé :** La traduction est une pratique qui n'a jamais été neutre dans le contexte canadien. Depuis l'arrivée des puissances coloniales en passant par l'adoption du bilinguisme fédéral et la prise de conscience tardive du fait linguistique autochtone, la traduction endosse la double responsabilité de la contestation et de la réconciliation. En m'appuyant sur l'histoire de la traduction littéraire au Canada, je vais tenter d'esquisser plusieurs scénarios pour conceptualiser un éventuel avenir de l'espace traductionnel au Canada.

**Bio:** Michael Cronin holds Trinity College Dublin's 1776 Chair / Professor of French. He received his BA from Trinity College Dublin, his MA from University College Dublin and his PhD from Trinity College Dublin for a dissertation on ludic elements in the prose fiction of Réjean Ducharme and Gérard Bessette. He has taught in universities in France and Ireland and has held Visiting Research Fellowships to universities in Canada, Belgium, Peru, France and Egypt. He is a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin, an elected Member of the Royal Irish Academy and the Academia Europaea, an Officer in the *Ordre des Palmes Académiques* and a Senior Researcher in the

Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation. He is the author of 13 monographs, the co-editor of seven edited collections and the author of over 150 refereed articles and book chapters. His work has been translated into 16 languages including Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Korean and Modern Greek. Among his published works are *Across the Lines: travel, language, translation* (Cork University Press, 2000), *Translation and Globalization* (Routledge, 2006), *Translation and Identity* (Routledge, 2006), *The Expanding World: towards a politics of microspeciation* (Zero Books, 2012), *Translation in the Digital Age* (Routledge, 2013), *Eco-Translation: translation and ecology in the Age of the Anthropocene* (Routledge, 2017) and *Eco-Travel: journeying in the Anthropocene* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). His research interests are in the areas of eco-criticism, travel writing, translation theory and history, Franco-Irish cultural relationships and Quebec and Acadian Studies.

14.00-14.15

Professor Brigitte Johanna Glaser (University of Göttingen)

[brigitte.glaser@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:brigitte.glaser@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

### **Narrating Migration: New Ways of Presenting Global Mobility in Contemporary Canadian Fiction**

**Abstract:** This presentation investigates variations of the ‘refugee narrative’, a contemporary subgenre of the novel of migration. My focus will be on two Canadian novels, first briefly on Madeleine Thien’s *Do Not Say We Have Nothing* (2016) and then, in more detail, Sharon Bala’s *The Boat People* (2018). Both of these texts present the impact of cultural and civil wars on individuals, they highlight their need to escape from violent homelands and seek refuge elsewhere, and they address the far-reaching consequences these movements have on people around the globe. To achieve this, their authors use specific narrative techniques directed at evoking empathy in readers and raising in them a sense of solidarity based not only on the knowledge of a common humanity but also on their awareness of being themselves implicated in the causes of this new global mobility. The theoretical framework applied in my reading of the two novels will be empathy studies and narratology, with the help of which I aim to explore the ways in which that these texts may assist (or impede) arguments in the public sphere relating to migration.

**Bio:** Brigitte Johanna Glaser is Professor of British Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Since her research focus for the 15 years has been Postcolonial Studies, Globalization and Transcultural Writing, much of her work has centered on migration and cultural mobility. Among her early publications in the field is the co-edited volume on *The Canadian Mosaic in the Age of Transnationalism* (2010) and the article “The Influence of Globalisation and Transnationalism on Anglophone Canadian Literature” (2012). Over the past few years she has also acquired expertise in the area of graphic media (see the co-edited volume on *Convergence Culture Reconsidered* (2017) and the article on “Mediating Postcolonial Issues through Graphic Biofiction” (2016)). Recent publications have included edited volumes on *Transgressions / Transformations* (2018, with Wolfgang Zach) and on *Shifting Grounds: Cultural Tectonics along the Pacific Rim* (2020, with Jutta Ernst). She is currently President of the Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien / Association for Canadian Studies in German-Speaking Countries.

### **EARLY CAREER AND EMERGING SCHOLARS (ECEMS) SESSION**

15.15-15.30

Evangeline Kroon (York University)

[ekroon@yorku.ca](mailto:ekroon@yorku.ca)

### **Charting a Greener Future: Is Climate Change Anxiety enough to Impact Canada’s Tomorrow?**

**Abstract:** Within the context of the current global discussion on climate change, Canada’s political response to the ongoing climate crisis effects how the country is perceived on the international stage. Canada’s historical and contemporary position as an energy extraction state is key to the nation’s identity and economy, influencing its political decisions. Canada’s location is also uniquely precarious in that it both disproportionality contributes to, and suffers from, the consequences of global warming, and this tension is observable in current political

discourse. Therefore, an examination of environmental concern in Canada as reflected in voter support for the Green Party of Canada is overdue. However, though the emergence and success of Green parties in Europe and Australasia have been well-documented since the 1980s, the Canadian Green Party has had almost no attention paid to it and very few long-term success studies or comparative articles exist that examine its growth and political tenure since its formation in 1984. This presentation therefore turns to Canada and examines the key themes found to contribute to the emergence and success of Green parties in the EU and Australasia and compares them to the Canadian context. In analyzing where the similarities and differences lie, this project explores if human concern surrounding climate is enough to provide political support and create political change, if it is the only issue needed, and if not, what other political, social or economic factors must fall into place for a Green party to be successful in Canada? **Keywords:** Politics of Voting, Comparative Politics, Environmentalism, Gendered Voting Patterns, Third Party Voting, The Green Party of Canada

**Bio:** Evangeline Kroon is a PhD candidate in political science at York University specializing in women in politics and Canadian politics. Her current research centers on political expressions of climate anxiety and previously she has published on narratives of female violence in post-apocalyptic pop culture, an interest that remains relevant as she examines understandings of future-oriented imaginaries through the lens of climate crises. This research also blends seamlessly with her love of nature, quest for ecological sustainability and feminism. She lives and works and tries to keep plants alive in Tkaronto, whose current treaty holders are the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

15.30-15.45

Manuel José Sousa Oliveira (Universidade do Porto)  
[msoliveira@letras.up.pt](mailto:msoliveira@letras.up.pt)

### **Peri-apocalyptic Petrocultures: An intermedial approach to energy ethics in Canada**

**Abstract:** At a recent event, Margaret Atwood claimed that energy might be one of the top challenges that the world must face when addressing the environmental crisis. This paper will take an intermedial approach at the intersection between environmental ethics and utopianism to try and (begin to) understand the manifold cultural dimensions of energy in Canada. To that end, it will briefly consider a selection of verbal and pictorial artworks: in literature, Atwood's *MaddAddam* (2013) and Thomas King's *The Back of the Turtle* (2014), and in photography, Edward Burtynsky's *Oil* (1999-2010) and Garth Lentz's *Canada's Tar Sands* (c. 2010-2013). As it will be argued, artworks which address the oil industry and petrocultures tend to rely on the aesthetic mode of the apocalypse. However, of this selection only Atwood's novel would be consensually defined as apocalyptic. It will be suggested, then, that we instead consider them in terms of the "peri-apocalyptic" – of that which is always already apocalyptic. Ultimately, this paper will explore how contemporary petrocultures in Canada are marked by a teleological sentiment and urgency that help us to understand not only how oil and energy are aestheticized but also the ambivalences and vicissitudes of energy ethics. **Keywords:** environment; ethics; energy; literature; photography; culture

**Bio :** Manuel Sousa Oliveira is a PhD candidate at the University of Porto, and a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for English, Translation, and Anglo-Portuguese Studies (CETAPS) funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology / *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia* (FCT) (ref. UI/BD/151368/2021). His doctoral project is on ethics and utopianism. He is the international spokesperson for the Emerging Scholars' Forum / *Nachwuchsforum* (NWF) of the Association for Canadian Studies in German-Speaking Countries / *Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien* (GKS), and the coordinator of the new International Network of Emerging Scholars in Canadian Studies / *Réseau international de jeunes chercheurs en études canadiennes* under the International Council for Canadian Studies (ICCS) / *Conseil international d'études canadiennes* (CIEC). He received two research grants from Porto's Portuguese British Association / *Associação Luso-Britânica do Porto*, both in 2019, and two Margaret Atwood Society Awards, most recently in 2021.

15.45-16.00

Rebecca Lazarenko  
[rlazaren@yorku.ca](mailto:rlazaren@yorku.ca)

## **'Civiliser les sauvages' : A Preliminary Look at the Francophone Communities of Alberta and Saskatchewan's Colonization and Treatment of Indigenous Peoples.**

**Abstract:** My doctoral research is looking at Prairie Francophone and Indigenous colonial relationships, with a concentration on Métis peoples, through a comprehensive examination of the francophone newspapers of the time. The purpose of my research is to illustrate the colonial project of the francophone communities of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba - which was to colonize the lands and peoples to ensure the implantation and supremacy of the French people, the French language, and the Roman Catholic religion to the detriment of the "sauvages" – Indigenous Peoples. In this presentation, I will discuss and frame the preliminary results of my research: exploring specifically how the francophone newspapers represented Indigenous Peoples, how they claimed ownership over Indigenous Nations and Peoples, how they conceptualized and forced identity on Métis Peoples, how they qualified Indigenous Peoples, how they condemned while also appropriated Métis Resistances as francophone history (Louis Riel, 1869-70, 1884-1885), and how they posited French missionaries as the origins of Indigenous civilizations and the hero's to the *poor, miserable* and *childlike* "sauvages."

**Bio** – Rebecca Lazarenko (she/elle/iskwêw) is a Franco-Métis iskwêw from St. Albert, Alberta, and a citizen of the Métis Nation of Alberta. She is a doctoral candidate in the History department of York University. Her research focuses on the French colonial project and its effects on Indigenous Nations, specifically Métis, in the Prairies 1900-1950. In 2022 Rebecca's research was recognised through the York University's Indigenous Research Seed Fund, a fund which supports "emerging and established Indigenous scholars for research that advances excellence in Indigenous knowledge, languages and ways of knowing and being".

16.00-16.15

Dr Angele Alook (York University)

[alook@yorku.ca](mailto:alook@yorku.ca)

## **Indigenous Feminist Decolonial Caring Economies is the Solution for a Just Transition**

**Abstract:** I will be discussing my chapter in the book "The End of This World: Climate Justice in so-called Canada". I will be discussing my chapter "miyo-wicihtowin: Uniting to Build a Caring Economy for All" and how I came to develop an Indigenous feminist decolonial caring economy as a solution for a just transition. The end of the world that is based on capitalism colonialism and death economies. How can we start Imagining Indigenous and settler futures from a different lens? How can we work towards climate justice and Indigenous sovereignty together? How do we achieve a just transition through dismantling settler colonialism? Drawing on Cree laws and systems of caring, I begin to imagine a revitalization of Indigenous economies of care, while advocating for a feminist future of our economy, moving towards degrowth and economies based on creating a good life. Also I draw on feminist economics and my experiences in the labour movement, and need to recognize the paid and unpaid care work of women, racialized and Indigenous workers. Part of this future is supporting and funding public services such as healthcare, childcare, long-term care and the education system.

**Bio:** Dr. Angele Alook is an assistant professor in the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at York University. She is a proud member of Bigstone Cree nation in Treaty 8 territory, where she has carried out research on issues of sociology of family and work, resource extraction, school-to-work transitions, Indigenous identity, and seeking the good life (miyo-pimatisiwin) in work-life balance. Her most recent research is about a just transition away from fossil fuels, Indigenous caring economies, and Indigenous climate justice. She is a co-author of a best-selling Canadian book entitled "The End of This World: Climate Justice in so-called Canada" published in 2023 by Between the Line Publishing.