



University of Washington • Western Washington University

Fall 2004

Greetings – Although Mother Nature and election issues have demanded attention, it has been a busy summer and fall for outreach. The enthusiastic teachers we met at the annual STUDY CANADA Summer Institute renewed our spirits and our mission to promote Canadian Studies. Teachers came from around the state as well as OR, ID, MS, VT, CA, MI, AZ, CO, and NH!

The annual Jackson School of International Studies *Summer Seminar for Educators* was also a great success. This year's focus was global environmental challenges. Dr. Peter Rhines, Oceanography, addressed Canada's Arctic and Ann Lesperance, Adjunct Faculty, spoke about environmental issues in our shared BC-Washington ecosystem.

The "O Canada!" Newspapers in Education supplement and Internet "hits" to the k12studycanada.wvu.edu site have brought unprecedented exposure of Canadian curriculum to students and teachers. We hope that this flyer, too, will pique the interest of more educators. Please share it with colleagues!

Since some of you advise students for the National History Day competition, we'd like to remind you that K-12 STUDY CANADA co-sponsors Canadian History Awards at the state-level of the NHD competition along with the Canadian Consulate in Seattle and the Canada-America Society. We are pleased to announce that this year's winners in the senior division are Kelsi Franzen, Michael Loyd and Ashley Jones (Coupeville HS) who submitted the group documentary *Exploration and Enlightenment: George Vancouver's Encounters in the Pacific Northwest*. Theodore Charles (Edison ES) was the junior division winner for his exhibit *A Pacific Graveyard: Encountering Maritime Disasters, Exploring Navigational Improvements*. Each project included Canadian history and was an outstanding entry in its category. Advisors, Diane Elkema (Coupeville HS), Wilbur Purdue (Coupeville MS), and Katy Olson (Edison ES) are commended for their encouragement and direction. These outstanding projects show how readily Canadian Studies can be linked to American history and international issues. Winners are awarded \$100 for

individual submissions and \$50 for a group submission. We encourage students to submit projects for 2005.

Since 2004 marks the 400th anniversary of the founding of Acadia, we have focused the content of this issue on teaching the sad tale of Acadian exile. Students will discover a sense of sympathy and hope for displaced people that can be applied to current world problems. We hope the material suits your classroom interests and resource needs well.

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A SHORT HISTORY OF ACADIA

This material is adapted from <http://www.cbc.ca/acadian/index.html> and Nadine Fabbi's essay entitled "Québec History and the Roots of the Sovereignty Movement Today."

The Origin of Acadia

The Italian explorer Giovanni de Verazzano explored the Atlantic coast of North America in 1524 and was so impressed by the beauty of the trees of the Chesapeake Bay that he gave it the name *Arcadia* since it evoked images of ancient Greece. Acadia (without the "r") came to designate the present area of Canada's Maritime Provinces. Eighty years later, in 1604, Samuel de Champlain left France to assert the King's claim to "L'Acadie." He and his men wintered on Île Saint-Croix at the mouth of the St. Croix River, establishing the first European habitation in North America. In August 1605 Champlain moved to Port Royal (now Annapolis Royal), a community that was to become Acadia's major town. From 1632 until 1653 the core group of Acadian settlers arrived. In only a few years, their settlements spread throughout the Atlantic region but ownership of the Acadian colonies was tossed back and forth between the French and the English.

The Struggle for Acadia

From the time of first settlement, the French and English battled for dominance in North America. In 1713, the Acadians in Nova Scotia became permanent British subjects, while Île Royale (Cape Breton) and Île Saint-Jean (Prince Edward Island) remained French. In 1719, work began on Fortress Louisbourg to protect France's interests. It was to become one of the busiest ports on

the Atlantic coast; however, in 1745 Louisbourg fell to British forces from New England. Although a treaty returned it to France only three years later, the establishment of Halifax in 1749 engrained a solid colonized British presence on the Atlantic Coast. The final struggle for control began in the mid-1700s between the British and the growing population of Acadians who inhabited the region.

The Acadian Expulsion

At the beginning of the French and Indian War of 1754, the British government demanded that Acadians in the Maritimes give up their Catholic religion and claim allegiance to the Crown of England. This included fighting against the French. Most of them refused. As a result, British Governor Charles Lawrence and the Nova Scotia Council decided on July 28, 1755 to deport the Acadians. Although Grand Pré to this day is the most well known symbol of the expulsion, it actually began at Fort Beauséjour on August 11.

About 6,000 Acadians were forcibly removed from their colonies. The British military ordered the Acadians' communities to be destroyed and homes and barns were burned down. The people were dispersed among the 13 American colonies, but many refused to accept them and sent them to Europe. Families were torn apart and many lost everything they owned. Acadians call this event the *Grand Dérangement*. In English it is known as *the Expulsion*.

As a result of the deportation and the subsequent migrations, the Acadians ended up in the New England States and all along the eastern seaboard, as far south as Georgia. Many were put in jail, and many died at sea. Others ran away to Québec, hid with the Mi'kmaq in Nova Scotia, or went to present-day New Brunswick, or Prince Edward Island. In 1758, the Acadians who fled to Île St. Jean (Prince Edward Island) and Île Royale (Cape Breton Island) were rounded up and sent to France. When the British under General Wolfe and General Amherst recaptured Louisbourg, the last French stronghold, 3,000 more Acadians were deported to France. The *Grand Dérangement* displaced from 10,000 to 18,000 Acadians. Thousands more were killed or drowned in shipwrecks.

Years later the English allowed the Acadians to return. Those who made the long trip back from Louisiana are the direct ancestors of the approximate 300,000 Acadians in the two provinces today. The Cajun people in Louisiana are also descendants of the Acadians, the word *Cajun* likely being derived from *Acadian*.



Charles M. Copeland's sketch depicts the overwhelming sadness and the despair during the Expulsion (1755-63) of the Acadians - <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/acadian/english/gallery/gallery6/gallery6.htm>

Acadian Culture

The story of *the Acadian Expulsion* was so compelling that the American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, wrote a poem entitled "Evangeline" that became one of his most famous works. Evangeline was a young heroine who made the trek from Canada to Louisiana becoming separated from her fiancé along the way. The Acadians consider her their "Joan of Arc."

Although Acadians have strong ties to French-Canadians, they are a unique people with a unique history. When it was suggested in the 1870s that the tradition of celebrating *St. Jean Baptiste Day* in Quebec be shared as a celebration of Acadian heritage, Reverend Marcel-François Richard said:

"It seems to me that a people who, for over a century of hardships and persecutions, was able to preserve its religion, language, customs and autonomy, must have acquired enough importance to affirm its existence in a solemn way; and this could not be accomplished better than by being able to celebrate its own national holiday..."



Agriculture (crops and livestock) was the backbone of the Acadian economy prior to the deportation of 1755 - <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/acadian/english/gallery/gallery7/gallery7.htm>

And so Acadians in North America now celebrate August 15 as *National Acadian Day*. Choosing this day was one of the highlights of the first National Acadian Convention in New Brunswick in 1881. In 2004, Acadians held their world congress in Nova Scotia which highlighted how Acadians have focused their hard work and entrepreneurial skills on strengthening their institutions, commercial enterprises, and educational establishments. Acadians have worked to create an identity different from that of France or Quebec. Their culture today is bustling with amazing energy, artistic creativity and *joie-de-vivre*.



Upcoming Presentations and Displays on Canada

NSSSA and 84th NCCS Conferences

Democracy and Diversity: Social Studies in Action
November 17-21, 2004
Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD

NSSSA Thursday, Nov. 18
(1:45-2:45 S-12) *How does a Fifth Grader Spell DBQ?*
(T. Henson, D. June)

NCCS Friday, Nov. 19
(9:15-10:15) *Diversity of Democracy: Evolution vs. Revolution* (T. McGrath)
(12:30-2:30) *United/Divided: The 49th Parallel* (Bill Joyce, R. Writer)
(3:00-4:00) *Canada Special Interest Group* (SIG) Session

NCCS Saturday, Nov. 20
(9:15-10:15) *Baltimore to Buxton...The Underground Railroad Didn't Stop at the Border* (R. Writer, D. June)
(1:45-2:45) *The Last Great 35¢ Textbook: Newspapers in Education* (T. Storer, D. Alexander and C. Lancto)

The above sessions feature curriculum on Canada. Visit www.nccs.org for more conference information.

Documentary Film Workshop - Teaching Diversity & Cross Cultural Understanding through Film

Saturday, December 4, 2004 - 8:30-4:30
UW Campus, 8 clock hours, \$40

Information/Registration: (206) 221-6374 or canada@u.washington.edu

A recent Canadian documentary film will be featured.

Teacher Workshop - The Burgess Shale: Evolution's Big Bang

Winter Quarter, Date TBA
UW Campus, Burke Museum, 4.5 clock hours, \$30

Information/Registration: (206) 543-9681 or burked@u.washington.edu

Explore the stories of discovery and scientific inquiry that make this isolated site in the Canadian Rockies invaluable to researchers worldwide.

Canada in the Classroom: K-12 Resources

400 years ago, Acadia was founded when the first French permanent settlement in North America was established at Saint Croix Island. Not only is the study of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "Evangeline" recommended but also the resources below which bring to life the sorrowful past of Acadian history and joie-de-vivre of modern Acadian culture.

Internet Resources:

- Explore *The Acadians* at www.cbc.ca/acadian for features on Acadian history, culture and events. It includes a list of about 300 family names—are you descended from Acadians like families with the name *Blanchard, Daniel, Dubois, Egan, Forest, Joseph, Leblanc, Long, Martin, Olivier, Raymond, Richard, Samson, Thibodeau,...*?
- *Histor!ca's* excellent web-based lessons at www.youthlinks.org guide teachers and students through the *Champlain in Acadia* unit, promoting empathy for the refugees' expulsion and providing resource links for their research.
- *The Deportation of the Acadians* (Blupete site) www.blupete.com/Hist/NovaScotiaBk1/Part6/Splash.htm
- *The Super Great Acadian History Quiz* (From SchoolNet) www.schoolnet.ca/vp-pv/quiz/acadia.html#Para_23
- *Louisiana Challenge: Activities for the K-12 Classroom* www.challenge.state.la.us/k12act/multi/Default.htm. A collection of lesson plans, multidisciplinary units and collaborative projects developed by Louisiana teachers and geared towards integrating the Internet into education.

fears that dominated the historical eras while celebrating the newcomers' determination. Each 6-8 minute segment presents original letters, re-enactments, drawings and photographs.

Juvenile Fiction:

- From the *Our Canadian Girl Series* (Ages 8-10) **Elizabeth: Bless This House** Carter, Anne L. (Toronto: Penguin Books, 2002) 86 pages. ISBN 0-14-100251-4
- **Elizabeth: To Pirate Island** Carter, Anne L. (Toronto: Penguin Books, 2004) 90 pages. ISBN 0-14-301482-X.
- **A Song for Acadia Downie**, Mary Alice (Halifax: Nimbus, 2004) 60 pages. ISBN 1-55109-474-6

Also consider *The Girl on Evangeline Beach* (A.L. Carter), *Acadia: A Novel* (A. Silver), *Rose of Acadia* (M.M. Saunders), *The Sea is So Wide* (E. Eaton), *Quietly My Captain Waits* (E. Eaton) and *The Forge in the Forest* (C.G.D. Roberts) for high school students. *See CM reviews at www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/cm/search.html.

Non-Fiction / Reference:

- **Acadian Legends, Folktales, and Songs from Prince Edward Island** (Grades 9+) Arsenault, Georges. (Charlottetown: Acorn Press, 2002) 157 pages. ISBN: 1894838025. See www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/cm/vol9/no18/acadianlegends.html.
- **A Land of Discord Always: Acadia from its Beginnings to the Expulsion of its People Mahaffie**, Charles D. (Halifax: Nimbus Publishing Ltd., 2003) ISBN: 1551094533. Peopled with memorable men and women whose lives make fascinating reading, this book chronicles the history of Acadia.
- **Scattered to the Wind: Dispersal and Wanderings of the Acadians, 1755 - 1809** Brasseau, Carl A. (Lafayette: USL Center for Louisiana Studies, 1991) 84 pages. ISBN: 0940984709. Dealing solely with the expulsion and its aftermath, this booklet offers detailed data and a geographical approach to the fate of Acadian exiles in each of their stopping points. It contains maps, easy-to-read statistical tables and more.

CD-ROM Selection:

- **The Acadia CD-ROM** (Ages 15-17) (New York: National Film Board of Canada, 1999) This CD-ROM provides a comprehensive overview of Acadian heritage, past and present. It details the Acadian exile; offers virtual tours of many Acadian historical sites, and contains a range of materials ranging from genealogy and folklore to the full text of Longfellow's poem, "Evangeline" and a collection of essays.

Video Selection:

- **Land of Hope - Volume I** (Ages 13+) (New York: National Film Board of Canada, 1997) 28:25 mins. This video examines 4 significant immigration periods and immigrant groups: Acadia (1755), Irish (1847), Black (late 1800s), and Chinese (early 1900s). The video examines misconceptions and

K-12 STUDY CANADA

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Olympic View Middle School students in Megan Vetter's class enjoy the view from Victoria's Parliament Building.