

# Conflict, Cooperation and Commemoration: Examining Interactions in the Past

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2024 Tri-University Conference Presenter Bios & Abstracts

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## Session 1 Panels

### Panel 1.1: Communities, Conflict, Confrontation

*Chandini Jaswal: "Memories of 1947: Ordinary Voices, Extraordinary Stories."*

Chandini Jaswal is a second-year postgraduate history student at Panjab University, India. She secured the gold medal in her undergraduate history degree. Jaswal is a core team member at Karwaan Heritage, India and a communication member at The Museum of British Colonialism, UK-Kenya. She has published 19 research papers and 27 articles focusing on subcontinental history, particularly women's studies in modern and pre-modern India. She is also engaged in documenting oral histories of the 1947 Partition.

\*Memories of 1947: Ordinary Voices, Extraordinary Stories has been selected for presentation at the NTU Postgraduate History Workshop Series, Singapore, Historical Perspectives at the University of Glasgow in October 2023 as well as the Annual History of Education Society Conference-Postgraduate Panel in November 2023 and the Heritage and Colonialism Discussion Group at the University of Cambridge in March 2024.

“ਅੱਜ ਆਖਾਂ ਵਾਰਸ ਸ਼ਾਹ ਨੂੰ ਕਿਤੇ ਕਬਰਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਬੋਲ। ਤੇ ਅੱਜ। ਕਿਤਾਬੇ ਇਸ਼ਕ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਅਗਲਾ ਵਰਕਾ ਫੋਲ।”

“Today, I call Waris Shah [a popular Sufi poet] , ‘Speak from your grave,’ And turn to the next page in your book of love.”

-Excerpt from the poem ‘Ajj Aakhaan Waris Shah Nu’ (trans. Today, I invoke Waris Shah) by Amrita Pritam on the horrors of partition.

In August 1947, the Indian struggle for independence culminated in: the end of over 200 years of British colonial rule, the partition of the country along religious lines and the unprecedented mass migration of over 10 million people accompanied by grisly instances of riots. Whilst ample research exists on the political and economic colonisation (and extent of decolonisation) of India, the psychological aspect: the voices of those who experienced this forced migration and loss are seldom discussed. This research-based presentation addresses this gap by exploring the impact and legacy of partition on refugee families through five in-depth case studies. Using unpublished pictures and oral testimonies, this study challenges the oversimplified narrative and hostility popularly attributed to the partitioned countries—India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. In times when all nation-states strive to strengthen ‘hardcore nationalism’, this research underlines how partition has complicated international relations in the subcontinent and how inextricably the fates of these nation-states are intertwined with each other — not least because of diplomatic dialogue, but through ‘extraordinary stories of ordinary voices’.

Keywords: Partition—displacement—survivors—testimonies—legacy

*Ashlyn Cudney: "Domestic Violence and Spousal Reconciliation in 17th Century Bute."*

Ashlyn Cudney is a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh specializing in early modern Scottish history. Her dissertation explores the experience and manifestations of godly patriarchy on the island of Bute in the seventeenth century. Ashlyn uses an intersectional approach to identify and examine incidence of ecclesiastical and secular bias. Ashlyn's research is interested in deviance, social control, concepts of marginality and peripherality, gender, and cultural transmission in early modern Scotland.

Despite early modern Scottish tradition endowing husbands with the responsibility to correct their wives through mild physical discipline, spousal abuse which surpassed the acceptable bounds of husbandly correction was not only discouraged by the Reformed church but viewed as a blight on the morality and stability of the parish.

This paper explores incidents of domestic abuse in seventeenth-century Bute and the kirk sessions' attempts to facilitate spousal reconciliation. Bute women accused of marital discord were primarily reacting to violence at the hands of their husbands. Some Bute men utilized child abuse, specifically against their young daughters, to intimidate their wives. To facilitate reconciliation, the kirk sessions employed several tactics: assigning cautioners, acting as mediators, conducting home visits, and issuing warnings for future behavior. The elders were primarily concerned with controlling alcohol use in domestic violence cases, recognizing its role as a factor in inciting abuse. Moreover, the rarity of financial penalties for marital abuse demonstrates that poverty was an important factor in many domestic violence cases. This research demonstrates that, by using these methods, the Bute kirk sessions were able to reconcile spouses and curb recidivism to only 14%. Despite this success, this research argues that the conditions of seventeenth-century patriarchy meant that women were so strictly constrained socially and financially that it was nearly impossible for women to escape violent marriages and the censorious eye of the kirk session.

*Temirlan Joldybayev: "How did WW2 change the Central Asian Society? Analysis of social, political and economic aspects of change."*

Temirlan Joldybayev is a senior undergraduate student majoring in History at Nazarbayev University (NU) in Astana, Kazakhstan. His main research interests are Modern and Contemporary History, History of REECA (Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia), History of Science, Technology and Medicine. Currently, under the guidance of professors Mikhail Akulov and Aminat Chokobaeva, he is working on a study of the history of the Soviet health care system and public health care in Central Asia in the 19th and 20th centuries. Temirlan is actively working to expand and develop the community of historians at his alma mater, being a co-founder, board member and PR manager of the NU History Students Association. He has been a speaker at several international conferences, including 29th Annual Conference of Association of Central Eurasian Students at Indiana University - Bloomington (USA), National Scholarly Students' Conference at Nazarbayev University and Young Eurasian Scholars Network Fall 2023 Conference.

This research paper examines the multifaceted transformations that World War II brought about in Central Asian. Focusing on the period from 1939 to 1945, the study explores the social, cultural, economic, and political changes experienced by Central Asian countries, and on the long-term consequences. The paper begins by contextualizing the pre-war status-quo in Central Asia and historical background of recent decades that shaped the region at that time, emphasizing the complex context of political and social processes in the region and its ambiguous status within the USSR. It elucidates the transition from pre-war Soviet control to active wartime participation, and interplay between population and Soviet authorities both central and regional. A significant aspect of this study revolves around the socioeconomic changes triggered by the war. It investigates the mobilization of Central Asian resources for the Soviet war effort, including the conscription of soldiers, labor force participation, and

the shift in industrial production towards military supplies. Moreover, the paper delves into the social and cultural transformations brought about by World War II. It explores the experiences of Central Asian soldiers on the frontlines, encounters with foreign cultures, and its influence on local identities. Also it addresses the political ramifications of World War II on Central Asia, by exploring the emergence of new actors and reconfiguration of power structures in the region. Effects of wartime propaganda, ideological shifts, and nationalist sentiments, as well as the subsequent consolidation of Soviet control in the post-war period are also considered as significant factors.

## Panel 1.2: Premodern Scotland

*Michael Hems: “Gud sone, serue a mychttty man’: Political Didacticism in Medieval Scottish Poetry.”*

Michael graduated from the University of Manitoba in 2022 with a BA in history and started his MA at the University of Guelph the same year. His research interests include the historiography of the Middle Ages, medieval childhood, and didactic literature. His current project analyzes Scottish prescriptive poetry through lens of masculinity and kingship in the early 15th century.

This project analyzes medieval Scottish didactic literature through the lens of masculinity and kingship in the court of James I. Many medieval poems and literary works had a secondary role as political commentary, often subtly hidden within the text. By approaching the prescriptive poem "Ratis Raving" through this framework, conceptions of masculinity and religious zeal informed by anxieties of an absent king can be uncovered. Placing "Ratis Raving" in the context of medieval courtesy books and Mirrors of Princes allows a much stronger base of literature to compare to. "Ratis" holds a unique place as one of the only known Scottish text of its kind from the period. This project aims to uncover methods of social learning, traditions of courtly literature, and crises of masculinity within noble society in late medieval Scotland. Through literary analysis, comparative readings, and research into various historiographical traditions I hope to prove the unique way in which becoming an adult was idealized and constructed, using medieval Scotland as a key backdrop.

*Katherine Foran: “By right of his wife’: The Scottish Wars of Independence and female autonomy through Chronicles.”*

My name is Katherine Foran, I am a second year PhD student at the University of Guelph in the Scottish Studies program. My doctoral work examines Scottish noblewomen and how they used family power to further political involvement – both for themselves and their families. Analyzing the contributions of women to the political landscape of medieval Scotland and applying a gendered lens to these dynamics will increase our consideration of noble family power and provide a more nuanced understanding of how it affected the wars.

The role and importance of family and kin connections in a woman’s life incites discussions about women’s proper ‘place’ in the world –both in our contemporary society and in societies of the past. A familial connection is not the epitome of a woman’s accomplishments, and women in Scotland’s history – and the roles they played – deserve a more prominent place in historical accounts. A key event in Scottish history were the fourteenth-century Wars of Independence. The surviving sources chronicling

these conflicts depict the history of Scotland's heroes – mainly men – from 1296-1357, and loudly celebrate the achievements by knights, lords, and kings. Regarding medieval women, however, these sources are almost deafeningly silent, with only slight glimpses of the female experience. Of particular importance is John Barbour's epic poem *The Bruce*, composed in 1375, which focuses on the reign of Robert the Bruce (or Robert I, r.1306-1329). Throughout the text, there are brief references to the elite women surrounding the Bruce, many of which are unnamed. Using Barbour's *Bruce*, this paper will investigate how women have been left out of broader historical narratives surrounding the Wars of Independence, and what implications this lack of study holds for our understanding of medieval Scottish women. In particular, this paper will discuss the female kin-relations of Robert Bruce –specifically, his sisters, wives, and daughter. Using land holdings, dowry agreements, a recorded presence in political proceedings and documented imprisonment by the English, I have been able to identify most of the elite women of the Scottish Wars of Independence and highlight their contributions to Scottish independence. As part of this analysis, this paper will consider the ways elite women navigated the masculine realm of war, directly aided in the cause of Scottish independence, and how these women acted independently of their male counterparts.

*Brenna Clark: "aundit in bitt': the Changing Nature of the Witch-hunt in Scotland's Orkney and Shetland Islands, 1594-1644."*

Brenna Clark is a PhD candidate in History at the University of Guelph and holds a SSHRC CGS-D to support her research. Her dissertation investigates the late medieval North Sea parchment trade to better understand how economic links reflected the sociocultural identity of the inhabitants of Scotland's Northern Isles. The project also employs genetic analysis of parchment to determine the species and geographic origin of the parchment itself to further indicate patterns of trade. Her research thus illuminates the ambiguous identity of the islanders and the fluid geopolitical position of the Northern Isles. Additionally, Brenna's Master's thesis used a comparative approach to examine the triggers and characteristics of witchcraft accusation and prosecution in the Northern Isles throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Her thesis concentrated on how the Kirk and the Crown used witch-hunting to impose and enforce the godly standard of behaviour in a politically, legally, and culturally liminal region of Scotland.

Early modern Scottish witchcraft cases provide exceptional coverage of ordinary women in the historical record, making them invaluable sources for uncovering how women interacted with their communities in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Shifting focus away from the ideological content of trials allows such records to reveal the dynamic interpersonal relationships that existed between early modern Scottish women. Re-examining witchcraft trials also contributes to recent studies by Cathryn Spence (2016) and Alice Glaze (2020) that use legal records to reassess women's agency and participation in early modern social networks.

This paper uses sixteenth- and seventeenth-century witchcraft trial records from the Orkney and Shetland islands to better understand the pattern of the Scottish witch-hunt at a regional level. It analyzes the specific local and central religiopolitical imperatives that brought the Scottish witch-hunt to this culturally distinct region during an age of religious reformation. Examinations of Privy Council and witchcraft trial records from the first witch-hunt in the Northern Isles reveal a clash between the islands'



customary quasi-independence and a centralizing Scottish Crown under James VI. Details from cases in this insular region also challenge received ideas about what elements officials focused on to secure convictions, notably the role of the Devil.

*Grant Schreiber: “of good life and conversation’: Piety and morality in Aberdonian mortifications.”*

Grant Schreiber is a third-year doctoral candidate at the University of Guelph who completed his MLitt in Reformation Studies at the University of St Andrews and his BA in history at Taylor University. His dissertation research focuses on the impact of the Reformation on urban charitable works in Scotland and England. His project is taking a comparative look at the experiences of the cities of Aberdeen and Oxford in the decades after their respective Reformations, looking at the roles of the church, city and private citizens in sustaining, restoring and expanding poor relief, poor education and healthcare in the aftermath of religious revolution.

In the seventy years following the Reformation, Aberdeen had nearly one hundred mortifications, legal documents through which donations were made to institutions, made to the various charitable and educational institutions of the burgh. A remarkable number of these go beyond basic transactions and include personal embellishments from the donors. These additions by donors highlighted their own piety by expressing their religious fervor and obligations. Multiple grantors also established standards and expectations of proper personal behavior for individuals who would benefit from their donations. Additionally, the burgh council was the repository for mortifications in Aberdeen, meaning one’s donation entered public record in the presence of fellow members of their socio-economic class. While this likely shaped how donors wrote these mortifications, that should not negate the potential value of mortifications as a lens for understanding local conditions. This paper will argue the dual expression and expectation of piety in mortifications provides insight into how urban elites displayed their personal obligations to God and their fellow man, and how they hoped to shape moral discipline and proper conduct in their communities. Furthermore, by highlighting piety in documents processed by the burgh council, mortifications contributed to the increasing hybridization of charitable works by kirk, burgh and individual citizens that becomes visible in post-Reformation Aberdeen.

### Panel 1.3: Historicizing Political Memory

*Benji Smith: “Presidency of Chaos: A Historiography of President Clinton’s Impeachment.”*

Benji Smith is a first-year PhD student studying under Dr. Andrew Hunt. His research focuses on Presidential Impeachment and how factors like partisan politics, media coverage, and public perception have impacted impeachment’s overall effectiveness. Benji received his MA in History from Waterloo in 2020, where he studied the extent of presidential authority advocated by Dick Cheney from 1972-2008.

The paper covers the impeachment of President Clinton from a wide range of dates beginning before the impeachment was held, and ending in 2018. The thesis states that Clinton’s presidency was always embroiled in chaos and the impeachment scandal was a reflection of this. Due in large part to an overly "hungry" media and partisanship from the Republican House, scholarly work on Clinton has constantly

presented him as a tenacious individual in the midst of utter chaos, both of his own doing and on the part of others. At the same time, the chaotic nature of the impeachment bastardized the process and has left a scarred legacy that continues to impact politics today.

*Preston Jordan Lim: "Nourishing the Living Tree: Vincent MacDonald and his Constitutional Thought."*

Preston Jordan Lim is an Assistant Professor of International Law at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law. He holds an A.B. in Near Eastern Studies from Princeton, a Master of Global Affairs from Tsinghua University—where he studied as a Schwarzman Scholar—and a J.D. from Yale Law School. Previously, he served as policy advisor to the Honourable Erin O’Toole, then foreign affairs critic in Canada’s House of Commons and as a judicial law clerk to the Justices of the Court of Appeal for Ontario and to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Since the advent of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Canadian judges have increasingly approached the Constitution through a “living constitutionalist” lens. Rather than place primary emphasis on the text of the Constitution, judges often seek the broader purposes that underlie a constitutional provision. Canadian judges root this living constitutionalism in the Privy Council’s judgment in the Persons Case; in that case, Lord Sankey introduced the metaphor of the “living tree”. Canadian judges and lawyers did not always approach the Constitution through a “living constitutionalist” lens. Instead, originalism for many years constituted the primary interpretive approach towards the Canadian Constitution. During the Great Depression, for example, Canada’s leading legal thinkers attacked the Privy Council in originalist terms, arguing that the Privy Council had strayed from the Framers’ original design. As Justice Robert Sharpe and Professor Patricia McMahon admit in their landmark study of the Persons Case, the “living tree metaphor remained a forgotten footnote until 1982”.

I argue, however, that Vincent MacDonald, who served, inter alia, as Dean of Dalhousie Law School and as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, did much to keep living constitutionalism alive during the mid 20th century. MacDonald articulated a robust vision of living constitutionalism in his academic work and influenced constitutional policy by serving as advisor to the Rowell-Sirois Commission, which adopted many of his suggestions on legal reform. In laying out the tenets of MacDonald’s constitutional thought, I complicate the existing narrative on Canada’s 20th century constitutional development.

*Sebastian Walsh-Murray: "Deadly Definitions – Linguistic Violence and the Holocaust."*

Sebastian is a PhD candidate focusing on Nazi Germany and the Holocaust. He is looking specifically at how Nazi language towards Jewish people and other target groups provided the framework for Nazi genocide in the pre-war years (1933-1939) of the Nazi regime. He received his (Hons) BA from the University of Toronto in 2020 with a double major in History and Political Science, and then received his MA in History from the University of Waterloo in 2021. Sebastian’s MA research looked at how Nazi language was understood in historians works and how Nazi Language could be used as an important lens of analysis in the Holocaust as found in diaries and memoirs from the period. His interests include Nazi Germany, World War II, Modern Europe, and the Cold War.

Through archival research on mid-level government functionaries, the propaganda ministry, Nazi Party associations, media and culture, and personal testimonies, I examine how Nazi language directed at Jews fostered Jewish people's "social death" and how language acted as the first step towards genocide. Specifically, I analyze how Nazi language targeted Jewish identities related to gender, sexuality, and disability; how the language targeting these identities was constructed by the Nazi state; how this language was disseminated to the population broadly; and how Jews experienced Nazi linguistic violence. Linguistic violence is language that functions as a discursive act that creates a victim population for later physical violence and fosters the "social death" of targeted people ("social death" being a state of perpetual despair which was ultimately necessary for genocide due to the severance of a group's ties to the wider community). Thus, Nazi linguistic violence was necessary in the separation and marginalization of target groups, with this varied language having a unique impact based on the victim's identity, with such language ultimately culminating in the mass murder of the Holocaust.

## Session 2 Panels

### Panel 2.1: The Nationalist Project, Worldwide

*Gabriel Contreras Soto: "Finnish Communism and the Soviet Invasion: A Political History of the Winter War (1939-1940)."*

My name is Gabriel Contreras Soto. I was born in Santiago, Chile, April 10th, 2000. Since I was very little, I've had both Chilean and Finnish nationalities, as well as a big interest in political and military history, especially centering around the world wars. I studied a bachelor's degree in history, from 2019 to 2022, at Universidad de Chile, where I graduated with maximum distinction. My degree thesis was called "Finnish communism and the Soviet invasion. A political history of the Winter War, 1939-40." It received praise from my teachers, one of them stating that it was "unique in Chile and maybe unique in Latin America as well". From December 2023, I've been studying a master's degree in the Military History of Contemporary Wars, at the Universitat Jaume I (UJI), Spain, where I've been analyzing the clash of political and national identities under a context of war.

This proposal, centered around the theme of Political Movements and Activism, aims to study the response of Finnish communism to the Soviet invasion of 1939, which triggered the so-called Winter War, another episode of the Second World War. My objective is to analyze the dilemma that the Finnish communists had to face during the Winter War, answering the following question: Why did most of the Finnish communist decided to resist or condemn the soviet invasion, instead of collaborating with them? To this end, the political and social context of Finland will be analyzed, from the nationalist and anti-Russian sentiment that emerged in the 19th century, the Red fervor of the 1918 Civil War, the interwar years in Finland and the USSR, and finally the Soviet invasion of Finland on November 30, 1939.

The main reasons that drove the Finnish communists away from the Soviet Comintern were three: the purges of Finnish immigrants in the USSR for alleged espionage, the alliance of the USSR with Nazi Germany in the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact and the Soviet invasion of Poland and the Baltic States. To these three reasons, one must add the anti-Russian sentiment anchored in Finnish history and the Soviet aerial bombardments, which targeted the civilian population of the large Finnish cities, including

working-class neighborhoods. This proposal raises questions that go beyond this case: What are the relations between the nation and political ideologies? How are nationalism and communism articulated? In what ways did communist internationalism coexist with communisms at the national level?

***Bradley Shoebottom: ““A Cairn and a Cross”: War Memorialization in France During the Great War by the Canadian Corps.”***

I completed an Honours International Relations Degree (Soviet bloc specialization) at the University of Windsor in 1992. I completed a Masters of Warfare Studies at the Royal Military College of Canada in 1997 with a focus on peacekeeping and Canadian military history. I completed a Master of History at the University of New Brunswick with a focus on 19th century New Brunswick entrepreneurial history. I am currently a PhD candidate in history at UNB studying the logistics of the Canadian Corps on the Western Front in the First World War. I am currently examining the transportation and engineering functions necessary to move supplies forward at the operational and tactical level in the Canadian Corps during the Frist World War. I am a former armoured officer in the Canadian Armed Forces and taught military history at RMC for 14 years in the Division of Continuing Studies.

On December 1917, the French War Minister replied to the Canadian Corps in France that its request for title of the land under the completed artillery war memorial at “Les Tilleuls” in memory of those killed at Vimy Ridge was approved, but “I beg to inform you that, this monument being now ended [built], I give the asked authorization, but quite exceptionally.” In fact, two days after the Battle of Arras ended on May 5th, 1917, the Canadian Corps began the planning for the memorial at Les Tilleuls and had its unveiling on Dominion Day, July 1st, 1917. While it is common knowledge that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission organized military cemeteries, what is not well known is that Canadian soldiers (and other nations including the Central Powers) began erecting war memorials during the war to commemorate their battlefield losses. Memorialization did not wait for a post war home front inspiration for remembrance but happened during the war. Commonwealth contingents erected many memorials during the war and Canadians often led the pack. These modest collective war memorials helped bring “closure” to the participants of many battles as potential pilgrimage sites and sites for memorial services, something that was not done during the Boer War. This paper addresses a little-known memorialization effort during the First World War and places as a pre-cursor to the greater post War western cultural movement for memorialization of the Great War.

***Rui (Raymond) Li: “Pan-Asianism, Ethnic Consciousness, and the Propaganda of the Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere: A Study Centered on Five Races Under One Union in Manchukuo.”***

Rui (Raymond) Li is a first year PhD student in the Department of History at the University of Guelph under the supervision of Dr. Norman Smith, Raymond received his second Master of Arts degree from the University of Guelph and his first Master of Arts degree from the University of Macau. Raymond's current research focus lies in the history of Northeast Asia, modern East Asia history and the intellectual history, especially for the spread and development of nationalism and feminism in East Asia since the beginning of the twentieth century.

Pan-Asianism, sometimes called Asianism (アジア主義), is an ideology associated with the recent emergence of Asia, especially East Asia. Its basic theory was put forward by intellectuals during the late Meiji Restoration period in Japan, and centered on the idea of collaboration and cooperation among Asian countries and the establishment of a new order. During the Second World War, this ideology was transformed into the theoretical foundation of the "Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere" advocated by the Japanese Empire, which advocated that all Asian peoples should join hands to fight against Western hegemony and re-establish the world order under the leadership of the Japanese Empire. This study attempts to analyze the logic of Pan-Asianism by analyzing the nationalist propaganda carried out by the Japanese Empire and the Manchukuo government in Manchukuo during and before World War II, and to explore the inevitability of the derivation and development of this ideology in the twentieth century, when imperialism was prevalent.

*Trevor Parsons: "Majesty without Spectacle? Royal Visitors to Late Nineteenth-Century Canada."*

Trevor Parsons is a doctoral candidate under the supervision of Dr. Dan Gorman at the University of Waterloo specializing in Canadian and British imperial history and the lives of Canadian-born parliamentarians at Westminster. He earned his BA (Hons) at Laurentian University in 2014 and completed his MA at Nipissing University in 2019. He is a former director and secretary of the Hastings County Historical Society and former vice chair of Heritage Belleville. He currently sits on the Glanmore National Historic Site Advisory Committee.

The topic of this paper addresses a gap in the existing literature on the history of monarchy in Canada. Despite sustained interest in the formal institution of the Crown and tours by members of the British/Canadian royal family, the interactions between foreign royals and their experiences with Canada remain limited. This paper argues that visits to Canada by non-British royals evoked a sense of popular monarchism that was at the core of an emerging Canadian national identity. This paper examines three royals who visited Canada in the late-nineteenth century, the local responses and perceptions of community life in the dominion. Dom Pedro II, Emperor of Brazil briefly visited Ontario and Quebec as part of his 1876 tour of the United States. The Orleanist pretender to the French throne, Philippe, Count of Paris, visited Quebec in a formal, semi-official capacity and was received with great fanfare in 1890 while Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, spurned publicity, sojourning in British Columbia as part of a hunting trip during his larger world tour in 1892-3.

## Panel 2.2: Colonialism, Violence, and Knowledge Production

*Mayar Alfarra: "Counterinsurgency in the Occupied Palestinian Territories: Incarceration and Other Modes of Colonial Domination."*

My name is Mayar Alfarra and I am a first year MA student in History at the University of Guelph. I am passionate about the study of the histories of settler-colonialism, particularly in Canada and Israel. Working with Dr. Renée Worringer, my research examines the ways in which settler-colonial processes produce anti-colonial Indigenous resistance. I aim to draw parallels in between Canada and Palestine's resistance movements and incarceration systems. I believe my research has the potential of drawing the intertwinement of settler-colonial systems globally.

My paper critically examines the historical and contemporary aspects of Israeli counterinsurgency and its impact on Palestinians. The paper adopts a thematic approach to analyze Israel's counterinsurgency within a settler-colonial context, emphasizing the use of incarceration as a weapon of war against Palestinians and the broader confinement of Palestinians beyond prison walls. It explores the interconnected system of military checkpoints, permits, and limited access to basic necessities as a form of collective punishment to control the lives of Palestinians. The essay delves into the legal complications and discriminatory aspects of the justice system, highlighting the use of incommunicado detention, psychological and physical pressure during interrogation, and the institutionalized discrimination in the treatment of Palestinian prisoners. The paper argues that Israel's policies of confinement and separation have led to the expansion of illegal Israeli settlements into the West Bank, further reinforcing its place as a colonizing force against the colonized. Overall, the essay provides a comprehensive examination of the multifaceted nature of confinement and colonial domination experienced by Palestinians, shedding light on the structural oppression and dispossession perpetuated by Israeli counterinsurgency efforts.

*Beatrice Lowson: "Learning to a "Good Mind": Utilizing Two-Row Wampum/Covenant Chain Methodologies as a Settler Scholar."*

Beatrice earned her BA in History (Honours) and minor in Environment, Resources, and Sustainability from the University of Waterloo in 2022. The next year, she returned for her MA under the supervision of Dr. Talena Atfield on a project about Haudenosaunee environmental knowledge and how it can be integrated into Canadian environmental law. This research synthesizes her personal commitment to transformative justice with her interests in social, environmental, Indigenous, and gender histories and alternative historical methodologies. The project is guided by the Haudenosaunee Two-Row Wampum and Dish with One Spoon methodologies which include the principles of non-interference and mutual cooperation between settlers, such as herself, and Indigenous peoples. After finishing her MA, Beatrice will continue this work through attending law school. In her free time, Beatrice enjoys spending time in nature, sewing and crocheting, cooking, and keeping in touch with her friends and family in Canada and the US.

How can settler scholars utilize the teachings of the Two Row Wampum/Covenant Chain agreement as a framework for engaging in community-based collaborative scholarship? Both historically and contemporarily, settler-written Indigenous histories and anthropologies have utilized extractive methodologies to appropriate and assimilate Indigenous knowledges into Western hegemony. This was done without engaging Indigenous Peoples as equal partners in research creation. As a settler scholar, it is critical to acknowledge the harm these methodologies have caused and the legacies this violence has left in Indigenous communities in order to ensure that these cycles of violence are not repeated. The Two Row Wampum/Covenant Chain is an agreement made between Hodinohso:ni peoples and settlers in the early 1600s that speaks to a mutually respectful and non-extractive co-existence. Returning to these agreements can serve as a guiding methodology for working together in mutually beneficial and respectful ways.

Scholars Richard Hill and Daniel Coleman identify five key principles from this agreement that can guide research partnerships in a good way: "1. Relationships are dialogical; 2. Importance of place-conscious

ceremony; 3. Equity within distinctiveness; 4. Internal pluralism and diversity; and 5. Sharing knowledge, not owning it." (1) Working on research involving Hodinohso:ni environmental and place-based knowledge with Six Nations community members, I have the opportunity to implement these principles as part of my obligations to these agreements. I will discuss my experiences and how my involvement in Hodinohso:ni cultural workshops, land-based learning, and involvement with community is foundational to honouring these agreements in research co-creation.

*John McConnell: "Breaking the Ice: Investigating Interactions Between Inuit Groups and Hudson's Bay Company Traders."*

John McConnell is a master's student at Wilfrid Laurier University, having earned their Bachelor of Arts in History from Laurier in 2023. Their research interests center around economic, social, and labor history within Canadian maritime communities. Passionate about understanding the complex dynamics that shaped these regions, John is currently studying the effects of de-industrialization on the town of Collingwood, Ontario, for their MRP. Concurrently, they are interested in contributing valuable insights to the historical discourse on Canadian maritime history and settler-Inuit interactions in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

This paper will examine the dynamic interactions between the Inuit peoples of North America and European sailors, traders, and settlers in and around Hudson's Bay throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The escalation of trade and activities by the Hudson's Bay Company along the Bay's coastline resulted in an increasing documentation of their engagements with the indigenous Inuit and other northern communities. Post journals and ship logs from this era reflect a growing frequency of encounters. By the late-eighteenth century, company posts such as Great Whale River, situated on the eastern shore of the Bay, actively engaged in trade with the Inuit, meticulously documenting their interactions. Similarly, company vessels like "Eddystone" regularly conducted trade with Inuit groups, who often navigated canoes to approach the ships as they traversed the Hudson Strait. This paper will aim to illuminate the often-neglected theatre of settler-Indigenous interactions in the Arctic and sub-Arctic.

*Jake McIvor: "Boys and Their Toys: The History of Gender and Geoengineering."*

Jake graduated with a B.A. in History from University of Guelph in 2019, specialising in Chinese History. After briefly studying in a master's program at Fudan University in Shanghai and working through the pandemic, he has returned to Guelph and is enrolled in the Collaborative Specialisation of Gender, Sexuality, and Bodies. His research focuses on critical masculinity studies in relation to climate change and geoengineering, aided by his supervisor Dr. Carstairs. Jake intends to complete his thesis and graduate in the winter semester, 2024. He is also an active figure on campus, and former Co-President for the Tri-University Graduate Student Association.

Geoengineering is a techno-scientific response to climate change with a long history, but has steadily grown in influence among the scientific community since 2006. Despite the incorporation of geoengineering into international climate policies, there are a number of critical scientific and social questions that geoengineers have yet to answer. This research explores the origins of geoengineering

and the influence of masculinity in the field, demonstrating how masculinity has historically shaped geoengineering and how modern geoengineering aims to preserve hegemonic masculinity globally.

Geoengineering evolved from scientific weather manipulation research dating back to the 19th century. From the beginning, it has always been dominated by men, and it has maintained strong connections to the military and other male-coded institutions. Much of historical geoengineering research was pioneered by military scientists like Edward Teller and Lowell Wood operating in Lawrence Livermore Labs. Modern geoengineering research and funding is controlled by a “geoclique” including other male scientists like David Keith and Ken Caldeira, who greatly underestimate the social dimensions of climate change. Geoengineering serves hegemonic masculinity because it promises to “fix” climate change without disrupting existing social hierarchies in any meaningful way. Much of modern hegemonic masculinity is predicated on the consumption of fossil fuels, and the world’s most powerful men are all invested in the current socio-economic balance, which geoengineering promises to uphold.

### Panel 2.3: Alternative Narratives of the Second World War

*Gillian Wagenaar: “Letters from the Boiler House: Conflict and Communication in a Second World War Canadian Internment Camp.”*

Gillian Wagenaar is a first-year PhD student at the University of Waterloo, working under the co-supervision of Steven Bednarski and Geoffrey Hayes. Her research, expanding on her Masters thesis work, aims to map the physical and social geographies that influenced life in civilian internment camps in Canada during the Second World War. Gillian is currently an editor for the Waterloo Historical Review.

In March 1941, a Canadian military tribunal found Corporal Bernard Henson guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. For five months, Henson – a boilerman at Internment Camp “N” in Sherbrooke, Quebec – circumvented military censors and passed letters between a group of young German internees and his teenage daughter, Winifred. Henson worked with the men – university students now considered “enemy aliens” in the eyes of the Canadian government – in the boiler room of the camp. Sympathetic to their repressive situation, Henson facilitated the covert exchange of correspondence. For his conduct, he was ultimately sentenced to one year’s imprisonment and the flow of letters ceased immediately.

The case shows the Canadian internment camp during the Second World War as a complex space of connection and conflict. It illuminates the tension inherent between official regulation and human action, pitting the needs of civilians, Canadian or otherwise, against governing powers. It highlights the role of correspondence in a pre-internet world and shows how relationships could begin and end by pen and paper. In later representations of the case, it also shows the selective nature of memory and how our relationship with the past is shaped by both time and emotion. Importantly, the story of illicit correspondence presents the internment camp and, more widely, the Canadian home front, as a space in which strict social boundaries became fluid and malleable in wartime to both the benefit and cost of young romantic prospects, hopeful fathers, social elites, and supposed “enemy aliens.”

*Jamie Zettle: “Refracted masculinities and sexualized uniforms: Queer readings of SOE agents' use of military garb.”*



Jamie Zettle is a Ph.D. candidate in History at the University of Waterloo. My research deploys queer theory as a instrument of inquiry to uncover how homosexual SOE and OSS agents in France during World War Two accessed and used public, private, and interstitial spaces to extend their queer sexuality toward the achievement of operational objectives.

This paper interrogates the correspondences between military uniforms, civilian sartorial display, and queer masculinities and sexualities to elucidate a queer, sexualized aesthetic intrinsic to homosexual agents' personal understanding of identity. This paper exhumes sites of queer sexuality, sexual opportunity, and sexual messaging on, within, and without the uniform and its coded relationship to civilian queer dress.

***Daniel Berry: "An Arrow in the Wrong Direction: The Avro Arrow's Cancellation, and its Repercussions on Canada's Aviation Industry."***

My name is Daniel, and I am a student and lover of history. Right now for my MRP, with Dr. Ryan Touhey, I am studying the foreign relations of Canada during the Cold War, investigating how we interacted with the USSR in particular through the eyes of our diplomats on the ground in Moscow.

This paper from my undergraduate career explores a potential adoption of the legendary Avro Arrow by the Royal Canadian Air Force into its arsenal. It briefly summarizes the actual history of the Arrow, proceeding to explain how, despite the decision to cancel the aircraft by early 1959, it could have served a useful purpose in the unique Canadian military and geographic environments. Incorporating a variety of sources including original newspapers and military reports from the time of the Arrow's development, as well as a broad scope of secondary sources by authors familiar with the aircraft, this paper can be seen to serve as a thought-provoking, interesting, and accurately researched exercise in "alternate history".

**Panel 2.4: History and Environment**

***Nicole Vankooten: "Turning a New Leaf: The Medieval English Legacy of Canadian Forestry Management."***

Nicole completed her undergrad at the University of Guelph studying biology, French and history through the Arts and Science program. Her passion for both the environment and history brought her to work with Dr. Bednarski at the University of Waterloo. From her experience as a tree planter in Northern Ontario, Nicole plans on researching Medieval English forestry for her Major Research Paper. She currently holds a SSHRC award to support her MA studies.

My thesis titled "Turning a New Leaf: The Legacy of Medieval English Forestry in Modern Canadian Management Practices" focuses on the ways in which modern Canadian forestry practices are influenced by its Medieval and Early Modern past. However, for the purpose of this conference I will limit my scope to my first chapter titled "Medieval Forest Exploitation and Management" which analyzes themes of conflict and cooperation between society and nature. Medieval people had a diverse range of attitudes and beliefs about the environment, particularly regarding the forest as a "wilderness" that was to be feared and tamed. On the other hand, practices existed in Medieval society for the sustainability of their forests such as coppicing or pollarding. I will be analyzing the Forest Charter of 1217 to better

understand the complex relationship between Medieval society and the forest. Furthermore, this charter explores conflict and cooperation over public access and rights to the Medieval woodlands. This chapter brings an interdisciplinary perspective to issues of forest governance and human society that highlights the importance of looking to the past to improve our current understandings of natural resource management.

*John Loudfoot: "The Environment of Infrastructure: A Premodern Case Study."*

John Loudfoot is a first-year PhD student at the University of Waterloo, studying under Profs. Steven Bednarski and David Porreca at the DRAGEN Lab. After his comps, he plans on studying the medieval England's mineral economy, particularly its environmental facets and social and economic importance. He is a co-editor of the Waterloo Historical Review academic journal and DRAGEN Tales Blog, an Assistant Research Director for the DRAGEN Lab, and a Graduate Fellow and Research Assistant for the Environments of Change project. When he is not behind his desk, John prefers to spend time with family and friends or in nature.

The medieval transportation network is well known to medieval historians for its complexity, reach, and availability. Whether overseas, on land, or up rivers, medieval people had access to the far reaches of Britain and Europe and exploited these routes by trading across thousands of kilometers, from England to the Middle East and beyond. While these networks are well accounted for, their physical environments have not received the same attention. Few scholars have sought to understand the extraordinary complexity, difficulty, and effort medieval people invested into maintaining and expanding their network systems. This paper, based on my Masters thesis, takes a small segment of medieval England's network system, bridges in Sussex, and demonstrates how understanding the environmental context of bridges, which we can take for granted, can contribute to our understanding of medieval society, economics, and culture. By examining different bridge types, physical expressions, and construction in relation to their geology and hydrology, we can begin to understand the wealth and value of intrinsic knowledge of the environment required for the construction of bridges and the difficulties associated with maintaining those same bridges, all which had to be done by hand. The construction and maintenance costs, too, had to be carefully considered as these structures served entire communities but required constant observation to make sure they were safe to use. Bridges, though a simple structure and concept in the modern world, were anything but, and can serve as exemplars of medieval ingenuity, community, and conflict.

*James E. Rubino: "Picturesque Mountains in the Common Eye: A Close Reading of William Bathurst's Two Scottish Tours 1826 and 1857 Manuscript."*

James E. Rubino is an MA student at the University of Guelph in Scottish Studies with a passion for travel and tourism studies. His past research has featured a broad range of unique interdisciplinary explorations of travel/tourism with forays into public history, memory, and the marketing of place. These have centered on Europe and the United States from the medieval period onward. His present research investigates traveler's assessments of Scotland's terrain in personal manuscripts in the modern period.

Aesthetic codes such as the picturesque, sublime, beautiful, and great proved pivotal towards popular aesthetic reevaluations of mountains and terrain in the 18th and 19th centuries. The use of these codes in art and Romantic literature in part helped spark an explosion of aesthetic tourism to Scotland in the 19th century. Heralded by artists and poets such as Blake and Burke, these tropes are closely associated with the leading figures of the Romantic movement, raising the question of the full relationship of these aesthetic codes to the common man. In what form did these concepts trickle down? In a close reading of the English cleric William Bathurst's Two Scottish Tours 1826 and 1827 manuscript, I uncovered a pragmatic and utilitarian adoption of these aesthetic codes. Bathurst's approach to relating mountains and associated terrain eschewed the transcendent emotionality aspect of these codes. Instead, he used the language of the picturesque to articulate the visual dimension of the terrain of Scotland in almost the exclusive. Furthermore, Bathurst's incorporation of his myriad interests (particularly geology) into his visual descriptions adds a distinct element to his first tour that runs parallel to current scholarship both on travel writing in general and the historical gradient of attitudes and relationships towards mountains. From this, I concluded that for Bathurst and others the aesthetic codes of the picturesque, sublime, etc. most likely offered a common language with which to relate what they witnessed in their travels.

## Session 3 Panels

### Panel 3.1: Examining Commemorations, Celebrations and Memorials in Atlantic Canadian History (Roundtable)

This roundtable will reveal key themes in literature on commemorations, celebrations, and memorials. The roundtable will include three graduate students from the Department of Historical Studies at the University of New Brunswick who are preparing to lead a class seminar in HIST 6302: Atlantic Canadian History. This roundtable will provide a unique opportunity to share key trends with other graduate students and make any adjustments before their class facilitation.

#### *Participants*

##### Catherine D'Aoust

Catherine (she/they) graduated from Memorial University in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Linguistics and Psychology. She is pursuing a Master of Arts in History at the University of New Brunswick. Their research has a principal focus on public history, where she integrates elements of the historical documentary film she is producing, THE CONGREGATION, about the isolated community of Wood Island, into her analysis of the sphere where filmmaking and academia collide. Catherine owns and operates Route 715 Productions Inc., a production company dedicated to small-budget, local filmmaking. She is also the Chair of the DOCTalks Communications, Events & Research Committee. Catherine views filmmaking as a means of community engagement and a mechanism to build partnerships that will empower people, organizations, and communities.

### Michelle Connick

Michelle Connick is a first year PhD student in Historical Studies at the University of New Brunswick. She completed a B.A. in bio-archaeology (major) and psychology (minor) at Memorial University of Newfoundland and an M.A. in Atlantic Canada Studies from Saint Mary's University where she researched occupational structure and settlement in Shelburne, Nova Scotia from 1783 to 1795. Her PhD dissertation looks at the eighteenth-century makeshift economies of South Shore Nova Scotia. Michelle has worked in museums and archives in Nova Scotia where commemoration and memory are a key part of her daily work. Michelle also serves as the Communications and Awards member-at-large on the executive for the Council of Nova Scotia Archives, and the Chair of the Bridgewater Museum Commission's Accession Committee.

### Sandi Stewart

Sandi Stewart is a first year PhD History student at the University of New Brunswick. Sandi completed a M.A. in Folklore and a B.A. in Folklore (major) and English (minor) from Memorial University. Her PhD dissertation examines museum management practices and the use of narrative at the international public exhibitions during the late nineteenth century, focusing on the Great Exhibition in London, England, 1851. Sandi has worked in museums and archives in Atlantic Canada and has taught as a part-time Instructor at Dalhousie University. Sandi currently volunteers as Membership Secretary on the Interpretation Canada Board of Directors and as Secretary on the Association of Nova Scotia Museums education working group.

### *Readings*

- Meaghan Elizabeth Beaton, "A 'Labor of Love in a Community Spirit': The Cape Breton Miners' Museum and the Remaking of Historical Consciousness," Raymond B. Blake & Matthew Hayday eds *Celebrating Canada: Volume 2: Commemorations, Anniversaries, and National Symbols* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2018), 207-236.
- Michael Gagné, "'Memorial Constructions': Representations of Identity in the Design of the Grand-Pré National Historic Site, 1907-Present," *Acadiensis*, Vol. XLII, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2013): 67-98.
- Keith Mercer, "Colonial Patriotism to 'Mystical Chords of Memory': The Halifax Celebrations and Commemorations of the Shannon-Chesapeake Battle," *Acadiensis*, Vol XLIV, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2015): 36-63.
- Erin Morton, "Commemorative Expectations: The Mixed-Economy Model of the Maud Lewis Painted House Preservation, 1970-1998," *Acadiensis*, Vol. XLIII, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2014): 3-34.
- Chantal Richard, Anne Brown, Margaret Conrad, Gwendolyn Davies, Bonnie Huskins & Sylvia Kasparian, "Markers of Collective Identity in Loyalist and Acadian Speeches of the 1880s: A Comparative Analysis," *Journal of New Brunswick Studies*, Issue 4 (2013), <http://journals.hil.unb.ca/index.php/JNBS/article/view/21160>
- Ronald Rudin, "The Champlain-De Monts Tercentenary: Voices from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Maine, June 1904", *Acadiensis*, Vol. XXXIII, 2 (Spring 2004), 3-26

## Panel 3.2: Carceral Lives

*Alyana Calhoun: "Creating the New Man: Re-Education Camps in Mozambique (1974-1992)."*

Alyana Calhoun is a graduate student at the University of Ottawa. Under the supervision of Dr. Allina, Alyana studies education as a tool of indoctrination during the late colonial and early socialist periods in Mozambique. Her work looks at the way that public educational institutions are tools of nationalism which intend to instill values within youth/adolescents that align with the goals of the state.

Under the leadership of the Samora Machel, the first President of Mozambique, and the party the Liberation Front of Mozambique (Frelimo), re-education camps were implemented from 1974-1992 to enforce socialist values. With the need to create a sense of Mozambican nationalism, Frelimo presented the image of the "homem novo" (the new man) who represented the ideal values of a Mozambican citizen. These values were not tied to an existing cultural understanding of what it meant to be "Mozambican" but rather the ideologies of the state, making re-education camps a state tool which helped to enforce socialist ideologies and leadership. Through the camps, and other social institutions, Frelimo aimed to create a homogenous understanding of nationalism tied to their leadership, resulting in the policing of individuals attitudes, behaviours, and values becoming a core aspect to Mozambican society. These camps promoted an exclusionary culture within Mozambique, where individuality was seen as a threat to Frelimo's leadership that would be punished by sending people to re-education camps placed in remote rural areas of Mozambique to learn how to become a "new man." Yet, these camps were understaffed and faced deplorable conditions, posing the question, did re-education camps intend to "rehabilitate" or were these camps prisons, which aimed to uphold socialist leadership by containing the people the state claimed to be a threat?

*Catherine Ramey: "An Incarcerated Education: Memories of Prison Education under Spain's Francoist Dictatorship, 1939-1975."*

Catherine (she/they) is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the University of Waterloo. She received her BA in History from York University and her MA in History from the University of Toronto. Her current research focuses on the gendering of the curricula in Canadian missionary schools in Angola between 1880 and 1920. In particular, she focuses on the mission stations run by the Canadian Congregational Foreign Missionary Society.

Between 1939 and 1975, Spain experienced extensive oppression under the fascist dictatorship of Francisco Franco. From censorship to execution, fear and uncertainty were central to people's daily lives between the end of the civil war in 1939 and Franco's death in 1975. Yet, during these 36 years, clandestine resistance to fascist Francoist rule was abundant, resulting in the mass incarceration of Republican supporters. In this presentation, I examine the experiences of Spanish men and women in Francoist prisons, focusing particularly on the ways in which political prisoners brought education and literacy into carceral spaces. Drawing on the audiovisual testimonies of survivors of the dictatorship from the Spanish Civil War Memory Project (located at University of California San Diego), I argue that the prison was a crucial space in which anti-Francoist Spaniards became educated and politically aware. They established libraries, taught skills to one another, and debated ideology throughout their time in

prisons across Spain. Moreover, this presentation uses memory studies to examine how interviewees recount their stories of education while incarcerated and the long-term impacts of such learnings on their post-prison lives, such as pursuing university degrees or finding work in trades. Overall, this presentation highlights the multifaceted experiences of incarcerated Spaniards under the Francoist dictatorship and the numerous actions they took to build resistance networks and a sense of community.

*Shelby Page: "Destruction of Culture: Canadian Families Impacted by Japanese Internment Camps."*

Shelby Page (she/her) is an undergraduate student at the University of Waterloo, completing a double major in History and English Literature & Rhetoric with a minor in Medieval Studies. She is very interested in studying colonial structures and legacies, and will be pursuing a master's degree next year in Literary Studies to research how imperialism within Victorian novels impacted the British public's views on colonialism.

During World War II, Japanese internment camps were established in Canada and the United States as a solution to the perceived threat that Japan and those with Japanese heritage posed to these nations after Pearl Harbour. Japanese Canadians and Japanese Americans experienced widespread discrimination prior to the establishment of internment camps, with the camps being a product of this pre-existing systemic racism. Drawing on photographs taken during the war and post-war memoirs of those who were detained in the internment systems at different ages, I will argue that although experiences of those in these camp systems were varied, Japanese Canadians and Americans faced an overwhelming dismantling of family structures that led to intergenerational impacts on lifestyle and culture. This presentation will highlight the many ways that family structures were intentionally weakened through forced separation and how the different generations processed their experiences after the war; this refusal to discuss experiences led to a disconnect in families, a desire to become the "model minority" in North American culture, and an unwillingness to discuss what occurred until much later during the Redress Movement in the 1980s.

*Emily Wood: "Menstruation and Memory: Survivor Testimonies of Reproductive Trauma in Nazi Camp Systems."*

This paper is part of my larger doctoral project that looks at survivors' testimonies of menstruation, reproductive and bodily trauma, femininity, and fertility in spaces of incarceration and genocides. It also builds off my MA thesis, "Tracing the Destruction of Women's Bodies: Survivors Testimonies of Menstruation in the Holocaust,". Currently, I am a second year Ph.D. student at the University of Waterloo, supervised by Dr. Jane Nicholas and Dr. Katherine Bruce-Lockhart.

"I take a few squares of newsprint. Wiping them against my trousers to make sure they're clean, I shudder. Then, without thinking any further about it, I crumble them up and place the newspaper between my legs. I spend the day completely self-conscious, afraid of what getting my period means in this place... Dealing with this curse means praying that it will go away quickly and never return." This quote, taken from Rena G.'s memoir of her life inside the Nazi concentration camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, represents a larger conversation of women's experiences in the Holocaust. Through a gynocentric lens,

this paper will analyze Holocaust survivors', like Rena's, oral and written testimonies to discuss how women who experienced a menstrual cycle in the Nazi camp and ghetto systems experienced a deeply gendered form of violence and humiliation. Further, I argue the lack of adequate bathrooms, hygienic practices, and menstrual products, menstruating women resorted to dangerous lengths to conceal, relieve, and protect themselves from their monthly cycles.

Centring the conversation of menstruation in spaces of incarceration provides a deeper and multifaceted understanding of how women live and die under state duress. In recent years, media literacy surrounding menstruators' experiences bleeding in spaces of incarceration has grown and is very telling of the power state structures still hold in the maintenance and control of reproductive bodies. My work seeks to place a greater emphasis on the importance and value of menstruating bodies' global experiences in the past and to highlight the pressing issue of the inhumane and objectifying nature of menstruating while interned and incarcerated.

### Panel 3.3: Narrating Race

*Michael Humeniuk: "“The Pen is as Mighty as the Sword”: The Decolonial Rhetoric of Global Combat Literature.”*

Michael Humeniuk is a third year Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Waterloo. Supervised by Dr. Susan Roy, his current research focuses on Indigenous political activism during the Global Sixties focusing on the exchange of decolonial rhetoric and theories amongst a wide range of political activists and movements to better understand how decolonization occurred locally but was also experienced and participated in on a global scale. He is particularly interested in highlighting how decolonial theories and rhetoric were exchanged to better facilitate local expressions of larger global decolonial issues and agendas in Canada by Indigenous peoples. He is focusing on how Indigenous activists in Canada both gained support and supported other decolonial movements internationally as well as what Indigenous peoples from Canada contributed to the global rhetoric for decolonization.

In the 1960s, an era of extended and prolific activism and political upheaval took place globally. Cited by some scholars as an era of “Global Decolonization,” this period marked the beginning of a number of national and grassroots political movements across the globe. While these movements are often viewed through a nationally constrained lens, they often crossed international boundaries, cooperated with one another and shared tactics and rhetoric to help facilitate a greater global consciousness for liberation of oppressed peoples and nations. However, the methods of transmission and exchange of these theories and rhetoric is not largely appreciated. I intend to offer some examples of this exchange through the use of what Franz Fanon called “combat literature” in his work, *Wretched of the Earth*.

Combat literature is a unique literary development of the oppressed in which they air out grievances with colonial authority and postulate forms of resistance to historical and current political injustices and racism through the use of print media. I will examine a number of combative decolonial texts including those by African American, Native American, and Indigenous activists during the global sixties (1960-1975). In doing so, I argue that these texts offer a crucial link between distinct decolonial movements separated by both time and place. These texts allowed the critical transmission and adoption of global decolonial rhetoric to aid in local political action and positionality relative to global decolonization.

Furthermore, the circulation of these texts allowed for the creation of a global decolonial consciousness despite regional differences.

*Ryan Snopek: "Future in the Margins: Reading Race in Early American Science Fiction."*

Ryan is a PhD student at York University, who graduated with an MA in History from UW in 2023. His research revolves around science, technology, and society in early 20th century America as viewed through the readers of the first science fiction magazines. In his spare time Ryan takes pictures of the planets, writes poetry, and spends too much time cuddling with his cat.

*Future on the Margins: Reading Race in Early Science Fiction* is a new look at how American science fiction writers discussed race at the beginning of the 20th century, a time infamously known as the nadir of race relations in the United States. These largely white writers rarely address race in their fiction, but traces of it remain in the margins of their work and the negative space of their words: even in stories set on distant planets, perspectives on race loom in the background even as their fictional worlds, on the surface, lack explicit blackness or whiteness. By reading between the lines we can understand pulp science fiction not as ephemeral entertainment, but as part of a deeper, nationwide conversation on race and belonging in America.

*Brianne Casey: "Beyond the Sacred Fire: Tatanga Mani's Life, Activism for Indigenous Rights, and Prophecy for the Cold War World."*

A Masters student at Wilfrid Laurier University and working under the supervision of Dr. Susan Neylan, Brianne Casey specializes in North American Indigenous history. Her work analyzes the intersections and tensions between Christianity and traditional Indigenous spirituality in the twentieth century. In particular, she examines the religio-cultural revitalization movement of the Red Power era from a transnational perspective.

In 1959, the eighty-seven year old Tatanga Mani of the Stoney-Nakoda boarded an airplane to jet across the globe. Over the next seven months, Mani - also known as Chief Walking Buffalo - visited Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania as an ambassador for the cause of Moral Re-Armament (MRA), a religious conservative non-denominational movement focused around the tenets of personal improvement, world peace, and anti-Communism. Mani became a spokesperson for the MRA and utilized the public's interest in the 'Indian' to propel his messages and his solutions for a war-torn world. Blending Christianity and traditional Indigenous spiritualism, Mani perceived himself as a prophet and promoted unity as a means to overcome the harms caused by colonialism and racism. Throughout his work with the MRA, Chief Walking Buffalo spoke with politicians and Indigenous leaders from all over the world and utilized his platform to articulate important messages about environmentalism, pan-Indigeneity, and Indigenous rights.



## Session 4 Panels

### Panel 4.1: Deliberating Sex, Defining Bodies

*Kess Carpenter: "The "Anti-Antiporn" Feminist Countermovement, 1983-1985."*

Kess is a PhD Candidate at Wilfrid Laurier University, specializing in the Cold War period, as well as the history of culture, gender, and sexuality. Their research investigates pornography's significance in 1980s American political culture. Kess's research considers themes of race, class, gender, and sexuality to facilitate an understanding of pornography and culture's significance in historical contexts.

My paper seeks to illuminate the porn wars' significance within American feminism, particularly through the lens of an anti-antiporn countermovement that emerged in the mid-1980s. It looks to uncover how competing ideologies over pornography lead to deep schisms within the women's movement by the mid-1980s. It also acts as piece of the larger project that aims to uncover how the porn wars reached a national boiling point during the mid-1980s, culminating in the 1986 Attorney General's Commission on Pornography, and even deeper divisions over pornography by decade's end. It asks how feminists outside of the anti-pornography movement responded to a growing, national anti-pornography feminism and its alliances in the 1980s. Secondly, if pornography symbolized patriarchal power imbalance and the male objectification of women, then why did feminists form such a strong, anti-antiporn countermovement? I examine feminist reactions to the Anti-Pornography Civil Rights Ordinances between 1983 and 1985 as a case study to help answer these questions.

*Aidan Hughes: "'There is no such thing as taking too much steroid': Venice's Bodybuilding Subculture through the Underground Steroid Handbook (1981)."*

This paper will explore the use of steroids in the "Golden Age" of bodybuilding in the 1980s through the use of steroid handbooks that became widely popular in the community. Despite extensive literature on steroids, very little work examines the sociocultural practices of drug use, especially its origins in the Golden Age bodybuilding subculture. The handbooks provide a window into the attitudes and practices of drug use by the bodybuilding subculture at Gold's Gym in Venice Beach. These rich primary sources help us understand the reasons behind steroid use, bodybuilders' thoughts about side-effects, the avenues to acquire steroids, and injection safety. By using handbooks that originated from Gold's Gym at Venice Beach, this paper also considers the ways in which the west coast bodybuilding community developed a user-created knowledge circle around steroid use by the 1980s that was very different from the medical community's view of steroids at the same time. Special consideration is given to the handbooks of Dan Duchaine, often known as the Steroid Guru of Venice Beach, for in many ways he and his endeavors changed the landscape of steroid use, distribution, and policy during the 1980s. This paper offers a novel analysis of Duchaine's first publication, *Underground Steroid Handbook* (1981), an eighteen-page how-to guide that sold 80,000 copies within months of its release. Duchaine's first handbook illustrates the west coast bodybuilding community's steroid culture during the 1980s, as the handbook was informed by the experiences of bodybuilders at Gold's. The handbook's commercial success launched Duchaine's career as a national steroid aficionado and led to two *Underground Steroid*

*Handbook* sequels in 1988 and 1992 that are used to convey how the subculture's use of steroids evolved over a decade.

Aidan Hughes is completing his last year of the University of Guelph's Master of Arts (History) program. As a recreational bodybuilder, Aidan is fascinated by the Golden Age of bodybuilding. In particular, Aidan studies the subcultural elements of bodybuilding, specifically the use of performance-enhancing drugs throughout modern bodybuilding.

***Matt Edwards: "On the Table, In the Books: Tracing Queer Bodies in Anatomy and Endocrinology at the University of Toronto, 1927-1980."***

Matthew is a PhD candidate at the University of Guelph. He holds a BHUMS (2019) and MA (2021) in History from Carleton University. Working under Tara Abraham's supervision, Matthew's work focuses on the history of conversion therapy within Canadian medical institutions.

An independent review initiated by the Canadian Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in 2015 determined that its thirty-year-old Gender Identity Clinic was debilitatingly "insular" and "out of step with current clinical and operational practices" concerning gender-affirming mental healthcare (Zinck & Pignatiello, 2015). Following the review's completion, CAMH closed the Toronto clinic amid scandal and terminated its head, Dr. Kenneth Zucker—a psychologist who has claimed that it was ethical and possible to discourage transgender identification in children (Zucker, 2008). In response to Zucker and his supporters' continuing promotion of 1970s-era ideas about trans people, trans historian Cristan Williams conducted a study of "disco sexology" as an "uncritical ontology that functioned for decades as axiomatic, circular reasoning" despite numerous clinical critiques (Williams, 2017). Williams' work reveals a link between the global efforts to discourage, prevent or 'fix' trans identification in children and the circulation/legitimation of mental healthcare knowledge.

How could a clinical space at the centre of our mental healthcare system become insulated from theoretical and technical shifts? What other spaces for anti-2SLGBT+ violence and rhetoric have been enabled by knowledge circulation? The proposed paper will investigate how eugenic and normative social movements have influenced the currency of healthcare techniques re: sexuality and gender. I will specifically analyze continuities and disparities between the early 20th century's mental hygiene movement and the recent policy interest in social engineering to eliminate 2SLGBT+ identification today.

***Jennifer Baker: "Birds of Darkness: Power and Agency in Seventeenth Century English Economies of Sex."***

Jennifer Baker is a Ph.D. candidate at Western University and an Early Modern European social historian focused on 16th and 17th-century British history of women and interpersonal violence at the intersection of social mores, religion, and the law. Her current research investigates the cultural production of traditional gender roles and social responses to women confronted with unexpected pregnancies within and without marriage and the reproductive strategies they employed to negotiate, subvert, or succumb to a gendered system. To deepen our understanding of how society, religion, and the law influenced the evolving views of gender and gendered systems, Jennifer uses narratives and microhistories to examine the voice and agency of individuals.

On Easter Monday, 1668, London apprentices took to the streets, rioting and attacking brothels. Although part of a long-standing traditional carnival of misrule, the 1668 riots escalated far beyond what had been experienced in the past, involving thousands of people and lasting four days. Contemporaries and historians alike asked why the city experienced this escalation. Some speculate that prostitutes' rising rates put their services out of the reach of poor apprentices who were not permitted to marry. Others point to political issues and the growing dissatisfaction with the monarchy and its immoral behaviour. From the Restoration, Charles II's court fostered a more permissive atmosphere towards sex and vice. While a gendered hierarchy seemed in force, this raises the question: how did prostitutes live during this time? By considering the success of two prominent bawdyhouse owners and madams, this paper seeks to better contextualize the social atmosphere of 1660s London. This paper considers both the longer history and the new tension between sexual permissiveness and moral admonishment against vice. Broadsheet publications further reveal how, even as most engaged in this exploitive system faced precarious lives without security, some women engaged in sex for trade might have wielded more power, independence, and autonomy than generally accepted by gendered systems of the era.

#### Panel 4.2: Locality and History

*Kyle Mastarciyan: "Fearful Asymmetry: A Commentary on the Scholarship of English and Scottish Immigration in Upper Canada."*

Kyle Mastarciyan is a PhD student in the Department of History at York University, specializing in the intellectual and cultural history of post-Confederation Canada. His ongoing research examines how liberalism shaped Anglo-Canadian nation-building narratives in the 19th and early 20th century. Kyle holds an MA from York University, where he explored loyalty and moderate liberalism in Upper Canada's Pre-Rebellion political landscape with his paper, 'Complex Politics: Egerton Ryerson, Charles Fothergill, and Liberal-Conservatism.' Alongside his academic work, Kyle works as a freelance research assistant and is also studying French. Kyle's academic interests also include British imperial policy and immigration, Canadian federalism, and the origins and influences of liberalism.

My study delves into scholarly discussions surrounding English and Scottish immigration and ethnic identity in 19th-century Ontario, examining the two groups' profoundly different places within Canadian culture and historical memory. Through the analysis of academic and popular literature, I discuss how differing degrees of scholarly attention reflect contemporary and modern perceptions of English and Scottish ethnic identity and history in Canadian culture.

During the British migrations of the 19th and early 20th century, Scottish immigrants visibly permeated Ontario, leaving a distinctive mark on the province's culture. Although larger in number, English immigrants lacked an ethnic identity that emphasized their foreign birth, often being expected to assimilate into Anglo-Canadian culture with ease. This dichotomy similarly exists in the historical memory. Whereas the subject of Scottish immigration and identity in Canada is as widely studied as it is celebrated, English immigration patterns and identities are often overlooked.

My analysis scrutinizes how select Scottish traditions were integrated into Canadian cultural norms, fostering an almost mythological idea of Scottishness, whereas English immigrant identity remained relatively 'invisible.' In doing so, I will query why Scottish cultural markers found prominence within the

Canadian mosaic while English immigrant identity often merged into the dominant Anglo-centric narrative.

This study aims to bridge scholarly discourse and historical and cultural memory, elucidating how the representation, visibility, and exaggeration of Scottish culture contrasted with the subtlety of English Canadian ethnic identity within 19th-century Ontario. By accentuating this interplay, it aims to reveal the dynamic relationship between historical discussions and broader questions of immigrant identity and national culture.

***Lee Barich: "Mountains Beyond Mountains: Commemorating the Past in Kitchener's Downtown Revival."***

Lee is a PhD student in the Department of History at the University of Waterloo. He completed his BA and MA in History at Wilfrid Laurier University and his MA in Planning at the University of Waterloo. Prior to his PhD studies, Lee worked as an urban planner in various settings across Southern Ontario, leading projects in both the public and private sectors. He is currently a Candidate Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Kitchener, Ontario has experienced significant social and physical changes in its downtown in recent decades. Once an industrial hub, the City's urban core declined as suburban migration and deindustrialization gutted its economic and cultural activity. Now, the downtown sees a new light rail transit (LRT) system pass by the old brick industrial buildings where tech companies and new developments thrive. This paper offers a historical review as to how this transition occurred. Newspaper archives show that this revitalization was the process of negotiating place, identity, and value amongst the City's leaders, its residents, and investors. This process revolved around the successful conservation of cultural heritage sites. Participants considered how to leverage these assets to reclaim and commemorate the City's identity while also building a liveable space for its future.

***Mark Andrew Hamilton: "The Aesthetic Activism of ACT UP Montréal: Posters, Pamphlets, and Performance as Protest."***

Mark Andrew Hamilton is an MA student under the advisement of Dr. Peter Gossage at Concordia University, Montréal. His work has received the Keith Lowther Prize, as well as a Concordia Scholarship of Merit. Mark's music work as Woodpigeon and as a member of Frontperson has received the Saatchi Gallery Music Prize, the Galaxie Prize and was nominated for the Polaris Prize.

Much of the historical record on HIV/AIDS activism focuses on the efforts of ACT UP/NY while silencing the work and achievements of other chapters and organizations also operating at the height of the crisis. Following their well-documented protest at the 5th Annual AIDS Conference in Montréal, a local chapter of ACT UP was founded in 1990. Despite for the most part adhering to the overarching ACT UP/NY company line, the graphic ephemera of ACT UP Montréal—including posters, protest signs, pamphlets, manifestation documentation and T-shirts—demonstrates an equally vibrant and activist voice deserving of similar in-depth analysis. These differences are particularly striking when compared and contrasted to the ACT UP/NY mothership organization (often referred to as "the Vatican" in interviews collected for this work). What emerges through analysis of these items is not only a distinctly québécois framework, but an entirely different set of reference points and goals for HIV/AIDS activist

work. Through oral history, object analysis and direct comparison with better known HIV/AIDS activist imagery, this paper compares and contrasts the stark graphic, referential and foundational differences between ACT UP Montréal and other activist groups by which it has been left largely overshadowed and under explored.

This work has also been the basis for an exhibition at the Archives gaies du Québec in summer 2023 entitled *L'activisme esthétique d'ACT UP MONTRÉAL : une histoire en photos et en affiches* and included as part of the programming for Fierté Montréal 2023 and the National Trust for Canada's Historic Places 2023.

*Bram Fookes: "The Meaford Tank Range: An Environmental and Social History."*

Bram Fookes is a first-year master's student in the History program at the University of Guelph. Last year, he graduated with first class standing from Brock University with an honours degree in History and a minor in Classics. During his graduate studies, he has gained an interest in the intersections of military history and environmental history, a combination of fields which can provide a wealth of information about the peripheral impacts of warfare over the course of human history. His thesis focuses on the establishment of the Meaford Tank Range just outside of Meaford, Ontario, along the shores of Georgian Bay in 1942 in the midst of the Second World War. Focusing his research around the impacts that a distant war in Eurasia had on the people and landscapes of rural Ontario has allowed him to gain a deeper understanding of the consequences of warfare.

By 1942, the world was embroiled in the Second World War. Canada, at war since 1939, assumed a significant role in the Allied war effort as Nazi Germany dominated Europe and Japan expanded across the Pacific. Canadians enlisted by the thousands, and the government recognized the need for new bases where these soldiers could train with the weapons of war, particularly tanks. The government would ultimately select St. Vincent Township in Grey County, Ontario, as the site for a training base and tank range. This presentation will outline work I am conducting for my thesis, which will investigate the rationale behind this decision and its consequences for the environment and local population.

My thesis will be oriented around three main questions: 1) how and why did the Canadian state and military establish the base? 2) what were the consequences for those who were displaced from the area? 3) what were the environmental impacts of military activities in the region?

The conference presentation will focus on the history of St. Vincent Township and the Meaford Tank Range.

I will discuss my research questions and explain their importance, both to the disciplines of military and environmental history, and to the people of Grey County today. By exploring archival materials about the establishment of the base, as well as incorporating the perspectives of locals who were affected, I will be able to formulate a coherent history of St. Vincent's transition to becoming a military base – an account which does not currently exist.

### Panel 4.3: Contesting Authority

#### *Kristen Becker: "The Law of Treason in Scotland c. 1450-1688."*

I am a PhD candidate at the University of Guelph studying Scottish legal and political history. I completed my BA and MA at Dalhousie University in Halifax Nova Scotia. My previous research has examined Anglo Scottish Relations and torture in the late seventeenth century, and law reform in Scotland during the 1650s English occupation. My doctoral research examines the development of the treason law in late medieval and early modern Scotland, and considers its implications to Scottish criminal law, subjecthood, kingship, and the political power structures of the historical past. Using parliamentary and legal documents, and specific case-studies, my research considers how and why the treason law changed over time, and how periods of minority or regency influenced these changes.

This project examines the development of treason- the act of violence against the monarch or his/her family, the questioning of the monarch's power- in late medieval and early modern Scotland to examine subjecthood, sovereignty, the growth of Scottish criminal law, and the political power structures of the historical past. Using parliamentary records such as The Records of the Parliament of Scotland, The Registers of the Privy Council of Scotland, Registers of the Great Seal of Scotland, The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, The Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, and various legal treatises such as George Mackenzie's *The Laws and Customes of Scotland, in Matters Criminal*, and Sir Thomas Craig's *Jus Feudal Tribus Libris Comprehensum*, this project analyzes and compares treason in Scotland over a two-hundred-year span beginning with the reign of James III in 1451/52 and ending with the reign of William and Mary in 1688/89. This project also uses numerous case studies to consider the nature of treason in the Marian civil wars and the effect of minorities and regencies on the proceeding of the law. Treason was an attack on the King, sovereignty, and the political structure of the kingdom, and what was considered treason, the punishments associated with it, and the law itself was open for interpretation. The treason law's influence on and involvement with the political and social environment suggests its significance to our understanding of Scottish history.

#### *Vera Zoricic: "The Black Women's United Front: Women who Shaped Black Power Politics and Ideology."*

Vera Zoricic is a second-year PhD student at the University of Waterloo. She studies Digital History under the supervision of Dr. Ian Milligan. Vera's topic focuses on the digitization of the Black freedom struggles in Canada and the United States during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. She is particularly interested in which documents are prioritized for digitization and how this affects the creation and interpretation of historical events.

Traditionally, the Black Power movement in the United States is a story told by men for men. Conversely, the Black Women's United Front (BWUF) emerged at the nexus of feminism and Black Power politics. This organization features women within the Black Power movement, and it demonstrates that women played a significant role in shaping the development of Black Power ideology and politics. BWUF, created in 1975, offered African American women an alternative to conservative gender doctrines embodied in cultural nationalist organizations such as Brooklyn's The East Organization

and Newark's Committee for a Unified Newark (CFUN). While BWUF had a rather short existence, its impact is significant because it helped elevate the position of women within the Black Power movement.

A key figure of this time is Sylvia Jones, who was born on December 5, 1942, in Charlotte, North Carolina. She later changed her name to Amina Baraka (meaning faithful one). Baraka's dissatisfaction with the gender roles in her cultural nationalist organization (CFUN) led to her decision to explore socialism, which revealed her acknowledgement of "class contradictions and class struggle" within the Black Power movement. Amina Baraka situated the "Woman Question" within the context of the "Class Question." While Baraka explored a new role for African American women within the Black Power movement, she encountered much opposition. Unfortunately, BWUF failed to overcome three challenges. Disagreement with cultural nationalists over socialism as a way forward for the Black freedom struggles, refusal to participate with white socialists, and fear of the negative influence of the white women's movement led to the downfall of BWUF. During its short existence, however; BWUF set a new tone for the Black Power movement and helped to insert Black women into the conversations surrounding labour, power, and politics.

*Shamylla van der Hall-Rose: "Battle of the Concrete: Exploring the urban history and popular narrative of skateboarding and 'Found Space' contrasted by the development of the China Creek South Skateboard Park."*

Shamylla van der Hall-Rose is currently a History Masters student at York University and completed her Bachelor of Arts degree at University of British Columbia Okanagan with Honours in History and a Minor in English. Ms. van der Hall-Rose focuses on modern cultural history with a focus on athletic culture and is currently working on a comparison of the Winter X-Games and the Winter Olympics. Her work previously includes the popular narrative of skateboarding history, the concept of skis as archival objects, and archival research on the creation of the second oldest skateboard park in Canada. She has previously been awarded the UBCO HS Department Undergraduate Research Award, and The Choquette Family Foundation Global Student Mobility Award.

In examining the narrative of skateboarding history, this paper reveals the difference between the popular narrative of a male driven and dominated counter-culture, and the municipal and community driven individuals that actually facilitated the space for skateboarding to flourish. Through the contradicting sources of skateboarders and the journalists telling their story, and archival research of an early skatepark's creation and development, this paper examines the conflicting perspectives of who made skateboarding. This is shown in both how the adaptation of urban environments to include skateboarding allowed encouragement and continuation of the sport locally, and in the influence of pop-culture on in the strength of its development. It will be noted that, in spite of the social and cultural spatial adaptations of urban environment, the 'found space' culture of skateboarding was not erased and the 'battles for concrete' persevere.