

A People of Diversity: Mennonites in Canada since 1970

November 15, 16 and 17, 2018

**The Mennonite Historical Society of Canada's
50th Anniversary Conference**

Hosted by the Center for Transnational Mennonite Studies

University of Winnipeg

FREE ATTENDANCE REGISTER AT CONFERENCE

Preamble

This conference marks the Mennonite Historical Society (MHSC) of Canada's 50th anniversary. We welcome you to consider it in the context of two possible sets of books published by MHSC. First, the three-volume *Mennonites in Canada* series with the sub-titles of: 1) A History of a Separate People, 1789-1920; 2) A People's Struggle for Survival, 1920-1940; 3) A People in Transition, 1939-1970. This conference, with the title, 'A People of Diversity, 1970-2018,' can be considered as a virtual fourth volume of this series. Two more recent MHSC-sponsored volumes were titled: 1) Mennonite Women in Canada; and 2) MCC in Canada'. This conference may also be considered in this vein, focused as it is on 'Mennonite Diversity in Canada.' In any case, this diversity can be seen in new ethnic identities, new forms of crossing old boundaries, and new ways of thinking about faith, culture and socio-political issues. This conference explores the significance of these changes since 1970 and considers the implications on being "Mennonite" in the 21st century.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:00 am-4:00 pm: MENNONITE HERITAGE ARCHIVES

MHSC 50th Annual General Meeting

Open to the public.

5:30 p.m.-6:30 pm: UW FACULTY CLUB

Reception for Presenters, Session Chairs and MHSC Board Members

Faculty Club, 4th Floor Wesley Hall, University of Winnipeg

7:00-9:00

FEATURED EVENING I: ECKHARDT GRAMATTE HALL, 3RD FLOOR CENTENNIAL

Keynote Address

- Conference Introduction, Royden Loewen, Chair in Mennonite Studies
- Greetings: Annette Trimbee, President, University of Winnipeg
- 50th Year Retrospective: Ted Regehr, University of Calgary
- Keynote: Marlene Epp, Conrad Grebel University College, "The Intersectional Mennonite in the Quest of an Inclusive Canadian Mennonite History"

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16: CONVOCATION HALL, 2ND FLOOR WESLEY

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Indigeneity, Mission and Colonialism

Daniel Sims, University of Alberta, "Accrued Many Rights: The Ingenika Tsay Keh Nay and Mennonite and Catholic Missionaries"

Melanie Kampen, Toronto School of Theology, "They Shout "Peace! Peace!" When there is No Peace: Colonialism and a Trauma Informed Theology"

Brian Froese, Canadian Mennonite University, "Evolving Conceptions of Service: Mennonites and Missions in Post-1960s British Columbia"

10:00-10:30 a.m. Coffee

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

An Anabaptist Agriculture

Jake Buhler, MHS Sask, and Nettie Wiebe, National Farmers Union, "Eldorado Nuclear and the Farmers of Warman, Saskatchewan"

Jodey Nurse-Gupta, University of Waterloo, "Mennonites vs Red tape: The Milk Marketing Board and Old Order Mennonites in Ontario"

Royden Loewen, University of Winnipeg, "Chemical Champions and Biotic Believers: Divergence on Manitoba's Earth"

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Gender and Sexuality

Lucille Marr, McGill University, "Movement and Dance: Women from the Anabaptist/Mennonite Communities in Quebec"

Irma Fast Dueck, Canadian Mennonite University, "Helping the Church be Church: Listening to LGBTQ Voices in MC Canada"

Carol Penner, Conrad Grebel University College, "Women Moving Into Ministry: A Canadian Mennonite Press Survey"

3:00-3:30 p.m. Coffee

3:30-5:00 pm

Re-imagining Education

Bruce Guenther, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, "From Bible School to University: A Changing Educational Tradition"

Robyn Sneath, University of Oxford, "Citizenship, Religion, and Minority Education: The Old Colony Mennonites of Southern Manitoba"

Janice Harper, University of Waterloo, "The Elmira Life and Work School: Collaborating with a Publicly Funded School Board"

5:15-7:00 p.m. Dinner break

7:00-9:00 p.m.

FEATURED EVENING II: CONVOCATION HALL, 2ND FLOOR WESLEY

Cultural Diversity

Stephanie Phetsamay Stobbe, Menno Simons College, "The Role of Mennonites in the Lives of Southeast Asian Refugees"

Zacharie Leclair, Université de Montréal, "From Radical Revival to Slow Gentrification: the MB Church at Sainte-Thérèse, Quebec"

Rich Janzen, Centre for Community Based Research, "Pathways to Cultural Diversity in Canadian Mennonite Congregations"

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18: CONVOCATION HALL, 2ND FLOOR WESLEY

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Preserving a Past

Sam Steiner, GAMEO, "From Separation to Diversity: the Mennonite Historical Society of Canada, 1968-2018"

Conrad Stoesz, Mennonite Heritage Archives, "Corporate Memory and the Mennonite Archives: A Retrospective since 1967"

Jenna Klassen, University of Winnipeg/Mennonite Heritage Village, "Artifacts of Migration in the Memory of Immigrant Children"

10:00-10:30 a.m. Coffee

10:30-12:00 p.m.

Contesting Convention

Paul Doerksen, Canadian Mennonite University, "Developing a 'More Honest Anabaptist Political Theology'?"

Laureen Harder-Gissing, Conrad Grebel University College, "Canadian Mennonites at the Edges of Activism, 1970-1990s"

Janis Thiessen, University of Winnipeg, "John Braun and the Radical Mennonite Union"

Lunch 12:00-1:00

1:00-2:45 p.m.

Mennonite Identities

Brian Cooper, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, "What's in a Name?: The Canadian Mennonite Brethren and the Struggle for Direction"

Jeremy Wiebe, University of Waterloo, "Official Multiculturalism and the Celebration of Ethnicity during the Manitoba Mennonite Centennial"

Christine Kampen Robinson, Winnipeg, "The poetry of *mensajes schriewen*: Texting in the Construction of a *Dietsche* Space"

Richard Lougheed, École de Théologie évangélique du Québec, "Mennonite Mission in Quebec since 1956: A Diversity within a Diversity"

2:45-3:15 p.m. Coffee

3:15-4:45 p.m.

Youth and Generation

Gil Dueck, Columbia Bible College, "Conceptualizing the Millennial: Questions of Theology and Identity."

Barb Draper, *Canadian Mennonite*, "Ontario Plain People's Youth: Growth and Diversification."

Peter Epp, Canadian Mennonite University, "It's Like Dating Around: Mennonite Young Adults, Baptism & the Church"

4:45-5:00

Collecting the Voices and Thankyous

Conference Details:

Proceedings: Selected, peer-reviewed papers will be published in the *Journal of Mennonite Studies* 2019. To subscribe, email r.loewen@uwinnipeg.ca. Subscription: \$28/year

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The Planning Committee: Marlene Epp, Brian Froese, Bruce Guenther, Laureen Harder-Gissing, Royden Loewen, Lucille Marr and Conrad Stoesz.

Special Thanks: Andrea Dyck, and University of Winnipeg student volunteers

Lodging: Suggested lodging is at Holiday Inn, Colony Street, Winnipeg. Phone 204-786-7011 and ask for special University of Winnipeg (Mennonite Studies Conference) rates.

Parking: Impark parking lots around the University, the ANX Parkade off of Colony Street, or the Hudson's Bay Parkade. Street parking also available.

Food: Eat at one of the University's seven restaurants: The Element, Riddell Hall Cafeteria, Centennial Hall Cafeteria, Starbucks, the U. of W. Faculty Club, Garbonzo's, or at one of the dozen restaurants near the campus

Future Mennonite Studies conferences: 2019, Mennonites and Anthropology: Faith, Ethnography, and Cultural Entanglements; 2020, MCC at 100: Mennonites, Service and the Humanitarian Impulse

Past Mennonite Studies conferences: 2017, Mennonite/s Writing VIII; 2016, Mennonites, Land and the Environment; 2015, Mennonites, Medicine and the Body; 2014, Ex-Mennonite/Near Mennonite; 2013, MCC in Canada at 50; 2012, Mennonites, Human Rights and State Power; 2011, Anti-Modern 'Horse and Buggy' Pathways; 2010, Mennonites in Siberia; 2010, Mennonite/s Writing; 2009, Mennonites, Melancholy and Mental Health; 2008, Mennonites and Money; 2007, Family and Sexuality; 2006, War and the Conscientious Objector; 2005, North American Mennonite Historiography; 2004, Refugee Newcomers; 2003, Mennonite Studies: A 25th Anniversary Conference; 2002, Mennonites and the City; 2001, Mennonite-Aboriginal Relations; 2000, Return of the Kanadier; 1999, 1874 Revisited; 1998, EnGendering the Past; 1997, Mennonites and the Soviet Inferno; 1996, Mennonites as a People Transformed; 1995-1983, Various Themes