Lee Owen Blanding
2005 University of Ottawa MA (History)
2003 Mount Allison University BA (Cdn. Studies)

“Re-branding Canada: The origins of Canadian multiculturalism policy, 1945-1974”

Tuesday, May 21, 2013
10:00 AM
University Centre, Room A207a (Grad Studies Boardroom)

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. P.E. Bryden, Department of History, UVic (Supervisor)
Dr. Eric Sager, Department of History, UVic (Member)
Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross, Department of History, UVic (Member)
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Dr. Michael Behiels, Department of History, University of Ottawa

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Steve Garlick, Department of Sociology, UVic
Abstract

Canadian multiculturalism policy is often said to have come about in 1971 because of factors such as the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, the multicultural movement of the 1960s, or the more liberal political and social climate of the postwar period. While all of these played roles in the emergence of “multiculturalism within a bilingual framework,” this dissertation takes a state-centred approach to the rise of multiculturalism. Using previously untapped archival sources, the author makes the case that the Canadian state had adopted multiculturalism policy and programs as early as the 1950s. A small branch of Government, known as the Canadian Citizenship Branch sought to integrate members of ethnic minority communities into the mainstream of Canadian life, but also sought to reassure native-born Canadians that these “New Canadians” had vital contributions to make to Canadian culture. This dissertation shows how this state discourse intersected with the more familiar elements associated with the rise of multiculturalism, such as the multicultural movement, and ultimately coalesced in 1971 with the announcement by Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau of a “new” state multiculturalism policy.
Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

• The History Education Network/Histoire et éducation en réseau (THEN/HiER) Graduate Student Project Grant (for the “Becoming Multicultural” website), 2013: $350
• Research Grant, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (Fedeyko Family Fund), 2011-2012: $1,200
• University of Victoria Fellowship, University of Victoria, 2008-2009: $11,000
• SSHRC Doctoral Award, 2008: (Recommended but not funded)
• History Department Award, University of Victoria, Jan. 2008: $2,500
• University of Victoria Fellowship, University of Victoria, 2007-2008: $12,000
• History Department Fellowship, University of Victoria, Jan. 2007: $1,500
• History Department Fellowship, University of Victoria, 2006-2007: $5,000
• Jacob Freedman Memorial Award, University of Ottawa, 2005-2006: $2,000
• Goodwin Award, Mount Allison University, 2003

Presentations

at Canadian Ethnic Studies/Association for Canadian Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario, November 2010.


6. Blanding, Lee. "'Une Mystification'?: The unspoken dialogue between Ukrainian-Canadians and Quebec intellectuals." Association for Canadian Studies Annual Conference, Quebec City, Quebec, October 2008.

Publications

