Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Arts
of
SPENCER N. TRERICE
BA (University of Victoria, 2014)

“Entre Fierté et Mépris: Le Rapport Ambivalent à l’égard du Chiac
dans Pour sûr de France Daigle”

Department of French

Tuesday, July 26, 2016
10:00 A.M.
Clearihue Building
Room A207

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Catherine Léger, Department of French, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Marc Lapprand, Department of French, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Alexandra D’Arcy, Department of Linguistics, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Kim Juniper, School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

France Daigle’s Governor General’s Award winning novel *Pour sûr*, published in 2011, depicts the daily life of Acadians in Moncton. In this study, I examine the attitudes and perceptions the characters of the novel have towards their variety of Acadian French, called Chiac. The characters often regard their vernacular as illegitimate, particularly when compared to the linguistic norm (Standard French) and other varieties of French considered as “good French”, but also, depending on the context, demonstrate feelings of pride. Thus, in the novel, Chiac is deemed both an inferior variety of French and a marker of identity. Many sociolinguistic studies have revealed that native speakers of Chiac experience a sentiment of ambivalence towards their variety. In this respect, the novel mirrors the Monctonian sociolinguistic reality.