

AuCanada

The Canadian Studies Center at Bowling Green State University

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Managing Differences in Difficult Times

Canada and the United States share a history, a space, and a tradition of cooperation. In times of crisis each provides care and comfort for the other. Interconnected by commerce and geography, both pursue the goal of global security through diplomatic and military channels. Despite such integration, each sovereign nation follows different norms and responds to challenges in ways reflecting the underlying values of their citizenries.

Recent world events have accentuated disparate priorities of Canada and the U.S. If countries can be said to have personalities, then the U.S. and Canada have vastly different temperaments. Deep distinctions in identity, social cohesion, culture, and governance set the two apart much like the individual traits of siblings. Superficial similarities between Canadians and Americans occasionally lead to false expectations about foreign policy.

Canada's international approach is cooperative and multilateral with a proud history of peacekeeping. Canadian society, somewhat more inclusively than the United States', supports aid to foreign countries and immigration. Thus, it is predictable that Canada and the U.S. occasionally assume opposing roles on the world stage. The latest divergence involves the use of military force to root out weapons of mass destruction and produce regime change in Iraq. It is important to place this in a broader perspective that recognizes that while disagreements are inevitable, Canada-U.S. bonds remain strong.

Old and recent differences have always led to stronger ties. During the American Revolution, Canada, of course, remained loyal to Great Britain. The War of 1812 is another historical reference point where our two countries found themselves of divided opinion. As the article on the next page "Correcting the Record" recounts, slavery was abolished in Canada in 1833 resulting in freedom for thousands via the Underground Railroad. In 1914, Canada was quick to join the war effort, even enlisting Americans, while the U.S. moved more slowly. Canada and the U.S. have a longstanding disagreement on policy relating to Cuba. During the Vietnam era, Canada accepted U.S. war resisters. Canada supports the Kyoto Treaty on climate change while the U.S. opposes it.

Canada's position on Iraq was feared by some to become the basis of an anti-Canadian backlash. Verbal barbs and public statements of displeasure by officials on both sides of the border induce a certain amount of angst in the cross-border business community. While these high profile political squabbles should be monitored closely, they contrast starkly with day-to-day activities that support economic interdependence, family ties, and friendships. Canada and the U.S. will, like any two independent nations, always have occasion to take contrasting positions. The ties that draw us together are much stronger and enduring.

The Canada-U.S. relationship, as has been proven repeatedly through our shared history, is strong enough to weather passing adversity and move forward to common ground.

From the Director

Canada and the U.S. share a common history and values far more enduring than transitory events. Recent disagreements over Iraq are actually minor compared to differences during the Vietnam War and towards Cuba. Officials on both sides should tone down the rhetoric, let Canada be Canada, and the United States be the United States. Our strong bilateral relationship provides tremendous benefits to both sides. Ohio, for example, sends half of its exports to Canada, supporting several hundred thousand jobs.

Activities at BGSU highlight historical and cultural differences between Canada and the U.S. and our strong ties. The visits of **Paul Lovejoy** and **Anthony Sherwood** focused on the Black diaspora to Canada from the U.S. revolution, through the Civil War and World War I, to the present. Thanks to the History Department for supporting these events.

Canadian National Librarian **Roch Carrier** was celebrated with an honorary degree. Carrier's distinguished literary accomplishments inspire readers throughout Canada, especially in his native Québec. His story *The Hockey Sweater* has helped our students appreciate Canada's "two solitudes."

Our Canadiana collection in the Jerome Library is among the best and was strengthened when BGSU became a select Canadian government document depository. Access this rich resource online through OhioLINK.

Happy Spring!



Mark J. Kasoff
Director

Roch Carrier Honored

BGSU welcomed Roch Carrier to campus this past February. During his visit he was awarded an honorary degree, gave a reading to an audience of 160 followed by a dinner with BGSU dignitaries, and attended a brunch with French House residents. Carrier's remarks were made at the Pallister French-Canadian Lecture Series organized each year by the Canadian Studies Center. The Series' namesake is Janis L. Pallister, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages, whose vision and generous support ensure that French Canada will be an enduring focus of the Canadian Studies Program.



Carrier receives a BGSU hockey jersey as a memento from Assistant Coach, Ron Fogarty.

In recognition of his many literary accomplishments, his leadership positions in service to the Canadian cultural community, and his distinguished academic career, Carrier was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. Carrier is a native of Sainte Justine, Québec, born on May 13, 1937. He grew up to be a Doctor of Letters from the Sorbonne, novelist, playwright, short story writer, scriptwriter, essayist, literary critic, biographer, educator, disseminator of culture—indeed former advisor to the Minister of Cultural Affairs—humorist, sports enthusiast, contemplative, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Officer of the Order of Canada, recipient of the Stephen Leacock Medal for the humor in *Prières d'un enfant très très sage*, Director of the Canada Council for the Arts, and since 1999, Canada's National Librarian.

Roch Carrier is admired for his talent at drawing characters that are highly colorful. Irony and humor are set along side the most serious of themes, which he

addresses throughout his writing career: the situation of the rural Québécois, the treatment of war, violence, cruelty, eroticism, and sexuality. *Le chandail de hockey* (which English speaking people know by title *The Sweater*, or *The Hockey Sweater*) reflects the classic traditions of Québec culture and encapsulates the tensions between Anglophones and Francophones, while also appealing to our inner child. More recently, he has returned to that great hockey player featured in *Le chandail*, Maurice Richard, and written his biography in *Le rocket (Our Life with the Rocket)*.

Of his early childhood, Carrier recalls that there were no books in his home. "When I was nine my dad came back from one of his trips with set of thirteen books (the Encyclopedia for Youth) all bound. I never saw that many books in my life. Today, as National Librarian of Canada, when I visit schools and I ask the children to imagine that in my home there were no books. Nevertheless, from zero books you can become responsible for the national collection of your country. Everything is possible."

Carrier also recounts his first trip to France as a young man where he noted the picture of Victor Hugo on the franc. "I did not know that many years later the Bank of Canada would phone me and ask permission to use two lines from my work and quote it on the five dollar bill."

Special thanks to Dr. Jan Pallister for providing background and content for this article.

Healthy Canadian Economy Benefits Ohio Workers

Often mentioned in these pages is the economic importance of Canada to the economy of Ohio. We have told you about the number of Ohioans employed directly (about 7,000) and indirectly (another 7,000) by Canadian subsidiaries. We have told you about the number of manufacturing jobs supported by Ohio exports to Canada both directly (58,000) and indirectly (54,000), as well as non-manufacturing jobs tied to those manufactured exports (114,000). Together with employment in agriculture and construction, ties to the Canadian economy account for at least 5 percent of Ohio's total employment.

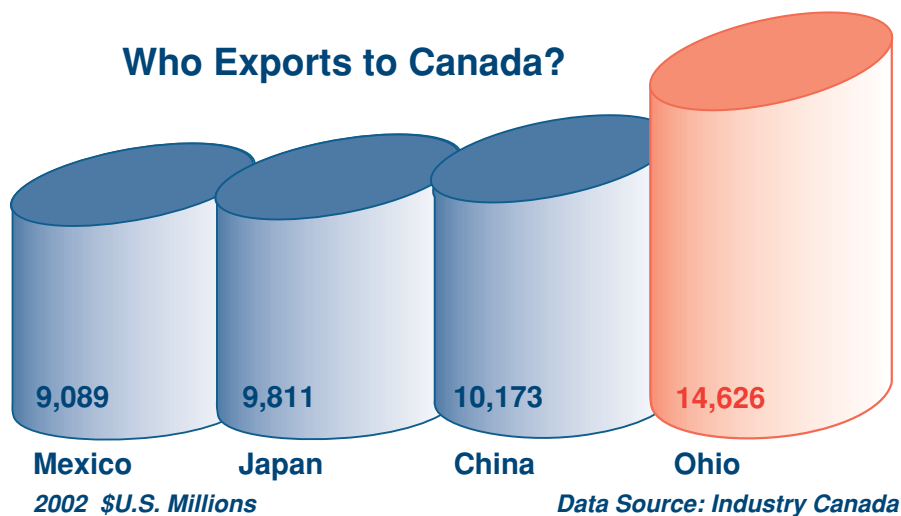
We have featured important cross-border sectors such as agriculture, food processing, services, chemicals, and of course, auto parts. These and other important sectors help Ohio industry remain diversified and less vulnerable to the effects of an economic downturn.

What about the other side of the coin? How important is Ohio to the Canadian economy?

Ohio is a critical supplier to the Canadian market as shown below. Ohio, if it were a country, would rank higher as an importer to Canada than any other country (save the United States). The Canadian economy is expected to repeat last year's performance as the leading economy in the G7. Given the flat business activity at home, this is good news for Ohio firms connected to the Canadian economy.

If you would like to learn more about opportunities for selling in Canada, contact the Center.

Who Exports to Canada?



Correcting the Record

The first known person of African descent in Canada dates back to the beginning of the 1600s when Mathieu DaCosta translated for French and Micmac traders. The Atlantic slave trade from 1500 to the 1800s was responsible for the largest mass migration of Africans, bringing an estimated 12 million people from Africa to the Americas. Thousands of enslaved and free Blacks found their way to Canada before 1799 when slavery was abolished throughout the British Empire. From 1800 to 1865 more than 20,000 Blacks survived the risks of the Underground Railroad to gain freedom in Canada. Canada is rightly proud of its resistance to slavery. Despite the triumph of enabling so many individuals to escape, Canada has nevertheless grappled with the realities of its own history of discrimination and racism.

Two accomplished visitors to BGSU are improving our understanding about the present by filling in gaps in accounts of the past. Correcting the record is essential to move both U.S. and Canadian societies forward to racial and social equity.

Dr. Paul E. Lovejoy is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of History at York University where he holds the Canada Research Chair in African Diaspora. Lovejoy presented the keynote address, *An Afro-Centric Perspective on the Trans-Atlantic World during the Era of Slavery*, during the Sixth Annual Africana Studies Student Research Colloquium. On March 21, 2003, East Toledo junior high and Waite, Rogers, and Start high school students participated in sessions featuring BGSU undergraduate and graduate research presentations and attended the luncheon at which Lovejoy spoke.

Traditional historical accounts have typically been developed from a White, Anglo-centric perspective. Lovejoy blends international migration studies with cultural geography to document the origins of Africans caught up in the slave trade. Lovejoy's methodology emphasizes "portals" or places of departure, entry, and return. This Afro-centric exploration of the richly varied African cultural traditions and their effects on the modern day society has applications across the Americas.

The tragic and brutal slave trade devastated the histories and collective

memories of transplanted African cultures that had existed for centuries in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and elsewhere. Brought from African societies rich with intellectual inquiry, architecture, art, music, and dance, individuals were able to reform into social groups and create a Black identity in the Americas. Although much was lost in the crushing cultural fragmentation wrought by the trans-Atlantic slave trade, African influences continue to make deeply powerful contributions to North American culture.

The historical development of Black communities in Canada has gained focus and attention after decades of mostly cursory and biased treatment. The social identity of Blacks in Canada is not only the subject of a growing body of scholarly research but also of Canadian film.

Filmmaker **Anthony Sherwood** created, produced, and acted in the docudrama *Honour Before Glory*. The film is based on the lives and experiences of Black Canadian soldiers of World War I. Although over 600,000 Canadians enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during WWI, official policy initially excluded Blacks. Sherwood screened his film on March 25, 2003. The story of the No. 2 Construction Battalion, Canada's only all-Black regiment, tells of the patriotic sacrifices made by men who volunteered to serve their then-segregated country. It is also an historic account of the courageous fight against institutionalized racism waged by the Black community as they succeeded in the quest to be accepted into the military. Military memoranda document the blatantly racist views held by many high-ranking officers and provide insight into the Black experience in the armed forces.

During an engaging discussion session after the film, Sherwood shared details of how he came to be in possession of the wartime diary written by his great uncle, William White. Reverend William White served as the battalion's chaplain. Sherwood relies on his great uncle's written account to infuse the film with personal emotion. Through the diary we learn of a White man, Dr. Dan Murray, whose close friendship with the reverend went against the prevailing racist norms. White's pain and trials were so great as

to shake the faith of this deeply religious man.

Sherwood's film is a demonstration of social change achieved through the leadership of Blacks and Whites willing to take a stand for respect and dignity. He adeptly portrays the courage and fear of battalion members in the face of bigotry and violent war. Persisting racism in the military, continuing economic disparity, and under-representation of Blacks in political and corporate leadership positions prove that racist views must still be challenged across North America. The guiding work of Paul Lovejoy and Anthony Sherwood are indispensable in developing a deeper and more accurate appreciation of "otherness" in the drive to advance social and economic equity with racial tolerance.



Ontario Ohio Community Economic Development Workshop II

The second in a series of workshops aimed at practitioners in the field of economic development will be held from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on June 12, 2003**, in Sylvania, Ohio. It will feature an exploration of successful partnerships and a discussion of ways to balance cross-border trade with security.

This initiative establishes a practical network of economic developers working together to create strong and effective cross-border partnerships between Ohio and Ontario. The network builds cross-border trade and investment to create a future of shared prosperity.

Attendees will learn of NAFTA opportunities that businesses in the region may pursue; identify common concerns and opportunities; engage policymakers by providing advocacy and feedback on effective development practices; and facilitate business growth and better quality of life.

If you would like more information on the workshop contact **Richard Edwards** at 419.372.2457, or **Robert Wheeler** (in Canada) at 519.631.1680 ext.132.

Library Workshops Provide Guidance and Seek Acquisition Advice

BGSU's outstanding Canadian library holdings and expertise are the focus of an initiative to build awareness, facilitate resource sharing, and shape the content of the holdings. On December 4, 2002, the Canadian Studies Center and BGSU Libraries co-hosted a workshop to profile Canadian holdings, demonstrate on-line data capabilities, and encourage acquisition advice from within and beyond BGSU. The workshop was then repeated for a statewide audience on April 18, 2003, at the annual meeting of the Ohio Canadian Studies Roundtable in Columbus.

Led by **Evron Collins**, Canadian Studies Library Liaison, and **Coleen Parmer**, Head of Government Documents, the workshops featured demonstrations of online search functions for Canadian holdings at Bowling Green and at Canadian government locations. At the first workshop approximately thirty participants from BGSU and other universities including Case Western Reserve University and Ohio State University met at BGSU's main library. At the second, about fifty Canadian Studies scholars from across the state participated.

Dennis Moore, Academic Relations Officer at the Canadian Consulate in Detroit, commented that BGSU's status as a Selective Depository for the Canadian government makes it one of two in the state of Ohio, and of just forty-eight in the U.S. The other Ohio depository at Case Western specializes in legislative and law-related materials. Together the two Canadian government documents library collections complement one another.

Parmer and Collins recommend visiting the BGSU Government Documents homepage where the collections are organized by jurisdiction. To find it go to:

◆ <<www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/services/govdocs/index.html>>

Or go directly to the Select Depository website at:

◆ <<www.dsp-psd.pwgsc.gc.ca>>

Resources on the Canadian government documents page come in many forms including CD, microfiche, book, and, increasingly, electronically from the Internet. Many of the materials are annuals, series, and periodicals.

Publications by all of the Canadian federal agencies are included in BGSU's growing collection. Education, health, justice, the environment (Great Lakes ecology and climate themes), and government documents (directories, parliamentary proceedings, statutes) are among the many areas represented in the holdings. The most heavily emphasized subject selected for the collection at BGSU is business and economics.

Many statistical resources, including a campus-wide subscription to CANSIM—Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management—are available. This is the foremost collection (over one million time series) of current and historical Canadian data on international trade, investment, domestic production and consumption, census information, business expenditures

and practices by sector, government budgetary items, etc.

Most materials are available for state-wide interlibrary loan to OhioLINK members (a consortium of seventeen public universities, twenty-three community/technical colleges, thirty-nine private colleges and the State Library of Ohio serving more than 500,000 faculty, students, staff, and other researchers through 120 campus-based library systems and networks). Or, visit OCLC's WorldCat database (one of the world's most substantial databases of bibliographic information). Both can be accessed via the Canadian Studies Center website at <<www.cba.bgsu.edu/cast>>. There, researchers will also find a variety of weblinks to Canadian information on the Internet.

The Canadian Studies Center welcomes acquisition advice regarding Canadian government publications. Browse the holdings at our library. If you do not see something that you want, check the vast range of publications at the Select Depository website. Make acquisition recommendations via e-mail to cast@cba.bgsu.edu.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for the following events. Please contact **Linda Snyder** at **419.372.2457** for more information.

🍁 June 12, 2003

Ontario-Ohio Community Economic Development Workshop II, Sylvania, Ohio

🍁 November 5, 2003

Canada-Ohio Business Dinner, BGSU, Ohio

🍁 November 19-23, 2003

17th Association for Canadian Studies in the United States Biennial Conference, Portland, Oregon

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