Returning to Ceremony
Spirituality in Manitoba Métis Communities
Chantal Fiola

A homecoming through ceremony

Returning to Ceremony is the follow-up to Chantal Fiola’s award-winning Rekindling the Sacred Fire and continues her ground-breaking examination of Métis spirituality, debunking stereotypes such as “all Métis people are Catholic” and “Métis people do not go to ceremonies.” Fiola finds that, among the Métis, spirituality exists on a continuum of Indigenous and Christian traditions, and that Métis spirituality includes ceremonies. For some Métis, it is a historical continuation of the relationships their ancestral communities have had with ceremonies since time immemorial, and for others it is a homecoming – a return to ceremony after some time away.

Fiola employs a Métis-specific and community-centred methodology to gather evidence from archives, priests’ correspondence, oral history, storytelling, and literature. With assistance from six Métis community researchers, Fiola listened to stories and experiences shared by thirty-two Métis from six Manitoba Métis communities that are at the heart of this book. They offer insight into their families’ relationships with land, community, culture, and religion, including factors that inhibit or nurture connection to ceremonies such as sweat lodge, Sundance, and those of the Midewiwin. Valuable profiles emerge for six historic Red River Métis communities (Duck Bay, Camperville, St Laurent, St François-Xavier, Ste Anne, and Lorette), providing a clearer understanding of identity, culture, and spirituality that uphold Métis Nation sovereignty.

Chantal Fiola is Michif (Red River Métis) with family from St Laurent and Ste Geneviève, Manitoba, and the author of Rekindling the Sacred Fire: Métis Ancestry and Anishinaabe Spirituality. She is an assistant professor in the Urban and Inner-City Studies Department at the University of Winnipeg. Fiola is Two-Spirit, Midewiwin, a Sundancer, and lives with her wife, Nicki, and their daughter in Winnipeg.

“Grounded in the communities of her home territory, Chantal Fiola brings critical insider knowledge, insight, and analysis to the topic of Métis spirituality. The combination of historical background with contemporary voice offers an understanding of the Métis spirit that will nurture the nation and enlighten the broader public.”
—Kim Anderson, associate professor in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition at the University of Guelph

“Returning to Ceremony is a courageous book given the tensions surrounding religious affiliation in the Métis community. It is a challenging topic that has been dealt with sensitively, with balance and candour.”
—Blair Stonechild, professor of Indigenous Studies at the First Nations University of Canada
Flawed science

Though First Nations communities in Canada have historically lacked access to clean water, affordable food, and equitable health care, they have never lacked access to well-funded scientists seeking to study them. *Inventing the Thrifty Gene* examines the relationship between science and settler colonialism through the lens of “Aboriginal diabetes” and the thrifty gene hypothesis, which posits that Indigenous peoples are genetically predisposed to type 2 diabetes and obesity due to their alleged hunter-gatherer genes.

Hay’s study begins with Charles Darwin’s travels and his observations on the Indigenous peoples he encountered, setting the imperial context for Canadian histories of medicine and colonialism. It continues in the mid-twentieth century with a look at nutritional experimentation during the long career of Percy Moore, the medical director of Indian Affairs (1946–1965). Hay then turns to James Neel’s invention of the thrifty gene hypothesis in 1962 and Robert Hegele’s reinvention and application of the hypothesis to Sandy Lake First Nation in northern Ontario in the 1990s. Finally, Hay demonstrates the way in which settler colonial science was responded to and resisted by Indigenous leadership in Sandy Lake First Nation, who used monies from the thrifty gene study to fund wellness programs in their community.

*Inventing the Thrifty Gene* exposes the exploitative nature of settler science with Indigenous subjects, the flawed scientific theories stemming from faulty assumptions of Indigenous decline and disappearance, as well as the severe inequities in Canadian health care that persist even today.

Travis Hay is a historian of Canadian settler colonialism who was born and raised in Thunder Bay, Ontario. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Indigenous Learning Department at Lakehead University.

Theresa (Teri) Redsky Fiddler is an Anishinabe Elder originally from Big Grassy and Shoal Lake First Nation. She is an educator, an advocate, and an important figure in Nishnawbe Aski Nation’s Health Transformation initiative.
Dressing for the beach

Undressed Toronto looks at the life of the swimming hole and considers how Toronto turned boys skinny dipping into comforting anti-modernist folk figures. By digging into the vibrant social life of these spaces, Barbour challenges narratives that pollution and industrialization in the nineteenth century destroyed the relationship between Torontonians and their rivers and waterfront. Instead, we find that these areas were co-opted and transformed into recreation spaces: often with the acceptance of indulgent city officials.

While we take the beach for granted today, it was a novel form of public space in the nineteenth century and Torontonians had to decide how it would work in their city. To create a public beach, bathing needed to be transformed from the predominantly nude, male privilege that it had been in the mid-nineteenth century into an activity that women and men could participate in together. That transformation required negotiating and establishing rules for how people would dress and behave when they bathed and setting aside or creating distinct environments for bathing.

Undressed Toronto challenges assumptions about class, the urban environment, and the presentation of the naked body. It explores anxieties about modernity and masculinity and the weight of nostalgia in public perceptions and municipal regulation of public bathing in five Toronto settings that showcase distinct moments in the transition from vernacular bathing to the public beach: the city’s central waterfront, Toronto Island, the Don River, the Humber River, and Sunnyside Beach on Toronto’s western shoreline.

Dale Barbour grew up on a farm in Manitoba and worked in journalism and communications before getting hooked on history. He completed his PhD in history at the University of Toronto in 2018 and is currently the University of Winnipeg’s H. Sanford Riley Postdoctoral Fellow.

“Undressed Toronto is a brilliant, fresh take on a subject that few other historians would consider worthy of consideration, one that sheds light on important processes of class and gender formation, environmental development, and popular cultural practices.”
—Craig Heron, professor emeritus, Department of History, York University

“Undressed Toronto immerses the reader in the intriguing world of public bathing, exposing the historical relationship between the city’s waterbodies and its human bodies. From the harbour to Sunnyside, from the Don to the Humber, Dale Barbour deftly demonstrates that Toronto’s past debates about the ‘beach’ are every bit as revealing as the choice of swimwear.”
—Daniel Macfarlane, associate professor of Environment and Sustainability, Western Michigan University
The Arts of Indigenous Health and Well-Being
Nancy Van Styvendale, J.D. McDougall, Robert Henry, Robert Alexander Innes, eds.

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October 2021

Art for life’s sake

Drawing attention to the ways in which creative practices are essential to the health, well-being, and healing of Indigenous peoples, *The Arts of Indigenous Health and Well-Being* addresses the effects of artistic endeavour on the “good life,” or mino-pimatisiwin in Cree, which can be described as the balanced interconnection of physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental well-being. In this interdisciplinary collection, Indigenous knowledges inform an approach to health as a wider set of relations that are central to well-being, wherein artistic expression furthers cultural continuity and resilience, community connection, and kinship to push back against forces of fracture and disruption imposed by colonialism.

The need for healing—not only individuals, but also health systems and practices—is clear, especially as the trauma of colonialism is continually revealed and perpetuated within health systems. The field of Indigenous health has recently begun to recognize the fundamental connection between creative expression and well-being. Contributors embrace a diverse range of research methods, including community-engaged scholarship with Indigenous youth, artists, Elders, and language keepers. *The Arts of Indigenous Health and Well-Being* demonstrates the healing possibilities of works of art, literature, film, and music from a diversity of Indigenous peoples and arts traditions. This book will resonate with health practitioners, community members, and any who recognize the power of art as a window, an entryway to access a healthy and good life.

*Nancy Van Styvendale* is a white settler scholar and is associate professor and associate dean (Research) in the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta.

*J.D. McDougall* is a Métis PhD candidate from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Her current work explores Métis family stories through community history, archival research, and zine practice, using kinship models as a framework for understanding, re-politicizing, and reclaiming these narratives.

*Robert Henry* is Métis from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Indigenous Studies.

*Robert Alexander Innes* is a member of Cowessess First Nations and associate professor in the Indigenous Studies Program and the Department of Political Science at McMaster University.

Dadibaajim
Returning Home through Narrative
Helen Agger

Paper • $27.95 • 978-0-88755-954-9
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Critical Studies in Native History, No. 22
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Narrative and place

Dadibaajim narratives are of and from the land, born from experience and observation. Invoking this critical Anishinaabe methodology for teaching and learning, Helen Agger documents and reclaims the history, identity, and inherent entitlement of the Namegosibii Anishinaabeg to the care, use, and occupation of their Trout Lake homelands.

When Agger’s mother, Dedibaayaanimanook, was born in 1922, the community had limited contact with Euro-Canadian settlers and still lived throughout their territory according to seasonal migrations along agricultural, hunting, and fishing routes. By the 1940s, colonialism was in full swing: hydro-electric development had resulted in major flooding of traditional territories, settlers had overrun Trout Lake for its resource, tourism, and recreational potential, and the Namegosibii Anishinaabeg were forced out of their homelands in Treaty 3 territory, north-western Ontario.

Agger mines an archive of treaty paylists, census records, and the work of influential anthropologists like A.I. Hallowell, but the dadibaajim narratives of eight community members spanning three generations form the heart of this book. Dadibaajim provide the framework that fills in the silences and omissions of the colonial record. Embedded in Anishinaabeg language and epistemology, they record how the people of Namegosibiing experienced the invasion of interlocking forces of colonialism and globalized neo-liberalism into their lives and upon their homelands. Ultimately, Dadibaajim is a message about how all humans may live well on the earth.

Helen Agger is Anishinaabe and holds a PhD in Native Studies from the University of Manitoba. She is the author of Following Nimishoomis: The Trout Lake History of Dedibaayaanimanook Sarah Keesick Olsen.

“Dadibaajim is brilliant in its unapologetic incorporation of Anishinaabemowin and its prioritizing of Anishinaabe way of being in the world. It contributes to important decolonial work and challenges settler histories and discourse.”

—Brittany Luby and Margaret Lehman of the Manomin Project

“Dadibaajim is the product of a lifetime of reflection, and the distilled narrative we are presented shares an invaluable part of our Anishinaabe – and larger human – story that might have otherwise never been told. This work brings new value and appreciation for the role and positionality of our senior and traditional Elders, our Indigenous languages, and knowledge-building customs and protocols that are inherent to the community.”

—Brian McInnes, associate professor, Civil Society and Community Studies, School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Duluth

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In *Grasslands Grown* Molly P. Rozum explores the two related concepts of regional identity and sense of place by examining a single North American ecological region: the U.S. Great Plains and the Canadian Prairie Provinces. All or parts of modern-day Alberta, Montana, Saskatchewan, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Manitoba form the centre of this transnational region.

As children, the first postconquest generation of northern grasslands residents worked, played, and travelled with domestic and wild animals, which introduced them to ecology and shaped sense-of-place rhythms. As adults, members of this generation of settler society worked to adapt to the northern grasslands by practising both agricultural diversification and environmental conservation.

Rozum argues that environmental awareness, including its ecological and cultural aspects, is key to forming a sense of place and a regional identity. The two concepts overlap and reinforce each other: place is more local, ecological, and emotional-sensual, and region is more ideational, national, and geographic in tone. This captivating study examines the growth of place and regional identities as they took shape within generations and over the life cycle.

**Remembering childhood’s space**

Molly P. Rozum is associate professor and Ronald R. Nelson Chair of Great Plains and South Dakota History at the University of South Dakota. She is the co-editor of *Equality at the Ballot Box: Votes for Women on the Northern Great Plains* and editor of *Small-Town Boy, Small-Town Girl: Growing Up in South Dakota, 1920–1950.*

“A subtle, sensitive, and sophisticated transnational history of settler place-making that transforms our understanding of the Great Plains. *Grasslands Grown*’s exceptional exploration of environment and experience will interest readers everywhere. This brilliant book is a must-read.”

—Michael J. Lansing, associate professor of History and Department Chair, Augsburg University

“*Grasslands Grown* will become a standard in Great Plains studies. The work is profoundly important.”

—Thomas D. Isern, professor of History and University Distinguished Professor at North Dakota State University

“Rozum artfully presents the different personalities. . . . I can’t think of a book I have read in the last ten years that weaves in so many voices across such disparate, tangible, variegated experiences. Rozum is a lucid, often poetic writer, and her insights into humanity are many.”

—Susan N. Maher, professor of English at the University of Minnesota–Duluth
Mennonite Farmers
A Global History of Place and Sustainability
Royden Loewen

Mennonite farmers can be found in dozens of countries spanning five continents. In this comparative world-scale environmental history, Royden Loewen draws on a multi-year study of seven geographically distinct Anabaptist communities around the world, focusing on Mennonite farmers in Bolivia, Canada, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Russia, the United States, and Zimbabwe. These farmers, who include Amish, Brethren in Christ, and Siberian Baptists, till the land in starkly distinctive climates. They absorb very disparate societal lessons while being shaped by particular faith outlooks, historical memory, and the natural environment.

The book reveals the ways in which modern-day Mennonite farmers have adjusted to diverse temperatures, precipitation, soil types, and relative degrees of climate change. These farmers have faced broad global forces of modernization during the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, from commodity markets and intrusive governments to technologies marked increasingly by the mechanical, chemical, and genetic.

As Mennonites, Loewen writes, these farmers were raised with knowledge of the historic Anabaptist teachings on community, simplicity, and peace that stood alongside ideas on place and sustainability. Nonetheless, conditioned by gender, class, ethnicity, race, and local values, they put their agricultural ideas into practice in remarkably diverse ways. *Mennonite Farmers* is a pioneering work that brings faith into conversation with the land in distinctive ways.


"An outstanding work of comparative oral history that artfully situates Mennonite farmers within the context of Anabaptist teachings, the Mennonite diaspora, and the Anthropocene."
—Joshua MacFayden, Canada Research Chair in Geospatial Humanities, University of Prince Edward Island

"Loewen does an excellent job of documenting and explaining the considerable diversity of experience across and even within seven different Mennonite communities around the world."
—Ruth Wells Sandwell, professor of History, University of Toronto
In Daniels v. Canada the Supreme Court determined that Métis and non-status Indians were “Indians” under section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867, one of a number of court victories that has powerfully shaped Métis relationships with the federal government. However, the decision (and the case) continues to reverberate far beyond its immediate policy implications. Bringing together scholars and practitioners from a wide array of professional contexts, this volume demonstrates the power of Supreme Court of Canada cases to directly and indirectly shape our conversations about and conceptions of what Indigeneity is, what its boundaries are, and what Canadians believe Indigenous peoples are “owed.”

This volume demonstrates the importance of understanding “law” beyond its jurisprudential manifestations, but it also points to the central importance of respecting the power of court cases in how law is carried out in a liberal nation-state such as Canada.

Nathalie Kermoal is a professor in the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta and Director of Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research.

Chris Andersen is a professor in the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta and the editor of Aboriginal Policy Studies.

“This important collection of original pieces focusing on Daniels v. Canada and the Supreme Court’s decision will have an impact for years to come.”
—Christopher Adams, co-editor of Metis in Canada: History, Identity, Law & Politics

“Articulate, thoughtful, provocative assessments of how we might assess the Supreme Court’s 2016 decision regarding the Metis People’s legal status in Canada.”
—William Craig Wicken, Department of History, York University.

Authorized Heritage analyzes the history of commemoration at heritage sites across western Canada. Using extensive research in Parks Canada records, it argues that heritage narratives are almost always based on national and conventional messages that commonly reflect colonialist visions of the past. Throughout western Canada there are vivid examples of original and official views of what constitutes a national narrative. Yet many of the places that commemorate Indigenous, fur trade, and settler colonial histories are contested spaces, places such as Batoche, Seven Oaks, and Upper Fort Garry being the most obvious. At these heritage sites, Indigenous perceptions of the past confront the conventions of settler colonial history and denote the fluid cultural perspectives that must define the shifting ground of heritage space.

Robert Coutts brings his many years of experience as a Parks Canada historian to this detailed examination of heritage sites across the prairies. He shows how the process of commemoration often reflects social and cultural perspectives that privilege a confident and progressive national narrative. He also examines how class, gender, and sexuality often remain apart from the heritage discourse. Most notably, Authorized Heritage examines how governments became the mediators of what is heritage and, just as significantly, what is not.

Robert Coutts worked as a historian with Parks Canada for over thirty years, researching historic sites throughout western and northern Canada.

“Authorized Heritage offers sharp and fresh insights to the field of Canadian and public history. It is a highly original mix of personal experience and academic research and analysis.”
—Sarah Carter, Professor, Department of History and Classics, University of Alberta.
Did You See Us?
Reunion, Remembrance, and Reclamation at an Urban Indian Residential School
Assiniboia Residential School Legacy Group

The Assiniboia school is unique within Canada's Indian Residential School system. It was the first residential high school in Manitoba and one of the only residential schools in Canada to be located in a large urban setting. Operating between 1958 and 1973, in a period when the residential school system was largely in decline, it produced several future leaders, artists, educators, knowledge keepers, and other notable figures, including Phil Fontaine, artist Robert Houle, and Senator Mary Jane McCallum.

Stitching together memories of former students with a socio-historical reconstruction of the school and its position in both Winnipeg and the larger residential school system, Did You See Us? offers a glimpse of Assiniboia that is not available in the archival records.

These recollections of Assiniboia at times diverge, but together exhibit Survivor resilience and the strength of the relationships that bond them to this day. The volume captures the troubled history of residential schools and invites the reader to join in a reunion of sorts, entered into through memories and images of students, staff, and neighbours. It is a gathering of diverse voices that communicate the complexity of the residential school experience.

The Assiniboia Residential School Legacy Group is a non-profit organization with a mandate to: honour the legacy of the Assiniboia Residential School through commemorative and educational activities; promote positive and reconciliatory relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people; foster awareness, understanding, and healing; feature culture and language as interpreted and presented by the Survivors of the residential school.

“Did You See Us? is a must-read for those working on the history of Residential Schools and those engaged in community-based restorative justice projects.”
—Krista McCracken, Researcher/Curator, Arthur A. Wishart Library and Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre, Algoma University

The Politics of the Canoe
Bruce Erickson and Sarah Wylie Krotz, eds.

Popularly thought of as a recreational vehicle and one of the key ingredients of an ideal wilderness getaway, the canoe is also a political vessel. A potent symbol and practice of Indigenous cultures and traditions, the canoe has also been adopted to assert conservation ideals, feminist empowerment, citizenship practices, and multicultural goals.

Taking a critical stance on the canoe, The Politics of the Canoe expands and enlarges the stories that we tell about the canoe’s relationship to, for example, colonialism, nationalism, environmentalism, and resource politics. To think about the canoe as a political vessel is to recognize how intertwined canoes are in the public life, governance, authority, social conditions, and ideologies of particular cultures, nations, and states.

Almost everywhere we turn, and any way we look at it, the canoe both affects and is affected by complex political and cultural histories. Across Canada and the U.S., canoeing cultures have been born of activism and resistance as much as of adherence to the mythologies of wilderness and nation building. The essays in this volume show that canoes can enhance how we engage with and interpret not only our physical environments, but also our histories and present-day societies.

Sarah Wylie Krotz is an assistant professor of English literature at the University of Alberta.

Bruce Erickson is an assistant professor in the Department of Environment and Geography at the University of Manitoba.

“For being co-opted and used by settlers as a symbol of Canadian nationalism, this collection of essays from academics, activists, and community leaders demonstrates how the canoe has been reclaimed by Indigenous people and is being used as a powerful tool to rebuild Indigenous sovereignty and heal communities.”
—Dale Barbour, author of Winnipeg Beach
**Being German Canadian**

History, Memory, Generations

Alexander Freund, ed.

Paper • $31.95 • 978-0-88755-847-4
288 pp • 6 x 9 • Bibliography • Index
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*Studies in Immigration and Culture, No. 17*
*April 2021*

*Being German Canadian* explores how multi-generational families and groups have interacted and shaped each other’s integration and adaptation in Canadian society, focusing on the experiences, histories, and memories of German immigrants and their descendants.

As one of Canada’s largest ethnic groups, German Canadians allow for a variety of longitudinal studies that explore how different generations have negotiated and transmitted diverse individual experiences, collective memories, and national narratives. Drawing on recent research in memory and migration studies, this volume studies how twentieth-century violence shaped the integration of immigrants and their descendants. More broadly, the collection seeks to document the state of the field in German-Canadian history.

*Being German Canadian* brings together senior and junior scholars from History and related disciplines to investigate the relationship between, and significance of, the concepts of generation and memory for the study of immigration and ethnic history. It aims to move immigration historiography towards exploring the often fraught relationship among different immigrant generations—whether generation is defined according to age cohort or era of arrival.

**Contributors:** Karen Brglez, Patrick Farges, Sara Frankenberger, Roger Frie, Alexander Freund, Anke Patzelt, Robert Teigrob, Elliot Worsfold

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**Indigenous Celebrity**

Entanglements with Fame

Jennifer Adese and Robert Alexander Innes, eds.

Paper • $27.95 • 978-0-88755-906-8
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*April 2021*

*Indigenous Celebrity* speaks to the possibilities, challenges, and consequences of popular forms of recognition, critically recasting the lens through which we understand Indigenous people’s entanglements with celebrity. It presents a wide range of essays that explore the theoretical, material, social, cultural, and political impacts of celebrity on and for Indigenous people. It questions and critiques the whitestream concept of celebrity and the very juxtaposition of “Indigenous” and “celebrity” as it casts a critical lens on celebrity culture’s impact on Indigenous people.

*Indigenous Celebrity* reorients conversations on Indigenous celebrity towards understanding how Indigenous people draw from nation-specific processes of respect and recognition while at the same time navigating external assumptions and expectations.

**Jennifer Adese** is Otipemisiwak/Métis and an associate professor in the Department of Sociology at University of Toronto Mississauga.

**Robert Alexander Innes** is a member of Cowessess First Nation and an associate professor in the Indigenous Studies Program and the Department of Political Science at McMaster University.

"*Indigenous Celebrity* is an indispensable, paradigm-shifting study of celebrity that centres Indigenous meaning-making, epistemologies, kinship, and world views, even as it remains attuned to the historical and continuing effects of settler-colonial and other colonizing celebrity systems and dynamics upon Indigenous celebrity."

—Lorraine York, Distinguished Professor, Department of English, McMaster University
Strong women dominate these reminiscences: the grandmother taught the girl whose mother refused to let her go to school, and the life-changing events they witnessed range from the ravages of the influenza epidemic of 1918–20 and murder committed in a jealous rage, to the abduction of a young woman by underground spirits who on her release grant her healing powers. A highly personal document, these memoirs are altogether exceptional in recounting the thoughts and feelings of a Cree woman as she copes with the challenges of reserve life but also, in a key chapter, with her loneliness while tending a relative’s children in a place far away from home – and, apparently just as debilitating, away from the company of other women. Her experiences and reactions throw fresh light on the lives lived by Plains Cree women on the Canadian prairies over much of the twentieth century.

The late Sarah Whitecalf (1919–1991) spoke Cree exclusively, spending most of her life at Nakiwacîhk / Sweetgrass Reserve on the North Saskatchewan River. This is where Leonard Bloomfield was told his Sacred Stories of the Sweet Grass Cree in 1925 and where a decade later David Mandelbaum apprenticed himself to Kâ-miyokîsihkwêw / Fineday, the step-grandfather in whose family Sarah Whitecalf grew up.

In presenting a Cree woman’s view of her world, the texts in this volume directly reflect the spoken word: Sarah Whitecalf’s memoirs are here printed in Cree exactly as she recorded them, with a close English translation on the facing page. They constitute an autobiography of great personal authority and rare authenticity.

Sarah Whitecalf (1919–1991) spoke Cree exclusively, spending most of her life at Nakiwacîhk/Sweetgrass Reserve on the North Saskatchewan River. Her lectures are collected in The Cree Language Is Our Identity.
Dammed: The Politics of Loss and Survival in Anishinaabe Territory

Brittany Luby

Paper • $27.95 CAD / $31.95 USD
978-0-88755-874-0
256 pp • 6 x 9 • Bibliography • Index
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Dammed explores Canada’s hydroelectric boom in the Lake of the Woods area. It complicates narratives of increasing affluence in postwar Canada, revealing that the inverse was true for Indigenous communities along the Winnipeg River. The same hydroelectric development that powered settler communities flooded manomin fields, washed away roads, and compromised fish populations. Anishinaabe families responded creatively to manage the government-sanctioned environmental change and survive the resulting economic loss. Luby reveals these responses to dam development, inviting readers to consider how resistance might be expressed by individuals and families, and across gendered and generational lines.

Luby weaves text, testimony, and experience together, grounding this historical work in the territory of her paternal ancestors, lands she calls home. With evidence drawn from archival material, oral history, and environmental observation, Dammed invites readers to confront Canadian colonialism in the twentieth century.

Brittany Luby is an assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of Guelph.

“Dammed is thoughtful, deeply researched, and urgent. Utilizing the tools of Indigenous Studies, environmental history, and women’s history and drawing on oral and written archives, Luby gives us a nuanced and supple analysis of Anishinaabe history in an eventful, and often very difficult, hundred years in northwestern Ontario.”
—Adele Perry, FRSC, Distinguished Professor, History and Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Manitoba
First Voices, First Texts aims to reconnect contemporary readers with some of the most important Indigenous literature of the past, much of which has been unavailable for decades. This series reveals the richness of these works by providing newly re-edited texts that are presented with particular sensitivity towards Indigenous ethics, traditions, and contemporary realities.

This critical edition delivers a unique and comprehensive collection of the works of Ktunaxa-Secwépemc writer and educator Vera Manuel, daughter of prominent Indigenous leaders Marceline Paul and George Manuel. A vibrant force in the burgeoning Indigenous theatre scene, Vera was at the forefront of residential school writing and did groundbreaking work as a dramatherapist and healer.

The volume features Manuel's most famous play, *Strength of Indian Women*, along with an assemblage of plays, written between the late 1980s and Manuel's untimely passing in 2010, that were performed but never before published. The volume also includes short stories, poetry, and a 1987 essay that draws on family and community interviews on the effects of residential schools.

Vera Manuel (1948–2010) was a Ktunaxa-Secwépemc writer at the forefront of residential school writing.

Michelle Coupal (Bonchechere Algonquin First Nation) is the Canada Research Chair in Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Literatures, and Associate Professor in the Department of Education at the University of Regina.

Deanna Reder (Métis) is Chair of the Department of First Nations Studies and a member of the Department of English at Simon Fraser University.

Joanne Arnott (Métis/Mixed Blood) is a writer, editor, arts activist, and recipient of the League of Canadian Poets’ Gerald Lampert Award and Vancouver Mayor’s Arts Award for Literary Arts.

Emalene A. Manuel (Ktunaxa-Secwépemc) is Vera Manuel’s sister and a Creative Social Development Practitioner with the First Nations Health Authority in British Columbia.
Contemporary Studies on the North publishes books that expand our understanding of Canada’s North and its position within the circumpolar region. Focusing on new research, this series incorporates multidisciplinary studies on northern peoples, cultures, geographies, histories, politics, religions, and economies.

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