

# Report on Activities 17/18

Canadian  
Commission  
for UNESCO



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada

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**Simon Brault, o.c., o.q.**  
Director and CEO, Canada  
Council for the Arts

I recently had the opportunity to attend the opening of *Awakening/Éveil*, an exhibition on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals organized by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario in partnership with the Canada Council Art Bank. On that occasion, I reminded those attending that the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (which operates within the Council) share a common history and destiny. Whether at the local, national or international level, the importance and relevance of our joint presence and our respective efforts and initiatives are making a genuine contribution to a future of peace, reconciliation, equity and sustainable development.

More than ever before, and together, we must seize every opportunity to entrench in our societies the essential contributions to democracy made by heritage, the arts, literature and culture.

There is still work to be done to bring the arts to the tables where our future is being decided, but that work is essential. People need to be encouraged to engage authentically in culture, heritage and the arts. They need the opportunities and means to play an active cultural role as decision-makers, creative catalysts, and proponents and purveyors of culture.

Over the past year, I have witnessed the energy invested by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and especially by its Secretariat's dedicated staff, in mobilizing its various networks and partners. I have noted their efforts to strengthen the Commission's strategic positioning as a special intermediary with Canadian civil society.

I want to thank and congratulate the Commission, which has succeeded, over the past year, in increasing the reach of its activities and making education, inclusion and especially culture a priority for all Canadians.



Dear members and friends of CCUNESCO,

Four years have passed since I assumed the presidency of the Commission. Four years in which I have had the privilege to reflect with our members and partners on how best to promote UNESCO values in Canada and bring civil society's strong voice to the international stage. While the first two years of my term presented challenges, the last two have enabled the Commission to gain new momentum. It is my firm conviction that we are leaving our successors a dynamic, vibrant and highly respected institution.



**Christina Cameron**  
President, Canadian  
Commission for UNESCO

Looking back, I would first like to thank the members of my executive committee, starting in particular with our vice-president, Danika Billie Littlechild, for making an invaluable contribution to the advancement of the Indigenous dimension of the Commission's work. I also extend my sincere thanks to Jack Lohman, Lenore Swystun, Jean-Marc Blais and Marie-Josée Fortin, whose mandates are also coming to an end this year. Thanks to the unflagging commitment and well-informed advice of the executive committee, we have undertaken an ambitious program of transformation which has strengthened the Commission's governance, modernized the approach to membership, and renewed its various committees. This rejuvenation was necessary for the Commission to become more flexible and effective. It was also necessary to enable it to realize the goals of our Strategic Plan 2014-2021, which was deliberately ambitious, given the high potential of our Commission.

The Secretary-General and his team have worked with energy and conviction over the past months to truly reinvigorate the Commission's work. With a continuing desire to have a relevant, engaged, and visible Commission, they mobilized our members and partners from one end of the country to the other and established new collaborations. All of these efforts have made it possible to move ahead on multiple projects, including structuring initiatives that will benefit our networks. Notably, the Commission's visibility has increased considerably over the past year, responding to the executive members' desires to highlight our activities, as well as those of our members, networks and partners.

This report demonstrates the vitality of our Commission and the impact we aspire to in support of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. These efforts are intended to actively contribute to building a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable future.

I thank the Canada Council for the Arts for the confidence it placed in me as president of an institution that is called upon to play an essential role in enabling UNESCO to occupy a well-deserved place in the UN ecosystem. I wish the Commission every success in the coming decades.

This has been another busy and rewarding year for the Secretariat. I am proud of the work performed by the members of my team to continue to transform the Commission, following my commitment to make every effort to enhance our added value and our ability to engage and inspire.



**Sébastien Goupil**  
Secretary-General  
Canadian Commission for  
UNESCO

Over the past year, it is evident that we have worked hard to better target our interventions and priorities, focusing on specific strategies in each of our five major sectors. We are especially pleased to be offering additional support to our networks and advisory committees and to the various projects we launched with our members and partners, including UNESCO. Among them are numerous structuring initiatives that will help build capacity and increase our networks' impact and visibility. The complete redesign of our website, one of the major accomplishments of the past year, provides us with a modern platform to showcase our work and that of our networks and partners.

Interest in the Commission grew steadily in 2017-18. Our efforts to significantly enhance the Commission's visibility and reputation were successful. The approximately 70 collaborative agreements we put in place with a variety of partners clearly demonstrate the strength of our institution and our ability to mobilize large segments of civil society, including our many Indigenous partners, to advance UNESCO's values.

I hope that in reading this report, you will be convinced of the Commission's vitality, and that we can all start the new year with optimism and determination.



# UNESCO

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was created in 1945 in the wake of the Second World War, and Canada was one of its 20 founding members. UNESCO champions equity, peace and sustainable development by sparking and deepening dialogue among nations in areas such as education, culture, the natural, human and social sciences, communication and information. It inspires cooperation and serves as a hub for the exchange of knowledge and ideas among its member states. In short, UNESCO's mission is to build peace among people who are far apart as much culturally as geographically. To do so, it relies on a network of 201 national commissions in the member countries around the world to carry out its mandate locally and to act as conduits for sharing knowledge internationally.

In 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a plan of action for accelerating global transformation for the good of people, the planet and prosperity. Agenda 2030 has **17 Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030 that inform the work of UNESCO and the other UN agencies. These SDGs will contribute to sustainability in education, ecosystems, cities, consumption and economies while prioritizing health, equity, human rights and cultural diversity.

# CCUNESCO



The Canadian Commission for UNESCO, created in 1957, carries out the work of UNESCO in Canada. Our members are experts and knowledge-keepers in education, culture, World Heritage, communication and information, and the natural, human and social sciences. Together, with the support of an independent Secretariat, we consult, research, and collaborate in UNESCO's mandated areas – ensuring that UNESCO's priorities and programs thrive in Canada and, in return, that Canadian perspectives are brought to the international scene.

Our members and partners come from across Canada and include universities, NGOs, institutions, government departments and agencies, and individuals who are passionate about UNESCO's aims. These diverse members and partners are vital to our mission, since being a network of networks allows us to connect directly with civil society on some of today's most pressing concerns. We draw on these connections in our common effort to build an equitable, sustainable and peaceful global society. CCUNESCO operates under the responsibility of the Canada Council for the Arts.



# Making Canada's Voice Heard at UNESCO

CCUNESCO provides ongoing support to the Permanent Delegation of Canada to UNESCO.

The Commission was especially active in supporting preparations for the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNESCO from October 30 to November 14, 2017. On this occasion, CCUNESCO coordinated drafting the briefing book and the interventions by Canada's Delegation. This intense preparation work was done in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada, Canadian Heritage, the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada and Quebec's Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie.

At its 39<sup>th</sup> session, UNESCO's General Conference approved the Quebec Call for Action. The call was the leading document at the conference, "Internet and the Radicalization of Youth: Preventing, Acting and Living Together", on October 30 and November 1, 2016. The Quebec Call for Action is the result of work by 500 participants from more than 70 countries, asking citizens and the international community to take action to combat and prevent radicalization.

Also, as part of the 39<sup>th</sup> session:

► **Élaine Ayotte,**

Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Canada to UNESCO, was elected Vice-President of UNESCO's Communication and Information Commission.

► **Michael Ferguson,**

Canada's Auditor General, was named UNESCO's Auditor, with a mandate to audit the financial statements for 2018-23.





# Partnerships and Communications: Increasing Our Impact

Partnerships are at the core of our strategy: we build projects with partners in government, civil society and other national commissions, and we support them in their own initiatives. In this way, we maximize the impact of our resources by mobilizing actors who use their own networks to further our strategic directions and those of UNESCO. This year, our partnership approach made it possible to lead – or extend the impact of – many important projects. In addition to these partnerships, we use the power of the Web and social media to reach Canadians directly with major awareness-raising campaigns, often providing guides and promotional materials to equip our partners and networks and multiply the impact of our communications.



# Promoting Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

Reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples was an important theme for our partnerships this year. These projects are a priority for CCUNESCO, and are paving the way for the UN International Year of Indigenous Languages, which will be celebrated in 2019.

## SPARKING ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

### **Let's Talk About Reconciliation**

Many Canadians consider that they are not directly involved in the reconciliation process and have had little exposure to Indigenous histories, rights, aspirations and cultures. The Let's Talk About Reconciliation series was organized to address this lack of knowledge and raise awareness about reconciliation.

This Canada-wide initiative harnesses our network of public libraries. They are invited to organize screenings of films by Inuit, Métis and First Nations filmmakers that are followed by discussion groups for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

The initiative was officially launched with library partners in Vancouver and Montreal. More than 30 Canadian libraries have already expressed interest in participating. To help them organize their event, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) and Wapikoni Mobile offer a choice of more than 280 films that view Canada and the world from an Indigenous perspective. Every film provides material for discovery and exchange in a spirit of openness and dialogue.

Libraries provide safe spaces to facilitate dialogue between different communities, to educate Canadians about the unique place held by Indigenous peoples in Canadian society, and to foster mutual understanding. A guide provides information and resources to libraries wishing to organize an event and encourages them to engage, as early as possible in the process, in genuine partnerships with local Indigenous communities.

*Let's Talk About Reconciliation*, to be offered until 2021, is the result of an innovative partnership involving the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the [Indigenous Matters Committee of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations](#), the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#), [Wapikoni Mobile](#), the [NFB](#) and [Library and Archives Canada](#).



Photo: Michel Legendre

## CELEBRATING THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

September 13, 2017 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historic adoption of the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#). For the occasion, CCUNESCO joined [DestiNATIONS](#), the [McConnell Foundation](#) and the [City of Montreal](#) to collaborate on an international event organized by the [Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador](#) (AFNQL). [Two days of activities](#) in Montreal involved numerous representatives of Indigenous communities from various spheres of activity. A public presentation and round tables open to the general public provided an overview of issues affecting Indigenous peoples around the world. Productive exchanges demonstrated the need to maintain an open dialogue so as to improve nation-to-nation relationships. The event was also the occasion for major announcements by the City of Montreal regarding the promotion of reconciliation. The addition of an Indigenous symbol to the city's flag, in particular, drew widespread media coverage for the celebrations. The event concluded on a high note with The Voice of Nations, a musical show with Indigenous drumming, dancing and singing from across the globe, providing a memorable demonstration of the richness and vibrancy of Indigenous peoples' cultures.



Photo: Sylvain Légaré



Photo: Sylvain Légaré



# Raising Canadians' Awareness of Important Issues

This year, CCUNESCO conducted a number of awareness-raising campaigns that reached a large number of Canadians, either directly or through our partners and networks.

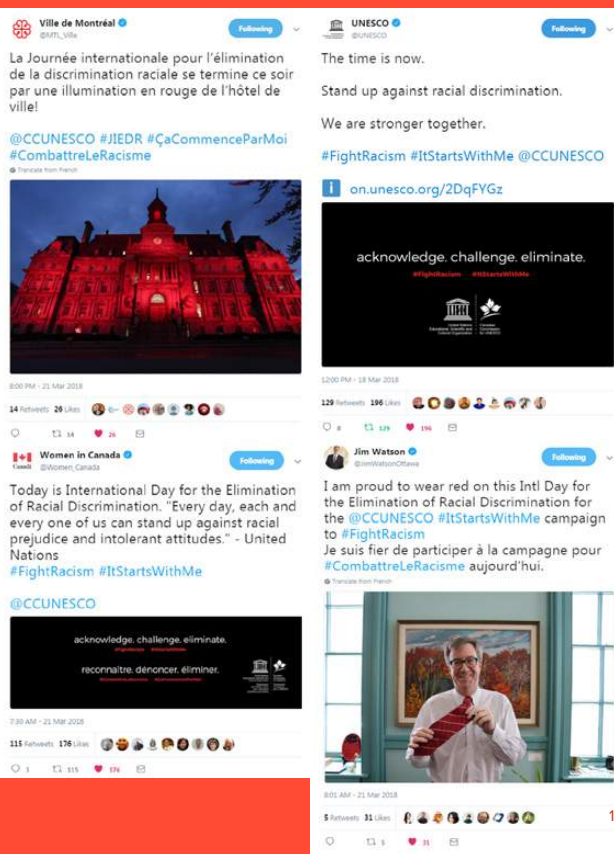
## FIGHTING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

### #ItStartsWithMe

This year, CCUNESCO again launched its #ItStartsWithMe campaign in the days leading up to the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21. The nation-wide campaign has adopted the theme “Acknowledge. Challenge. Eliminate.” Its two hashtags, #FightRacism and #ItStartsWithMe, make a personal appeal to every citizen. With the help of many influential partners, CCUNESCO invited Canadians to wear red to signal their rejection of racism and racial discrimination. The 73 member-cities of the [Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination \(CCMARD\)](#), along with UNESCO, many UNESCO national commissions, United Nations agencies and organizations, and numerous other national and international partners, joined in the campaign, which reached more than 4 million individuals. To celebrate the day, many municipalities – Winnipeg, London, Sherbrooke, Montreal – lit up their city halls or important buildings, such as the CN Tower, in red.

acknowledge. challenge. eliminate.

#FightRacism #ItStartsWithMe





**ET SI  
J'AVAIS TORT ?**

**WHAT IF  
I WAS WRONG?**

## PREVENTING RADICALIZATION

### ► #WhatIfIWasWrong

Preventing violent extremism is a major concern for UNESCO. How can we prevent the beliefs of an individual from becoming radicalized to the point of moving towards violent extremism? In short, by working to prevent such beliefs from becoming rigid and evolving into unshakeable ideological convictions and entrenched doctrine. Leaving the door open to doubt in each person's mind and promoting a critical attitude is the objective of the campaign called "[What If I Was Wrong? When we talk, we learn!](#)" conceived by the [Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence](#), with which CCUNESCO is associated.

The multi-platform campaign was developed by young people for young people, principally those aged 13 to 35. Its goal is to counteract the recruitment and radicalization efforts of extremist groups. It takes in a wide range of activities, with 24 awareness-raising workshops, the distribution of posters and videos and an international arts competition. The campaign mobilizes more than 600 educational institutions across Canada. Five international organizations collaborate to ensure that its outreach will extend beyond our country's borders.

## PROTECTING ENDANGERED LANGUAGES

### ► #MotherTongue

On February 21, [International Mother Language Day](#) was marked with a digital campaign. The hashtag #MotherLanguage was our main tool to disseminate calls for awareness developed in consultation with our Indigenous partners. An [article](#) on our blog provided an update on endangered languages and the state of Indigenous languages in Canada, encouraging readers to learn more about them.

On the same day, federal public servants were invited to attend an awareness-raising session organized by CCUNESCO, the [Canada School of Public Service](#) and [Wapikoni Mobile](#). The event, titled "Indigenous Languages in Canada: Worth Treasuring," featured three speakers, Indigenous language experts in research, the arts and social service. Fifty public servants from the National Capital Region took part in the roundtable discussion at the Canada School of Public Service. More than 250 others attended via a webinar.



**DISAPPEARING**

**#MotherLanguage**  
FEBRUARY 21, 2018





## PROMOTING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

### ► #GirlsInScience #WomenInScience

On February 11, we celebrated the [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#), reminding the Canadian public of the importance of gender equality and of making quality education available to all. We took advantage of the opportunity to broadcast a [video interview with Dr. Liette Vasseur](#). This outstanding and inspiring woman holds the [UNESCO Chair on Community Sustainability: From Local to Global](#) at Brock University and leads our Sectoral Commission on Human, Social and Natural Sciences.

### ► Gender Summit

With UNESCO, CCUNESCO granted its patronage for the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the [Gender Summit](#) in Montreal. The event attracted 675 advocates of gender equality in the areas of science, innovation and development. Participants had fruitful discussions on the theme of “Embracing pluralism and thriving through diversity – shaping science and innovation”. Following the meetings, CCUNESCO supported a discussion paper on the non-linear careers of women in science. The paper will be distributed in the fall of 2018.



# Press Freedom: A Human Right

Liberté de la presse:  
Un droit de la personne

## ENCOURAGING A FREE, CRITICAL AND ACCOUNTABLE PRESS

### ► Canadian Committee for World Press Freedom

Since freedom of the press is now more than ever a prerequisite for democracy, CCUNESCO has strengthened its partnership with the [Canadian Committee for World Press Freedom](#) (CCWPF). To celebrate [World Press Freedom Day](#) on May 3, 2018, the CCWPF presented the 20<sup>th</sup> Freedom of the Press Award to [The Independent](#), the online newspaper of Newfoundland and Labrador. *The Independent* was recognized for its coverage of the Innu opposition to the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project. The paper's reporter Justin Brake may be Canada's first journalist to face both civil and criminal charges following coverage of an issue of interest to the public.



### ► Workshop on Journalism, Radicalization and Extremism

At the annual convention of the [Fédération professionnelle des journalistes du Québec](#) in Sherbrooke, participants could attend the workshop "Le journalisme à l'épreuve de la radicalisation et de l'extrémisme : comment éviter l'instrumentalisation ?" [Journalism in the age of radicalization and extremism: How to avoid becoming an instrument?]. This professional-development workshop gave participants a better grasp of the dilemmas facing journalists in their coverage of extremism and radicalization. It provided them with possible avenues to guide their editorial decisions. The federation presented the workshop in collaboration with CCUNESCO and the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence (CPRLV). A video recording is available on our YouTube channel in [French](#), [English](#) and [Spanish](#).





# Trusting Young People to Build the Society of Tomorrow

## MINING THE POTENTIAL OF BIG DATA



### Big Data Challenge

The explosion of megadata presents a stimulating challenge for students. To interest them, CCUNESCO gave its patronage to the fourth edition of the [Big Data Challenge](#). Led by the STEM Fellowship organization and aimed at secondary students, the program provides an opportunity to develop projects using data science to resolve practical problems. The theme of this year's competition was "Think Global and Act Local with Big Data." The final round brought 10 teams of students, eight from Canadian schools and two from schools in the United States, to the Big Data Day event in Toronto. A jury adjudicated and presented awards to the best projects.

## REDEFINING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS IN DIGITAL SPACE

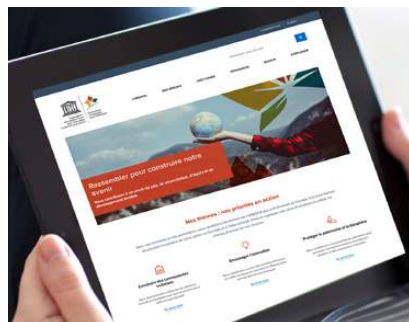
### Youth Commission on Ethics in Science and Technology

Every two years, the [Commission de l'éthique en science et en technologie \(CEST\) of the Government of Quebec](#) convenes a [youth commission](#) on ethics in science and technology (CEST-Jeunesse) to give college-level youth an opportunity to express their views on the ethical issues in science and technology that affect them. How can we live together in the digital world and ensure that individuals can exercise their rights and assume their responsibilities in this public space? This is the question that the youth commission, under the patronage of CCUNESCO, focused on in 2017-18. They brainstormed together and then drafted recommendations on the theme of *cybercitizenship* – at a time when the Internet, social media and mobile apps are a big part of the lives of Canadians.



Photo: Ariane A. Bonn

# Making Our Work Better Known



## A NEW WEB PLATFORM

To support and disseminate our work and that of our members and partners more effectively, we launched a brand new [website](#) in early 2018. The new site automatically adjusts to all screen sizes and offers direct access to a growing number of [resources](#), in both text and audiovisual formats. A [blog](#) allows us to be more responsive, giving us the ability to quickly publish short articles on relevant initiatives. Our site is also an ideal showcase for the dissemination of the papers coming out of our laboratory for ideas, [IdeaLab](#).

## A VIDEO SERIES ON THE UNESCO CHAIRS

To raise awareness of the activities of the network of [UNESCO Chairs in Canada](#), we have launched a series of videos titled *My Chair in Three Minutes*. Each video clip features the holder(s) of a UNESCO Chair introducing and explaining how the Chair works to support the implementation of UNESCO's priorities. The videos currently featured include:

- ▶ **Dr. Carmen Dionne,**  
UNESCO Chair in Screening and Evaluation of Early Childhood Development, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR)
- ▶ **Dr. Godfrey Baldacchino and Dr. Jim Randall,**  
UNESCO Chair on Island Studies and Sustainability,  
University of Prince Edward Island (joint Chair with the University of Malta)
- ▶ **Dr. Liette Vasseur,**  
UNESCO Chair in Community Sustainability: From Local to Global,  
Brock University

The videos are broadcast on YouTube and promoted on our social media. Many other videos are now being developed and will be broadcast in the course of 2018-2019.







# Networks and Programs: UNESCO's Practical Action in Canada

CCUNESCO relays UNESCO's activities in Canada by supporting its programs and its networks' activities. The Commission puts its resources at the service of civil society organizations seeking to obtain a UNESCO designation or join a UNESCO network and guides them throughout the process. Here are the main activities undertaken by UNESCO's networks in Canada during the 2017-18 year.





Photo: Guy Savore

## Promoting Unique Natural Environments in Canada

### **Géoparc de Percé Recognized as a UNESCO Global Geopark**

The [Géoparc de Percé](#) has been designated a [UNESCO Global Geopark](#), a prestigious label recognizing sites and landscapes of outstanding international geological significance. Located in the heart of the Appalachians and at the far east end of the Gaspésie in Eastern Quebec, the Géoparc de Percé's notable features are the Percé Rock and Bonaventure Island. With a rich historical, geological and cultural heritage, the park is the first UNESCO Global Geopark in Quebec. It has also become part of the Canadian network, which already included two Global Geoparks, [Stonehammer](#) in New Brunswick and [Tumbler Ridge](#) in British Columbia.



Photo: Félix Chagnon





Photo: Floria Sigismondi

## Promoting Worldwide Recognition for Canadian Creativity

### Toronto and Quebec City Recognized as Creative Cities

This year two new Canadian cities became part of [UNESCO's Creative Cities Network](#).

Toronto was named UNESCO's Creative City for Media Arts. It owes this designation to its leadership in the areas of film, music, digital media and the various forms of cultural expression that rely on technology.

Quebec City, for its part, entered the network as a City of Literature, becoming the first francophone city to obtain this designation. Positive features include the performance of its public library network, the vitality of the Maison de la littérature and many other local institutions, as well as innovations by digital companies in book publishing and by other organizations in creative writing.



Nuit Blanche Toronto



Ville de Québec





## Combating Racism and Discrimination in Canadian Cities

### Val-d'Or joins the Member Cities of the Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Coalition

The [City of Val-d'Or](#) in Quebec is now a member of the [Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination \(CCMARD\)](#), becoming the 73<sup>rd</sup> Canadian municipality to join the network. Val-d'Or has developed a three-year municipal action plan that includes numerous concrete actions to improve the city's situation concerning racism and discrimination. The plan outlines a list of procedures and local actions that will enable it to respond to the recommendations of the Commission Viens, a commission of inquiry into relations between the Indigenous community and some of Quebec's public services. With its plan, which has the benefit of support from many local and regional organizations, Val-d'Or will contribute to the fight against racism and discrimination that the Coalition is leading across Canada.





# Underlining Canada's Contribution to Documentary Heritage

THREE NEW CANADIAN ENTRIES  
IN THE MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

Marshall McLuhan's archives, the series *The Sound of the French People of America* and the academic writings of philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein make important contributions to the world's heritage. For that reason, the three sets of documents have been entered this year in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register.

[Marshall McLuhan's archival legacy](#) covers the period from his undergraduate studies until his death. McLuhan gave the world two brilliant concepts: "the global village" – even before the appearance of the Internet – and "the medium is the message." Library and Archives Canada holds McLuhan's archival collection while the University of Toronto libraries have preserved his research library.

The documentary series [Mixed Traces and Memories of the Continents - The Sound of the French People of America](#) by Michel Brault and André Gladu consists of 27 films, each 30 minutes long. The series shows and gives voice to the traditional musical practices of America's Francophone communities. It is held at the Cinémathèque québécoise, which intends to take advantage of its inclusion in the Register to speed up its digitization and make it more accessible.

[Ludwig Wittgenstein's philosophical Nachlass](#) is a collection of his academic writings, totalling approximately 20,000 pages. The collection makes it



possible to follow the development in thinking of this great philosopher of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, who was born in Austria and worked mainly in the areas of logic, mathematics and the philosophy of language. This is a joint entry by Austria, Canada (McMaster University), the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

These three entries are added to four sets of Canadian documents that have already been accepted into UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, which are:

► **The Quebec Seminary Collection, 1623-1800,**

Musée de la civilisation du Québec

► **Hudson's Bay Company Archival Records,**

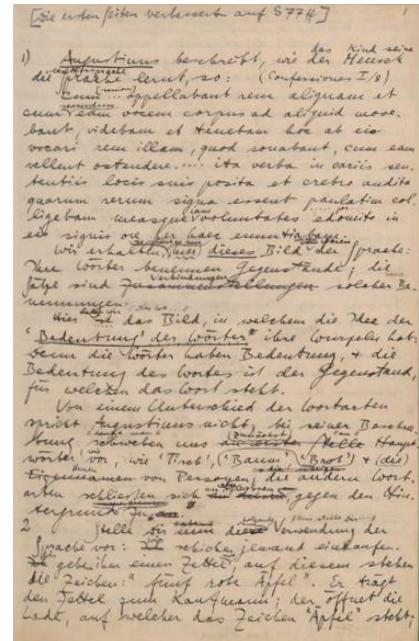
Archives of Manitoba

► **Norman McLaren's short film *Neighbours*,**

National Film Board of Canada

► **The Discovery of Insulin and Its Worldwide Impact,**

University of Toronto



© Bertrand Russell Archives, McMaster University Library, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, Austrian National Library, Trinity College Library, Cambridge, Mr G.M.H. van de Velde and Mrs E.B.B. van der Wolk-van de Velde



Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Archives of Manitoba, HBCA 2012/1/122



Photo: Evelyn Lambart/National Film Board of Canada



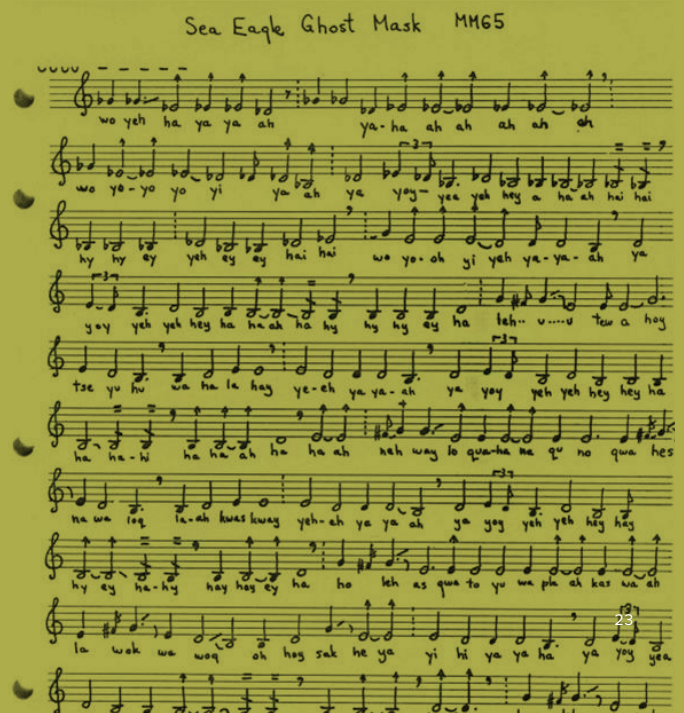
# Attracting Canadians' Attention to Living Accounts of Their History

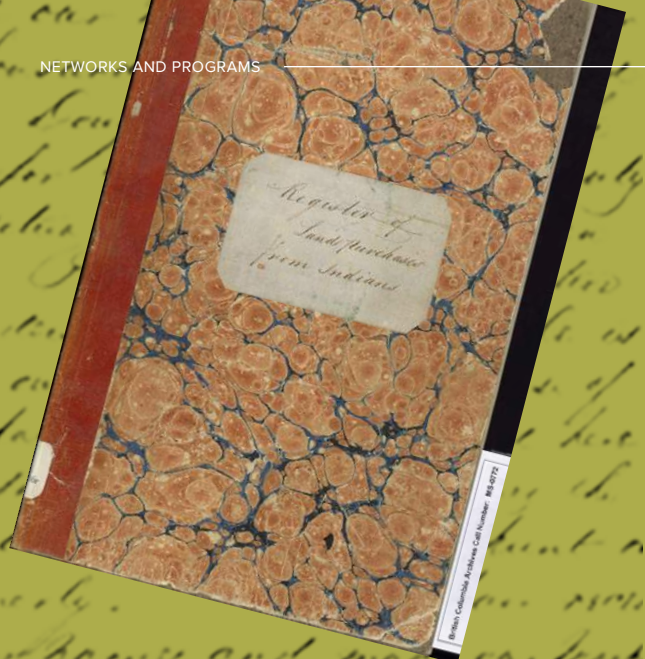
## LAUNCH OF THE CANADA MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

In June 2017, CCUNESCO launched the [Canada Memory of the World Register](#), in collaboration with Library and Archives Canada and the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ). This new national register recognizes the heritage value of exceptional documents that have shaped Canada's history and reflect the diversity and realities of our country.

The Canadian entries on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register are automatically entered into the new register in Canada. To complete our list, we accepted the first six items entered specifically into the new register at an event held on March 27, 2018 at the [Royal BC Museum in Victoria](#). These first entries made specifically to the Canadian register are:

**The Ida Halpern Fonds:** This collection of resources constitutes a remarkable account of the songs, ceremonies and cultures of the peoples of Canada's Northwest Coast. The fonds, which is made up of 342 sound recordings, photographs, VHS cassettes, one film and numerous texts, painstakingly documents the ceremonial arts of the Indigenous peoples of the Northwest Coast of Canada. The important collection illustrates the unique, immutable cultural identity of these peoples and is an essential resource for language revitalization. Its existence helps to preserve the traditional musical culture as a living component of today's communities.





**The Vancouver Island Treaties:** Previously known as the Douglas Treaties, these are the only treaties from the colonial era to have been signed with the communities of the Northwest Coast of British North America. The documents have a unique historical value and provide a description of Vancouver Island's Indigenous societies at a time when they were establishing permanent relationships with the settlers. The treaties also reflect commitments by the settlers to safeguard the rights held by the First Nations communities, including the right to fish, hunt and cultivate land.

**Canadian Pacific Railway Company Fonds:** This archival fonds goes straight to the heart of the Canadian Pacific's history, from 1846 to 2007. The documents give us a better understanding of the growth of an international business that left its mark on the development of Canadian society. Its creation also had a significant impact on the formation of Canada and its provinces, cities and communities, and the evolution of the country we know today. This is why its archives are irreplaceable – they bear witness to the construction not only of a business, but of an entire country.



Exporail, Canadian Pacific Railway Company Fonds





# DICTIONNAIRE DE LA LANGVE HVRONNE.

Nécessaire à ceux qui n'ont l'intelligence d'icelle,  
Et ont à traiter avec les Sauvages du pays.  
Par Fr. GABRIEL SAGARD, Recollet de  
S. François, de la Province de S. Denys.



A PARIS,  
Chez DENYS MOREAU, rue S. Jacques, à la  
Salamandre d'Argent.  
M. DC. XXXII.  
Avec Privilège du Roy.

BAnQ Rosemont – La Petite-Patrie

## ▶ Témoins des cultures fondatrices : des livres anciens en langues autochtones (1556-1900)

[Witnesses of Founding Cultures: Early Books in Aboriginal Languages (1556-1900)]: Among these 146 centuries-old books, written in Indigenous languages or containing Indigenous lexicons, are to be found the earliest works describing the vocabulary and grammar of different Indigenous peoples. Published between 1556 and 1900, they contain concrete traces of the linguistic heritage of First Nations in what is now Quebec, in the Iroquoian languages (including Mohawk and Huron-Wyandot), Algonquian languages (including Algonquin, Abenaki, Cree, Innu/Montagnais and Mi'kmaq) and Inuktitut. These Indigenous cultures have shaped Canada's history and personality. The collection is held by the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, and represents an inestimable collective wealth that informs us about the history of relationships between the Indigenous communities and communities of European origin in America.



BAnQ Québec, J. E. Livernois fonds

## ▶ La ville de Québec et ses environs en images (1860-1965) : les archives photographiques du fonds J. E. Livernois Ltée

[Images of Quebec City and the surrounding area (1860 to 1965): Photo Archives of the J. E. Livernois Ltée Fonds]: These images, which were created by four generations of photographers in the Livernois family, take us to the heart of daily life for people in the Quebec City region from 1860 to 1965. The Studio Livernois's portraits and photographic reports feature not only the city and its surroundings, but also distant regions that were rarely photographed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, such as Saguenay and Gaspésie. These documents take us on a journey through time, recalling events, places and buildings that have disappeared or been transformed over the years, and bear witness to the daily life of the people of the region.

▶ **The Scrapbook Debates:** This series of albums gathers together newspaper clippings about the debates of Parliament's two houses during the years immediately following Confederation – when no official records of the debates were being made. The Library of Parliament has preserved these irreplaceable accounts of the deliberations, discussions, and even the intentions of Canada's first legislators.

With these first six entries specific to Canada, added to the seven Canadian entries in the international register, the Canada Memory of the World Register is now a great platform for Canadians to discover important accounts of their collective history.





# Sparkling Interest in the Importance of Canada's Biosphere Reserves among Canadian Decision-Makers

## Biosphere Reserves on Parliament Hill

We are pleased to have made our Members of Parliament more familiar with the important roles and contributions of the 18 UNESCO biosphere reserves in Canada, at an event that took place on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on May 29, 2017. We co-organized this special day with the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association as a non-partisan session for information and exchange, and it received the support of MPs from all of Canada's parliamentary parties – the Liberals, the Conservatives, the NDP, the Bloc Québécois and the Greens. Along with other decision-makers and influencers on Parliament Hill, the MPs appreciated the extent to which the reserves contribute to protecting biodiversity, supporting sustainable development and achieving reconciliation. They also tasted food items produced sustainably in Canada's various biosphere reserves.



Fundy Biosphere Reserve



Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve



Photo: Thom Morrissey





# Stimulating Thought and Encouraging Innovation

Before actions are taken, CCUNESCO engages in debates that orient the perspectives of decision-makers and the Canadian population on issues of public interest. By building on the reflection and forward-looking work of our sectoral commissions, we contribute to collective discussion in two ways. On the national level, we do so by asking experts to articulate their knowledge, views and suggestions in discussion papers. Towards an international perspective, we do the same within UNESCO's global community by contributing to the proposals that Canada brings to the attention of the other member states.



# Participating in the Debate of Ideas by Suggesting Courses of Action

[IdeaLab](#), the laboratory for ideas launched by CCUNESCO last year, has quickly become a favoured platform for sharing documents that encourage reflection and fuel debate on topics relating to UNESCO's directions and relevant to Canadian realities. Five themes were the subject of documents published by IdeaLab this year:



## PROMOTING ARTS EDUCATION

### ***Transformative Action on Arts Education: Re-invigorating the Seoul Agenda***

by Larry O'Farrell and Tiina Kukkonen

This position paper identifies the gaps in current arts-education practices. The transformative potential of arts education was recognized in 2011 by UNESCO's member states when they unanimously approved the [Seoul Agenda](#), which set goals for the development of arts education. It called on governments and communities the world over to increase access to arts education, improve its quality and use it to meet the world's social and cultural challenges. In order to put the Agenda's objectives and demands in the forefront once again, the IdeaLab paper proposes an approach to developing strategies that could be adapted to different contexts. The paper was prepared for CCUNESCO, the [Canadian Network for Arts and Learning](#) and the [UNESCO Chair in Arts and Learning at Queen's University](#).



Saskatchewan Arts Board

## VIGILANCE IN THE FACE OF INFORMATION MANIPULATION

### ***Dezinformatsiya: The past, present and future of "fake news"***

by Christopher Dornan

Access to reliable information is an essential condition for democracy. The spreading of "fake news" is therefore an important issue for society. A professor of Journalism and Communications explores this phenomenon by analyzing several examples.

## FIGHTING RADICALIZATION

### **Countering Right-Wing Extremist Radicalization: In-formed and re-formed perspectives of a former violent extremist**

by Daniel Gallant

This discussion paper addresses the phenomenon of right-wing extremism, which exists in Canada even though it is little known. The author, a former extremist, calls upon his personal experience of radicalization and subsequent de-radicalization. His analysis updates how the politics of combating extremism are evolving and suggests concrete measures for preventing radicalization.

## LESSONS FROM INDIGENOUS TEACHERS

### **Old Ways are the New Way Forward: How Indigenous Pedagogy can Benefit Everyone**

by Jean-Paul Restoule and Chaw-win-is

The authors, both teachers and members of First Nations, note that the desire for reconciliation should lead to the integration of Indigenous perspectives into the content of teaching received by all Canadians. Nonetheless, what they are proposing goes beyond content. They are suggesting that all learners would benefit from teaching methods that draw on those used in Indigenous cultures, such as:

- teaching as a way of being and not only a way of doing;
- a holistic teaching perspective, not limited to the intellect alone;
- learning through action;
- the importance of community;
- respecting others and the environment.

The authors explore how traditional Indigenous ways of doing can become new ways of advancing education for everyone.



University of Victoria



Photo: Michel Legendre



## ART TO WELCOME NEWCOMERS

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### ***The role of culture and the arts as a framework and tool for settlement***

by Daniel Hiebert and Bronwyn Bragg

This document analyzes how the social, political and even therapeutic functions of art play a role in the experience of newcomers who are attempting to establish themselves in Canada. More specifically, it examines the role of arts and culture programming in creating connections between Canadian society and the immigrants and refugees Canada takes in. The authors conclude by presenting five case studies of promising arts and culture programs that can inspire both public policy and the private sector.

## BUILDING BRIDGES TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

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### **International Conference on Terrorism and the Media**

The media treats terrorism in many different ways, and the media lens has a major impact on how public opinion perceives terrorist discourse. To reflect on the relationship between the media and terrorism, [the UNESCO Chair in Studies of Philosophic Foundations of Justice and Democracy](#) organized an international conference in Montreal with the Montreal Institute of International Studies and the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM), under the patronage of CCUNESCO. “Terrorisme et médias : Dialogue Orient-Occident” [Terrorism and the media: East-West dialogue] hosted some 20 researchers with a view to establishing common bridges between the West and the East to strengthen a culture of peace.

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO connects Canadians with the work of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It aims to create a society in which Canadians share knowledge and learn from each other, locally and globally, in order to build peaceful, equitable and sustainable futures. It does so by supporting collective reflection, identifying priorities and facilitating concerted action in the fields of education, sciences, culture, communication and information to address some of the most complex challenges facing humanity. Recognizing that this mandate can only be fulfilled by engaging a broad range of partners, a spirit of cooperation is at the core of the Commission's work.

The Canada Council for the Arts is Canada's national public arts funder. We champion and invest in artistic excellence so that Canadians may enjoy and participate in a rich cultural life. In 2014-15 we allocated \$155.1 million towards artistic creation and innovation through our grants, prizes and payments. We also conduct research, convene activities and work with partners to advance the sector and help embed the arts more deeply in communities across the country. We are responsible for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO which promotes the values and programs of UNESCO to contribute to a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable future for Canadians. The Canada Council Art Bank operates art rental programs and helps further public engagement with contemporary arts.



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