Quebec Shifts Gears

Major budget cuts have been announced by Quebec's separatist government headed by Premier Lucien Bouchard. Spending estimates for the 1996-97 fiscal year reduce overall spending by $1.17 billion, from $42.26 billion in the current to $41.09 billion in the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1996.

Announcement of these cuts at the end of March confirms a major shift in direction by the Parti Quebecois government since the resignation of former premier Jacques Parizeau last November, from the single-minded pursuit of sovereignty above all, and at all costs, to the prioritization of fiscal responsibility and even, to some extent, a "normalization" of relations with Quebec's other partners in the Canadian federation. Premier Bouchard has even requested a personal meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, an initiative that would have been unheard of under the Parizeau administration.

Some Americans, including associates of the Canadian Studies Center, have been surprised by the extent of cuts to Quebec's foreign delegations. The Los Angeles delegation, which serves the entire West Coast, will be shut down altogether, as will the delegations in Atlanta, Boston, and Chicago. Overall, Quebec will be

Department and Faculty News

At the University of Washington

New Scholars, New Visions in Canadian Studies will appear summer 1996. New Scholars represents a quarterly monograph series, published by the Canadian Studies Center. It is intended to provide a forum for the newest members to academia and offer established scholars an avenue to publish a unique perspective that may not be welcome in a more traditional publication. 200 copies of the inaugural edition will be available free of charge. Thereafter, there will be a charge of $6.00 per copy, per quarterly publication or $24.00 for a yearly subscription.

In the first edition, a paper written by Karlyn Koh, a doctoral student in English at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C., will be featured. The title of the inaugural monograph is "Speculations and (Dis)Identifications: Notes on Asian Canadian Women Writing."

The Canadian Studies Center Home Page can now be accessed via the World Wide Web. Check it out as we continue to add and update the site. Find useful links to Canadian news sources, government press releases and tourism information; search the Canadian holdings in the University Libraries; read about the Center programs of study; browse the Canadian video and film library and check out the upcoming calendar of events. The address is:

[ http://weber.u.washington.edu/~canada/ ].

Canadian Video and Film holdings in Classroom Support Services now exceeds 300 titles from documentaries to news stories to animation to feature films for use in your classes. Call 543-9909 or access via Center Home Page.

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shutting down 13 of its 19 existing delegations. A strong presence will be maintained in Paris, with a budget of $10.5 million, compared with $4.5 million for New York, the last remaining Québec delegation in the U.S. Commentators have already questioned the wisdom of the U.S. cuts, given that the U.S. is Québec's largest foreign trading partner. The Québec government appears to be calculating that, in the event of a "yes" to sovereignty in coming years, support of their French allies would be crucial in Québec gaining international recognition; Americans, on the other hand, have generally been negative towards the Québec secessionist movement.

Whatever the rationale, the recent deep cuts to Québec's foreign relations budget are quite surprising, given the great symbolic significance sovereignists have attached to developing a Québec presence abroad since the 1960's; in addition, the department has been a haven for sovereignist bureaucrats since its inception. On the face of it, fiscal considerations have apparently overridden all others; or can one read into this a further withdrawal from the sovereignist dream by Mr. Bouchard and his team?

— Raymond M. Hébert, Ph.D.
Visiting Associate Professor, Canadian Studies Center, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, and Associate Professor, St. Boniface College, University of Manitoba.

At Western Washington University

Lyle E. Harris, Department of Journalism, is serving as Acting Director for the Center for Canadian and American Studies. Donald Alper, Director, will deliver a paper titled "The Idea of Cascadia: Emergent Transborder Regionalisms in the Pacific Northwest-Western Canada," at an annual Canadian Studies Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Anne Martel and Art Goddard of the Canadian Consulate in Seattle spoke about Québec and Pacific fisheries issues respectively during the winter quarter. Pat Marchak, Dean of Faculty of Arts at the University of British Columbia, addressed the challenges to British Columbia's forest industry in a global economy.

Don Alper, Lyle Harris and Mary Ann Hendryson, Economics, will deliver papers at the annual Western Social Science Association meeting in Reno.

The Trinational Environmental Policy Program has been kicked-off. It offers students at Western Washington University, Simon Fraser University and El Colegio de la Frontera in Tijuana, Mexico an opportunity to examine the impact of increased trade on water quality, urban development and other environmental concerns. For information call 360-650-3728.
Calendar of Events

Tuesday, April 9, "Rebellion and Change in Canada," by Anthony Chan, Director, Canadian Studies Center, University of Washington. This one hour program will be broadcast via satellite throughout the United States, airing 9:00-10:00 a.m., Pacific Time on Channel SatCom C1 (F1) Transponder 22. For a copy of the transcript contact Marie Rustemeyer at 509-536-2151. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center.

Monday, April 15, "Aboriginal Rights in Canada," by P. Geoffrey Plant, Counsellor, Russell and DuMoulin, and Liberal Party candidate for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Smith 311. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center.

Thursday-Saturday, April 25-27, Annual Board Meeting for the Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium (PNWCSC), Canada House, Bellingham, WA. For more information contact Bryan Downes, Executive Director, 503-346-3817. Cost is $75.00 per person, per member institution. Sponsored by the PNWCSC and the WWU Canadian American Studies Center.

Saturday, April 27, Festival Mosaic, Thomson Hall, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. As part of the Seattle International Children's Festival, K-8 teachers are invited to attend this pre-festival workshop on various regions of the world. The Québec component includes three sessions: "Contemporary Culture of Québec," 10:00-11:10 a.m., by Jean-Francois Chevrier, Educational and Foreign Language Consultant for Canadian Airlines and part-time language instructor at the University of British Columbia; "Children's Literature of Québec," 11:15 a.m.-12:25 p.m., by Anne-Marie Comte, French Children's Literature Specialist, Vancouver Kidsbooks; and "Québec Culture and Society through Film and Video," 1:30-2:40 p.m., by Michael Bittner, Associate Director, UW Canadian Studies Center. Cost is $35.00 per person for day and includes lunch, snacks and materials. Pre-registration is required. To register call the East Asia Center at 206-543-192. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center, UW East Asia Center, UW South Asia Center and the Seattle International Children's Festival.

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Wednesday, May 8, Annual Meeting and Dinner for the Canadian Society of the Northwest. 5:30-8:30 p.m., Faculty Club, University of Washington. Join the Society for partially Canadian, buffet dinner, followed by Leonard Maltin's Animation Favorites from the National Film Board of Canada. Cost will be approximately $20.00 per person. For information call Deborah Daoust at the Canadian Consulate at 206-443-1777. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center and the Canadian Society of the Northwest.

Wednesday, May 22, "Three Conflicting Geographies of Cascadia," by Matthew Sparke, Assistant Professor, Geography and International Studies. This program concludes the 1998 International Updates lecture/dinner series. 5:30-8:00 p.m., Kane Hall. Cost is $20.00 per person. To register call the Middle East Center at 206-543-4227. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center.

Friday, May 31, "From the Welfare State to Vampire Capitalism: Free Trade and a Changing Canada," by Marjorie Griffin Cohen, Professor, Political Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C., Thomson 317, 1:30-3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the UW Canadian Studies Center and the UW International Studies Center.

Monday-Friday, June 24-28, "A World of Cities: Problems and Trends in Urban Centers." This summer institute is intended for K-14 educators. A wide range of urban centers from around the world will be examined. Vancouver, B.C. and the region often referred to as Cascadia will be the primary Canadian focus. Other urban centers will include Bangkok, Berlin, Bombay, Istanbul, Moscow and Tokyo and several sessions will discuss themes critical to urban centers. Cost is $130 for 30 clock hours, meals and materials or approximately $246 for 3 University credits, meals and materials. All registrants will be required to purchase, Cities in a World Economy, by Saskia Sassen. A limited number of partial scholarships are available to help defray costs to educators from outside the Seattle metropolitan area. Sponsored by the UW Jackson School Outreach Centers. For more information call 206-543-6269 or 206-543-4227.

Monday-Friday, June 24-28, "Study Canada Summer Institute." This institute provides teachers and librarians/media specialists with an introduction to Canada. Work with specialists from both countries. Topics include Canadian history, geography, government, environmental issues, culture and ethnicity and Canada's role in the world. You will be acquainted with a variety of materials for your classes. Cost is $200 and includes food and lodging, materials, field trip to Vancouver and 2 quarter hour credits. Sponsored by WWU Canadian American Studies Center. For information call Donald Alper at 360-650-3728, FAX 360-650-3995 or email [ alper@cc.wwu.edu ].

Sunday-Friday, July 21-26, "Salmon Know No Borders." This environmental education workshop is for grade 6-12 teachers in all disciplines. Participants will study the challenges and opportunities of managing salmon in an environment divided by an international border. Cost is $175 for food, lodging, field trips, materials and two quarter credits. Sponsored by WWU Canadian American Studies Center. For information call Donald Alper at 360-650-3728, FAX 360-650-3995 or email [ alper@cc.wwu.edu ].

Wednesday-Saturday, September 11-14, "On Brotherly Terms - Canadian American Relations West of the Rockies." Session topics include "Borders and Nationalism in the 19th Century," "Canadian-American Fish Wars in Historical Perspective," Trans-National Regions East and West of the Cascades," "Defending Alaska," "Natives and the Border," "PNWER," "Immigrants and Borders," "Rivers Across Borders," "Parks Along the International Boundary," "Globalist Governance in Cascadia," "Chinatowns" and "Regional Literature." Featured speakers are Carl Abbott, Portland State University; Alan Artibise, University of British Columbia; Iona Campagnolo, University of Northern British Columbia; Ken Coates, Waikato University; Don Worster, University of Kansas and Victoria Wyatt, University of Victoria. Cost to be determined. Sponsored by the UW Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest and the UW Canadian Studies Center. For more information call 206-543-8656 or 206-543-6269.