

# James Murton

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Program in Environmental Studies/Science  
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## Education

- Ph.D. (History) Queen's University at Kingston, 2002  
Thesis: "Creating a Countryside in British Columbia: An Alternative Modernity, 1919-1935."
- M.A. (History) University of Victoria, 1995  
Thesis: "Public Celebrations and Public Meanings: The Queen's Birthday in Victoria, 1859-1901."
- B.A. (History) University of British Columbia, 1992

## Grants & Fellowships

### Major

- SSHRC Standard Research Grant (\$39,000), 2007-10  
Project: "Empire Grown: Land, Agriculture and the British Colonial Food System in Canada"
- SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$75,000), UBC Department of Geography, 2003-05  
Project: "Tea Colonies: Canada and India in the Creation of a World Food System"

### Others

- SSHRC Aid to Small Universities Grant (\$7500), 2009-present  
Project: "The Subsistence Project at Nipissing University"
- Nipissing University Start-Up Research Grant (\$5000), 2009-12
- Nipissing University Internal Research Grant (\$5,000), 2005-07
- Queen's University Fund for Scholarly and Professional Development (\$600), 2005-06
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$47,436). Four scholarships of \$11,859 each, 1996-2001
- Association for Canadian Studies Travel Prize (\$2,500), 2000
- Donald S. Rickard Scholarship in Canadian-American Studies (\$3500), 2000

## Publications

### Books

- Subsistence Under Capitalism: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives* (edited with Dean Bavington and Carly Dokis). Montréal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, in press.
- Creating a Modern Countryside: Liberalism and Land Resettlement in British Columbia*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2007. Winner of the K.D. Srivastava Prize for excellence in scholarly publishing.

**Refereed Articles**

- "Protected for as long as humans eat': Preservation, Local Use, and British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve," *Journal of Canadian Studies*, under review.
- "John Bull and Sons: The Empire Marketing Board and the Creation of an Imperial Food System," in Franca Iacovetta, Valerie Korinek, and Marlene Epp, eds., *Edible Histories: Towards a Canadian Food History* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012).
- "The Normandy of the New World: Canada Steamship Lines and the Selling of Old Quebec," in Nicole Neatby, ed., *Remembering Canadian Pasts in Public* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012).
- "Creating Order: the Liberals, the Landowners, and the Draining of Sumas Lake, British Columbia," *Environmental History*, 13(1) (January, 2008), 92-125.
- "What J.W. Clark Saw in British Columbia, or, Nature and the Machine: A Photo Essay," *B.C. Studies* 142/143 (Summer/Autumn 2004): 129-52.
- "La « Normandie du Nouveau Monde »: la société Canada Steamship Lines, l'antimodernisme et la promotion du Québec ancien," *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* 55(1) (Été 2001): 3-44.  
Winner of the Prix Guy et Lilianne Frégault for best article published in the *Revue* in 2001-02.

**Essays**

- "The Long Question of Food and Land," review essay of books by C. Allen, C. Czajkowski, L. Armstrong, and D. Deur & N.J. Turner, *BC Studies*, 184 (Winter 2014/2015): 125-137.
- "The Lay of the Land: Four New Books in Canadian Rural History," review essay of books by R. Bitterman, R.W. Sandwell, J.I. Little, and R. Loewen, *Journal of Canadian Studies* 42(1) (2008): 204-12.
- "National Parks: What are they Good for? A Review Essay" *BC Studies* 136 (2002-03): 111-115.

**Other Publications**

- "Forum: Appraising Cole Harris' *Making Native Space*," (with Keith Thor Carlson, Sarah Carter, Kate McPherson, and Cole Harris), *Native Studies Review* 16(2) (2005): 125-49.
- Three entries in *The Encyclopedia of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2005):  
 "Back to the Farm Movement": 220.  
 "Country Life Movement": 346-7.  
 "Irrigation": 567-8.
- "Irrigation and Farming," in *The Atlas of U.S. and Canadian Environmental History* (Routledge, 2003): 90-91.

**Book Reviews**

- Derek Wall, *The Commons in History: Culture, Conflict and Ecology* (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2014), *Environmental History*, 20 no. 4 2015: 834-835.
- Danny Dorling, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Equality* (Oxford: New Internationalist, 2012), *Alternatives Journal*, Jan 21, 2013.
- Jack Boudreau, *Sternwheelers & Canyon Cats: Whitewater Freighting on the Upper Fraser* (Prince George: Caitlin Press, 2006), *Canadian Historical Review*, 89(2) (June 2008), 292-94.

- William J. Turkel, *The Archive of Place: Unearthing the Pasts of the Chilcotin Plateau* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2007), *Environmental History* (Special Issue on Canadian Environmental History), 12(4) (October 2007), 1006-1008.
- Stephen Bocking, *Nature's Experts: Science, Politics and the Environment* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers, 2004) and Harold L. Platt, *Shock Cities: The Environmental Transformation of Manchester and Chicago* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005), *Left History* 12(1) (Spring/Summer 2007), 130-133.
- Patricia E. Roy and John Herd Thompson, *British Columbia: Land of Promises* (Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2005), *H-Canada, H-Net Reviews*, March, 2007. URL: <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=168721176825767>.
- Richard Harris, *Creeping Conformity: How Canada Became Suburban* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2004), *Australasian-Canadian Studies*, 24(1) (2006): 127-131.
- Joe Hermer, *Regulating Eden: The Nature of Order in North American Parks* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002), *B.C. Studies* 142/143 (Summer/Autumn 2004): 312-13.
- Alan MacEachern, *Natural Selections: National Parks in Atlantic Canada, 1935-1970* (Montréal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001), *Canadian Issues* (Oct/Nov 2001).

### Interviews

"The History of the Apple Industry in Nova Scotia," *Mainstreet*, CBC Radio Halifax, 2012.

## Teaching Experience

### *Nipissing University, 2005-present*

#### *Graduate Teaching*

Hist 5107: Canadian History

ENST 5116: Perspectives on the Environment

#### *Undergraduate Teaching*

Hist 3226: Food, Farms and Farm People

Hist 4485: Environmental History

Hist 3275: North American Environmental History

Hist 3217: Colonialism and Resettlement in the Canadian West

Hist 3267: Food, Land and Subsistence in Human History

Geog 3235: Historical Geography

Hist 3357: British North America

Hist 3205: Canadian Social History

Hist 2166: Survival: Canada in Global Environmental History

Hist 1405: Power and Resistance in the Canadian Past

Hist 1406: Canada: The Formative Years

Hist 1407: Canada: The National Era

### *University of British Columbia, 2005*

Geog 210: Vancouver and Its Region

### *Simon Fraser University, 2004-05*

Hist 436: British Columbia

### *Queen's University, 2002-03*

Hist 215: Canadian Social History

Hist 122: World History

## Graduate Supervision

**Graduate Supervision (Primary Supervisor)**

David Battista, M.A., 2013-14 (completed)  
 Devan Grainger, M.E.S., 2012-13 (completed)  
 Jennifer Thompson, M.E.S., 2012-13 (completed)  
 Jordan Crosby, M.A., 2010-2011 (completed)  
 Dustin Wall, M.A., 2008-2009 (withdrawn)

**Graduate Supervision (Second Reader)**

Nancy Pottery, M.A., 2011-12 (completed)  
 Kyle Charlebois, M.A., 2009-10 (completed)  
 Jennifer Hough Evans, M.A., 2008-09 (completed)

**External Examiner**

Patricia Bowley, "A Century of Soybeans: Scientific Research and Mixed Farming in Agricultural Southern Ontario," Ph.D., University of Guelph 2013.

**Conferences & Presentations**

- "Subsistence Production and Commodity Production in the British Imperial Food System: the Case of Nova Scotia Apples," Annual Meeting of the Agricultural History Society, 2015, Lexington, Kentucky.
- "Out from the Market's Shadow: the Hidden History of Subsistence in Ontario and Abroad," *History Department Seminar Series*, Nipissing University, 2013, North Bay, ON.
- "Following the Body Through the Early Global Food Chain, from Nova Scotia to Britain," *Foodscares of Plenty and Want*, University of Guelph, 2013, Guelph, ON.
- "The Severing of Bodies from Environments in the Early Global Food System," *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Food Studies*, 2013, Victoria, BC.
- "Out from the Market's Shadow: Subsistence as the Primary Concern of Agricultural History," Rural Roundtable, University of Guelph, 2013, Guelph, ON.
- "The Authority of Apples and the Environment in the Shaping of the Okanagan Valley," 88<sup>th</sup> *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*, 25 – 27 May, 2009, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON.
- "Making the Global Market: Canadian Apples in Britain and the Empire," *Nature Inc.: Questioning the Market Panacea in Environmental Policy and Conservation*, 2012, The Hague, Netherlands.
- "Roundtable: Out from the Market's Shadow: Subsistence as the Primary Concern of Environmental History," *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History*, 2012, Toronto, ON. With C. Dokis, J. MacFadyen, J. St Amand, N. Pottery, & C. Westman.
- "Agriculture Before Petroleum," *Presentation to Transition Town North Bay*, 2011, North Bay, ON.
- "Tasting Food in Environmental History," *Canadian History of the Environment Summer School*, 2010, Montreal, PQ.
- "The Authority of Apples and the Environment in the Shaping of the Okanagan Valley," *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*, 2009, Ottawa, ON.
- "Empire Marketing, Canadian Apples, and the Shaping of the Okanagan Valley," *Space and Place in British Columbia*, 30 April – 2 May, 2009, Victoria, B.C.
- "John Bull and Sons: the Empire Marketing Board and the Creation of a British Colonial Food System," *2009 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History*, 25 Feb – 1 Mar, 2009, Tallahassee, Florida.
- "John Bull and Sons: the Empire Marketing Board and the Creation of an Imperial Food System," *History Department Seminar Series*, Nipissing University, 21 Nov, 2008.
- "John Bull and Sons: the Empire Marketing Board and the Politics of Home in the British

- Colonial Food System," *Edible Histories, Cultural Politics: Towards a Canadian Food History*, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, 2008, 6-7 Aug, 2008.
- "Creating Order: the Liberals, the Landowners, and the Draining of Sumas Lake, British Columbia," presented at Nipissing YOU Lecture Series, Mar 25, 2008.
- "Protected for as long as humans eat': Food, Preservation, and British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve," *Quelque Arpents de Neige Environmental History Group Meeting*, 4-5 May 2007, Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- "We Preserved the Land, Society Didn't!" Preservation, Local Use, and State Management of Agricultural Lands in British Columbia," *2007 American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting*, Feb 28 – Mar 3, 2007, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Discussant on "Roundtable on Canada's Rural History: Classical Traditions and the State of the Art," *Agrarian Societies: Agricultural History Society 2006 Annual Meeting*, 15-17 June, 2006, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.
- "Food, Trade, & Imperial Canada," *(Dis)United Empires*, 15-18 May, 2006, Queen's University, Kingston, ON.
- "Shop the Empire: Food, Knowledge, and the Environmental Impact of British Agriculture," *Quelque Arpents de Neige Environmental History Group Meeting*, 12-13 May, 2006, Queen's University, Kingston, ON.
- "Eating Out: Canada in the Colonial Food System," *What's for Dinner?: the Daily Meal Through History*, 3-4 November 2005, McCord Museum, Montreal, QC.
- "Building a Progressive Countryside: Liberalism, the State, and Sumas Lake, BC," *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers*, 31 May – 5 June, 2005, London, ON.
- "Creating Order: the Liberals, the Landowners, and the Draining of Sumas Lake," *Heartland or Hinterland? British Columbia from the Inside Out*, 28-30 April, 2005, University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC.
- "Liberalism & the Land: the State, Agriculture, and Environmental Change in British Columbia, 1919-28," *2005 American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting*, Mar 16-20, 2005, Houston, TX.
- "Liberalism & the Land: the State, Agriculture, and Environmental Change in British Columbia, 1919-28," *Geography Department Colloquium, University of British Columbia*, Nov 3, 2005.
- Discussant on Round Table "Sir John A. Macdonald Prize: Cole Harris, *Making Native Space*," *83rd Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*, June 2-5, 2004, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MN.
- "Where is the Land?': On Liberalism, the State and Environmental History, as Seen from BC Land Settlement Programs in the 1920s," *Quelque Arpents de Neige Environmental History Group Meeting*, Dec 12-13, 2003, Queen's University, Kingston, ON.
- "The Power to Imagine: the State, New Liberalism, and Environmental Change in British Columbia after the Great War," *82nd Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*, May 29-31, 2003, Halifax, NS.
- "What J.W. Clark Saw in British Columbia, or, Nature and the Machine: A Photo Essay," *81st Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association*, May 27-29, 2002, Toronto, ON.
- "Constructing a Countryside in British Columbia, 1919-29," *Beyond Hope: Constructing British Columbia in Practice and Theory*, 10-12 May 2001, University College of the Cariboo, Kamloops, B.C.
- "Soldiers, the Land and the Nature of Modern B.C.," *Making Environmental History Relevant in the 21st Century: A Joint Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History and the Forest History Society*, March 28<sup>th</sup>-April 1, 2001, Durham, NC.
- "Canada Steamship Lines and the Selling of Old Québec, 1928-45," *Québec/Scotland: An Evolving Comparison*, May 5-6, 2000, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- "Outpost of Empire: Queen's Birthday Celebrations and the Cultural Construction of Victoria, 1887-1914," *Annual Conference 1997, Association for Canadian Studies*, June 6-8, 1997, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Nfld.

## Honours

**K.D. Srivastava Prize** for best UBC Press book by a UBC author, 2008.

**Prix Guy et Lilianne Frégault.** Awarded for best article published in the *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* in 2001-02. (\$1,000).

## Languages

Reading knowledge of French.

## Professional Associations

Canadian Historical Association  
American Society for Environmental History  
NiCHE (Network in Canadian History & Environment)  
National Farmers' Union (Associate Member)

## Other Research & Professional Activities

Initiated, obtained funding for, and organized (all with Dr. Dean Bavington) *Bringing Subsistence out of the Shadows: a Workshop on Subsistence Relationships with Nature*, Oct 2-4, 2009, Nipissing University (forthcoming). This brought 15 scholars from the US and Canada to Nipissing University to consider the existence of non-market forms of obtaining food and shelter under conditions of modern capitalism.

Academic Editor (with Ruth Sandwell and Colin Duncan) of Rural, Wildland and Resource Studies series at McGill-Queen's University Press..

## Peer Reviewer

### Books

- book length manuscript for UBC Press, 2012-13
- book proposal for Routledge Press, 2012.
- book length manuscript for UBC Press, 2008-09

### Journal Articles & Book Chapters

- *Business History*, in process.
- *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 2012.
- *Urban History Review*, 2011.
- *Journal of Historical Geography*, 2010
- *The West and Beyond: New Perspectives on an Imagined Region*, 2010
- *Cuizine: the Journal of Canadian Food Cultures* (2009)
- *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 2006

## Service

### Nipissing University

- Chair, Department of History, July 2015-present.

- Nipissing University Faculty Association. Strike Preparedness Committee. Social Committee. April 2015-present.
- Research Ethics Board, December 2014-present.
- University Review Committee for Tenure & Promotion Committee, 2014-15.
- Academic Senate, 2008-11
- Senate Committee of the Arts & Science Faculty Council, 2009-2010
- Master of Environmental Studies/Environmental Science Program Steering Committee, 2009-11.
- Strike Committee, Nipissing University Faculty Association, three times since 2009.
- Hiring Committee (Graduate Leadership Position), Faculty of Education.
- Biidaaban Community Service-Learning Advisory Committee, 2006-09.
- Faculty Review Committee (Arts & Science) for Tenure and Promotion, 2008-09
- Library Advisory Sub-Committee, 2008-09
- Consecutive Education Coordinating Committee, 2007-08

*Other Activities at Nipissing University*

- Co-Organizer (with Dr. Catherine Murton Stoehr), History Department Keynote Lecture with Dr. Ian McKay, "Warrior Nation: the Use and Abuse of History in Harper's Canada," and "Unite the Left North Bay? A Community Conversation," 2012.
- Coordinator of History Department Seminar Series, Nipissing University, 2006-09
- Organized the visit of historical geographer Dr. Brian Osborne to Nipissing University, 2007

*Service Activities Beyond Nipissing University*

- Site Selection Committee for Annual Conference, American Society for Environmental History, 2009-present
- External Assessor, Promotion & Tenure, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 2014.