

Critical Feminist Histories in Canada
2-4 October 2026
Queen's University, Kingston, ON

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

For sessions during the day, all rooms are in the John Deutsch University Centre (JDUC). We will move to the BioSciences Complex for the keynote address.

JDUC 347 is available all day for those who need a quiet space.

8-8:30am – Continental Breakfast – outside of Wallace Hall

8:30-10:00am

Feminist Work in Archives and History Education – Wallace Hall (Hybrid)

Chair: Nancy Forestell

- Ryan Conrad, "Sex Working the Canadian Women's Movement Archive"
- Dorothy Williams and Samia Dumais, "Black Feminist Archivism at the Sankofa Archives and Collections in Montreal"
- Stacey Copeland, "Sapphic Sounds on the Radio: Audibility Activism and Archival Silence in Dykes on Mykes and The Lesbian Show"
- Sarah Clifford, Kristina R. Llewellyn, Mallory Davies, "A Call for History Education to Respond to the Anti-Gender Movement of our Troubled Times"

Racialized and Indigenous Women in Canada: Oral Histories, Methodologies, and Counter-Narratives – Polson Room

Chair: Whitney Wood

- Laura Scott, "'We Are the Same and That's Why We Help': Feminist Networks of Care"
- Julie Guard and Franca Iacovetta, "Interviewing Leslie Spillett: Indigenous Socialist Feminist, Community Organizer, Knowledge Keeper, and Labour Activist"

- Lynne Marks and Cherene Aniyon, "Generational and political tensions within immigrant women's stories"

Trans History and Queer History – Sutherland Room

Chair: Rachel Berger

- Shana Quesnel, "Building a Village one condom at a time: Community resistance through safe-sex education during the AIDS crisis in Montreal"
- Athena Mosley, "BANG!: A Case Study in Trans Relationality and (Mis)Recognition"
- Izzy Hardin, "'Honored with Masculine Pronouns:' The Trans Military Debate and Public Historical Memory"
- Nico Mara-McKay, "This Field is Mandatory: Genealogies of Nonbinary Marginalization in Canada"

Social Movement Lives and Politics in Diasporic and Transnational Contexts – SGPS

Lounge

Chair: Rebecca Hall

- Laura Madokoro, "Reading Exile: Emma Goldman in Montreal, 1928-1939"
- Amanda Ricci, "A Radical Life: Rose Pesotta's Anti-Fascist Politics and the Montreal Garment Industry of the 1930s and 1940s."
- Funké Aladejebi, "Rewriting the Nation: Black Women's Counter Narratives and the Politics of Transformative Space Making"

10:15-11:45 am

"Insensible of Boundaries": A Roundtable on Mary Ann Shadd Cary – Wallace Hall
(Hybrid)

Chair: Lisa Pasolli

- Participants: Claudine Bonner, Deirdre McCorkindale, Demetra McBrayer, Kristin Moriah

Perspectives on Colonialism – Sutherland Room

Chair: Lara Campbell

- Joe Borsato, "Mi'kmaw Mobility. The Saint-Étienne de la Tour Sisters in the Seventeenth-Century French Empire"
- Julie Francoeur, "Solidarités et résistances à la Maison Sainte-Madeleine de Québec (1850-1924)"
- Nancy Forestell, "Reckoning with Settler Feminisms in Canada: Woman's Century, 1913-1921"

Building an Oral History Collective and Archive – Polson Room

Chair: Funké Aladejebi

- Pamela Sugiman, "How Oral History Interviews Endure the Passage of Time: Reflections on Working Class “Feminism” in Canada, Now and Then"
- Nancy Janovicek, "Whose story is it? The Ethics and Politics of Building an Oral History Archive"
- Rhonda Hinder, “Community-engaged Feminist Research in the Field”

11:45–1pm – Lunch – outside of Wallace Hall

1:00–2:00pm – Welcome and Remarks – Wallace Hall (Hybrid)

- Allen Doxtator
- Patrizia Gentile, Chair, CCWGH–CCHFG

2:15–3:45pm – Plenary Session #1 – Wallace Hall (Hybrid)

Histories of Reproductive Justice

Chair: Jenna Healey

- Renée Monchalín, "Centring Indigenous voices from the Fireweed Project"
- Karissa Patton, "Reproductive Justice, Systems of Care, and History: Case Studies from the Canadian West & Scotland"
- Whitney Wood, "Childbirth "Choice" in Twentieth-Century Canada"
- Chloe Crosschild, "Iitsimákaatsita: Blackfoot Women, Nursing, and Reproductive Justice in Southern Alberta"

4:00–5:30pm

Roundtable: Teaching Queer and Trans Histories in Contested Times – Wallace Hall (Hybrid)

Moderator: Steven Maynard

- Participants: Patrizia Gentile, El Chenier, Valerie Korinek, David Churchill, Maddie Knickerbocker, Jarrett Henderson

Women's Welfare Rights Activism in Canada, 1960–2015 – Polson Room

Chair: Wendy McKeen

- Hanna Jalal, "Social Activism in Ontario, Canada, 1990 to 2010: A Profile of Josephine Grey"
- Margaret Hillyard Little, "The political strategies of women's welfare rights activism across Canada, 1960s–90s"

- Krys Maki, "Documenting Defiance: Poor Single Mothers' Everyday and Collective Acts of Resistance"

Institutions, Power, Citizenship – Sutherland Room

Chair: Melissa N Shaw

- Deja Forde-Dixon, "Challenging the Ideal Rehabilitation Mother: Centering Black and Racialized Disabled Mothers in Rehabilitation Care"
- Tifanie Valade, "“Rester dans la bonne voie” (Staying on the right track): Juvenile Delinquency, Deficient Motherhood and the Introduction of State-Run Kindergarten in Quebec"
- Mary Chaktsiris, "The Creep of Militarization: Security, Exclusion, and Power in Canada"

5:45-8:00pm – *Reception and Keynote* – BioSciences Atrium and 1102

Ethel Tungohan, "Protesting, Podcasting, and Everyday Acts of Subversion: Care Activism and Dissident Friendships in Times of Crises"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Humphrey Hall 132 is available all day for those who need a quiet space.

8-8:30am – Continental Breakfast – BioSci Atrium

8:30-10:00am

Missionary and Development Work – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Chair: Margaret Little

- Kevin Brushett, "Sorry Boys Time is Up: Feminist Challenges to Canadian Development Organizations, 1976-1990"
- Karen Brglez, "She is a Great Help and Comfort to Me": Missionary Adoption and the Exploitation of Indigenous Child Labour in Saskatchewan
- Catherine Ramey, "I think I'll go too and see about this!" Canadian Domestic Science Curricula in Central Angola, 1880s-1920s

Power, Resistance, and Transnational Strategies – BioSci 1120

Chair: Laura Madokoro

- Yukari Takai, "'A Good Man, Very Kind': Procurers, Passports, and the Policing of Japanese Women's Mobility, 1866–1919"
- Laura Moncion, "Towards a Longue Durée Feminist History: Continuities from the Premodern World to the Present"
- Meggie Sue Cadrin, "Women Before the Law: Minor Violence and Judicial Trajectories in Quebec City, 1820–1870"

Girlhood and Youth – BioSci 2109

Chair: Kristine Alexander

- Jordyn Beaupré, "Girls or Women: Age, Sex, and Race in Late-19th Century Debates over Protections for Immigrant Girls"
- Hanna Fantin, "Girls Making Media in the Rocking P Gazette (1923–1925)"
- Megan Blair, "'What's all this talk of women? We're girls!': Youth Apathy Towards Feminism, 1970s"
- Madhulagna Halder, "Revolutionary Girlhood: Negotiating Patriarchy and Feminine Adventurism in the Naxalite Movement in 1970s India"

Media, Materiality, and Scandal – Humphrey 131

Chair: Carmen Nielson

- Kenneth Hall, "The 'Magical Mammy' Stereotype and the Biopolitics of Creole Cuisine in White American Print Culture, 1885–1914"
- Meghan Jennings, "Against Seamlessness: Quilting as Method and the Subversion of Knowledge Production"
- Sydney Harker, "'The Graceful Body Did Not Fit the Clothing': Gender Nonconformity and Scandal in Turn-of-the-Century Canada"

10:15–11:45am

Photography – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Chair: Melissa N Shaw

- Melissa Eden, "How to Read Wedding Photography: A Case Study of the Personal Studio in Waterloo, ON, 1950–1959"
- Rebecca Murray, "Snapshots of her Service"
- James Opp, "Marketing Dalbello: Pop Feminism and Music Promotion in Canada"

Space and Place – BioSci 1120

Chair: Camille Robert

- Isabelle Prud'Homme, "Relocating Care; Ethnography of Community Organisations Evicted or at Risk of..."
- Channon Oyeniran, "Black Feminist Digital Organizing: Escaping the White Gaze and Redefining Suburban, Social and Community Constructs"
- Emma Craib, "How Female Holocaust Survivors Speak: The Documentation Work of Miriam Novitch in France, 1944-1946"
- Samia Dumais and Catherine Larochelle, "The Living Archive: Feminist Memories in Verdun, Quebec and the Transformation of the Historian"

Undertold Rural Histories in Canada – BioSci 2109

Chair: Nancy Janovicek

- Ally Krueger-Kischak, "'Hick' Engineering and Trans DIY: Rural Knowledge, Autonomy, and Subversive Science"
- Chelsi Bovington, "Stories Untold: The Phenomenon of Rural Women in Ontario Self Publishing Memoirs"
- Sierra Sherman, "Desirable Rurality: Canadian Queer Urban-to-Rural Relocation in the Archives"

Reproduction, Adoption, and Remaking Family – Humphrey 131

Chair: Magda Fahrni

- Erin Gallagher-Cohoon, "'Brave New World': Anti-Abortion and Feminist Advocacy to the Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies, 1989-1993"
- Karen Balcom, "'Of my own free will': Japanese Women Relinquishing Japanese-American Children to US Military Families in Japan, 1948-1953"
- Heather Stanley, "Womb Versus Brain: Reproduction, Disability, and the Physical Expression of Maternal Mental Illness in the Canadian West before World War II"
- Marie-Laurence Raby, "Répression, résistance et circulation : les stratégies transnationales des militantes pour l'avortement au Québec (1973-1976)"

11:45-1:15pm – Lunch (buffet) – BioSci Atrium

1:30-3pm – Plenary Session #2 – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Trans Histories

Chair: Kristine Alexander

- Kai Pyle, "Métis Two-Spirit History"
- Jamey Jespersen, "Re-Storying Transformed Women on the Indigenous Northwest Coast"

- Aino Pihlak, "Transvestite History: How Do We Shine a Light into a Closet?"
- Heng Simone Wang, "Historicizing Trans Panic: Parental Rights and Anti-SOGI Mobilization Among First- Generation Canadians"
- Syrus Marcus Ware, TBA

3:15-4:45pm

Mary Ann Shadd Cary Reconsidered: A Black Woman's Meditations, Advocacy, Refashioning, and Community Impact – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Chair: Jade Ferguson

- Eunice Toh, "‘A Woman on the Floor’—Shadd Cary, Black Canada, and Soil Ecologies"
- Melissa N Shaw, "‘Become British at Heart in Reality’: Mary Ann Shadd Cary’s Emigration Advocacy"
- Jewon Woo, "Black Political Organizing from Her Parlor"
- Nassisse Solomon, "‘A Mother Of The Race,’ Shadd Cary and Expressions of Community Ideals"

Feminist Networks and Counter-Institutions in Canadian Art – BioSci 1120

Chair: James Opp

- Devon Smither and Amber Berson, "Artist-Run Centres and the Feminist Politics of Cultural Organizing in Canada"
- Jen Kennedy, "Cyberfeminism IRL: Rethinking Nancy Paterson's Artwork and arts work in the long 1990s"
- Temple Marucci-Campbell, "Alimental Analysis: A Gustatory and Olfactory Attunement to Black Contemporary Art"
- Gabriela Aceves Sepúlveda, "(mis) translations and (dis)encounters: Cross-cultural Feminist Art Exchanges across the Americas, Mexico (1979) and Vancouver (1987)"

Cultures and Geographies of Femininities in Historical Perspective: A Critical Feminist Exploration – BioSci 2109

Chair: Heather Stanley

- Sarah York-Bertram, "Whose Satisfaction Is It Anyway?: Historicizing Women’s Satisfaction in Canada’s Westward Expansion and Agricultural Settlement of the Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Centuries"
- Andi Schwartz and Chloë Brushwood Rose, "Making FemmeStory Visible: An Oral History of Femme Life in Toronto, 1990-2000"

- Jenna Danchuk, "Feminist Witchcraft as Radical and Lesbian-Feminist Herstory: An Account of the New Age, Neo-Paganism, and other Occult Spiritualities in the US Women's Liberation Movement (1976-1987)"

From Obscenity to Online Harms: Critical Feminist Histories of Pornography, Regulation, and Sexual Politics – Humphrey 131

Chair: Kyler Chittick

- Kyler Chittick, "Chair + Sex, Sin, and Cinema: Obscenity Law and Moral Regulation in Early 1980s Alberta"
- Meg D. Lonergan, "Just the Tip: A Gentle Insertion into the Conversation About Methods and Meaning in Researching Online Pornography"
- El Chenier, "'Shame Must Change Sides': Misogyny, Sexual Harassment, and the Roots of the Academic Freedom Movement"

5:00-8:00pm – *Reception and Keynote* – BioSciences Atrium and 1102

Susan Stryker, "Changing Gender"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Humphrey Hall 132 is available all day for those who need a quiet space.

8-8:30am – Continental Breakfast – BioSci Atrium

8:30-10:00am

Perspectives on Work – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Chair: Karen Brglez

- Krista Johnston, "Tracing Local Histories: Midwives and Sage-femmes in Early 20th Century New Brunswick"
- Kristin Burnett and Shannon Stettner, "In Service of the State: The Work of Women's Voluntary and Service Associations in Residential Schools and Indian Hospitals"
- John Bessai, "Feminist Cultural Work Inside the State: Studio D and the National Film Board of Canada"
- Rachel Lobo, "Feminist Publishing and Transnational Visions"

Oral History and Life History – BioSci 1120

Chair: Amanda Ricci

- Annabelle Penney, "Rhythm of Resistance: The Life and Legacy of Black Canadian Jazz Legend Eleanor Collins"
- Lauren Beth Auger, "And the rest was history- Wendy's war bride story"
- Gavin Rees, "'They Were French Women from Detroit': Reading Representations of Race and Gender in the Diaries of Elizabeth Simcoe"
- Gabrielle Iaconetti, "The Gift of Stories: A Brief History of bisex_u_elles, a Bisexual Women's Community in Montreal"

Queer Tendencies: Roundtable on Queering the Tensions of Empire – BioSci 2019

Moderator: to be confirmed

- Participants: Jarrett Henderson, T.J. Tallie, Kristen Thomas-McGill, Lily Denehy

10:30am-12:00pm – Plenary Session #3 – BioSci 1102 (Hybrid)

Future Directions in Critical Feminist Histories

Chair: Patrizia Gentile

- Margaret Ross, "An Immense House of Ill-Fame: Prostitution, Politics, and the Instrumentality of Sexuality in Ontario, 1860s-1930s"
- Em Allen, "Capitalism and Contradiction in Queer Canadian History"
- Rebecca Friend, "Exhibiting Gendered Childhoods in Canadian History Museums"
- Marwa Hussein, "Black Women Healers and the (Un)Making of White Male Medical Authority: Narratives of Medical Illegitimacy in the Free North"
- Camille Robert, "Towards a gendered history of neoliberalism"