

## Research Note

## Recent Publications on Regional, Multicultural and Postcolonial Writing in Canada

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Over the past few years, I have been continuing my research on Atlantic Canada's history and culture, with a focus on historical fiction, much of it from Newfoundland. I recently finished an essay on Newfoundland writer Michael Winter to be published this year in the *Journal of the College of World Englishes*. The novel is called *The Big Why* (2004) and deals with an American painter who lived briefly in Newfoundland at the beginning of the First World War. I also presented on his first novel *This All Happened* (2000), in 2004 at conference devoted to Atlantic Canadian literature, at Acadia University in Nova Scotia. I will also give a presentation on *The Big Why* as part of a panel on Canadian historical fiction. That will take place in May 2007 in Halifax at the Atlantic Studies Conference.

In 2005, I published a book chapter on literary images of the city of Halifax, Nova Scotia, especially nostalgic portraits of the city and its connections to Britain and the British empire. The

chapter appears in a book called *Downtown Canada* (Toronto 2005), edited by Doug Ivison and Justin Edwards.

I have also contributed two articles to the *Historical Companion to Postcolonial Literatures* (Edinburgh 2005). One article is an overview of the exploration and settlement of Canada; the other an entry on the Hudson Bay Company, a fur trading company which played an important role in the exploration and development of Canada. Both entries include information about some of the key literary works connected to these topics.

Recently, I have started to work on multiculturalism, especially, immigrant novels. Last year, I published an essay on John Marlyn's novel *Under the Ribs of Death* (1957), one of the first immigrant novels to be published in Canada. It deals with a young man who hides his Hungarian identity in order to become a successful businessman in Canada. It appeared in 2005 in the *Journal of the College of World Englishes*.