

## Media Release

March 19, 2015

### **Research Reception on Language and Identity in New Brunswick Friday, March 20 at 2:30 pm**

An exploration of language and identity in New Brunswick will be the subject of a research reception at St. Thomas University on Friday, March 20 at 2:30 pm in Brian Mulroney Hall (Room 318).

“We are pleased to have had such fruitful dialogue this year and this final reception on language and identity is timely given recent controversies in our province,” said Michael Dawson, Associate Vice-President (Research).

The events are designed to foster collaboration between university researchers, government policy makers and community organizations. The panelists for the discussion on language and identity are:

- Tony Tremblay, Professor of English, Canada Research Chair in New Brunswick Studies and editor of the *Journal of New Brunswick Studies*. He will be discussing the meaning of identity and why it is so important in New Brunswick.
- Cecilia Francis, Associate Professor, Department of Romance Languages. She will be presenting her work on the themes of language and identity in the work of Acadian author France Daigle.
- Andrea Bear Nicholas, *Professor Emeritus* in Native Studies. She will be speaking about her work on adult immersion and the role of language in First Nations identity.
- Chantal Richard, Associate Professor in the Department of French at the University of New Brunswick. She will be speaking about how words shaped the identities of Loyalists and *Acadiens* in late-nineteenth-century New Brunswick.
- Alex LeBlanc, managing director of the New Brunswick Multicultural Council and co-chair of the provincial Steering Committee on Immigration and Population Growth. He will be discussing current research partnerships at the Council and opportunities for research collaboration.

“We have great social science and humanities researchers at St. Thomas and throughout the province,” said Dawson. “We are very pleased to be able to showcase some of their work, especially as it pertains to such an important topic.”

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