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NEW AND NOTABLE BOOKS

August 2026

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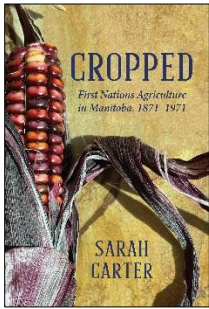
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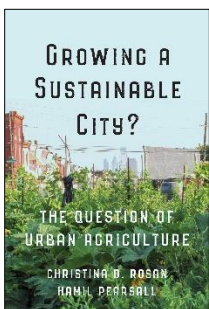
Agriculture



Cropped: First Nations Agriculture in Manitoba, 1871-1971

Sarah Carter (University of Manitoba Press) 

Drawing on Indigenous oral histories and government records, *Cropped* traces the long history of First Nations agriculture in Manitoba and examines how federal and provincial policies affected farming after the signing of Treaty 1. The book highlights both the enduring strength of Indigenous agricultural knowledge and the significant barriers imposed by the Department of Indian Affairs, including restrictive policies, inadequate support, and limited access to arable land.

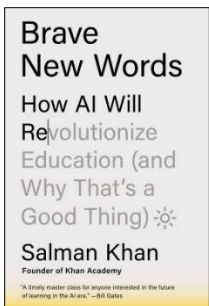


Growing a Sustainable City? The Question of Urban Agriculture

Christina Rosan, Hamil Pearsall (University of Toronto Press)

This book examines the development of urban agriculture policies and their role in advancing sustainability in post-industrial cities. Through a case study of Philadelphia, the authors explore how urban agriculture has become linked to economic revitalization, sustainability, and gentrification, while highlighting tensions related to race, class, and generation. The book assesses the opportunities and challenges of integrating urban agriculture into formal city planning and sustainability policy.

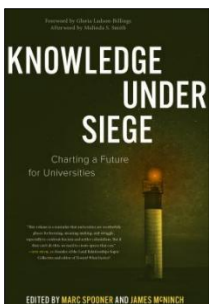
Education



Brave New Words: How AI Will Revolutionize Education (And Why That's a Good Thing)

Salman Khan (Viking Books)

Brave New Words examines how artificial intelligence and GPT technology could transform education by personalizing learning, supporting teachers, and improving student outcomes. Salman Khan explores the opportunities and challenges of integrating AI into classrooms, emphasizing that these tools should enhance rather than replace human interaction. The book also considers the broader social and ethical implications of AI, offering guidance for educators, parents, administrators, and employers.

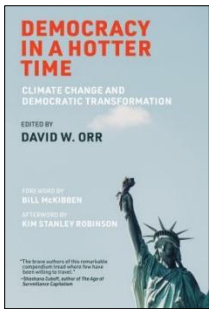


Knowledge Under Siege: Charting a Future for Universities

Ed. Marc Spooner, James McNinch (University of Regina Press)

This book argues that universities face growing threats, including funding cuts, attacks on academic freedom, and efforts to dismantle equity and diversity initiatives. It examines how these pressures undermine the role of universities in advancing knowledge, democracy, social mobility, and critical thinking. Bringing together leading scholars from around the world, the book calls for defending the autonomy of higher education institutions and strengthening their capacity to serve diverse students and society.

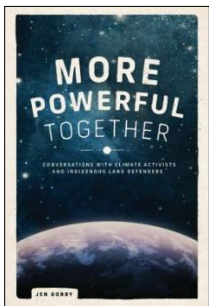
Environment and Climate Change



Democracy in a Hotter Time: Climate Change and Democratic Transformation

Ed. David Orr (The MIT Press)

Democracy in a Hotter Time examines democracy and climate change as interconnected crises that require coordinated solutions. Through essays by scholars, public intellectuals, and political leaders, the book explores how democratic institutions can be reformed to address climate instability and support a more sustainable future.

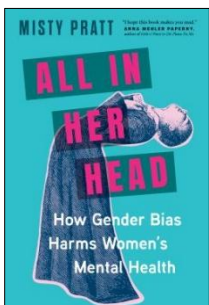


More Powerful Together: Conversations with Climate Activists and Indigenous Land Defenders

Jen Gobby (Fernwood Publishing) 

Drawing on insights from climate justice, anti-pipeline, and Indigenous land defense movements in Canada, Jen Gobby examines the challenges and strategies involved in building effective movements for social and environmental transformation. The book argues that relationships based on equality, reciprocity, and connection to the land are essential for creating the collective power needed to achieve lasting change.

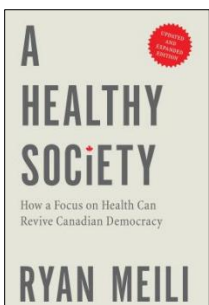
Health and Well-Being



All in Her Head: How Gender Bias Harms Women's Mental Health

Misty Pratt (Greystone Books)

All in Her Head examines the rise of anxiety, depression, and stress among women and explores how gender bias within healthcare can lead to women's mental health being misunderstood or inadequately treated. Drawing on scientific research, personal experiences, and historical context, Misty Pratt challenges myths about women's mental health and examines how social, economic, and cultural factors contribute to emotional distress. The author ultimately argues for evidence-based care that addresses underlying causes rather than focusing solely on symptoms.

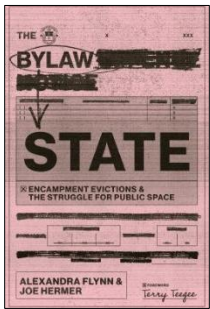


A Healthy Society : How a Focus on Health Can Revive Canadian Democracy

Ryan Meili (Purich Books)

Drawing on his experiences as a physician in Saskatchewan and Mozambique, Dr. Ryan Meili argues that improving health requires addressing the underlying social conditions that shape well-being. He highlights the importance of factors such as income, education, housing, employment, and social support, which often have a greater impact on health than medical care alone. The book presents a vision for building a healthier and more equitable society through social and political change.

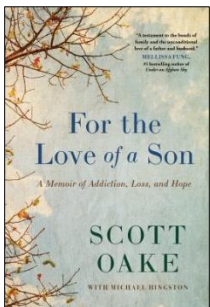
Housing, Addiction, and Homelessness



The Bylaw State: Encampment Evictions and the Struggle for Public Space

Alexandra Flynn, Joe Hermer (Fernwood Publishing) 🐾

The Bylaw State examines how municipalities across Canada use bylaws, policing, and enforcement measures to regulate and remove homeless encampments from public spaces. Through case studies and legal analysis, Alexandra Flynn and Joe Hermer explore the impact of these practices on unhoused people and argue for a more inclusive approach to public space that prioritizes human rights and the needs of vulnerable populations.

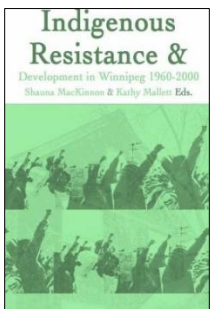


For the Love of a Son: A Memoir of Addiction, Loss, and Hope

Scott Oake (Simon & Schuster Canada)

For the Love of a Son is a memoir by broadcaster Scott Oake that recounts the life and loss of his son Bruce, who died from an accidental opioid overdose at age twenty-five. The book explores the challenges of addiction, the impact of the opioid crisis on families, and the unconditional love of parents supporting a child with substance use disorder. It also chronicles the Oake family's efforts to create the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre, advocating for compassionate and accessible addiction treatment in Canada.

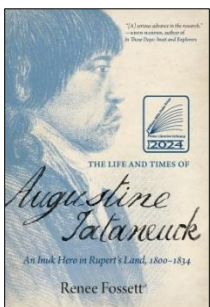
Indigenous Studies



Indigenous Resistance & Development in Winnipeg, 1960-2000

Ed. Shauna McKinnon, Kathy Mallett (Arbeiter Ring Publishing) 🐾

Indigenous Resistance and Development in Winnipeg, 1960–2000 examines the history of Indigenous-led organizations and community development in Winnipeg. It explores Indigenous resistance and achievements in housing, education, economic development, and social services through the work of key institutions. The book highlights the vital role these organizations played in advancing Indigenous self-determination and strengthening communities.

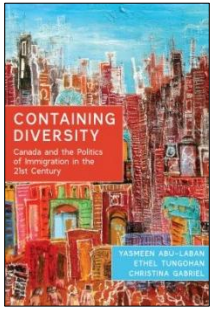


The Life and Times of Augustine Tataneuck: An Inuk Hero in Rupert's Land, 1800-1834

Renée Fossett (University of Regina Press)

Augustine Tataneuck chronicles the life of an Inuk man who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company and served as an interpreter on John Franklin's Arctic expeditions in the early nineteenth century. Drawing on historical records, the author reconstructs his experiences amid the fur trade, environmental hardship, disease, and international political change. The book also provides a rare glimpse into the lives of Indigenous labourers, translators, and trappers whose stories are often absent from the historical record.

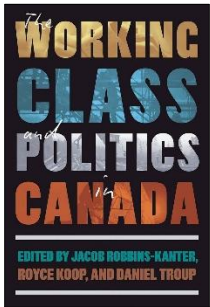
Labour and Immigration



Containing Diversity: Canada and the Politics of Immigration in the 21st Century

Yasmeen Abu-Laban et al. (University of Toronto Press)

Containing Diversity examines how Canadian immigration, refugee, and multiculturalism policies have increasingly limited or “contained” diversity despite Canada’s reputation for inclusiveness. The book explores the experiences of refugees, migrants, and temporary foreign workers, highlighting contradictions in government policies and practices, and argues for new forms of solidarity that centre migrant and Indigenous experiences.

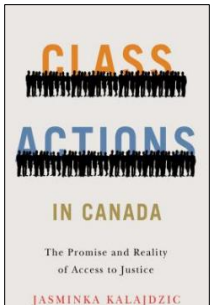


The Working Class and Politics in Canada

Ed. Jacob Robbins-Kanter et al. (University of British Columbia Press)

The Working Class and Politics in Canada examines the continuing importance of class in shaping Canadian politics and society. The contributors explore how class influences voting behaviour, political representation, and democratic engagement, alongside factors such as region, language, and gender. The book argues that rising inequality and changing labour markets make understanding working-class experiences more important than ever.

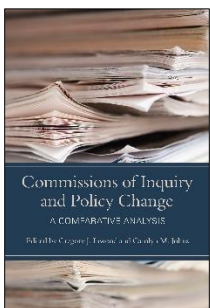
Law and Justice



Class Actions in Canada: The Promise and Reality of Access to Justice

Jasminka Kalajdzic (University of British Columbia Press)

Class Actions in Canada examines how class actions have improved access to justice for people who might otherwise be unable to pursue legal claims. Jasminka Kalajdzic develops a broader understanding of access to justice and evaluates the effectiveness of class actions through survey data and case studies. The book provides a timely assessment of the evolution, achievements, and limitations of collective litigation in Canada.

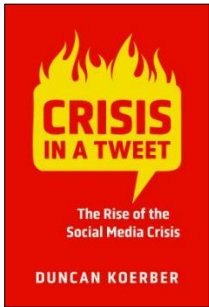


Commissions of Inquiry and Policy Change: A Comparative Analysis

Ed. Gregory J. Inwood, Carolyn M. Johns (University of Toronto Press)

Commissions of Inquiry and Policy Change examines how commissions of inquiry influence public policy in Canada and why some lead to reform while others do not. Drawing on ten landmark inquiries, the contributors analyze their impact across political, social, economic, environmental, and legal issues. The book offers valuable insights into the role of inquiries in Canadian policymaking and policy change.

Media and Politics



Crisis in a Tweet: The Rise of the Social Media Crisis

Duncan Koerber (University of Toronto Press)

Crisis in a Tweet examines how a single social media post can escalate into a major public crisis with serious real-world consequences, including reputational damage, job loss, and public shaming. Drawing on case studies from platforms such as X, Facebook, and YouTube, the book explores how online environments amplify outrage, empower digital mobs, and turn everyday interactions into viral controversies. It argues for a cultural shift in how society understands and responds to online crises rather than relying solely on regulation or prevention.

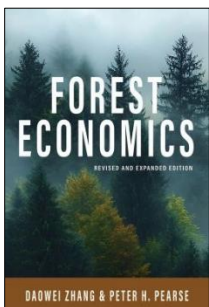


Trolling Ourselves to Death: Democracy in the Age of Social Media

Jason Hannan (Oxford University Press)

This book explores how internet trolling has moved from anonymous online spaces into mainstream politics and public discourse, shaping civic culture and democratic norms. The book argues that trolling reflects deeper social problems, including alienation, cynicism, and distrust, and examines their connections to disinformation, conspiracy theories, public shaming, and cancel culture. Drawing on the works of political and philosophical thinkers, Jason Hannon advocates that rebuilding trust and civic engagement is the key to countering the influence of mass trolling.

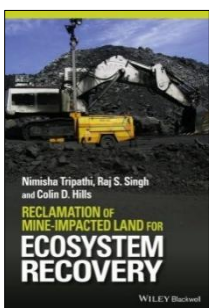
Natural Resources



Forest Economics, Revised and Expanded Edition

Daowei Zhang, Peter Pearse (University of British Columbia Press)

Forest Economics provides an overview of the economic concepts and principles essential to forest management, policy development, and making informed investment decisions. It explores topics such as forest finance, ecosystem services, forest taxation, trade, and resource management, and combines theoretical and practical applications to support decision-making in both public and private forestry sectors.

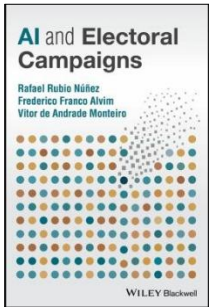


Reclamation of Mine-Impacted Land for Ecosystem Recovery

Nimisha Tripathi et al. (Wiley Blackwell)

Reclamation of Mine-impacted Land for Ecosystem Recovery studies the environmental impacts of mining and outlines practical methods for improving soil health, controlling pollution, restoring biodiversity, and supporting ecosystem recovery. The book emphasizes sustainable approaches to mine reclamation that can rehabilitate land after mining operations have ended.

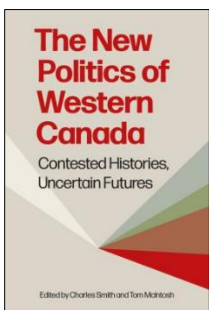
Political Science



AI and Electoral Campaigns

Rafael Rubio Núñez et al. (Wiley Blackwell)

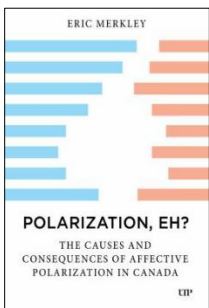
AI and Electoral Campaigns analyses how artificial intelligence is reshaping electoral politics and creating new risks for democratic processes. Drawing on international case studies, the authors consider the political, legal, and ethical challenges posed by AI and evaluate emerging regulatory responses. The book provides a framework for understanding and addressing AI's impact on electoral integrity, making it a valuable resource for students, researchers, policymakers, and election officials.



The New Politics of Western Canada: Contested Histories, Uncertain Futures

Ed. Charles Smith, Thomas McIntosh (University of British Columbia Press)

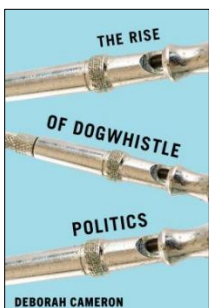
The New Politics of Western Canada investigates the historical roots, evolving identities, and contemporary political dynamics of Western Canada. Through analyses of issues such as colonialism, gender, class, populism, labour, health care, and Indigenous participation, contributors offer a nuanced understanding of the region's diverse political perspectives and challenges. The collection provides fresh insights into Western Canada's role as a distinct political, economic, and social force within the country.



Polarization, Eh?: The Causes and Consequences of Affective Polarization in Canada

Eric Merkley (University of Toronto Press)

Polarization, Eh? discusses the rise of partisan hostility in Canada as well as its effects on political and social life. Drawing on survey data and experiments, Eric Merkley argues that growing ideological divisions between party supporters have fueled increased polarization and distrust. The book explores the consequences of these trends, including biased reasoning and support for anti-democratic behaviour, while highlighting the need for reforms to reduce political divisions.

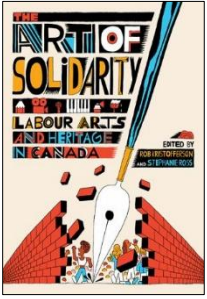


The Rise of Dogwhistle Politics

Deborah Cameron (Polity Press)

Dogwhistle Politics examines the rise of political messages that convey hidden or coded meanings to specific audiences (dogwhistling). Linguist Deborah Cameron explores how dogwhistling intersects with polarization, populism, and culture wars, and outlines how language and symbols are used to shape public debate. The book considers how these tactics operate across the political spectrum and reflects on the broader influence of language on politics, culture, and social change.

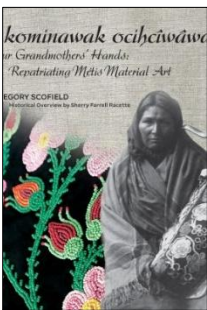
Sport, Culture, Heritage, and Tourism



The Art of Solidarity: Labour Arts and Heritage in Canada

Ed. Robert Kristofferson, Stephanie Ross (Between the Lines)

The Art of Solidarity explores the many forms of labour arts and heritage in Canada, from protest music and murals to community theatre, oral histories, and workers' museums. The collection highlights how these creative expressions have helped build solidarity, challenge inequality, and preserve working-class experiences despite ongoing challenges. It argues that labour arts and heritage are increasingly important in addressing economic insecurity and reshaping conversations about the value of work and community wellbeing.

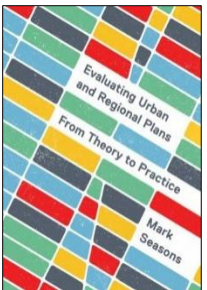


Kôhkominawak Ocihcîwâwa = Our Grandmothers' Hands: Repatriating Métis Material Art

Gregory Scofield (Gabriel Dumont Institute Press)

Our Grandmothers' Hands: Repatriating Métis Material Art by Gregory Scofield contains photographs and details on over 100 "Grandmothers," as Gregory refers to them. Gregory has repatriated Métis artifacts from across the world, from coast to coast in Canada, to England and Scotland, bringing the grandmothers home, and is sharing these grandmothers with everyone through this beautiful book. This resource also contains a historical overview by Sherry Farrell Racette.

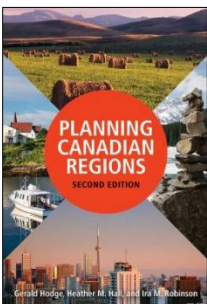
Urban and Regional Planning



Evaluating Urban and Regional Plans : From Theory to Practice

Mark Seasons (University of British Columbia Press)

This book examines how evaluating urban and regional plans can help planners learn from past successes and failures to improve future decision-making. It emphasizes the importance of monitoring a plan's outputs, outcomes, and impacts to ensure planning remains effective, relevant, and equitable. Combining theory and practical guidance, it provides tools and methods for assessing planning processes in Canadian communities.



Planning Canadian Regions

Gerald Hodge et al. (University of British Columbia Press)

Planning Canadian Regions provides an overview of the history, practice, and emerging issues of regional planning in Canada. The book examines key challenges, including climate change, regional development disparities, the needs of large urban regions, and the role of Indigenous peoples in planning. It encourages planners and policy-makers to adopt informed, forward-thinking approaches to regional planning in the twenty-first century.