

**Annotated Bibliography of Articles related to BC Food History in *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly* (1968 – 2025) Volumes 1-225**

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**BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly is a Canadian academic journal about British Columbia history. It has been published by the University of British Columbia since its establishment in 1969 by its founding editors Margaret Prang and Walter D. Young.**

Note on Review Process – titles labeled “articles” or “review articles” were examined in each volume and those related to food, food production, agriculture, farming, ranching, plants and animals consumed as food, tools or technology used in food production and consumption were read and annotated here. The annotated articles are organized by topics and in alphabetical order by author.

**Topics:**

**Agriculture, Farming and Food Production Canneries**

**Communities, Towns and Cities Cook Books**

**First Nations and Indigenous Food Sources**

**Fish and Fisheries**

**Food and Culture**

**Agriculture, Farming and Food Production**

Curtis, M. J. M., & Bulkan, J. (2023). Making Sense of the Drift: Feeding a Population with Farmland Protection Legislation in British Columbia. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (218), 47-72.

Key Words: food sufficiency; ALR; applied history

This applied history study begins with a predicament, how the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) and Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), a unique piece of farmland protection legislation, appear to have drifted from the original intent of internal food sufficiency for British Columbia. Then it analyzes the historical record to find clues and suggest possible policy interventions. This is a unique approach that focuses on where to go next based on the analysis of historical precedents and analogues. The first five years of the ALC writing and work are

considered. The findings serve to add to historical and contemporary understandings of *why* the ALC drifted away from encouraging food production and *how* we may collectively address current farmland and food security crises in British Columbia. What the documents and actions reveal is a very particular formative ethic related to land, collaboration, and public service. These formative ethics may be key to upholding the original and current intentions of the Land Commission Act.

Demeritt, D. (1995). Visions of agriculture in British Columbia. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (108), 29-59.

Key Words: agriculture; arcadianism; agrarianism; Country Life movement

The author argues that typical economic and sociological accounts of agriculture have taken a political perspective using grand historical phrases such pre-capitalist/capitalist and pre-Fordism/Fordism. He suggests that a more robust understanding of the family farm can be achieved by focusing the social discourses of the time, in this case for the period between the completion of the railroad and World War II in Canada. Using the notion of discourse, as defined by Foucault, as ways of constituting knowledge, together with the social practices, forms of subjectivity and power relations which inhere in such knowledges and relations between them, he elaborated three discourses: arcadianism; agrarianism; and Country Life movement. Each has a particular vision of agriculture.

Arcadianism involves the romantic notion of the gentleman farmer and the moral and personal benefits of country living promoted by land speculators to the middle classes particularly British immigrants. Agrarianism stresses the importance of the family farm and taming the wilderness by the pioneer farmer and his frugal hardworking wife. The aim of the Country Life Movement is to prevent rural depopulation, social stagnation and economic decline by various educational and social initiatives, for example, Women's and Farmers Institutes, business efficiency, scientific farming and cooperatives. What each of these discourses have in common is the belief that rural life is the good life.

Fairey, D. (2022). Legislated Wage Suppression: Farm Worker Piece Rate Wage System Needs to End in the BC Blueberry Industry. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (215), 7-25.

Key Words: agricultural labor; employment standards; piece rate; minimum wage; farm labour contractors; unions

This is a detailed examination of labour practices in the Blueberry industry in British Columbia. BC is the fifth largest producer of blueberries in the world so the industry makes a significant contribution to the provincial economy. Unfortunately the regulation of agricultural labour has been the subject of policy debate with no resolution for several decades. At issue is the discriminatory exclusion of farm workers from certain employment rights and protections provided by regulation to most other workers in the province. Hand harvesters are excluded from the hourly minimum wage requirements stipulated in the Employment Standards Act and Employment Standards Regulation. Workers are typically paid a piece rate according to the amount of fruit picked and are often hired by labour supply contracting agencies. As a result, they frequently make less than minimum wage. The author describes this a “legislated wage suppression” and calls on the provincial government to make three changes: end the exclusion from legislated minimum wage and overtime provision in the Employment Standards Act; eliminate for-profit farm labour contracting; and investigate the oligopolistic control of blueberry processing in the province.

Fast, N. (2023). " We were a Social Movement as well": The Canadian Farmworkers Union in British Columbia, 1979–1983. *BC Studies*, (217), 35-147.

Key Words: labour unions; social unionism; working conditions of farm workers.

This is an account of the formation of the Canadian Farmworkers Union in British Columbia (CFU). This varies from reports on unionism that focus on working conditions and wages to highlight how this union also pushed a social agenda to improve the lives of its members who were primarily from the South Asian community in the BC lower mainland. As a trade union, focused on improving working and living conditions, eliminating the contractor system, and fighting to include farm worker in the BC Labour Code. As a social movement, the CFU provided ESL classes for its members, established a Farmworkers Services Centre, included union rights education, used community engagement such as plays and films to raise public awareness of the plight of farmworkers, called for boycotts of products from farms who blocked unionizing. The delicate balance between being a “traditional trade union” and a “social movement” created complicated relationships with other labour organizations particularly related to financing the social agenda. The author explores the limits of social unionism during the early

1980s, especially in British Columbia using data from news and research reports, CFU publications and an interview with the first president of the CFU.

Garrish, C. (2002/03). Unscrambling the omelette: understanding British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (136), 25-55.

Key Words: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), policy development

This account, written almost 30 years since the establishment of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the administrative authority the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), sets the notion of agricultural land reserves in historical context tracing it to restrictive covenants and American influences such as the environmental movement which caused a re-evaluation of land use. Then the author outlines why the ALC decisions have been controversial and the objectives of the ALR difficult to achieve attributing this to the urban – rural divide and the influence of urban values. Using several examples to illustrate, he explores the question whether devolution is a “phantom menace” or “new hope.”

Iredale, J. (2021). The Nikkei Called It Gon Island: A Story of Settlement and Dispossession on Mayne Island. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (210), 21-44.

Key Words: Japanese Immigration to BC prior to WWII; Japanese farmers and fishers on Mayne Island prior to internment; racism

This is a well-researched case study of two families who were part of a community of Japanese Canadians who settled on Mayne Island, British Columbia, in the late 1800s – the families of Gontaro Kadonaga and Kumazo Nagata. Both were able to thrive on the island through various food and fishery related industries, the most noteworthy being greenhouse growing. The author traces the lives of these two families documenting their involvement on Mayne Island with archival material, photographs and personal communications. While Japanese Canadians experienced racism throughout their lives, the most brutal was their internment and dispossession of their property in World War II. Removed from the island, their homes and property sold off to others, few ever returned. This research is an important reminder that racism and white supremacy are woven into the fabric of British Columbia and it is important to confront these historical injustices.

Jones, D. C. (1978). "We cannot allow it to be run by those who do not understand education." Agricultural schooling in the twenties. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (39), 30- 60.  
Key Words: Agricultural Instruction Act; early history of Elementary Agriculture Education in British Columbia; role of fairs and exhibitions

The Agricultural Instruction Act introduced in 1913 prompted a diversity of programs throughout the country until its termination in 1925. This account focuses on how the Act was implemented in British Columbia under the direction of John Wesley Gibson who was the Director of Elementary Agriculture Education from 1914 to 1929. The Act envisioned revival of rural areas through the schools. Gibson viewed agricultural activities in schools as character building. He put in place a system of district supervisors who began the first phase of agriculture education, gardening programs. Since climate and a number of other factors limited the success of gardening, a second phase was implemented involving livestock, mandatory home projects and school clubs. The projects by both boys and girls were then exhibited at local fairs or exhibitions. A good portion of the article articulates the difficulties with the exhibitions leading to the demise of the school program, particularly the competing values of commercialism and competition versus character building.

Kyle, C. (2018). Chinese and Japanese Market Gardening in the North and Central Okanagan Valley, British Columbia. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (200), 241-272.

Key words: market gardening; food policy; systemic racism

This is a report on doctoral research focusing on Chinese and Japanese market gardeners who operated farms of various sizes throughout the north and central Okanagan Valley, British Columbia, in the traditional territory of the Syilx and Secwepemc First Nations from early settlement in the 1800s. The author defines market gardening as small farm operations usually located close to an urban community that serves markets farther away where transportation and distribution systems exist. They are typically five to twenty acres in size and grow a variety of vegetable crops. Intercropping, the growing of vegetable crops or berries between rows of orchard trees was a common practice throughout the region. The complicated relationships between four factors precipitated the eventual demise of the Chinese and Japanese market

gardening in the area: (1) governance, (2) technological innovation, (3) infrastructure development, and (4) a changing population demographic.

Maglaghlan, M. (1974-75). The success of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (24), 52-64.

Key Words: history of the dairy industry in BC, milk products, agricultural cooperatives

This article traces the history of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association from 1913 to 1969 outlining its formation, how it has been able to survive adversity (e.g., the depression of the 1930s which caused the collapse of most coo-operatives) and factors that have led to its success (e.g., the invention of centrifugal cream separator and the establishment creameries; geographic advantage; shrewd leadership; ability to regulate the market). It has detailed economic information and a strong discussion of the impact of provincial legislation. It is a case study of an agricultural cooperative and of the influence of marketing boards in British Columbia.

Mallows, C., & Shaw, K. (2023). Cultivating Solutions: Environmental Change and Oyster Farming in British Columbia. *BC Studies*, (220), 67-91.

Key Words: oyster farming; environmental issues; government policies

This article reports on a case study of oyster farming on the coast of British Columbia. It includes a historical overview of the industry from the early 1900s to the present and outlines the complex factors and challenges that affect the industry. Thee farmed oysters are a non-native species, Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas*, imported from Asia. Data from interviews of oyster farmers (mostly non-Indigenous) revealed a context of environmental issues (e.g. acidification of the ocean, global warming, pollution, increased pathogens, and excessive mortality) and frustration with government policies. The Oyster farmers in this study identified the need for better governance systems, support for small-scale farmers, and preservation of the industry's local and community-oriented nature. Comprehensive approaches that ensure the industry's sustainability and contribution to coastal communities are recommended.

Murton, J. (2014/15) The long question of food and land: A review essay, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (184), 125-137.

Key Words: farming; historical memory

This is a review essay where the author uses four publications to discuss farming that he argues “has never loomed large in British Columbia’s public heritage and historical memory” (p. 126). The books are: *A Year at Killara Farm* by Christine Allen; *The Light through the Trees: Reflections on Land and Farming* by Luanne Armstrong; *Ginty’s Ghost: A Wilderness Dweller’s Dream* by Chris Czajkowski; and *Keeping It Living: Traditions of Plant Use and Cultivation on the Northwest Coast of North America* by Douglas Deur and Nancy J. Turner. He uses the last book to show that cultivation and food production was in place long before the first settlers arrived but “to European colonizers and anthropologists this did not look like farming. Farming meant tidy rows of one plant, enclosed by fences and replanted from seed every year, not a collection of perennial crops growing together in polycultures” (p. 127). Since it was not recognized as farming, the settlers “imposed a Cartesian landscape of reworked ecosystems marked out by fences and patrolled by farm families well aware of their property rights, a landscape with no room for the subsistence systems of First Nations” (p. 129) as variously illustrated by the other three books. In both situations, colonial farms and First Nation’s food cultivation the main motivation was finding a way to address hunger. However the subsistence value of small farms is frequently dismissed or ignored with governments primarily interested in commercial agriculture and historians reliant on government sources.

Paulson, T. A. (2017). From “knife men” to “streamlining with curves”: structure, skill, and gender in British Columbia’s meat-packing industry. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (193), 115-145.

Key words: meat packing industry in BC

This research report describes how the meatpacking industry in British Columbia was unique in that it resisted the change in the industry that brought corporatization, concentration and industrialized mechanized processing. The author combines information gleaned from reports, photographs, illustrations, and interviews with owners and workers to tell the story of how the industry in general changed from skilled labour (butchers) to mechanized, industrialized low paid workers and eventually three major national packing companies controlled over half of the market. However, British Columbia was resistant to the change with several mid-sized plants flourishing and for the longest time workers in the province retained skills that became obsolete

throughout most of the industry. Detailed descriptions of “kill floor boys,” “knife men,” and “sausage girls” illustrate a highly skilled craft and the gender division of labour in the BC packing plants.

Petter, A. (1985). Sausage making in British Columbia's NDP government: The creation of the Land Commission Act, August 1972-April 1973. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (65), 3-33.

Key Words: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), policy development

This is not about sausage making. Rather, sausage making is used as a metaphor to explain how people might not want to know what went into the creation of the Agricultural Land Reserve. The Land Commission Act in 1973, established the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission, was created to preserve agricultural land and foster farming thus ensuring food production for the future in the province. It is often held up as the model for land preservation and future food security preventing the loss of prime agricultural land to residential and urban development. This article concentrates on how such foresighted legislation was able to come into being. It provides some background on previous efforts but mainly gives an account of the events and players (particularly David Stupich, Minister of Agriculture and Sigurd Peterson, who was the appointed deputy minister) in the establishment of the ALR. It is a study of policy development demonstrating how the lack of planning structures and people's influence and political will enabled the creation of the act.

Pooley, I. (2017). (Re) settling the Central Okanagan, 1860-1904: Land Monopoly, Small-Scale Ranching, and Marginalized First People. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (193), 41-63.

Key Words: cattle ranching; orcharding; Okanagan

This case study of ranching history in the Central Okanagan Valley in British Columbia is well researched and documented. While most reports trace agriculture from the beginnings of European settlement and focus on large scale cattle ranching and orchard development, this report concentrates on small scale stock raising by both settlers and Indigenous peoples. It involves two investigations of actions that took place in the late 1800s and early 1900s: 1) the Westbank First Nation's attempts to enter the settler-dominated ranching economy; and 2) the



attempts by American land seekers to insert themselves into the ranching economy during a later period of the settlement era. This detailed analysis complete with images and maps reveals that neither of these groups was successful for a variety of reason including patterns of land acquisition and water rights.

Riis, N. (1973). The Walhachin myth: A study in settlement abandonment, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (17), 3 – 25.

Key Words: agricultural settlement failure; Walhachin

Riis argues that current settlement abandonment studies of the British settlement of Walhachin in British Columbia have not sufficiently elaborated the interplay of cultural and environmental factors. The failure of the community is most often attributed to the casualties suffered by the Walhachin volunteers in World War I, but as Riis points out land speculation, incorrect assumptions about the quality of the land and climate for agriculture, an unreliable irrigation system combined with the unrealistic expectations of the settlers who had little knowledge of agriculture also played a role in the demise of the community. Riis concludes that “Walhachin should be recognized as paradigmatic of agriculture settlement failure” (p. 23).

Roy, P. E. (2023). "Eat the Okanagan into Prosperity": The Relationships of the Okanagan and the Coast, 1858-1941. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (217), 79-113.

Key Words: metropolis; hinterland; apple grown in the Okanagan;

This article explores a core concept of metropolitanism – the interaction between metropolis and hinterland – creating an engaging study of the symbiotic, but sometimes troubled relationship between Okanagan fruit growing areas of Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton and the development of Vancouver as the industrial capital of British Columbia from the post Gold Rush days until the beginning of the Second World War. The author sketches the relationship when Vancouver established itself as the commercial center of the province, through the dealings of retailers, wholesalers and providers of services. Drawing on a detailed examination of communications between the Vancouver Boards of Trade and Okanagan businessmen, particularly fruit growers, the author shows how they promoted the sales of each other’s products in ways that were mutually beneficial. “Buy BC”, a slogan still used today is an example and "Eat the Okanagan into Prosperity" was used in Apple Week in 1939.

Russo, R. (2011). Temporarily unchained: The drive to unionize foreign seasonal agricultural workers in Canada – A comment on Greenway Farms and UFCW. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (169), 131-141.

Key Words: trade unions; agricultural workers; labour boards

The two opening sentences of this article give a succinct overview of the paper. “This case comment addresses the struggle to unionize temporary foreign agricultural labour in British Columbia. It focuses on the BC Labour Board’s decision to permit the unionization of seasonal agricultural workers who come to Canada through the federally administered Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP)” (p. 131). Farm workers are largely invisible in Canadian society. Many are here to do seasonal jobs that Canadians don’t or won’t fill. The statistics of death and injuries on the job are appalling. This case study follows the efforts of the United Food and Commercial Workers of Canada (UFCW) Local 1518 attempt to unionize workers at one particular farm, Greenway. The farm fought this and took their concerns in June 2009, to the BC Labour Relations Board which ruled that SAWP workers in British Columbia could unionize.

However as the section “after Greenway” indicated this didn’t lead to better working conditions. In fact, even though workers had the right to organize, employers have the ability not to hire them so the following year Greenway did not hire those who had been active in the union drive and those remaining fearing for their jobs voted to decertify. Thus the collective bargaining process while normally offering workers some protection actually made them more vulnerable and up to the time the article was written no action was taken by the federal government to address this.

Stobbe, T. (2014) Green noise: Measuring the value of agricultural noise in the urban fringe, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (183), 127-144.

Key Words: agricultural noise; urbanization; farmland

Increasingly urbanization is bumping up to or infringing on prime agricultural and causing tension in the border areas known as urban fringe. This is very apparent in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley region of British Columbia as it contains some of Canada’s most fertile farmland and is one of the province’s fastest-growing metropolitan areas. This article

focuses on the issue of noise. The author explains that the nuisance value of noise, or the amenity value of quiet, are what economists refer to as non-market- traded (or non-market) goods and outlines two ways noise is evaluated: contingent valuation that estimates people's willingness to pay; and hedonistic pricing that places value on the amenity or dis-amenity of a location by considering its effect on the housing market. This was followed by a report on a study of people's tolerance for the propane cannons that are used in blueberry farming to scare birds away from the consuming the crop. A survey of a random sampling of households who live within nine hundred meters of a noise-producing blueberry fields was conducted. Ninety-seven percent of the households reported that they knew commercial agricultural operations can produce noise, dust, and odour as part of their ongoing operations when they moved into their current house but they were still acrimonious about the noise. Makes one wonder about consumer decision making.

### **Canneries**

Stewart, J. (1992). The Kamloops canneries: The rise and fall of a local industry, 1913- 1990. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (93), 30-47.

Key Words: commercial canning of tomatoes and vegetables; demise of resource industries

This article describes commercial canneries that existed in the Kamloops area in BC over an eight decade period. It is a case study of the history of one resource industry but many of the factors also apply to other resources. The resource in this instance was tomatoes that were grown between the trees in the orchards in the Kamloops area. The article documents the opening and closures of various canneries: the first cannery at Walhachin (1913); the Kamloops Cannery (1915) that was bought by Western Packing Company (1926), went into bankruptcy, then was bought by Charles Bickford (1929) who ran it until 1944 when it was sold to Royal City Cannery; canneries owned by Frank Carlin, James Skelly. The author also sets these canneries in context, describing the state of canning in the whole of British Columbia and the rest of Canada. "Seventy-two fruit and vegetable canneries operated in British Columbia in 1953. This number had declined to 45 by 1960 and to 17 by 1975" (p. 40). In Kamloops all the tomato canneries were gone by the 1960's. The factors that accounted for this decline (e.g., foreign ownership, vertical integration, improved refrigeration, centralization, shortage of cheap labour, increased competition from US growers, short growing season, lack of economies of scale, ineffective tariff protection) are explained in detail.

## **Communities, Towns and Cities**

Hessing, M. (2010). After the harvest: Towards a sustainable Okanagan? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (168), 121-134.

Key Words: Okanagan Valley; sustainability; issues of growth

In this commentary, the author shares her observations of the impact of dramatic growth in Okanagan Valley in British Columbia in the forty years she has lived in the area. She describes how the valley has changed from three small towns with farms, ranches and orchards to “post-subsistence” urban sprawl with vineyards and agro-tourism. She wonders whether continued growth and maintaining the current standard of living is sustainable. She elaborates some of the environmental impacts such as declining air quality, loss of biodiversity, water issues, skyrocketing land prices, and land use issues. She argues for addressing issues of sustainability saying that adaptation is the key to managing development for the common good. Although she doesn't sound that hopeful as she does note that human endeavours (i.e., anthropocentrism) dominate the public discourse. Sustainability is a ubiquitous term, but seldom elaborated. The paper would benefit from considering more than just “adaptation” to what is necessary to adapt in in sustainably ways such as learning to think and behave in ways that honour and sustain the natural world, the intrinsic value of the land and biodiversity. She hints at this with comments like “while the land is geographically fixed, our ideas about, connections to, and visions of this place are dynamic” (p. 133).

Reid, J. (2008/9). The grasslands debates: Conservationists, ranchers, First Nations, and the landscape of the Middle Fraser. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (160), 93-118.

Key Words: Grassland, ranching, First Nations, conservationists

Often controversial issues are presented in broad strokes with the players presented in stereotypical terms missing the complexity of the issue, and the values, assumptions, and arguments of each position. This author draws from fifty interviews with conservationists, government employees, ranchers, and First Nations community members to provide a “nuanced characterization of the players in grassland politics and their interest” (p. 93). The context is the Middle Fraser River area of British Columbia (approximately from Williams Lake to Lillooet). A detailed elaboration of historical use of the land and legislated decisions that have affected the use and ecology of the area combined with a deeper understanding of the impact on

the environment, economy and livelihoods lead the author to conclude that four basic changes to land allocation and use are necessary: address the issue of Aboriginal title; allocate additional lands for protection from livestock grazing; support ranchers who are using ecological conservation practices; and encourage ranchers to place conservation covenants on their properties in order to protect ecological values.

## **Cookbooks**

Hlina, J. (2001/02). Delicious diversity: A review essay. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (132), 81-84.

Key Words: Cookbooks

This rather short essay describes eleven cookbooks that were published in 2000 or 2001. Ten of the eleven were published by BC presses (the one exception was from the University of Alberta). As the title suggests these cookbooks have only one thing in common, they are all cookbooks. The author provides a description of each but makes no attempt to categorize or theorize the historical significance except to say that they indicate food trends in BC. Although she doesn't specifically name the trends it is possible to identify the following: retro recipes (replica edition of the 1915 *Five Roses Cook Book*); cultural diversity (*Salmon House on the Hill Cook Book*; *New Thai Cuisine*; *The Lazy Gourmet*; *Go Ahead Make My Curry!*); barbequing (*In a Flash*); sustainable consumption (*Fish for Thought: An Eco-Cookbook*); vegetarianism (*How it all Vegan*), and focusing on a single ingredient (*Chicken! Chicken! Chicken! and More Chicken!*; *Rhubarb: More Than Just Pies*).

Pratt, G. (1998). How to cook a deer in British Columbia: Three recipes and eighteen cookbooks. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (119), 87-95.

Key Words: cookbooks

This review essay analyzes a selection of cookbooks published between 1993 and 1998 in British Columbia classifying them into three distinct types or categories: vernacular; historical; or cosmopolitan. Three recipes on how to cook deer/vension, one from each of the categories are presented as examples to illustrate the typical characteristics of the type. Vernacular cookbooks tend to be small scale publications with recipes collected from family and friends. The language suggests a domestic, working class context rather than a professional context. Historical

cookbooks focus on the settler experience and frequently use archival material such as photographs and oral histories. The author describes them as “bourgeois-official settler histories.” She suggests that these two categories “talk back to colonial primitivizing narratives” (p. 94) whereas cosmopolitan cookbooks “are tied up with middle-class formation and status distinctions” (p. 94) and in this sampling were often associated with high brow chefs and restaurants where regional cuisine means local ingredients meet multicultural experimentation. All the cookbooks are seen as having potential for exploring cultural hybridity.

### **First Nations and Indigenous Food Sources**

Berman, J. (2000). Red salmon and red cedar bark: Another look at the nineteenth-century Kwakwaka'wakw winter ceremonial. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (125/126), 53-98.

Key Words: First Nations, fish, traditional ecological knowledge, significance of food in ceremonies

This article is not specifically about food but is included here because foodways of the Kwakwaka'wakw people of Fort Rupert, British Columbia and the way their myths highlight the social, cultural, and ecological values and beliefs (some specifically related to food acquisition and consumption) are part of the story of the Winter Ceremonial. The author gives a very comprehensive account of her search for the fundamental meaning and spiritual significance of the nineteenth-century Kwakwaka'wakw Winter Ceremonial drawing heavily on myths that are reported and analyzed in great detail.

Campbell, R. A. (2004). A "Fantastic rigmarole": Deregulating aboriginal drinking In British Columbia, 1945-62, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (141), 81-104. Key Words: liquor distribution policy; First Nations' rights

The author uses a riot in Prince Rupert in 1958 to set the context for a historical account of events that were set in motion to achieve legal liquor equality for British Columbia First Nations peoples in 1962. This is a very detailed account drawing from a wide range of research and newspaper account to demonstrate the discriminatory practices of the time related to whether First Nations peoples were allowed access to alcohol or to establishments that sold alcohol. Very

important reading given the current attempts for Truth and Reconciliation especially understanding the myths and paternalistic discourse that continue to impact First Nations peoples in British Columbia.

Deur, D., Turner, N.J., Dick, A., Sewid-Smith, D., Recalma-Clutesi, K. (2013). Subsistence and resistance on the British Columbia Coast: Kingcome Village's estuarine gardens as contested space. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 13-37. Key Words: estuarine gardens; colonial impact on indigenous food systems; edible roots

Drawing on historical accounts and the oral history of Clan Chief Adam Dick (Kwaxsistalla), one of the co-authors, this article is a case study of contested space: Kingcome Village's Estuarine Gardens in Kingcome Inlet a long, narrow fjord on the mainland opposite northeastern Vancouver Island. It is an example of how the mechanisms of erasure of Indigenous gardening practices and along with other colonial practices led to the implosion of the Kwakwaka'wakw culture. The consequences of which are still with us (e.g., diet moved away from native plant foods to outside sources of carbohydrates, food insecurity, undermining of the roles and status of women, loss of language, etc.).

The land in question is where Coastal First Nations traditionally created and maintained gardens of edible roots – including springbank clover (*Trifolium wormskioldii*), Pacific silverweed (*Potentilla egedii*) and northern riceroot (*Fritillaria camschatcensis*) – through a variety of practices such as soil amendment and aeration, weeding, in situ replanting of roots, and transplanting of roots between sites. Such gardens were considered property, were managed under the guidance of clan chiefs, and were subject to rules of inheritance. The foods were important as subsistence foods and trade items. But that use was not recognized and the land was pre-empted, reclaimed and occupied by colonial settlers and converted to homesteads and economic enterprises. It continued to go unrecognized when the land was purchased 1980s by Nature Trust and administered by Ducks Unlimited overseen by the BC Government as a wetlands nature preserve.

Requests by the people of Kingcome Village to use these flats for subsistence and other purposes were initially rebuffed by the conservation organizations, which viewed such uses as being largely incompatible with their conservation mandates. However, the Kwaxsistalla and many others along the coast continue to express the hope that these traditional foods will once

again uphold their importance as a prestigious potlatch food and as a component of the living diet of coastal First Peoples.

Hobler, P. M. (1978). A cache of Aboriginal fishing gear from the Queen Charlotte Islands, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (37), 37- 47.

Key Words: archeology, food fishing, First Nations' history, tools and implements

This report documents the contents of a cache found without excavation on the west coast of Moresby Island that dates back to prehistoric or early historic times. Sixty-nine curved snap-shut hooks both one-piece and composite were found along with other objects such as cedar matting and a stick that appears to have been used for cooking fish over an open fire. Illustrations and photographs of the fishing gear are included along with an discussion of the manufacture and use of hooks. The finding supports ethnographers' and Haida claims that the Haida fished for bottom fish (cod and halibut) and perhaps more than any other BC group were dependent on these species.

Kuhnlein, H., Fediuk, K., Nelson, C., Howard, C. & Johnson, S. (2013). The legacy of the Nuxalk Food and Nutrition Program for the food security, health, and well-being of Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 159-187.

Key Words: food security; traditional foods; nutritional health

This is a report on a long-term project to designed to improve the general health and well-being of the Nuxalk people. The Nuxalk First Nation is located 450 kilometres northwest of Vancouver in central coastal British Columbia, accessed by land via Highway 20, 420 kilometers from Williams Lake and by sea at the port of Bella Coola. The Nuxalk Food and Nutrition Program (NFNP), began in the early 1980s to address the health problems related to the loss of a traditional diet and he rise in consumption of high processed convenience foods. Over the years the NFNP has evolved to wide range of research and participant engagement activities. Research activities included analyzing the nutritional value of Nuxalk traditional foods (e.g., eulachon grease), assessing the nutritional and health status of community members, studying the accessibility of Nuxalk foods and the patterns of use of both tradition and market foods. Community wellness activities included nutrition promotion activities at schools and other community settings, food events with elder, adults and youth, feasts and meal events using local



foods, fitness classes, demonstration gardens, and so on. One of the most popular was a handbook on traditional Nuxalk foods and a recipe book. All of these had positive effects but have not solved the problem of the high degree of food insecurity linked to resource collapse, decline in local availability of traditional foods, and suspicions of contamination of wild sources of food. The authors stress the importance of the NFNP initiatives and the need for sustained support. The article ended with case studies of a number of other initiatives from other areas of the province.

Lepofsky, D. & Lyons, N. (2013). The secret past life of plants: Paleoethnobotany in British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 39-83.

Key Words: paleoethnobotany; First Nations foodways

This is a fascinating account of paleoethnobotany or archaeobotany; “two roughly synonymous terms used to describe the study of past human relationships with the plant world” (p. 39). It focuses on research that has been conducted in British Columbia. After giving an overview of how paleoethnobotany research is conducted and the type of material found at several archeological sites the authors argue that paleoethnobotany can provide value insights into: ancient plant use; ancient social systems; human-plant interactions not identified from extant ethnobotanical knowledge and living communities; the social and economic role of women and children in the past; and issues of status, ownership, and control. Examples are included for each of these claims and the case is made for expanding this relatively new sub-discipline of archaeological inquiry and analysis

Lyons, N., Hoffmann, T., Leon, R., Leon, M., Blake, M., Armstrong, C. G., & Peacock, S. (2023). How Can Archaeobotany Be Put into Service of Katzie Food Sovereignty? *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (218), 19-46.

Key Words: archaeobotany; food sovereignty;

This article explains how archaeobotany, a branch of archaeology that investigates the deep time relationships between people and plant communities through the recovery, identification, and interpretation of ancient plant remains. After explaining the research process and arguing its usefulness for establishing the enduring ties that First Nations communities in British Columbia have to their ancestral lands, the authors present a case study demonstrating

how archaeobotanical evidence – gathered across asserted Katzie territory from sites spanning the last six thousand years – is being used by Katzie to address food sovereignty within Widgeon Slough. The resulting baseline data can be used challenge settler legal structures and policy jurisdictions in pursuit of regaining land tenures for the restoration of a critical cultural keystone place.

Manson, J. (2018). Workmanship and relationships: Indigenous food trading and sharing practices on Vancouver Island. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (200), 215-239.  
Key words: food sovereignty; food security; Indigenous food systems

This is a report of research conducted in six communities located on Vancouver Island including interviews of nine people who self-identify as Indigenous. It investigated the premise that the traditional and non-traditional food-based practices of Indigenous peoples are *simultaneously* structured by Indigenous *and* colonial liberal governmental ontologies and ideologies. Indigenous practices of food trading and sharing are premised on food giving that creates relationships and are attached to reciprocal responsibilities whereas the liberal workmanship model embodies the belief that individuals are entitled to the fruits of their labour. When the latter overpowers the former, Indigenous food sovereignty and security are threatened.

Matson, R. G. (1980-81). Prehistoric subsistence patterns in the Fraser Delta: The evidence from the Glenrose Cannery site. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (48), 64-85.  
Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history and culture, subsistence foods

Findings of interest to researchers of Northwest Coast culture are presented from an excavation in Glenrose Strait, Fraser River, British Columbia. Faunal analysis of three culture periods (Old Cordilleran 9000-4500 BP; St. Mungo 5500-3000 BP; Marpole 2400-1500 BP) suggests that substance patterns were developed *in situ* without outside influences. This research indicates that the relationship between subsistence patterns and the unique socio-cultural aspects of the Northwest Coast, should be topic for further research. Detailed description of the faunal evidence - animals and birds, fish, and shellfish - is included.

McMillan, A. D. & St. Claire, D. E. (1975). Archaeological investigations in the Alberni Valley, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (25), 32-76.

Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history, tools and implements, subsistence activities

This is a very detailed account of an archeological excavation of a single site located in Shoemaker Bay, a small body of salt water in the Somas River delta at the head of Alberni Inlet. This location shows evidence of the interaction of two Nootka speaking cultures: the Sheshaht and the Opetchesaht. The artifacts documented include: chipped stone artifacts (e.g points and knives knives); ground stone artifacts (e.g., points, knives, sandstone saws, celts); pecked and ground stone artifacts (e.g., hammerstones); bone artifacts (e.g., barbed and unbarbed points); antler artifacts (e.g., barbed harpoons); and artifacts of other materials (e.g., dentalium shell bead, animal teeth). There are illustrations to accompany the artifact descriptions. A discussion of the faunal remains gives an indication of the common food sources (land and sea mammals, fish, birds, shellfish). Radiocarbon dating indicates a span of occupancy of the site from as early as the second millennium B.C. until at least the sixth century A.D.

Morin, J., & Evans, A. B. (2024). The historical ecology, the loss of salmonids, and the transformation of Coast Salish culture. *BC Studies*, (223). 43- 79

Key Words: depletion of salmon stocks;

This article presents historical-ecological research on salmon that identifies significant reductions in salmon abundance in the early half of the twentieth century in the Vancouver region of southwest British Columbia on the traditional territory of a Coast Salish People – the Tsleil-Waututh. Using a range of archaeological, historical, cartographic, scientific or regulatory, oral history, Indigenous place name and traditional the authors document and summarize changes in salmon abundance from pre-contact times to the mid-twentieth century. This research brings a depth of information and knowledge overlooked by regulatory authorities and paints a picture of profound reduction in the abundance of salmon resulting from anthropogenic impacts. For a people whose identity is inexorably linked to salmon, this loss has drastically impacted the diet and culture of the Tsleil-Waututh, a topic often overlooked in policy documents related to fisheries. The goal of this research was to provide evidence that enables Tsleil- Waututh to decolonize existing power structures, regulatory regimes, and infringements on their Aboriginal Rights.

Schreiber, D. & Newell, D. (2006). Negotiating TEK in BC salmon farming: Learning from each other or managing tradition and eliminating contention? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 79-102.

Key Words: Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK); Salmon Farming; First Nations

This commentary offers an excellent explanation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) clearly articulating that it is a far more complex concept than typically presented and this affects the way it is used by major resource industries, in this case fish farming. A simplistic version of TEK holds that it refers to a cumulative body of indigenous knowledge. These authors argue that it is much broader and is embedded in First Nations cultural values and systems of governance, intimately connected to ecological relationships within their territory and historically deep and future oriented. What you have is two different discourses. When fish farming becomes an issue, the corporations appropriate knowledge (simplistic view of TEK) to their own ends to neutralize contention. TEK then becomes bits of knowledge stripped of all political and historical content to be used/misused in the interest of their dominant managerial interests. In particular, here in BC where there are few treaties and territories have not been ceded, the simplistic view of TEK does not question land rights or power structures and its use becomes just colonialism in disguise.

Smith, T., Dan, K., & Bulkan, J. (2022). ‘Loved to Death’: Conflicts between Indigenous food sovereignty, settler recreation, and ontologies of land in the governance of Lílwat tmicw. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (216), 13-40.

Key Words: ontology; Indigenous land use and governance; food sovereignty.; slow violence.

This article reports on a relational research project on the tmicw (territory) of Líl\_`wat Nation in British Columbia. Of interest to food researchers who want to research traditional Indigenous foods and researching *with* First Nations on issues of land use and management The research is historically located including an overview of the efforts at co-management and co-governance in Líl\_`wat tmicw. What is evident is how conflicting ontologies play out in the management and stewardship of conservation and recreation on lands in Lílwat territory. In particular, the authors highlight how the huge influx of recreationists and so-called “backcountry adventurers” on the territory have contributed to the degradation of the very areas and features they come to see. They characterize this as being “loved to death”, a form of *slow violence* that

affects traditional food systems of the Lílwat Nation and, consequently, Lílwat food sovereignty and conclude that if the BC government hopes to mitigate this slow violence, it must respect and centre Lílwat Nation's agency and authority in the stewardship of its territory.

Timler, K., & Brown, H. (2019). The prison garden as artistic boundary object: Fostering food sovereignty and social citizenship for indigenous people in British Columbia. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (202), 99-123.

Key Words: food gardening; food security; food sovereignty; colonial; food gifting

This is a research report on a qualitative case study into the impact of a federal prison garden program in British Columbia where incarcerated Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal men grow organic produce that is subsequently donated to the economically vulnerable. The prison garden offered an opportunity to explore the ways colonial ideals of productive citizenship have negatively impacted foodways and meanings for Aboriginal peoples and the healing power of gardening. The authors describe the prison garden as a *boundary object* – as a place that exists between the worlds of settler and Indigenous foodscapes in British Columbia that offers the possibility to trace the impacts of colonialism on concepts of Indigenous citizenship and food sovereignty. Their analysis also details how notions of social citizenship offer a novel way of understanding food sovereignty as a form of therapeutic art and craft. The garden, existing at the boundary of colonial agriculture, ancestral Aboriginal foodways and contemporary food rights, provides a nexus for conversations on art, food, wellbeing, rights and resurgence.

Turner, N.J., Deur, D. & Lepofsky, D. (2013). Plant management systems of British Columbia's First Peoples, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 107-133. Key Words: First Nations; food sources; plant management

This article challenges the traditional hunter-gatherer representations of First Nation's people who lived in British Columbia. The authors state that "in the case of plants, Indigenous peoples have been active participants in sustained plant resource production systems, influencing, through diverse and intentional methods, the quality and quantities of the foods and materials on which they have traditionally relied" (p. 107) and then proceed through a number of examples to support this claim. They categorize various management strategies as: ecological (e.g., burning, transplanting, pruning); social (e.g., ownership/proprietorship, trade, feasting);

technological (e.g., increasing access, improved tools); or integrated (e.g. combining strategies). The strategies are presented in a detailed table (pp. 111- 113) with references specifically to evidence of these practices in British Columbia. The last half of the article includes several case studies on the topics of tree management, estuarian root gardens, and orchard gardens. Each is accompanied with images and diagrams. This is valuable contribution to recording an aspect traditional ecological knowledge that has been given relatively little attention.

Stryd, A. H. (1972). Housepit archaeology at Lillooet, British Columbia : The 1970 field season, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (14), 17 – 46.

Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history, material culture, tools and implements

A very detailed report on archeological research conducted along a 29 km section of the Fraser River between Lillooet and Pavilion Creek known to have been inhabited by the Interior Salish-speaking Lillooet and Shuswap. Five habitation sites were examined for evidence of historic and prehistoric components. The evidence presents a rich description of material culture related to the cultures of the later Upper Middle Period and Late Period, *ca.* 1000 B.C.-1800 A.D. Of particular interest to food researchers is the detailed descriptions and images of tools found, what cache-pits reveal about the floral and fauna and animals consumed, and hearth construction.

### **Fish and Fisheries**

Ainsworth, C. (2015/2016). British Columbia marine fisheries catch reconstruction, 1873 to 2011. *The British Columbia Quarterly*, (188), 81-89.

Key Words: fishery catches

This research note shares the process of trying to account for unreported data related to marine fisheries catches. Typical accounts, for example, official government statistics, leave a large portion of the catch unaccounted. Synthesizing existing literature into a catch that accounts for non-industrial landings and industrial discards, a database is presented with accompanying bar graphs that compare unreported landings with reported catches to provide a more robust picture of the total marine fishery catches. Done over time from 1873 to 2011, this reconstruction provides baseline data to assist with ecological modeling and determine extraction levels will ensure a health marine ecosystem.

Hayward, B. (1981). The B.C. salmon fishery: A consideration of the effects of licensing. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (50), 39-51. Key Words: salmon, commercial fishing, licensing

In setting the context for a discussion of the effects of licensing, the author begins with a historical overview of the industry explaining the factors that gave rise to fisheries becoming a staple resource industry (e.g., establishment of canneries, access to cheap reliable gas engines). Each of the varieties of salmon are described and the related fishing gear and techniques elaborated. Licensing was initiated to establish biological control on salmon harvests and also to ensure economic viability and stability of the industry. This article focuses on a most contentious licensing that was enacted in BC in 1968. It explains the impact of licensing in great detail and concludes that “In terms of the history of Canada's regulation of the exploitation of natural resources, the management of the salmon resource could at best be described as awkward, at worst incompetent” (p. 49) suggesting that a resource allocation quota system would be more effective.

Marchak, M. P. (1988-89). What happens when common property becomes uncommon? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (80), 3-23. Key Words: fisheries, common property, free goods

The author argues for conceptual clarity in using the term “common property” to describe the fish in BC waters. Frequently the discourse of fish as common property is used in research and policy making related to the fishing industry. Marchak contends that this use of the term is “logically flawed and factually false”. She elaborates her argument by tracing the etymology of the term and its use in economic theory where the commons or common property was co-managed by the users pointing out that management by the state is not co-management as the state is answerable to the stakeholders (businesses where profits and competition not cooperation rule) and therefore cannot manage the resources as if they are the commons. Comparing fish to forests, she also makes the distinction between mobile (fish) and immobile (trees) resources questioning whether mobile resources can be considered common property.

Millerd, F.W. (1988). Windjammers to eighteen wheelers: The impact of changes in transportation technology on the development of British Columbia's fishing industry, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (78), 28-52.

Key Words: fishing, exports, transportation technology, salmon, halibut, herring and pilchards

Windjammers are sailing ships and eighteen wheelers are transport trucks but this article covers all the technological advances in-between that have affected getting fish caught in BC waters to both local and export markets. In particular, a historical perspective on the commercial development of four fisheries are covered in detail: salmon, halibut, herring and pilchard. While each fishery has evolved in a different manner each has been influenced by technological advances in fishing crafts (e.g., diesel engines, electric lights, fish packers), processing plants (e.g., canneries, refrigeration), and shipping routes (e.g., transcontinental railroads and highways). Despite improved transportation, technology, mechanization and communication, the author acknowledges that there are other factors as well that have influenced the stability/instability of the industry.

Pechlaner, G. & Rutherford, M. B. (2006). Common future, different policy paths? Managing the escape of farmed Atlantic salmon in British Columbia and Washington state, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 77.

Key Words: farmed salmon

One of the major risks associated with salmon farming in coastal waters is escapement of Atlantic salmon into the Pacific ecosystem. Since British Columbia and Washington state share these waters the possibility of coordinating salmon escape policies exists. This paper compares the policies of the two jurisdictions from 1970 to 2003. Significant events in salmon aquaculture policy in BC and Washington state (presented in a timeline in an appendix) are examined for points of convergence and divergence. Significant differences in research and monitoring were noted whereas there was greater similarity in compliance and enforcement although for different reasons. The authors conclude that "Both Washington and British Columbia have, in effect, needed to go back to the drawing board to establish clearer conditions of aqua culture licensing. While British Columbia chose to focus on process, specifying the particulars of escape prevention measures, Washington, focusing on the end product, has been developing clearer



definitions of what constitutes a violation” (p. 69). They go on to outline three developments that could have a major effect on existing and future policy dynamics: changes in governments; demand for greater seafood production; and the marking of farmed salmon.

Rajala, R. (2012/13). “Streams being ruined from a salmon producing standpoint”: Clearcutting, fish habitat, forest regulation in British Columbia, 1900-1945. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (176), 94-132.

Key Words: fisheries; forestry

The very detailed article, complete with images describes the going conflict between forestry and fisheries in the province of British Columbia and gives an insight into why so little progress has been made in overcoming obstacles to protection of riparian zones in rivers and streams. It particularly highlights the formative period of both industries from the early 1990s to World War II demonstrating how since that time forestry has always taken priority over fish.

Silver, J. (2014). Shellfish and coastal change: Pacific oysters and Manila clams in BC waters, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (181), 83-103.

Key Words: shellfish farming

Pacific oysters and Manila clams are non-native species that were introduced in intertidal waters of BC in the early 1900s. Although harvesting and processing intertidal shellfish from the coastal waters has existed for centuries, it wasn't until the 1970s that the BC government made almost four thousand hectares of intertidal and nearshore space available in the form of private marine tenures for shellfish aquaculture that shellfish farming really intensified. Traditionally, commercial shellfish production has a minimal known effect on other coastal marine resources. The fact that it requires clean water, doesn't use introduced food or chemicals and produces little waste makes it appear environmentally sound. However, in the view of the article author, this politically neutral view of the industry is misleading. For example, with the introduction of marine tenures, some oyster production adopted submerged techniques freeing up intertidal space for Manila clam production but Manila clam production is akin to mono-cropping as the intertidal is cleared of all biodiversity, resulting in greater production per hectare and greater profit. Thus the industry is not as neutral as it appears. The author recommends more research that uses an assemblages approach to fill in the gaps left in typical research, to challenge

assertions that shellfish farming is a culturally and environmentally ideal use of intertidal and nearshore ocean space in British Columbia.

Tollefson, C. & Scott, R. (2006). Charting a course: Shellfish aquaculture and Indigenous rights in New Zealand and British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 3-41.

Key Words: aquaculture, commercial shellfish production, First Nations' rights

This article presents extensive research into the state of shellfish aquaculture in BC and in New Zealand suggesting that there is potential for this to become a major industry in BC and that possibility could be informed by the way the industry was developed in New Zealand. The paper is presented in four parts: part 1 is an overview of the current state and prospects of shellfish aquaculture in the two jurisdictions tracing the growth of the industry from its early successes to current challenges and opportunities it now confronts; part 2 focuses on New Zealand and the conditions that led to unprecedented growth in the industry there; part 3 compares laws and policies related to shellfish aquaculture regulation and the accommodation of indigenous rights and interests in BC and New Zealand; part 4 discusses the main legal and political impediments to developing the economic potential of shellfish aquaculture in British Columbia.

Vance, M. E. (2008). "Mon – he's a gran' fish": Scots in British Columbia's interwar fishing industry. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (158), 33-61.

Key Words: trade unions; Scottish influence on the BC fishing industry

To set the context of this article, the author introduces the Anglo-British Packing Company (ABCCo) and discusses the "Wee Scottie" brand of canned salmon donated for the war effort. This association of the brand and patriotism was promoted by the company after the war. It is an example of the influence of Scottish capitalists in the fishing industry in the province. There is considerable information on the fishing industry in the province noting the ethnic origins of fishers and cannery workers and a map shows how many of the canneries in the interwar years had Scottish names. Then the main focus of the article shifts to a relatively overlooked aspect of Scottish emigration to BC, their involvement in unionizing the fishing industry. "This movement was led by the Fishermen's Industrial Union (FIU), which was formed by the Communist Party of Canada (CPC) under the Workers Unity League (WUL) with the goal of organizing all of the industry's fishers and shoreworkers into one union" (p. 46). While Scots

were not the dominant group in the fishing fleet, they were heavily represented among the fishers who were seeking to unionize the industry (an Appendix lists Scottish born union members identified in *The Fisherman*). The author claims the influence of Scots in trade unionism “helped shape the character of British Columbia industrial relations throughout the remainder of the twentieth century” (p. 61 ) and has had much more significance than the Scottish capitalists whose influence eventually waned.

Wade, J. (1982). The "gigantic scheme": Crofter immigration and deep-sea fisheries development for British Columbia (1887-1893), *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (53), 28-44.

Key Words: state-assisted emigration; state interference in economic development; fisheries

The “gigantic scheme” referred to in the title is just that. A scheme that never came to fruition concocted by the British government and Alexander Begg the “crofter commissioner” for B.C. to bring poor Scottish crofter families to Vancouver Island to simulate deep-sea fisheries in the area. The author uses this controversial plan to examine the socio/political/economic factors that gave rise to this particular proposal for state- assisted emigration (e.g., the demise of the Crofter’s way of life; humanitarian responses; economic and political gain). In this case the factors include who was going to finance this proposal – the British government, the BC government, the Crofters – and the terms of repayment, gave rise to the second half of the scheme. Begg proposed the formation of a commercial company to develop the deep-sea fisheries off coastal British Columbia and to provide employment for the fishermen crofters. The colonizing and commercial schemes, if implemented would have represented extensive intrusion by the British Columbia government into the social and economic sectors. The colonization would have required assuming financial responsibility for the immigration and settlements. The commercial scheme would have involved incentives to the industry of land grants and tax concessions. In examining the arguments both for and against such a scheme, the author demonstrates the conflicting viewpoints of the times in British Columbia particularly those related to state-assisted emigration and state interference in economic development.

## Food and Culture

Fong, D. (2024). Curating" Chinese Canadianness": Relational Technologies of Meaning-Making in Museums. *BC Studies*, (224),3-52.

Key Words: racialized communities; politics of representation; relational curating

Although the topic is not specifically food history, examples of the display and curation, of food products were part of the particular exhibition discussed in this article, so some of the recommendations will be of interest to food researchers. The article focuses on the complexities of curating representations of Chinese Canadian identity within museums, particularly through the case study of the exhibition "A Seat at the Table: Chinese Immigration and British Columbia" at the Museum of Vancouver. It discusses the importance of community engagement and relational curating, emphasizing the need for museums to foster reciprocal relationships with racialized communities to address historical misrepresentations. The study highlights the challenges faced in selecting objects for the exhibition, revealing generational divides in perceptions of cultural symbols and the necessity of contextualizing artifacts to enhance visitor understanding and connection. Ultimately, the article advocates for a critical, community-centered approach to curatorial practices that prioritizes the voices and experiences of marginalized groups

Ikebuchi, S. D., & Ketchell, T. A. (2020). It Is Food That Calls Us Home: A Multigenerational Auto-Ethnography of Japanese Canadian Food and Culture. *BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly*, (207), 11-33.

Key Words: cultural loss; identity; cultural significance of food

This is a report on an autoethnography master's study that focused on theorizing the experiences of cultural loss which the authors attribute to the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War. It was a multigenerational study, as mother and daughter, the authors explore their relationships with food. They argue that although over seventy years have passed since the restrictions imposed by the War Measures Act were lifted, the effects of the internment continue to be felt in their family. By concentrating on food, the most visible symbol of ethnic identity, they offer a tentative and personal exploration of how their relationships with food have been shaped, both directly and indirectly, by their family's history. The references for

background on the social, cultural and semiotic significance of food will be of interest to food history researchers. This quote will be of interest to home economics researcher

“It is both in the home and *through* the home that culture is produced and reproduced. Culture infuses the home, but the home also acts as a conduit for informing our cultural legacies” (p. 13).