

## EDITORIAL

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This issue publishes two articles that are very close to the events they describe: Norman Ruff's review of the last provincial election, and Theodore Cohn's and Patrick Smith's analysis of British Columbia's external political relationships, parts of which deal with developments over the last few months. Both are a measure of the capacity of academic writing to bring perspective to bear on important current events, and of the capacity of *BC Studies* to publish quickly. We cannot promise most authors the speedy turn-around Professor Ruff's piece has received, but we can now say that material will be published well within a year of acceptance. In straightforward cases, the decision about acceptability should be made in two or three months.

Over the last year, we have rejected some good submissions because they seemed too specialized for a journal with a diverse readership. These are subjective calls based on our assessment of the interests of a good proportion of our readers. Of course, some apparently specialized topics have wide ramifications. In the last issue, Keith Carlson's "The Lynching of Louie Sam" describes one little known event and, in so doing, sheds light on the larger interface of Native-White relations in early modern British Columbia. Paige Raibmon's article in this issue is another example. There is plenty of room in *BC Studies* for specialized pieces that make larger connections.

Above all we encourage submissions, and not only from academics. Because academics are expected to write, and because their working lives allow time for writing (however badly), their output is fairly high, and *BC Studies* exists in part as a home for academic writing about this province. However, we would like the journal to represent other voices. As need arises, we can help with the writing — that is the easy part and trivial compared to slowly accumulated knowledge and understanding of which universities have no monopoly. In the final analysis, editors do not make a journal; it is the contributors and the readers that do so.

*The editors*