

BEYOND HOPE:
CONSTRUCTING BRITISH COLUMBIA
IN PRACTICE AND THEORY

University College of the Cariboo, Kamloops

10 – 12 May 2001

BRITISH COLUMBIA is an experiment in oppositions: hinterland and metropolis, urban and rural, resource exploitation and environmental activism – not to mention the constructs of gender, sexualities, race, and class. New perspectives continue to arise in every discipline, a fact that underlines the importance of position of view – whether one is looking at BC from this side or that of a scholarly continental divide. “Hope” can thus be invoked as a metaphor for British Columbian perspectives: male/female, white/non-white, rich/poor, Interior/Exterior. And, in a province in which the ideology of ‘development’ has historically loomed large, the juxtapositions of images and assumptions of just what (or whom) is being ‘developed’ are loaded with political and social meaning.

In keeping with the ‘BC Studies’ tradition, Beyond Hope will be a three day conference taking a broad perspective on perspective itself. More than 50 speakers, drawn from 5 countries on 3 continents representing 15 disciplines will attend. Included in their ranks is a mix of distinguished scholars, students and independent researchers. Conference activities include publishers’ displays, a performance by the Western Canada Theatre Company, an exhibition in conjunction with the Kamloops Art Gallery and Kamloops Museum & Archives, and a tour of the Secwepemc Heritage Museum.

Our Website contains complete programme details, travel information and discounts, an accommodations guide, and registration forms. For further information phone 250-828-5116, e-mail lobrien@cariboo.bc.ca, or check out our web site at http://www.cariboo.bc.ca/ae/beyond_hope.