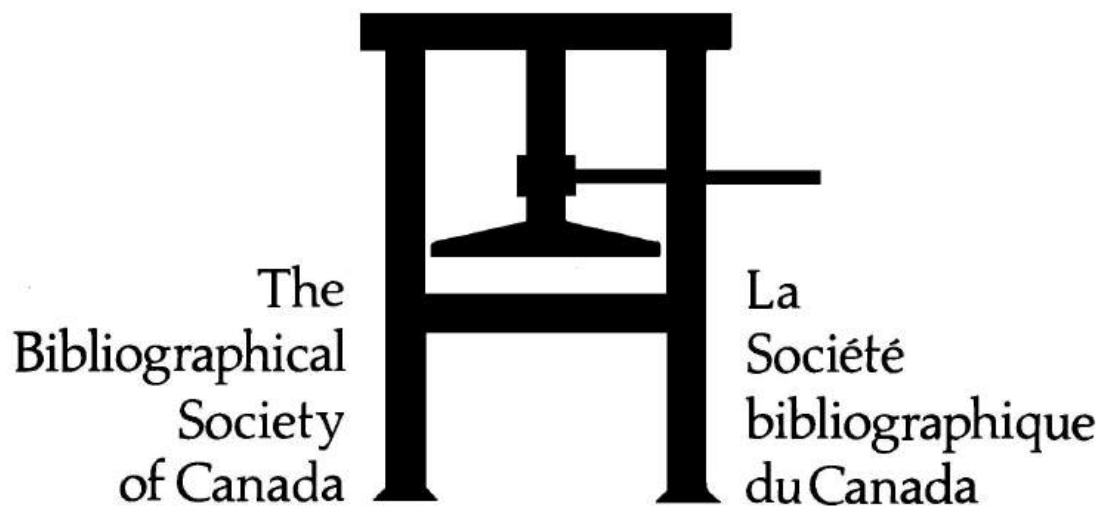

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In Memory

Dr. Yvan Lamonde (1944–2025)



Photo: McGill University Archives/Archives de l'Université McGill

*** Version française disponible*

*Written by Dr. Peter McNally, Prof. Emeritus
McGill University*

Born March 30, 1944 in Saint-Tite, Quebec, the son of a medical doctor, Yvan Lamonde died August 26, 2025 in Sorel-Tracy, Quebec, where he lived for much of his life. At the Joliette Seminary, he received his *collège classique* education, and edited the student newspaper.

His academic interest in book and intellectual history soon became evident. His 1967 Master's thesis at the Université de Montréal was "La notion de Lebenswelt chez John Wild : introduction à la pensée de John Wild et à la phénoménologie aux États-Unis, avec un essai bibliographique des écrits de John Wild." His 1969 doctoral thesis at Université Laval (Quebec City) on "L'enseignement de la philosophie au Collège de Montréal (1790-1896)" was supervised by Claude Galarneau, a major figure in Quebec book and intellectual history. Academic influences came also from Georges Aubin, Jacques Ferron, Paul Ricoeur, and Charles Taylor – among others.

After graduation, Montreal's McGill University became Lamonde's academic home. Beginning as a faculty lecturer (1972), he became an Assistant Professor (1978), Associate Professor (1980), Professor (1993), and Professor Emeritus of French Language and Literature (2009). During 1980/85 he served as Director of the University's French Canada Studies Program - subsequently renamed the Quebec Studies Program. In recognition of his distinguished contributions, the University awarded him the James McGill Chair in Comparative History of Quebec.

Lamonde's publication record is impressive and challenging. By his own count, he authored, co-authored, and edited over sixty titles. His scholarly articles numbered over two hundred. No listing is readily available, however, for his extensive non-scholarly publishing in magazines and newspapers. Some future bibliographer will undoubtedly compile a definitive listing.

In terms of content, Lamonde's publications can be organized under two headings: (i) book history and (ii) intellectual history. Regardless of their classification, his writings focused overwhelmingly upon Francophone Quebec. His study of other topics and parts of the world - Anglophone Quebec, other regions of Canada (Anglophone and Francophone), the United States, Britain, France, and Belgium – was always with the intention of increasing his understanding of Quebec's Francophone culture and history.

As a book historian, Lamonde is best known as co-General Editor, with Professor Patricia Fleming (University of Toronto), of the landmark *History of the Book in Canada/Histoire du livre et de l'imprimé au Canada* (2004-2007)

published in six volumes – three each in English and French – for which he also authored and co-authored numerous articles. The *History* owes much to Lamonde's planning and direction – reflecting his knowledge, energy, and scholarly commitment.

As an intellectual historian, Lamonde produced a virtual flood of notable books and articles that were largely synthesized in his two volume *Histoire sociale des idées au Québec, 1760-1929* (2000, 2004) and his two volume *La Modernité au Québec, 1929-1965* (2011, 2016). An English-language translation of the first volume was published in 2011 as *The Social History of Ideas in Quebec, 1760-1896*. His ideas were developed further in his intellectual autobiography, *Historien et citoyen, navigations au long cours* (2008).

His studies placed Quebec in the middle of the Western world's debates, tensions, and ambivalence surrounding (i) political nationalism based on liberal values and (ii) cultural nationalism focused on preserving language and culture. He concluded that Quebec's history reflected a strong American influence – along with British, French and religious influences.

For those wishing to investigate further Lamonde's ideas, they are examined in two collections of essays: Jonathan Livernois, ed. *Les affluents partagés: à propos de l'œuvre d'Yvan Lamonde* (2013) and Claude Couture, ed. *Autour de l'œuvre d'Yvan Lamonde: colonialisme et modernité au Canada depuis 1867* (2019).

Lamonde's status as a major Canadian historian, and one of Quebec's most influential historians, was reflected in the many honours he received. Among the more notable are: Governor General's Non-Fiction Literary Award (1995); Killam Fellowship (1996); Tremaine Medal, Bibliographical Society of Canada (2001); Prix André-Laurendeau, Association francophone pour le savoir (2004); Fellow, Royal Society of Canada (Academy of the Arts and Humanities) (2006); and Membre, l'Académie des lettres du Québec (1997).

Speaking personally, I worked closely with Yvan on several projects. We shared a strong commitment to studying libraries as essential elements of both book and intellectual history. Yvan's charm and good humour were notable, along with his strongly held opinions such as a terminological preference for "print history" over "book history." His ability to work harmoniously and effectively with people was widely acknowledged.

Condolences are extended to Yvan's widow, Micheline Duhaime, and to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Awards

Call for Nominations: Tremaine Medal 2026

*** Version française disponible*

The Awards Committee invites nominations for the Marie Tremaine Medal, offered by the Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) for outstanding service to Canadian bibliography and for distinguished publication in either English or French in that field. The Tremaine Medal is accompanied by the Watters-Morley Prize, a \$500 scholarly award.

Members of the Awards Committee or the Council of the Society are not eligible for the award while they are in office. Otherwise the award is open to all, without restriction. Nominations may not be put forward by the president or by members of the Awards Committee, but otherwise there are no restrictions in this regard.

Deadline: January 23, 2026

Nomination package

The complete nomination package must be sent electronically, and should include:

- A letter of nomination (1-3 pages single spaced), summarizing the nominee's contributions to Canadian bibliography
- The nominee's CV, including a list of main relevant publications, projects and work supervised.
- Three letters of support from experts in the field, addressing the significance of the candidate's contributions.
- A citation of approximately 750 words about the nominee, to be used as a basis, if the nominee is selected, for the award presentation and to be published along with the recipient's response in the Papers/Cahiers.

Please send nomination packages and any questions to the Awards Committee at: awards_prix@bsc-sbc.ca.

Additional information about the award and the BSC can be found at: <https://www.bsc-sbc.ca/en/fellowship-awards/>.

On behalf of

Lauren Williams

Chair, Awards Committee

Bibliographical Society of Canada | Société bibliographique du Canada

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Member News

UPEI Appointment of the University Librarian: Dr. Svetlana Kochkina



Past BSC President Dr. Svetlana Kochkina has been appointed as the University Librarian at the University of Prince Edward Island.

You can read more about her recent appointment [here](#).

Congratulations, Svetlana!

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Upcoming Publication: *Collaboration, Technologies, and the History of Shakespearean Bibliography,*

Heidi Craig, Laura Estill, Kris L. May, and Dorothy Todd are pleased to announce the upcoming publication of *Collaboration, Technologies, and the History of Shakespearean Bibliography*, which will appear in the Cambridge Elements Series (Cambridge University Press, January 2026).

With an emphasis on how we enumerate and find scholarship about Shakespeare, this Element argues that understanding bibliographies is foundational to how we research Shakespeare. From early modern catalogs of Shakespeare plays, to early bibliographers such as Albert Cohn (1827–1905) and William Jaggard (1868–1947), to present-day digital projects such as the online [World Shakespeare Bibliography](#), this Element underscores how the taxonomic organization, ambit, and media of enumerative Shakespearean bibliography projects directly impact how scholars value and can use these resources.

Ultimately, this Element asks us to rethink our assumptions about Shakespearean bibliography by foregrounding the labor, collaboration, technological innovations, and critical decisions that go into creating and sustaining bibliographies at all stages.

This title will be available open access, and more information about the upcoming publication may be found [here](#).

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50th Anniversary of Barbarian Press

In 2027, the Barbarian Press, a private press based in Mission, British Columbia, will celebrate its 50th birthday with the publication of a bibliography to be entitled, *Solvitur ambulando*.

Their publications are collected/coveted by individuals/institutions not only in Canada but also internationally. Their books have won numerous awards on both the national and international levels. The proprietors, Jan and Crispin Elsted, have contributed so much more through their reviews, talks, letterpress workshops and wise counsel.

In 2004, Simon Fraser University Library celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Barbarian Press. Robert Bringhurst spoke at that occasion. He stated "[Barbarian Press is] the one Canadian creature of its kind that has to be taken seriously, the one that has made us all richer, luckier and possibly a little less mortal than we were" in his *And, Much More, Not Ourselves: The Work of Jan and Crispin Elstad* (Barbarian Press, 2005). And that was nearly twenty-five years ago. The Barbarian Press has published many significant works since that time.

A [17-minute documentary](#), and some recent [news from the Press](#) provide more context, and some delightful snapshots of the Press at work.

I encourage various institutions and individuals across Canada and beyond to celebrate this remarkable achievement in exhibitions, talks, reviews.

On behalf of Eric Swanick, Simon Fraser University

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