

Issue 2





A Letter from the Editors

The process of the sophomore issue of *Contemporary Kanata* began in the fall of 2021. As we became involved with the project, enthusiasm and apprehension met in equal measure. None of us knew one another, nor had we worked as editors on the journal's previous issue. What unified us was a commitment, not to the journal as an establishment but to our fellow undergraduate students. We committed ourselves to expanding upon our knowledge of publication and to sharing the editorial load as a team; in this way, we created our own iteration of *Contemporary Kanata*, an iteration inspired by the inaugural issue but also very much our own, and one that we hope will make the voices of undergraduates heard.

The desire to be heard and the necessity of hearing is in fact the basis of this issue. While some articles are explicitly concerned with storytelling, consciously recounting the stories that Canada refuses to tell, others are more empirical but still aim to strengthen our understanding of the world around us. If Thomas King was right to say that "The truth about stories is, that's all we are," then perhaps even this publication is a type of story. And just like any story that seeks to prove a point, we trust that these acts of storytelling prove the need for a transparent, inclusive, and decolonized Canada.

M. Beaulieu's piece "Building Indigenous Futures for Indigenous Children: Indigenous Futurisms and Dismantling the Myth of the Vanishing Indian" examines the healing power of Indigenous storytelling for a colonial Canada using Cherie Dimaline's *The Marrow Thieves*. T. Donnelly's "Internal Migration in the Canadian Prairies and British Columbia due to Climate Change" raises awareness about existing gaps concerning Canada's response to climate change and its impact on Canadian residents. In "Harmonious Chaos: World-Making and Queerness in the Poetry of Xavier Gould" A. Gazzano analyzes the work of Xavier Gould, a non-binary Acadian multidisciplinary artist, to argue that their engagement with questions of language, identity, and politics of location is world-making.

Personal experience and systemic barriers interact in L. Macawile's "A Critical Reflection of the Disturbing Underrepresentation of Filipinos in Higher Education," which makes the case for urgent educational and immigration reform. Also drawing on the personal dimension, K. Mazzotta's alternative epistemology piece "Canada: A Country for All?" sheds light on Canada's historically discriminatory immigration policies and their long-lasting impacts on Chinese-Canadians. In "Canadian Mining Imperialism: The Peruvian Struggle Towards Economic Freedom," Rojas explores the evolution of Canadian mining companies in

Latin America, examining the violation of human rights, environmental impact, and the resistance movement that stems from them by analyzing the case of Peru.

It has taken a village to raise these stories and we are extremely grateful to our village for the time and energy they have dedicated to this project. We extend our thanks to Jean Michel Montsion, Laura Taman, and the entire team at the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies for their support. We also would like to thank our faculty reviewers for their guidance throughout the review process, and our peer reviewers for their extensive feedback on every piece that we consider for publication. Finally, we thank and congratulate the undergraduate authors for these bold and carefully crafted academic works, and for daring to tell the true stories unfolding in the land we now call Canada.

Sincerely,

Alex Affonso
Alice Alexander
Laura Bourbonnais
Jasmine Johnson
Kaitlyn Langendoen
Raven Lovering