

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Gérard BOUCHARD



- 1 - **Degrees:**
 - Master's Degree in sociology (Université Laval, Québec, 1968)
 - Ph.D. in history (Université de Paris, France, 1971)

- 2 - **Teaching:**
 - Professor retired from Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (Department of Social Sciences) since 1971
 - Guest professor in several universities (including École des Hautes études en Sciences sociales, Paris, and Harvard University, Department of Sociology).

- 3 - **Research:**
 - Director and founder of the SOREP Center, which was launched in 1972. In May 1994, SOREP has become IREP, an inter-university institute for population research (based on a formal cooperation agreement between seven Québec universities) that G. Bouchard has headed until 1998. During his mandate, the Institute has become an international institution made up of 50 researchers and more than 275 hundred professionals, assistants, and technicians.

 - Director and founder of the BALSAC Project since its beginning in 1971 until June 2010. The goal of this project is to develop and exploit a computerized population database covering the whole population of Québec since the 17th Century up to present time. BALSAC is a universal computerized population database created through a unique system of computerized record linkage of nominative data. The resource, still being developed, contains economic, social, cultural, and demographic data that serve analyses and surveys in those fields of research. The BALSAC register is also used in a population genetics research program and in various works in genetic epidemiology.

 - In the late 1990s, G. Bouchard has started a new research program in comparative history of new societies (or founding cultures). The objective is to study the formation of nations and cultures in the New World, broadly construed (covering all the nations created since the 16th Century through transoceanic immigration from Europe). The issues under investigation include: political emancipation, collective differentiation from the European mother countries, the growth of the State and of the national idea, the formation of collective imaginaries (identity, memory, utopia), the evolution of the relationship with the Natives, etc. The research pays a close attention to the contradictions which confront reason and to the myths that are called upon in order to overcome these contradictions.

- Since February 2002, this research on collective imaginaries has been carried out within a Canada Research Chair of which G. Bouchard is the holder. The chief objective is to analyze the structure of thought (addressed as a mixture of reason and myth) while taking into account the social factors, upstream as well as downstream. Special attention is paid to national myths.
- Since Fall 2002, G. Bouchard is a fellow of the Successful Societies Program of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR). He is now a member of the Advisory Committee of the Program.

4 - Appointments and Special Responsibilities :

- Co-Chair of the Québec Consultation Commission on Accommodation Practices Related to Cultural Differences, 2007-2008 (with Charles Taylor)
- Chairholder of the William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Chair in Canadian Studies (Weatherhead Center for International Affairs), Harvard University, 2008-2009

5 - Publications:

Author, co-author, éditeur or co-éditeur of 42 books. Has published 310 articles in scientific journals and presented 691 communications and public lectures in Quebec, Canada and abroad.

Works of the last decade:

- *Raison et contradiction. Le mythe au secours de la pensée.* Québec. Éditions Nota bene/Cefan, 2003, 130 pages.
- *La pensée impuissante : Échecs et mythes nationaux canadiens-français (1850-1960).* Montréal, Boréal, 2004, 319 pages.
- *Pikauba* (novel). Montréal, Boréal, 2005, 574 pages.
- *La culture québécoise est-elle en crise ?* (with Alain Roy). Montréal, Boréal, 2007, 218 pages.
- *Mythes et sociétés des Amériques* (collection of essays edited with Bernard Andrès). Montréal, Québec Amérique, 2007, 432 pages.
- *The Making of the Nations and Cultures of the New World. An Essay in Comparative History.* Montreal & Kingston, McGill Queen's University Press, 2008, 448 pages (Translation of *Genèse des nations et cultures du Nouveau Monde. Essai d'histoire comparée*, 2000).
- *Building the Future. A Time for Reconciliation*, Report of the Commission de consultation sur les pratiques d'accommodement reliées aux différences culturelles, Gouvernement du Québec, 2008, 307 pages.
- *Uashat* (novel). Montreal, Boréal, 2009, 328 pages.
- *L'interculturalisme. Dialogue Québec-Europe.* Actes du Symposium international sur l'interculturalisme (Montreal, May 25-27, 2011), [Online]. http://www.symposium-interculturalisme.com/pdf/livre_complet_FINAL_hyperliens.pdf.
- *L'interculturalisme. Un point de vue québécois.* Montréal, Boréal, 2012, 286 pages.
- *National Myths : Constructed Pasts, Contested Presents.* New York, Routledge, 2013, 306 pages.
- *Raison et déraison du mythe. Au cœur des imaginaires collectifs.* Montréal, Boréal, 2014, 234 pages.

6 - Main Honorary Distinctions:

- Elected in 1985 as a member of the Royal Society of Canada.
- Recipient of the Jacques-Rousseau Prize in 1985 (from the Association canadienne-française pour l'avancement des sciences - ACFAS).

- Designated as the French Canadian Researcher of the year (1991) by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.
- The SOREP Center was designated in 1993 as the Quebec Research Center of the year by the Fonds FCAR.
- Recipient of the Gouvernement du Québec Léon-Gérin Prize (Social Sciences and Interdisciplinarity, 1993).
- The John A. Macdonald Prize, awarded by the Canadian Historical Association for the book – *Quelques Arpents d'Amérique* (best history book in Canada, 1996).
- The Lionel-Groulx Prize, awarded by the Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française for the book *Quelques Arpents d'Amérique* (best history book in Québec, 1996).
- Recipient of one of the three André-Laurendeau Awards for the best articles published in *Action nationale* in 1997 («Ouvrir le cercle de la nation. Activer la cohésion sociale. Réflexion sur le Québec et la diversité»), Vol. LXXXVII, n° 4 (avril), 1997, p. 107-137.
- The Guy-Frégault Prize, awarded by the Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française for the best paper published in 1997 in the *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française* («L'histoire sociale au Québec. Réflexion sur quelques paradoxes», 1997, Vol. 51, n° 2, p. 243-269).
- The François-Xavier Garneau Prize, awarded in 2000 by the Canadian Historical Association (best history book published in Canada between 1993 and 1997).
- Literary Award of the Governor General of Canada for the book *Genèse des Nations et cultures du Nouveau Monde* (in November 2000).
- Recipient of the Gérard-Parizeau Award – History, 2001.
- Recipient of an *Honoris causa* doctorate from McGill University (Montreal). June 2001.
- Recipient of the title of French Republic Chevalier of the Legion of Honour (France). October 2002.
- Elected at the Académie des lettres du Québec. March 2003.
- Essay/Public General Interest book award for *Les Deux chanoines. Contradiction et ambivalence dans la pensée de Lionel Groulx* Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Book Fair (2003).
- Literary Award Abitibi-Consolidated 2005 (Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Book Fair) for *La pensée impuissante* (2004) (General Interest award).
- Literary Award Abitibi-Consolidated 2005 (Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Book Fair) for *Pikauba (2005)* (Readers award).
- Recipient of an *Honoris causa* doctorate from Moncton University (New Brunswick). October 2006.
- Selected by the newspaper *La Presse* among five best essays Québécois of decade 2000-2009 for *Genèse des nations et culture du Nouveau Monde* (2000).
- Selected one of ten finalists of the price of Grand Public 2009 (Montreal Book Fair, November 2009) for *Uashat* (2009).
- Winner of the best lecture for the Next Big Question contest organized by the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR). Montreal, May 2010.
- Recipient of an *Honoris causa* doctorate from University of Guelph (Ontario). June 2011.
- Recipient (second) of the Presidency of the Québec's National Assembly Award (political book) for *L'interculturalisme. Un point de vue québécois* (2012), April 2013.
- Georges-Henri-Lévesque's Medal of honour of the Faculty of Social Sciences of Université Laval, October 2013.
- Recipient of an *Honoris causa* doctorate from Université Laval (Québec), June 2015.
- Recipient of an *Honoris causa* doctorate from Université de Sherbrooke (Québec), September 2015.

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