
From the Editor

Introducing the Fall 2016 Issue: Contributing to Community-Engaged Scholarship Knowledge Dissemination in Canada

The articles assembled in this issue represent community-engaged research, teaching, and learning as pursued by scholars in North America and, predominantly, in Canada. The Journal is pleased to share this work with readers across the continent and beyond. As usual, we profile our contributors' work in both peer-reviewed and non peer-reviewed sections, to provide opportunities for authors to publish their work in either form. Articles presented here reflect on theory and practice of community-engaged scholarship in various settings. They range from analyses of CES leadership and research processes in multi-stage and multi-partner projects to presentations of specific research and teaching projects in specific communities and settings.



*Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, Editor
(Photo: Erin J. Weiss)*

Community-engaged scholarship takes place in a variety of contexts and is pursued from a range of scholarly angles via different methodologies and our issue reflects this diversity as well. In line with its mission, the Journal respects this diversity of perspectives on community-engaged scholarly work as we do not advocate for a single vision on how this work is to be accomplished. Thus, the reader will find in this issue essays written on, and within the framework of, community-based research (CBR), community-based participatory research (CBPR), service learning (SL), community-university relations, feminist research, education, animation, narrative analysis, library sciences, and oral history. Though in each case authors present their own perspectives on CES practices, all advocate for community-focused approaches to their scholarly engagements.

Inevitably, whether we profile CES research, teaching, and learning within the Canadian borders or internationally, because we are a Canadian publishing venue, the work of our Journal continues to represent Canadian scholarship of community-engagement. Perhaps that is why, while preparing these comments, I was curious to explore the scope of scholarly publishing in the area of community engagement as related to Canada. I turned to Google Scholar to see what one can find there on this topic. Google describes its search engine, Google Scholar, as a tool to broadly search for 'scholarly' literature. The search takes place across many disciplines and generates sources such as articles, theses, books, abstracts, court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities, and other websites. One can use many keywords to mining data online to evaluate the state of the discipline. I chose <"community engagement" Canada> as my key phrase. I opted

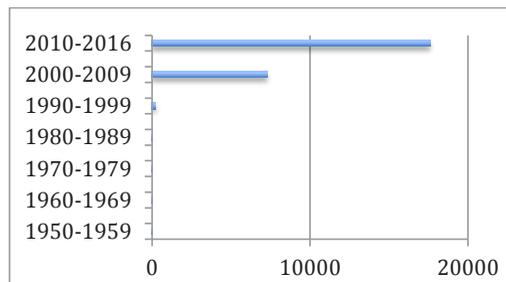
out from using the full phrase “community-engaged scholarship” as Google Scholar scans only scholarly literature in the first place. Quotation marks were used to insure that the search engine would catch exactly this phrase in the sea of academic and scholarly literature available online. This method is not without its limitations as simply by choosing a set of different key search phrases one can arrive at somewhat different search outcomes. But it helps to imagine the scope and dynamics of the field.

Google Scholar thus comes to serve as a useful tool for understanding the evolution, development, dissemination, and by extension potential impact of a particular scholarly discourse that unfolds in the area of academic publishing, online, and otherwise. What are then potential chronological and statistical dimensions of the evolution, progression and dissemination of community-engaged scholarship discourse in (relationship to) Canada?

At the time of writing this text, the above search for <“community engagement” Canada>, under the option ‘any time’ and excluding results for patents and citations, produced ‘about 33,300 results.’ Though these results concern all kinds of online scholarly sources as discussed above, and this includes reappearance of the same items in various databases, this statistics still suggests robust activity in the field for a nation of 36 million people. Google Scholar offers an option to search for the results within a given time range. I opted out to explore the dynamics of appearance of my search phrase by decade and here are the results of this search. Table 1 helps to visualize the exponential growth of CES scholarly literature as related to Canada.

Table 1. Google Scholar Search Results for <"Community Engagement" Canada>

1950-1959	6
1960-1969	7
1970-1979	18
1980-1989	36
1990-1999	236
2000-2009	7,300
2010-2016	17,600



The twenty-first century appears to be the time of most active production and dissemination of CES-focused publications related to Canada, at least according to Google Scholar. Thus, I further searched for annual distribution of publications within this timeframe to better understand its dynamics. Figure 1 summarizes the results of this search.

Recently, with the publication of our first issue in 2015, the *Engaged Scholar Journal* began to contribute to CES knowledge dissemination in Canada shown on the graph in Figure 1. We anticipate that what we publish will gain its due share in this process.

Apart from directly contributing to the deposition of CES scholarly literature into an archeology of Google Scholar, the Journal’s participation in CES knowledge production and mobilization is also evidenced in the dialogue that is set in motion by the peer-review process.

Without ever directly encountering each other, the two groups of scholars, the authors and peer-reviewers, through their engagement with essays are jointly responsible for the quality of scholarship that we profile on our Journal's pages. We thank both groups for this lively and ongoing dialogue that takes place behind the curtains. We specifically thank those peer-reviewers listed below who contributed to the production of the current Issue, for their time and service, professionalism and commitment to good quality scholarship. Below, we outline some statistical parameters of our collaboration with various contributors to the current Issue.

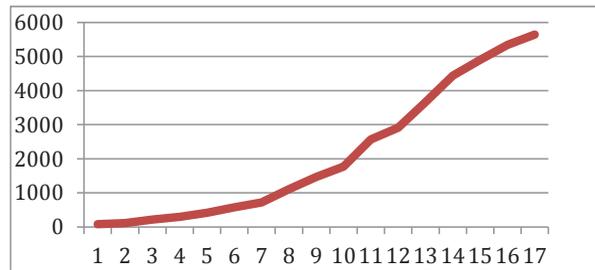


Figure 1. Google Scholar Search Results [in thousands] for <"Community Engagement" Canada> for the years 2000-2016 [years 1-16 in the table]

To community-engaged scholars in Canada and elsewhere, we invite you to join us in our efforts to expand the ongoing dialogue on community-engagement in Canada and internationally.

Sincerely,

Natalia Khanenko-Friesen
The Editor

Special Thanks to Our Peer Reviewers —

Lalita Bharadwaj
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Moshoula Capous-Desyllas
Isobel Findlay
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Robert Henry

Ted Jackson
Heather McRae
Dianne Miller
Nazeem Muhajarine
David Peacock
Carole Roy
Marc Spooner
Randy Stoecker

Fall 2016 Issue Statistics**A. Authors and Submissions**

Authors and Co-Authors	
University Based	25
Non-University Based	4
Total	29

Article Submissions	
Original proposals for peer and editor review	15
Articles submitted for editor review	3
Articles submitted for peer review	12
Peer-reviewed articles accepted for publication	4
Editor-reviewed articles accepted for publication	3
Book reviews submitted for editor review	3
Book reviews accepted for publication	3

Geographic Distribution (Corresponding Authors Only)	
Eastern Canada:	4
Renison University College	1
McMaster University	1
Carleton University	1
Non-University Based	1
Western Canada:	8
University of Alberta	1
Royal Roads University	1
University of Saskatchewan	4
University of Winnipeg	1
Non-University Based	1
International:	6
Alauddin State Islamic University of Makassar, Indonesia	1
Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN), Japan	1
Stony Brook University, United States	1
The University of Toledo, United States	1
United Nations-mandated University for Peace, Costa Rica	1
Non-University Based	1
Total:	18

B. Peer-Reviewers and Peer-Reviewing

Peer-Reviewers	
Total invitations to peer review	35
Number of peer reviewers who accepted invitations	16

Geographical Distribution (Peer Reviewers)	
Atlantic Canada:	1
St. Francis Xavier University	1
Eastern Canada:	3
Carleton University	1
MacEwan University	1
McMaster University	1
Western Canada:	9
University of Alberta	2
University of Calgary	1
University of Regina	1
University of Saskatchewan	5
International:	3
California State University - Northridge, US	1
Keele University, UK	1
University of Wisconsin, US	1
Total:	16