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ABSTRACTS

Patrick D. CLARKE : *Régions et régionalismes en Acadie. Culture, espace, appartenance*

In this paper, the relationship with space in Acadia is analysed, from its beginnings up until the present. While aiming to encompass all representations of space and social constructs of identity, this study focuses primarily on an effort to pinpoint differentiation as transposed into space. It aims to situate the regions and regionalisms, as products of the ecological adaptation of populations to specific spaces. The underlying hypothesis is that culture, space and identity undergo a dialectical evolution, as constituent elements in a dynamic process that generates a unified yet diverse society.

Denise HELLY, Marc LAVALLÉE et Marie MC ANDREW : *Citoyenneté et redéfinition des politiques publiques de gestion de la diversité : la position des organismes non gouvernementaux québécois*

Public policy concerning the management of ethnocultural diversity is being redefined in Canada as well as in Québec. Over and above policy statements, these changes lead to concrete impacts not only on the specifics of the intervention framework, but also on the mandates and even on the very existence of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in the context of this redefinition in Québec. This reflects the fact that despite a number of reservations concerning the definition of a common heritage and of national identity on the part of the State, the NGOs adhere to a procedural definition of citizenship and support the changes under way.

Simon LAFLAMME et Rachid BAGOUI : *Les leaders franco-ontariens après l'État providence*

This article stands at the intersection between two areas of research, namely that which focuses on the French-speaking minorities in Canada, and that which studies the associative and organizational sector. At this crossroads, a number of questions arise : What is the profile of community leaders ? What is their attitude toward the French language ? What are the reasons that motivate their commitment ? What are the challenges that must be faced by the organizations that they lead in the post-welfare State era ? To find answers to these questions, we conducted a survey of 346 representatives of organizations of the Franco-Ontarian population.

André LANGLOIS: *Analyse de l'évolution démolinguistique de la population francophone hors Québec, 1971-1996*

This paper aims to shed new light on the role of the urban milieu in the assimilation of linguistic minorities, drawing on the most recent data from the Canadian census. The idea of the city as an « assimilation machine » is called into question. Using an appropriate methodological framework that takes into account the trends in demographic structures according to age, this study seeks to draw a portrait of the changes in the linguistic behaviour of the French-speaking minorities outside Québec during the period 1971-1996. This portrait was assembled using a comparative approach that distinguishes between two types of milieu – the metropolitan and the non-metropolitan milieu – in seeking to determine whether the trends justify a reassessment of this role played by the urban milieu. The results obtained, although they do not completely confirm this questioning of the role of the urban milieu as an assimilator, do nevertheless indicate that there is still hope for the French-speaking communities outside Québec that are tending toward an increasingly urban and metropolitan existence.