Editorial Note 37/2017

Janis Thiessen, University of Winnipeg

Welcome to Volume 37 (2017) of the Oral History Forum d’histoire orale, the journal of the Canadian Oral History Association (COHA).

You may have noticed the Call for a New Editor in the Announcements section of this journal. In April this year, I will be stepping down as the editor of Forum and as treasurer of the Canadian Oral History Association, which publishes Forum.

My involvement with COHA has been long and varied: I have served as secretary-treasurer (2006-14), treasurer (2015-17), Forum reviews editor (2011-14), Forum Special Issue co-editor (for the 2013 “Working Lives” issue on oral history and working-class history), and Forum editor (2014-17).

I first became involved in COHA upon completing my doctorate, at the invitation of co-presidents Nolan Reilly and Alexander Freund. My COHA involvement has contributed tremendously to my development as an oral historian, connecting me with others in the field who keep me abreast of best practices.

COHA presently has almost 200 members across Canada: 141 individuals, 14 students, and 38 institutions. Oral History Forum d’histoire orale is the 1-year delayed open access e-journal of COHA, and has been published since 1975. This year, there are 500 registered users of Forum. Forum also has more than 500 followers on Twitter at @oralhistforum. COHA memberships (which are a highly affordable $20) keep the Forum alive.

I have greatly enjoyed the opportunities for service to the Canadian oral history community that COHA has afforded me. The members of Forum’s editorial board have been wonderful supports for the journal, and those on the COHA executive have been enthusiastic advocates for the organization. I look forward to continuing to participate in the Canadian oral history community, and wish COHA much continued success.

Janis Thiessen
Editor, Oral History Forum d’histoire orale
ja.thiessen@uwinnipeg.ca