

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“The History of Quebec Families: Reproduction, Regulation, and Representations”

Trois-Rivières, Quebec, Canada

May 30 and 31, 2024

*Organized by the Centre interuniversitaire d'études québécoises
(CIEQ, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières and Université Laval)*

Over the last four decades, developments in the history of Quebec families have reflected major trends and emerging perspectives in Western research on families. Accordingly, work on the demographic transition during the industrial era and descriptions of domestic economies and family strategies associated with periods of rapid urbanization have given way to more detailed examinations of social reproduction at the household level, efforts to reconstruct and spatially model family trajectories, and considerations of how family lines are shaped by gender and generational dynamics. Meanwhile, researchers have begun analyzing discourses on the family and representations of family roles. They have also addressed how families constitute not only sites of power relations but also targets of state intervention and various forms of social regulation. How have these different phenomena manifested themselves in Quebec, and how have they shaped the experience of families, whatever their background?

This conference aims to provide scholars, including doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows, with an opportunity to reflect on the state of knowledge regarding Quebec families, in all their diversity, from the period of New France to the 1960s. The event is being organized as part of the CIEQ's *Family Project* (Centre interuniversitaire d'études québécoises, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières and Université Laval). Selected papers will be published in the fully digital version of the *Atlas historique du Québec*.¹ In particular, we encourage contributors to reflect on the following five themes:

¹ We encourage those submitting paper proposals to visit the Atlas historique du Québec website (<https://atlas.cieq.ca/>), where they can familiarize themselves with the type of text required.

1. **Reproduction and Life Cycles:** Family composition, development, and reproduction through births, marriages, and deaths; the circumstances of children (especially with regard to child health and infant mortality), women, fathers, and the elderly—both within and outside the family.
2. **Mobility and Migration:** Families and transatlantic migration; the expansion of permanent settlements throughout the history of Quebec; migration to western Canada and the United States; the role of the family in rural-urban migration; family migration patterns and social mobility.
3. **Material and Physical Environments:** Families and their material environment; work and the relationship between families and the labour market; wealth and poverty in urban and rural settings; household financial management and inheritance practices; living arrangements, including those of single women in industrial cities; Indigenous families, lands, and reserves.
4. **Forms of Sociability and Representation:** The socialization of children in family contexts; families and their social networks; the transmission of family memory; the perpetuation of family memory in urban settings; representations and discursive constructions of the family in public and private space.
5. **Norms and Regulation:** The legal and religious foundations of the family; the relationship between the state and the domestic sphere; interactions between families, the law, and the justice system; deviance and the defiance of norms in family contexts; institutional and expert approaches to regulating “family problems.”

Although paper proposals should be aligned with the main themes of the conference, comparisons with other geographic and temporal contexts are welcome. Individual papers may explore how multiple themes intersect and should consider both the historical and spatial dimensions of the author’s chosen topic. In addition, we encourage researchers to reflect on the multilayered

interactions that define social hierarchies, networks of kinship and sociability, and assorted challenges and upheavals encountered by families.

Submitting a Paper Proposal

Include your academic title and institutional affiliation, full contact information (email, university address), the title of the paper, a 250-word summary, and a short biography (up to 150 words).

Papers may be presented in either English or French.

Proposals must be submitted by September 15, 2023.

Authors will receive a response by October 31, 2023.

Please email your proposal to camille.trudel@uqtr.ca.

Scientific Committee

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