

## **AVANT-PROPOS**

### **PREFACE**

The 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of French settlement at Le Détroit was an ideal occasion to explore its highly significant impact on the region, through history, linguistics, music, literature and sociology. In hosting this, its first bilingual pluridisciplinary conference, the University of Windsor was delighted to be part of the local French community's "Grandes fêtes du tricentenaire".

With over one hundred delegates from Canada and the USA, the conference proved a highly stimulating forum for all participants and I am delighted that these fine works have been collected in these proceedings. As such, they are an important contribution to our vital need to keep in touch with where we have been in our never-ending struggle to understand better who we are and where we might be going.

Les racines françaises sont profondes, ici, et je voudrais féliciter Monsieur Bénéteau et Monsieur Halford pour leur leadership dans l'organisation de ce colloque important et pour le succès qui est si évident dans les pages suivantes.

Bonne lecture !

Ross Paul  
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