

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE AMERICANS ARE COMING! THE AMERICANS ARE COMING!
THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION CONVENES IN TORONTO

Vancouver – For the first time in 104 years the American Political Science Association (APSA), which represents 15 000 political scientists from over 80 countries, will meet outside of the United States – a bold move for APSA whose theme this year is “politics in motion: change and complexity in the contemporary era .” From September 3 – 6, 2009, Toronto will be abuzz with the world’s foremost thinkers in political science. UBC Press, one of Canada’s leading academic presses, will greet them with books from our award-winning Canadian political science collection. Eight new books, in particular, address two of the most pressing issues on the political agenda today: electoral representation, and foreign policy and international trade.

A nation of immigrants, Canada has always been shaped by the incredible diversity of our population. As we mature as a nation, and as globalization demands greater political, social, and economic cooperation, questions of how we approach difference in our society can only become more salient. How committed are Canadians to the ideals of political diversity and inclusion?

Electing a Diverse Canada reveals unquestionably that while previously marginalized groups are slowly making inroads in government, the status quo still is that white, middle-class, Christian, middle-aged men continue to dominate the electoral arena, casting doubt on whether an equality-based multiculturalism can survive, let alone flourish in Canada. Shelia Bashevkin has brilliantly put together a collection of essays by like-minded Canadian scholars in *Opening Doors Wider*. The contributors show that while women have become more visible in community activism, party involvement, legislative participation, and media coverage over the last forty years, significant barriers still exist to equitable engagement. A surprising and refreshing take on diversity is *Language Matters*. It tackles the contentious ground of language politics to investigate how despite a heated political history, Canadian civil society, in the form of voluntary associations, has found largely successful ways to accommodate linguistic differences among Canada’s French and English communities. *Identity/Difference Politics*, on the other hand, looks at the place of multiculturalism in political theory. It asks whether the Canadian celebration of cultural difference ultimately serves its stated goal of inclusivity. Rita Dhamoon thinks not. She deconstructs how this difference is created and how it can be used to marginalize, rather than include, certain groups of citizens.

From a trade and foreign policy standpoint, Canada has long been seen as the world’s peacekeeper, a friendly middle-power that differentiates itself from the might-is-right dealings of the US, and whose mainstay in the world of foreign trade has been our abundant natural resources.

From Pride to Influence: Towards a New Canadian Foreign Policy, a policy insider Michael Hart takes the contentious position that Canada’s future prosperity depends on its creating even stronger ties with the US, advocating for a new foreign policy paradigm that embraces American influence and recognizes Canadian interest in trade, investment, travel, foreign aid, and other globally focused activities. *The Provinces and Canadian Foreign Trade Policy*, by contrast, highlights the provincial role in international trade agreements. Using numerous examples, Christopher Kukucha demonstrates how the provinces have successfully rallied against continental integration in foreign trade agreements to protect their own interests. Daniel Madar’s *Big Steel* uses a case study of the steel industry to explore the effects

of international trade and competition and illuminates the complex relationships that occur as globalization and trade combine to shape the manufacturing sector.

In *Canada's Voice: The Public Life of John Wendell Holmes*, Adam Chapnick approaches foreign policy through the intriguing biography of one of Canada's preeminent scholars and diplomats. Holmes – a member of the foreign service, head of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, professor of international relations, and victim of the RCMP's notorious gay purge of the 50s and 60s – had a major influence on Canada's self-conception as a level-headed middle power with peace as the ultimate goal.

From electoral representation, to international trade, to foreign policy, UBC Press authors ask tough questions of the Canadian political scene and push for a better understanding of our political system, and our country as a whole. We look forward to welcoming APSA to Toronto in September.

UBC PRESS EXPERT'S LIST

As the country's foremost publisher of political science, UBC Press maintains an extensive list of expert scholars who have published across the discipline.

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Electing a Diverse Canada: The Representation of Immigrants, Minorities, and Women

Edited by Caroline Andrew, John Biles, Myer Siemiatycki, and Erin Tolley
ISBN 978-0-7748-1486-7, pb \$29.95

Opening Doors Wider: Women's Political Engagement in Canada

Edited by Sylvia Bashevkin
ISBN 978-0-7748-1564-2, pb \$29.95

Language Matters: How Canadian Voluntary Associations Manage French and English

Edited by David Cameron and Richard Simeon
ISBN 978-0-7748-1504-8, pb \$29.95

Identity/Difference Politics: How Difference Is Produced and Why It Matters

By Rita Dhamoon
ISBN 978-0-7748-1591-8, pb \$29.95

From Pride to Influence: Towards a New Canadian Foreign Policy

By Michael Hart
ISBN 978-0-7748-1588-8, pb \$34.95

The Provinces and Canadian Foreign Trade Policy

By Christopher J. Kukucha
ISBN 978-0-7748-1585-7, pb \$32.95

Big Steel: Technology, Trade, and Survival in a Global Market

By Daniel Madar
ISBN 978-0-7748-1665-6, hc \$85
ISBN 978-0-7748-1666-3, pb \$32.95 (Jan '10)

Canada's Voice: The Public Life of John Wendell Holmes

By Adam Chapnick

ISBN 978-0-7748-1671-7, hc \$85
ISBN 978-0-7748-1672-4, pb \$32.95 (Jan '10)

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