CONFERENCE PROGRAM (draft 3/3/17)

“French Connections/Franconnexion” – March 20, 2017 – UVM Davis Center

Welcome 8:00-9:00 AM: Breakfast at Davis Center for participants. Remarks by UVM Dean of Arts and Sciences William Falls, UVM President Tom Sullivan, and Marie-Claude Francoeur, Quebec Delegate in Boston

The Past, 9:00-10:15 AM: How and why were Vermont and New England populated by so many French Canadians in the 19th-early 20th centuries? How were they received? When and why did this influx assimilate?

Chair: Susan Pinette, Professor of Modern Languages and Literature, University of Maine, Orono
Father Marcel Rainville, Saint Michael’s College
Leslie Choquette, Professor of History, Assumption College
Mark Richard, Professor of History, SUNY Plattsburgh

10:15-10:35 AM, Coffee Break

The Present, 10:35-11:55 AM: How do cross-border connections with Quebec, in tourism and in trade, continue to shape the culture and economy of New England?

Chair: Marie-Claude Francoeur, Quebec Delegate in Boston
Ernest Pomerleau, President/CEO, Pomerleau Real Estate, Burlington
Adeline Simenon, Attorney, Paul Frank & Collins, Burlington
Ted Brady, Deputy Secretary, Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development
Pierre Chartrand, dance historian, choreographer, founder of Danse Cadence

Luncheon, 12:15-1:45

Speaker: Christine St-Pierre, Quebec Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie

The Future, 2:00-3:15 PM: What does French-Canadian immigration teach us about current immigration trends? What can we learn from the past as we shape this future?

Chair: David Massell, Professor of History, University of Vermont
Mary Rice-Defosse, Professor of French and Francophone Studies, Bates College
Carole Salmon, Professor of French Studies and Culture, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Chris Louras, Mayor of Rutland, Vermont
Jack Jedwab, President of the Association for Canadian Studies and the Canadian Institute for Identities and Migration

Closing Remark: Phil Scott, Governor of Vermont
4:00-4:30 PM, Flag-raising at Burlington’s City Hall sponsored by the Alliance Française, followed by reception in downtown Burlington sponsored by Pomerleau Real Estate and the Alliance Française