Abstract

The Canadian Métis population historically was marginalized and then oppressed, yet retains cultural vibrancy. The movement and adaptation necessary to survive became defining characteristics of their artistic expression, and the Métis who once spoke French and autochthonous languages now speak mostly English, albeit embroidered with traces of previous languages. Examining Métis literature reveals how language migrates, adapts, and transforms as a living phenomenon, in a Deleuzo-Guattarien process of continual movement, plateau-reaching, and regrouping while seeking new favorable environments (which means the ability to work, which increasingly means speaking English in this context). This historical literary unfolding is traced here in works by Louis Goulet, Maria Campbell, Marilyn Dumont, and Rita Bouvier, to demonstrate the development of a minor literature as defined by Deleuze and Guattari, and of a literature that emanates from a culture of inclusivity and itinérance as described by François Paré, who focuses on the French-Canadian diaspora beyond Quebec. Métis literature is resistant by nature, representative of a population that is not in the majority. The writings considered here share fundamental characteristics of numerous other minority literary expressions of survival and resistance. In addition to Deleuze and Guattari and Paré, helpful critical perspectives include those of Pamela Sing, Emma LaRocque, and Gloria Anzaldúa.
Minor Literatures: Two Novels on the Bearys (MPhil Dissertation). (This excerpt is from the Introduction) The dissertation has three chapters along with the Introduction and Conclusion. Chapter One focuses on the politics of language and the minor languages in the region immediately surrounding and including Beary like Tulu, Konkani, Arebhashe etcetera.

"‘Minor’ Literature of an Itinerant Culture: Goulet, Campbell, and the Canadian Métis," Contemporary French Civilization, 45, no. 2 (2020): 143–64. "Writing and Art in Activist Collaboration: A Métis Story of Resistance and Change," The Independent Scholar 6 (Feb. 2020): 32–38. "Le Travail dans la nature canadienne: L’Équilibre (et le déséquilibre) humain tel qu’il est représenté par Louis Goulet et Joseph-Charles Taché," Nouvelles Études Francophones 33, no. 2 (fall 2018): 21–33. "Canadian Cultural Intersections and Interactions: An Ecocritical Reading of Joseph-Charles Taché's Forestiers et A profile of Elzear Goulet, Metis patriot, killed by Canadian government troops during the "Reign of Terror" at Red River in 1870. Date uploaded. May 09, 2011. to help Goulet with the Métis leaders in exile and the settlements filled more with hateful. soldiers than sympathizers. And with that Goulet's name drifted quietly into obscurity. This volume discusses the autobiographical inclination in Canadian literature, exploring works by such writers as Alice Munro, W.O. Mitchell, Michael Ondaatje, John Glassco, and Susanna Moodie. Others works, including the oral memoirs of a Métis, an Inuit's account as being civil servant in Ottawa, and the autobiographical writings of pioneer women and French missionaries are examined to show the depth and breadth of this tradition in Canada. These texts act as starting points for an indepth look at the relationships between autobiography, biography and fiction in Canadian literature. eIS