

CAMWS – Report for 2017-2018 – Canada
Christina Vester – reporting as Regional VP

Membership for 3 Canadian CAMWS regions – including all 2018 members (50).

Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario
4 (+1)	4 (+2)	42 (-25)

Membership numbers in Saskatchewan and Manitoba have each seen a small uptick. After a substantial upswing in 2016-17, Ontario numbers have returned to their lower average.

Membership Numbers

There is no way to gloss over the significant drop in Ontario membership numbers, consisting largely of those who joined CAMWS in order to present or attend the 2017 meeting in Kitchener. The Manitoba and Saskatchewan membership, while low, held and even grew modestly.

Classical Studies – Canada - trends

In Canada, Classical Studies, ancient history, and Latin and Greek study begins in universities. We do not have a great number of private and/or faith-based schools and most of our high schools do not teach Latin. High school enrolment figures in any of our subdiscipline classes are not available to us. That said, the following holds for ancient language study at both the secondary and post-secondary level: Winnipeg's Sisler High School has maintained its Latin class offering. The approximately eight schools in and around the GTA (Greater Toronto Area) have maintained courses in Greek and Roman history, Latin, and ancient culture over the past academic year. One of the latter also offers Ancient Greek to a small number of students (North Toronto Collegiate Institute). Despite the efforts of high school teachers and post-secondary instructors, most students do not continue their language studies at university. The trend for the study of Latin and Greek at Canadian universities is decidedly downward. And although there are enrolment number differences between BA, MA, and PhD granting institutions, enrolments after 1st year drop - and then plunge in 3rd and 4th year. The low number of students in intermediate and senior level language classes is mitigated by holding 3rd, 4th, and graduate level classes together.

A completely un-scientific set of numbers compiled from seven Ontario universities provides the following numbers. This chart closely tracks the tendency and national numbers reported at the Classical Association of Canada annual meeting in 2018.

	MA granting institutions	Phd granting institutions
1 st year Latin	25-50	50-60
1 st year Greek	10-18	15-20
2 nd year Latin	8-10	10-15
2 nd year Greek	2-8	8-10
3 rd , 4 th , & grad level Latin	10-12	10-14
3 rd , 4 th , & grad level Greek	6-8	8-s10

In the past four years the two Ontario institutions which required ancient language credits for an Honours degree have deleted this requirement (Brock and Waterloo). And in the past three years, two Ontario institutions (Queen's and Waterloo) have begun MA programmes that do not require study of either Greek or Latin.

Although the numbers of Classical Studies/Classics majors also continue to slow, and although all three provinces belonging to CAMWS are now under conservative governments and expecting cuts (or further cuts), not all is doom and gloom. Classical Studies departments are carefully balancing service teaching with the maintenance of small enrolment courses in art, literature, history, and the ancient languages. At McMaster University courses in medical terminology draw over 1700 students annually. The University of Waterloo regularly offers two super-sections of introductory mythology per year (ca. 1500 students). Greek and Roman Civilization courses are also offered to significant numbers as a way to generate numbers and revenue. Other ways of ensuring program strength includes alternating 1st and 2nd year Greek and Latin courses, and committing to teaching all low enrolment courses extra-to-load.

Classical Studies outreach efforts - Canada

Across the three CAMWS provinces, a good deal of outreach is done on behalf of Classical Studies. Of particular note in the last year are the following:

- David Meban (Classics, University of Regina – Campion College) was announced as one of the University of Regina's Teaching and Learning Scholars. His project is entitled "A Student Driven Approach to Indigenization in Classics and the Humanities." David will be convening roundtables on Indigenizing the Classics at CAMWS in Lincoln and in Hamilton in May, at the Classical Association of Canada annual meeting.
- At the University of Winnipeg the "New Directions in Classics" lecture series launched into its second year. Organized by Dr Peter Miller and alumna Ruth Dickinson, this year featured eight lectures by local and

- visiting academics. Entirely unfunded, this series is nonetheless extremely successful and consistently draw at least 50 members of the university and broader community. The success is largely due to Dr Miller reaching out personally to many, many people.
- Dr Melissa Funke and alumna Simone Obendoefer, both working on the "Lux Project", a digital databank of images of ancient lamps in the Hetherington Collection (UWinnipeg), held a workshop for 8-10 year olds to make lamps from moulds. The kids were thrilled with the activity and the chance to see and handle real ancient lamps right in the middle of North America.
 - Waterloo Institute for Hellenistic Studies (UWaterloo) co-sponsored and hosted the workshop "The Parochial Polis. Localism and the Ancient Greek City-State"
 - UWaterloo, McMasterU, York, and UToronto all sent professors to participate in the Ontario Classical Association's half-day of lectures for high school teachers of Latin, Greek, and ancient history and culture
 - the Ontario Classical Association continues to promote Classical Studies at the high school level, ensuring that Latin and ancient history courses are accepted within subject areas for Ontario teacher training
 - Brock University hosted the annual Ontario Student Classics Conference, an event in May which brings together approximately 500 students who compete in academic, creative, and athletic events, all based on aspects of ancient Greco-Roman life
 - Students from Brock, Waterloo, Wilfred Laurier, York and McMaster continue to participate in the Canadian Institute in Greece as interns
 - the Classical Association of Canada continues to hold its annual meetings to disseminate new work and approaches, and to do outreach work through various social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, and different blogs)

Concerns voiced – Canada

Although much is done to ensure that Classical Studies remains a force in secondary and post-secondary institutions, I am beginning to see that CAMWS is a harder sell than I anticipated. Some observations from the three provincial representatives and myself:

- the annual meeting in Canada (Kitchener 2017) went some distance to dispel the notion that CAMWS is an American organization
- if a university or college instructor or professor has to make a choice between the CAC, OCA, and CAMWS, then the choice is usually the Canadian association or the Ontario Classical Association
- the timing of the annual meeting is a real challenge for Canadian faculty as their entire academic year is wrapping up as the meeting takes place

- the missing archaeological/material culture piece. Several colleagues expressed the opinion that CAMWS is largely an organization for philologists. Further, the meeting is held at a time when many are setting off on their fieldwork
- the annual time for reaching out to members and to those who might become members is also challenging as Canadian institutions generally begin teaching right after New Year's Day
- quite a few colleagues noted that CAMWS is not really on their radar. An increased presence on Twitter or Facebook might go some way to address this.

Future Plans - Canada

This is my second year representing CAMWS in Canada. I still think there is scope for growing CAMWS here and the following are some of the ways that I will try to create some growth:

- I will attend every pedagogy session in Lincoln and take notes on what CAMWS can offer non-American members in the way of teaching resources. I will also comb through the CAMWS website and make a specific list of pedagogical support and resource links. And I will comb through Tom Sienkewicz's emailed list of CAMWS benefits and specifically focus on the pedagogical ones. Afterward, I will meet with the provincial representatives at the CAC meeting at McMaster in May 2019 and come up with an email that details CAMWS benefits – specifically focused on the LOEB access and teaching resources. Finally, we will send out that email to all Classical Studies instructors in Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan in late August, a time when syllabi are being drawn up and online resources sought out.
- ensure that CAMWS members, especially institutional members, give CAMWS credit when awards are won. Send brief notices and links to the CAMWS Twitter and Facebook account holder. Further, all current CAMWS members need to be encouraged to connect with one of us so that CAMWS is given credit for supporting Canadian students, instructors, and the discipline in Canada.
- Include the Ontario Classical Association in an email detailing the benefits of CAMWS, in the hopes that some members will consider a CAMWS membership.

Respectfully submitted,

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