scholars, suggested that the region’s unenviable economic position was the result of harmful national policies designed to serve the politically powerful central provinces. Implicit in this analysis was the notion that if politics was part of the problem then perhaps it could also be part of the solution. If, for example, the wartime actions of Minister of Munitions and Supply C.D. Howe served to “accentuate and consolidate” regional disparities, then perhaps concerted effort by contemporary Maritime politicians at the federal and provincial levels might help alleviate regional underdevelopment.

Forbes was also an early regional proponent and practitioner of women’s history. As Janet Guildford and Suzanne Morton acknowledge, he was one of a number of male historians “caught up in the energy and excitement of women’s history . . . [that acknowledged] the role of women and the importance of gender as a category of analysis.” Yet his publications on women’s history still display that hallmark of Forbes work on regional politics: a willingness to challenge the historical orthodoxy. To this end, his essay on Edith Archibald and the Halifax feminist movement insightfully critiqued the accepted interpretation of Maritime women as inherently conservative – a theme that emerged in full bloom in his spirited and critical review of Carol Bacchi’s Liberation Deferred? The Ideas of the English Canadian Suffragists, 1877-1918.

While Forbes’s own research helped to bring Maritime issues to the scholarly forefront, he was also instrumental, through his edited works, in bringing the Atlantic region to the attention of a generation of Canadian undergraduates, this author included. His Four Years with the Demon Rum: The Autobiography and Diary of Temperance Inspector Clifford Rose has proven to be an enduring source for students and teachers of the temperance era in Atlantic Canada, while his New Brunswick Schools: A Guide to Archival Sources remains an indispensable source for members of history departments and education faculties alike.

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9 See E.R. Forbes and A.A. Mackenzie, Four Years with the Demon Rum: The Autobiography and Diary of Temperance Inspector Clifford Rose (Fredericton: Acadiensis Press, 1980) and E.R.
contribution to introducing Atlantic Canadian history to Canadians was through *The Atlantic Provinces in Confederation*, co-edited with long-time colleague and cribbage partner D.A. Muise. This richly detailed, multi-authored survey of Atlantic Canada from Confederation until the 1970s performs the difficult task of reconciling regional underdevelopment with national history by suggesting that the long tradition of Maritime political grievances, such as the Maritime Rights Movement on which Forbes had extensively published, were best viewed as “expressions of frustration at the perceived exclusion of the region from the full benefits of national union. Most protesters wanted more fully in, rather than out of, Confederation.”

Now almost 25 years old, this book can still be found on the shelves of almost all serious scholars of Atlantic Canada.

Despite the prolific publication record shown in this bibliography, Forbes’s impact on the history and historiography of Atlantic Canada was not confined to the written word. What this bibliography fails to reveal is the personal impact Forbes had on students of Atlantic Canadian history. As Judith Fingard suggests, Forbes “produced several generations of students who understood the regional dilemma of sharing a rich heritage with a marginalized present.” In the process he supervised over 30 graduate students, giving them “the opportunity to explore their roots through an amazing array of graduate thesis topics.” Their work is but one more example of Ernie Forbes’s enduring impact on Atlantic Canadian history.

COREY SLUMKOSKI

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