

Canadian Population Society Lifetime Award 2015

Roderic Beaujot, Ph.D.

The Canadian Population Society Lifetime Award honors a scholar who has shown outstanding commitment to the profession of demography in Canada and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to the advancement of the discipline, through publications, teaching and service. The award committee is pleased to announce this year's recipient as Roderic Beaujot, Professor Emeritus at Western University.

With a PhD in Sociology from University of Alberta (1975), Rod started his career as a demographer at Statistics Canada. After a few years at Stats Can, Rod moved to the University of Western Ontario (now Western University). From the latter 1970s through to the present, Rod established an outstanding career in terms of research, administration and training over a period now spanning 4 decades.

Achieving the rank of Full Professor in 1989, Professor Beaujot served as the Director of the Population Studies Center on three separate occasions (1985-89; 2004-08; 2010-11). Over this same period, his CV lists 197 publications, including 11 books, 60 papers in referred journals and over 50 book chapters. Rod has published in a wide range of scholarly journals, including both international journals in demography and family studies (*Journal of Family Issues*, *Population and Development Review*, *Population Studies*, *Population*, *Demographic Research*, *Social Indicators Research*) and Canadian journals (*Canadian Studies in Population*, *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Cahiers québécois de démographie*). Rod has also acted as the primary advisor to 14 PhD and 28 MA students, not to mention serve in a secondary supervisory role or examiner for an additional 80 graduate students. For this reason, Rod has been an inspirational and influential figure to many, including dozens of former students who are now continuing his tradition of research as demographers and sociologists in a wide variety of academic and government institutions.

Professor Beaujot has been both the President of the Federation of Canadian Demographers (1988-1992) and the Canadian Population Society (2000-2002). With the FCD, Beaujot led the Canadian bid to hold the 1993 IUSSP Congress in Montreal. At more recent IUSSP conferences, he has organized sessions on the "Causes of Low Fertility" (2005) and "Childlessness" (2013). In addition, Rod was a member of the Canadian Delegation at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) where he helped fund and organize the IUSSP Distinguished Lecture Series, including the publication of a summary which appeared in *Canadian Studies in Population* (1996).

Rod has maintained his ties at Statistics Canada, serving as the Chair of Statistics Canada's Advisory Committee on Demographic Statistics and Studies (1994-present). Rod has repeatedly recognized the quality of the work produced by Statistics Canada as well as the importance of his early work experience at Stats Can in shaping his future research accomplishments. He has also acted, very recently, as both Executive Committee Member of the Canadian Research Data Centre Network (2010-2014) and Academic Director of Western's Research Data Center (2004-2014).

As Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Western, Professor Beaujot has continued on in his role as Principal Investigator for the “Population Change and Life course Cluster” (2007-2014), one of only fifteen strategic knowledge clusters funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The primary emphasis of this cluster has been to promote research on the relationship between population structure and the lives of individuals. In so doing, this research cluster has brought together the joint efforts of over 200 affiliated researchers from over 30 Canadian universities and government agencies. Just this past March, this strategic cluster had its culminating event after 8 years of operation in its final Conference on Population Change and the Lifecourse: Taking Stock and Looking to the Future. Consistent with Rod’s long term academic interest, much of the research produced by this cluster demonstrates the utility of demographic and social research in informing social planning and public policy.

Professor Beaujot's research interests include evolving demographics (fertility, mortality, immigration, internal migration, aging, regional distribution) and implications for social policy (in areas such as health, family, labour force, language, multiculturalism, equal opportunity, pensions, education, and social security). On fertility, his research interests include questions of gender and families, especially the earning and caring activities over the life course as seen in the division of paid and unpaid work, and how these form the context through which to interpret childbearing behavior. Yet perhaps as the most outstanding research accomplishment to date, Professor Beaujot was honored in 2001 with the John Porter Award from the Canadian Sociology Association for his book *Earning and Caring in Canadian Families* (Broadview Press, 2000). This award is meant to recognize an “outstanding published scholarly contribution within the ‘John Porter tradition’ to the advancement of sociological knowledge of Canada.”

As Ellen Gee wrote in her letter of nomination “*While lip service is often given to the relations between production and reproduction, these are rarely analyzed through the interplay of family and work, at both the macro and micro levels of analysis. The general theoretical orientation based on the tension between caring and earning provides a useful and interesting way to understand much of contemporary family life and family policy. By defining families as comprised of people who come together in instrumental and expressive activities, specifically in earning a living and caring for each other, Roderic Beaujot provides much insight into the dynamics of gender, family, and work, along with much supporting evidence for the stability and change in these dynamics in Canadian society. In the Porter tradition, Beaujot pays much attention to the various bases for inequality, including inequality by gender. He highlights the ways in which the interplay of family and work, and the division of productive activities, need to be central to our understanding of gender inequalities and stratification. This brings him to policy orientations that seek to establish greater common ground across gender and a more equitable balance of paid and unpaid work between women and men*”.

Although we obviously know the great impact Rod has had on demographic knowledge in Canada, we stayed close to his Curriculum Vitae, to prepare the above part of this letter of nomination. This results in statistics, such as about 200 scientific publications, several dozen of graduated students supervised, etc. As you can see, this can make you dizzy or perhaps envious. But that does not fully convey the great reputation he holds among Canadian demographers and most notably among colleagues that most know him. In accordance with the nomination procedures, the nominating committee received four letters of support from eminent Canadian

demographers who have known very well Rod Beaujot, some of them for 40 years. All letters of support were very complimentary and stressed how generous he has always been in sharing his “encyclopedic knowledge”, as Kevin McQuillan puts it, with collaborators and in guiding students.

If, like T.R. Balakrishnan we resume in a few words Rod’s illustrious career and, incidentally, the content of the letters of support, we would use three words to summarize Rod’s contribution: diversity, quantity and quality. Diversity in the object of research; Rod Beaujot has virtually studied all the demographic domains and it might be too long to enumerate them here, but Evelyne Lapierre-Adamcyck does in her letter of support and she also nicely sets in a short sentence this remarkable capacity to treat deeply a great number of research domains : “Rarely do we see a researcher deal comprehensively and appropriately as great a variety of areas of interest”. Anatole Romaniuk talks of *his omnipresence* in the field of demography in its various dimensions the creation of science, the transmission to younger generations and the diffusion.

On behalf of the Canadian Population Society, congratulations, Roderic Beaujot, on receiving this much deserved career contribution award.

The 2015 CPS Lifetime Award Committee
Alain Bélanger
Don Kerr
Michael Haan

15 mai 2015

Objet: Lettre d’appui à la nomination de Monsieur Roderic Beaujot pour le « Lifetime Award » de la Canadian Population Society

C’est avec grand plaisir que je vous écris pour appuyer la candidature de Roderic Beaujot au *Lifetime Award* que la Canadian Population Society décerne aux démographes canadiens de grande réputation. Redécouvrir la remarquable vie professionnelle d’un collègue admiré me fait en même revoir la passionnante histoire démographique de la population canadienne tout au long du XXe siècle. Je connais Roderic Beaujot depuis le début de sa carrière; la première fois que je l’ai vu, c’était dans un colloque organisé par les sociologues à l’occasion du Congrès annuel des Sociétés savantes en 1973. Il m’avait alors fort impressionnée par la qualité de sa communication, en particulier par la profondeur de la documentation sur laquelle il se fondait et la qualité de la synthèse qu’il en avait tirée. Quelque quarante plus tard, je regarde son immense production et je constate qu’il a conservé tout au fil des années cette connaissance approfondie des divers phénomènes de population et de tous les travaux qui les ont analysés et interprétés. Il a

d'ailleurs lui-même analysé les données démographiques avec imagination et minutie pour contribuer à en creuser la signification, alimentant de façon soutenue le débat scientifique et politique.

Roderic Beaujot s'est singularisé par, je dirais, une « manière de faire » où d'abord il s'oblige systématiquement à découvrir, à approfondir et à faire sien le savoir qui porte sur les sujets sur lesquels il travaille. Ensuite, il analyse de nouvelles données, vérifie des hypothèses, revient constamment aux vérifications empiriques mais ne se laisse pas enfermer par cette démarche, synthétise, réfléchit, intègre ses résultats et les confronte aux connaissances déjà acquises, suggère des pistes non explorées, identifie les problèmes, lance des idées nouvelles, suscite quelques controverses en s'attaquant parfois à des idées reçues; il fait tout cela avec persistance, avec acharnement même, mais il le fait surtout avec profondeur et intelligence; il est solide, ouvert sur les débats scientifiques et capable de les conduire sans esprit pamphlétaire.

La « manière » de Roderic Beaujot, pourrions-nous dire, est celle des petits pas, mais « petits pas » qui ne tournent pas en rond, qui permettent d'avancer, de faire avancer les connaissances. La liste de ses publications et de ses diverses activités montrent bien, que non seulement il fait avancer les connaissances, mais qu'elles ne se limitent pas à un seul domaine; Roderic Beaujot a abordé à peu près tous les domaines touchés par les phénomènes démographiques, tels la fécondité, l'immigration, la transition démographique, la nuptialité et ses transformations, la vie familiale, le partage du travail domestique entre conjoints, le conflit entre travail professionnel et vie familiale, l'emploi et sa continuité, l'ethnicité et les questions linguistiques, la mortalité dans les pays en émergence, les effets sociaux des changements démographiques, l'évolution dans le temps de la population canadienne, les politiques de population en général, et les politiques relatives à l'immigration et à la famille. Rarement voit-on un chercheur traiter de façon approfondie et pertinente une variété aussi grande de champs d'intérêt.

De plus, en général, les publications de Roderic Beaujot correspondent à de textes accessibles à tout lecteur intelligent prêt à faire un petit effort pour mieux comprendre la société dans laquelle il vit. Sa façon de faire conduit aussi à la production d'ouvrages qui englobent les connaissances qui émanent des deux traditions scientifiques qui marquent la démographie canadienne; peu de démographes canadiens ont intégré, comme Roderic Beaujot l'a fait, les travaux québécois et canadiens; sa contribution est à cet égard exemplaire et devrait servir d'inspiration à la communauté des scientifiques des sciences sociales et humaines. C'est d'ailleurs cette capacité d'interprétation qui a fait de lui l'un des plus ardents et des plus efficaces promoteurs des études démographiques mises au service de l'élaboration des politiques publiques, de la prise de décision et de l'évaluation des programmes sociaux mis en place.

J'ai une grande admiration pour le travail d'un collègue remarquable par son érudition, par l'ampleur des champs d'intérêt qui ont retenu son attention au cours des années, par la rare qualité de son esprit de synthèse et par la profondeur de sa compréhension des questions auxquelles il s'attaque.

C'est donc avec un grand enthousiasme que j'appuie la nomination de Roderic Beaujot au Lifetime Award de la Canadian Population Society.

Evelyne Lapierre-Adamcyk
Professeure émérite
Département de démographie
Université de Montréal

Re: Roderic Beaujot nomination for the CPS Life Time Award (2015)

It is with enthusiasm that I am lending my support in favour of Prof. Roderic Beaujot's nomination for the biannual **CPS Life Time Award**. I have known Rod since he began his professional and intellectual career – beginning with his time at Statistics Canada, and then over the years as professor of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario. I am as well acquainted with his research output, having used it many times in my own work, and have been asked on several occasions to act as a referee or write a review of one of his works. For example my review in *Population and Development Review* of the important book he co-authored with prof. Don Kerr, *Population Change in Canada* – a book that remains a classic in the literature on demography of Canada. I also had the privilege of working with Rod on various committees and boards. Therefore, I can speak, if I may say so, with some authority of Rod's personality and his contribution in various capacities to the field of population studies. While focused primarily on the domestic Canadian population problematique, he has also engaged in population issues on an international scale.

What will strike anyone going over his intellectual and professional activities as a demographer is *his omnipresence* in the field of demography in its various dimensions -- the creation of science (research), its transmission to younger generations (university teacher), and its diffusion (publications). Not the least remarkable is Rod as “activist”, highly constructive I should add, in our professional fraternity.

His CV is amazingly rich and diverse. Highlights include:

- His research covers a wide spectrum of fields: fertility, immigration, gender, family, human resources, substantive and technical demography.
- His research includes, to his credit, eight books and monographs, three edited books, 53 chapters in books and 63 papers in refereed journals and 14 in other journals. A large number of outputs indeed by any standards of academic performance and excellence.
- As a member of editorial boards of journals, such as *Canadian Public Policy*, or *Canadian Studies in Population*, amongst others, he helped maintain high scholarship standards and shape the diffusion of scholarly works.
- His participation in various national and international committees dealing with population issues (eg. the Advisory Committee on Demographic Statistics and Studies at Statistics Canada being one of them) helped shape federal government policies and programs related to family, human resources and immigration.
- He has behind him a long career as professor at the University of Western Ontario. Yet upon his retirement, he remains as active as ever in demography as population science and his participation in organisational activities of our demographic fraternity.

Though Prof. Beaujot has made his name widely known in Canadian demography, he has been no stranger to the international scene. His presence was felt in a variety of international activities. His work in Morocco and Tunisia gave him the opportunity to be sensitised to demographic problems in the Arab world. However, on the periphery, Africa was on his radar as well. These involvements and his active participation at many world demographic forums gave him the opportunity to inject an international dimension into policy debates in Canada on issues such as immigration, technical assistance and family planning geared towards developing countries.

One point is often overlooked: the handling of political sensitive matters. Roderic is not shy to address constructively politically sensitive issues. He manages to treat such issues frankly while adopting a tone and style appropriate to academic discourse.

It is not the first time that his scholarly contributions are being evaluated. He is the beneficiary of the 2001 John Porter Award of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association for earning and caring in Canadian Families (Broadview Press, 2000) in recognition of “outstanding published scholarly contributions within the ‘John Porter tradition’ to the advancement of the sociological and/or anthropological knowledge of Canada”.

In conclusion, based on my evaluation of Professor Roderic Beaujot’s scholarly, academic and institutional contribution in the field of population science and policy, it is my conviction that he fully deserves the CPS Life Time Award.

Anatole (Romaniuk)

Re: Roderic Beaujot nomination for the CPS Life Time Award (2015)

Roderic Beaujot has dedicated his career to advancing the cause of demography in Canada. A francophone from Saskatchewan, who studied under Karol Krotki at the University of Alberta, he is almost uniquely qualified to play a central role in our discipline in Canada. Rod’s contributions to research, teaching, and the advancement of our discipline are enormous. He has built a long bibliography of works in books, articles, and popular publications that have enriched and deepened our knowledge of Canada’s population. Rod’s special interests have been in the areas of family and immigration. Although so many of his works deserve attention, his book *Earning and Caring in Canadian Families*, published by Broadview in 2000 and winner of the distinguished Porter Prize from the Canadian Sociology Association, best summarizes Rod’s contribution to research and policy. His meticulous attention to detail, encyclopedic knowledge of the literature, and his willingness to draw upon and credit the work of others are all in evidence in this wonderful book.

Perhaps less known, is Rod's extraordinary work as a supervisor of graduate students. In his many years at the University of Western Ontario, Rod has guided more students to their graduate degrees than any other member of the faculty. As those of us who have had the privilege to work closely with him know, Rod is a patient, encouraging, and tireless supervisor. He works with the strongest students and those who need more help and support. He pushes them to do their best work and to consider the implications of their research for policy issues. Through them, he has made a major contribution to the development of our discipline in Canada and beyond.

All of us who study Canada's demography know of Rod's huge contribution to the profession. He has contributed to the Canadian Population Society and the Federation of Canadian Demographers continuously over his career, serving as President of both groups at different times. But even when not on the executives, he has always been ready to contribute his time and amazing organizational skills to advance the cause of demographic research and aid young researchers. His leadership of the SSHRC-funded Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Research Cluster has helped researchers young and old from across the country and strengthened the connection between academic research and public policy.

For his long career of scholarship, teaching, and generous service to the profession of demography in Canada, Roderic Beaujot is richly deserving of the Canadian Population Society's award.

Kevin McQuillan, University of Calgary

Re: Nomination Roderic Beaujot

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter in support of the nomination of Dr Roderic Beaujot for the 2015 CPS Lifetime achievement award. Over the years I have come to know Rod well, since his arrival at Western university in 1976. I watched him grow from a fresh PhD to a distinguished professor and researcher. Through hard work, dedication, and a great interest in population matters his contribution to Canadian demography has been enormous. I will not repeat his accomplishments as they are well presented in his curriculum vita. His long and illustrious career is characterized by the diversity, quantity and quality of his contributions not only in his publications, but also in his training and mentoring of a large number of students, and the dissemination of knowledge in excellent text books.

I should point out some of the things that have especially impressed me regarding Rod. He is creative and conscientious. His contributions to the study of Family in Canada are very significant and original. He has published a large number of articles on The Changing Canadian Family resulting in the book Earning and Caring in Canadian Families which won the prestigious Porter award. His research on Population Change and Lifecourse is equally significant.

Apart from his outstanding research contributions, Rod has excelled in areas where many others have not. His commitment to his students is unparalleled. He was chief supervisor to 14 PhDs, and 28 MAs and external examiner to 9 PhDs. He has co-authored a huge number of articles with his students, demonstrating his concern in helping them started in their careers. He has selflessly given his time to his students. He took the time to write two excellent textbooks in Canadian demography which are widely used in university courses.

Rod has been extremely active in the profession. He has been the president of the Canadian Population Society, president of the Federation of Canadian Demographers and Chair of the Demographic Advisory Committee to the Statistics Canada as well as holding positions in other professional associations, both domestic and international.

He is one of the foremost demographers in Canada , a man dedicated to excellence in our field. He richly deserves the highest award of the Canadian Population Society.

T.R.Balakrishnan
Emeritus Professor
Western University