"Obscenity and Ethics? The Unexpected Challenges of Writing a Comparative Historiography of North American Borderlands"

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In spite of the recent decades of scholarship about agency and power and giving a voice to unheard peoples, historians don’t actually spend a great deal of time mulling over the ethical implications of our work. Historiographical analyses in particular seem safely dry and abstract enough to avoid uncomfortable issues. In this talk I will explore the unexpected challenges I’ve been facing as I try to write a monograph comparing the recent historiographies of the northern and southern borderlands of the U.S. West.

After receiving her B.A. from the U of C in 1992, Sheila McManus went on to get a couple more degrees and has taught at the University of Lethbridge since 2003.