Board Director biography

Marcel Martel

Avie Bennett Historica Canada Chair in Canadian History, York University

Chair, ASPP Academic Council

Marcel Martel has been a Professor at York University’s Department of History since 1998 and holds the Avie Bennett Historica Canada Chair in Canadian History. His research work focuses on our national imagination, identity transformations, and the role of social actors in the development of public policy.


Marcel Martel won the Michel-Brunet Award from the Institut d’histoire de l’Amérique française (History of French America institute) for his book *Le deuil d’un pays imaginé* (The demise of an imagined homeland). He also received awards from Quebec’s National Assembly and the Speaker of the Quebec National Assembly for *Speaking Up: A History of Language and Politics in Canada and Quebec*.

In addition to organizing numerous conferences and participating in many national and international symposiums, Marcel Martel has been a guest lecturer at the Free University of Berlin, the Sorbonne in France, and Meiji University in Japan. In 2017, he was elected to the Royal Society of Canada. His current research projects deal with the celebration of national holidays, the staging of collective identities, mental health, and minority groups.