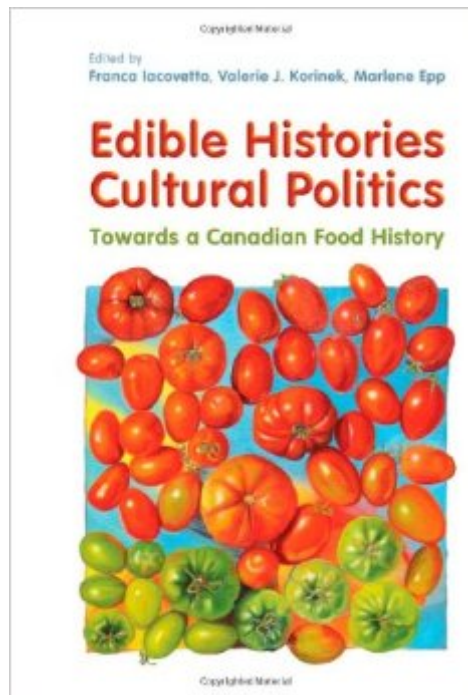


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# Edible Histories, Cultural Politics: Towards A Canadian Food History



## Synopsis

Just as the Canada's rich past resists any singular narrative, there is no such thing as a singular Canadian food tradition. This new book explores Canada's diverse food cultures and the varied relationships that Canadians have had historically with food practices in the context of community, region, nation and beyond. Based on findings from menus, cookbooks, government documents, advertisements, media sources, oral histories, memoirs, and archival collections, *Edible Histories* offers a veritable feast of original research on Canada's food history and its relationship to culture and politics. This exciting collection explores a wide variety of topics, including urban restaurant culture, ethnic cuisines, and the controversial history of margarine in Canada. It also covers a broad time-span, from early contact between European settlers and First Nations through the end of the twentieth century. *Edible Histories* intertwines information of Canada's 'foodways' – the practices and traditions associated with food and food preparation – and stories of immigration, politics, gender, economics, science, medicine and religion. Sophisticated, culturally sensitive, and accessible, *Edible Histories* will appeal to students, historians, and foodies alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Certainly an eclectic mix of small reports, that is for sure. That would be the best way of describing this book that seeks to look at the rich and diverse underlying cultures that contribute towards Canada's food tradition. "The Role of Food in Canadian Expressions of Christianity", "Rational Meals for the Traditional Family: Nutrition in Quebec School Manuals, 1900-1960", "Gefilte Fish and

Roast Duck with Orange Slices: A Treasure for My Daughter and the Creation of a Jewish Cultural Orthodoxy in Postwar Montreal" and "John Bull and Sons: The Empire Marketing Board and the Creation of a British Imperial Food System" are amongst the 23 different sections in this curious book. It is clear that this is not for everyone, despite the fairly diverse contents whereby at least one chapter should appeal. Unfortunately the price and the academic nature will be a barrier too far for many. For anyone with an academic bent studying this sort of thing this is a clear goldmine. It also crosses so many academic disciplines and interests, pulling together research from sources such as menus, cookbooks, government documents, advertisements, media sources, oral histories, memoirs and archival collections. "The Role of Food in Canadian Expressions of Christianity", "Rational Meals for the Traditional Family: Nutrition in Quebec School Manuals, 1900-1960", "Gefilte Fish and Roast Duck with Orange Slices: A Treasure for My Daughter and the Creation of a Jewish Cultural Orthodoxy in Postwar Montreal" and "John Bull and Sons: The Empire Marketing Board and the Creation of a British Imperial Food System" are amongst the 23 different sections in this curious book. It is unfortunate, but understandable, that the book cannot be made more 'general access' without compromising its academic integrity.

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