## **From the Editors**



Snow is still on the ground in Athabasca as we write this, so it's perhaps not too unreasonable for this winter 2007/08 issue of *Canadian Folk Music* to be heading for the printers in April. We had originally intended it to be a miscellaneous catch-up issue, gathering together various things, including a goodly number of CD reviews, that have been squeezed out of the last two editions. There are now a few less reviews because the sad news of Vera Johnson's passing has turned it also into an obituary issue for Vera. We thank in particular Mike Ballantyne and George Lyon for their help in this regard. Mike has also put together an excellent publication of the British Columbia Folklore Society titled *That's What I Believe: The Recorded Songs of Vera Johnson*, which includes CD copies of two of her LPs. We highly recommended it. For information contact info@folklore.bc.ca. If you do obtain a copy, you will notice a little duplication between that publication and this, the result of two simultaneous initiatives to celebrate Vera's life and songs. Not to worry—if it gets more performers reviving Vera's "Bald Eagle", all to the good!

Although we see *Canadian Folk Music* as an ordinary-language review (a "transfer journal", in SSHRC-speak) concerned primarily with Canadian vernacular music and its various source traditions, we are also happy to print other articles—provided they are written in plain English (or French)—by Canadian scholars in the fields of folklore, ethnomusicology, musicology, history, and cultural studies (among others). We have in the past included pieces on African and Chinese music, and on this occasion we have a lively essay written by the Society's former president, Norman Stanfield of the University of British Columbia, on the history and provenance of the lowly tambourine. The issue also includes some more of Rosaleen's repertoire of Child ballads, the minutes and associated documents (for the historical record) of the CSTM's annual meeting in Edmonton, and, of course, the usual CD reviews.

We now welcome submissions for the 2008 issues of *Canadian Folk Music*, in either of the official languages. David & Rosaleen Gregory

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