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Peter N. Moogk

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THE MAKING OF FRENCH CANADA—
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Peter N. Moogk : La Nouvelle France: The Making of French Canada--A Cultural History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised La Nouvelle France: The Making of French Canada--A Cultural History:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Great readBy meMy first Quebec ancestor was a miller on the Ile d'Orleans in 1640s. I often wonder about the cultural history of my grandparents who grew up in the St. Lawrence Valley and immigrated to New England in the 1920s. This book gave great insight to the beliefs and values of French

Canadiens. It offered diverse information on the history, economy, and social structure, and even mentioned a few words I grew up with that are from native Indian language, not French. It was interesting to read how much influence France's King Louis XIV had in the early years, and how strong the Catholic teachings had on everyday life and on non-Catholic immigration. Continued research on the same topics, or revision of this book to include research that was omitted in the first print would be welcome. Seems there is likely a wealth of information left to share. As for other reader comment on Quebec's recent history, it deserves much more attention than could be addressed in this book. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. excellent sociological study By albert ciullo I have been interested in this part of the world for many years and I have read many books on the subject. This study takes a different approach which I found very interesting and informative. I did not agree with all the conclusions, but each reader can make their own decision. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Graduate work By gade04 I enjoyed this book. Moogk does a fine job of explaining how the people of New France created their own culture. This book is about the people of New France rather than a listing of facts about Canadian events.

On one level, Peter Moogk's latest book, *La Nouvelle France: The Making of French Canada A Cultural History*, is a candid exploration of the troubled historical relationship that exists between the inhabitants of French- and English-speaking Canada. At the same time, it is a long-overdue study of the colonial social institutions, values, and experiences that shaped modern French Canada. Moogk draws on a rich body of evidence literature; statistical studies; government, legal, and private documents in France, Britain, and North America and traces the roots of the Anglo-French cultural struggle to the seventeenth century. In so doing, he discovered a New France vastly different from the one portrayed in popular mythology. French relations with Native Peoples, for instance, were strained. The colony of New France was really no single entity, but rather a chain of loosely aligned outposts stretching from Newfoundland in the east to the Illinois Country in the west. Moogk also found that many early immigrants to New France were reluctant exiles from their homeland and that a high percentage returned to Europe. Those who stayed, the Acadians and Canadians, were politically conservative and retained Old Regime values: feudal social hierarchies remained strong; one's individualism tended to be familial, not personal; Roman Catholicism molded attitudes and was as important as language in defining Acadian and Canadian identities. It was, Moogk concludes, the pre-French Revolution Bourbon monarchy and its institutions that shaped modern French Canada, in particular the Province of Quebec, and set its people apart from the rest of the nation.

About the Author Peter N. Moogk is Professor of History at the University of British Columbia.