

PREFACE

This volume celebrates two anniversaries. One is the bicentennial of Ontario, and the other is the centennial of the beginnings of Hungarian settlement in Canada. Ontario's bicentennial was held in 1984, and the 100th anniversary of Hungarian immigration to Canada is noted this year. Both of these dates are somewhat arbitrary. Constitutional experts would probably argue that 1991, marking the 200th anniversary of the creation of Upper Canada (by the Constitutional Act of 1791), is a more appropriate date for Ontario's bicentennial. At the same time, some students of immigration history might select a date before or after 1885 as being a more representative beginning of Hungarian ethnic life in this country. Be as it may, we thought that the mid-1980s represent a suitable time to publish a special issue of our journal dealing with the Hungarian experience in the Province of Ontario.

The appearance of this volume coincides with an important development in the history of Hungarian culture in Ontario. This event is the establishment of the Hungarian Research Institute, an scholarly organization affiliated with the University of Toronto. The Institute, which is the first of its kind in North America, is expected to continue on a more sophisticated level the work began by the Hungarian Readers' Service, and to complement the activities of the University of Toronto's Chair of Hungarian Studies. The Institute is planning to establish a close relationship with our journal with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of our efforts to serve the cause of Hungarian studies not only in Ontario but also in all of Canada and elsewhere in the world.

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Kingston, Ontario. December, 1985.
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