

**TITLE**

Representing History and Ethnography, Interacting with Heritage  
Analysing Museological Practices at the Huron-Wendat Museum

**ABSTRACT**

This master thesis is an analysis of the current specific actions on representation and interaction taken in contemporary ethnographic museums. The aim is to highlight museology pathways used to represent local indigenous culture and to explore how the public is involved with and relates to these specific discourses on heritage. Special attention will be devoted to the study of the shift of museums from authoritative places of education to socially inclusive spaces. The mission of heritage professionals in terms of representation will be analysed, as well as their work on the notions of accessibility and involvement for and with the public. The Huron-Wendat Museum in Wendake, Québec, serves to investigate these museum practices. Drawing from thorough fieldwork and extensive secondary literature, this master thesis will further probe the prevailing notions of identity, continuity and unity of the new museology in a postcolonial context.

**KEYWORDS**

ethnographic museums; new museology; cultural heritage; representation; interaction; social inclusion; First Nations; postcolonialism