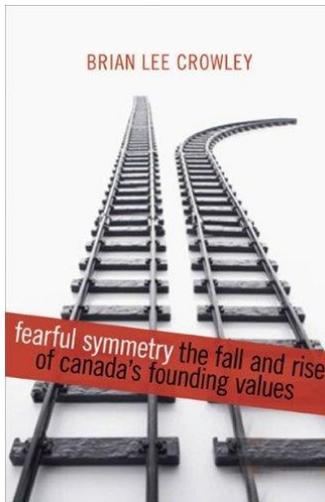


Fearful Symmetry: The Fall and Rise of Canada's Founding Values

By Brian Lee Crowley. To be published by [Key Porter Books](#), September 18th, 2009.
Available now for pre-order on-line from both [Chapters/Indigo](#) and [Amazon](#).



Two forces have shaped Canada profoundly in the last fifty years: the entry of Boomers into the workforce and the rise of a separatist Quebec nationalism. Large-scale unemployment plus the threat of the breakup of the country caused Canada to jettison its traditional values—a ferocious work ethic, a commitment to the family as the most important social institution, a suspicion of overweening government and an aversion to dependence—in favour of a vast expansion of the welfare state. We rapidly became a nation of “takers” rather than the “makers” we had always been. But the tide is about to turn with a vengeance: the Boomers are retiring and Quebec nationalism is increasingly a spent force, presaging a resurgence of our founders’ values that had served us so well. Thought-provoking and meticulously documented, *Fearful Symmetry* will change the way you think about Canada.

Some of the comments so far about *Fearful Symmetry*

“A profoundly important book. ... nothing less than a revolution in our way of looking at Canada, its history, and its future.” —Andrew Coyne (from the Foreword).

“The book really is marvelous: challenging, original, thought-provoking, smart and brave.”
—David Frum

“An original, lucid and witty exposition of how the Canadian state became a giant coercive Ponzi scheme with harmful effects on the culture, the institutions, the work ethic, the families and, above all, the character of Canadians themselves.”

—Theodore Dalrymple, *Our Culture, What's Left of It*

“This brilliantly original book will change the way you think about Canada”

—Margaret Wentz, *Globe and Mail*

“*Fearful Symmetry* is one of the most important analyses yet written of the recent history and directions of Canadian public policy.” —Michael Bliss, *Right Honourable Men*

"A stimulating read. This excellent analysis by a distinguished and original public policy expert is a fine effort to map out the next national *raison d'être*."

–Conrad Black, *Franklin Delano Roosevelt*

"An outstanding intellectual achievement."

–Barbara Kay, *National Post*

"Remarkably original and will deservedly have *l'effet d'une bombe* when it is published...A must book."

–William Johnson, *Globe and Mail*

"A blockbuster!"

–Janet Ajzenstat, *The Canadian Founding*

"A genuine *cri de coeur*...provides a fascinating account of the demographic forces transforming Canada and does so with a deep appreciation of the historical trends and political forces that have shaped the Canadian nation."

–Rudyard Griffiths, *Who We Are: A Citizen's Manifesto*

"Drawing on history, economics, political science, demography, philosophy, psychology, anthropology, sociology, even poetry, Crowley constructs an insightful new interpretation of Canada's still recent shift to Big Government and the "fearful symmetry" of the coming shift back to its more classically liberal origins. A 'must read'!" –Rainer Knopff, University of Calgary

"A bracing, relentless argument for a 'character-shift' that will release Canada from its torpor."

–William Thorsell, CEO, Royal Ontario Museum

"Brian has not only captured and crystallized some of the most critical conundrums facing the Canadian body politic, he has also provided a path out of our present policy perdition."

–Ken Boessenkool, Research Fellow, School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

About the author



Brian Lee Crowley is the founding President of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, Atlantic Canada's public policy think tank. He recently served as the Clifford Clark Visiting Economist at Finance Canada in Ottawa—the most senior independent economic advisor to the Department of Finance. Crowley is a frequent commentator on political and economic issues for the CBC, Radio-Canada and many other media, and is a former member of the Editorial Board of *The Globe and Mail* and of the National Political Panel on *Morningside* with the late Peter Gzowski on CBC Radio. His articles appear in *The Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *La Presse* and numerous regional and local newspapers. He holds degrees from McGill and the London School of Economics, including a doctorate in political economy from the latter. Contact: brianleecrowley@aims.ca