Dean's Message

As Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, it gives me great pleasure to introduce this first digital-only issue of *The Corvette*.

In reading past issues, I was struck with the diversity of subject matter, and the clarity of the writing and thoroughness of research in these essays. As professors, we often tell our students to follow their passion, and you will see here a passion for investigation and a dedication to probing multiple sources to get one step closer to the historical truth. Analytic skills such as problem solving, data analysis and clear presentations of complex ideas are all evident in these writings.

The team behind *The Corvette* also demonstrates the value of teamwork as we see undergraduates, graduates, and faculty working together to produce something more than the sum of the parts in this refereed journal.

Northrop Frye, the literary critic, was well-known for telling his students that ideas weren't ideas until they were written down. The process of writing clarifies our own thinking. The students writing here have built an argument by articulating their ideas. But lest I give the impression that all of these essays are merely cognitive therapy and mental exercise for our undergraduates, allow me to conclude by saying that they are an absolute delight to read.

Thanks to the authors and editorial team for putting this issue together and allowing us to showcase the talents of our students.

John A.

Dr. John Archibald Dean of Humanities University of Victoria