

**Cosponsored by the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy
and the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness**

At the very moment when the British Columbia Ministry of Education has begun talks on revisions of the provincial social studies curriculum, to place an emphasis on historical and geographic thinking, we are pleased to announce a lecture by

Paul Kiem

President, History Teacher's Association of Australia

***Challenges & Opportunities in Developing a National
History Curriculum: Lessons from Australia***

Friday, 21 September 2012, 4:00 p.m.

UBC, Scarfe building, room 1214

(refreshments will be served)

Whose history should be taught? Should history be combined with social studies? Should there be a national curriculum? How should the past be memorialized? What is the purpose of history? While these questions have preoccupied both Canadian and Australian history educators for some time, it may be argued that there was a clear failure to deal adequately with them prior to embarking on the current project to develop an Australian national history curriculum. While this undoubtedly added to the challenges inherent in such an ambitious undertaking, there is still room for optimism about the potential for an Australian national curriculum—one that highlights historical thinking—to create some wonderful opportunities for the teaching of history in Australian schools. In this presentation Paul Kiem will critically reflect on the experience of developing a national history curriculum and aim to provoke discussion about lessons learnt and their wider relevance.