

Andrew Sancton

Andrew Sancton, a native of Montreal, graduated from Bishop's University in 1968. He attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, obtaining a Bachelor of Philosophy degree in Politics in 1970 and his doctorate in 1978.

Most of his academic career has been spent at the University of Western Ontario in London, where he is now Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science. From 1986 until 1999 he was director of the Department's Local Government Program, which offers undergraduate and graduate education in public administration for municipal managers. Many of Canada's senior municipal officials have attended these courses. From 1998 until 2000 he was the president of the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration and a board member of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada.

Professor Sancton is the author of many publications relating to Canadian local government. His most recent book is *Merger Mania: The Assault on Local Government*, published by McGill-Queen's University Press in 2000. His work on the relationship between municipal amalgamations and cost savings won the 1996 J.E. Hodgetts award for the best English-language article in the journal *Canadian Public Administration*.

In recent years he has been both a consultant and an expert witness. He acted in these capacities in the debates about municipal amalgamation in Toronto and Montreal.

In March 2002 he was appointed by the Speaker of the House of Commons as one of three members of the federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario. The commission finished its work in August 2003 and the new boundaries are expected to be in place for the next federal election.