Continentalism points to and directs the reader to North America as an entity of English speaking peoples and thus embraces and treats the culture of the United States and Canada on a comparative basis. Nationhood emphasizes the growing awareness of Canada's development from the colonial and the post-colonial status to an independent community proud of her heritage to the old mother country of Great Britain.

The two terms together: Continentalism and Nationhood explain and explore Canadian identity as a new awareness in the New World.

Authors of this volume are all Europeans and are certainly among the most experienced Canadianists of this continent. The essays show how we see this fundamental issue of Canada and how we think our students should look at Canadian culture and literature and bear in mind the issues: Continentalism and Nationhood.

Budapest, November 2002.

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