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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Cultural Criticism in English Canada -- War and the Culture of Reconstruction 1939–1945 -- Light from the Crucible of War -- The Culture of Reconstruction -- Postwar Realities, Shifting Perspectives 1945–1957 -- Science and Religion in a Mass Culture -- Cultural Policy, Cultural Pessimism -- Full Circle: A Broadening Definition of Culture 1957–1967 -- Mass Media, Broadcasting, and Automation -- The Long Long Weekend: Centennial and Expo 67 -- Conclusion: A Secret Understanding -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	English-Canadian cultural critics from across the political spectrum championed self-improvement, self-awareness, and lively engagement with one's surroundings, struggling to find a balance between the social benefits of democracy and modernization and what they considered the debilitating influence of the accompanying mass culture. They used print and broadcast media in an attempt to convince Canadians that choosing wisely between varieties of culture was an expression of personal and national identity, making cultural nationalism in Canada a "middlebrow" project. As Kuffert argues, "if English Canadians are today more familiar with the ways in which modern life and mass culture envelop and define them, if they live in a

nation where private citizens and cultural institutions view the media as avenues of entertainment, as businesses, or as the means to construct identity, they should be aware of the role of wartime and post-war cultural critics" in creating those orientations toward culture.

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