



An Drochaid - The Bridge

Comhla ri Cheile ~ Together with Accord

Vol 52 Issue 4

AGM 2024 Newsletter

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Table of Contents

2	Bhon cheann-suidhe - From the Chair	36	Clan Irving - Clan Chiefs and Lairds of Bonshaw Tower and Drum Castle
4	Embracing the Future of Scottish Heritage in Canada: A Vision for CASSOC	39	Clan MacKinnon - New Member
5	Media Guidelines	40	Scottish Banner
6	Notice of Meeting	41	Scottish-Canadian Academic Partnership - Launch
7	AGM Agenda	42	Clan Sinclair Association of Canada
8	Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes	46	Scottish North American Community Conference
14	Concept for the Scots Canada App	48	The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys - Le Char-don et la fleur de Lys
16	Symposium for Growth and Success 2024 Survey	52	St Andrews Society of Toronto
18	Beyond Belief: The tragedy of Scotland's Church sell-off	56	Clan Designer
19	The Old Rugged Kirks of Scotland Project	57	Burnett's & Struth
20	Membership Report	58	Saltire Gathering
22	Roadshow Tracking Report	59	William Glen & Son
26	Clan Cameron Canadian Branch - Minimalist Modus Operandi	60	Tay Piping
27	ScotlandShop	61	Sheena's Scottish Shortbread
28	Celtic Life	62	An Drochaid - The Bridge
30	Edmonstone Clan Society	62	Taylor's Tartans
34	Hutchison House Museum		

Bhon cheann-suidhe - From the Chair

From the Chair:

It was from thinking about our 'interesting' times lately that I undertook research on the supposed Chinese curse "May you live in interesting times". Not too surprising, those who investigate the veracity of origins for quotes report that there is little basis for this origin story. However, there is the possibility that it is a miscommunication or adaptation of a Chinese adage which ends with "Truly, better to be a dog in days of peace than a human in times of war!".

More research led to various rabbit holes, some of which naturally bottomed with extremes and darkness. We're nowhere near these times as it would appear that our systems of checks and balances will work troubles out. I'm optimistic that all will go well for us if we heed the words of our Ploughman Poet "Dare to be honest and fear no labor."

Back in the Summer 2024 An Drochaid, we provided two articles that form the basis for changes in our membership classes, terms, status and associated change of name to be Scots Canada. Between then and now has certainly been guided by those above words from an essay. A lot of work and frank reckoning has gone into what is being presented to membership at the upcoming AGM. A following article, "**Embracing the Future of Scottish Heritage in Canada: A Vision for CASSOC**" speaks to this.

In this Issue

Annual General Meeting

The notice of meeting and agenda previously sent to delegates is provided along with the link for the required registration. I suggest that all considering attending what will be an important milestone for Scottish Culture and Heritage in Canada.

This is followed with a detailed explanation of the changes to the bylaw that is being proposed. I'll be truthful that there still is some work to be done for the bylaws in terms of tidying up and, importantly, eliminating some underlying inconsistencies.

Scots Canada App

The path to success for implementing a new class of membership and providing expanded benefits to all our members is through use of modern technology. Nowadays this is done by an integrated application/service that works on desktops done to mobile phones. Please considering answer the open call to membership in the article for volunteers for the design committee.

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

Symposium for Growth and Success - 2024

Following on the success of last year's sessions and input from attendees and our COSCA partners, we started the planning for the next series. It will only take around 10 minutes or less to complete the survey that we ask all from whatever level of involvement to complete.

The Selling Off of Scotland's Churches

I'll not say much here other than I've pulled back on the fangs that this story had me bare. As with our hoped full Scottish Artifacts initiative, this could be something that a true National Scottish Organization in Canada could do something about.

Membership Report

We're sad to report that we've had one member definitely leave. There's likely a couple more due to issues that we're hoping the membership term and status changes in the Amended Bylaw can help with. We do have a new member with Clan MacKinnon and, just before writing this, I replied to Clan Hay inquiry about joining. It was not hard to highlight all of the benefits of membership combined with what's to come from our evolution to being the National Scottish Organization of Canada.

Roadshow Tracking Report

The click track data that we started collecting is provided and reveals interesting info such as at what games do booth visitors show interest in our member groups. We've also learned from this data some ways to improve how we are tracking and, hopefully, some further analysis can help in other areas. By the way, we will have tracking in place for the member posters on the banners at the St.Andrews Charity Ball and OttScot's Hogman'Eh this year. More reporting in the Winter edition.

Plus

Please welcome our new member Clan MacKinnon, check out Anne Cameron's very interesting Minimalist Modus Operandi, digital editions and more from Celtic Life and Scottish Banner, an excellent article from Chief Rupert Irving of Bonshaw about Chiefs and Lairds, and more.

Cheers,

William Petrie

Chair, Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada

chair@scotscanada.ca

Embracing the Future of Scottish Heritage in Canada: A Vision for CASSOC

As we look towards a promising future for Scottish culture in Canada, the evolution of CASSOC stands as a beacon of hope. By transforming into a National Scottish Organization, CASSOC has the potential to not only thrive but also enhance the rich tapestry of our heritage for generations to come.

Here's some of what forms the foundation of this vision:

- My background as a Knowledge Architect/Analyst shapes my approach to problems by identifying true causes rather than merely addressing symptoms. In short, find the real problem!
- Like many heritage organizations, CASSOC has experienced cycles of prosperity and near extinction.
- CASSOC's operations rely exclusively on volunteers, almost all of whom are already deeply committed to their own organizations.
- A significant number of booth visitors we encountered over the past two years lack a clan, family, or society to join.
- The reality is that the majority of Scots, both in Scotland and abroad, do not belong to clans or families. As one clan president remarked, those without such connections should be pitied for lacking a sense of belonging.
- There is currently no national Scottish organization in Canada to represent the approximately 7 million Canadians of Scottish heritage, resulting in a lack of a unified national voice.
- Our clans, families, societies, festivals and businesses are the bedrock of Scottish culture in Canada and should act as its guardians.
- The activities of CASSOC—including the booth, symposium, newsletter, and Scots Canada Update—are primarily driven by the efforts of a few individuals, but these are finite resources in terms of energy, availability and longevity.
- Revenue from organizational membership is insufficient to support paid positions that could advance our initiatives.
- A larger membership base translates to a more substantial revenue stream, allowing for greater operational capacity.
- Addressing the sustainability challenge we face necessitates a pipeline strategy. Introducing perpetual memberships for all and a new class of household memberships may offer a viable solution.
- The original name of CASSOC does not adequately represent our current involvement with clans,

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

families, festivals/games, businesses, sports, museums, and media.

In summary, the proposed transformation of CASSOC into a National Scottish Organization aims to not only preserve our current membership class but also expand its mission to promote Scottish culture and heritage to all Canadians and beyond.

My concern is that if CASSOC does not take this initiative, a National Scottish Organization could emerge independently, eventually rendering CASSOC irrelevant and jeopardizing its survival in the face of future challenges.

I'm hopeful for your support in this initiative and welcome your thoughts on our plans and other aspects of our work. Together, we can ensure that Scottish culture continues to flourish in Canada by keeping the strategy for all boats to rise from our actions.

William Petrie

Chair, Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada

chair@scotscanada.ca

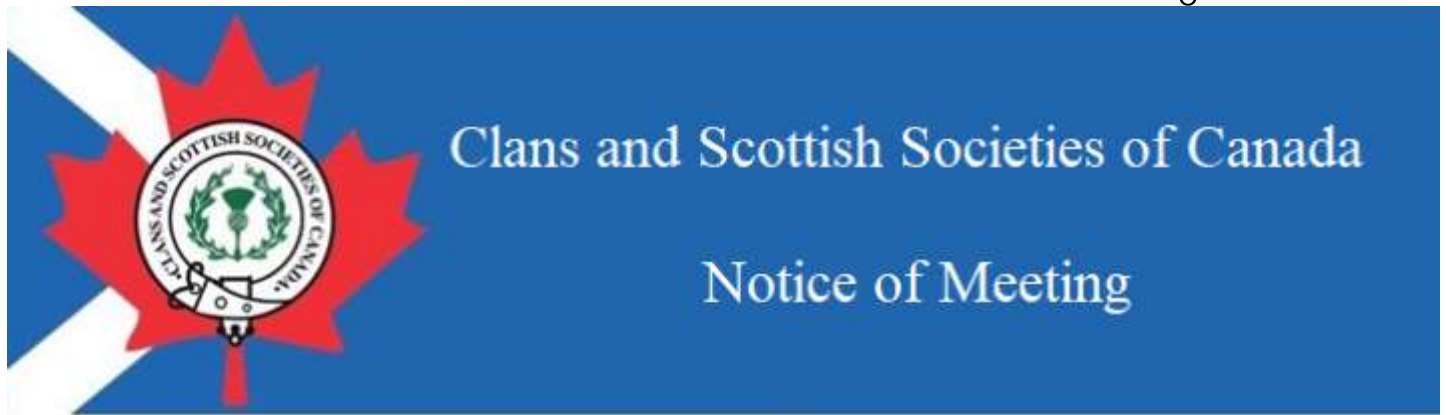
Media Guidelines

As we become more engaged with various forms of media, we need to set boundaries for acceptability when content affects our fellow members and the public as a whole, particularly regarding what reflects on CASSOC as an organization. CASSOC is an organization formed to promote Scottish culture and heritage.

Here are guidelines to help with this:

- No media content is allowed that promotes a political viewpoint, whether for a party, government, labor organization, or activist activity, without the advance consent of the CASSOC Board of Directors.
- No media content is allowed that violates the terms of membership as set out in the bylaws, specifically regarding the making of false statements, defamation, intimidation, or the attribution of false or defamatory statements, or any dissemination of misinformation or unsubstantiated information specifically meant to bring disrepute to an individual or group.
- No media content is allowed that promotes the violation of intellectual property and copyright laws or that lessens respect for the laws and standards of heraldry in Canada and internationally.

Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada - Notice of Meeting



The next Annual General Assembly Meeting of Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada will be:

DATE: Sunday 24 November 2024

TIME: 3:00 p.m. ET

PLACE: Virtual Only by Zoom

Registration is REQUIRED by Saturday, November 23, 2024

To register and more details on the meeting, go to <https://www.scotscanada.ca/AGM2024>

- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the meeting.
- Save this confirmation email and enclosed link. We suggest that you keep the link and instructions with your calendar entry if possible.
- A reminder confirmation will be sent in the morning of the meeting day
- Registrations and emails about joining will not be processed once the meeting has commenced.
- If you have concerns about the instructions and joining, please contact us at agm@scotscanada.ca for assistance.

Events affecting your Group are important to us all, so your presence is important. Sharing ideas and information between and among Members is a primary objective of CASSOC.

The purpose of the Meeting is:

- To consider the financial statements and reports
- To elect directors
- To resolve Unanimous and Special motions on the agenda
- To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting

If you are unable to attend, please try and arrange an alternate delegate for your Group.

A Proxy form may be requested from the Secretary:

Jo Ann Tuskin
78-24 Fundy Bay Blvd
Scarborough, ON, M1W 3A4
416-492-1623
secretary@scotscanada.ca

Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada - AGM - Agenda

Meeting Agenda

1. Opening and Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Previous Minutes of 26 November 2023
 - Business Arising
1. Financial Reports
2. Committee Reports:
 - Editor
 - Events
 - Membership
 - Social Media
 - Website
6. Motions
 - Public Accountant Motion
 - By-Law Amendments Motion
7. Elections
8. Any Other Business:
9. Announcements
10. Next Meetings:
 - Symposium Spring 2025
 - Annual General Meeting: Nov 2025
11. Adjournment

More information and documents are available on the website at www.scotscanada.ca/agm2024.

[Click here for a Flipbook of the Draft Amended and Restated By-Law No. 1](#)

[Click here for a Flipbook of the Explanation of Bylaw Changes](#)

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

The following is an explanation of proposed changes to the by-law being presented at the upcoming AGM. The will be a special resolution requiring 2/3rd approval of voting members and proxies at the meeting.

- The current By-Law is available online at: www.scotscanada.ca/bylaws
- The proposed Amended By-Law is available online at: www.scotscanada.ca/amended

The following is an explanation of the changes which are classified as follows:

1. Changes to correct minor defects such as using ‘member’ instead ‘shareholder’ incorrectly.
2. Changes for significant defects such as not having reasonable safeguards for signing authorities.
3. Significant changes such as name of the organization, classes of membership and other changes needed for the new membership class.
4. Significant changes including increases and decreases in capabilities for the actions of the board of directors in management of the corporation.

Your feedback, in advance of the AGM, on the changes are most welcome. Please send your remarks and questions to bylaws@scotscanada.ca

1: DEFINITIONS :

k. “Proposal” means a proposal submitted by a *member* that meets the requirements of Section 163 (Right to submit and discuss) of the Act;

The correct term of ‘member’ replaces the incorrect term ‘shareholder’.

3.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

b. To foster, in support of 3.1(a), the organization of and co-operation and communication *amongst individuals and groups* through the initiation and co-ordination of projects and undertakings. Such projects and undertakings may:...

Replaces ‘between groups’ as being more inclusive particularly for the new class of membership

Use of a modern name that covers the broader base of types of members for both classes while also minimizing translation challenges.

3.2 NAME:

The name of the Corporation has been renamed from Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada in English and Clans et Sociétés Écossaises du Canada in French, to “*Scots Canada*”.

Replaces ‘same as fiscal year’ to provide flexibility for the existing organizational class of members while allowing a more manageable renewal cycle for the larger volume of the new class of members.

3.8 MEMBERSHIP YEAR:

The membership year shall be an *annual period with anniversary date* as determined by the board of directors for a single member or a class of membership.

Also provides the board with flexibility on implementation of the change for both classes of membership.

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

4.1 MEMBERSHIP:

Subject to the approval of the Corporation’s Board of Directors, membership in the Corporation is open to all *those who are aligned with furthering the aims and objectives of the Corporation as stated in Article 3.1 Aims and Objectives, and*

a. there shall be *two (2) classes of full membership, namely,*

(i) Class “A” voting members, also known as organizational members, being the group whom the Board of Directors may admit as Class “A” members. Each Class “A” member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and, *when active* , vote at all meetings of the members of the Corporation. Groups accepted as Class “A” members shall appoint a Delegate and may appoint Alternate and *Youth Delegates. Delegates must be of the age of majority as defined by the jurisdiction of Canada.*

(ii) Class “B” non-voting members, also known as household members, being the persons whom the Board of Directors may admit as Class “B” members. Each Class “B” member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend *but not vote* at all meetings of the members of the Corporation. Households accepted as Class “B” members shall appoint a Household Representative and may appoint Alternate and Youth Representatives. Representatives must be of the *age of majority* as defined by the jurisdiction of Canada.

b. No person, group, or association shall face discrimination as outlined in the Canadian Human Rights Act on the grounds of any protected characteristic;

Replaces a list of ‘Scottish’ group types which was not inclusive of all current members while also adding reference back to a previous section of bylaw in order to avoid ambiguity.

New class of membership added with the existing class renamed from regular to Class ‘A’ and the new class of members called Class ‘B’

The ‘regular’ class of membership is renamed to Class ‘A’ and will have voting rights unless membership status is not active per articles 4.1.e and 4.2 Suspension of Membership

Youth ‘Delegates’ are added for both classes of membership

There is nothing in the existing bylaws regarding requirements such as age for a delegate. This is corrected by reference to a federal definition of the age of majority.

This new class of membership is to provide community and representation to those of Scottish heritage in Canada who are not able or unwilling to join a clan, family or other heritage society.

These are non-voting members who will have representation through regional directors as designated by the board.

The term Household as opposed to Individual and Family is being used in order to:

- Remove ambiguity with the existing ‘Family’ members in Class ‘A’.
 - Promote inclusive, multigenerational involvement by this new class in Scottish culture.
- Facilitate a pipeline for these members through early to late in life ease of participation.

This replaces a list of characteristics that is not up to date. By referencing the federal law in this manner, we avoid having to revisit this in the future.

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

The original clauses, 4.1.c through 4.1.g, regarding Delegates, Alternates, annual fee, standing, suspension, admissibility and business are either dealt with through the revised 4.1c through 4.1.f or were redundant and thus removed.

4.1 MEMBERSHIP: (continued)

c. The annual fee, as set by the board for each membership class, shall be due upon the *anniversary date* for a member;

Anniversary date is now specified for when dues are to be paid. The original bylaw did not explicitly specify when fees were due.

d. Dues are deemed to be in a state of non-payment *if not received when due* or at a date as set by the Board of Directors for all members, for a class of members, or for a specific member as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine;

Originally the state of non-payment was at 90 days overdue which would be incompatible with fee management of the new class of membership. Setting it at the anniversary date with board flexibility is a compromise solution.

e. Members whose dues are in a state of non-payment shall be deemed to have a *status of inactive* as opposed to a *status of active* for members whose dues are not in a state of non-payment;

Using status types of active and inactive provides flexibility in how we can still provide benefits to members in either state while doing what is best for the objectives of promoting Scottish Culture and Heritage.

For Class 'A' members, this provides us with an easier mechanism to aid those groups having challenges.

For Class 'B' members, this keeps open a channel of communication, aids in having a membership pipeline strategy and reduces barriers to once again becoming 'active' when the time comes.

f. For members having a status of inactive, the reduction in member *benefits and rights*, including any voting rights, shall be determined by the Board for any or all such members;

It is not clear at this point for how to adjust benefits and rights to members based upon their status.

This provides the board the capability to work through this in an evolutionary manner.

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

4.3 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

The rights of a Member lapse and cease to exist when the membership terminates for any of the following reasons:

a. resignation in writing, in which case such resignation shall be effective from the date specified in the resignation;

~~b. non-payment of dues;~~

b. expulsion by a vote of the majority of the member groups present at a duly constituted business meeting, provided that in the case of the proposed expulsion, the person(s) or group being considered for the expulsion has been previously suspended by the board or otherwise has been given *at least 20 days' notice* of this action. In either case the person(s) or group shall be entitled to be heard at the meeting in person and with counsel if so desired;

c. For *Class 'A'*, when the member group is dissolved

d. For *Class 'B'*, when there is no individual in the household available to act as representative

5.1 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

~~b. A quorum shall be three Directors;~~

5.3 MEETINGS OF THE BOARD:

c. Each Director is authorized to exercise one (1) vote. *With the exception of changes described in Article 10 : Amendments and subject to the Act*, all questions and resolutions arising at any meeting of Directors shall be decided by a majority of votes or ordinary resolution. In case of an equality of votes, the chairperson of the meeting, in addition to their original vote, shall have a second or casting vote.

f. *A resolution transmitted electronically*, when provided to all Directors entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of Directors or committee of Directors, is as valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of Directors or committee of Directors.

g. *Quorum for the Board of Directors is five.*

The original clause 4.2 Suspension and Termination of Membership has been split into 4.2 Suspension of Membership and 4.3 Termination of Membership. The original had redundant numbering while also dealing with two different aspects of membership.

With the implementation of Active and Inactive status, termination for non payment of dues (originally 4.2.b) has been removed

The term for notice in article 4.2 was 20 days. This term, for expulsion, has been changed from 15 to 20 to provide consistency and lessen opportunities for confusion.

A separate definition for this is required for each class of membership.

This provides a greater opportunity for succession and pipeline with Class 'B' members,

The definition for directors quorum has been moved to 5.3 Meetings of the Board where it belongs.

This clarifies that the board will normally use ordinary resolutions unless the change involves the bylaws of the corporation. Such changes to the bylaws of the corporation require a special resolution by the board with some changes only be allowed through a special resolution at a general meeting.

This explicitly allows board resolutions to be handled by electronic voting when required. This previously required checking and interpreting different parts of the by-law.

Quorum has been increased to five from three for Directors.

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

6.2 OFFICERS:

a: The officers of the Corporation *may* be a Chair, Past-Chair, 1st Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice-Chair, Youth Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary or any such officers as the Board of Directors may determine;

A mandatory 'shall' has been replaced with 'may' to allow flexibility with titles. This will aid the board in providing titles that translate reasonably between English and French. Youth Vice-Chair is formally listed as well.

e: The signing officers of the Corporation shall be at least *three individuals*, a combination of either directors or officers, or such other individuals as the Board may authorize. In addition, all individuals designated with signing authority *must be at arm's length with one another*.

The existing bylaw does not have good safeguards in place for the number and relationships for signing officers.

At arm's length means personal interests and relationships don't affect judgment or decision-making. No spouse, relatives or those one has a significant business/contractual relationship with.

6.3 DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

a. The Chair of the Board, *or any title designated by the board*, shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Corporation. ...

This provides flexibility in what the title may be per the wording of 6.2a. The phrase is included in the definitions of duties for 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. There is no change otherwise to the definitions of their duties.

b. The Past-Chair, *if appointed by the board*, shall act in an advisory role to the board and may, upon request, be asked to chair the Nominating Committee.

8.1 MEETINGS OF MEMBERS:

c. The General Assembly is comprised of the members of the Board of Directors together with the official *voting delegate from each Class "A" member group and Observers as specified in 8.1.e*.

This recognizes that there may be times when it is not possible nor acceptable for the Past-Chair position to be occupied by the most recent Chairperson.

e. Any individual belonging to either Class 'A' or Class 'B' members are encouraged to attend all Assembly Meetings *as an Observer*.

Revised to have only Class 'A' member delegates as voting at General Assemblies. Other attendees are as 'Observers'.

Explanation of Proposed Bylaw Changes

8.4 VOTING AT ASSEMBLY MEETINGS:

b. Each Class “A” member group, with *status of active*, shall have one (1) vote at the General Assembly, usually the official Delegate of that group. A member group not having status of active may attend and be heard at the General Assembly but may not have a vote nor may participate in the election of officers in any manner whatsoever.

This revises the requirement for a Class ‘A’ member in order to vote. They must have a status of ‘Active’. A Class ‘A’ member who is ‘Inactive’ or ‘Suspended’ will not have a vote but may attend and be heard.

e. One of a *standard meeting procedures* such as Bourinot's Rules of Order, Lochrie's ‘Meeting Procedures’, or Robert’s Rules of Order shall apply at all proceedings as determined by the Board;

This expands what meeting procedures may be used beyond the previously mandated Robert’s Rules. Note that Bourinot’s Rules are more standard in Canadian organizations.

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENTS:

a. By-Law: Subject to the Articles, the Board may, *by special resolution*, make, amend or repeal any By-Law that regulates the activities or affairs of the Corporation. Any such By-Law, amendment or repeal shall be effective from the date of the resolution of the Board until the next meeting of Members where it may be confirmed, rejected or amended by the members by ordinary resolution of the voting members of the assembly at a meeting duly called for the purpose of considering the said By-Law.

Currently only a regular resolution by the board is needed to amend a by-law.

This has been strengthened to require a special resolution by the board in order to change the by-law.

As noted in 5.3.c above, resolutions by the board will normally just be ordinary by a majority vote.

Concept for the Scots Canada App



Concerns about implementation challenges were an important contribution early on when the concept of expanding membership was first introduced.

One of the solutions to address this concern is to quickly implement a web/mobile application to handle the new membership while at the same time provide the value that all our members deserve.

Below is the result of preliminary research into what functionality should be in such an application. The application would automatically be available in identical functionality on desktops, tablets and cell phones.

This is a high-level draft that will need refinement into details for each area. Key to success will be the prioritization of functionality for deployment. Ideally we would want to start off with the new class of membership being totally automated.

As a community-driven project, we want to hear from you about what you would like to see in the app and ask that, if you're interested, to become a member of the design committee. The latest tools and techniques for development, implementation and hosting will be used.

For more information about the app, the process and being part of the team please contact: ScotsCanadaApp@scotscanada.ca

Membership Management:

- Member registration and profile management.
- Membership renewal and payment processing.
- Access to exclusive content for members.

Event Management:

- Calendar of upcoming events, such as Highland Games, festivals, and clan gatherings.
- RSVP functionality and ticket purchasing.
- Notifications and reminders for events.

News and Updates:

- News feed for organization updates, cultural news, and articles relevant to Scottish heritage.
- Push notifications for important announcements.

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

Community Engagement:

Forums or discussion boards for members to connect and share experiences.

Social media integration for sharing events and activities.

Volunteer opportunities and sign-ups.

Educational Resources:

Articles, videos, and podcasts about Scottish history, culture, and traditions.

Language learning resources for Gaelic and Scots.

Resource Directory:

Directory of local chapters, clans, and related organizations.

Listings of Scottish businesses and services across Canada.

Merchandise Store:

E-commerce functionality for purchasing organization merchandise, clan tartans, and Scottish goods.

Photo and Video Sharing:

Gallery for members to upload and share photos and videos from events.

Competitions for best photos or stories related to Scottish heritage.

Feedback and Surveys:

Tools for members to provide feedback on events and programs.

Surveys to gauge interest in future activities or improvements.

Push Notifications:

Alerts for last-minute changes to events or news updates.

Language Options:

Support for multiple languages, especially English, French, and Gaelic, to cater to a diverse membership.

Accessibility Features:

Ensure the app is accessible to all members, including those with disabilities.



Symposium for Growth and Success

Another set of sessions for the Symposium is being planned to enable Scottish Heritage organizations to engage their members, access/grow talent within, increase membership and engagement. With this we aim to call on the leadership of our members and learn from the successes and challenges of their peers. We're asking for your input to this brief survey to aid us in the Symposium planning.

Please complete the survey at www.scotscanada.ca/symposiumsurvey

Based upon your input we will be calling on our members and industry experts to help with your growth and success.

NOTE: These will not be talking-head events. The sessions will incorporate break-out workshops with your fellow attendees and will be focussed on implementing solutions as well as helping each other with specific challenges.

In the survey we'll be asking for responses along the lines of No, Yes, Very Much, Not Applicable to the following:

1. Active membership engagement is vital for the sustainability of any society. **How interested are you in ways to increase member engagement within your society?**
2. A good membership system is vital for enhancing efficiency, improving member satisfaction, and supporting the long-term success of the organization. **Would you like to know more about membership systems, procedures, and ways to implement them?**
3. Technology can streamline operations, improve communication and is a critical part of any modernization efforts. **How important is it for your society to enhance its use of technology in operations?**
4. The commitment to preserve one's cultural heritage is crucial for planning initiatives that resonate with members and align with the organization's mission. **Could your society use more information and guidance on ways to improve its identity through cultural preservation?**
5. Effective event planning is essential for member satisfaction and engagement. **How interested are you in knowing more on how to improve event planning processes to enhance member experiences in your society?**

(Continued on page 17)

Symposium for Growth and Success - Survey

(Continued from page 16)

6. Developing future leaders using recruitment, mentorship and training initiatives is important for ensuring your society's future. **How important is it to you know about leadership development programs within your society?**
7. Conflict resolution is vital for maintaining a harmonious environment within any society. **How interested are you in learning and applying effective conflict resolution strategies?**
8. Engaging with the local community enhances a society's visibility. **How important is community engagement for strengthening your society's presence and influence?**
9. Education enhances cultural appreciation among members. **Would you like more information on providing educational programs for your members' growth and understanding of their cultural heritage?**
10. Merchandise can enhance identity and raise funds for the society. **How interested are you in knowing more about providing your society's merchandise?**
11. Volunteers are vital for operations, events and management. **How important do you think it is for your society to know more on planning and implementing successful volunteer management?**
12. Strategic planning is essential for setting direction and priorities which drive goals, tactics and actions. **Is strategic planning a topic that your society could use more information on?**
13. Succession planning ensures continuity and stability within the organization. It is the basis for driving initiatives for identifying and developing future leaders. **To what level do you believe your society needs more knowledge on planning and implementing succession planning for leadership roles?**
14. Incorporating member feedback is crucial for growth and responsiveness. **Are you interested in ways to implement feedback from your members to improve society operations?**
15. DNA research can enhance our understanding of heritage. **How interested are you in better supporting your members' DNA research initiatives to explore lineage and heritage?**

Input boxes for other topics, options for participation and other feedback are also provided.

Beyond Belief : The tragedy of Scotland's church sell-off

'We are not a heritage society,' insisted the Rev David Cameron, Convener of the Assembly Trustees of the Church of Scotland. Speaking to the BBC in January, Mr. Cameron claimed the Church has a 'surplus of buildings and large property', and that there is a need 'to address our estate'.

A church or kirk is usually the most historically important building in any given town or village

In other words, the Church of Scotland is selling off its churches.

Not just one or two here or there, but a lot, and for cut-price rates. Of course, the Church insists that the move is 'painful but essential', aping the language of a corporate multinational's HR department.

Yet the sheer scale and decisiveness of the move belie the patronising smiles of the Church hierarchy.

Anywhere between 20 and 30 per cent of parish churches – around 400 – are being put on the market. In deciding what to sell off, the Church has one eye on the bottom line.

Since many of Scotland's oldest and most beautiful churches require the highest maintenance costs, that puts them at risk.

Right now, in Aberdeen, just £390,000 could buy you St Mark's, Alexander Marshall Mackenzie's huge neoclassical church in the city centre. For a famously austere religious denomination, the church verges on camp: it has fine stained glass, an impressive organ, a large mezzanine, Corinthian pillars and a dome modelled on St Paul's Cathedral.

If you're in the market for something a little cosier, £110,000.....

William Finlator , The Spectator - 26 October 2024

Offers over £390,000



This stunning church offers a rare opportunity to acquire a landmark building that occupies a prime position within the heart of Aberdeen city centre

Editor's Note: This sell-off brings to mind a quote from Robert Burns "To A Louse, On Seeing One on a Lady's Bonnet at Church". Contrary to the sense of the opening comment, we in the Diaspora see our **old rugged kirks** as being a very important part of our heritage.

**"O wad some power the giftie gie us, tae see oorsels as ithers see us,
it wad frae mony a blunder free us an' foolish notion.
What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us, An' ev'n devotion! "**

The Old Rugged Kirks of Scotland Project



The Old Rugged Kirks Project

Please pass the word around your members about the Old Rugged Kirks of Scotland project.

Due to the alarming amount of church closures in Scotland, my aim is to visit, photograph and catalogue these churches online (especially their interiors) before they are lost for ever.

Forgive me for 'rattling my tin' but I'd appreciate any help to fund this project. You can find full details here on my website at: <https://oldruggedkirks.com/>

Who I am - and what I want to do

My name is Les Taylor and I am a Quantity Surveyor from Aberdeenshire in Scotland.

Following recent redundancy, I decided to start this project for several reasons:

- Because I want to do something like this that truly motivates me.
- Because so many under-threat churches are on my doorstep.
- Because it's something that's really worth doing. And with your help, maybe I just can.

Les Taylor
Fraserburgh
Aberdeenshire



Membership Report

The following lists our current 105 members with two memberships ending on November 30, a new member since the Fall Edition. Clan MacLaren has declined to renew this year.

Clan Baird Society Canada	Clan Leslie Society International
Clan Bell North America	Clan Logan Society of Canada
Family of Bruce International, Inc.	The Clan MacAlpine Society
Clan Buchanan Society International	Clan MacAulay Association
House of Burnett	Clan MacBeth
Clan Cameron Canadian Branch	Clan MacDougall Society of North America
Clan Campbell Society (North America)	Clan MacDowell (CMSNA)
Clan Carruthers Society International	Clan MacEwen Society
Clan Chisholm Society Canada Branch	Clan MacFarlane Worldwide
Clan Colquhoun of Canada	MacFie Clan Society in Canada
Learned Kindred of Currie	International Association of Clan MacInnes
Clan Davidson Society of North America	The Clan MacKay Association of Canada
Clan Donald Canada	The Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada
Edmonstone Clan Society	<u>Clan MacKinnon Society</u>
Elliot Clan Society of Canada	Clan MacLellan of America
Clan Farquharson Canada	Clan MacLennan Canada
Clan Fergusson Society of North America	Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada
Clan Forbes Society, Inc	Clan MacNeil in Canada Association
Clan Fraser Society of North America	Clan MacNicol Society of North America
House of Gordon Canada	Clan MacPherson Canadian Branch
Clan Graham Society Inc	Clan MacRae Society of Canada
Clan Gregor Society Canada Chapter	Clan MacTavish
Clan Gunn Society of North America	Clan MacThomas Society
Clan Hope of Craighall Society	Clan Munro Association of Canada
Clan Hunter Association of Canada	Murray Clan Society of North America
Clan Irving	<u>Clan Paisley Society</u>
Clan Irwin Association	Clan Ramsay International
Clan Johnston/e in America	Clan Shaw of Canada
Kennedy Society of North America	Clan Sinclair Association of Canada
Clan Kincaid Association International	Clan Skene Association
Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc.	Clan Strachan Society
Clan Lamont Society of North America	The Clan Watson Society
Clan Lennox	<i>Youngs of Scotland</i>

Membership Report

Societies

Greater Moncton Scottish Association	Scottish Society of Ottawa
New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association	The Thistle and The Fleur De Lys
St Andrew's Society of Toronto	Westman Scottish Association
Scottish Studies Foundation	

Games, Festivals & Events

Cambridge Scottish Festival	Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival and Highland Games
Canmore Highland Games	Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games
Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games	Orillia Scottish Festival
Georgetown Highland Games	Red Deer Highland Games
Glengarry Highland Games	The Saltire Gathering
Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games	Sherwood Park Highland Games
Kingsville-Essex Highland Games	Sydney Mines Highland Games
LBA Highland Games	Uxbridge Scottish Festival
Montréal Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival
North Lanark Highland Games	
National Capital Highland Games	

Enterprise and Media

Burnett's & Struth Scottish Regalia Ltd.	ScotlandShop
House of Cassady	Sheena's Scottish Shortbread
Clan Designer	Taylor's Tartans
Celtic Life International	Tay Piping
The Scottish Banner	William Glen & Son Canada Ltd

Historical and Sports

Flagstaff Scottish Club	Rugby Canada
Hutchison House Museum	

Roadshow Tracking Report

Following excellent advice from Emily Redman of ScotlandShop, we rolled in click tracking on the use of QR codes for the member posters of the banner. This tracking works by having the QR code go to one of our older domains, clanscanada.ca, where it is counted before sending the visitor to the member's page on our website. Note the following challenges we've come to understand with the tracker.

1. Not all browsers on phone play nice with redirect URL's and some may be able to bypass the counter.
2. The majority of booth visitors just took photos of the poster and visited the page URL directly.
3. We didn't anticipate the end result of the same QR code being used on banners that were mounted simultaneously at different games. Thus we show combined results for the days that those event were running at the same time such as Orillia, Sherwood Park, and Cambridge.
4. Some QR codes were actually used in between games perhaps through the image taken earlier. We didn't include these in a count for any game but did include them in overall totals. (ie 37,40 for Clan MacKay)
5. One use of this is to help possible identify at which games a potential is coming to and thus which events to prioritize.

Member	Georgetown June 8	Northumberland June 15-16	Kingsville-Essex, Red Deer June 22	Kincardine July 6-7	Orillia, Sherwood Park Cambridge July 20	Orillia, Sherwood Park July 21	Fergus August 9-11	Canmore August 31	Glengarry August 2-3	Montreal August 4	North Lanark August 24	Sydney Mines August 18	Niagara Celtic September 14-15	LBA Highland Games September 22	Totals
Clan Baird Society - Canada		3	1	1	1		2	4					4		16
Clan Bell North America		2		2			5	3	1	1					14
Family of Bruce International, Inc.	1			2							1				4
Clan Buchanan Society International, Inc	1	3	1	2	2		11	2	3				1		26,27
House of Burnett International, Inc			1		1		5		1						8
Burnett's & Struth Scottish Regalia							1								1
Cambridge Scottish Festival		1											1		2
Clan Cameron Ontario Branch	2	3		5	1		6	6	1	2	4		1	1	32,36
Clan Campbell Society (North America)		3	7	5	5		15	10			2		5	3	55,57
Canmore Highland Games								1							1
Clan Carruthers- Canada	1	1		4		1									7
Celtic Life International			1				2								3
Clan Chisholm Society - Canada Branch							3		2	1			1		7,8

Roadshow Tracking Report

Member	Georgetown June 8	Northumberland June 15-16	Kingsville- Essex, Red Deer June 22	Kincardine July 6-7	Orillia, Sherwood Park Cambridge July 20	Orillia, Sherwood Park July 21	Fergus August 9-11	Cammore August 31	Glengarry August 2-3	Montreal August 4	North Lanark August 24	Sydney Mines August 18	Niagara Celtic September 14-15	LBA Highland Games September 22	Totals
Clan Colquhoun of Canada	2	3				1	1	1	1			1	1	1	12,13
The Learned Kindred of Currie				1					1	1	1		1		5,7
Clan Davidson Society of North America	1	2			1		10	7	1	2					24
Clan Donald Canada		4	1	1	1	1	5	4			2		1	3	23,27
Edmonstone Clan Society													1		1
Elliot Clan Society of Canada		2					6	1	1		1		1		12,16
Clan Farquharson Canada	1			1	3		3	2					2	3	15,18
Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games									1				1		2
Clan Fergusson		7			2		3	3	1		2		3		21
Flagstaff Scottish Club								1							1
Clan Forbes Society, Inc		1			1		5	3		2					12,13
Clan Fraser Society of North America								5			1				6
Glengarry Highland Games		1													1,2
House of Gordon	2	1	1	2	1		6	1	3		1		1	1	20
Clan Graham Society of North America			1	3			12		1						17,19
Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter	1	1		2	1	1	6	2	1	1			1		17
Clan Gunn Society of North America	3	1	2	2			1							2	11,12
Clan Hunter Association Canada	2	1		6			1								10
Clan Irving - The Border Irvings & Irvines				1			3	1	1					1	7
Clan Irwin Association				5	1										6
Clan Johnston/e in America	1	5		3	1		3	2	3	2			4	1	25,26
Kennedy Society of North America	3		1		1		3	1	5						14
Clan Kincaid Association International				1											1,2
Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games													1		1
Kingsville- Essex Highland Games	1						1								2
Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc					1	1	6	1					1	1	11
Clan Lamont Society of N.A. Inc					2		5	2	2				2		13
Clan Lennox					1			1		1					3

Roadshow Tracking Report

Member	Georgetown June 8	Northumberland June 15-16	Kingsville-Essex, Red Deer June 22	Kincardine July 6-7	Orillia, Sherwood Park Cambridge July 20	Orillia, Sherwood Park July 21	Fergus August 9-11	Canmore August 31	Glengarry August 2-3	Montreal August 4	North Lanark August 24	Sydney Mines August 18	Niagara Celtic September 14-15	LBA Highland Games September 22	Totals
Clan Leslie Society International	1			1			2						1	1	6
Clan Logan Canada							1	1		3			3		8,9
Clan MacAlpine Society	1			1						1			2		5
Clan MacAulay Association	1	1					1	1				1			5
Clan MacBeth		1			1		3			1					6
Clan MacDougall Society (MacDougall)		1	1		2		1	2	1	2			1	1	12
Clan MacDougall Society (MacDowall)					1			2							3
Clan MacEwen Society				1	1		3		3	1					9,10
Clan MacFarlane Worldwide	1	2	1	2	1		3	3		1	1		1	3	19
MacFie Clan Society in Canada		1					1		2					3	7
International Association Clan MacInnes		1					4						1		6
The Clan MacKay Association of Canada	1	2		5	9		3	4	5	3			4	1	37,40
Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada	2	4	2	1	2		9	6	7		1	1	1	2	38,39
Clan MacLaren of North America	2	1		2			5	2		2			4	1	19
Clan MacLellan of America		1	2	1								1	2		7
Clan MacLennan Canada		1	2	1	1				1				1		7,8
Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada	4	7		1	1		8	2	7			2	2	3	37,40
Clan MacNeil in Canada		4		1			3	2			1	2	1	1	15
Clan MacNicol		1	1	1						1					4,5
Clan Macpherson Association	3	2			2		9	1	1	1			1	1	21,22
Clan MacRae Society of Canada											2				2,3
Clan MacTavish							2								2,3
Clan MacThomas Society		1					1	2							4
Montreal Highland Games				1				1						2	4
Clan Munro Association of Canada			4				5	3	2		1				15
Murray Clan Society of North America		1	1	1	2	3	2	3					2		15
National Capital Highland Games										1					1
Niagara Celtic Heritage Society, Inc				2			1								3
North Lanark Highland Games									1				1		2

Roadshow Tracking Report

Member	Georgetown June 8	Northumberland June 15-16	Kingsville- Essex, Red Deer June 22	Kincardine July 6-7	Orillia, Sherwood Park Cambridge July 20	Orillia, Sherwood Park July 21	Fergus August 9-11	Canmore August 31	Glengarry August 2-3	Montreal August 4	North Lanark August 24	Sydney Mines August 18	Niagara Celtic September 14-15	LBA Highland Games September 22	Totals
North Lanark Highland Games									1				1		2
Orillia Scottish Festival			1										1		2
The Scottish Society of Ottawa					2				1					1	4
Clan Paisley Society - Canada	1	1				2		1	1						6
Clan Ramsay International	1	2				1	2	1							7
Red Deer Highland Games			1	1					1						3
Rugby Canada				2											2
ScotlandShop		1					1	1							3,4
The Scottish Banner	1						5								6
Scottish Studies Foundation		2			1										3,4
Clan Shaw of Canada	2	1	2	1	1			3			1		1		12,14
Clan Sinclair Association of Canada	1		2	1	2		5	1		2		1	1		16,19
Clan Skene Association, Inc.		3					1								4
Clan Strachan Society	1	2													3
Taylors Tartans							1		1						2
The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys		1									2			1	4
The Clan Watson Society	1						2	1	1	1	1		1	1	9,10
William Glen & Son									1						1
Youngs of Scotland (Clan Young)		4	1	2	2			4		1		2			16
Totals	46	94	38	78	58	11	214	112	65	34	25	11	66	39	891,942

Your feedback and suggestions on the posters, banners and use of the QR codes are most welcome. The banners and the Roadshow itself has been an evolutionary experience. We know the best is yet to come!

Please send comments to chair@scotscanada.ca

Clan Cameron Canadian Branch - Minimalist Modus Operandi



By Anne Cameron

The following is a table of how we have been evolving as a branch even before the pandemic! It is listed in no particular order, just as the issues came up, and how we dealt with them.

	Issue : Solution	RESULT
1	Aging of executive and difficulty recruiting younger members Executive was keen to continue, but with less work. We minimized their responsibilities.	Executive has stayed on
2	Yearly membership fees Ended annual fees of \$15 pp/address as our big expenditure was the printing and mailing of our newsletter; now have lifetime membership of \$15	All members have an email address; lost very few post only members as most had a family member with email
3	No editor for newsletter Communications person on the exec, sends emails twice a year, 1. Late Spring and 2. Early Fall, showing 1. List of all summer games and the ones we are staffing in the Avenue of the Clans and 2. AGM date and details with agenda and RSVP request; also include items of interest from CASSOC's newsletter An Drochaid/The Bridge or the link to the complete newsletter	Our Communications executive member finds this manageable
4	Staffing clan table at highland games The executive takes turns staffing the clan table at the highland games, all within 1-2 hours of their home; mostly games that provide tent and/or table and chairs; bring 2 boxes of table items compared to 3-4 in previous years as 2 boxes is more manageable	Staff 5 games a year: Embro, Kincardine, Cambridge, Orillia and Fergus, really no change from our "banner" years
5	Executive meetings, AGM location Held at a restaurant in south-western Ontario that has a meeting space, can order off the menu, small or no room rental; usually no more than 12 attend	Have met in places no more than a 1-2 hour drive for those attending
6	Showing appreciation to the executive Long-time members have stayed as responsibilities are not onerous	Continuing
7	Membership scattered throughout Ontario and Canada With email contact only now, this is not a problem. We do see members from all around the province at the games	No longer an issue
8	New way of doing things to avoid burnout and closure of branch Will discuss at this year's AGM, a change from the term "Executive" to "Executive Committee" or "Planning Committee" where responsibilities are not fixed, more fluid, which is pretty much how we operate now; If we decide to no longer have a traditional president/chair role – perhaps a new position of "Branch Contact" will be made. This will require an amendment to our constitution.	Our current direction, with flexible roles and no formal changes, is working well.
9	Lack of social media person (No Facebook, Instagram, etc.) CASSOC's website has provided an excellent link to our clan with contact information and general Clan Cameron information; all included in CASSOC's yearly fee; no need for separate website	CASSOC's help in creating and updating our link gives us our online presence
10	Developed a new philosophy in order for the branch to continue Minimalist Modus Operandi/MMO	Working well

Coorie in Cosy Knits and Sweaters

Find your next favourite top to snuggle into this

MerceCashmere, lambswool, geelong, merino...alongside our woven wool tartan we have a gorgeous collection of woollen knitwear and sweaters to "coorie" in this winter.

We're dreaming of being cozy in front of the fire with our favourite tippie as the days grow dark. Our knitwear and sweaters are perfect for keeping us warm on winter walks, too, and look fabulous paired with our tartan skirts, trousers and kilts.

If that's not enough, we have a selection of beautiful accessories to compliment your outfit, such as cashmere gloves, hats, and scarves. They make perfect Christmas gifts!



CelticLife

INTERNATIONAL



As the holiday season draws near, we are excited to bring Celtic Life's Annual Holiday Gift Guide straight to your inbox—our gift to you! Dive in now to explore a wonderful collection of unique holiday treasures from our Proud Partners. [Download](#) now and start discovering the perfect gifts that will make this season extra special!

Check out the latest ad for Scots Canada on the next page



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EDMONSTONE
ELLIOT
FARQUHARSON
FERGUSON
FORBES
FRASER
GORDON
GRAHAM
GREGOR

GUNN
HOPE
HUNTER
IRVING
IRWIN
JOHNSTON
KENNEDY
KINCAID
LACHLAN
LAMONT
LENNOX

LESLIE
LOGAN
MACALPINE
MACAULAY
MACBETH
MACDOUGALL
MACDOWALL
MACEWEN
MACFARLANE
MACFIE
MACINNES

MACKAY
MACKENZIE
MACKINNON
MACLELLAN
MACLENNAN
MACLEOD
MACNEIL
MACNICOL
MACPIERSON
MACRAE
MACTAVISH

MACTHOMAS
MUNRO
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The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys



Preserving the past. Promoting the future

See our benefits and how to join at www.scotscanada.ca/membership

Scots Canada - Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada

Find out about upcoming events at www.scotscanada.ca/events

Edmonstone Clan Society



By Malcolm J Edmiston JP(Qual)

Clan High Commissioner for Australasia

Greetings All, as I mentioned in the August Newsletter the Kryal Castle Highland Spectacular at Ballarat Victoria was on 17th 18th August. Clan tents were at a more central location this year. There were eight clans represented there – Edmonstone, MacNicol, MacPherson, Buchanan, Fraser, MacKenzie, MacGregor and Douglas. It rained Friday night and Saturday morning, but fined up for the rest of the weekend. Bruce set up the Edmonstone tent on the Friday afternoon.

The tents set up ready for the crowd to arrive during a break in the rain. We kept the front on the tent until the rain stopped so the ribbon banner was across the back wall but moved to the front when we removed the front wall. We had many visitors to the clan village and the Edmonstone tent in particular.



Saturday night was the Highland Feast in the Baronial Hall. This included a whisky tasting which was appreciated by all the adults who were there. Below are Andrew McKinnon Creative Director for Kryal Castle who planned the event; Simon Abney-Hastings Earl of Loudon; Frank MacGregor Clan MacGregor High Commissioner for Australia, Chiefs Lieutenant and Honorary British Consul for Tasmania; and myself enjoying the night. Also a lady from the Czech Republic with her daughter who was at my table.



Edmonstone Clan Society

(Continued from page 30)

There were massed pipes and drums, highland dancers, jousting and sword fighting in the main arena and lots of stalls selling many interesting items you will not find at most highland gatherings. It was a most enjoyable weekend for all involved.

Simon Abney-Hastings Earl of Loudon was the reviewing officer for the massed pipes and drums on the Saturday and I had that role on the Sunday afternoon. It involved sitting in a throne on the stage for the performance until the march off when we rose and returned the salute.



The Banqueting Hall



Simon had a sword, I did not. The massed pipes and drums countermarched after the salute.

I was considering attending the Hunter River Highland Games at Saltire Estate Winery on 24 August, but I had other activities planned in Townsville so I could not attend. It looked like a very good event. It seems they certainly shook the place up.

(Continued on page 32)

Edmonstone Clan Society

(Continued from page 31)

I attended Clans on the Coast at Raymond Terrace, between Newcastle and Maitland, on 21st September. It was a good highland gathering with six clan tents, highland games, pipe band competition, highland dancing competition, Jacobite re-enactors and many stalls. The clan Tent was well received with many visitors.

I flew to Canberra for the Canberra highland Games on the 12th October. Bruce drove up from Melbourne with the tent, tables and chairs etc. There were ten Clans represented in the row of clan tents. While it was cool in the morning it was a pleasant day for most of the time with the occasional wind gust to keep us on our toes.



Clans on the Coast at Raymond Terrace, between Newcastle and Maitland, on 21st September



There was the pipe band competition, highland dancing, highland games, Royal Highland Regiment re-enactors and many stalls with Scottish products plus food stalls to keep everyone happy and fed.

The Chieftain of the Day was the CEO of the Australian War Memorial who visited all the clan tents.

I was proposing to cross the ditch to attend the Hororata highland Games on 9th November, but due to medical appointments before and after that weekend it made it impractical to go over there just for the weekend. I hope our Kiwi clan members make the effort to attend this great event.

I trust you all will be able to attend a St Andrew's Dinner, Kirkin' o' the Tartan or some other event to remember the patron saint of Scotland at the end of November.

Kind regards Mal

Edmonstone Clan Society

Canberra Highland Games





Hutchison House Museum
270 Brock Street
Peterborough, Ontario
K9H 2P9 Canada

More information

contact the museum office 705-
743-9710 or
info@hutchisonhouse.ca

Christmas Market

9:00 am – 12:00 pm
November 23, 2024

The Christmas Season is upon us, and Hutchison House Museum volunteers will host their annual Christmas Market on Saturday November 23 from 9am-12pm. Home baking, shortbread, fruit pies, jams, jellies and preserves will be featured, along with other special seasonal treats. In addition to the Empire Cheese orders, we will be offering some of our most popular items for pre-ordering as well including greenery and shortbread. Be sure to order ahead to ensure that you get the items you hope for. The Deadline for all advance orders is Wednesday November 13, 2024.

Snowflake Tea

12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
November 24, 2024

Ring in the holiday season with our annual Snowflake Tea on Sunday November 24 with sittings at 12pm and 1:30pm. Enjoy a light tea with Christmas treats by the Fire in the Keeping Room for \$15 each. There is limited seating and pre-registration and payment is required. Items for sale at the Christmas Market will be available during the tea. For more information or to reserve your seat please contact the Museum office at 705-743-9710. This event is organized by the volunteers of Hutchison House Museum.

(Continued on page 35)

(Continued from page 34)

Paint and Sip Nutcracker Workshop

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
December 8, 2024

In December the Museum will host a Paint and Sip Nutcracker Workshop on Sunday December 8 from 1-3:30pm. Enjoy a fun afternoon of tea and desserts by the fire, paint and decorate your own wooden Nutcracker and learn about its history. Workshop is \$35 per person and includes materials and refreshments. Registration is required.

For more information or to register please contact the museum office at 705-743-9710 or email us at info@hutchisonhouse.ca.



Orson Welles : By New York Sunday News by [Harry] Warneke and Elkins - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=61679372>

Fireside Stories: Dickens and Dessert

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
December 15, 2024

Mark your calendars for Charles Dickens A Christmas Carol in the Keeping Room by fire-light on Sunday, December 15th from 2-4pm. We will be listening to a recording of the 1939 Campbell Soup radio show presented by Orson Welles and starring Lionel Barrymore as Ebenezer Scrooge. A choice of dessert, tea and coffee will be served. The cost for the event is \$15.00 per person prepaid. Seating is limited.

To book tickets please call the museum office at 705-743-9710 or email info@hutchisonhouse.ca. No tours available.

Clan Irving - The Border Irvings and Irvines

Clan Chiefs and Lairds of Bonshaw Tower and Drum Castle

By Rupert Irving of Bonshaw

I was encouraged to draft this article when I was in conversation with an American friend with whom I spent some time, with a wee dram of course, explaining that in Scotland there is a great deal of difference between someone who owns land and calls themselves a Laird and that of a formally recognised Clan Chief.

There is a common misunderstanding of exactly what is meant by the Scottish title of Clan Chief and what is meant by the Scots term of Laird.

For quite a few people this has been confused to mean one and the same, as after all this is Scotland and aren't these words more or less meaning the same thing. Sadly but no.

These words mean very different things and this article will set out exactly how different these words are, and in Scotland it is important to get it right.

This article also sets out how both Chiefly lines of Bonshaw and of Drum, having disposed of their respective ancestral seats in 1955 and 1975 respectively, still retain their titles as Chief Of The Name And Arms and as Clan Chiefs as formally recognised by the Court of the Lord Lyon.

Clan Chief

Whilst Scottish Law recognises the existence of Scottish Clans, Clan Chiefs and Chieftains, the title is only of social dignity or precedence, and as such does not devolve any interest for which the law has jurisdiction.

The Court Of The Lord Lyon is the formal legal jurisdiction and heraldic authority for Scotland, dealing with all matters relating to Scottish Heraldry and Coats of Arms and maintains the Scottish Public Registers of Arms and Genealogies. The equivalent in England would be the College of Arms.

The Court of the Lord Lyon makes the recording of the dignity of a Clan chiefship acknowledged by attestation in other words by proof of evidence. This involves a formal petition being made to The Court of the Lord Lyon, more generally referred to as Lyon Court, along with supporting proofs of evidence, genealogies and formal documentation.

This supporting documentation is extensive, detailed and thorough without which the petition is most likely to fail.

The process of preparing and submitting a formal petition to Lyon Court is lengthy and not without expense with the detailed and thorough research often involving accredited members of ASGRA – the Association of Scottish Genealogists & Researchers in Archives.

(Continued on page 37)

Clan Irving - The Border Irvings and Irvines

(Continued from page 36)

The Association of Scottish Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (ASGRA) is the only accrediting body for professional genealogists in Scotland. The organisation promotes the highest standards in the profession of genealogy and historical research with Members undergoing rigorous assessment before being accepted as full members of the association.



Bonshaw Castle



Drum Castle

The formal Grant of Arms is often stated as “Chief of the Name and Arms of ...” with the heraldic territorial designation following, for example, “Chief of the Name and Arms of Irving of Bonshaw”. It is this designation which is the accepted formal term for a Scottish Clan Chief.

The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs is the definitive and authoritative body for information on the Scottish Clan System, Scottish Chiefs and the website is a further useful point of reference <https://www.clanchiefs.org.uk/>.

Laird

Lyon Court states that the term “laird” has generally been applied to the owner of an estate, these days by the owner himself or, in years gone by, those employed living and working on the estate.

There are a number of well known examples where the owners of an estate have styled themselves as “Lairds of ...” but it must be noted this is not a formal hereditary title nor is it a recognised term in Scottish nobility.

The term Laird is a description and would be tied to a physical property such as a small Scottish shooting estate. It would not be appropriate for the owner of a normal residential property, far less the owner of a small souvenir plot of land to adopt this term.

It goes without saying that the term “laird” is not synonymous with that of “lord” or “lady”. In England for example the equivalent use would be that of a local squire or land owner.

(Continued on page 38)

Clan Irving - The Border Irvings and Irvines

(Continued from page 37)

“Laird”, as explained above, is a Scottish description applied to the owner of an estate commonly by the people round about or working on it.

Conclusion

To be Clan Chief, one does not buy or sell a chiefship when you sell a property or an estate and there a few examples:

John Macleod of Raasay who actually lives in Tasmania, Australia. Raasay has not been owned by his family for generations.

The Irvines of Drum are a respected Scottish Family created by Royal appointment in 1323 but their ancestral seat was disposed to the National Trust for Scotland in 1975. Their Clan Chief is Alexander Irvine of Drum 27th Baron Drum who succeeded in 2019.

The Irvings of Bonshaw are a Scottish Border Reiver Clan with earliest known records from 1100s and their ancestral seat was sold in 1955. Their Clan Chief is Rupert Irving of Bonshaw 20th Clan Chief who succeeded in 2021.

In cases such as described above, and to avoid confusion in the eyes of the Scottish and overseas public, the differences would have to be made absolutely clear.

What we all want to know is that someone is who they really are and not an impostor.

Rupert Irving of Bonshaw

References:

The Court Of The Lord Lyon

www.courtofthelordlyon.scot

Standing Council Of Scottish Chiefs

www.clanchiefs.org

Association of Scottish Genealogists and Recorders in Archives

www.asgra.co.uk





Crest: A boar's head erased, holding in the mouth a deer's shankbone, Proper

Slogan: Cuimhnich bas Alpan (Gaelic for "Remember the death of Alpin")

Motto: Audentes Fortuna Juvat (Latin for "Fortune assists the daring/Fortune favors the bold")

CLAN/FAMILY NAMES

Although many lists exist with other names given, a family name must be recognized by a MacKinnon Chief to be considered a Sept of the Clan.

In 1958 Commander Arthur Avalon MacKinnon of MacKinnon, then Chief of Clan MacKinnon, recognized the following names as Septs of Clan MacKinnon:

Love, MacKinney, MacKinning, MacKinven, MacMorran

The only other credible list of families associated with Clan MacKinnon is that given by George Way of Plean and Romilly Squire in the Scottish Clan and Family Encyclopedia. However, this list is unsubstantiated because we have not been able to determine if it was ever approved by a MacKinnon Chief.

In addition to the names you see above, the following names were added on the George Way list:

Morren, Sherry

Please keep in mind that anyone and everyone is welcome to join Clan MacKinnon Society no matter your family name or lineage. We welcome all!

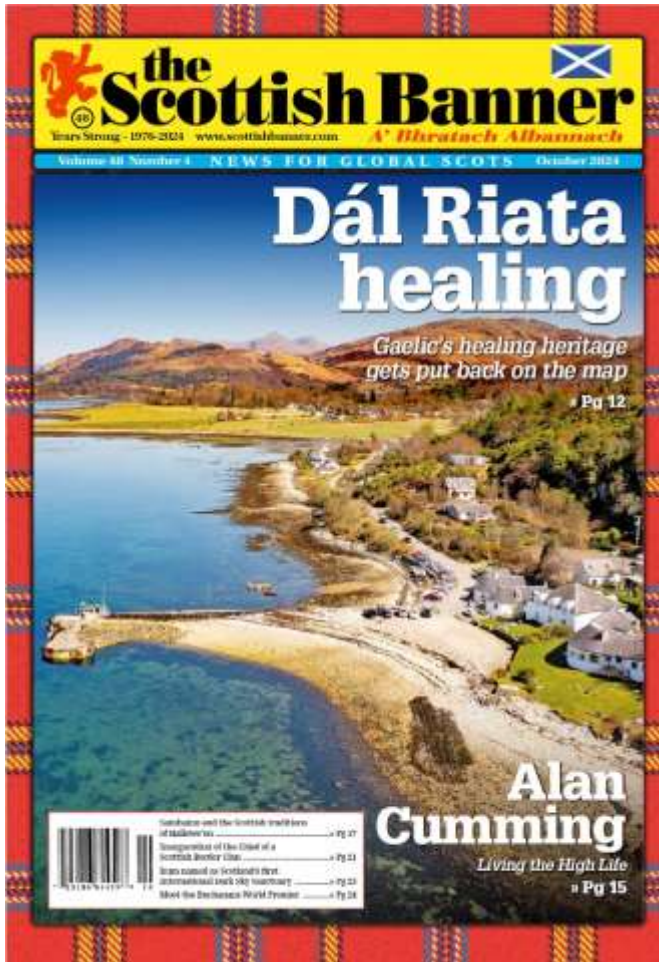
The purpose of Clan MacKinnon Society is to promote and foster the spirit of Clan MacKinnon, to provide a focal point and means for expressing MacKinnon sentiment, and to aid members in establishing and maintaining contact with each other and with others of Scottish heritage.

Society membership encourages, promotes, educates, and supports the preservation of Scottish and MacKinnon history, tradition, and cultural activities.

There is no requirement that one needs to be a MacKinnon by blood or ancestry to join Clan MacKinnon Society. We are an inclusive organization and welcome everyone!

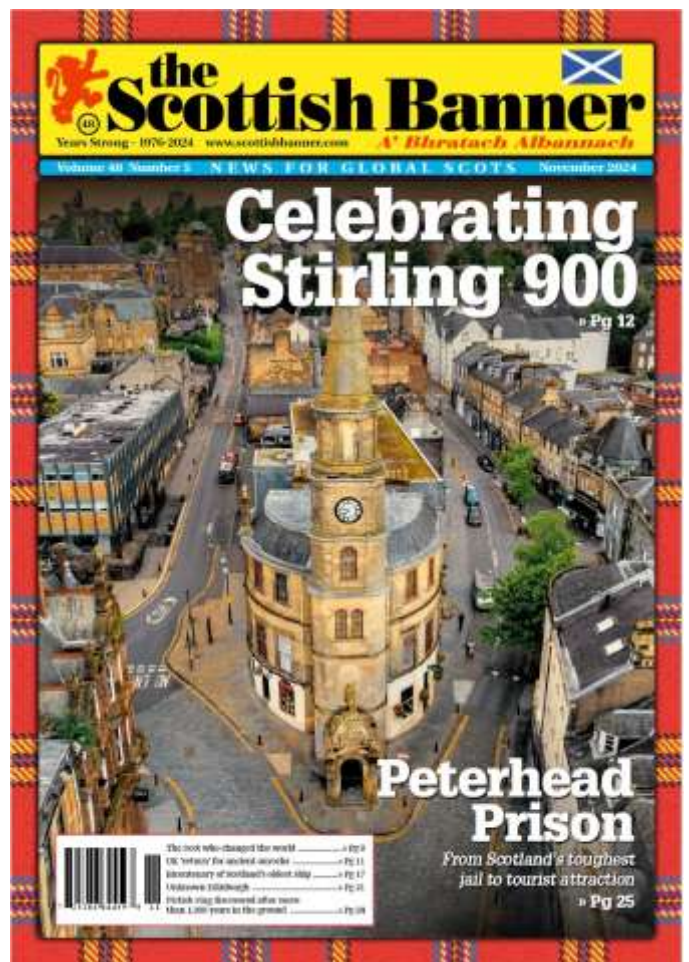
Friends, cousins, and passersby... ceud mìle fàilte (a hundred thousand welcomes)!

Scottish Banner



October and November digital editions are now available.

Click an image to view.



[Click here to subscribe to the digital edition.](#)

[For the print edition or if subscribing from Australia please click here.](#)

CASSOC members have a 25% subscription discount when using the code 'CASSOC'.

Scottish-Canadian Academic Partnership - Launch

By Robert MacKenzie, CASSOC Director

A new Scottish-Canadian academic partnership was officially launched on Sept. 12 with a reception at the University of Guelph. The "Scotland-Canada Academic Partnership" aims to promote communication between scholars in both countries and highlight their research to the wider community.

As well, the initiative will bring them into closer contact to nurture new research agendas across a broad range of disciplines and domains.

Those interested in getting involved should contact the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph.

Among the speakers at the launch reception were (from left) John Devine, LVO, OBE, Head of the Scottish Government Office in Canada; Roslyn Potter, PhD Candidate, Scottish Literature, University of Glasgow (Visiting Doctoral Researcher, University of Guelph); Persephone Seale, PhD student, History, University of Guelph; and Prof. Kevin James, Scottish Studies Foundation Chair, University of Guelph.



Clan Sinclair Association of Canada - Rosslyn Castle Restoration



Submitted by Chief Malcolm Sinclair,

whom received this Press Release from Ian Gardner, Director, Rosslyn Chapel Trust. July 19, 2024.

Rosslyn Chapel Trust is delighted to announce the completion of a major 'once in a generation' programme of restoration and repair at Rosslyn Castle, one of Midlothian's most important historic buildings. The ambitious £4m project to reroof the Great Hall and Tower, to conserve and consolidate the Castle's stonework and to develop a sustainable heating strategy has been entirely self-funded by the Trust.

For the first time since 1650, Rosslyn Castle's East Range now has a permanent roof over the Great Hall and Tower, protecting important masonry carvings and the three levels of vaults below ground level.

The entire building is also now Net Zero ready, with heating and hot water provided by six air source heat pumps, removing the need for traditional fossil fuels. The heat pumps are situated in the Castle's 16th-century vaults, and the engineers believe that Rosslyn Castle may be the oldest building in the world to be using this sustainable, low carbon technology. Like the world-famous Rosslyn Chapel, Rosslyn Castle was built

(Continued on page 43)



BEFORE - Ruined Great Hall and Tower before restoration work (credit Rosslyn Chapel Trust)

(Continued from page 42)

by the St Clair family, who first came to Scotland in the 11th century. Although much of the Castle site is ruinous, part of the East Range, completed in 1622, has been let as holiday accommodation since it was restored by The Earl and Countess of Rosslyn in the 1980s. The Great Hall and Tower were partially destroyed in 1650 when Cromwell's troops attacked the building, but both have now been sympathetically restored and reroofed, using local and traditional skills and materials, and these spaces are being brought back into use to transform the experience for guests staying there.

Rosslyn Castle is category A-listed, recognizing its architectural and historic character and its grounds are designated as a Scheduled Monument. The Castle is in the care of Rosslyn Chapel Trust, which has managed and solely funded the two-year project.

The Earl and Countess of Rosslyn remain closely involved with the estate as Trustees of Rosslyn Chapel Trust and said: 'Having seen Rosslyn Chapel flourish since its recent conservation programme, we were determined likewise to secure the future of its neighbour, Rosslyn Castle. Our vision was to conserve the Great Hall and Tower and protect the vaults below, whilst maintaining the historic character of a building which has been widely loved for centuries. We are delighted with the result and most grateful to all those who have contributed to the project over the last two years, the majority of whom are locally based.'



The East Range provides self-catering accommodation throughout the year, in a partnership with The Landmark Trust. It now provides accommodation for eight people and bookings reopen this Saturday, 20 July at <https://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/>.

Rosslyn Chapel Trust commissioned Page\Park as architects to oversee the work. Jonathan Walsh, of Page\Park, said: 'Page\Park are delighted to have been involved in such a unique and historic project, providing a rare opportunity to reintegrate a ruinous part of the Castle into the habitable house that will help safeguard its future. As a

(Continued on page 44)

AFTER - Rosslyn Castle's East Range – July 2024 (credit K Neville)

Clan Sinclair Association of Canada

(Continued from page 43)

reuse practice, we revel in the opportunity to combine our conservation expertise with transformative change in such challenging historic settings. We are proud of our role in supporting Rosslyn Chapel Trust in their vision to preserve the internationally significant precinct of buildings, providing extensive cultural and environmental benefits for future generations.'

Bonnyrigg-based construction company, John Dennis & Company (Scotland) Ltd, was the main contractor for the work. Stewart Cairney, Managing Director of John Dennis & Company (Scotland) Ltd, said: 'As a local company John Dennis & Company (Scotland) Ltd were delighted to be awarded the contract for the restoration and refurbishment works at Rosslyn Castle. Whilst the historic building has presented the team with a number of challenges, it has also been very rewarding to have been able to work in such a collaborative manner with Rosslyn Chapel Trust and the Design Team to overcome these challenges in order to refurbish the existing occupied rooms and restore the Great Hall and Tower. We are extremely proud of the quality of the completed project and we are confident that it will be well received and enjoyed by all who stay here in the coming years.'

James Cameron, Associate Director of engineering consultancy Harley Haddow, said 'The heat source has been chosen for its excellent sustainability and renewable energy credentials, allowing Rosslyn Castle's East Range to be Net Zero ready and removing the need for traditional fossil fuel supplies such as oil or gas. All the heating and hot water is now provided by six air source heat pumps located within Castle vaults. We believe that Rosslyn Castle may be the oldest building in the world to have adopted air source heat pumps as a sustainable, low carbon technology of the future.'

Rosslyn Chapel Trust was established in 1995 by The Earl of Rosslyn. Since then, it has undertaken a 17 - year programme of conservation at Rosslyn Chapel, concluded in 2014, built an award-winning new visitor centre and, in 2018, completed a two-year programme of conservation and repair at Colleghill House, the former 17th century inn which stands at the entrance to the Chapel. Last year 154,912 people visited Rosslyn Chapel compared to just 9,873 when the Trust was established.

Ian Gardner, Director of Rosslyn Chapel Trust, said: 'We are delighted to see this major and innovative project reach its conclusion. This 'once in a generation' work will help to conserve the East Range of Rosslyn Castle for future generations to appreciate and will absolutely transform the quality of the experience for guests staying here. We are extremely grateful for such skillful work from the contractors and sub - contractors and there is no doubt that this pioneering project will secure the long-term future of one of Midlothian's most historically significant buildings.'

Rosslyn Chapel Trust is a charity, registered in Scotland, number SC024324.

19 July 2024

Clan Sinclair Association of Canada

Clan Sinclair Canada Horse Race

Red Shores Racetrack

Charlottetown, PEI October 3, 2024,

Submitted by Roger Sinclair - Past President



Last September at our National Gathering of Clan Sinclair Canada, (in Cavendish, PEI), due to Hurricane Lee, one of our events was postponed till this year.

‘The Clan Sinclair Canada Horse Race’ at the Red Shores Racetrack in Charlottetown, PEI took place October 3, 2024.

Roger Sinclair (Past President) and about 25 of the Sinclair Clan were there to watch ! It was the 4th race out of 12. Sandra Stead’s horse Melanie’s Magic won it!

(Sandra’s husband, Lowell, whom passed away last year, developed a keen interest in the sport of horse racing, upon retiring. He then became a proud horse owner of several horses and got involved in the PEI Standardbred Horse Owners Association and served on the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission for several years.)

Roger says, “I think we will make this an annual event. Harness racing is very popular on the Island as we have two tracks, one in Summerside and the other in Charlottetown.”

Photos - from top down:

Sinclair's gathering to watch the race

Roger capturing the race

Celebrating after the race with horse and rider

Horse owner Sandra Stead and Roger Sinclair



Scottish North America Community Conference



The Scottish North American Community Conference Announces Former First Minister of Scotland

Rt. Hon. Henry B. McLeish; and Sir John McEwen, Baronet of Marchmont & Badrochat, Commander of Clan MacEwen, as Keynote Speakers

The Scottish North American Community Conference, now in its 22nd year, will once again take place on **December 6 - 7, 2024** over the weekend of the Scottish Christmas Walk in Alexandria, Virginia.

This year's conference will center around the theme: "Scottish Roots and Fruits: The Power of Connection", and will be held at the Sheraton Suites Hotel, Old Town Alexandria.

The conference will feature keynote speakers noted Scottish actor and writer **Sir John McEwen, 5th Bt., Commander of Clan MacEwen** on Friday, followed on Saturday by the **Rt. Hon. Henry B. McLeish, Former First Minister of Scotland**—in person. The agenda includes a series of panel discussions covering topics such as 'The Heirs Project', a discussion between Clan Chiefs and their Heirs; 'Youth Involvement: Growing Our Young Scot Platform'; and "Upcoming in Scotland, 2025", among other relevant subjects, and "an update from Scottish Connections."

(Continued on page 47)

Scottish North America Community Conference

(Continued from page 46)

Other speakers will include **Eilidh MacKinnon** from the Scottish Gov't Office in DC; **Ian Cochrane**, 15th **Lord Dundonald and his son Archibald, Lord Cochrane**; **John Cochran**, Sennachie to the Chief of the Cochrans and COSCA Board Member; **John King Bellassai, JD** - President, Council of Scottish Clans & Associations (COSCA); **Camilla G. Hellman, MBE** - President, American-Scottish Foundation (ASF); **Gus Noble, OBE** - President, St. Andrew's Society of Illinois ("Chicago Scots"); **Ian Houston**, Global Scot, and more.

Program still in development. Please visit our Website for updates to speakers and panels.

Room reservations at the conference hotel (Sheraton Suites in Old Town, Alexandria, VA) can be made for conference attendees only at www.scottishleadershipconference.com. Rooms at a reduced rate (\$145/night) are available to conference attendees who have registered for the event.

Book Your Group/Corporate Rate | Marriott International

You also have the option to call the Marriott central reservation to book the rooms. Please provide them the following Group name for them to include you into the group.

Group name: SNACC Dec 2024

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE AND BUY YOUR TICKETS: www.scottishleadershipconference.com

Attendees can register for both the Friday and the Saturday sessions, or just Friday, or just Saturday. And attendees can register to attend in person or remotely, via Zoom. See the Conference Website for the various ticket price differentials for each of these options.

HUB facilities are being set up in selected cities by the Conference organizers to which registered attendees can go to view the Conference on a "big screen" Zoom hookup. See the Conference Website for details on where these HUB facilities will be located and who to contact there.



The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys - Le Chardon et la fleur de Lys



The Chardon et la Fleur de Lys history program has taken a « morph » to be a business. After being told by his employer that due to re-structuring Ewen, amongst others are losing their jobs. This business will become his full-time passion, with more and better videos on the YouTube site with their true intended purpose. Presently if you look at the site you will find “quaint” videos with pretty scenes, but not the history stories that will eventually be there.

After researching the Scots in Quebec for the last 9 years he has a head full of stories, that are just exploding to come out. Ewen will be putting these into short stories but will also be writing a book accumulating as he goes along. In addition, Ewen has designed a “Scottish Tour” of Quebec City, and of the south shore of the St-

Lawrence River from Levis to the Matane area. Another tour “Walking in their footsteps” is also a bespoke tour based on the clients wishes of seeing and experiencing where their ancestors lived, after Ewen had done research for the client. This not only covers the Scots but the French who lived in the area. This research and stories will also be presented live or on-line to interested groups. Ewen has been asked to be a guest speaker at the Quebec Historical Federation’s annual general meeting to be held next May. His presentation will be on the “Chicken or the egg?” The Scottish migration to Quebec.

The Quebec Gazette (26 April 1781)

Anciens soldats (Fraser) répertoriés comme gardiens de taverne.

Former Soldiers (Fraser) Listed as Tavern Keepers:

- John Mcleod- Quebec
- John Ross- Quebec
- Angus McInyre- St-Thomas
- William Cameron- Quebec
- Thomas Cameron- St-Vallier
- Angus McNeil- St-Vallier
- Donald McKinnon- Berthier
- Donald Kennedy- Berthier
- Neil McInyre- St-Francois
- Lauchlin McKinnon- Cap-St-Ignace

ADVERTISEMENTS.
DISTRICT of QUEBEC.
LIST of Persons who have obtained Licenses to retail Liquors, in the Year 1781.

Sole Proprietors		Partners	
William Buchanan, Glasgow, Scotland.	John McInyre, St. Thomas.	Robert White, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
John Ross, Quebec.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Angus McInyre, St. Thomas.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
William Cameron, Quebec.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Thomas Cameron, St. Vallier.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Angus McNeil, St. Vallier.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Donald McKinnon, Berthier.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Donald Kennedy, Berthier.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Neil McInyre, St. Francois.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.
Lauchlin McKinnon, Cap-St-Ignace.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.	John McInyre, St. Charles.

Autres Écossais:

Other Scots:

- Donald Henderson
- William Caw
- William Forbes
- William Pearson
- Duncan McKenzie
- Duncan McDonald
- Robert McFie
- John McBean
- Franks & Macnider
- Ralph Black
- Thomas Chapman
- Thomas Reid
- James Woods

Here is a small sample of some of Ewen’s work. Now it is still not complete, and it is possible that some of the “Other Scots” were actually soldiers in the Fraser Highlanders.

(Continued on page 49)

The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys - Le Chardon et la fleur de Lys

(Continued from page 48)

Ewen uses genealogy as a tool to assist in his research. Digging down into a family roots can be pretty boring, but it is what you find when you research the individuals where you find information that is new to others. In this way of researching people Ewen has found a way to bring new information to light that has never been seen before. It is not like people are hiding it. It is simply because people are not looking for it.



Ewen soaked, hiding from the rain.

Now this does not stop Ewen from being a volunteer. Ewen continues to search for the descendants of the 78th regiment of foot (Fraser's Highlanders 1757-1763) and is seeing more and more how the soldiers from that regiment who remained in North America, or returned, made a giant footprint in Canadian history. He also continues to search for the earliest MacKinnons to Canada, and thanks the Clan MacKinnon Society for a grant to assist in this endeavour. These stories will be premiered here with CASSOC for all to enjoy. If you have any suggestions or are a descendant of one of these early settlers to Canada then reach out to Ewen, and he would be happy to communicate and share information with you.

Ewen along with the Clan MacKinnon tent, reached out to others in a similar manner and found many descendants of the Fraser Highlanders when at the events with his display tent.

On CASSOC



This is the first official report from the Clan MacKinnon Society with CASSOC. They just recently joined up and all other reports were noted under the Chardon et la Fleur de Lys. From now on there will be two different reports. Clan MacKinnon is excited about being a member of the CAS-

(Continued on page 50)

The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys - Le Chardon et la fleur de Lys

(Continued from page 49)

SOC and this will be a mutual benefit to both groups. A big “Thank You” to the Clan MacKinnon board of directors for pursuing this route.

In Quebec, Clan MacKinnon was able to attend three summer events, all ended up being rainy and the display, tent and clothing were soaking wet by the end of each event. First was the “Montreal Highland Games”, Then the “Carrefours d’Accordeon” in Montmagny then finally the “Festival Celtique de Quebec” in Quebec City. At the Celtic festival and the games new “MacKinnons” were found and brought into the family. Their family trees just happened to be on file by the “Chardon et la Fleur de Lys” and their roots were easily identified. Some of them being distant relatives to the Clan Commissioner in Quebec.

The clan tent was upgraded this year, with a trailer full of lumber and now has new exhibition materials so that people can have a better experience when they visit. Unlike many other displays, it is important for this to be a “bilingual” tent as many of the MacKinnons being sought out have long since become French Canadians and only speak French. The only drawback is that it takes Ewen 2 hours to set up the tent and materials. Ewen also sported “non kilted” clothing to wear, as the character he portrays is “Donald McKinnon” who was a soldier, merchant, Tavern owner, seigneur, justice of the Peace, and

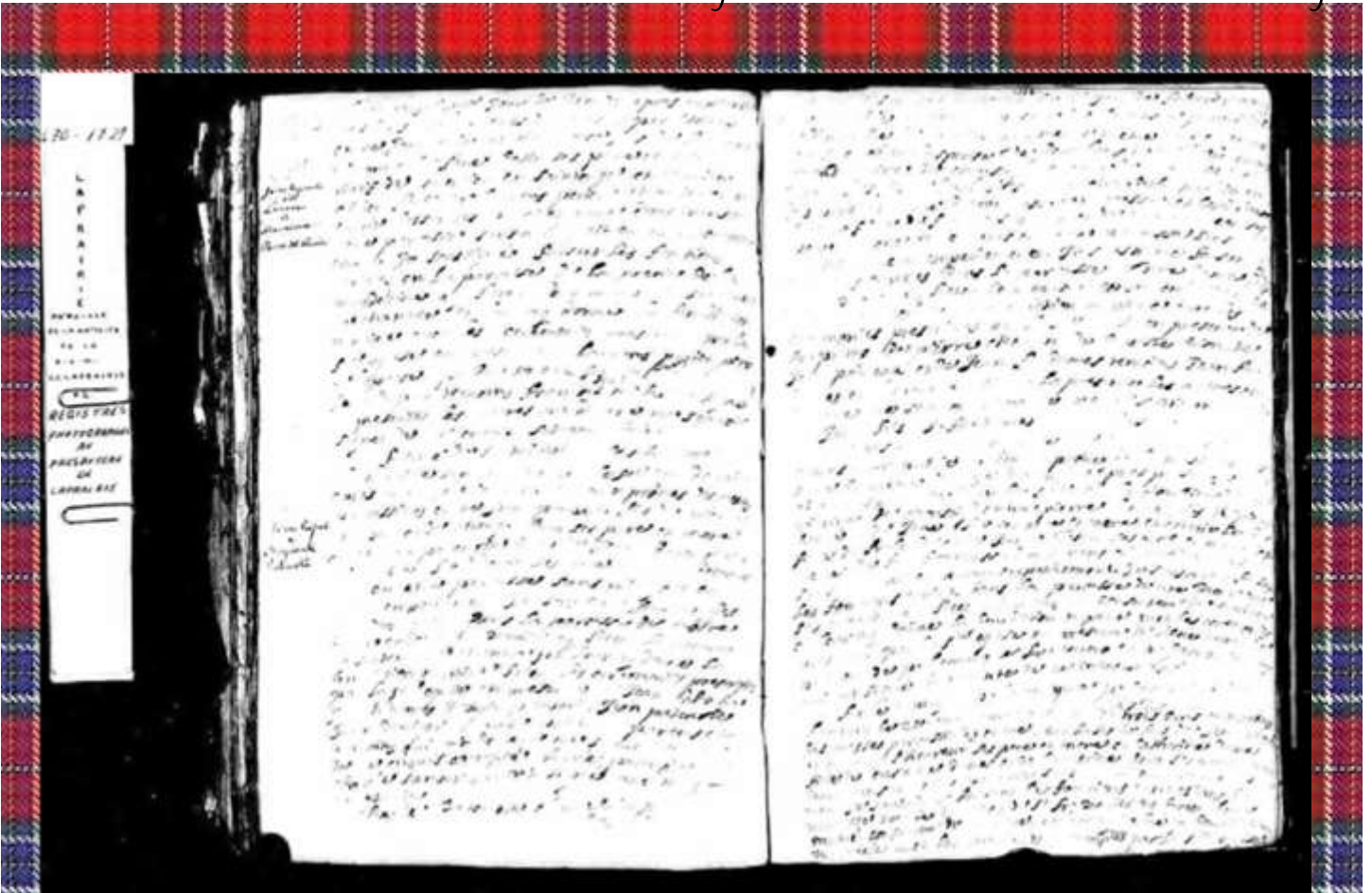


member of the first Canadian Legislature when he died in Matane, Quebec in 1792. He was one of the first McKinnons to arrive and stay in Canada after the Treaty of Paris in 1763. At that time the wearing of the kilt was still banned except when employed in the British army.

As a note one of the oldest MacKinnon traces to North America date back to a wedding document held in a church parish record south of Montreal. In La Prairie, Nouvelle France we have John Reid, the son of David Reid and Elizabeth McKinnon of Inverness, Scotland, getting married to a Catherine Primeau on 11 February 1714. This document supports that many Scots arrived and lived with the French. A part of our history that has been hidden for years.

(Continued on page 51)

The Thistle and the Fleur de Lys - Le Chardon et la fleur de Lys



(Continued from page 50)

Mariage de Jean Reid à Catherine Primeau (11 février, 1714 • Laprairie, Nouvelle France)

Père et Mère de Jean : David Reid et Elizabeth McKinnon de Inverness, Écosse

Drouin Collection, BANQ (Archives Québec)

Yes, the document is hard to read, but it is there as a reminder that many Scots arrived and lived with the French and their descendants continue to walk amongst us.

The Clan MacKinnon-Quebec headquarters continues to be renovated and repaired, and we are waiting results of a Dendrochronology test from the University of Laval. That is when you use tree rings to date when the tree was cut. The University of Laval has an extensive collection of old wood from the local area that they can use to compare samples with. The suspense is killing us. How old is the house really?? We only know that Donald McKinnon purchased the house in 1767, which makes it the oldest known MacKinnon building in North America. If anybody wants to dispute it, please let us know. Stay tuned for more....

Ewen Booth



TICKETS NOW ON SALE

St. Andrew's Charity Ball
Saturday November 16

Fairmont Royal York Hotel,
100 Front St. West, Toronto

Dinner and Ceilidh Dancing Ticket \$250

Table packages may be purchased for tables of 8, 9 or 10

Ceilidh Ticket (dancing only) \$80

*Please note that ticket prices don't include Eventbrite fees

For all information on the Charity Ball, please visit our website or click on the button below.

Any Ball related questions can be directed to info@standrewstoronto.ca.

Ticket sales end at 11.59pm on Saturday, November 9th.





We have lots of amazing items at our Silent Auction this year. Here's a taster of the items we have:

30x30 acrylic painting, 'The Tartan Ball' by Peter Farmer

Free Kilt Rental - William Glen & Son

Premium Family Portrait Sessions - Ana Pascos Photography

Gift card - Fitzroy dress rentals

Two tickets for Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Niagara Falls Air Tour - Seth Moffat

48x48 "Spaggia Sugar Beach, Sicily" painting by Steve Fretwell

Photography Gift certificates - Jerome Art and Photography

Custom Kilt - Burnetts and Struth

Collectable Burns Book : The National Burns - **Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada**

A huge thank you to all the companies and members who kindly donated an item for our Silent Auction!

St. Andrew's Day Pub Night at the Rivoli

332 Queen St. West, Toronto
November 30, 2024
7pm to midnight



Come celebrate Scotland's national day with a boisterous night of Celtic Music. The St. Andrew's Society of Toronto is proud to present the album release party for Old Man Flanagan's Ghost! Pressgang Mutiny will join Jim Maxwell & Alanna Jenish as support acts on this special night. 'Simple Little Boat' will be OMFG's fourth album. This night is not to be missed!

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Show schedule is:

7:30pm – Jim Maxwell & Alanna Jenish

8:30pm – Pressgang Mutiny

9:30pm – Old Man Flanagan's Ghost

This will be a standing room show with very limited seating reserved for those who truly require it on first come/first serve basis. We CANNOT guarantee seats. [Buy Tickets Here](#)

Old Man Flanagan's Ghost have been bringing 'Music with a Celtic heart' to audiences for years. Based in Toronto, they have drawn inspiration from bands such as Great Big Sea, The Pogues, The Dubliners and Flogging Molly. Imagine the smell of the sea, cold pints of beer and boisterous friends sharing a laugh. We hope to see you there!



We are delighted to be invited back to the historic St. Andrew's Church, 173 Simcoe Street, Toronto (corner of King St. West and Simcoe) for our annual Church Parade on Sunday 10th November.

The service commences at 10:30am but we will assemble in the Church Hall at 10:00 am and will be piped in around 10.25am.

We look forward to seeing as many of our members and friends there.

Volunteer Needed

Burns Night Dinner Co-Convenor

Since 1836 the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto has relied on volunteerism to fulfil its mission of helping those in need and celebrating Scottish culture.

The Burns Dinner can be traced back to 1801 when friends of the beloved Scottish poet, Robert Burns, held a memorial dinner in his honour.

Help Us Organize and Host the Dinner!

We are looking for a volunteer to co-convene this event with our current very experienced and gracious convenor, Graham Desson, who is looking forward to sharing his knowledge on how to plan this celebration with an enthusiastic partner.

You are someone who enjoys Scottish traditions, has attended at least one Burns dinner and would welcome the opportunity to learn more about the history and elements of this fun night. From the Selkirk Grace to the Address to a Haggis all the way to the heart felt Auld Lang Syne, this is an opportunity to create a memorable experience for over 100 attendees at the University Club in Toronto. Importantly, you must enjoy networking and engaging with people as well as attending to the details that will make for a great evening.

Please send an email to info@standrewstoronto.ca if you are interested in learning more.

Clan Designer

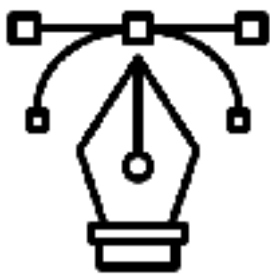
Unleash Your Scottish Pride

Website: clandesigner.ca

Email: info@clandesigner.ca

Hiring a Designer is a great way to promote and celebrate your group's unique identity, strengthen the bonds among members and ensure your legacy continues for years to come.

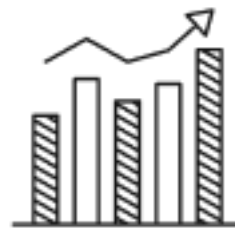
I will play a crucial role in visually representing and promoting your clan and family identity.



I provide exceptional graphics as compelling assets for advertising, promotions, communications and more.



Creativity is my driving force, and I consistently bring fresh perspectives and original ideas to the table



I can help you stay organized and plan for the future of your clan's visual identity.



My designs will engage your audience and foster a sense of pride and belonging.



Canada's Premier Kiltmakers

customerservice@burnetts-struth.com Call us at 705 728 3232



We are Canada's Premier Kiltmakers

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Scottish Wedding Essentials

[Shop Wedding](#)



Highland Dress & Kilt Rentals

Only \$39.00

[Shop Rentals](#)



The Saltire Gathering



A new Festival of Scotland
Stirling
September 20 & 21, 2025

Set against a backdrop of **Stirling Castle**, a festival for all ages celebrating **Scotland's Past, Present and Future.**

A country rich and diverse from history to culture, food & drink to talks and workshops, thought-provoking conversations, story-telling, book reading, music, dancing...
And so much more!

Why not plan a Scottish holiday to include the festival, Bring your family; encourage your Clan society to get involved

For other ways to become a part of this unique and exciting festival, register your interest and to get updates, click [here](#) or the banner above



Our Partners:



Endorsed by:



*Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston
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Commissioned Tunes

With commissioned music, you can encapsulate memories, emotions, and stories in a personalised



Sheena's Scottish Shortbread

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread was founded in 2013. We produce authentic handmade shortbread from a 100 year old unique family recipe. It's origins are traced to the small town of Kirkintilloch, Scotland

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread was first produced by Hannah McInnes, (Sheena's grandmother), which in turn was handed down to her daughter Agnes Rarity, (Sheena's mother) and finally to Sheena herself.

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread Flavours

Traditional

Lemon

Maple

Ginger

Toffee with SKOR bits

Toasted Coconut

Gluten Free

www.sheenasscottishshortbread.com

SheenasScottishShortbread@gmail.com

An Drochaid - The Bridge

This Special AGM 2024 Edition features, as its cover, the Tay Bridge which carries rail traffic across the Firth of Tay in Scotland between Dundee and the suburb of Wormit in Fife. Its span is 2.75 miles (4.43 kilometres). It is the second bridge to occupy the site. Image Credit : August Schwerdfeger, CC BY 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>>, via Wikimedia Commons

The Tay Bridge has a history that, in certain respects, is mirrored by CASSOC's. The first version suffered a catastrophe in its early years and you can still see the first's pilings under the second version. This second bridge was strengthened and refurbished a couple of decades ago by a project that won awards due to its scale and difficulty.

We hope for similar success and recognition of the scale and difficulty in our strengthening and refurbishing through our transformation to Scots Canada.

An Drochaid - The Bridge is usually published quarterly for each season. Submissions are welcome, though articles may be edited for length or content.

Whenever possible, please provide Word, RTF or text formats
Please try to provide submissions by the first day of the season of publication.

Spring: March 21, Summer: June 21, Fall: September 21, Winter: January 11.

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Taylor's Tartans is a home based business in rural New Brunswick that sells product made out of our provincial tartans.