



THE GREEN BANNER

NEWSLETTER

Clan Macpherson Association Canadian Branch

Vol. 13 Number 2

SUMMER ISSUE

July 2019

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

By Denise Lagundzin, Registrar



Greetings Cousins,

It looks like summer has finally arrived.

We have two new members to welcome to the Clan, Julia Ann MacPherson and Joseph B. Archibald.

Julia Ann MacPherson was born in Sydney, Nova Scotia, and is the oldest daughter of Joseph R. MacPherson and his wife, Mary L. Neville.

In 2012, she accepted a teaching position in Nauyasat (Repulse Bay), Nunavut.

She is currently the Vice Principal of Tuugaalik High School and has been in Nunavut for seven years.

Her Great-Great-Grandfather was Donald MacPherson who settled in St. Joseph's Ohio area of Antigonish County, Nova Scotia and was born in 1854.

The family took up farming and eventually moved to St. Andrews, Antigonish County, Nova Scotia where Donald's son Daniel MacPherson married Cassie Jane (Catherine) Chisholm, also from the Ohio area. Daniel's son was Julia's Grandfather Joseph MacPherson, who was born in St. Andrews, Antigonish in 1928.

Sadly, we have lost a member, Margaret Ruth McPherson who passed away January 20, 2019 in her 93rd year. Ruth lived in the Cobblestone Gardens in Thorold, ON.



70TH GATHERING



CANADIAN BRANCH - CLAN MACPHERSON ASSOCIATION

August 9 & 10, 2019
Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton
Guelph, Ontario

USA BRANCH AGM AND GATHERING

Dunedun, Florida
October 10-15, 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By Ed Smith



Greetings Cousins, There has been a bit of a gap since my last report. However, times have been quite busy keeping track of this year's gathering being held in both Guelph and Fergus. There is more information about this further in this issue. Janet McCredie and her team have been working hard on the upcoming gathering plus the planning for the joint gathering for 2020 is well in hand. We in the Canadian branch are desperately in need of two items. First off it is

no great secret we are an ageing family. Yes, a clan and association are the same entity.

New members are what will ensure a solution of sorts. Secondly, New members and the existing membership must be willing to take part in the operation of the branch and in representing the Clan Macpherson at the various Highland/ Scottish Games and other related activities. Feet on the ground showing the face of the CMA to the Macphersons and Family, who bear the name, but are not yet part of the Clan. It is not all that difficult to speak with folks at these events once a person gets

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TREASURER'S CORNER

By Ken Gillis Honorary Treasurer



The clan association is in good shape financially as of the end of June.

We have \$8,836 in our current account and \$11,464 in our Life Membership Fund. We are showing a profit of \$1,571 year to date at the end of June. The profit is largely because we have received registrations and memberships and have not had to pay any remittances.

The monthly statement for June shows zero as a donation amount. This is because the field was used to capture donations to the Clan Museum Restoration Fund of \$1,110 from 13 clan members. The money was cleared out and the funds remitted to the Clan Museum Trust fund in June.

I will be remitting our membership fees to Clan Macpherson Association in September, as per the clan association guidelines.

I am only expecting the expenses associated with our clan gathering for the remainder of this year. To date 16 people have registered for the gathering.

Our clan gathering is typically self-supporting and so should not affect our final financial position.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the clan gathering in Fergus, August 9th and 10th.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to thank to following for their contributions and support to the Summer issue: Denise Lagundzin, Ken Gillis, Bill Macpherson, Janet McCredie and Ed Smith. We would also like to thank Ewan Macpherson of the Clan Museum for his hard work with the creation of the "Macphersons in Canada" exhibit.

THE GREEN BANNER

Published three to four times each year to bring information of interest to the members of the Canadian Branch of the Clan Macpherson Association.

Honorary Chairman: RGM Macpherson CM, KStJ,

Officers:

Ed Smith CD, Chairman

Ken Gillis, Honorary Treasurer

Janet McCredie, Honorary Secretary

Denise Lagudzin, Registrar

Immediate Past Chairman:

William Macpherson PEng

Regional Councillors:

John C House, MOM, FSA Scot, Eastern Canada

Major Myles G Macpherson CD, Quebec and Eastern ON

Robert T Macpherson, Western Canada

Webmaster: Ewan Macpherson PhD

Editor: John C House MOM, FSA Scot

Editor Emeritus: Mark F Macpherson CD, FSA Scot

Inquiries and articles may be sent by email to Green-Banner326@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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out there. The more new members we can attract will make it easier to have other functions throughout the year.

We are well into the games season. Thus far I have represented the CMA at Georgetown on June 8th, Cobourg - along with the veterans Bob and Marlene Archibald (Port Hope). Next was the fledgling Caledonia Celtic Festival on June 22nd. Participation and attendance was quite impressive and varied, and Frank McPherson from Brantford stopped by to say hello. Between getting ready for the trip to the Clan Museum and learning that Chat Noir had developed diabetes and all that goes with that, it was an extremely busy few days.

The Opening of the Macphersons in Canada exhibit (Canada 150 Project) on Canada Day at the Clan Museum in Newtonmore was interesting. We were pleased to have the newly appointed Canadian Honorary Consul, Mary Duncan in attendance. There were forty plus cousins attending the event, which was well received. It should be noted that this was the first time the Canadian Flag has flown over Newtonmore.

A couple of days after returning home - Saturday July 9th - I found myself in Kincardine on Ontario's west coast. This is a compact Scottish Festival and is quite busy. There is a parade down the main street on Saturday with folks securing their spots on the route a good hour before the parade started. The crowds descended on the clan village when the parade finished. I spoke with several Macphersons during the day. I even met Lord Bruce who was the Chieftain of the Games. I found him to be pleasant and quite interesting.

The next Games on my list are the Cambridge, Ontario Scottish festival on July 20, which of course means I will miss the annual free flight competition in Geneseo, NY. This is when a group of Clan representatives would be helpful (hint hint).

Next is another trip to Badenoch for the Clan Macpherson Council/AGM /Ralia. Our only Junior Member, Caleb Macpherson, will be returning to the Newtonmore Games to better his attempt from last year and garner his Great Grandfather's trophy in piping. He will also be taking part in the Clan Pipe off on the Sunday evening.

Returning from the Gathering on August 7th, I will be right into the Branch Gathering at Guelph and Fergus as well as representing the Clan in the clan village. Hopefully I will have a few volunteers who will speak to the many games goers who stop by the Clan tent. There is a games entry discount for CMA members in attendance. (Must be an association member or guest) Lets make our mark on the Parade of the Clans this year.

I really hope to see all those who live in Ontario and nearby areas to come out and make this a great event.

See you there.

Ed

DEADLINE FOR AUTUMN ISSUE

Articles, stories and photos for the Winter issue are due on the Editor's desk by October 15th, 2019. We look forward to input to the Green Banner from all members. Send your drafts or outlines as soon as possible to:

GreenBanner326@gmail.com

2018 HIGHLAND GAMES REPORT

By Janet McCredie



Canadian Branch Gathering

CMA Canadian Branch 70th Annual Gathering

Guelph and Fergus, Ontario,
August 9 and 10, 2019.

Scotland without the Airfare! The Macphersons are heading to the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games!



The 70th Canadian Branch Macpherson Gathering will be a celebration of old and new.

On Friday we shall have our traditional dinner, raffle and toasting of the haggis at the Hampton Inn. As in the early years of the Gathering we are applying for a liquor licence so members can bring their preferred beverages.

To celebrate our 2020 joint United States and Canadian Gathering there will be some samplings of wines from the Niagara Region. The joint celebration of our heritage will be held in the Niagara Region in the fall of 2020. Plans are underway to make this a fun and memorable event.

Information about the meal, raffle and hotel are on the Canadian Branch website. Accommodations in the Fergus area are booked up early. There have been rooms reserved for us at the Hampton Inn and held until June 14, 2019. When you reserve your room mention that you are with the Clan for our special rate. The Executive Meeting is at 4:00 pm.

The Clan Meetings will differ a bit this year. The executive is meeting on Friday afternoon at the Inn. To get everyone to the Festival, the Annual Meeting will take place on site at the Fergus Games at 10:00 am in the Arena.

Following our meeting we shall join the other clans in the March at the Opening Ceremonies. We are hoping to be well represented among the over 20 clans registered and participating.

This year's Festival Chieftain is Rev Canon Dr Joseph John Morrow CBE KStJ QC DL LLD. He is the current Lord Lyon King of Arms.

Ed has registered our clan. ***Games tickets are required for entry to our Saturday events, and must be purchased separately from our registration fee.*** The Macphersons get a spe-

cial rate! 20% off whether you are there for the day or the weekend!

Games website: <https://fergusscottishfestival.com/>

The PROMO CODE IS **CLAN19MCP**

On site the Macphersons have a 20 ft. by 20 ft Clan tent which will also serve as a drop in tent for our group.

The Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games features: World and National Scottish Heavy Events Competitions; Canadian Scottish Athletic Federation Women's Championship; Pipe Band Competitions; Highland Dancers; over 40 Clans; Heritage Tent; research tools and lectures in the Genealogy Center; Clash of the Regiments; McKiddie's Centre; Celtic musicians; and over 100 international vendors.

On Sunday it is breakfast at the hotel and off to the festival for another full day of excitement. Sunday morning also has a Running Race for all ages and a variety of distances. Please see the website for further information. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Friday, August 9th and having great weekend!

Gathering Registration:

Please register by **July 26th** using either the paper registration form (https://www.clan-macpherson.org/canada/2019_Gathering_Registration.pdf); which can be printed and forwarded with a cheque by mail to our Treasurer, Ken Gillis. Alternatively, online registration is available (https://www.clan-macpherson.org/canada/gath_tickets_2019.html) with payment through PayPal.

Hotel Information:

The Friday meet up and dinner will be held in Guelph at the Hampton Inn and Suites. Rooms are being held at a special rate until June 14, 2019. Just indicate that you are part of the Macpherson Gathering group. Book soon! The festival leaves no room unused!

It is located at the north end of Guelph and is a short drive to the Fergus Highland Festival! We have rooms set aside for the Clan and these need to be booked early.

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton - Guelph
725 Imperial Road North, Guelph, ON, N1K 1X4
Hotel phone: 519.821.2144

Website: www.guelphsuites.hamptoninn.com



ICELAND

By John C. House



Some readers might be surprised to learn that Icelanders have a longstanding association with Scotland that dates back more than a thousand years. The histories of Iceland and Scotland have been intertwined since the time of the Vikings, when Norse explorers settled the Northern Isles of Shetland and Orkney and the Highlands and

Islands on the west coast of Scotland. Many place-names in Scotland still bear witness to the Norse settlement along the coastlines of northern and western Scotland.



Pingvellir National Park - The Mid-Atlantic Ridge separating the the Eurasian and North American plates, and is the site of the world's oldest parliament, the Alþingi, established here in 930 AD.

During and after the initial settlement period, Norse raiders often took slaves from Gaelic speaking communities, with some of them ending up in Iceland during the earliest periods of Icelandic settlement - c. 874-930 AD. One of the old Ice-



Kirkjufellsfoss - Waterfall situated on the Kirkjufellsá river, on the Snæfellsnes peninsula in west Iceland. Kirkjufell mountain is seen in the background.

landic Sagas even describes how two Scottish slaves accompanied Norse explorers to Vinland (probably modern day Newfoundland) during the late tenth century. In addition to slaves, there was intermarriage between Norse and Gaels, which resulted in Scottish women relocating to Iceland with their Norse husbands. Recent genetic research has confirmed that the descendants of these Scottish women live on in many of the current residents of Iceland.



Skógafoss - Waterfall situated on the Skógá River in southern Iceland.

In recent years Iceland has become a very popular tourist destination. Penny and I have visited Iceland twice in the past few years, and each time we visited our days were packed with one amazing place after another.

Anyone interested in planning a trip to Iceland can rest assured that it is a very safe country. It is easy to get around, and there is a ring road that circumnavigates the country. Because of its location and climate, and depending on what interests you, it is important to carefully plan your trip. Without planning, there are a lot of things that can easily be missed. The landscape is incredibly diverse, with waterfalls, geothermal areas, glaciers, lava fields and much more to be found. In addition, there are many fascinating historic sites.



Vatnajökull—Glacier situated in south Iceland

ICELAND

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We planned our trips for the month of June, when it remains daylight for virtually 24 hours a day. The weather is generally very favourable then, with temperatures hovering around the mid-teens. If you are interested in seeing the Northern Lights, you will need to plan for a time of the year when it is dark much of the time, and the weather may be less favourable for driving around the country.



Geysir—This geyser is located in southwestern Iceland.

Iceland is an easy place to get to, as many large cities now have direct flights to Iceland. There is an international airport at Keflavík and a smaller one at Reykjavík which offers flights to the Faroe Islands which is another interesting destination with similar historic ties.

It is a destination I would definitely recommend.



Ed Smith representing the Canadian Branch at the Kincardine Scottish Festival

SPRING FOR THE MUSEUM FUNDRAISER

By Bill Macpherson



Sincere thanks to the following members for your contributions to the branch fundraiser, in support of the urgently needed repairs to the roof of our Clan Museum in Newtonmore. Thanks to your generosity as we raised \$1,110.00!

- Bob & Sondra Archibald (Brantford, ON)
- Eric & Barbera Boyson (Maberly, ON)
- Janet Evans (Toronto, ON)
- Ron & Danna Fitton (Scarborough, ON)
- Mary Margaret Gillies (Scarborough, ON)
- Ken & Ella Gillis (Burlington, ON)
- Denise Lagundzin (Walkerton, ON)
- Bob & Sylvia Macpherson (Cochrane, AB)
- Bill & Irene Macpherson (Mississauga, ON)
- Randy & Paula Macpherson (Burlington, ON)
- Stuart Macpherson (Toronto, ON)
- Jacqueline Murdoch (Toronto, ON)
- Ed Smith (Brantford, ON)

It's never too late to participate. Donations can be sent to me, Branch Treasurer or directly to Museum Treasurer.

May was Gaelic awareness month in Nova Scotia



The Gaelic Symbol - The image is that of a salmon in the shape of the letter 'G'. The salmon represents gift of knowledge in the Gaelic storytelling traditions of Nova Scotia, Scotland and Ireland and the Isle of Man. The 'G' represents the Gaelic language and the ripples are the manifestations of the language through its attendant culture: song, story, music, dance and custom and belief system.

MACPHERSONS IN CANADA" EXHIBIT

By John C. House



The culmination of a lot of hard work came together on Canada Day with the official opening of the "Macphersons in Canada" exhibit at the Clan Macpherson Museum at Newtonmore.

Among those in attendance was Mary Duncan, the new Honorary Consul for Canada in Scotland, our Clan Chief Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, as well as Canadian Branch Chairman Ed Smith.

The Canada Day launch saw museum trustee Ewen Macpherson provide attendees with a description of the exhibition. The exhibition was then officially opened by Mary Duncan, as her first engagement since investiture as Honorary Consul.

Ms. Duncan described the important role of the Scots in Cana-



Ed Smith, Cluny, Honorary Consul Mary Duncan and Lady Hillery at the Official Opening at the Clan Museum.

da and made particular reference to Annie MacPherson, the founder of the British Home Children in Canada, who assisted

in finding homes and careers for 14,000 needy British children in the late 19th century. One such child was Lucy Maud Montgomery, author of the classic children's novel Anne of Green Gables.



Mary Duncan Honorary Consul for Canada in Scotland in front of Clan Museum

A local newspaper, the Strathspey and Badenoch Herald provided excellent coverage of the event, and their report can be seen at: <https://www.strathspey-herald.co.uk/news/canada-day-sparks-special-exhibition-at-newtonmore-museum-179996/>

Congratulations to Ewen Macpherson, Ed Smith and everyone else who had a hand in bringing this together!

ADVERTISING IN THE GREEN BANNER

Members are reminded that there are opportunities for advertising space in the Green Banner. We would like to defray the expenses of publishing and distributing our newsletter and also contribute to Branch operations. The rates per issue are as follows;

Eighth Page	\$12
Quarter Page	\$20
Half Page	\$35
Full Page	\$65

The Green Banner is read by adults and children alike across the country and is circulated outside of Canada.

Anyone wishing to advertise their business, services or talents, or events that might be of interest to our readers, should contact GreenBanner326@gmail.com for more details and multi-issue rates



Ed Smith manning the tent at the Georgetown Highland Games—June 8, 2019.