

Everyone, meet Jane

Jane McGaughey is a driving force at Concordia's School of Canadian Irish Studies



By Joanne Latimer

This is the first article in a regular column, "Everyone, meet..." to introduce members to Montrealers with an Irish connection. The focus will be on newcomers to the city and recent transplants from abroad.

Stirring her herbal tea on a hot August day, Jane McGaughey graciously gives away the secret to her famous Irish soda bread.

"It's all about the buttermilk—real buttermilk," says McGaughey, who moved to Montreal just three years ago, when she accepted a teaching position at Concordia University's School of Canadian Irish Studies. Before that, this native of Kingston, Ontario, taught Canadian history at the Royal Military College of Canada.

But McGaughey wants to clear up a common misconception about her work. Although she studies war and violence, she isn't a military historian.

"I'm really a cultural historian," explains McGaughey. "I don't care about troop movements, but I do care about who was there—at war—and the cultural consequences. For me, I want to know about the spirit of the age, identity and patterns of violence."

McGaughey completed her PhD at Birkbeck College, University of London in 2008. Her thesis examined the relationship between



Photo: Kate Conacher

Jane McGaughey, President of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies: "I've always been fascinated by my family's Irish heritage."

public masculinities and warfare in Ulster before, during, and after the First World War. Her recent book, *Ulster's Men: Protestant Unionist Masculinities and Militarization in the North of Ireland, 1912-1923*, is a highly accessible read—especially interesting for anyone with ties to Ulster.

"Research for my PhD took me to the North in 2005, making me the first person in the family to go back," says McGaughey. "My Dad's people came from Co. Down. His grandfather was from Belfast and played in the Belfast Baker's Flute Band, although he didn't join the Orange Order. I found records of a Samuel McGaughey who signed the Ulster Covenant [during the Home Rule crisis], but Walter must've been a cousin because Dad's family was already in Canada by then."

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NUACHT

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A word from the President

With summer behind us, we once again launch the calendar of the Irish activities for the fall and winter seasons. Many events have been planned by our sister societies as well as our normal activities that will make the upcoming season exciting.

St. Patrick's Society has a rich history. Founded in 1834, we continue today to carry out our mandate and support the Irish community to the best of our ability. Our goal and mandate for the past year was to raise our visibility within the community and support as many projects as funding would allow.

I am pleased to report that this past year we supported: Centaur Theater; Ville Marie Feis Irish Dancing; Bloomsday Festival; Montreal Shamrock Gaelic Athletic Association; Danny Boy Musical Production; Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation; Montreal Celtic Society; United Irish Societies' St. Patrick's Parade; Musicians of the World Irish Concert; Irish Dancing World Championships in Montreal; and our Society's Concordia School of Canadian Irish Studies lecture to name a few.

The past few months saw several events unfold. We attended the AOH Walk to the Stone, The Montreal Celtic Society's Symposium at Concordia, the Montreal Highland Games and the St. Coloman Heritage Day.

The St. Coloman Day was held in St. Coloman Quebec, just north of Mirabel, where we were graciously welcomed by the Mayor and Council. Several years ago, St. Patrick's Society granted a donation to restore several grave stones within the cemetery. Fergus Keyes headed the committee with the Town of St. Coloman and,

along with our donations, plus funding from the Embassy of Ireland in Ottawa, the project became a testimonial to the town and its deep Irish roots. The Ambassador of Ireland, Ray Bassett, unveiled a plaque and a great turn out made for an incredible day.

It has been difficult from a fund raising point of view. Our events have not generated the results we experienced in the past. Donations and sponsorships are proving to be extremely difficult in the present economic conditions. The executive and Board members will meet shortly to plan our annual activities, with the objective of improving upon last year's performance.

I would like to thank- all members who have contributed their time to volunteer and work with the various committees during the past year. Your involvement at all levels is greatly appreciated. At the annual general meeting, held on Tuesday Sept. 22, 2015, the membership elected the executive and board members for 2015-2016. I would like to thank the following board members for their dedication and work over the past years: Vivian Doyle -Kelly; Julie Dunn; Timothy Dunn and Stephen Fogarty, who will be departing the board. Their input has been invaluable. We welcome Scott Phelan, Pat Short, John McDonough, Sheila Showers, Susan Cahill, Kim Hogan and Maria Cook to the board. We are pleased they have stepped up to enhance our board.

The board of directors thanks all of the members who came out on a warm July night to help pass the By-Law amendments. The amendments were required to update our bylaws and to move our year end to the end of June rather than March, which enables the society to better report on our financial activities. A new copy of the bylaws will be printed shortly and forwarded to all members.

I would ask that our members come out and support the upcoming activities. In this edition of *NUACHT*, you will find information regarding the Oyster Party, which we co-sponsor with The Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club. It's a fun night and a fund-raiser for the Society. On Tuesday October 6th, the Irish societies will host an "End to Summer" get-together at Hurley's Pub. Ambassador Bassett will be in attendance. All sister societies are invited, and in the past this has always been a great get together. I look forward to seeing you at this event.

Thanks to all of our members for your continued support. As members of the Society, you are not only supporting our Society, you are making a contribution to the entire community which we endeavour to support.

Jim Killin
September 2015

NUACHT, Community Newsletter of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal

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Montreal, QC H3B 1A7
Tel.: (514) 842-2545

Subscription: \$25.00 per year

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Deadline for submissions for next issue: November 9, 2015

NUACHT Advertising Rates

	<u>Per Issue</u>	<u>Yearly (4 Issues)</u>
Business Card	\$75.00	\$250.00
Quarter Page	\$150.00	\$500.00
Half Page	\$250.00	\$800.00
Full Page	\$400.00	\$1,300.00

News from the Society

20th Anniversary Golf Tournament ... great success despite early rain

By Paul Doyle

How many horror stories begin with “It was a dark and rainy night”? Well, we had the dark and rainy day, but there was no horror story. As I was driving to the Belle Vue golf course around 11 a.m. on June 16th, I said to myself, “This is going to be a total disaster.”

When I arrived at the course, I was quite surprised to see a good number of golfers huddled under the reception tent. I spoke to Jim Killin, St. Patrick’s President, and he, being the eternal optimist, said the weather might just clear around one o’clock. As the day progressed, the rain slackened and “lo and behold,” blue sky started to appear in the west. The sun came out and the golfers had a beautiful afternoon of golf.

The 20th golf tournament concluded with a great roast beef dinner and wine for all. Each golfer received an attractive golf shirt and a golf hat with the St. Patrick’s Society crest on them, thanks to the generosity of Jim Killin and J.K. Marketing. In addition, \$8,000 worth of prizes were won in the raffle. I must also thank Bill Hurley of Hurley’s Irish Pub for the great refreshment stand between the 6th and 14th hole. Guinness, anyone? Thanks, also, to Paul Quinn and Joe Cannon of the Irish Embassy Pub for their ongoing support, including numerous prizes.

I would also like to thank our many other generous sponsors who have been with us over the years. This tournament has raised well over a quarter million dollars for the charitable works of the St. Patrick’s Society.



(From l. to r.) Sal Nudo, Andrea Bobkowitz, Michael Clayton, Michael Timmouth and Jimmy Heaslip

And last, but not least, thanks to the tireless work of our golf committee, including our two co-chairmen, Brian O’Neill and Wayne Hogan, as well as our other committee members: Dave Dubeau, Ron Pilon, Jim Killin, Bill Hurley, Ken O’Donnell, John McGee, Brian Marcil, Dave Hannon, Ed Brennan, Andy Fogarty and Jim Heaslip.

I hope to see you all next year. Register early, as we can only accommodate 144 golfers. I can be reached at 514 481 3503 or through the St. Patrick’s Society at 514-481-1346.

(Paul Doyle, Chair)



AGM attendees, September 22



Photos by
Ken Quinn

Jim Killin, Caitlyn Moynan, Kevin Callahan (new members), and Laurie Bennett (treasurer)



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In Memoriam

McMAHON, Francis Arthur, February 18, 1948 – July 19, 2015



Frank organising the Society's marchers (not conducting the pipe band). 2012.

Words are not enough to express the sorrow felt by members of St. Patrick's Society over the sudden passing of Frank McMahon. A dedicated, pro-active and former board member of the Society, Frank will be remembered in particular for the fine job he did for many years as the organiser of the SPS contingent in the annual St. Patrick's parades.

The son of the late James H. McMahon and Ethel Hunter, Frank is survived by his wife of 41 years, Cynthia

Owens, and their children, Frank Scott and Mary-Katherine. A graduate of Loyola High School, Frank earned his BSc (Arch.) and Bachelor of Architecture at McGill University. Throughout his professional career, Frank was both design and project architect on projects across all domains, including a considerable number of commercial, school and church renovations. Elected to the Board of l'Ordre des Architectes du Quebec in 1993, he later served as vice-president for a one-year term and as president of the Canadian Commission of Architectural Councils. Active in community affairs he served on boards and committees at McGill's Graduate Society, St. Mary's Hospital, Loyola High School, Sacred Heart School of Montreal, and the Parish of the Ascension of Our Lord. Inventor, skier, golfer "with a generous handicap," he danced like no one was watching and since early childhood has enjoyed lengthy visits to his beloved State of Maine.



Frank, we will miss you.

Celtic MTL 2015: 1100 attendees, 59 exhibitor, loads of fun

By Lynda Premier

Film, dance, music, literature—it was an exciting two days in May. Between the talks and performances, Celtic MTL 2015 was a hit.

I first heard about this event in the spring of 2014 while attending a St. Patrick's Society meeting at a private room at Hurley's Pub. Devin Shanks, president of the Montreal Celtic Society, introduced what he hoped would become a yearly event of its kind—a two-day Celtic festival.

The goal was to create an occasion where all Celtic societies, regardless of origin, Irish, Scottish, Welsh and English, could gather together to network and dialogue with the public and each other, and to bring awareness of everyone's charitable, educational, social efforts and activities.

This year, it was held on Saturday and Sunday, 2nd and 3rd May across two Concordia University campuses in downtown Montreal. There was easy access by public transport, although not so easy by car, given Montreal's constant road construction activities.

There were several main sponsors including the Saint Patrick's Society, the St. Andrew's Society, Molson and Celtic Life International.

Present at the two-day event were 59 exhibitors from across North America. The event also included two days of speakers and various performers, plus a launch party at Hurley's Irish Pub on Saturday evening, May 2nd with musical guests Salty Dog from Montreal and from Gatineau, a group called The Irish Bastards.

Devin informed me that around 1100 persons walked through the two campuses during the two-day event. He said that most of those present at the event left on a positive note and several organizations from out of town made new contacts as well as recruited new members. He felt that the event was a success in general and it did exactly what it was designed to do, which was to get everyone together to network and open the lines of communication.



Photo: Lynda Premier

Marie-Louise Seize and Christie Brown

My thanks to those St. Patrick's Society volunteers who helped maintain our presence at the Society's membership table over those two days: Christie Brown, Marie-Louise Seize, Karen Bright, Moira McKeon, Laurie Bennett, Brian Payne and Jim Killin.

I personally enjoyed being part of this inaugural Celtic festival and I do hope that this effort will continue in the years to come.

For more information about this event visit their website www.montrealcelticsociety.org or to learn more about what is expected to happen for next year, which Devin promises will be bigger and better, contact Devin Shanks at 514-217-4781



By-law Changes: Report on the Special Meeting of the Members

By Christie Brown

On July 13th, the members of St. Patrick’s Society gathered in St. Patrick’s Basilica, to discuss, then vote, on a number of Society by-law changes. The evening was preceded by many months of discussion, review and debate between the Board members. The impetus for these changes was twofold: first, the board wished to change the financial year-end from March 1st to June 30th, in order to provide more time between our busy month of March and the Society’s year-end; second, the St. Patrick’s Society, along with all other not-for-profit organizations in Canada, were obligated to review and modify their by-laws, in order to be compliant with the new Not-For-Profit Act. Given the legal requirements of the latter, the Directors hired the Blake, Cassels & Graydon law firm, under the guidance of Past President, Patrick Shea, to review our by-laws, and to make them compliant with the new law. Mr. Shea was involved with the previous by-law review, and therefore was the most logical person to lead this analysis. We were all pleased, though surprised, to learn some St. Patrick’s Society history in the process of this review.

St. Patrick’s Society was founded on March 17th, 1834; however, the Society was not incorporated until 1863, nearly three decades later. During the legal examination of the St. Patrick’s by-laws, it was discovered that the Society was incorporated through a special act of Parliament of the Province of Canada in 1863 (thus, pre-confederation) and that this act governs the Society. Given this piece of news, the St. Patrick’s Society was not required to request continuance under the new not-for-profit act. With this status

confirmed by the Charities Directorate at Industry Canada, the Board chose to move forward with several of the proposed amendments, despite our Special Status.

On July 13th, the Board proposed, and the members voted to approve that the Society include the modified by-laws related to the financial year end, as well as some modifications which allow for official communications to be done through technological means (by email, for example). The change in the financial year-end to June 30th did force some changes to the by-laws related to the nominating committee as well. The Society also felt it prudent to include several of the recommended changes required by the Not-For-Profit Act, as they are designed to provide clarity to our by-laws and protect the members of not-for-profit corporations. Though the members were in agreement that the articles related to the above be passed, there were questions and concerns regarding the articles on dispute resolution, some definitions, as well as the term limits for Board of Director members. As a result, these proposed amendments were removed from the board’s motion and will be analyzed further this year.

The Board of Directors thanks all of the members who came out on a warm July night to help pass the by-law amendments, which will help ensure a strong Society in the future.



More Irish dancing news

By Pat Short

The past few months have been very quiet on the dancing scene with teachers and others taking a rest following a very successful “World’s” However with the arrival of September, many brand new smiling faces showed up at classes in Two Mountains, Kirkland, N.D.G., Chateauguay (two) and now Vaudreuil.



Casey and his new Irish dancers

Vaudreuil! Yes, after many years of wanting to open his own school Casey Costello has started teaching in the Vaudreuil area. Casey has been a star pupil of the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing for many years. A World’s Medal holder, a high performer in all competition and a gracious attendee for shows for shut-ins, Casey has helped Bernadette organize her school and the many gigs they have done for the United Irish Societies. A true young gentleman, Casey will continue with Bernadette Short working in an area he loves best — helping young boy dancers reach their goals in a sea of young ladies. It’s a win win for Irish dancing and Montreal.

Former dancer and now assistant teacher with Bernadette Short, Katie Iriving exchanged marriage vows with Mathew Young at a ceremony in Lachute church and they partied the night away at Fiddler’s Green resort near Morin Heights. A great week end was had by all who attended. See photo p.22.

Read more about Casey on p. 10.



Jane (cont.)

McGaughey’s mother’s people were from Co. Wexford and settled just north of Brockville, in Kitley and Roebuck. One side of her mom’s family were United Empire Loyalists, while the others were proudly from Co. Wexford.

“Mom remembers Orange parades in Prescott, Ontario” says McGaughey, referring to the annual July 12th Orange Day parades in Ulster that commemorate Protestant King William’s victory over Catholic King James II in the Battle of the Boyne in 1690.

McGaughey’s current research is about 19th century pre-famine, pre-Confederation immigration to Canada, from 1798 to 1850.

“It’s bigger than anyone thinks,” she adds. “Irish immigration to Canada didn’t start with the famine. The famine wasn’t even the first calamity. The first calamity was the cholera epidemic of 1832, when Grosse Île opened.”

McGaughey is also studying the Shiners—teams of Irish Catholic loggers in Canada with a well-earned reputation for violence and debauchery up and down the Ottawa River in the 1800s. They raided camps of competing loggers and regularly fought with Catholic loggers from Quebec, as well as government troops.

“It’s a wonderfully rich, mad and violent history, but all of the colour, texture and passion is leached out if we only talk about politics and empirical statistics,” says McGaughey, who is the President of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies. “I’m trying to get rid of the border [between Ontario and Quebec] when studying the Irish in Canada. It’s not just ‘the Irish in Quebec’ and ‘the Irish in Ontario.’ The Irish didn’t care about the border. They went where the work was, in Upper or Lower Canada.”

Joanne Latimer is an award-winning writer and journalist based in Montreal. Her parents came to Canada from Dungannon, Co Tyrone. NUACHT is delighted to welcome Joanne to its editorial board as Assistant Editor.

This semester at Concordia, McGaughey is teaching two classes: Introduction to Irish Studies (IRST203) on Thursday evenings and the Irish in Canada (IRST210), on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Members of the public can register to audit both classes.

When she isn’t preparing lectures, McGaughey will be writing a paper with her husband, Thomas Walker, a professor in the Department of Finance at Concordia’s John Molson School of Business. Their topic is the cultural and economic consequences of post-Celtic Tiger immigration to Canada.

Pop Quiz with Jane

1. Favourite hero or heroine in Irish history? *Peter O’Toole*
2. Best film about Ireland. “*Waking Ned Devine.*”
3. Biggest myth about Ireland. *It doesn’t always rain.*
4. Must-read Irish literature. *Jonathan Swift’s “A Modest Proposal. Satire at its best.”*
5. Guinness, Bushmills, or Bailey’s? *Bushmills, preferably the 16 year-old Distillery Reserve Single Malt.*
6. Favourite Irish destination? *The Antrim coast (see previous answer).*
7. Most-prized Irish heirloom? *A photo of my great-grandfather in the 1878 Belfast Bakers’ Flute Band.*
8. Favourite Irish saying? *Grand.*
9. Best song about the Troubles? “*Zombie*” by *The Cranberries*
10. Advice for those learning Irish history? *Ireland’s past is “The Princess Bride” of history. It has everything: fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles. It’s so much fun!*



Big splash on Canada’s birthday bash

By Jim Mc Dermott

Moments before the Canada Day parade got underway, a Highland drone mellifluously sounded from the Montreal Pipe and Drum Corps. Then a sudden clash of clouds burst, as if on cue, sending rain lashing down heavily on the tops of a sea of unfurling umbrellas.

But the downpour didn’t appear to dampen anybody’s spirit. Every step along the rain-swept route, participants received an enthusiastic welcome from an encouraging sidewalk audience, decked out in raincoats and huddled under huge umbrellas.

Saint Catherine Street reverberated with the sound of their uproarious cheers. An estimated 50,000 spectators came out to wave and chant greetings to the 3,000 participants and 70

floats that zipped by. There was considerable diversity in the crowd, which reflects our vibrant cosmopolitan city.

Kudos to the United Irish Societies and their awesome walking unit. President Danny Doyle and past president Beverly Murphy led their group, which lent a St. Paddy’s party-time ambience to the Canada Day parade. Irish-Canadian pride, in the form of green Shamrocks and red Maple leaves, embraced in solidarity.

Falling in behind the Irish societies, the Montreal Bloomsday group looked spiffy in their signature-style attire, as they pranced in the rain, proudly swaying their green banner with a silhouette of James Joyce—Ireland’s literary genius, renowned for his

cont. p.7

Canada Programme for 1916 commemoration

The 100th anniversary of the Easter Uprising in Ireland takes place next year, 2016. The events of 1916 had a seminal effect on the long road to an independent State in Ireland. Therefore, this historic anniversary will be marked in Ireland and throughout the world as a major occasion. Those of us who are of an age can remember vividly the commemorations in 1966 for the 50th anniversary.

At the outset, I want to make it very clear that the commemoration of 1916 does not belong to any group, individual or even the Irish State. It is part of our common heritage.

Therefore, here in Canada, I am seeking to promote the widest community participation. The commemoration here will be, in the main, decentralised and local. We are requesting all organisations to include the commemoration in their calendar of events for 2016. Some organisations have already indicated to us that it will be an intrinsic element in their 2016 programme. I would greatly encourage this approach.

Against that background, I would envisage a year long list of activities, by necessity these will likely peak around Saint Patrick's Day and even more especially around 23 April, the actual date of the Rising.

While I have no desire to control events, I would ask that organisations let us know about their plans and also to communicate with each other, including social media, so that a full picture of the commemoration can be readily available to the public.

The Embassy will include a programme on its website to which events across Canada can be added, if organisations so wish. Elizabeth Keogh at elizabeth.keogh@dfa.ie is the contact point in the Embassy.

The Embassy will be, however, organising its own programme which I hope will be a major conference on 1916 and also a concert in Ottawa on 23 April.

In addition, the Embassy will look to the authorities in Dublin for some funding to support community initiatives. As I have told a number of groups, my personal preference is to support a large number of local activities rather than heavy investment expenditure on a single big ticket item.

That being said, there is no monopoly of wisdom so if any organisation has any great initiative and/or idea, then please share it with the rest of us.

Brendan Behan is credited often with the observation that the first item on the agenda of any Irish organisation is "The Split." To prove that wrong, I would ask that we have an inclusive, historically accurate and wholehearted commemoration of an event which has shaped our country and provided inspiration for many other countries who wished to regain their independence.

I also attach a link which might stimulate interest: <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/our-work/casestudiesarchive/2015/june/ireland-2016-global-diaspora-programme/>

Best Regards

Ray Bassett
Ambassador
10 July 2015

Big splash (cont.)

fascinating and sometimes incomprehensible (e.g. Finnegans Wake) and esoteric novels.

Somewhere between Bishop and Crescent Streets, a whiff of Irish coffee must have come from Hurley's Pub. It seemed to sweeten the glistening air and for just one fleeting moment, some members of Montreal Bloomsday became inspired to sing a rendition of "Love's Old Sweet Love Song". It was a lovely moment.

The parade ended in a down-pour at Phillips Square. City executive committee members Alan De Sousa and Mary Deros took their places on the reviewing stand, as did Liberal MP Marc Garneau. Robert Libman, a conservative candidate, also took his place among the parade's guests on the stand. Because of the weather, the traditional speeches were slightly rushed. The giant birthday was cut into pieces and swiftly distributed to an eager crowd.

But the highlight of the day came when the musical group Swift Years performed. They're an amazing trio of virtuoso musicians, renowned for their eclectic sound. Their beautiful melodies set the tone: 1969's Woodstock came to mind, when several people, oblivious to the heavy downpour, danced and sang along to the beat.

There was a charming combination of couples dressed in kimonos and others in tartan kilts who just kicked up their heels, while a chorus of cheers egged them on. At the end of that glorious afternoon, we almost drowned in fits of laughter. Let's hope Mother Nature treats us to better weather for Canada Day 2016.



Bernard Devlin and “The Mountain”

By Fergus Keyes



Bernard Devlin

As some Society members are aware, as a director of the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation, I have been very involved in trying to have the City of Montreal build a beautiful green space around the area of the Black Rock.

In the course of my research for this effort, I was investigating the history of other parks in Montreal, and one name continued to appear on the edges of this research – Bernard Devlin (and the Mount Royal Park).

In searching for additional information about Devlin and the Mount Royal Park (better known to Montrealers as simply The Mountain), the history of Mt. Royal generally just highlighted that the park was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, who also co-designed New York’s Central Park. It is often noted that The Mountain was inaugurated in 1867 and that its 494 acres contains a large cross overlooking the city. However, most of the histories of Mt. Royal do not generally mention the name of Bernard Devlin.

Curious about the connection between Mt. Royal Park and Devlin, I directed more of my research toward him. That is when it became apparent that the mountain so many Montrealers and tourists have enjoyed for generations was the result of the dream of one man who fought long and hard to make it a reality. That man was Bernard Devlin.

Born in Ireland on December 15th 1824, and after moving to Lower Canada, Devlin became a lawyer in 1847 setting up his practice in Montreal with the motto: “justice and equality to all classes and creeds, undue favor to none.” He was an absolutely fascinating historical character of Montreal and his contributions to both the city, and particularly the Irish of Montreal, are so numerous, and his accomplishments so many, that it would take a full edition of *Nuacht* just to highlight a small portion of them. For example, he was an advisor to the Abraham Lincoln administration at the time of the U.S. Civil War; he served as president of the St. Patrick’s Society of Montreal for over ten years (likely the longest serving president of the St. Patrick’s Society); he was an early friend of D’Arcy McGee, although they parted company and became enemies generally over the issue of Irish Nationalism and the Fenians; and as a member of the Assembly, he proposed an amnesty for Louis Riel. And the list goes on....

For the purpose of this article, I will concentrate only on his involvement in the Mount Royal Park.

From 1863 to 1870, Devlin, as a member of the Montreal City Council, proposed the establishment of Mount Royal Park on

the mountain in the heart of the city. He fought long and hard for about eight years, and finally succeeded in having his scheme adopted in 1876, and as a result, Montreal has one of the most beautiful public parks in North America. As city attorney, his negotiations saved thousands of dollars for the city in the land expropriation needed for the park. When, as a city councillor, he first proposed the creation of “The Mountain,” he faced fierce opposition from his fellow council members. The problem, (identical in some ways to our effort around the Black Rock), was one of land ownership and the costs to purchase the land. Devlin actually wanted to acquire more land for the park but met with a level of short-sightedness by the city council of the day. Still there is no doubt that without his perseverance, Montrealers would simply not have our great landmark mountain in the city.

Another Devlin connection to our cultural green space project around the Black Rock, is that of burial plots for some of the 6000 Irish victims of 1847-8 discovered as the Lachine Canal was being enlarged. On September 20, 1876, we find Devlin “...arranging with the Government for the proper disposal of the remains of the unfortunate immigrants who died from ship fever in 1847 and were buried near the Wellington Bridge and vicinity.” (The dug-up remains were moved to the Catholic cemetery at Notre-Dame-des-Neiges on Mount Royal.)



The look-out as depicted in an old postcard

Another footnote, and perhaps the reason that Bernard Devlin demanded respect for the Montreal Irish victims of 1847-8, was that one of his favoured uncles, Dr. Charles Devlin, gave his life in 1847 at the age of 44 during the worst year of the Irish famine, while serving the sick in a workhouse in Ballina, County Mayo. He had contracted “fever” (typhus) from his patients.

However – even though his connection to The Mountain is seldom mentioned – if one day you are strolling on Mt. Royal, try to remember that it exists solely because of the vision of one man and that this landmark Montreal green space is but another example of the many contributions made to our beautiful city of Montreal by an Irishman, Bernard Devlin.



Uniting the Irish Community

By Karen Bright and Diane Hodges

In order to better understand what this means, we first need to evaluate what constitutes the Irish Community in Montreal. Certainly we all share a similar heritage; however, the Irish community is diverse, widely distributed, and represents much more than a common ancestry.

There are many different Irish societies in Montreal, all with a different focus or interest. These different societies all serve a specific purpose and a specific niche within the broader community.

One of the factors we should consider is age. There are different activities and different energy levels that are common to every age group, and what suits one group of individuals might not be interesting or feasible for another group.

Many of these different organizations focus on specific interests: there are several groups in Montreal that are involved with sports (GAA and MIRFC to name only two); the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce focuses on industry and networking; and Cine Gael brings us valuable contributions in the form of films from Ireland.

The more generalized societies, such as the St. Patrick's Society, United Irish Societies, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society each pursue particular activities and events specific to their membership.

Some groups fulfill larger cultural roles in Montreal. For example, the United Irish Societies not only organizes the St. Patrick's Parade every year, but they make Christmas baskets, and promote a variety of social activities throughout the year. Similarly, the St. Patrick's Society organizes fundraising events, lectures to the public, as well as the St. Patrick's Luncheon and the Ball. While the Erin Sports Association is well known for its charity work in providing sporting equipment to children in under-privileged parts of the city, they also host the Irish

Man of the Year Breakfast, which is well attended by many people in the community. And there are many, many other organizations and societies not mentioned here, but we are all aware of most of these groups, and we often belong to more than one organization so that we can take advantage of these various interests and the camaraderie of the different members.

What is needed to unite this community? First, a willingness to participate in some form of unification, which will depend upon a successful communication strategy: can we produce a centralized forum where everyone can be included?

I think becoming aware of all the people in Montreal who are of Irish ancestry is contingent upon a successful social campaign. While each organization may promote its own exclusive standards, specific to its interests and demographics, certainly a united community would be completely inclusive.

Uniting the community does not mean creating one singular group; rather, it may be as simple as producing a system for cross-promotion, so that the Irish community in Montreal can learn more about the many societies that exist. It may be as simple as supporting the varied interests, celebrating their events or at least promoting them. This would involve, as I said, an awareness of the diverse interests that exist in the community today.

It is important that we continue to learn more about ALL the events related to the Irish community in Montreal. Furthermore, it may be our responsibility to learn more about these many organizations, reach out to them and invite them to publicize their events. Because so many members of these various groups belong to more than one society, it becomes feasible to imagine everyone working together towards a shared goal of celebrating our Irish ancestry. 

Summer Christmas treat for sick children

By Tim Furlong

The Erin Sports Association for the past seven years has been doing a Christmas in the summer at The Montreal Children's Hospital.

This summer they were invited to the new hospital at the Glen. The members of The Erin Sports that attended were well received and were invited to distribute gifts and ice cream in the oncology ward. To see the joy in the eyes of the kids when Santa walked into their room was absolutely breathtaking. Along with distributing to the children, Erin Sports also treated the doctors and nurses to ice cream which they welcomed. In past years the Erin Members would arrive at the old hospital on Tupper and Santa would give out gifts to the little ones entering and leaving the main door while waiting to go up to the wards. Some of the gifts included sending a few children to an Alouette game where they were welcomed on the field by some of the players. The members of The Erin Sports are happy to be able to make a sick child's life a little bit brighter.



J.P. Belisle, Dean Whalen, Marie-France Haineault (Mtl. Children's) Santa (Mel Pepin), Francis Baddeley, Mike Spears 

Seeking your Irish birth parents?

A new bill is proposed to give adopted people access to information

By Martina Branagan

Ireland's Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr. James Reilly, released new legislation on July 27, 2015, proposing to give adopted people the legal right to access their identity information for the first time. The draft is called the General Scheme and Heads of the Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill. The government has referred the bill to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children for pre-legislative scrutiny.

"The Bill will give an adopted person aged 18 years or over, who was adopted prior to commencement of the Bill, a statutory entitlement to the information required to apply for his or her birth certificate, following a request to Tusla, the Child and Family Agency," said Dr. Reilly. The new bill will operate "on the basis of a presumption in favour of disclosing information, in so far as is legally and constitutionally possible."

Under current legislation, adoptees in the Republic of Ireland have no automatic right to know their own birth name or their parents' names and adoption agencies can refuse to release such information if a birth parent objects. The draft law includes plans to protect parents' "right to privacy," proposing that adopted people sign a "statutory declaration" promising to make no contact with their birth parent, unless they agree in advance. The minister believes that the privacy declarations are a prerequisite in preventing future legal challenges in respect of birth parents' constitutional right to privacy.

The Bill also calls for a copy of a birth certificate, an adoption order and other information to be provided to an adopted person whose adoption comes into effect after the introduction of the new Bill, should an application be made by that person and both birth parents and adoptive parents agree. Furthermore, if the adoption is registered in the Register of Intercountry Adoptions, information can be made available to the adoptee.

Where the adoption was "informal" or "wrongfully registered," the Bill provides for the possibility of persons or birth parents of these persons to avail of information and tracing services and to be provided with any information that might be available.

The Bill provides for establishing the Adoption Information Register and for the safeguarding of all adoption records by Tusla, the Child and Family Agency.

Additionally, the Bill includes provision for counselling services from Tusla social workers for both adoptees and their birth parents at all stages of the tracing process.

Once the bill commences, the Irish government plans a year-long awareness campaign to publicise the planned new legal provisions, as well as to give birth parents time to indicate their decision on the Register.

For more information, you can visit the following: Heads and General Scheme of the Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill 2015: <http://www.dcya.gov.ie/documents/legislation/20150727AdoptionInfoandTracingHeadsOfBill1.pdf>

The Adoption Authority of Ireland: www.aai.gov.ie

Council of Adoption Agencies: <http://councilofirishadoptionagencies.com/>

Referendum on adoption law changes: www.refcom.ie

Commission of Investigation – Mother and Baby Homes: <http://www.dcya.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?fn=/documents/MotherandBabyInfoPage.htm>

Further information on the Health and Children Committee meetings can be found on the Oireachtas website (www.oireachtas.ie) under the Parliamentary Committees section.

The business address for the Department of Children and Youth Affairs is:
43-49 Mespil Road,
FREEPOST F5055, Dublin4, D04 YP52



The Irish of Vaudreuil

Casey Costello's passion is obvious. As we sit to speak, his fingers dance on his lap, a habit, he says, that allows him to work out the steps to a dance no matter where he is. His love of competitive Irish dance has been cemented over the past 19 years and is culminating in the opening of his own school in Vaudreuil this fall.

"It wasn't exactly a straight line," Casey says. "I wanted to get an education as well." That he did. Casey has both a Bachelor of Science from McGill University and a Master of Science from the University of Alberta. But, his love of Irish dance endured and Costello Irish Dance held its first class on September 12.

Casey has set his sights high for his new school with its tagline reading "Training Champions." This ambition is rooted by a dedicated work ethic, which has been rewarded several times over. Casey is a four-time eastern Canadian champion in solo events and has placed third at the North American Championships and eighth at the World Championships. In team events, Casey led his team to a staggering eight eastern Canadian championship titles and to place third at both the North American and World Championships.

cont. p.11

A visit to the North American Gaeltacht

By Gus O’Gorman

An Ghaeltacht—or in English, The Gaeltacht—is the name given in Ireland to designated areas throughout the country where the Irish language is, or was in the recent past, the main spoken language. The Gaeltacht areas are defined by government order. The existence of areas where the Irish language lives as a community language is seen as an important cornerstone in the building of a bilingual society in Ireland, and it provides an environment where the language can evolve naturally in a modern setting.

In 2006, Irish language enthusiasts in the Kingston area of Ontario—led by Harold Kenny - *Aralt* in Irish—set up the first Gaeltacht outside of Ireland, with Irish Government approval. It’s on a 60-acre site near Tamworth, north of Kingston. This idyllic site is a 30-minute drive north from the 401 on Route 4, just west of Odessa and east of Napanee. After entering the Gaeltacht property, you arrive at the site once you have driven through five undulating meadows near The Salmon River.

The first permanent structure on the site is a solid wooden shelter inaugurated this past year, so there is immense potential for eventual facility development. The North American Gaeltacht, as it is named, has held several cultural competitions or *Oireachtas* events in recent years, attended by competitors and adjudicators from Ireland. A feature of this year’s camp was the number of children attending.

The Gaeltacht plays host to an Irish Language Immersion Week each August. Most attendees opt to camp on the site, but B&B accommodation is also available nearby for those who prefer to

have more amenities. The cooking is done by a team of very dedicated volunteers who provide homemade meals cooked on site. This is done by a team of very dedicated volunteers who provide homemade meals cooked on site. Waking up with the birds and the aroma of cooking bacon and eggs makes it all worthwhile as you remind yourself that you do not have to cook tomorrow either and that the dishes will get washed without you.



A bodhrán workshop in the sun

Photo: Karin Austin

Students and teachers drive 10 minutes to classes in nearby St. Patrick’s School in Erinsville.

The Gaeltacht flies three teachers from the Irish Mayo Gaeltacht to Canada each year and this brings a fresh level of expertise to the week. When not in class, students can attend workshops in various pursuits, such as dancing, singing, creative writing or poetry writing—the variety has been most inventive.

A full outdoor workshop was conducted by Aralt, a professor of astrophysics in a previous

life, in astronomy (*Réalteolaíocht*). The Big Dipper is *An Camchéachta!* In a class on euphemisms we learned that ‘*thit an cháis óna chraicear fadó*’ means ‘the cheese fell off his cracker long ago’ and that ‘he was a few ants short of a picnic’ can be said in Irish: ‘*bhí sé cúpla seangáin gann i bhfulacht*.’

My wife, Karin Austin and I have attended the Immersion Week for several years and enjoy the retro experience of rural camping without the cooking part, i.e. cheating. This year, we invested in a new tent and no longer must crawl into our tent; we can walk tall, maintaining whatever dignity we can still muster.

We look forward to going again next year.



Vaudreuil (cont.)

Yet, at a young age, Casey was not only striving to reach his own goals but wanted to help others achieve success as well. With an innate respect for youthful ambition, Casey has, for the past 14 years, derived great joy out of working with and training young talent. “I founded Costello Irish Dance to be able to share my love for the sport with the next generation of Irish dancing competitors.”

Held in the Axor Studio at the Vaudreuil-Dorion Multisport Centre, Costello Irish Dance is the only Quebec Irish dance school west of the island of Montreal. “I am truly excited to bring competitive Irish dance to the Vaudreuil area – an up-and-

coming and welcoming community,” says this very energetic young man.

So, if you are interested in registering your child, check out costelloirishdance.ca or contact Casey at either 514-979-9635 or casey@costelloirishdance.ca.

And, to all of the burgeoning Irish dancers of Vaudreuil, I say, “*Ádh mór ort!*”



'twas a great day for the Irish

By Fergus Keyes

On Saturday, August 29th 2015, under a beautiful summer sky, the Town of Saint-Colomban, Quebec, honoured the original Irish settlers to the community with Irish Heritage Day.

From the beginning of the day, it was apparent that the town spared no effort nor expense to make this a very special event. Mayor Jean Dumais, city officials and current residents all made a tremendous effort to graciously welcome visitors to this celebration.

After a traditional Irish breakfast of coffee & Bailey's, it started with a ceremony to unveil a plaque that outlined the history and culture of the original settlers that arrived, and founded the community in the early 1800s. This plaque was designed and installed by a small group of descendants of these settlers, with financial support of the Irish Government. Everyone was thrilled that Irish Ambassador Ray Bassett was present to unveil the plaque.

This plaque was a part of the overall effort, begun in 2002, to restore the old Irish cemetery. During this decade plus, all efforts were fully supported by many of the past presidents and boards of the SPS, so it was nice that Jim Killin, the current St. Patrick's Society president was there to represent the Montreal St. Patrick's Society. Danny Doyle, president of the UIS, Victor Boyle, president of the AOH, and a great many Montreal-area Irish also took the 45-minute drive to St. Colomban to participate.

After the plaque unveiling, Mgr. Morissette, Bishop of St. Jerome blessed the plaque and, assisted by three local priests, celebrated a bilingual Mass in the old Saint Colomban Church.

Then the activities. The Montreal Shamrocks played an exhibition game of hurling against an Ottawa team. The

Bernadette Short Celtic Grace Irish dancers enthralled everyone, as usual. There were events for children, plus an engrossing photo exhibition. With a mock battle, La Société de reconstitution du Bas-Canada saluted the Irish of Saint-Colomban who supported the Patriots in the



Bernadette Short with Gavin Black (18 mths.) her grandson

Photo: Ken Quinn



(l. to r.) Christie Brown, Fergus Keyes, Mrs. Bassett, Ambassador Ray Bassett and Jim Killin

Photo: Ken Quinn

Rebellion of 1837. Les Petites Tounes provided terrific music all day.

As a member of this small group of descendants, I was privileged to be named as the Honorary President for this first Saint-Colomban Irish Heritage Day; and I am very pleased to congratulate Claude Bourguignon and Denis Beudet of the Organizing Committee and certainly Ms. Lucie Jubinville, who worked so hard planning the event. Of course congratulation are also due the Mayor and the residents of Saint Colomban.

Photo: David Hannon



Wayne Hogan (5th generation), daughter Kim Hogan (6th generation) and grandson Samuel Hannon (7th generation) – descendants of Samuel O'Rourke, an original Irish settler to St. Columban in the mid 1820s.

A hearty thanks to all the Montreal Irish that participated. It was indeed a great day for the Irish!



Open Season in bookstores now

By Peter Kirby

That's it. It's finished. The third novel in the Luc Vanier series finally hit the bookstores on September 12, 2015.

Open Season has Vanier and Saint Jacques solving a kidnapping with no ransom demand, and little information to go on. The victim, Sophia Luna, a Guatemalan journalist went into hiding to avoid deportation after her refugee claim was rejected. To save her, Vanier and Saint Jacques set about reconstructing her life, picking up threads that lead them through a Montreal full of refugees hiding from the authorities, of sex traffickers, corrupt businessmen and venal politicians.

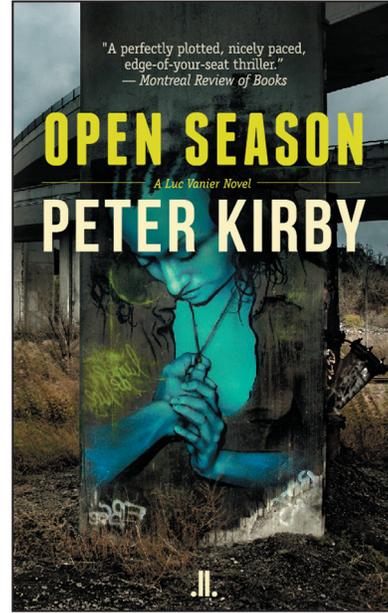
While the investigation moves forward, Vanier continues to struggle to hold things together in his private life. His relationship with Anjili Segal has reached a point where he had to make hard decisions, while his son Alex continues the struggle to recover from PTSD. When his private and work lives collide in a brutal attempt to shut down the investigation, Vanier throws away the rule book and goes after the villains with a vengeance.

I had great fun writing *Open Season*, and I hope you will enjoy reading it. I would love to hear your thoughts. I would be remiss if I didn't thank my publisher, the wonderful Linda Leith, and my editor, Katia Grubisic, the tough-love champion of struggling writers.

Linda is unflappable, a requirement for any publisher when an author looks you in the eye and mumbles that the manuscript is 'almost done,' when he really means 'I've come up with an idea, but I still need to flesh it out.'

Katia's input and insights were invaluable. Sure, we fought, and she didn't always win, but she always made me think. Katia's work ethic would put a Scottish Presbyterian to shame. She finished editing while she was giving birth to her first child. That wasn't necessary. I specifically told her she could take the day off.

I am one lucky guy to have people like Linda and Katia on my side.



Peter Kirby, was born in Ireland and grew up in the hardscrabble neighbourhood of Brixton in South London. He came to Canada as a cook, went to university at night, and eventually became a lawyer. He now practises international law in one of Canada's largest law firms, Fasken Martineau, and is recognized by *The American Lawyer* as one of Canada's leading 500 lawyers.

His two previous Vanier novels, *The Dead of Winter* and *Vigilante Season* were reviewed — and highly recommended — by *NUACHT* in September 2012 and November 2013, respectively.

Editor



Grosse Île: discount fares for tourists

By Leo Delaney

The Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation has negotiated a special discount for tourists visiting Grosse Île.



The Celtic cross

the organizers certainly hope it will operate on a voucher system. Vouchers will be issued to anyone travelling to the island on the Ferry system from Quebec City or Montmagny. The voucher will be made available through any Irish Organization registered with the Jeanie Johnston Foundation.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, which has 77,000 members in North America, has already endorsed the concept and we are

in discussions with LEARN to make this available through their networks. Approaches are in progress to contact Tourist offices across Canada and the United States to inform them of this initiative, which will be endorsed by Parks Canada. We expect to put this plan into action shortly.



Photo: P. Gauthier

Built before 1850, this wooden house is one of the four oldest buildings still standing on Grosse Île. It served as the residence of the quarantine station's medical assistant until 1893.



The Irish diaspora

By Paul Loftus

There are two types of emigration, namely push and pull. Push emigration refers to the emigrant who finds no alternative but to emigrate. In other words, he/she feels pushed to leave the country. It could be a lack of employment, a lack of prospects for promotion or disillusionment. Historically it was mostly push emigration that existed in Ireland. The families were large and mostly agrarian. Only one son could inherit the farm and that was the eldest son. If the rest of the family couldn't find work outside the farm, they emigrated. Pull emigration refers to the desire to leave one's country as others are more attractive. It could be the attraction of the bright lights of London, referred in a 1960s ballad as "The rake o'beer, the women and the craic," or the beautiful beaches of Sydney; Bondi, Manly, etc. There are also better career prospects overseas for many educated Irish emigrants. Many Canadians and people from Nordic countries leave their countries because of the climate. There is a very large Canadian population in California. Many Irish emigrants who return home sometimes leave again because of the climate.

The current wave of emigration from Ireland is a combination of push and pull. Many Irish people who already have good jobs are leaving and this is disappointing. I brought this matter up with Minister Noonan when he was visiting Montreal a couple of years ago. He admitted that it was a concern for the government. Irish doctors are highly paid and medical specialists (known as consultants) are among the highest paid in the world. Why are they leaving Ireland? Their places are being taken by many Asian medical professionals. There are now many vacancies waiting to be filled in Ireland particularly in the IT industry.

The term diaspora has a vague definition. Some people consider the diaspora all people of Irish origin. With this definition there are over 70 million Irish Diaspora throughout the world. Others only count those born in Ireland. A term now frequently used is The Global Irish. Many people feel this term better reflects the current drive to globalization. The United States has always attracted large numbers of Irish immigrants. At the moment there are over 143,500 Irish-born people living there. This is much lower than the number living there in 1980 which was 250,000. It has become very difficult for Irish people to emigrate to the US. This is one of the reasons we're getting more Irish emigrants in Canada. Approximately six million Irish emigrated to North America between 1848 and 1950. Two and a half of those left from the port of Cobh in County Cork on Ireland's South Coast. Irish emigrants now come to North America by air. There are currently five different airlines flying directly to Canada from Ireland. It is estimated that there are now almost 26,000 Irish born people living in Canada.

Between April 2012 and April 2013, 89,000 people emigrated from Ireland. The United Nations compiled an international migration report to give us some definitive answers with population data from 72 countries. The data were collected

in 2013 and include only those who were born on the Emerald Isle.

The Irish Times newspaper analysed the UN report and found that more than three quarters of a million people from Ireland have been living in 72 countries. The report excludes countries that didn't provide data, but a UN spokesperson said that in most instances, the Irish population in these countries is not significant.

The following are some surprising statistics for where Irish people live:

Botswana 653; Falkland Islands 6; Korea 973; Latvia 790; Peru 247; Turkey 797; Vietnam 270 and Venezuela 50.

In my work, I'm lucky to travel to some interesting countries. When I have the time and the opportunity, I contact the Irish Diaspora in the country I'm visiting. In London, I attended a University College Dublin Alumni Reception at the Irish Centre in Eaton Square. I also played a number of rugby games with the London Irish "Casuals." When I lived in London before coming to Canada, almost one in 10 people was Irish. There is still a very large Irish population in London. These people are attracted by the career opportunities. They don't have to learn another language and they don't have to get a work permit.

In Bermuda, I attended the founding of the Irish Society of Bermuda at the Hamilton Yacht Club. The statistics tell us that there were only 102 Irish people living in Bermuda in 2013. I find this difficult to believe as there used to be 550. At that time I played in an exhibition of Gaelic football before the annual Easter Rugby Classic between the Bermuda Irish and The Rest. However, some Irish did leave as the recession hit the island. For others their work permits expired. There is also a number of Irish people living in the Cayman Islands. When visiting a number of years ago, I saw a Gaelic football game. The strength of the GAA is always a barometer of the number of Irish-born people in the country. The Irish who work in Bermuda and the Cayman Islands are mostly bankers, insurance officials and accountants.

In Singapore, I attended a Pub Night with the St. Patrick's Society of Singapore. Yes, they have one just as we do. The city state also has a Gaelic Football team, an Irish Embassy and an Enterprise-Ireland office. The figure for Singapore is not available but I estimate it's about 4,000.

There are 90,000 Irish living in Australia. It has always been a favourite among the Irish. It is estimated that almost a third of the Australian population have an Irish background.

Space does not permit me to go into more detail, but I hope to cover more material on the Irish Diaspora in a future article.

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Fall season heating up for ICCC

By Ruth Hanna

With the exception of the monthly Craic agus Comhrá, summer tends to be a quiet time for the ICCC, which uses the warmer months to prep for autumn. However, this year's eventful summer has set the table for a busy year-end.

In August, President Vivian Doyle-Kelly worked on deepening our government relations with Dublin through multiple meetings with Irish government agencies and industry partners, and by attending government events. Back in Montreal, the ICCC was delighted to welcome Conor Healy, CEO of the Cork Chamber of Commerce, on an inaugural visit to Montreal. To maximise Conor's presence in Montreal, the ICCC organised a full day of meetings for him with Montreal government officials and business agencies including one with the ICCC trade committee. Later in the month, board member Tyrone Unger organised a highly successful pub quiz, which fielded eight teams and offered a slew of attractive prizes such as a month's free membership of Club Sportif MAA. We were sorry to note that the traditional SPS team was not present and hope that SPS members will come out in force to support our European quiz in October.

Moving into the latter part of the year, the ICCC is juggling multiple projects:

- In collaboration with Ministère de l'Économie, de l'innovation et de l'exportation, we are exploring opportunities for Montreal

companies in either attending or organizing business meetings concurrent to the Web Summit in Dublin, which takes place from November 3 to 5.

- We are in dialogue with Invest NI regarding the possibility of attracting October trade mission participants to Montreal.
- We are working on the potential for a Quebec trade mission to Ireland in the first quarter of 2016.

The series of summer workshops to define the strategic direction for the chamber will continue in autumn under the stewardship of board member Ruth Murphy.

Through the dedication of board member Ann-Mary Butts, the ICCC looks forward to welcoming you at its Christmas reception, which will be held at the new location of Centre Sheraton Montreal on December 1.

We strongly encourage members of the Irish community who can contribute to any of the above projects, to drop us a line on contact@icccmtl.com. The Irish community in Montreal offers largely untapped potential not only to promote trade and commerce between Ireland and Quebec, but also to promote Irish community businesses. All support is welcome!



The 7th edition of the Joe Beef Market - a success despite the weather!

By Fergus Keyes

On Saturday, September 12th, the 7th edition of the Joe Beef Market went off, as scheduled. Unfortunately, Mother Nature didn't co-operate and provided a full day of cloud and drizzle. Nevertheless, everyone commented on how much they enjoyed the day and some even mentioned that it was the best Joe Beef Market to date.

Joe Beef, a.k.a. Charles McKiernan, was an Irishman in the late 1800s who provided his own form of social activism, offering free soup and bread to anyone in need, at his canteen (bar) in Old Montreal.

Saturday's event was kicked off by Joe Beef and Benoit Dorais, the Southwest Borough Mayor. Also present was Marguerite Blais (a real "Point Girl", born and raised in the neighbourhood) and the local MNA for the area – who actually resigned her seat on September 15th – and mentioned that she really wanted her last official act to be speaking at the Market, an event that she fully supported from the beginning.

Each year, the Pointe-St.-Charles Community Theatre writes and produces a skit about a different Montreal historical figure. This year, they highlighted Carrie Derick— the first female professor in Canada at McGill who was also interested in DNA in the early 1900s and in the movement in Canada and Quebec to give women the right to vote. The crowd appreciated the Theatre's overall effort to bring history alive.

There were a number of booths on site, promoting their goods and services, including the Montreal Shamrocks Club, the UIS, and Heather Quinn's kitchen selling an array of great jams, jellies and breads.



Rick Murrin- singing the song "How Black is the Stone?"

The local Pointe Royal Canadian Legion, along with Joe Beef, prepared and served free soup, and the Salvation Army offered everyone free coffee and hot chocolate—all was much appreciated.

On stage, the many performers included Rick Murrin, who sang "How Black is the Stone"—a song he wrote specifically in support of the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation and the effort to build a cultural green space around the Black Rock. It's very melancholic, fully capturing the Great Hunger events of 1847-8 for the Irish arriving in Montreal.

Although the Market has a bit of an Irish flavour, the rain reminded

Tara ends a great season on September 26, 2015

By Brian Baldry

Tara held several tournaments this summer, one at La Cité as well as a two-day event at Lake Placid. La Cité had seen heavy rain prior to Tara arriving, so we had water hazards all over. But at least the sun shone! Lake Placid was another story – beautiful weather all weekend, and great golf, despite the condition of some greens. Too bad about the low Canadian dollar! Tara played its second-to-last fixture on Saturday August 29, at the Select Mirabel. We were 33 golfers on a beautiful day, competing for the Gerry Farrell Shield, won by Susan Nicol for lowest net of all golfers. Our last game of the season, with dinner, will be held at Hemmingford on Saturday September 26.

Executive Committee meeting, July 27 2015.

Apart from the usual review of chairpersons' reports, two noteworthy items discussed were:

1. The committee approved a proposal for Tara to have our own domain name on the Internet to increase our visibility and open up other interconnection possibilities. Ann-Mary Butts and Denis Trudel demonstrated how this would look.



Panorama of Craig Wood Golf Course, from the clubhouse deck

2. The tournaments chairperson will find a different course to open our 2016 season. Among courses suggested were Le Triangle d'Or, and the Hawkesbury semi-private course.

Tara is more than a golf game; it is about friendship and socializing on the deck after the game or in the restaurant afterwards. If you haven't yet been out to play, come and join the fun!



Innisfail Social & Sports Club

By Rose Quinn,

Can you believe it – there are only 125 days left until Christmas! You would never know it with the heat and humidity that we have endured in September. However, summer is quickly coming to an end and we look forward to a busy Fall..

Your executive had their first board meeting on August 7 and are pleased to present the Calendar of Events for the coming year.

Friday, Sept. 25	General Meeting followed by a social
Friday, October 30	Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner– \$12.00 for members – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, December 4	Annual Christmas Party – Members \$10.00 / Guests \$12.00
Friday, January 22	Kick Off Ceili – 7:30 p.m. Music by Greg Innis
Friday, April 15	Pasta Night – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 7	Memorial Mass for Deceased Members St. Patrick's Basilica in Our Lady's Chapel followed by Irish Tea– noon

Friday, June 10 AGM

Our events will be held at the NDG Legion, corner of Addington and De Maisonneuve.

News In and Around Innisfail

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to our Youth Coordinator, Robin Brodrick.

It is with much joy that we announce the birth of a beautiful baby boy for Laura and hubby Marc Raymond.

Some of our members lost loved ones over the summer and we extend our deepest sympathy.

Congratulations to this year's Inductees to the Pointe St. Charles Hall of Recognition: Geraldine O'Donnell, Ian Clyde, John Coutts, Charlie Mell and Danny Doyle Sr. on September 19th 2015.

We look forward to your continued support of our events.



Joint bank accounts and Canadian Immigration and Citizenship Law

By Stephen Fogarty, immigration attorney

In addition to being an effective tool in managing household expenses, a joint bank account at a Canadian financial institution may serve as an indicator of a couple's life and commitment together. This may be useful when a person wishes to sponsor his or her spouse for permanent residency from within Canada, particularly when the couple is not married.

However, if a couple relies solely on a joint bank account to manage their own individual affairs, they may be creating immigration and citizenship problems down the road.

Take two important situations: a permanent resident (PR) wishes to apply for a new PR Card to facilitate international travel in and out of Canada; a PR decides to apply for Canadian Citizenship. For each such application, the PR must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the authorities that he or she has the minimum required number of days of physical presence in Canada. However, depending on how the joint account is set up and how efficient each spouse is in keeping track of their affairs, it may be difficult to determine exactly who was responsible for each transaction in the joint account. Thus the officer reviewing the application may not accept some or even all of the transactions as proof that a particular joint account holder was inside Canada on those dates.

As an alternative strategy, once a person becomes a PR of Canada, he or she should consider having an individual account and individual credit card to use for all personal transactions. Although having a detailed history showing an individual's bank transactions within Canada will not by itself guarantee a successful PR Card or Citizenship application, it will contribute significantly to building a strong file for submission to the authorities. Of course, I am presuming honesty, and that the applicant will have personally effected the transactions concerned.

Stephen Fogarty assists clients in Canadian Citizenship and Immigration Law matters at Fogarty Law Firm in Montreal. He is Honorary Legal Advisor to the Embassy of Ireland, and a former board member of SPS. His Firm website is www.fogartylaw.ca. The views in this article are his alone and not those of any other person or organization. This article is for information purposes only and is not intended to give or to replace legal advice.



Best seller soon to be available in English

By Martina Branagan

Fanette, the best-selling Quebecois historical saga written over seven years, tells the story of a little Irish girl named Fionnualá and her family, forced into exile in 1847 as a result of "The Great Famine." Oh, just another Famine book, I hear you groan! Far from it! Penned by a well-known Quebec playwright, screenwriter and novelist, Suzanne Aubry's creative and well-written saga, while initially inspired by the tragedy of the exiled Irish, offers so much more.

Diligently researched, *Fanette* is awash with historical facts about daily, private or public life at that important time in Ireland, Canada and the U.S. There is much to absorb along with the overarching plot, such as the small, telling moments, like the buying of the family's first washing machine. From the outset, the reader is emotionally drawn into the entwined destinies of the two Irish sisters, Fionnualá (renamed Fanette in Quebec) and Amanda in a compelling story that depicts credible though sometimes awful situations, well-rounded and sometimes lovable or detestable fictional characters, created skin-and-bone for actual historical figures or the personification of a city (Quebec).

Exploring the breadth of the human condition in all its nuances, the novel takes the reader on a page-turning journey of suspense, intrigue

and surprises, providing insights on sometimes lesser known historical events along the way while weaving stories relevant for our time also with a redemptive outlook. A joy to read, the beautiful language is fluid as the plot thickens and rises to suitably poetic tones at times, leaving the reader wanting more from a skillful scenarist.

Tastefully written – believe me, there are some hard scenes– a treat for lovers of historical fiction and a storyline for everyone, *Fanette* enjoys phenomenal success in French, reaching more than 100,000 readers. Volume 1 has been translated into English by a member of the Irish community, Martina Branagan. It is entitled *Uptown Conquest*. The publishers are O'Brennan Publications. It will be available on-line for \$9.50 from the 18th November 2015.



Visit <http://suzanneaubry.wix.com/suzanneaubry> for further details or contact Martina Branagan directly (martina.branagan@gmail.com)



Provincial titles: rugby results between two old rivals

By Mark Gallagher

For a record-breaking sixth year in a row, the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club managed to get both Men's 1st and 2nd teams to the provincial finals. After another solid season for both teams, the club was aiming to achieve the double on September 19 and secure back-to-back championships for the premier team in the process.

As good as the Irish have proved themselves over the past decade, their staunchest rivals, Ste. Anne de Bellevue have matched the pace and the Irish would once again face SABRFC in both finals.

The Irish 2nd XV were first up and took the field against a Ste. Anne's side. The Irish opened the scoring with a penalty kicked by Tim Yaworski the fly-half, but a quickly-taken penalty shortly after caught the Irish napping and Ste. Anne's went in for a try under the posts. It was 7-3 for the visitors.

The Irish forced their way to the Ste. Anne's 22m line through some excellent scrummaging and resultant penalties and after a series of hit ups, the Irish backs moved the ball well and out-paced the Ste. Anne's cover, to score in the corner. The conversion missed, the score was now 8-7 to the Irish at half time.

Ste. Anne started the second half slowly and it was the Irish pack that dominated the early exchanges. But the Ste. Anne's defense proved solid and after a number of attempts to break through, a poor line kick from the Irish was scooped up by the Ste. Anne's full back, who ran it back to score in the corner. The final score stayed at 19-8 to Ste. Anne. The Irish 2nd XV could hold their heads up high having played the better rugby and securing the majority of possession. It came down to Ste. Anne executing on the scoring opportunities that arose and for that, deserved to raise the cup this year.

Senior men's provincial title: Montreal Irish RFC 29-20

The Irish 1st XV squad had to focus on to the next task—securing the senior men's provincial title before crowd of around 500 supporters.

The Irish scored within the first three minutes of the game, but lost-then-regained the lead, 12-10, by half time. The second half started slowly and, unfortunately the Irish fly-half went a little high on a tackle on his opposite number and got yellow carded and 10 mins. in the bin for his efforts. Ste. Anne was unable to capitalize, however, and it was the Irish who got the next score from wing Forward Nathan Harris.

The conversion was missed, but you could sense the Irish smelled blood and began crashing through the Ste. Anne's defense with probably the largest centre pairing ever to take the field at Ste. Julie: McMahon and Grundy. With a man down for 10 mins., the Irish were able to put the boys from the West Island to the sword and scored another try almost a repeat of the last, this time Grundy powering over for a try – again the conversion was missed.

Ste. Anne kicked off, and a mid-air collision left veteran and Quebec rugby stalwart, Paul Van Wyck, with a knock to the head. With the new concussion rules in place, he was replaced by the young No.8 Max Mousset, who had played so well for the Irish earlier in the day, but missed the chance to raise some silverware. After a few failed attempts, it was young Mousset who used his dynamic athleticism and fresh legs, to squeeze through and score another try for the Irish. Score 29-13.



Photo: Jennifer Bridgeman

A scoreboard that tells it all.

Ste. Anne rallied in spite of the three unanswered scores to launch an attack and take a last minute consolation score. But, alas, it was “too little, too late” for Ste. Anne and the Montreal Irish RFC retained their title of Quebec Premier Champions for one more year. Final score 29-20.

Captain James Acker raised the trophy as Irish supporters rushed the field to help him and head coach Ian Bailey celebrate another back to back title and the fourth premier title in six years. A remarkable achievement for the club by anybody's standards. A massive thank you to all players, members, directors, old boys, coaches, volunteers, AT's, mini rugby players and parents and supporters all of who have helped make us yet again the best team in the province.



Photo: Jennifer Bridgeman

Hoisting the cup ... again!!

News from the School of Canadian Irish Studies

Michael Kenneally, Principal

By Michael Kenneally

With the beginning of another academic year, the School of Canadian Irish Studies is welcoming new students into eleven courses, ranging from literature and history to language, theatre, television and film. We are also hosting various readings and lectures during the fall semester. The following events will be held at Concordia University's downtown campus and are free and open to the public.

**Paula Meehan
Writers Read**

Friday, October 1, 7:00 p.m., Room EV-1.605

Paula Meehan is one of the most distinguished contemporary Irish poets and, from 2013 to 2016, holds the prestigious position of Ireland Professor of Poetry. The Dublin-based poet and playwright has published six original collections of poetry and has written plays for both adults and children. She received the Butler Literary Award for Poetry, the Marten Toonder Award for Literature, the Denis Devlin Award for poetry, the Laurence O'Shaughnessy Award for poetry, and the PPI Award for Radio Drama. She is being brought to Concordia through the partnership of Irish Studies and the Department of English's Writers Read Series.

Dr. Jim MacPherson

**8th Annual Irish Protestant Benevolent Society Lecture
'The Sash my Mother Wore': Women and the Irish Diaspora in the British World**

Thursday, October 15, 7:00 p.m., McEntee Reading Room (H-1001.01)

Dr. MacPherson teaches in the Centre for History at the University of the Highlands and Islands in Scotland. He specializes in Irish and British History, with a particular emphasis on 19th century Irish migration, fraternal organizations, Irish women in the Orange Order, and Irish women and Protestantism.

**Louise O'Neill
Public Reading**

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m., McEntee Reading Room (H1001.01)

Louise O'Neill is the exciting young Irish author whose novel *Only Ever Yours* won the Newcomer of the Year award at the 2014 Irish Book Awards, the inaugural YA Book Prize 2015, and the Eilís Dillon Award 2015. Her second novel, *Asking For It*, will be released September 2015. While in Montreal, Louise O'Neill will also read at various other locations.

Vincent Woods

10th Annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 p.m. McEntee Reading Room (H1001.01)

Vincent Woods worked as a journalist with RTÉ, presenting on Morning Ireland, until 1989 when he began writing full-time. He

has won several awards for his writing, including The Stewart Parker Award for Drama, the PJ O'Connor Award for Radio Drama, and the M.J. McManus Award for Poetry. He hosts The Arts Tonight on RTE Radio, the program which provides the pulse of all aspects of contemporary Irish culture.

Dr. Sonja Tiernan

14th Annual Neil Willard Lecture

TBA November

Dr. Tiernan is the 2015 Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar who is teaching two courses on Irish history in the fall semester. She completed her PhD in History at University College Dublin in 2007. Before moving to Liverpool Hope University, she held fellowships at the National Library of Ireland, Trinity College Dublin and at the University of Notre Dame in America. During her time at the National Library of Ireland she designed the first research guide for manuscripts relating to women in Irish history.

Featured Course for Winter 2016

Irish Performance Studies

Prof. Emer O'Toole / Tuesday, Thursday 16:15-17:30

This is a course about identity, performance, and the relationship between the two. It will provide students with the theoretical tools and the experiential know-how to understand both individual and collective identity. Examining an exciting variety of Irish cultural "performances" – from queer beauty pageants, to St. Patrick's Day parades, from hunger strikes, to Riverdance, to street protests – it encourages students to come to an embodied and emotional, as well as intellectual and rational, understanding of what it means to perform gender, to perform nation, to perform violence, to perform politics, and, of course, to perform Irishness.

The following course will be offered by Irish Studies in Winter 2016.

- Celtic Christianity
- The Irish Literary Revival
- The Global Irish
- James Joyce
- Contemporary Irish Theatre
- Irish Performance Studies
- Rebellions in Ireland and the Canadas
- Irish and Jewish Identities: National and International Dimensions

For information or registration assistance,
contact [Matina Skalkogiannis](mailto:Matina.Skalkogiannis@concordia.ca):
514-848-2424, ext. 8711
cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca



In the papers, May 2015

By Paul Dunne

“Constructive Ambiguity”

“Constructive Ambiguity”—it’s an infamous term credited to Henry Kissinger meaning “the deliberate use of ambiguous language on a sensitive issue in order to advance some political purpose.”

So, did the IRA close shop following the Good Friday agreement or are they still around? Depends who you’ve been asking over the years, but most answers tend to be laced with lots of constructive ambiguity (CA). While the deaths of Robert McCartney in 2005 and Paul Quinn in 2007 — among others — have been openly linked to IRA activity, no convictions were ever secured which suited the political imperative not to test the fragile Northern Irish power-sharing arrangement with the possibility that the armed branch of one of the participants was still in business. Better that remains a wee bit ambiguous.

And so it went, until this year when, ironically, it was not the murder and torture of the perfectly innocent McCartney and Quinn victims but the snuffing and counter snuffing of two acknowledged IRA operatives, Gerard “Jock” Davison (who was questioned about the McCartney murder) and Kevin McGuigan that suddenly presented the Power Sharing Executive with an existential crisis. This was precipitated by the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland departing from the CA script to acknowledge that he believed the IRA was still active. The reactions followed the usual set -pieces each faction regurgitates so no great surprises; denial from Sinn Fein and feigned outrage from the Unionists who picked up their ball and left the pitch. While everybody is sulking in their respective corners, the British and Irish governments are feverishly trying to stitch the Executive back together and the next act is written as follows: After distribution of some sweeties, the kids will stop sulking and get back to work “in the interests of the people of Northern Ireland.”

But you can be certain that whether or not the IRA is still active will remain constructively ambiguous.

Repealing the eighth

Thirty-two years ago following a referendum on the topic supported by 67% of those who voted, the eighth amendment to the constitution of Ireland was adopted acknowledging the right to life of the unborn “with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother.”

This puts Ireland among a minority of countries in the EU that does not permit some form of access to abortion— unless the mother’s life is in danger. Because it is a constitutional issue, the situation can only be changed by referendum and it would be unusual to repeal a constitutional amendment so soon after its adoption. However, social attitudes in Ireland have changed considerably in that time and the influence of the Catholic Church has waned, so the result of a new referendum might

not be the foregone conclusion it was in 1983. I suspect the vote would be close and, on such highly charged issue without a clear social consensus, it might be prudent to leave this can of worms closed for the time being. The current governing coalition is split on the issue with the junior Labour Party member pledging to hold a new referendum while the Fine Gael partner is hedging. And as they pledge and hedge, some 6,000 Irish women cross to Great Britain every year to obtain abortions. The real story here may not be that free access to abortion is imminent in Ireland, but that a major political party is prepared to stick out its neck on the topic as Labour has done.

That’s a first.

Mick Dolan

Mick Dolan used to be a welder in Dublin. As career changes go, the choice he made wouldn’t be typical of the members of his trade because he exchanged his welding equipment for ballet slippers and took himself off to the Central School of Ballet in London. After a stint in Germany with the Heidelberg Ballet, he joined the internationally renowned La La La Human Steps dance troupe in Montreal.

Normally I don’t mix much in dance circles but Mick was a regular in Hurley’s in the 1990s and part of the small expat community that would congregate there to watch a soccer match or read the Irish Times. I didn’t know what he did at first and welder wouldn’t have surprised me but professional dancer did. Mick was as open and unassuming as his picture portrays. And when I heard he worked with the ultra-famous La La La troupe doing high-energy spins and dives with Louise Lecavalier I realized there were lots of calories to be replaced hence the copious ingestion of Hurley’s Guinness and Irish stew. Let’s call that Bill’s contribution to the Montreal dance scene.



Sadly, Edouard Lock, founder and choreographic genius behind LHS, announced the end of La La La Human Steps this month, after 30 years, and with the article accompanying the announcement in LaPresse was a picture of Mick in full flight above Louise Lecavalier.



Brought back fond memories. I wondered where he was today and it seems he is now concentrating on an acting career in Vienna. I hope there’s a pub in Vienna that serves a good Irish stew!



“An essential read for all Canadians with an interest in our nation’s future.” – *The Globe and Mail*

Strength of Conviction

By Tom Mulcair

Dundurn • 192 pages, \$19.99

Reviewed by Anne Forrest

I’m convinced. Having read this autobiography, I am more aware than ever that change is imperative if Canada is to grow as a nation.

(I have known Tom for over 12 years. Our paths crossed frequently at Society lunches and parades as well as at the odd ICCC pub quiz. As neighbours, we often encountered each other early in the morning as he jogged through our local waterfront park and I walked our dog. Our brief exchanges were always enjoyable. Now, to my amazement, I have discovered what an incredible busy life he led as he strove to make positive changes – formulating new laws or fighting to adhere to ones already in existence.)

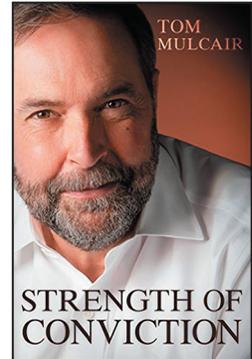
Tom’s book, organized chronologically, traces his humble beginnings, his efforts to attain a solid education, his ability to juggle both a young family and a demanding job, his transition from the civil service to the political arena, and culminates in his election as Canada’s Leader of the Official Opposition.

Normally I avoid autobiographies – they are often dry and boring, written by egotists. *Strength of Conviction* is not of this ilk. It is well written, informative, lively and engaging and held my attention from start to finish. Preceded by Ed Broadbent’s glowing testimonial to Tom, *Strength of Conviction* is divided into 19 chapters.

It is not feasible for me to summarize each chapter (and, yes, I read the entire book), but I particularly appreciated “Roots” which sets the scene brilliantly. Tom’s great-grandfather, born near the Mulcair River in Ireland, fled his home during the 1840’s Great Famine, emigrating to Canada. His mother’s ancestors arrived from France in the 1600s and her great-grandfather was Honoré Mercier, premier of Quebec from 1887-1891, after whom the Mercier Bridge and two political ridings were named. Tom’s parents faced hardships and challenges as they raised their ten children. Although Tom was offered a place at Loyola High School, money was tight and he had to turn it down (but Tom wasn’t too upset as there were no girls in that school). He ended up in Chomedy High and was privileged to have Father Alan Fox as a teacher whose words “Get off your duffs and learn to play a positive role in society. There’s lot of injustice out there that you need to be aware of...” resonated with Tom. This mentor became a close friend of his for many years. Father Cox was also responsible for Mother Teresa’s visit to the new Laval Catholic High School in 1988 – quite a feat! As a generous older brother, Tom cared for his siblings. When his parents refused to buy penny-loafers for Jeannie, Tom bought them for her with his newspaper route earnings.

Another favourite chapter is “Catherine” in which I learned how Tom met and married the love of his life. In 1974, they were

guests at a Laurentian wedding: Tom was a friend of the bride’s sister and Catherine was a cousin of the groom. She’d been sent from Paris by her parents to represent the family (the parents did this in order to prevent her from joining a group of friends who were going to Greece to celebrate receiving their *baccalauriats*). It was love at first sight for the two nineteen-year-olds. Catherine extended her stay in Canada and returned to her well-to-do family and announced that she was going to marry Tom. He flew over to present himself in December of that year and, luckily, he impressed them. They married in 1976 in the Sainte-Anne-des-Lacs church in which his parents had tied the knot and where their son, Matt would get married 30 years later. Throughout *Strength of Conviction*, Catherine plays a pivotal role. No decisions relating to Tom or herself were made without both of them reaching a consensus. She was, and still is, his moral compass. Her relentless support when Tom was still studying to be a lawyer and in his early days spent in Quebec City as a civil servant was commendable.



“Forming the Government” and “Storm Clouds” gave me insight into Tom’s battles with Jean Charest. Appointed as Minister of Sustainable Development Environment and Parks, Tom stuck to his guns over the protection of wetlands, the Rabaska project, and the preservation of Mount Orford Park. He finally resigned from the cabinet but remained a member of the National Assembly.

In “A New Beginning” Tom faces yet another turning point in 2003 when he decided to run for the NDP in Quebec – “a career suicide” thought by many. Nonetheless, he chose this new path because he believed strongly in Jack Layton and his values, a decision that I’m sure he’s never regretted.

Throughout *Strength of Conviction*, Tom attributes his success and wise decision-making to a plethora of friends and colleagues. I dare not identify them, because I’d hate to omit anyone. In addition, there are 32 pages of photos (as well as the 192 pages of text). These photos feature Tom at various stages of his life and show his parents, siblings, in-laws, Catherine, Matt and Greg (their sons), friends and everyone who was/is special to him.

I only encountered one typo (“that my name” repeated on bottom of p.53 and top of p.54). A remarkable achievement!

Sadly, I have to part company with this book. It will be offered as a door prize at the ICCC’s pub quiz on October 22nd. And, no guesses for where my vote is going on election day.



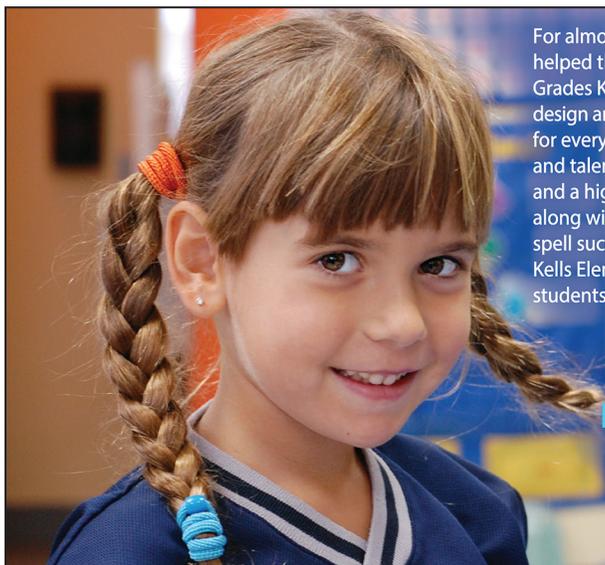
People

A self-confessed political junky, as well as a card-carrying member of the NDP with an overwhelming desire to see our current prime minister removed on October 19th and replaced by a fellow-member of SPS, I'm very frustrated right now. I have been in Sierra Leone for the past two months watching the never-ending Canadian election campaign from afar hungering for polling results, wise commentary from columnists and unable to participate, cajole or remonstrate with fellow Canadians. I won't even be home for election-day. It's not all bad news though as I will be in Ireland with my wife Afric for three weeks from October 2nd on a photographic tour interrupted occasionally by visits to relatives. I then head back to Sierra Leone before returning to Montreal on December 6th to spend Christmas in the bosom of my family hopefully observing a new dawn of traditional and real Canadian values. This will have been my longest trip away from home ever. But things could be worse. Here the Ebola crisis is proving stubborn to eradicate. There are still about six few cases remaining and as if the people have not been through enough, last week in Freetown 3,000 people had their homes washed away in an afternoon of torrential rain. At least four drowned.

Ned Eustace



Congratulations to St. Patrick's Society member Katie Irving and her husband Matt Young on their August 15th wedding at Fiddler Lake Resort in the Laurentians. The crowd was full of SPS members and Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing alums. Of course, the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing were also there with a special tribute to Katie who is a teacher with the school.



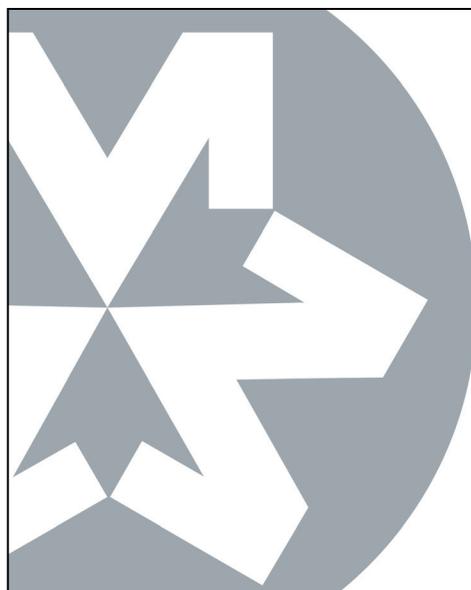
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In and Around town

Celtic Harmonies International Festival

From October 1 to 11, enjoy this amazing festival that features – in addition to workshops – renowned musicians and story tellers from Ireland, Scotland, France, Canada’s east coast, and Quebec. Dave Gossage is helping to put together a big Closing Show focused on percussion and dance (and of course, his band!). So if you are moved by the grace of Irish and Scottish dancers, and your soul stirs when you hear the skirl of the pipes and the sway of the tartans, and if the driving beat of the bodhran, bones and spoons, and the rhythmic pounding of feet excite you, then don’t miss this show! The festival will be held in the Eastern Townships in Knowlton, Waterloo and Bromont. Tickets are available on line at [Celtic Box Office](#) or by phone (450) 292-3456 Ext. 227.

FIS Annual Community Summer Party

The Federation of Irish Societies / La Fédération des Organisations Irlandaises (*Cónascadh na gCumann Gaelach*) invites you to attend the FIS Annual Community End-of-Summer Party on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. This cross-community get-together will be held at Hurley’s Irish Pub, 1225 Crescent Street. The Guest of Honour is Ray Bassett, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada. Bring your friends and meet new ones. Come and enjoy happy-hour prices and complimentary finger food. For further information, contact Paul Loftus at ploftus@colba.net.



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2015-2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2015-2016

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION
Sept. 26	Tara Golf Closing Tournament & Dinner, Hemmingford, 11:00 a.m.	Joan Tousaw 487-2863
Oct. 1-11	Celtic Harmonies International Festival, Eastern Townships	A. O'Donohue 450-292-3456 x.227
Oct. 6	FIS End-of Summer party, Hurley's Irish Pub, 1225 Crescent St., 5:30 p.m.	ploftus@colba.net
Oct. 22	ICCC European Pub Quiz, McKibbin's Puh, Bishop St., (\$20 members/\$25 guests) 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Oct. 23	Siamsa: Halloween Ceili, NDG Legion 8:00 p.m.	Denis Martin info@siamsa.org
Oct. 25	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Oct. 29	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Oct. 30	Innisfail Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, \$12.00, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Nov. 5	Oyster Party, 7:00 p.m.	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Nov. 12	SPS Annual lecture, Canadian Irish Studies, 7:00 p.m., McEntee Reading Room, Concordia Campus	dnirish.fas@concordia.ca
Nov. 26	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Nov. 29	UIS General Meeting & Christmas Draw, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Dec. 1	ICCC Christmas Reception, Centre Sheraton Montreal Hotel, 6:00 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Dec. 4	Innisfail Annual Christmas Party (members \$10.00/guests \$12.00), NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Dec. 24	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Dec. 19	Christmas Basket Delivery, 8:00 a.m.,	jeskelton@videotron.ca
Jan. 17	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Jan. 22	Innisfail "Kick-Off" Céili, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Feb. 6	UIS 60 th Queen's Selection Evening, Buffet Sorrento, 7:00 p.m.	cmurphy2_3@msn.com
Feb. 14	General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Feb. TBA	Flag Raising, noon	ploftus@colba.net
Mar. 4	SPS Annual Ball, Marriott Chateau Champlain	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 13	UIS Mass of Anticipation, St. Gabriel's Church. 11:30 a.m.	ploftus@colba.net
Mar. 13	UIS General Meeting, St. Gabriel's Church, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Mar. 17	SPS Annual Luncheon, Le Centre Sheraton	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 20	UIS 193 rd Consecutive St. Patrick's Parade. noon	director@montrealirishparade.com
Apr. 2	UIS Awards Banquet & Dinner Dance, Buffet Sorrento, 6 p.m.	coach_shawn12@hotmail.com
Apr. 15	Innisfail Pasta Night, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Apr. 17	UIS Mass for Deceased Members & General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	ploftus@colba.net
May 7	Innisfail Mass for Deceased Members, St Patrick's Basilica, (followed by Irish tea), 12:00 a.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
June 10	Innisfail AGM, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
June	SPS Annual Golf Tournament	Erin Matheson 481-1346

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