

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 43 No. 3
March / April 2011



MHS Joins Lieutenant Governor in New Award Program

A new award, presented by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba in consultation with the MHS, will recognize people who have rendered prolonged, meritorious service in the preservation and promotion of Manitoba's history and heritage. The first awards will be presented in a ceremony at Government House on 17 May.

Some of the activities for which awards may be given:

- Historical publications and documents
- Stewardship of museums, archives or other resources
- Public education, advocacy, and awareness
- Committee or community service
- Preservation of historic sites / buildings
- Art and media

It is assumed that award recipients will have a sustained record of these activities over a period of years but there is no single criterion that will apply in all cases.

Nominations must be submitted in one of two ways:

- Complete a nomination form and submit it by mail, fax, or email.
- Complete a form on the MHS web site.

All submitted information will be kept strictly confidential. Nominators are asked not to inform the nominee of his or her nomination. Nominations can be made at any time although selection of recipients will occur once a year in time for presentation at a ceremony near Manitoba Day. Nominations must be received by **31 March 2011** to be considered for award presentation this year.

An MHS committee will evaluate all nominations and recommend candidates to the Lieutenant Governor.

The number of awards each year is limited, and not everyone nominated can be recommended. Those not selected in a year may be retained for consideration in the subsequent year. Award recipients will receive a medal, a certificate, and a one-year MHS membership.

For more information:
www.mhs.mb.ca/info/awards/lg



2011 MHS Multicultural Dinner Tuesday, 19 April

The German Society of Winnipeg

This year, the MHS Multicultural Dinner will feature Manitoba's German community, in collaboration with the German Society of Winnipeg.

The German Society is located at 121 Charles Street, at the corner of Flora and Charles, two blocks west of Main Street. Parking is available in the parking lot

beside the building. The building is not wheelchair accessible; it has stairs and no elevator.

Doors open at 4:30 pm. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 with a cash bar featuring traditional German beers and wines. The served dinner follows at 7:00 pm. Enjoy authentic German dishes including rouladen, cucumber salad, spätzel with mushroom gravy, sauerkraut and cherry and apple strudel.



W. Fraser

Headquarters of the German Society of Winnipeg, site of the 2011 MHS Multicultural Dinner.

During cocktail hour, there will be entertainment by the German Society German Brass Band. After dinner there will be a performance by the Bavarian Yodel Quartet. The guest speaker is Dr. Hans Werner, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Winnipeg, speaking on the history of the German community in Manitoba.

Cost per person is \$20 including taxes. Make your reservation by calling the MHS office at 204-947-0559 between 1 and 16 April. Payment must be made at time of booking, by Visa, Mastercard, cheque or in person at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre. Tickets are not available at the door. For more information, call Carl James at 204-631-5971.



MHS President
Dr. Harry Duckworth

President's Message

The Macdonald Dinner, held on 12 February, was a very enjoyable event for those who attended. This dinner is one of the few occasions each year in which a good proportion of our membership can come together and simply enjoy themselves. We had a scintillating speaker, Ken McGoogan, a

writer of books on Canadian history, most recently "How the Scots Invented Canada". Thanks in part to the silent auction and to those who participated in

the bidding, we made a little money. These dinners unfortunately are becoming expensive, and if we bring in an outside speaker, as we did this year, we have to sell at least 90 tickets before we start to make a profit. We did sell just slightly over this number, but the dinner is not really a fund-raiser unless the sales are much larger than this.

I'm proud to report that the Manitoba Historical Society has agreed with our patron, his Honour Philip Lee, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, to establish a new award, the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Historical Preservation and Promotion. The award will recognize Manitobans who have made important and sustained contributions to the preservation of history in their own communities, by such activities as operating community museums and archives, publishing books and other documents, raising public awareness through advocacy and education, preserving historic sites, and so forth. Nominations must be made using a form that is available on the Society's and the Lieutenant Governor's websites. The first five awards, to be accompanied by a certificate and a medal, will be presented at a ceremony to be held at Government House on 17 May 2011. I have to thank Gordon Goldsborough and James Kostuchuk for their efforts in planning these awards, and preparing the documentation that convinced his Honour to agree to sponsor them.

The last matter that I wish to mention is the general issue of how historic properties are to be protected in Winnipeg. The city has recently received the report of a consultant, Mr. Donald Luxton of Vancouver, regarding a new Heritage Resource Management Plan. This, in turn, will influence the design of a new civic by-law regarding historic properties. Mr Luxton's report has some very good ideas, including the inclusion, not just of historic buildings, but also historic places and sites. This is a logical extension, which has long been recognized, for instance, in the mandate of Parks Canada; buildings are not the only properties that are important to our heritage. Having a by-law that recognizes historic sites and places should make it easier, in the future, to protect from modern development such properties as the Upper Fort Garry site (which was only saved by the heroic efforts of an ad hoc group, the Friends of Upper Fort Garry), and the hallowed Cathedral precinct in St Boniface (which was permanently marred by the construction of a large condominium building, a few years ago).

Several members of the Society's executive have read the Luxton report, and we were surprised to find that there is little or nothing proposed that would make more transparent the process by which city council decides to permit the demolition of historic structures. The consultant, who has experience in other cities, must be familiar with tested ways in use elsewhere, and which could improve our own awkward procedures. This lack of transparency, in how Winnipeg handles important decisions about the future of historic properties, has meant that the heritage community is usually taken by surprise when a property comes under threat. Last-ditch efforts have to be made to save it, documentation has to be thrown together, sometimes by groups with little experience in such matters, and often the efforts fail. Recent examples are Dennistoun House in Osborne Village, and the Shanghai Restaurant, once the home of Winnipeg's civic government. We feel that this issue of transparency is important, that the general public feels this way too, and that if a new by-law is to be created, now is the time to correct the deficiencies. We will be communicating with the Historic Buildings Committee, which advises City Council on these matters. We have also established new lines of communication with our sister organization, Heritage Winnipeg, and we hope to work with them to get as effective a new by-law as possible.

The more one thinks about what will have to be done, the more complex the problems are seen to be. If a property, whether a building or a site, is designated as of historic importance, a new burden is thrown on the owner, who is expected, not only not to demolish his building, but to maintain it. Neglect of simple maintenance has sometimes allowed a building to degrade to the point where it is argued that it is no longer worth saving. It is right that historic properties should be saved, but if the public cares about them, there should be some compensation to the owner for his or her extra responsibilities and expenses. In effect, if we want to see historic properties preserved, we should be willing to put our money where our mouths are.

Another difficult problem can arise when there is no clear responsibility for establishing the historic status of a property. A current example is the Winnipeg Airport Terminal, whose role is soon to be taken over by the new terminal, some distance to the north. This building is one of the most important examples of Modernist architecture in Winnipeg – it

was the subject of an entire chapter in a recent book about Modernist buildings in the city – and in spite of certain changes and upgrades, it still preserves much of its original character. The government of Canada commissioned this terminal in 1963, and extra money was provided to ensure that it was of high quality in every respect. Notably, two of the special artworks commissioned for the building are still in place and in good condition, as large mural installations at the two ends of the terminal. Of the two other major terminals built in the country in that year, one (at Edmonton) has been greatly altered, and the other (at Toronto) was demolished a few years ago. In the normal course of events, federal buildings are assessed for heritage value when they reach 40 years old, but the Winnipeg terminal missed this process because the airport had been turned over to the private corporation, the Winnipeg Airport Authority, shortly before. Though the heritage value of the terminal is undoubted, no one seems to be taking any responsibility for having it designated a historic building, and it seems slated for destruction sometime soon. Perhaps we can do something about this.

Harry Duckworth

Obituaries

Abraham J. Arnold C.M., LL.D., a MHS member, died in Winnipeg, on 28 January, 2011 at the age of 88. He was born in Montreal. He served as editor of the *Jewish Western Bulletin* in Toronto and Vancouver and as public relations director of the Jewish Federation/Combined Jewish Appeal in Montreal. He came to Winnipeg in 1965 as the western regional director of the Canadian Jewish Congress. He was a founding director of the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada. Arnold was a tireless advocate for rights, liberty and equality, an accomplished author and a noted Canadian Jewish Historian. He played a major role in creating the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties and served as its first executive director from 1978 to 1988. He was the author of several books including *Jewish Life in Canada* and *Judaism: Myth, Legend, History and Custom From Religious to the Secular*. He received an honorary doctorate from



the University of Winnipeg in 2001 and became a member of the Order of Canada in 2004. Donations may be made to the Abe Arnold Oral History Project at the University of Winnipeg, 705 - 491 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E4, in care of Dr. Nolan Reilly

Verna Van Roon, a long-time active member of the Charleswood Historical Society, died on 10 February, 2011 in Winnipeg at 90 years of age. Verna and her husband Len were pioneers in preserving and promoting Charleswood's history. They accumulated a large historical photo slide collection which they showed at schools and public meetings. Verna was instrumental in saving and restoring Caron House on the banks of the Assiniboine and in establishing the war memorial for the nineteen Charleswood veterans who died for their country. She received the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award in recognition of her outstanding and selfless contribution to her community and Canada

Manitoba Museum - Titanic: The Manitoba Connection

In partnership with the MTS Exhibition Hall and the Winnipeg Free Press, The Manitoba Museum is hosting a special exhibit in their Parklands Pier that focuses on the Manitobans who sailed on the RMS Titanic. *Titanic: The Manitoba Connection* will include artefacts from the Museum's collection to tell the story of who these passengers were—from millionaires to immigrant farm labourers—and how they came to be on board the ship. A case with some of these items from The Manitoba Museum will also be on display in the MTS Exhibition Hall.

Earlier in the year, the Museum asked Manitobans whose family had a connection to the *Titanic* to contribute to the exhibit, and the response has been nothing short of amazing. Curator Sharon Reilly has been able to collect dozens of stories, over ten original artefacts, and significant memorabilia.

"Most Manitobans would be surprised to learn that the province had any connection at all to the *Titanic*. But 13 of the ship's passengers were bound for Canada," explains Sharon Reilly, Social History Curator for The Manitoba Museum. "Nine Manitobans died in the tragedy, while some of their family members survived." The exhibit will put the disaster into context of what was happening in Manitoba during that time. Why were such a high percentage of Manitobans on board? Why were

there so many millionaires living in Winnipeg? Who were these individuals, and how have Manitobans commemorated the tragedy?

The Manitoba Collection continues at the Manitoba Museum until 5 September. **Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition** continues at the MTS Centre Exhibition Hall until 12 June.

Welcome New Members

Silvia Connor
Carol J. Harvey
Ken Howard
Jim Ingebrigtsen
Ranald Krolman
Alison R. Marshall

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

General Operations

Paula Achtemichuk
Dennis Butcher
Chloe Clark
Isabelle Dryden
Friesen Corporation
David & Linda McDowell
Ruth May
Margaret Morse
Pioneer Publications
L. O. & Frances Pollard
Robert G. Quirk
Laird Rankin
Susan Rosenberg
Shirlee Anne Smith
Wawanesa Insurance
Lucille Zywina

Centennial Farms

Anonymous
Margaret Carter
Ken & Vickey Lewis
David & Linda McDowell

Dalnavert

David & Linda McDowell
Marina Plett-Lyle

Special thanks to Dalnavert volunteer *Theresa French* for the loan of her beautiful Christmas tree that adorned our Visitors Centre and Gift Shop during the holidays!

Young Historians

Robert & Evelyn Sutton

Homes of Memorable Manitobans Awards
Manitoba Real Estate Association

Volunteers Wanted

The Society is seeking a number of volunteers to provide support and assistance for museum and general operations with a variety of tasks including providing guided tours, assisting with programming, special events, venue rentals, gift shop operations, and reception and clerical assistance. Please call 204-943-2835 or 204-947-0559 or email info@mhs.mb.ca or dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca

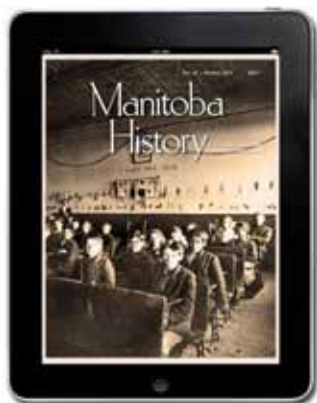
MHS Tour of Hudson's Bay Company Archives

MHS members and friends are invited to come for a guided tour of the HBCA on 30 March at 1:30 pm. The archives contain meticulous records kept by the HBC which document the growth of the company through the fur trade and its evolution to a modern retailer. The records spanning the first 250 years of its history, 1670 to 1920, have been included in the UNESCO *Memory of the World* registry.

The HBC Archives are located in the Manitoba Archives at 200 Vaughan Street. There is no charge for the tour but as space is limited, please contact Carl James at 204-631-5971 to confirm your attendance.

Manitoba History comes to the iPad

The Manitoba Historical Society's journal, *Manitoba History*, has become the first major Canadian history magazine to be available in a version for the Apple iPad and other tablet devices, as well as for desktop and notebook computers. This online version is available to all MHS members at no additional charge. The digital version of the journal is fully text-searchable and most recent issues will be in colour.



"More and more people are using tablets as a way to read books and magazines, check email, and surf the web," notes MHS webmaster Gordon Goldsborough, "so making *Manitoba History* available for tablets makes sense. We are making the most recent five issues

available online now, and will release digital versions of other back issues as time permits." MHS members will require a login account, obtained using a login request form, on the MHS website to access this digital version of *Manitoba History*. At this time, there are no plans to make the digital issues available to non-members although university students and staff may have access to them via institutional subscriptions to the EBSCO online databases.

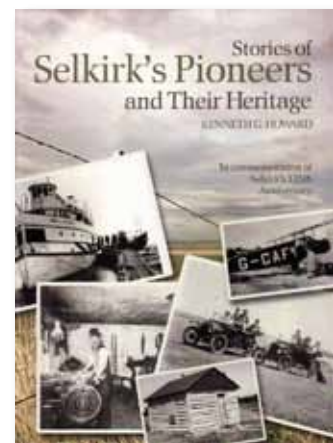
Dalnavert Gift Shop

Our Gift Shop carries books by Manitoba authors, and MHS members. Stop by and pick up these new releases:

Stories of Selkirk's Pioneers and Their Heritage, In commemoration of Selkirk's 125th Anniversary, by Kenneth G. Howard, hardcover \$75 plus GST.

Just Common Sense, The Life and Times of George Taylor Richardson, by Tim Higgins, soft-cover, \$24.95 plus GST.

Annie's Bright Idea, by Audhrea Lande and Jenny Prest, soft-cover, \$14.95 plus GST



Are you looking for something pretty to brighten your home, office, or cottage? Are you in need of a reminder of spring to get you through the rest of the winter? Are you seeking that elusive, perfect, gift for a special occasion or for a special someone?

The Dalnavert Gift Shop, an MHS-owned and operated facility, has something for everyone, featuring new, vintage and handcrafted items. All proceeds from the shop are used to assist us in operating our Dalnavert Museum. When you are visiting the museum for a tour, or in the neighbourhood, stop by and say hello! See you soon!

Christmas at Dalnavert 2010

Dalnavert's Christmas season was a great success this year! In keeping with our usual seasonal programming, the house was decorated throughout to depict a Victorian Christmas. Our parlour's tree this year was generously donated by Country Pines

in Tyndall, Manitoba and decorated with ornaments from our collection, including German glass pieces and handmade items that were donated to the museum by the Embroiderer's Guild in 1979.

We broke with tradition during this year's performance of *A Christmas Carol* by inviting five of Winnipeg's most talented performers to tell the story in their own one-person shows. Celeste Sansregret, Ron Robinson, Debbie Patterson, Gordon Tanner, and Ian Mozdzen all brought the tale to life in unique ways and delighted nearly 400 audience members over ten days. We would like to sincerely thank our performers for their amazing work. Thanks also to Richard Hurst for his dedication to the performance for more than two decades.

We are grateful to our generous in-kind sponsors: The Winnipeg Film Group, The Costume Museum of Canada, The Winnipeg Glee Club, Holy Trinity Church Quartette, and Sylvia Russell and Friends.

Upcoming Events at Dalnavert

"Hold the Starch: Washing Your Heritage Textiles"

Instructor: Amanda Harding,
Textile Conservator, Parks Canada
19 March, 2011, 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Cost: \$40

Participate in a fun and informative workshop designed to help you preserve your heirloom textiles. Plus, the curators of the Dalnavert Museum and the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library will introduce you to their textile collections. Register by phone at 204-943-2835 or email at bookings@mhs.mb.ca



G. Goldsborough

Macdonald Dinner speaker Ken McGoogan is presented with one of the last copies of the MHS's *Historical Atlas of Manitoba* by President Harry Duckworth.

Did You Know?

MHS members can now read the latest issues of *Manitoba History* on our web site before they are available in printed form, along with back issues. To request access to the exclusive members-only area of the web site, go to:

www.mhs.mb.ca/login

"Spring Break Treasure Hunt"

30 March to 3 April, 11am to 4pm
\$3/students, \$4/seniors, \$5/adults

Bring the family to Dalnavert for a treasure hunt during the spring break holiday! This program will allow guardians and children to explore Dalnavert on their own and participate in an eye-spy treasure hunt. After exploring the house, head up to the attic and make a Victorian craft to take home. This program is offered on a drop-in basis, so come by anytime during our regular operating hours (allow approximately one hour for your visit).

Heritage Winnipeg

Announces 26th Annual Preservation Awards

Heritage Winnipeg presented its annual Preservation Awards on 21 February at the Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre (MICEC), 199 Sutherland Avenue.

- *Institutional Conservation Award*: Dennis Daniels, Executive Director of the MICEC, and Wins Bridgman and Marcela Poirier of Bridgman Collaborative Architecture, for the rehabilitation of the former All Peoples Mission Building at 199 Sutherland Avenue.
- *Residential Conservation Award*: Cameron Dobie of the DPL Group (Dobie Properties) for a sensitive conversion of the former St. John's Anglican Parish Hall (181 Church Avenue) to residential space.
- *Commercial Conservation Award*: Jeff Palmer of the CentreVenture Development Corporation, and Dudley Thompson of Prairie Architects Inc., for their rehabilitation of the former Thomas Kelly residence (88 Adelaide Street) as office space for the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.



G. Goldsborough

Award-winning architect Wins Bridgman explains the work his firm did to restore the All Peoples Mission building on Sutherland Avenue, built in 1908.

Heritage News

The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba in **Brandon** is hoping to complete the multimillion-dollar restoration of the historic Dome Building on the Keystone Centre grounds in 2013—the 100th anniversary of the structure’s construction. The multimillion-dollar restoration proposed by the exhibition would include the creation of office space, an interactive agricultural museum and an educational classroom component inside, with an outdoor agricultural park located at the building’s rear along 13th Street.

Pembina Valley Online reports that the Post Road Heritage Group and The Town of Emerson are partnering on a long-term lease of land at **Fort Dufferin** which was the staging point for the RCMP on their trek into western Canada in 1874. The Town and the heritage group will lease the property from the province and become the custodians of the historical site. Emerson Mayor **Wayne Arseny** says that the lease will enable the Post Road Heritage Group to fundraise and apply for grants to help restore some of the original buildings. At a Pembina Valley Tourism Association meeting in Plum Coulee Arseny received the Award of Distinction “for his decades of work and effort in preserving his community heritage” He is also a member of the MHS Council.

MHS Book Club Schedule, 2010–2011

Unless noted, meetings are on Mondays 7–9 pm at Dalnavert Visitors’ Centre. Please confirm attendance with Judy at 204-475-6666. WPL = Winnipeg Public Library

14 March 2011

Icelandic heritage; George J. Houser, *Pioneer Icelandic Pastor: The Life of the Reverend Paul Thorlaksson* (1990 WPL 1 copy; others available at the January/February meeting for a \$10 donation to the Young Historians funds) led by Joe Upton

11 April 2011

Charlotte Gray, *Flint & Feather: The Life and Times of E. Pauline Johnson, Tekahionwake* (2002, WPL 5 copies) led by Céline Kear

9 May 2011, 6 pm

Potluck dinner at Dalnavert, choose books for next year

St. Francois Xavier Historical Society has a bus tour set for Thursday, 23 June, 2011. The theme is Ukrainian communities in southern Manitoba (Tolstoi, Gardenton, Vita, Sirko, Sundown, and Steinbach) and will be guided by Professor John Lehr from the University of Winnipeg. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to reserve seats by calling Ed Owchar at 204-864-2304. (It is not a long distance call from Winnipeg). The tour includes, of course, coffee stop, lunch, and supper. A dry run will be undertaken in April to fine tune times and cost.

Argyle residents are working to preserve their community’s history by establishing a museum to be called Settlers, Rails and Trails Inc. The museum collection will include over 1,300 artefacts, a large Canadian flag collection, a blacksmith shop and a general store from the former Argyle Prairie Museum. The former museum had been started by Shayne Campbell many years ago when he was in the seventh grade. Campbell has been given the role of executive director of the new museum and he was

elected president for a two year term. According to a press release issued by Campbell the museum's objective is to "tell the story of the founding settlement and development of Argyle as a railway branch-line community (1870s to present). The museum will collect, preserve, research, exhibit and interpret the collections of historical artefacts" The museum committee's current tasks are fund raising and finding a permanent museum site in Argyle

The new 1,850 square foot Manitoba Gallery at the **Royal Canadian Artillery Museum** in Shilo has been forced to close because of a major roof leak. The new Manitoba Gallery officially opened in May 2010 but is now expected to be closed until sometime this summer when water damage to the walls and floors is repaired. No artefacts were harmed in any way. The other four galleries remain open. Museum hours are 10 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday. After Victoria Day weekend the museum is open seven days a week 10 am to 5 pm until Labour Day.

Copies of **St. Laurent's** history book *The Land Between the Lakes* are available. The 555 page hardcover book sells for \$75. The book covers topics such as local education, church, public services, clubs, organizations, sports, veterans, family history, weddings, anniversaries, twins, fourth and fifth generations, stories of interest and 1,250 pictures. Members of the book committee are selling the books privately. Call Debbie at 204-646-2881, Barbra at 204-646-2568, Allan at 204-646-2486 or P. Millar at 204-646-24891 to buy a copy.

Over a period of almost 20 years **Terry Tergesen** gathered and copied thousands of photos from Icelandic families who at one time lived in New Iceland. The collection included approximately 70 binders holding town publications, Gimli High School yearbooks, family histories and photos. Last summer about 1,300 photos were scanned in into the **New Iceland Heritage Museum's** database. An inaugural exhibit of the photographs opened on 23 October 2010 at the museum's fundraising Gala in Gimli.

After several decades of prosperity the sugar beet industry collapsed in Manitoba in the 1990s. The beet factory in Winnipeg closed permanently after processing the 1996 crop. The industry disappeared because there was no American market for Canadian sugar when USA brought in a restrictive tariff. Former sugar beet producers did not want

memories sugar beet farming as a significant part of our history to be lost. After a few years of planning, they developed the **Manitoba Sugar Beet Producers Heritage Collection** which became a part of the St. Joseph Museum in St. Joseph, Manitoba. The collection includes interpretive information and historical displays of equipment from the horse-drawn row digger of the 1930s to the more modern equipment of the 1990s.

The future of a heritage building in St. Boniface appears to be in doubt according to the president of **Heritage St. Boniface**, Joel Lafond. Résidence Langevin at 210 Rue Masson which was built in 1902 is boarded up and empty with no heat or water and a historic plaque has been removed. The owners, Lafond says, are practising "demolition by neglect." The building was designated a heritage building by the city of Winnipeg in 1989 at the request of its owners, Résidence Langevin Inc and L'Accueil Colombien which are under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus. The building has significance to the Francophone community because it was built as a normal school for training Francophone teachers. Since 2005 the owners have tried unsuccessfully to have the building removed from the City of Winnipeg's heritage list so that it can be demolished to make way for a new seniors' housing facility.

Canstar weeklies report that St. James filmmaker, Andrew Wall's new documentary deals with a dark time in the history of **Winnipeg**. *The Paper Nazis*, documents the incidents of Nazism and fascism in Winnipeg during the Great Depression. Anti-Semitism in Winnipeg in the 1930s was fuelled by propaganda through William Whittaker, leader of the fascist Canadian Nationalist Party, and the pro-Nazi newspaper, *Deutsche Zeitung Fur Canada*. The propaganda was strongly opposed by John Dafoe, editor of the *Winnipeg Free Press*. The 49 minute film includes material from the *Winnipeg Tribune* and *Free Press* archives and conversations with academics Jonathan Wagner and Allan Levine. There were also re-enactments, some of them in front of the Ukrainian Labour Temple as rallies and events are described. The documentary confronts us with something we would like to forget. Winnipeg was not always an open multicultural city. *The Paper Nazis* produced by Farpoint Films is available for viewing on MTS Video on Demand.

The 46th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference will be held at Mankato, Minnesota

on 21–24 September 2011. Papers and panels in all areas of history are welcome. Graduate students are especially encouraged to send proposals. The deadline for proposals is 30 March 2011. Please send proposals for individual papers or for panels to: Northern Great Plains History Conference, Department of History, Minnesota State University, Mankato at 110 Armstrong Hall, Mankato, Minnesota 56001. Email ngphc2011@mnsu.edu web site: <http://sbs.mnsu.edu/history/ngphc> Include your name, institution, address, phone, and email address, and a short vita with each proposal. A prize will be awarded to the best graduate student paper presented at the conference.

Heritage Winnipeg will hold its annual **spring fundraising luncheon** in the Crystal Ballroom of the Fort Garry Hotel on Friday, 25 March. The keynote speaker will give a presentation (with visuals) “Money Talks: Tales from Bankers’ Row”. The price is \$65 with a tax receipt. Tickets may be obtained from Heritage Winnipeg at info@heritagewinnipeg.com or phone 204-942 -2663.

The **St. Malo Museum** will re-open after being closed for at least eight years. A seven-person committee has been set up. The RM of De Salaberry has committed \$5,200 for the project over two years. The committee has applied for grants to hire a specialist to catalogue all artefacts. There are plans to set up theme areas in the museum and a tourism office at the front of the building. The museum building, once part of the old train station at Dufrost, is now on the Grotto site at the entrance to St. Malo Provincial Park and there is hope that a provincial grant will pay to repair a leaking roof.

No one was surprised that **Lower Fort Garry** was on the list of *Canada’s History* magazine’s ten top historic sites managed by Parks Canada. It is Canada’s oldest standing fur trade fort, dating back 180 years. The fort has amazing programs and resources for school children and other visitors totalling 40,000 annually.

The nine other top historic sites are: Fortress of Louisbourg (NS), rebuilt French fort; L’Anse aux Meadows (NL), reconstructed Viking fort; Grand-Pré (NS), memorial to Acadian culture; Rideau Canal, Ottawa-Kingston (ON), historic waterway; Batoche (SK), battlefield where Louis Riel made his last stand; Fortifications of Québec City (PQ), military walls of a UNESCO World Heritage site; Bar U Ranch (AB), legendary wild west ranch; Nan Sdins (BC), abandoned Haida village in the Queen Charlotte Islands; Klondike National Historic Sites, Dawson City (YT), historic buildings from the gold rush era.

The **Dominion Institute**, formed in 1997, and the **Historica Foundation**, formed in 1999, joined forces to provide valuable resources on Canadian history for schools and the general public. Resources can be accessed at www.historica-dominion.ca/en.

Louis Riel Day on 21 February brought hundreds of people to the Festival de Voyageur and St. Boniface Museum. The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports St. Boniface Museum director Philippe Mailhot’s comment that dedicating the provincial holiday to Louis Riel has generated a new interest in Riel from students, teachers and the media. He notes that the last census showed a new pride in being Métis when the number of people who identified themselves as Métis almost doubled.

Bill Hillman of Brandon has a collection of **historical photos of Brandon** on his website at www.hillmanweb.com/Brandon, along with photos of other Manitoba locations.

Bill Ashdown, a descendant of Winnipeg mayor and wholesale and retail hardware merchant J. H. Ashdown (1844-1924), was the guest speaker at the **Fort Garry Historical Society** annual meeting on 26 February. He illustrated his talk with archival photographs of the Ashdown family.

Important Reminders

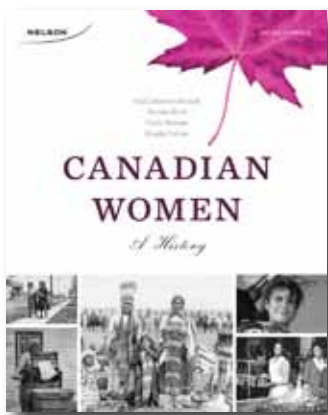
- Renewal invoices are sent to members, and are payable on receipt. Members are encouraged to help us reduce costs by checking their labels and sending in renewals when due. Renewal can be done by mail or phone. Payments can also be made in person at the reception counter at the Dalnavert Visitors’ Centre during regular operating hours, Wednesday to Sunday. Cash, cheque, Visa or Mastercard are accepted.
- Your donations are needed to support ongoing work of the Manitoba Historical Society. Tax receipts are issued for donations over \$10.

The *Interlake Spectator* reported on the launch of Kenneth Howard's book, *Stories of Selkirk's Pioneers and their Heritage*. Twenty-seven of the 100 Selkirk families featured in this book are from Iceland. Others come from many other cultural backgrounds. Howard's eight years of research included reading old newspapers and making hundreds of interviews. The self-published 506-page book has approximately 250 photos, many of them dating back to the late 1800s.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reported on the progress of construction of new galleries of the **Manitoba Children's Museum** at the Forks in Winnipeg. Philanthropists John and Bonnie Buhler donated \$800,000 to be used to construct the Buhler Welcome Centre at the museum. The planned re-opening date for the museum is 4 June.

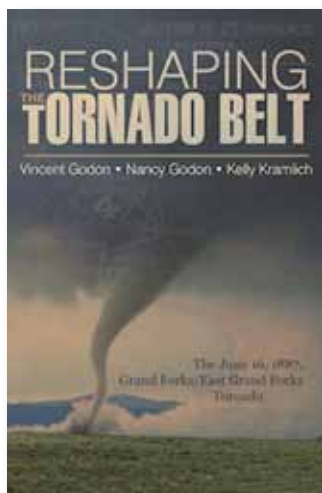
The local **feature film "Billy"**, written and produced by Ernesto Griffith and Winston Moxam, won the Best Narrative Feature Film at the Winnipeg Real to Reel Film Festival on 6 March. The film stars Ernesto Griffith as Billy Beal, a Black pioneer who moved from Minneapolis, Minnesota to Swan River, Manitoba in 1906. It has played at several festivals in San Francisco, Montreal, and Minneapolis. It was recently accepted in the Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles and the Texas Black Film Festival at Dallas, Texas.

In 1960, Manitoba historian Margaret Arnett MacLeod wrote *Songs of Old Manitoba*, after 17 years of research, to save for posterity old Métis folk songs, such as "The Battle of Seven Oaks or The Frog Plain Song" by Pierre Falcon. Now, the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research in Saskatoon has digitized this important book and is making it freely available on its web site. Download the book here: www.metismuseum.ca/browse/index.php/1173



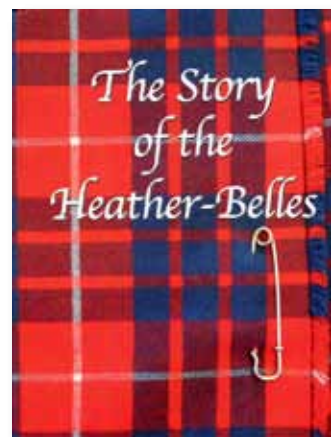
A substantially revised and updated third edition of *Canadian Women: A History* has just been published. This book, by Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Naomi Black, Paula Bourne, and Magda Fahrni, continues to be the only comprehensive survey of the con-

tributions, struggles and achievements of Canadian women. Drawing on the latest historical research, as well as government documents and other archival material, the authors provide new insights into the diverse experiences of women in Canada from the sixteenth century to the present. The text explores the themes of migration, marriage, family life, work, education, politics, and culture in the lives of Canadian women by means of an accessible narrative enhanced by graphics and photos. A companion website (www.canadianwomen3e.nelson.com) is being developed. It will feature documents and links enabling readers to engage online with a range of primary sources related to Canadian women's history.



When a tornado hit Grand Forks, North Dakota on 16 June 1887, nobody saw it coming. This frontier town was located about seventy-five miles north of Fargo, which was thought to be at the northern tip of the "Tornado Belt". Town leaders proudly claimed that their community did not have to worry about the destructive power of tornadoes. The tornado of 1887 changed everything. *Reshaping the Tornado Belt*, a new book by Grand Forks meteorologists Vincent Godon, Nancy Godon and Kelly Kramlich, tells the story about how a horrific tornado challenged and reshaped a community and changed how the world looks at tornadoes.

The Heather-Belle Ladies' Pipe Band, established in 1951, was a unique all-women's pipe band that—for over fifty years—brought Scottish music and entertainment to Manitoba and beyond. It disbanded in December 2007. The story of its birth, rise and demise presents an interesting picture of Winnipeg and its social structure in the last half of the twentieth century. A



Newsletter Mailings

Members are reminded that *Time Lines* is available on our website www.mhs.mb.ca/info/pubs/timelines. Members have the option of opting out of receiving the mailed copy of our newsletter or reading the newsletter on line.

If members wish to place their name on our "Do Not Mail Newsletter" list, please contact us by calling 204-947-0559 or emailing us at info@mhs.mb.ca

Please note that this does not include our journal *Manitoba History*, which is only available by regular mail.

richly-illustrated 131-page history of the Band has just been published and copies are available for \$20 each from Ethel Hook, 202 Oakdean Blvd, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3J 3N9, telephone: 204-837-2428, email: elhook@mymts.net.

1916 Prairie Census Now Available

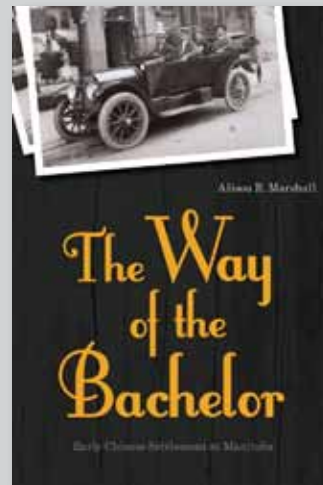
On 16 December 2010 the Library and Archives Canada made the 1916 census of the Prairie Provinces available online. The Canadian government had called for a special census of the Prairie Provinces in 1906 and 1916 to track the high rates of population growth in western Canada during the early years of the 20th century.

Access to the digitized images of the 1916 census is available online in two different ways: Through a database that is searchable by **Province, District Name, District Number, and Sub-district Number**. The database is available at: www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/census-1916/index-e.html Through the research tool "microform digitization," you can browse the microfilm reels page by page. The tool is available at: www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/index-e.html

The mandate of Library and Archives Canada is to preserve the documentary heritage of Canada for the benefit of present and future generations and to be a source of enduring knowledge accessible to all, thereby contributing to the cultural, social and economic advancement of Canada. Library

and Archives Canada also facilitates co-operation among communities involved in the acquisition, preservation and diffusion of knowledge, and serves as the continuing memory of the Government of Canada and its institutions.

The Genealogy Services (www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html) include all physical and online genealogical services of Library and Archives Canada. They offer genealogical content, services, advice, research tools and opportunities to work on joint projects, all in both official languages. The contributions of many Library and Archives Canada staff were instrumental in the success of this project, and their efforts are much appreciated. For more information, please contact webservices@lac-bac.gc.ca.



The Way of the Bachelor, a new book by Brandon University professor Alison Marshall documents the religious beliefs and cultural practices of early Chinese immigrants to Manitoba. In the absence of women and family, these men opened the region's first

laundries and, by the turn of the twentieth century, developed a new kind of restaurant—the Chinese cafe. They maintained their ties to the Old World and negotiated a place for themselves in the new through a process called Dao—the way of the bachelor. At cafes and restaurants, churches and Christians associations, and the offices of the Chinese Nationalist Party, bachelors fostered a vibrant homosocial culture based on friendship, everyday religious practices, the example of Sun Yat-sen, and the sharing of food. *The Way of the Bachelor* will be launched on 22 March, at an event to be held at the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural and Community Centre (2nd Floor, 180 King Street) at 7:30 PM.

The Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

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Calendar of Events

For updates and more information, see www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml

- 19 March Workshop: Laundry for Heirlooms
Dalnavert Visitors' Centre
- 30 March MHS tour of HBC Archives
- 11 April MHS Book Club: Charlotte Gray, *Flint & Feather: The Life and Times of E. Pauline Johnson, Tekahionwake*
- 19 April Multicultural Dinner at German Society of Winnipeg

- 9 May MHS Book Club pot luck dinner to choose books for next year, at Dalnavert Visitors Centre
- 12 May Manitoba Day, deadline for submitting entries for Young Historians Award
- 4 June MHS Annual General Meeting at Dalnavert Visitors' Centre

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Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

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