



# MHS Gazette

Vol. 45 No. 4  
Spring 2014

## President's Report



MHS President  
Mr. James  
Kostuchuk

This has been a particularly snowy winter. I know this because of the large snow-drift outside my front door, and because I had an “unofficial snow day” recently at the school where I teach. A “snow

day” is when school closes, owing to large amounts of snow. This seldom happens — my school division has called a “snow day” perhaps half a dozen times in the last 20 years. However, an “unofficial snow day” occurs when buses are cancelled and students stay home. On this occasion, rather than mark the stack of papers on my desk, I decided to pursue a little history mystery.

A few years ago, while browsing in a used bookstore in Winnipeg, I found two vintage photographs of a man and a woman. I purchased them because I was curious about the photographer's imprint for a Winnipeg company. Using the Manitoba Historical Society's online database of Manitoba photographers, I discovered that Duffin and Company operated at 327 Main Street between 1877 and 1881. That is as far as my research went. As with so many little projects, I filed the photos away.

They had been collecting dust in my desk until 2012. Reading the winter issue of *Manitoba History*, I noticed on page 32 a reproduced composite photograph of City of Winnipeg officials in 1880. Among the 26 individuals was a man who looked a lot like the

subject in my vintage photo. This was a good lead because all the men were identified by name. Unfortunately, the names were not matched with the individuals! Nevertheless, I added this information to the file folder, and there it sat until my unofficial snow day. I decided to see if I could find a story behind the image.

My first step was to eliminate some of the individuals in the group photo. I eliminated police officers, since the subject of my research was not in uniform. This got me down to 19 possible matches. I started entering names into the MHS's online list of Memorable Manitobans. This was not too helpful, as many names do not have an image with their biographical entries, or the image is from a different angle, making it hard to identify a match. However, I still managed to eliminate three candidates. With 16 potential names, I was about to give up when I noticed two men in the photograph had “extreme” beards, similar to the man in my photo. Interestingly, both had the surname Brown.

Searching the MHS databases, I found a biography of C. J. Brown, Assistant City Clerk. The biography noted his father, A. M. Brown, also was a City Clerk, but no separate biographical entry existed for him. However, Google Books provided a lot of information on A. M. Brown. He was a very successful Winnipeg businessman who came west with the Red River Expedition in 1870. He and his wife were well known for hosting entertainments at their home at a time when Winnipeg was still a frontier outpost. A little more digging on Google revealed a City Archive pamphlet PDF file with a photo of A. M. Brown. I had finally found

my mystery man! He was credited with establishing the City Archives in 1874. Having his full name, I did not take long to find the obituary for Alexander MacDougall Brown. (Sadly, there is very little to be found on “Mrs. A. M. Brown,” reflecting a time when women's histories were not considered as important as their husband's.)

You can read my biography of Brown at [www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/people/brown\\_am.shtml](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/people/brown_am.shtml).



Portage Collegiate Archives

**Alexander MacDougall “A. M.” Brown** (1820–1895) came to Manitoba in 1870 with the Wolseley Expedition. He was the first clerk for the new City of Winnipeg.

Using information provided by the MHS, and a little Internet savvy, I was able to get the story of A. M. Brown researched, written, and posted (thanks Gord!) well before lunch. It isn't a huge accomplishment in the grand scheme of things, I suppose, but I took great pleasure in "rediscovering" this memorable Manitoban. I suspect connecting the dots on Mr. Brown's life wouldn't have happened without access to quality information in electronic form. I find this to be quite remarkable. I have grim recollections of sorting through microfiche at Elizabeth Dafoe Library as a university student, and endlessly poring through books trying to find bits of information to help me write a paper. It is clear to me, in so many ways, that the MHS is part of the vanguard in preserving and promoting Manitoba's history.

In closing, I would like to thank all our members who have taken the time to organize or support our many ongoing projects. It has been a busy time for our Society, and we have had our fair share of difficulties, but we are still making a difference. We have special events, dinners, awards ceremonies, research projects, and field trips all under way—all organized by volunteers. It is rewarding being associated with such great people. I would also like to send a special thank-you to Jackie Friesen, our Chief Administrative Officer. As the "frontline" presence of the MHS, she is wearing many hats! She has done an excellent job guiding the MHS through some choppy waters.

Yours in solidarity,  
James Kostuchuk

## Obituaries

### *Vera Jean Pybus (nee Blackwell)*

On Wednesday, 8 January 2014 Vera Pybus, age 94, died at Tuxedo Villa Personal Care Home in Winnipeg. Pybus was born 20 January 1919 in Killarney, Manitoba. After graduating from Killarney High School, she moved to Winnipeg where she completed a business course. She then

moved to Montreal for five years. In 1947, Pybus returned to Winnipeg where she married Clare W. Pybus and started a family. When her children were young, she began her university studies at United College, receiving her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from the University of Winnipeg in 1971 and her Master of Arts from the University of Manitoba in 1985. Pybus's historical interest lay in genealogy as well as the local history of southwestern Manitoba. She assisted in writing books about the histories of Holmfield, Killarney, and Cartwright. As well, she published books chronicling the family histories of both the Blackwell and the Pybus families. Pybus enjoyed travelling, particularly to Costa Rica, Cuba, China, and Russia. She loved studying Spanish, which enhanced her enjoyment of many trips to Spain to visit her grandchildren. Over the years, Pybus developed passions in photography and gardening, and derived much joy from her flowers and gazebo. Vera was a long-time member of St. Andrew's River Heights United Church, the University Women's Club and the Manitoba Historical Society.

### *William Gordon McKay*

William Gordon "Bill" McKay, engineer and heritage advocate, passed away peacefully at age 96 on Tuesday, 17 December 2013 at Victoria General Hospital in Winnipeg. Born in Regina on 10 December 1917, McKay grew up in Portage la Prairie, attending Portage Collegiate Institute. He studied first at University of Manitoba, where he took preliminary training in the Canadian Officers Training Corps. In 1940, McKay received a degree in civil engineering from Queen's University. His father, Gordon Finlay McKay, was a travelling fruit and vegetable salesman with the Portage Fruit and Vegetable Company. His mother, Kate McKay (nee Garnier), was one of the first graduates of the Victorian Order of Nurses. From 1945 until 1982, McKay was a partner with consulting engineers Underwood & McLellan,



G. Goldsborough

Ed Ledohowski, a long-time worker in the provincial Historic Resources Branch and a leader of MHS field trips, will retire at the end of March. He was presented with a retirement cake at a recent meeting in Deloraine of the Turtle Mountain Souris Plains Heritage Association.

which later became the UMA group and Stantec. McKay served as UMA's general manager and president, first in Saskatoon and later in Winnipeg. During his career, McKay was an active member of the Engineering Institute of Canada, serving as president in 1969 and 1970. McKay received the Lindsten Award, Fuller Award, and Bedell Award. Through his interest in the history of engineering, he developed a lifelong interest in local history and specifically, the Prairie provinces—its small towns and the people who lived there. He was very involved in preserving buildings in Winnipeg's Market Square area and the Exchange district, as well as restoring Car 356, the remaining streetcar in the old Winnipeg street railway system. McKay was president of Heritage Winnipeg during a tumultuous period when these buildings were seriously threatened by demolition. As a committed volunteer with the Anglican diocese of Rupertsland for decades, McKay spent a great deal of time assisting with administrative matters and maintenance of church properties across the diocese. He re-



ceived the Order of Rupertsland for his contributions. McKay leaves behind his wife Loreen, children Kent, Nancy, and Jeff, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. At the request of the Engineering Institute of Canada, McKay wrote a memoir in 2002 detailing his career as an engineering pioneer in Western Canada. To read his memoir, click the link [www.eic-ici.ca/hawp11.pdf](http://www.eic-ici.ca/hawp11.pdf).

### Glenella History Book

The History Book Committee of the Rural Municipality of Glenella is working on a sequel to its 1990 history book, *Tracks of Time*. The new book will update family and area stories and include write-ups from current residents. The deadline for submitting stories and/or photos is 30 April. As photos will be published in black and white, please scan them at a minimum 600 resolution and in grayscale. Names and dates must be included. Email submissions to [kshmidt@inetlink.ca](mailto:kshmidt@inetlink.ca) or by mail to:

Glenella History Book  
Box 128  
Glenella, MB  
R0J 0V0

### MHS to Participate in Study of Military Monuments

The Portage la Prairie Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee under President James Kostuchuk has received a Heritage Grant to undertake an analysis of military monuments around Manitoba.

The project was initiated by Patrick Morican, a retired school principal now residing at Gimli. In the mid-1990s, Morican carried out an inventory of military monuments, traveling around the province to photograph each monument and transcribe its text. He proposed to study the conditions under which the monuments were erected, considering the materials from which they were made, the communities that erected them, and other factors that will help us to understand the purpose of these monu-

ments, at the time when they were first installed and as a continuing reminder of the service and sacrifice that they represent. A motivation for the present study is the 100th anniversary, in 2014, of the beginning of the First World War.

As its contribution to the project, the MHS will include the monuments in its Historic Sites of Manitoba interactive map of the province. A list of military monuments can be found on the MHS website at [www.mhs.ca/docs/sites/index\\_monuments.shtml#military](http://www.mhs.ca/docs/sites/index_monuments.shtml#military).

### Minnedosa Heritage Group Awaiting New CP Proposal

Despite all odds, Minnedosa still may have a chance of acquiring the historic CPR train station in its community.

In late February, the group that for a decade has sought to obtain the property from Canadian Pacific Railway heard the company is preparing a counter-offer.

“We’re cautiously optimistic at this point,” said Brion Pollon, Chair of Minnedosa Heritage Inc. and Deputy Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Minto.

The 1½-storey brick building, dating from 1910, is a municipal heritage site.

Six years ago, the non-profit group poured about \$100,000 into refurbishing the station’s exterior, believing it had an agreement with CP Rail to buy the building for \$1. Instead, CP offered the group the right to lease the building and land for \$1,500 a year for 20 years. Minnedosa Heritage accepted and planned to locate a tourist information centre in the station.

CP changed its mind, and the group again requested the station for \$1. CP turned this down and asked for \$30,000 in cash for the building and a five-year lease of \$1,800 annually. Pollon’s group declined the offer, deeming it too costly. Pollon, a retired locomotive engineer with CP, said CP’s plan would have made his group responsible for “every possible conceivable expense. It was pretty onerous.”

As it is, the currently vacant station needs thousands of dollars in interior renovations to make it suitable for year-round use. It was last used as a train station in 1960 and became office space until around 2000.



G. Goldsborough

A Canadian Pacific Railway station at Minnedosa may eventually become a museum if negotiations between the railway and a local group are concluded successfully.

**2014 Anniversaries****160<sup>th</sup>**

11–13 July:

**Death of Metis leader  
Cuthbert Grant****140<sup>th</sup>**

17 January:

**First meeting of  
Winnipeg city council**

Mayor Sam Katz, city councillors, and guests gathered in the mayor's foyer to commemorate this event. Historical materials from the cornerstone were on display for two weeks. These included original documents, photographs, coins, the city's first voters list, and various curiosities. The council formed shortly after the city incorporated in November 1873. The newly elected council, made up of mayor Francis Cornish and 12 aldermen—three for each of the four wards—met for the first time at noon on 19 January 1874 in a rented room on the second floor of Bentley's Store, just north of what is now Portage and Main. The room was renovated and furnished to accommodate the council chambers, mayor's office, and police court. Although it met regularly to conduct city business, Council did not have a permanent home until Winnipeg's first city hall opened in 1876.

**125<sup>th</sup>****Icelandic Festival of Manitoba**  
(year-long events are scheduled)**100<sup>th</sup>**

25 January:

**St. Paul's Anglican Church,  
Dauphin**

The congregation is 125 years old this year.

26 February:

**Ralph Connor House****Start of First World War**

The Royal Canadian Mint is developing a coin program to commemorate the start of the First and Second World Wars. The program will span 2014 to 2020, including both circula-

tion and collector coins, and will feature such themes as, "The Canadian Home Front," "Canada on the Battlefield," and "Peace and Legacy."

23 April:

**Bird's Hill School**

11 May:

**St. Mark's Anglican Church,  
Winnipeg**

16 May:

**First annual general meeting of  
College of Registered Nurses of  
Manitoba**

23–24 May:

**Nelson McIntyre Collegiate**

28–31 May:

**Manitoba Association of Architects**  
(Festival of Architecture)

13–14 June:

**Rural Municipality of Cartier**

As part of its celebrations, the municipality is updating its history book for the years covering 1985–2014. *Treasures of Time: The Rural Municipality of Cartier* was completed in 1984. Individuals were invited to submit their family stories/memoirs.

10 August:

**Mustard Seed Chapel,  
near Petersfield**

20–21 September:

**St. Saviour Anglican Church,  
Winnipeg**

27 September:

**Sokol Polish Fest Ensemble**  
(gala concert)

**John Black Memorial United Church**  
(year-round events including celebration dinner 4 May, block party 7 June, John Black Sunday 15 June, and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary service and lunch 5 October)

10–12 October:

**St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic  
Parish**

18 October:

**Robson Hall Faculty of Law,  
University of Manitoba**  
(gala dinner)

18 November:

**Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg**

If you, your parents, grandparents or even great grandparents have

celebrated an event, stayed a night or have a memory, tell us your stories of our hotel. Maybe you saw a ghost or danced all night long in the Regal Beagle (or Cloud 9, or Colonel Webb's or one of the other names that you may know it by). Maybe you or your parents got married in the Skyview Ballroom or one of our many banquet halls and stayed married (for what feels like forever)! Or, maybe this was the first place that a family member stayed when they arrived in Winnipeg upon immigrating here. Please, share your story with us. All contributors will have the opportunity to join us for our celebration as well as chances to win free night or weekend stays.

**75<sup>th</sup>****Start of Second World War**

The Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum in Brandon will unveil later this year a monument honouring Canadians who lost their lives serving in any Commonwealth air force during the Second World War. The Royal Canadian Air Force memorial—the only one of its kind in Canada—will consist of a bronze statue representing the fallen, and a black granite wall about 300 feet long, listing the names of more than 19,000 individuals who died in service. The unveiling is scheduled tentatively for August, in conjunction with other events marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the war.

The Manitoba Agricultural Museum will commemorate the beginning of both world wars during its annual Threshermen's Reunion and Rodeo

**70<sup>th</sup>**

28–29 March:

**Manitoba Wildlife Federation**  
(annual convention)**60<sup>th</sup>**

July:

**Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion  
and Stampede****Manitoba Coin Club****Rainbow Stage, Winnipeg**



### MHS Book Club, 2013-2014

Unless noted, meetings are 7-9 pm at Dalnavert Visitor Centre. Please confirm attendance with Judy, 204-475-6666. Note: L= Leader, T=Treats, WPL= Winnipeg Public Library

**14 April 2014**

*Mission to Little Grand Rapids: Life with the Anishinabe, 1927-1938*, Rev. Luther Schuetze, (2001) WPL 2 copies; L Judy Valenzuela; T Judy Valenzuela

**12 May 2014, 6 pm**

Potluck and choose books for next year

### Award Opportunities

#### Government of Canada History Awards

High school students and teachers are invited to enter this new competition sponsored by the Government of Canada and Canada's National History Society. Created in 2013, the competition honours outstanding students and teachers who celebrate Canadian history. Deadline for entries is 18 April.

Teachers should submit projects that reflect one of the themes this year: Confederation; World War One; Aboriginal History. They will send in their best project or create an original project for a high-school-level history or social studies course certified by their province. Submitted projects will be published to help all teachers mark important commemorations and milestones.

Up to 30 prizes of \$2,000 will be awarded. Students in Grades 10 and 11 are invited to submit an essay of 1,000 to 1,200 words that answers one of five questions from the following

*MHS Gazette* is a benefit of membership in the Manitoba Historical Society. Join the MHS and enjoy the *Gazette* three times a year.

themes: Charlottetown and Quebec; Governments and Responsibility; The First World War; The Second World War; Commemorations of Canada

Up to 225 prizes of \$1,000 will be awarded. For rules and regulations, see [canadashistory.ca/History-Awards](http://canadashistory.ca/History-Awards) and follow the links. Questions or comments should be directed to Canada's History Society at [HistoryNowAwards@canadashistory.ca](mailto:HistoryNowAwards@canadashistory.ca); or by telephone at 1-866-952-3444, extension 221.

#### Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching

Applications are being accepted for the 2014 award. Deadline for submissions is 20 May. Six recipients will receive \$2,500 and a trip for two to attend the award events in Ottawa, where they will receive their medal from His Excellency, The Right Honourable David Johnston at a special ceremony at Rideau Hall. Each recipient's school will receive \$1,000.

To apply online, or to nominate a teacher for the award, complete the online forms via the links at [www.canadashistory.ca/Awards/Teaching](http://www.canadashistory.ca/Awards/Teaching)

#### Manitoba Names Lakes for First World War Veterans

Premier Greg Selinger has announced that four Victoria Cross (VC) recipients from Manitoba have been recognized with lakes named permanently in their honour. The four men who received the highest medal of valour in the Commonwealth, all served in the First and Second World Wars. The veterans and their geographic features are:

Alexander Brereton Lake was named for Company Quartermaster Sgt. Alexander Picton Brereton VC (1892–1976) who served with the 8th Battalion, Winnipeg Rifles.

Cruickshank Lake was named for Maj. Robert Edward Cruickshank VC (1888–1961) who served with the London Scottish Regiment.

Coulson Mitchell Lake was named for Lt.-Col. Coulson Norman Mitchell VC, Military Cross (MC) (1889–1978). He served with the Royal Canadian Engineers.

Harcus Strachan Lake was named for Lt.-Col. Harcus Strachan VC, MC (1884–1982). He served with the Fort Garry Horse.

All the lakes are located approximately 90 to 110 kilometres east of Thompson. With this announcement, the provincial government has now named geographical features in honour of all Manitoba VC recipients.

### Fort Garry Monument

The **Fort Garry Historical Society** recently unveiled a monument on Pembina Highway to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the municipality of Fort Garry. Long-time Fort Garry resident Doug Hutchings conceived the project, while his son, architect James Hutchings, designed and directed it. The lighting for the monument is solar-powered. Landscaping will be done in spring. The historical society sponsored the project and raised funds in the community. Mayor Sam Katz and city councillors from south Winnipeg were major contributors. Formed in 1971, the society "has done a tremendous job preserving the history of the area," said Katz.



W. Fraser

A new monument greets people entering Winnipeg's Fort Garry neighbourhood via Pembina Highway.



G. Goldsborough

The Sures House, a grand house along Winnipeg's Wellington Crescent, built in 1933, was destroyed by fire on 16 February.

### Massive Fire Burns Former Sures Estate

An 80-year-old Wellington Crescent home, called one of the "great estates of Winnipeg," has suffered \$3 million in structural damage from a major fire 16 February, according to the Winnipeg Free Press.

Fire officials are still not clear what caused the massive fire that broke out on an early Sunday morning at 1021 Wellington Cres. Frank Lount, of Lount Construction, built and designed the 5,000-square-foot Tudor-style mansion in 1933. Local historian Christian Cassidy said Lount — who built more than dozen exclusive homes in Winnipeg between 1929 and 1939 — owned the house until the early '40s but never lived there.

The house's first resident was Russian-born business magnate Fred Sures, who lived there with his wife Sarah, three daughters, and a son. Sures became a major player in dry goods manufacturing and distribution as well as the garment industry, after he and brother Nathan established Sures Bros. Ltd.

In the mid-1940s, the house transferred to grain company president Kenneth Powell, who lived there with his wife and son for several years. Subsequent owners included businessman Harold A. Smith, renowned surgical pathologist Dr. Georgina Hogg, insurance executive Theodore Peterson, and lawyer and land developer Aubrey Halter. The influential Sifton and Asper families also owned the house in the '90s and '00s. The riverside property set a record asking price of \$1.9 million when it was last for sale. Austrian immigrant Karl Dornetshuber, owner of Marquette Gravel Supply, bought it in 2008 and invested about \$1.5 million in renovations.

The two-storey house sits on 1.7 acres. A brick veneer was added to the front exterior in the early '40s. Carved solid oak doors open onto a marble-floored foyer. Oak plank floors throughout the main floor were fastened with pegs instead of nails, creating a distinctive pattern. An incinerator in the basement is a vestige from days when hired help burned household garbage.

### Local Group Plans McClung Celebrations

Plans are underway for a yearlong commemoration of women's right to vote. The Nellie McClung Foundation, based in Winnipeg, will host events over the next two years in honour of the Manitoba woman who was instrumental in winning the vote in 1916.

Nellie Letitia McClung, born Nellie Mooney in 1873, was a politician, feminist, author, and social activist. In Winnipeg, she helped organize the Political Equality League and satirized Premier Duff Roblin at a Mock Parliament of Women. Later, as a member of Alberta's Legislature, she fought for many causes including mother's allowances. She was one of the "Famous Five" women who launched and won the "Persons Case" that ruled women were "qualified persons" eligible to sit in the Senate.

In October, the foundation will mark McClung's birthday by staging readings of McClung's written work that references the Mock Parliament. "We are hoping it will be a rip-roaring event," said vice-chair Doris Mae Oulton. The readings will be displayed later on the foundation's website, [www.ournellie.com](http://www.ournellie.com) for easy access by book clubs, school classes, and other groups, she said.

The foundation also will present the first Nellie Awards to worthy Manitobans and is planning a major event in 2016. Partners include the YM/YWCA, the Provincial Council of Women, the provincial government's Status of Women Directorate, and the University Women's Club, which in 1914 introduced McClung to the Mock Parliament.

Oulton said she hopes the events will reinforce the significance of McClung's actions and revive public interest in voting. The number of people voting in Manitoba has generally declined since the mid-1970s. Turnout peaked in 1973 with 78 per cent voting. In the 2011 provincial election, voter turnout was 55.7 per



cent, which was slightly lower than in 2007.

In 2010, the foundation unveiled a monument of McClung on the grounds of the Legislature. Since then, it has celebrated the centennials of the Political Equality League and the Mock Parliament.

### Metis Musician and Entrepreneur Chosen to Lead National Research Centre

Ry Moran likes to say the journey to rightful relations with Canada's natives is "one of a thousand steps." At 35, he already has travelled a good part of that road.

Born in Alberta, Moran has lived in Vancouver, Victoria, Finland, northern British Columbia (with the Haida Gwaii), and — since 2010 — in Winnipeg, near his Metis roots. Over the years, he has been a university student, award-winning musician, aboriginal role model, and entrepreneur. In early February, the married father of two became the director of the National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, based at the University of Manitoba.

His primary job, he says, is to protect and preserve the millions of records relating to Canada's residential schools that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC)

has collected since it officially formed in 2008 following the Prime Minister's apology to former students, their families, and their communities.

"There are so many wonderful ways in which we can work together in better assisting Canadians in understanding what happened, and helping aboriginals reconnect with their own history," Moran said in an interview with the Manitoba Historical Society.

His task is huge. Charged with establishing the Centre, Moran will have to find long-term space on campus, create a Governing Circle, and hire a handful of staff including a director of research and a head archivist — all before opening formally in July 2015, when the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada winds down.

The facility will house more than four million documents, including: More than 6,000 video- and audio-recorded statements from residential school survivors and others affected by the schools; Archival documents and photographs from the Canadian government and churches; Art, artifacts, and other expressions of reconciliation presented at TRC events; and Research collected and prepared by the TRC.

Moran, whose father is Metis and whose mother is of Irish and Scottish ancestry, said he had an "early and compelling desire to preserve Aboriginal culture and to work within the community" to achieve this. While an undergraduate, he spent a year as an exchange student in Finland, which he called a "great academic experience." He obtained a degree in history and political science, then spent summers working at fly fishing lodges in northern B.C. and getting to know the surrounding Haida communities. For 18 months, he lived on Haida Gwaii territory and wrote his debut album, *Groundwater*, which earned him a Canadian Folk Music Award for Best Aboriginal Artist.

Moving back to Victoria, Moran started a business, YellowTilt Produc-

tions, producing audio, video and events with a focus on Aboriginal language preservation and oral history. Paying tribute to his own background, he is fluent in English and French. With Metis Nation B.C., he helped develop LearnMichif.com, a website to preserve Michif language and culture.

"Languages are in a state of crisis; the effects of aggressive assimilation have wreaked a terrible toll," he said. "It's a freaking, crying shame that we're at this particular time in our history."

For the past four years, Moran has worked with the TRC gathering statements from residential school survivors, organizing events, and developing archives — all which involved hundreds of community visits. His new job places him in a lead role of working with Aboriginal communities, survivor organizations, governments, external agencies, and university departments.

Creating a better relationship between non-aboriginals and Aboriginals is the goal, he said. Aboriginals currently have higher rates of incarceration and infant mortality than non-aboriginals, and lower educational outcomes. Success will be achieved only when this gap closes, said Moran. "I'm one small cog in this."

### Winnipeg Historic Houses Commemorated

Winnipeg's Historical Buildings Committee recently gave Grade 3 heritage status to two historic homes in the city's Point Douglas neighbourhood. The Ellis House at 43 Boyle Street, constructed in 1900, was the long-time home of draftsman Charles Ellis (1844-1921), who in the early 1880s took a series of photographs of the early city, including some rare views of Upper Fort Garry. The Scott House at 99 George Avenue, built in 1893, became home to the Margaret Scott Nursing Mission in 1904, and home to nurse and community activist Margaret Scott (1855-1931).



Musician Ry Moran.

E. Janssen

**Centennial Farms**

The following families with farms 100 years or older have been recognized by the MHS since Spring 2013:

Angusville	Peter and Judith Rubeniuk, NW13-21-26 WPM, 1913	Lorette	Roland and Eva Lebrun, E½ of Lot 40, Parish of Lorette, 1889	Waskada	Lyle and Karen Spence, NW33-2-25 WPM, 1912
Arborg	Archie Thompson, SE10-24-1 EPM, 1912		Roland and Eva Lebrun, W½ of Lot 40, Parish of Lorette, 1891	Winkler	William B. and Carol Ann Braun, SW25-3-5 WPM, 1913
	Bob and Beverly Thompson, SW10-24-1 EPM, 1912	MacGregor	Garry and Darlene Leckie, SE35-10-11 WPM, 1911	Additionally, the following families with farms 125 years or older have received recognition:	
Ashville	Randy and Eleanor Zadorozny, S½ of NW36-25-21 WPM, 1911	Miami	Geoffrey and Sarah Stepler, W½ of NE15-5-7 WPM, 1913	Bagot	Curtis and Valerie Pogue, SW20-12-9 WPM, 1888
Carroll	Grant and Connie Moffitt, NE6-8-19 WPM, 1913	Minto	Del and Heather Fraser, NW30-5-20 WPM, 1913	Baldur	Edith (Bolack) and Normand Desrochers, NE32-3-14 WPM, 1881
Deloraine	Ethel Black, NE2-2-22 WPM, 1912	Notre Dame	de Lourdes Normand Roch, NW7-7-8 WPM, 1912	Balmoral	John and Charlotte Peach, NE4-15-2 EPM, 1888
	Larry and Susan Black, NE2-2-22 WPM, 1912	Roland	Constance G. Johnson, NW27-5-4 WPM, 1898	Cypress River	Herbert and June Nordman, NW12-6-13 WPM, 1880
	David and Ashley Black, NE2-2-22 WPM, 1912	Russell	Daryle and Veronica Laycock, NE5-22-28 WPM, 1901		Dianne (Nordman) and Bill Arron, NW12-6-13 WPM, 1880
Elgin	John and Margaret Spratt, NW36-5-21 WPM, 1913		Mark and Kerri Laycock, NW17-22-28 WPM, 1911		Cheryl (Nordman) and Ernest Cheyne, NW12-6-13 WPM, 1880
Fisher Branch	Marva (Rickbeil) and Victor Dmyterko, SE35-25-3 WPM, 1913	Sandy Lake	Julian and Karen Koversky, NE1-18-20 WPM, 1907	Kenton	Ryan Carter and Mya Lowe, SW4-13-23 WPM, 1882
	Bradley and Joanne Vandersteen, SW16-25-1 WPM, 1913	Strathclair	William and Angela Grills, SW3-16-22 WPM, 1912	Killarney	Raymond and Thelma Rollins, SW18-3-16 WPM, 1888
Gilbert Plains	Thomas and Ellen Genik, Larry and Pat Genik, SW34-26-22 WPM, 1897	Steepprock	Stephen and Shawna Cook, SE27-28-10 WPM, 1913	Melita	Arthur and Audrey Gould, NW14-5-26 WPM, 1882
Horod	Leo and Florence Sichewski, NE26-19-21 WPM, 1902	Swan River	John and Lorna Twilley, SE20-36-26 WPM, 1904	Oak Lake	Louis and Sherri Vachon, SW21-8-23 WPM, 1888
	Leo and Florence Sichewski, NW25-19-21 WPM, 1909	Tilston	Manson and Barbara Moir, NW21-5-29 WPM, 1912	Winkler	Dennis and Amanda Peters, S½ of SE27-3-4 WPM, 1888
Lawrence	Nicholas and Sylvia Biletski, S½ of SE34-27-17 WPM, 1904	Waldersee	Ron and Lise Mitchler, W½ of SW28-18-12 WPM, 1913		John and Shanna Trinke, NW21-3-4 WPM, 1888
		Warren	Eleanor and Cameron M. Baldwin, SE and S½ of NE17-14-1 WPM, 1913		



## MHS Multicultural Dinner

This year's multicultural dinner will feature Manitoba's Metis community. The event will take place Tuesday, 29 April at the Manitoba Metis Federation, 150 Henry Ave., just east of Martha St. Doors open at 5 pm, and dinner will be served at 6 pm.

The guest speaker is Shirley Delorme Russell, educator and resource co-ordinator at the Louis Riel Institute. Elsie Bear's Kitchen will serve a traditional Metis meal of bison stew,

wild rice, bannock, and raisin rice pudding. Entertainment will include fiddling and jigging. Visitors may browse the Louis Riel display, historical artifacts, and traditional works of artisans.

The cost per person is \$25 for MHS members and \$27 for non-members. Reservations are required, as no tickets will be sold at the door. To reserve, call the MHS between 1 and 25 April at 204-947-0559. Payment is taken at the time of booking, either by Visa, MasterCard, cheque, or in person at MHS Visitor Services, 61 Carlton St. The office is open Monday to Friday, 11-3:30.

For more information, call Carl James at 204-631-5971.

## Welcome New Members

Heather Allard  
Valerie Beckingham  
Donna Cudmore  
Charles Carman  
Laura Kirkland  
Merle Klyne  
Erin Millions  
Al Myska  
James Naylor  
Raymond Trottier  
Monty Vialoux

## Donations & Contributions

### Thank You!

Cam Asham  
Bissett and Area Historical Society  
Dennis Butcher  
Margaret Carter  
Donna Cudmore  
Harry Duckworth  
Dave Ennis  
William Fraser  
Friesens Corporation  
Jacqueline Friesen  
Dr. Gordon Goldsborough  
M. Mildred Hallama  
Dr. Stuart Huston  
Charles and Lynn Jaworski  
Keith Maitland  
Joseph Martin  
David McDowell  
Alice Moore  
L. O. and Frances Pollard  
James W. Smith  
Shirlee Anne Smith  
Evelyn Sutton  
Dr. T. K. Thorlakson  
Wawanesa Insurance

## MHS Membership Renewal ?

Please check the mailing label on the envelope in which this issue arrived by mail. It shows the month and year that your MHS membership expires. To renew your membership, contact our office at 204-947-0559 or [info@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:info@mhs.mb.ca).

Membership fees can also be paid, quickly and securely, using the new MHS online shop:

[www.mhs.mb.ca/  
shop](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/shop)

## Fort Garry Lectures 2014

1–3 May

The Fort Garry Lectures are a graduate student conference jointly hosted by the Departments of History and the History Graduate Students' Association of the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg. The lectures are open to graduate and senior undergraduate students from any relevant discipline.

This year's lectures will be held at the University of Manitoba's Fort Garry campus. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Sarah Carter from the University of Alberta, and Dr. Delia Gavrus from the University of Winnipeg. Dr. Carter is a professor in the Department of History and Classics, and the Department of Native Studies. Her research focuses on the history of Western Canada and the interconnected lives of Aboriginal people and early non-Aboriginal settlers. Dr. Gavrus, an assistant professor in the Department of History, is a cultural historian specializing in the history of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century medicine and science. She is also interested in Canadian and American history.

Submit questions to [hgsconf@ad.umanitoba.ca](mailto:hgsconf@ad.umanitoba.ca) Follow the conference on Facebook: Fort Garry Lectures 2014 <https://www.facebook.com/FortGarry2014>

## Manitoba Finnish History

The Finnish Club in Winnipeg is preparing to publish a book to be entitled *The Finns of Manitoba* and are asking people for details of Finns they have known living in their area—particularly information on the settlement at Meadow Lake and Rorketon—please email Hazel Luttamus Birt at [hgbirt@shaw.ca](mailto:hgbirt@shaw.ca)

## MHS Past President Commemorated by Canadian Stamp

On 24 October 2013, Minister for Multiculturalism Jason Kenney attended the release of a new stamp commemorating the late Honourable Paul Yuzyk, a former President of the Manitoba Historical Society (1961-1963). The event was hosted by Senator Raynell Andreychuk.

Senator Yuzyk is best remembered as the father of Canadian multiculturalism, since 2009 the Government of Canada's annual award recognizing outstanding contributions to multiculturalism bears his name, and his important legacy continues to be highlighted through initiatives such as this commemorative stamp.

## Heritage Winnipeg Conservation Awards

On 17 February, in recognition of Louis Riel Day and National Heritage Day, Heritage Winnipeg presented its 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Preservation Awards in the former Great West Life Building in downtown Winnipeg.

Seven awards were given to individuals, companies, and groups that have preserved built heritage:

- The **Monarch Life Building** at 333 Broadway Ave. was the focus of a commercial preservation award for the efforts involved in preserving the building's exterior stone façade. Built in 1960, the modernist office tower now known as the Workers Compensation Board building was renovated partially in the 1990s. Last year, its exterior stone façade was temporarily removed as part of larger renovations. Where other commercial buildings from the period, such as the Winnipeg Convention Centre, replace the stone with metal cladding, workers at the Broadway site painstakingly numbered the stone so it could be placed in its original location after the underlying structure was repaired. The Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba, owners of the tower, received the award. So too did 1X1 Architecture Inc., Smith Carter Architects & Engineers Inc., Alpha Masonry Ltd., Crosier Kilgour and Partners Ltd., and Akman Construction Ltd.
- The **Canada Building** at 352 Donald St., built in 1910, won a commercial conservation award for a major renovation completed last year. Architects opened a grand, multi-storey atrium through the centre of the building. Other work included new glazing of the interior, new windows, and restoration of numerous mushroom columns. Owner Brad Ostrom, of Public Capital Inc., and architect Dudley Thompson, of Prairie Architects Inc., received the award.
- The **Scott Block** at 272 Main St., built in 1904, earned a commercial

conservation award for a renovation that revealed the elegant, original exterior stonework. The work entailed primarily removing a 1970s-era metal façade. Owners Mark and Shelley Buleziuk received the award.

- The **Ryan Brothers Building** at 110 James Ave., built in 1910, won a residential conservation award after the interior was converted into housing. Streetside Development Corp. and 701 Architecture received the award. This was one of three Streetside projects to convert former commercial buildings in the downtown core to living space.
- The **First Church of Christ Scientist** at 511 River Ave., built in 1910, and now known as Studio 511, earned a special President's award after its interior was converted into housing. Building owner Stonebridge Development Group and GW Architecture received the award.
- The **Laura Secord School** at 960 Wolseley Ave., which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2013, earned an institutional conservation award for its new roof. The roof preserves the heritage look of the original while incorporating modern technology. Syverson Monteyne Architects, Winnipeg School Division, and the Public Schools Finance Board received the award.
- Finally, **Heritage Saint-Norbert** won a distinguished service award for more than 33 years of advocacy work to preserve heritage buildings in St. Norbert, such as the McDougal House, a provincially designated historic site at the Place St. Norbert Interpretive Centre along Pembina Highway. The award also recognizes the group's work in developing an immensely successful farmers' market in the city's southern suburb.

This year's judges were Neil Einarson (Province of Manitoba), Murray Peterson (City of Winnipeg), architects Jim Kacki and Les Stecheson, and Kyle Lewkowich (Manitoba Education).

## MHS Field Tours

### "Morden, Winkler, and the Manitoba Escarpment"

14 June 2014

Cost: \$95 per person (MHS members), \$105 per person (non-members)

This full-day bus trip, escorted by historical geographer John Lehr, focuses on the history, geography, and geology of a fascinating part of southern Manitoba. It includes a tour of the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in Morden, a tour of Morden's heritage architecture, and a visit to the Winkler Heritage Museum. Participants will learn about the settlement history of the area and visit the ghost town of Nelsonville, once Manitoba's third largest settlement. From the comforts of a washroom-equipped, air-conditioned bus, travellers will take in views of spectacular scenery along the Manitoba Escarpment. A homemade Mennonite lunch in Winkler is included.

The tour will leave from the northwest corner of Grant Park Mall at 8:30 am and return 5:00-5:30 pm.

To reserve your place, contact Creative Retirement Manitoba at 204-949-2565 or [www.crm.mb.ca](http://www.crm.mb.ca).

### "History, Whales, and Wildlife in Churchill, Manitoba"

8–11 August 2014

Cost: \$2,290 plus taxes, based on double occupancy.

This four-day excursion, escorted by historical geographer John Lehr, features these educational activities:

- Three-hour boat tour to see beluga whales and Prince of Wales Fort
- Three-hour cultural/heritage tour of the Churchill area including Cape Merry and the Polar Bear Jail
- Visit to the Eskimo Museum
- Visit to the Northern Studies Centre Research Station and an interpretive trail hike with a bear guide
- Four-hour tundra tour on an Arctic Crawler
- Marine life & beluga presentations



The trip includes:

- Return air from Winnipeg to Churchill
- Three nights' accommodation at the Lazy Bear Lodge, as well as one dinner entrée at the Lazy Bear Café (vegetarian available), and a hearty breakfast after each night's stay
- Shuttle to and from the airport upon arrival/departure, as well as luggage handling and transfers for Lazy Bear Lodge tours
- Naturalist tour guide/driver

Optional kayaking is \$135 plus taxes, per person.

Deposit of \$800 per person is due 21 February. Travellers who deposit before 21 February will receive an early booking bonus of \$100 per person. Final payment is due 31 May.

Single supplements are available upon request. Cancellation insurance is highly recommended.

To reserve your spot, call Aruna Hall at Around the World in 80 Ways 204-987-2845 or email [aruna@80ways.com](mailto:aruna@80ways.com)

### Music Historian Rocks MHS Dinner

Most Winnipeggers can name a few Manitoba born and bred music stars: The Guess Who, Neil Young, Bachman-Turner Overdrive, Fred Penner, maybe even classical violinist James Ehnes.

But how many know Sesame Street's Oscar the Grouch was named for Winnipeg folk musician Oscar Brand? Or that hundreds of artists including The Monkees recorded songs written by North End singer Bob Nolan?

Rock historian, educator, and writer John Einarson presented these tidbits in a fascinating lecture at the Manitoba Historical Society's John A. Macdonald Dinner in March. Calling Winnipeg the "Ground Zero" of rock music, Einarson identified dozens of artists over the last 70 years—from folk singers to hip hop stars, songwriters, and classical musicians—

who found international fame. The names include:

- Crash Test Dummies, a rock group from Winnipeg popular in the '90s that sold 7.5 million records and appeared on the Letterman Show three times
- Loreena McKennitt, folk singer from Morden who has sold more than 15 million records worldwide
- Steve Bell, the most successful Christian singer in Canada
- Eagle & Hawk, a duo who blend traditional aboriginal and rock music and are huge in Europe
- Daniel Lavoie, one of the most revered singer/songwriters in Quebec who grew up in Dunrae and attended school in St. Boniface
- Donna Grescoe, a classical violinist in the '50s who appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show
- Deanna Durbin, who began as a singer and, later, was one of the highest paid actresses in Hollywood
- Lucille Starr, a popular franco-phone singer who was also the voice of Pearl in the Beverley Hillbillies
- Fresh I.E., a Grammy-nominated rap star raised in the Shaughnessy Park neighbourhood

Einarson claims 12 per cent of Canada's musicians originated or received their start in Manitoba, though the province accounts for only two to three per cent of the overall population. He is one of them. In 1970, Einarson opened for Led Zeppelin at the Winnipeg Stadium. He also played guitar onstage with Neil Young, Randy Bachman, and Burton Cummings. For 22 years, he organized and performed at St. John's Ravenscourt School's annual rock show. He's also written books, liner notes for albums, and TV and radio documentaries. Einarson has taught a university course on rock music history, hosted radio programs, and led tours to international music venues.

The provincial government named 2014 the "Year of Music," coinciding



E. Janssen

Rock music historian John Einarson makes a point during his presentation at the MHS' 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner on 15 March.

with the Juno Awards for Canadian music presented in Winnipeg recently.

"There's a tremendous heritage here," Einarson said. For the last decade—and particularly since 2010, when he curated a music exhibit at the Manitoba Museum—he has been lobbying for a music museum in Winnipeg. The facility would offer education and outreach programs, workshops, and merchandise, along with regularly changing exhibits. Such an undertaking requires both public and private money—"deep pockets," Einarson acknowledged.

Last fall, Einarson led a tour to the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio, which has seven floors and 150,000 square feet filled with memorabilia, artifacts, and video presentations. But only in Winnipeg could one learn the "Rockola" was a popular jukebox manufactured by David Rockola from Virden, and that one of the biggest guitar-strap makers in the world is Levy's Leathers, which occupies an unassuming building on Disraeli Freeway.

For more information on the proposed Manitoba Music Museum, see the website [www.manitobamusicmuseum.com](http://www.manitobamusicmuseum.com) or e-mail [curator@manitobamusicmuseum.com](mailto:curator@manitobamusicmuseum.com).

# The Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

I want to renew or join\* the MHS as a:

- Regular Member (\$45)     Youth/Student Member (\$25)
- Family Member (\$50)     Nonprofit Institutional Member (\$55)

I want to support the MHS with the following donation:

- \$50     \$75     \$100     \$200     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$10.*

Please use my contribution:

- Where the need is greatest     Museums
- Awards     Programming
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

Manitoba Historical Society  
 61 Carlton Street  
 Winnipeg, MB R3C 1N7  
 Telephone: 204-947-0559  
 Email: info@mhs.mb.ca

\* See our web site ([www.mhs.mb.ca](http://www.mhs.mb.ca)) for annual membership rates in the USA and other countries

Make cheques payable to “Manitoba Historical Society” or pay by:

- Visa     MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry \_\_\_\_\_

Validation code (back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Charitable Tax Registration BN 12281 4601 RR0001.*



## Calendar of MHS Events

For updates and more information, see [www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml)

- 29 April**    Multicultural Dinner featuring Metis community, Manitoba Metis Federation, 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg. Dinner at 6 pm, \$25/person (MHS members) or \$27 (non-members). Call MHS at 204-947-0559, 1–25 April to reserve.
- 7 June**    MHS Annual General Meeting at Dalnavert Visitors’ Centre.
- 27 September**    Church stained-glass window tour. Watch for details on the MHS website.

### Important Note

The MHS Visitors’ Centre is presently operating with reduced staff, so we may not be able to respond to phone calls immediately. Your calls are important and will be returned as quickly as possible. Devoted, friendly volunteers will greet you when you visit our gift shop.

The MHS office is open to the public Wednesday to Fridays, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Appointments should be arranged in advance of visits.

Thanks for your understanding and patience.

MHS *Gazette*, Vol. 45, No. 4, 2014  
ISSN 1715-8567

*MHS Gazette* is the newsletter of the Manitoba Historical Society, © 2014. Its contents may be copied so long as the source is acknowledged. It is published three times a year and submissions are welcome. Copy deadlines are: 1 January, 1 May, and 1 September.

Effective 1 July 2013, MHS membership fees are: Individual \$45, Family \$50, Youth/Student \$25, Non-profit Institution \$55, and Corporations \$275. Rates to USA and other countries are slightly higher. See the MHS website for details.

### Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

[www.mhs.mb.ca](http://www.mhs.mb.ca)

President: James Kostuchuk  
 Chief Administrative Officer: Jacqueline Friesen  
 MHS *Gazette* Editor: Eva Janssen, [newsletter@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:newsletter@mhs.mb.ca)  
 MHS *Gazette* Layout: Salix Consulting

*Office & Dalnavert*    61 Carlton Street  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1N7  
 Office: 204-947-0559, [info@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:info@mhs.mb.ca)  
 Dalnavert: 204-943-2835, [dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca)

*Ross House*    140 Meade Street N, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 204-943-3958, [rosshouse@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:rosshouse@mhs.mb.ca)