Greetings to the Clans and Members,

I am really pleased with the excitement around the first Dinner/Auction and the busy bees who are working on it. Thank you all.

We have a date for the second Dinner/Auction October 28th, (thanks to Bill Sutherland) so the challenge is out to the Central and Southern Clan Societies. Let’s see how well we do with the Fall Dinner Auction. It will be held in the Church Hall of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church on School St. Dartmouth, (top of hill when you come across the MacDonald Bridge, up Nantucket, across Victoria Road at the lights, and you’re on School Street. It is essential that the Federation becomes an active Cultural front for the Scots in this Province. We must raise funds every year to maintain our monies when we reach our goal.

I look forward to seeing everyone once again at the General Meeting at the Nova Scotia Community College in Stellarton on April 29th. The Committee Chairman for the International Gathering will have a lot to report on this venture. We are hoping that many Clans will host some type of event that visitors will be able to attend as well as hold their own gathering in 2007. We need to know what is being planned so we can ensure events are listed in the Tourism publications, so please send back the information. We must submit all events to the Department of Tourism by September 2006. If your Clan is too small to do something alone, invite another Clan to join with you to put on a joint venture. It is a fun way to get to know other Clan’s people.

Continued page 2
President’s message continued…

In 2007 the Nova Scotia Tattoo will begin on the Canada Day week end June 30-July 1st and run through to July 7th, with the Halifax Highland Games and Scottish Festival on Saturday, July 7th. The Tall Ships will also be in Halifax, on July 14th, so keep this in mind when inviting people to our province. Be sure to be at the meeting to get all the news!

Once again, I thank all the people who are working so hard for the Federation. May organizer Fiona MacLean and her group in the North have a most successful event.

Scots Wha Hae!

Jean
Jean MacKaracher Watson

FEDERATION OF SCOTTISH CLANS IN NOVA SCOTIA SPRING MEETING 2006
1:30 p.m. SATURDAY APRIL 29TH

Nova Scotia Community College Pictou Campus
39 Acadia Ave.
PO Box 820
Stellarton, Nova Scotia
Presentation:
2007 IGC Festival

Items for the Agenda must be forwarded to Jean Watson on or before April 22nd 2006.
jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

FALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Location: Truro  Date: Saturday, November 4th
To be held at the F.A. Tucker Company, North River Road (map will be provided)

Clans are urged to have representatives attend the FSCNS meetings – let your voice be heard.

Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia
Officers:
President: Jean Watson 864-1994
Past-President: Bill Sutherland 435-2660
1st Vice-President: Tom Wallace 252-2653
2nd Vice-President: Helen MacRae 422-7119
Treasurer: Tom Brown 865-9665
Secretary: Bill Fisher 835-2506

Membership:
Tom Brown, Treasurer
140 Zinck Avenue Lower. Sackville, N.S. B4C 1W3

Membership Dues: (Sept 1 – Aug 31 year end)
Individual: $15.00  Clan $30.00
Includes newsletter 3x year to President & Clan Rep
Members may order newsletter direct @ $6.00

Directors:
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Barry MacDonald 435-4223
Sheila MacDonald 435-4223
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Web Master
Tom Wallace
Web Site:
http://scotsns.chebucto.org

THE BROADSWORD is published 3 times a year: November, March & June
Submission deadlines: October 31, February 28, May 31
**2006 – 2007 2008 HIGHLAND GAMES**

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<td>Summerside Highland Games</td>
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<td>June 24-25</td>
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<td>Eldon Highland Games</td>
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<td>Maxville Highland Games</td>
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<td>Woodleigh Games</td>
<td>Woodleigh PE</td>
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**Attention all members and event organizers:** The Spring/Summer issue 15 will post all 2006 event dates as received to **May 30th**. Forward event information to hmacrae@ns.sympatico.ca

Members are encouraged to submit event dates for publication in both The Broadsword and on the Federation web site. Forward dates description, and contact information to the Editor and Web Master Tom Wallace (via web site). Visit www.scotsns.chebucto.org Click on link to “Events”

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ITT BEGAN IN NOVA SCOTIA 20 YEARS AGO, on March 9, 1986 and, since 1987, Tartan Day has been embraced by peoples of Scottish descent worldwide. Countries that have officially legislated a day of recognition for the contribution of citizens with Scottish heritage include Canada, Scotland, Australia, France, and the United States.

Nova Scotia’s own Jean Watson has been dubbed the “Mother of Tartan Day”. Since 1986, her unselfish efforts resulted in countrywide, legislated recognition of the role Scottish immigrants and their descendants played in the development of our country. Jean’s passion for Canadians of Scottish descent to celebrate the contribution of their forebears kindled a fire that has raced far beyond our own borders. Tartan Day celebrations (proclamations, parades, ceilidhs) take place in many countries of the world. In 2004 Jean was recipient of the Flora MacDonald Award by the Scottish Heritage Centre and St. Andrew’s College, North Carolina, USA. One-year earlier the headline of “The Scotland Banner”, proclaimed Jean to be, “Mother of Tartan Day”.

Nova Scotia Events

Guysborough County – Giant’s Lake Parish Church, Sunday April 8th, 7 P.M.
Host: Argyle Ceilidh Society. Ceilidh at the home of Anne Restoule following.
Antigonish Heritage Museum – Tartan Display throughout April.

Halifax, Nova Scotia – The Nova Scotia Legislature foyer is the site of Halifax’s Tartan Day celebration Thursday, April 6th. Beginning with the reading of the Proclamation at 11:30 a.m., Scottish entertainment followed by a light buffet luncheon, including haggis, will be served. All are invited to attend. (Closure: 1:00 p.m.)
Sponsored by The Scots – The North British Society

Second Annual Clan Stewart/Stuart Tartan Day Dinner – April 7th 7:00 p.m
St. Margaret of Scotland Church – Robie Street Halifax

Pictou, Nova Scotia: Thursday April 6th, at the Hector Exhibit Centre, 7:00 p.m.
A traditional Celtic Jam is planned to celebrate Tartan Day, in honour of our Scottish Heritage. Sponsored by The Saint Andrews Society of Pictou County, Pictou County Genealogy & Heritage Society, and Mrs. MacGregor’s Tearoom.
www.townofpictou.com (The Ship Hector, launched in 2000, is a replica of the ship noted for bringing many Scottish immigrants to Nova Scotia’s shores.
http://www.townofpictou.com/index2.html)
The Federation requests that, if possible, all clans have a **Henchman’s Flag** made for use during parades and Kirking of the Tartans. Help make 2007 festivities come alive with colour... the colour of your tartan! Imagine Henchman flags held aloft entering a church for a Kirking and the additional element of fanfare provided by their presence. FSCNS will procure a stand to be placed at the front to hold the various flags. Imagine the presence tartans bring to parades. Here are the specs:

**Materials Needed:** Tartan 39 inches x 46, dowling, tacks

- Tartan size (finished) 36 x 45 inches
- 2.5 inches material to wrap about the dowling
- Varnish 1 inch doweling (to prevent staining from handling moisture)
- Knob (wooden top for doweling)
- Tartan can be tacked to prevent slippage

1941 – Dr. Peter Marshall – Ministering to the United States Senate, introduced the American version of the Kirking in Washington, D.C. The site links below provide pictorial review of how others display tartans during Kirkings and other special occasions:

- St. Andrews Church – Ben Lomand California
  [http://www.execulink.com/~knoxxirk/Kirking2.htm](http://www.execulink.com/~knoxxirk/Kirking2.htm)

- Texas – The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration
  [http://www.transfiguration.net/photo_album/kirking.php](http://www.transfiguration.net/photo_album/kirking.php) (top row, 2nd pic shows holding stand)

And... just what might all this reminiscing and “nostalgia” causing us to create “new” traditions to honour our past lead to? For an interesting synopsis of how “the crofters” have evolved since “the clearances” see, “The Cultural Impact of the Highland Clearances”, written by Ross Noble, Chairman of the Scottish Country Life Museums Trust:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/state/nations/scotland_clearances_06.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/state/nations/scotland_clearances_06.shtml)
The Battle of Culloden 16th April 1746
Commemoration 2006

From “Clan Chattan”, page 350-351, selected excerpts reprinted with consent.

The date 16th April 1746 is firmly etched on the mind of every true Highlander as the day on which the fateful battle was fought on Culloden Moor. It brought an end to the Jacobite movement, although not sentiment, and led to the demise of the centuries-old clan system. A memorial service has been held at Culloden, Scotland, since 1923, at which prayers are said in Gaelic, an address is given by the president of Clan Chattan Society, and an appropriate pibroch played. The observance takes place before the Memorial Cairn, erected by Duncan Forbes, 10th Laird of Culloden, in 1881, now in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.

Across the Atlantic, in Nova Scotia, a smaller replica of the Culloden Cairn, containing actual stones from the battlefield, was erected in 1938. It was sited in the pioneer cemetery near the cliffs at Knoydart, Pictou County, in memory of three Highland emigrants – Angus and Hugh Macdonald and John Macpherson – who had fought at Culloden and subsequently emigrated to Nova Scotia.

Attend the memorial service April 22, 2006. Directions on line at [http://www.culloden.ca](http://www.culloden.ca)
Map on site [http://www.culloden.ca/location.html](http://www.culloden.ca/location.html)
Inquiries: [info@culloden.ca](mailto:info@culloden.ca)

The inscription on the memorial plaque on this (NS) cairn, with a quotation from Alexander Macdonald, the outstanding Gaelic poet of the 18th century who fought at Culloden, reads:

TO THE MEMORY OF ANGUS MACDONALD, HUGH MACDONALD, JOHN MACPHERSON. SOLDIERS OF PRINCE CHARLIE, THEY FOUGHT FOR SCOTLAND IN THE CLAN RANALD REGIMENT AT THE BATTLE OF CULLODEN IN 1746. BORN IN MOIDART SCOTLAND 1712-1716 CAME TO MOIDART NOVA SCOTIA 1790-91. BURIED HERE 1802-10. “LET THEM TEAR OUR BLEEDING BOSOMS LET THEM DRAIN OUR DEAREST VEINS IN OUR HEARTS IS CHARLIE CHARLIE WHILE A DROP OF BLOOD REMAINS” ALASTAIR MACMHAIGHISTEAR ALASTAIR”

Below, L – R: Dr. John Hamilton, Mr. & Mrs. Andy Tompson, Clan Chattan representative Jerry MacGillivray, Audrey and George MacGillivray, Ian MacLean.

Knoydart, Nova Scotia.
Cairn inscription
The "Fiery Cross" is on the move as we excitedly plan the first ever "Dinner Auction". The fund raising drive for the Federation is well underway with very few tickets left for the April 29th Dinner/Auction as we go to press. (Contact for tickets Fiona MacLean 902-863-2233).

Persons attending the April 29th Federation Spring General Meeting will be able to leave for the Eureka Fire Hall right away after the meeting. View the auction items, have dinner, listen to entertainer, Burns MacDonald, and watch the Highland Dancers. Perhaps your ticket numbers will be called out as winners on auction items. Have fun doing a little live competitive bidding on the last three items.

“Special item” – Weekend getaway!

Sincere thanks to the Northern Clans for their strong involvement and participation, and to Fiona MacLean, who has continued working so hard while waiting to enter hospital, to ensure that the dinner will be a successful event.

We also want to thank the Clans that gave cash donations to the rebuilding of the Federation funds. Mrs. Margaret MacLennan, wife of Calvin (Cape Breton), who was such a supporter of the Federation when alive, also gave an individual donation.

Thank you one and all – let’s look toward a great evening!

St. Frances Xavier University
Gaelic Immersion Days

April 27 – April 30, 2006
Thigibh ann!

Information
Thelma Snyder tsnyster@sfx.ca

University web site
http://www.sfx.ca/academic/celtic-studies/
(Click on “News” for course costs, accommodations, and registration.)
Clan MacGillivray

Travelers

FSCNS Director and President of the Clan MacGillivray Society of Canada, Jerry MacGillivray of Antigonish, and his brother, Fr. Hugh MacGillivray traveled to Alberta to attend the Calgary Highland Games. While attending the largest Games west of Ontario, Canadian MacGillivrays successfully recruited kin to the Society. The US commissioner hails from Pictou Nova Scotia, Jerry says.

“The History of Clan MacGillivray”, published in 1973, has been updated by Robert MacGillivray, one of two 1973 co-publishers. He includes information about various branches of the clan, “showing their common origin, how they fared in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and how and why they left their homeland.” [Excerpt: Clan MacGillivray Fall Newsletter] Cost: $45.00 CAD

Canadian distributor: George A. MacGillivray E-mail: geogema@norton.nbc.ca

Clan Gunn

Much to Celebrate

International Gathering Clan Gunn Society – July 22 – 30
Various locations in Orkney and Caithness
Program details available on the US site: www.clangunn.us

Nova Scotia Clan Gunn Society Annual Gathering – Sunday, August 20th
Stonehame Lodge and Chalets on Fitzpatrick Mountain, Scotsburn
Accommodations on site or field tenting, camping, motorhome (no hookup)
www.stonehamechalets.com

An interesting use of technology was reported in the society’s newsletter, Gunnsmoke: A member of the Texas Branch of the Clan Gunn Society of North America invited Canadian Gunns to add their presence to a “Frappr” or “Google Map” of the world. Frappr tags indicate the presence of “Gunns”.
Visit: http://www.frappr.com/clangunnsociety/map

The Clan MacRae Society of Canada

April 21 - 22 2006 in Halifax Nova Scotia
Annual General Meeting

Friday, April 21st
5:00 – 7:00 P.M. Reception and Dinner Lord Nelson Hotel – Clan MacRae Suite
8:00 P.M. The Barra MacNeils on stage at The Rebecca Cohn Art Centre

Saturday, April 22
10:30 AGM – Pier 21 – Gateway to Canada 1055 Marginal Road
1:00 - Westin Hotel Luncheon
2:30 – Pier 21 Tour http://www.pier21.ca/
(Pier 21 web site, click on “contact us” and click on “Map-pier 21”)
Alternate: Go to http://www.mapquest.com/ for driving directions

Clan site: http://clanmacrae.org/
Inquiries: admin@clanmacrae.org
DETAILS & INQUIRIES
Clan Donald newsletter gives us the story of the kilt pin –

Before the reign of Queen Victoria, the Scottish kilt was worn without the pin now used to secure the fold over on the right hand side. As a result there were many embarrassing moments especially if one wore the kilt in a high wind! The truth was that nothing in the nature of undergarments was worn with the kilt.

One day, Queen Victoria arrived on a visit to Balmoral Castle and reviewed the Gordon Highlanders. A stiff wind was blowing and one young soldier at rigid attention was unable to control the flapping of his kilt and to avoid exposure on this important occasion. The Queen noticed his embarrassment and walked over to him. She removed a pin from her own dress and, leaning over, pinned the overlap of his kilt. And that – believe it or not – is the origin of the kilt pin, without which no kilted Scot would be properly dressed today.

Clan Maclean

A joint project has been undertaken in conjunction with the clan Maclean Heritage Trust and the New Brunswick Scottish cultural Association to recognize the Maclean Highlanders/Kilties. A memorial plaque will be erected in, or on, the grounds of the Lieutenant governor’s Residence in Fredericton at a future date.

Memorial

The Banner, Clan Maclean Atlantic (Canada)’s newsletter reports the new website to be up and running. Visit: www.clanmacleanatlantic.org

Clan Farquharson

The Cairngorm Echo announces the launch of their web site: www.clanfarquharsoncanada.ca

“The Pipes and Drums of Clan Farquharson was formed in 1981 and does a commendable job keeping Clan Farquharson before the public.”

Excerpt: Web entry to the Pipes and Drums of Clan Farquharson pages.

“Clan Farquharson, A History’ continues to enjoy excellent reviews. Written by Dr. Geoffrey Farquharson. Published by Tempus Publishing Ltd. ISBN: 075224 33229

Clan Ramsay

Clan Ramsay 2006 Annual General Meeting
Saturday May 6  11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Atlantic super store   745 Sackville Drive   Lower Sackville N.S.

Light lunch on site $5.00
*The Ramsay Newsletter will be published in early April
Information: Elsie Turner or David Bradshaw
Clan Sutherland

Pictou Academy student Cathy Hilchey was the 2005 winner of the 2005 J.R.H.(Harry) Sutherland Annual Essay Contest. Cathy wrote of the Battle of Culloden, loss of the Scottish clan system and emigration of Scots to the shores of Nova Scotia, to settle in what is now Pictou County, in particular the first 3: Hugh Macdonald, Angus Macdonald and John MacPherson.

“The battle of Culloden has greatly shaped Pictou county’s way of life,” writes Cathy, noting the memorial services held annually at the Cairn to be a tribute to those whose life and times so impacted on our own. Congratulations, Cathy!

Clan Campbell

25th Anniversary Celebrated – Senator John Buchanan Honoured

The Clan Campbell Society of Nova Scotia celebrated 25 years (1980 – 2005) throughout 2005. For 12 years Clan Campbell sponsored the Bedford Indoor Meet. It was the opening event in the yearly schedule of Piping and Drumming competitions sanctioned by the Nova Scotia Pipers and Pipe Band Association and notable as being the first ever to be sponsored by a Clan Society. Since 1997, the Amateur Piper of the Day at the Halifax Highland Games is presented with the John R. Campbell Memorial Trophy, named in memory of a past president.

In October, a gathering was held in Fall River attended by Senator John Buchanan and his family, to honour the Senator, whose mother was a Campbell and whose portrait will be placed in the Campbell Hall of Honour, at Inverary Inn, in Cape Breton.
GREETINGS EVERYONE: As you know we are working hard to pull the 2007 International Gathering’s bow into the wind and have a wonderful success once again, growing even more than the 2003 Gathering!

The Mayor’s reception has been booked and we will require all the names and addresses for those attending from your various Societies. We welcome the Colchester Scottish Society and the St. Andrew’s Society of Pictou Co. as new members and we look forward to their representatives at the Mayor’s Reception along with Representatives from The Scots, North British Society.

Events that Clans and/or other organizations are hosting in 2007 must be forwarded to FSCNS by September 2006 (latest!) to be posted in the Department of Tourism 2007 publications under the FSCNS umbrella. Make your plans now and – though details might require development – send in your dates. The notice below and on the page following are posted on the website and can be downloaded.

Air do shlainte (to your good health)

Jean Watson, President, Federation of Scottish Clans In Nova Scotia jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

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CLAN 2007 EVENTS

The 2007 International Gathering Of The Clans is in the planning. We again need all the information regarding events you're planning as we have to give all the information to the Dept. of Tourism by September 2006 in a package deal, to make sure it goes in the Doers and Dreamers Guide and other Nova Scotia Guide Books. We need to receive them well before September. We understand that some of you list your own events, however to be put under the “International Gathering Listings” we would like you to also list with us. Thank you kindly and let’s make it a good one! Please return to the President, Jean Watson, 485 Cobequid Road, Lr. Sackville, N.S. B4C 3Y7 (OR) E-mail to jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

Clan: ___________________________ Contact: ___________________________

E-mail: ___________________________

EVENT (S):

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________
Feb. 22, 2006
Chairman: Mel Baird, International Gathering 2007
E-mail: adammelb@yahoo.com

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS 2007
Halifax Mayor’s Reception

ATTENTION ALL CLANS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES:

Please notify the Federation of Scottish Clans (485 Cobequid Road, Lower Sackville, N. S. B4C 3Y7) if your Clan Chief, a representative of the Chief, visiting Dignitaries or your President will be attending the Mayor’s Reception, prior to the Tattoo on July 6th, 2007. **All names must be listed with the Federation by March 30, 2007.** You will be piped to the Tattoo as Col. Ian Fraser has set this night as “Clans Night at the Tattoo”.

**LIST NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL** (required for invitations)

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The Halifax Highland Games and Scottish Festival will take place on Saturday, July 8th on the Garrison Grounds, Citadel Hill (corner of Sackville Street and Bell Road) from 8 am until 8 pm.

This popular event is a day long celebration of Scottish culture, athletics and music. Featured during the eye and ear-filling games will be competitions in piping and drumming, Highland dancing and the popular Heavyweight events with the Old Scotia team. In addition, there will be lots of entertainment with Nelson Ferguson and Celtic Fair overseeing a Main Stage afternoon of fiddle playing, Gaelic song, Scottish country dancing and popular Celtic music. A semi-circle of tents will grace the perimeter of the field, where Clans will proudly display their tartans, crests, genealogy information and small Scottish wares. The Parade of the Clans with flying tartan banners will be featured at noon.

Highlights of the day will be a performance by the historic precision drill team of the 78th Highlanders from the Citadel and the massed pipe bands at noon and 5. There will also be a surprise feature from the Citadel’s “Changing of the Guard”, being celebrated during 2006. Lots of vendors on the field will keep everyone well fed and provide an opportunity to shop for “things Scottish”. The ever-popular Beer Tent will open at 10 am and close around 8 pm, with entertainment by “Blueberry Grunt”, starting at 5.

Next day, July 9th, at 11 am, the Kirkin’o’the Tartans will take place at St. Matthews Church on Barrington Street, in association with the Federation of Scottish Clans. For those who enjoy the Scottish connection with golf, there will be a kilted golf tournament on Monday, July 10th to round out a Celtic weekend. There’s something for everyone of any age, whether Scot or not, at the Halifax Highland Games! Check us out on our website at www.halifaxhighlandgames.com.
An Invitation is extended to all the Nova Scotia Scottish Clans to join us in 2006 as we celebrate our 25\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary of the games \textbf{July 28 – 30\textsuperscript{th}}

[http://www.highlandgames.ca/](http://www.highlandgames.ca/)

Donald & Ardean MacKinnon
Clans/Association Coordinators
NBHGA SF 2006 268 Sewell Street Fredericton, NB E3A 3G6
Phone: 506.472.2871 Email: damackam@nbnet.nb.ca

**Halifax Cultural Plan – Update on line**
[www.halifax.ca/culturalplan](http://www.halifax.ca/culturalplan)

In February 2005, the Cultural Advisory Committee for HRM began an initiative to guide HRM’s cultural development over the next several years. There are a number of ways to participate. Submissions are still being sought and a variety of offerings will be posted on their web site.

On February 28\textsuperscript{th}, the committee submitted a report along with recommendations. A second presentation in March will address questions raised in February’s discussion – in effect, become the final draft plan. Individual input is still wanted. Review February and March reports and add your thoughts, ideas, and feedback.

Contact the committee: 490-6519
Email: parsons@halifax.ca

**Bursaries for Scottish Language and Arts Studies**

Several clan newsletters report bursaries and other financial support is available to students. Funds are also offered through a number of educational institutions.

Bursary criteria and application contact information will be published in \textit{The Broadsword}, at no cost. Submit information to the Editor, hmacrae@ns.sympatico.ca, or any FSCNS Executive member.
In March 2006, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Royal Engineers marched from Royal Artillery Park down Sackville Street and onto a waiting troopship. As the band played “Will Ye No Come Back Again”, the last British garrison departed, bringing over a century and a half of military presence in North America to a close. Their place was taken up by the newly expanded Canadian army whose ranks contained many British soldiers who elected to make Canada their new home.

In recognition of that occasion and all that it signifies, the Changing of the Guard Society (COGS), the Halifax Citadel Regimental Association (HCRA), Parks Canada, and a host of partner agencies will mark the 100th anniversary of the final departure with a major commemorative effort culminating in a gathering of British and Canadian military re-enactment units during the week of July 18-23, 2006 in downtown Halifax with the focal point being the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site of Canada (NHSC).

Halifax will be transformed into a living history site with military re-enactment units from across North America and the United Kingdom. They will combine to present an impressive panorama of military heritage and pageantry. It will be an exciting period of education, entertainment and ceremonial activity with 1000 re-enactors and military personnel participating. The Changing of the Guard has been declared a top 100 and must see event for 2006 by the American Bus Association.
The Return of the Summit of Mount Roineabhal

The next 2 pages offers a continuation of the Mount Roineabhal Sage – with permission. Read the full account in Alastair MacIntosh’s book, Soil and Soul, and review the pictorial account on his web site http://www.alastairmcintosh.com/general/quarry/ending.htm (with links to book publisher information).

The Hector Heritage Quay is a moving testimony to the post-Culloden political oppression back home that contributed to early Scottish settlers coming to Nova Scotia. The Quay comprises a replica of the Hector and a remarkable interpretation centre. Several people work there, and the final stage of the official tour is a display case that contains the mountain top and a peat that was given to Stone Eagle by John Norman MacDonald of 16 Lingerabay on Harris. Beneath these is a wooden box containing a huge eagle carved in Scottish sandstone, the gift of Colin MacLeod of Glasgow’s **GalGael Trust**. This picture shows my dear friend Ishbel Munro and her daughter, Tausha, with me viewing Colin's eagle stone.

Whereas some of the stories related to the superquarry have hit the headlines, there has been a massive amount of wonderful, effective and heartfelt input from a great diversity of unsung or little-sung heroes. Here is not the place to attempt the probably impossible task of naming them all - but I will give just one example because it surrounds the story of Colin’s eagle. The stone eagle was originally carved at the Pollok Free State motorway protest, and one of the young men who enjoyed going there was Stevie Boyle (pictured left with the eagle), who otherwise lived in a nearby housing scheme. Stevie was a DJ, and it was thanks to his fundraising by putting on a special event that the money was raised for shipping the stone to Nova Scotia. On receiving it, Stone Eagle passed it over to the Mi’Kmaq Nation because he felt it was too much to accept as a personal gift. This is how it comes to be resting in the Hector Heritage Quay on loan from the Mi’Kmaq. Sulian wrote at the time, "The stone eagle is growing real fast. It is now so big that Colin and I are lost in its greatness. And I believe this is the way it should be. I see great good coming from it by way of helping our peoples heal from their first meeting.”

The cruel reality is that native peoples on both sides of the great Atlantic that have been suffering the trauma of indigenous cultures being forcibly stripped of their context of meaning in custom and the land.

Stevie's life as a red-haired native Glasgow Rastafarian (Jah!) born in 1966 is typical of this. In 2003 he was found dead in his flat. During that 18 month period the GalGael Trust lost 5 of its members, mostly well before their time. A website to Stevie's memory has been established by his friends at [www.stevieboyle.com](http://www.stevieboyle.com). I personally did not know Stevie, but the GalGael Trust (of which I am Treasurer) works to address the underlying causes of poverty and its many symptoms by assisting cultural reconnection through learning crafts and industries including boatbuilding, weaving, basketwork, metalwork, blacksmithing, stone-carving, wood-carving, leatherwork and silversmithing.

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Photos compliments of Alastair McIntosh.com

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A key part of this is learning to respect both our own and other indigenous cultures. It was Stevie's vision of what was important and his generosity that made it physically possible for Colin's stone eagle to fly over to North America. As a result of its cornerstone position in the Hector Heritage tour, it is indeed the case that great good and healing comes from it as one of the many spin-offs from the Mount Roineabhal superquarry saga.

Ishbel (right) had arranged for the summit rock to be given back to the Mi'Kmaq by the white folks of Pictou Town on June 4th 2005, and the Mi'Kmaq in turn would give it back to me. At this ceremony the "white" Scots-descended community were represented by Deputy-Mayor Ken Johnston, and the Mi'Kmaq First Nation from Pictou Landing Reservation were represented by Marsha Boyles. Two young men, Leo Marshall (left) and Levi Herney (centre), drummed and performed the Mi'Kmaq Honour Song. Outside, a piper played Scottish airs. Local TV and the local paper both gave good coverage - the front page story in the Evening News of 6 June, being: A mountain of thanks: Mi'Kmaq thanked for help in saving Scottish mountain.

The Hector Quay people were a bit sad about losing their mountain top. It had come to be an important part of their story, recognising as it does the on-going nature of Mi'Kmaq-Scots relationship and the possibility of establishing common cause between diverse peoples. I therefore presented the Deputy Mayor with a replacement rock from Mount Roineabhal, taken for the purpose by John MacAulay, an indigenous tradition bearer, author, boatbuilder and worker with stone from Harris.

During the ceremonial speeches, the summit rock of Roineabhal had been seated on a velvet-covered plinth (right- on table by window). Here Deputy Mayor Ken Johnston formally returns it to Marsha Boyles as the Mi'Kmaq representative on behalf of Chief Anne of Pictou Landing. Chief Anne was able briefly to join us and to be formally thanked later on when evening fell.

Various gifts were exchanged, Marsha here receiving a Celtic crest.

Her little girl on the left had a particularly deep fascination with the rock. She would stare at it for ages and come absolutely alive. Her name, Kitpou, translates as "eagle," and in many ways, as I show in my book, the eagle has been the totem spirit of this whole campaign. I gave the eagle girl a piece of the red Harris Tweed cloth that I had brought with me to wrap the replacement rock with. We would use it again to carry the summit rock home. She was thrilled.

In the next issue of The Broadsword, we continue with the Mount Roineabhal Saga with ceremonial sweat being performed to purify the rock and Alastair before it was returned to him.
"The Celtic Curse" a disease called Hemochromatosis which causes iron overload, or iron storage in the body. This can cause cirrhosis of the liver. For information go to: [http://www.americanhs.org/celtic.htm](http://www.americanhs.org/celtic.htm)

Researchers in Scotland have discovered that people with a “Celtic gene” have a higher incidence of [Multiple Sclerosis](http://www.ms-society.ie/msnews/issue58/19celticgene.htm). People of Celtic origins were 24% more likely to have the disease. For info [http://www.ms-society.ie/msnews/issue58/19celticgene.htm](http://www.ms-society.ie/msnews/issue58/19celticgene.htm)

**Dupuytren Disease**, (claw hand) a condition caused by progressive bilateral contractures of the palmar fascia (connective tissue in the palm of the hand). A doctors study of this disease is found at: [http://www.tain.net.au/tain36/cov36.htm](http://www.tain.net.au/tain36/cov36.htm)

‘X-factor’ causes Scots to have higher [heart disease](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com) rates, say scientists. Unknown factors not linked to diet, smoking or poverty may make Scots people more prone to heart disease. Information found at: [http://www.medicalnewstoday.com](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com)

Scotland’s five medical schools are joining forces in a project examining genetic diseases. The groundbreaking [Genetic Health Initiative](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/4119539.stm) is being funded by the Scottish Executive. Researchers will assess predisposition to heart disease, diabetes, stroke, osteoporosis and mental health.


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*By Andy Watson*

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- To provide a focal point for Clan organizations in Nova Scotia and to respond to their requirements.
- To represent the Clan organizations in dealing with governments at all levels, other Scottish groups, other cultural groups, and the public.
- To provide a coordinating function for major Scottish events such as The International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia.