

An Cirean Ceann Cinnidh

CLAN ROSS

Association of Canada, Inc. Founded 1960

David C. Ross of Ross, Chief

FALL ISSUE NOVEMBER, 2011



Donald Fraser Ross

THE SHIP HECTOR, PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

THE CLAN ROSS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, INC.

Motto: Spem successus alit (Success nourishes hope)

Gaelic name: Clann Aindrias (Clan Andrew)

Crest: A hand holding a garland of juniper, proper

Badge: Juniper

Pipe Music: The Earl of Ross March

Names and Families: (according to Scottish Kith and Kin/Chief of Clan Ross)

Anderson	Denoon	Gear	MacCulloch	Taggart
Andison	Denune	Gillanders	MacLullich	Tullo
Andrew/s	Dingwall	Hagart	MacTaggart	Tulloch
Corbet/tt	Duthie	Haggart	MacTear	Tyre
Crow/e	Fair	MacAndrew	MacTier	Vass
Croy	Gair	MacCullie	MacTire	Wass

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STANDARD OF CHIEF DAVID CAMPBELL ROSS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, FALL NEWSLETTER, 2011

I had a very unique Canadian travel experience the week of October 17th.

On the 18th, I was speaking in Morden, Manitoba, on the classic flat Canadian prairie about 90 minutes south west of Winnipeg. I felt the first frost of the year as I scraped my car on a gorgeous -3C morning with the sun rising off the flat plain. That night, Past President Denis Fletcher and his wife, past Membership Chair, Barb, had me stay with them for the evening. They took me down to the construction site of the Human Rights Museum. Wow, what an impressive site! If you have a moment, google image photos of the site as it is a real wonder of architecture. Winnipeg just seemed ... exciting, with the Jets back in town, the new museum and football stadium to be ready for later in 2012, and the amazing reconstruction at the Forks in the downtown. Don't miss the opportunity to see it all next year during our National gathering. Thank you, Denis and Barb, for your hospitality and to your entire Ross team for your work on the Gathering.

The next day, 3 pm, I was climbing a low mountain in Gros Morne National Park in Northern Newfoundland. The miracle of air travel, where at 5:30 am I was in Winnipeg, and by 1:30 pm I was in Deer Lake, Newfoundland. The mountains, hills, fjords and forests of that park just take your breath away. That night I watched the sun set behind the hills of this world famous area. Comparing it to my prairie sunrise the day before was another reminder of the beauty of our country.

This issue of our newsletter includes your invoice for our 2012 dues. As you can see by our financial statement, the clan is in good financial shape thanks to your participation. I want to thank Rebecca Briley, accountant here in London, for reviewing our books. This met the approval of the full executive. We are building up our bank account to have extra funds to put towards a national project. The type and direction of the National project will be better determined next year at our National Gathering and AGM.

Thank you for your membership!

Fergus Festival Fun 2011

We had a busy weekend at Fergus. Clan Ross had over 40 people sign our guest list and visit our tent. Our first visitors were Bill & Betty Ross who were experiencing their first games. With four children themselves, Bill is a descendant of five Ross brothers who immigrated to Canada. Later, his daughter dropped in to make a clothing purchase and she continued her Ross connections by marrying a McTaggart, a family of the Clan.

It was good to see David Ross of Guelph and meet his entire family, with wife Lori, and children Emma and Tyler. His daughter was a top 5 finisher in four highland dancing categories! Son Tyler showed off his Ross sign that we proudly carried in the parade. It was awesome to see his Ross pride coming





through in the time he invested in the project. David had an interesting story as he shared with me the reason why the Toronto Police Pipe band has worn the Red Ross Tartan for decades. It turns out his great aunt on his Ross side married the band's pipe major years ago. Now, women will tell you they know style, so, she "suggested" the Ross tartan was perfect for her husband's band. Even though the pipe major was a MacDonald, he agreed, and the Ross tartan was adopted! Wow, the power of a wife's suggestion!)



Former Clan member Keith Wooten had moved a few years ago and we had lost touch. It was nice to see him and his wife and watch him re-join the association. Both are in school at Lakehead University, with Keith taking accounting and his wife working on her PhD. Our emailed newsletter fits their active lifestyle perfectly and they were appreciative of that option (Photo left). We also had three other new memberships.

Plus, there are always those potential new members who come by to pick up some literature and chat about their family history. I get such a thrill sharing insights on our Clan and family history that get a reaction of "Wow, I didn't know that." Amanda Ross was there with a co-worker at Humber hospital, Marjorie Skea (also a Ross), with Marjorie's granddaughter Aidan (Photo below). Marjorie had visited our tent before and purposefully had brought Amanda over to learn about the Clan. Amanda did not know about our association or own anything showing her Ross heritage. After buying a shirt for herself on the Saturday, she returned to the tent on the Sunday wearing a Ross kilt that she picked up later on the Saturday. Full of Ross pride, she had come back to us to pick up two more shirts for her father and brother as surprise gifts. It was fun to see

one person's appreciation of her family change within 24 hours!

The new clothing styles created an excited buzz and it was nice to offer unique designs that could not be picked up in any store or tent.

Doug Ross and the Scottish Studies Foundation did another fantastic job distributing Clan Passports to each Clan tent. It was cute seeing the kids go from tent to tent collecting stamps from each tent to fill up their passports. Both Doug and I were interviewed by the Guelph newspaper and featured on their internet site. It is still to be found at: www.guelphmercury.com/videozone/578545--ferqus-scottish-festival

The hot, muggy, but clear weather brought out thousands and thousands of visitors to Canada's largest Scottish Festival. The parade featured six of us and the opening ceremonies featured one of the best speakers that they have ever invited.

David Onley has been the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario since 2007. A media personality recognized through his work on City TV in Toronto, he was stricken by polio at the age of 3. He uses an electric scooter to get around and is known as the first Lieutenant Governor to have a physical disability. He was a confident, powerful and funny speaker, inspiring us with how the Scots were key



in the building of Ontario. His good humour came out as he talked about his Scottish wife Ruth Ann, whose maiden name is Wallace. David's kids were so proud of their Wallace heritage after they watched Braveheart in the theatre many years ago. Unfortunately, his youngest child misunderstood the family connection to William Wallace. He overheard his son telling his friends for weeks that he was related to actor Mel Gibson! – **Andrew Ross Thibodeau**



Glenngarry and Montreal Games 2011 Very Successful for Clan Ross Canada: If You Reach Out They Will Come!

By Debra Barry, Commissioner for Quebec



Our presence at the Glenngarry Highland Games on July 29th and 30th and at The Montreal Games on the 31st was as successful for our Clan as they were hot and humid. Braving the extreme weather, Wendy Ross, Ontario Commissioner, Debra Barry, Ouebec Commissioner and Debra's husband, Bill Ross Goble (photo left), made the trek to Maxville Ontario for the two-day Glenngarry Games. Since it was "The Year of the Clans" we had an unprecedented large number of visitors at our booth which was set up in a barn. We signed up 47 Rosses and Ross-related visitors in our e-mail Guest Book. Taking a popular tip we learned from our president, Andrew Thibodeau, at Fergus last year,

we took photos of all our Ross guests with their families under our banner. Visitors were sent their photos a few days later with an invitation to visit our website for membership news and our Facebook page for more event photos.

We were told we were the friendliest Clan on site as we made it our duty to greet passing visitors and invite them over for a chat. Children and teens responded positively to our offer to "tattoo" their arms with our Clan Ross stamp. We discussed the Clan history, presented on three large poster displays, with visitors of all ages. Our book display and pamphlets proved popular, too.

In Montreal, our 18 Ross visitors were treated to the same friendly hospitality. Many Rosses in Quebec hail from the Quebec City and north areas. Most are unilingual French speaking, an assimilation they embraced to remain Catholic. We got a lot of practice speaking French!

We were situated across from the fiddler's tent and close to the mass bands as they warmed up for the parade, so our ears were happily treated to great music all day. The cold lemonade stand near us did great business and we were fortified by fantastic fish and chips from the stand around the corner. Many more visitors stopped to chat, from other places in Canada to the United States, and all were lovely to meet. Children were treated to hand stamps of our Ross motto and Eric Ross Goble, 21, made origami sculptures for the littlest ones.

I noticed an increase in the number of young people from teens to thirty-somethings who were interested in their heritage and who came to discuss what they already had researched. Many came to find out if they had a clan connection and the most common phrase I heard was "my grandmother was a Ross".



From the highland dancing and band competitions, the games of strength and skill, the food and commercial displays, there is so much to see and do in Maxville and Montreal. We hope more Rosses will take the time to attend the Games and come over to say hello. It would be great to have more members volunteer to work with us at these games. If you think you'd like to volunteer next summer, please contact Debra Barry at debra barry@live.ca. We guarantee you a very enriching and fun time.



Highland Homecoming, Pictou, Nova Scotia

By Donald Fraser Ross

On 15 September, 2011, Caroline and I went to Pictou, Nova Scotia, and spent the day attending the Highland Homecoming. This is an event to recognize and celebrate the arrival of the Ship Hector and its passengers in Nova Scotia on that same date in 1773!

From the Ship Hector Website they describe the event as follows:

- Highland Homecoming - 15 September, 2011.

Celebrating the landing of the Hector settlers on Sept.15, 1773, this one day event features a host of activities all day long. Begin the day with breakfast on site from 8:00 am till 10 a.m.; enjoy blacksmith and carving demonstrations all day long; live entertainment all afternoon from 1 pm-5 pm; a pipeband concert at 5 pm; lemonade and oatcakes on deck with the Captain from 2 pm-4 pm; genealogy from 1 pm-5 pm with Dr. Alan Marble; Costumed volunteers; Ghost Walk to finish the day at 7:00 p.m.



It was nice to see both our Clan Ross sign and our Clan Ross tartan continuing to be prominently displayed respectively on Caladh Avenue and inside the museum building at the Ship Hector Heritage Quay.

Interesting Ross connection to the Ship Hector story

I also noted on a web site called *On this date in Scotland* the following information about the ship Hector and an apparently important fellow in that history, a fellow Clansman by the name of John Ross:

The arrival of the 'Hector' in Pictou

The emigrant ship 'Hector' arrived in Pictou, Nova Scotia, on the 15th of September, 1773.

. . . The 'Hector Scots' were enticed to Pictou by the Rev. John Witherspoon, born in East Lothian and famous as one of the Scottish signatories of the United States Declaration of Independence, after having emigrated in 1768. Witherspoon, with John Pagan, a merchant from Greenock, and some others from Pennsylvania, bought land rights in Pictou and hired a guy called **John Ross**, from Loch Broom, to act as their agent. Ross offered free passage, a year's worth of free provisions and a farm to attract settlers. Ten people boarded at Greenock, and 179 at Loch Broom; the total comprising 23 families and 25 single men. One of the latter was an unnamed



piper, who went aboard the 'Hector' at the last minute.

Maybe others have more info on this John Ross If so, please let us know.

Cheers,

Donald Fraser Ross, Vice-President, Clan Ross Association of Canada



Discover the Secrets of the Hermetic Code! See the New Canadian Human Rights Museum Exterior and Grounds! 2012 Annual General Meeting Weekend in Winnipeg

- by Ian Ross

This is the Manitoba Chapter's **second** article inviting you to join us at the 2012 Annual General Meeting weekend, August 4-6 inclusive. There is a Clan Ross-Canada business meeting every year, run by your National Executive... but in even years it is also accompanied by a whole weekend of interesting activities. Members across Canada (we often get a few from Clan Ross – USA as well) are encouraged to attend and make their summer vacation a "Clan Ross vacation". The 2012 AGM weekend is slated for Winnipeq, and the committee is working to make it a memorable one.

Since our last article (outlining how we would introduce you to your "Inner Viking" at Gimli's annual Icelandic Festival) we have also come up with a way to connect you to the "mysteries of the ancients". We have arranged a private Hermetic Code Tour of our Provincial Legislative Building, one of North America's most unique architectural designs.

If you have any interest at all in Freemasonry, numerology, mythology, the occult, fraud and scandal ... this tour is for you! Join us as we discover the building's hidden inscriptions, numerological codes and Masonic symbols so intelligently hidden that they have eluded scholars and the public for decades. Find out why the Legislature has sphinxes on its roof, and learn the true identity of the famous Golden Boy statue which crowns its dome (Photos next page)!





LEGISLATURE



Here's how the weekend program looks so far:

Saturday, August 4, 2012

Attendees arrive in Winnipeg during the course of the day.

Saturday evening ... registration and informal reception at the Norwood Hotel, on the edge of our historical "French Quarter", featuring:

* cash bar and snack foods

- * meet & greet
- * semi-pro fiddle group playing lively Scottish and "old-time" music
- * drawing & quartering of a Wild Western Haggis

Sunday, August 5

Optional continental breakfast buffet at the Norwood hotel

Group transportation to McBeth House, an authentic late 19th century farm house built by descendants of Lord Selkirk's Highland settlers of the Red River Colony (which led to the creation of Manitoba) ... with stops along the way to view the almost-complete National Human Rights Museum and the recently erected Scottish Pioneer Monument, one of only 10 in the world.

11:00-12:30 AGM business meeting at McBeth House, conducted by the executive

12:30-2:30 Wild West BBQ on the grounds of McBeth House. How do pulled pork, special sauce and BBQ beans sound? Jeans recommended.

Group transport back to the Norwood Hotel for a brief rest/change of clothes, then:

5:10 Group transportation to the Manitoba Legislature for:

5:30 - 7:00 our private Hermetic Code Tour (as described above), followed by:

7:30-9:00 group dinner at a local ethnic restaurant, and return to the Norwood Hotel.

Monday, August 6

To explore our Viking roots, we will spend a day at the Islendigadagurinn (Icelandic Festival) in the town of Gimli ... about 100 km north of Winnipeg, including:

7:30 continental breakfast at the Norwood Hotel

8:00 group transportation to Gimli

10:00 watch the big parade (Vikings, pipe bands and Shriners on motorcycles)

12:30-1:30 fresh Lake Winnipeg pickerel fry at the home-style Jane & Walter's Restaurant in Sandy Hook ... followed by free time in the vendor's market and the unique old Torgeson's country general store

2:00 tour the authentic Viking village on the lakeshore, complete with re-enactors who literally camp there on a hilltop for the weekend festival

3:00 Viking attack and mass warfare re-enactment (raping and pillaging optional)

5:00 Group transportation to Petersfield (*Metis community*) area for Western beef dinner, collectibles museum and entertainment ... all at Hunt's Roadhouse

Back to the Norwood Hotel by 9 pm or so

Attendees should plan their departure from Winnipeg no earlier than Tuesday, August 7.

Mark your calendars now and start planning to attend. Detailed registration forms and finalized agendas will start to appear in the next Clan Ross newsletter. **See you there!**



UPCOMING EVENTS

From: http://www.greatclanross.org

November 26, 2011: Toronto, ON. St. Andrew's Ball, co-sponsored by the 48th Highlanders and the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto. Held at the Moss Park Armoury. Tickets: \$125. Reception begins at 6:00 PM. Website: http://www.standrews-society.ca/ball.cfm

November 30: ST. ANDREW'S DAY. Scots around the world celebrate this day to honour the Patron Saint of Scotland. The Scotlish Saltire of St. Andrew is a diagonal white cross on an azure blue background. Traditionally, Advent begins on the Sunday nearest St. Andrew's Day and lasts from 21 to 28 days. The *Order of St. Andrew* or the *Most Ancient Order of the Thistle* is an order of Knighthood established by King James VIII of Scotland, and it is restricted to the King or Queen and sixteen others.

<u>December 1, 2011</u>: The 51st ANNIVERSARY of The CLAN ROSS ASSOCIATION Of CANADA in terms of its continuous existence since the meeting of "revitalized founders" in Montreal on December 1, 1960, the day after St. Andrew's Day. Help us to celebrate our 51st Anniversary by encouraging someone within the names and families of Clan Ross to become a member.

<u>January 14, 2012</u>: Toronto, ON. Royal Scottish Country Dance Association. Monthly events begin. Website: http://www.rscdstoronto.org/events.html

January 25: ROBBIE BURNS DAY

<u>March 14 - 18, 2012</u>: Vancouver, BC. 8th Annual CeltFest Vancouver. Website: http://www.celticfestvancouver.com/

<u>January</u>, <u>14</u>, <u>2012</u>: The 15th Annual Clan Ross Manitoba Burns Dinner will take place on Saturday, January 14, 2012, in the Club Room at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.; dinner at 7:00 p.m. Ticket price: \$57.00. Contact Denis Fletcher at (204) 257-7511 for tickets.



Talking Points XVII: Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

Submitted by J. Douglas Ross

To: Fellow Members of the Clan Ross Association of Canada, Inc.

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Scottish Studies Foundation, the organizers have just completed the daunting task of funding a million dollar pledge creating the SSF chair for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph in Ontario. Thus, a special meeting of the directors was held on Saturday, September 12, 2011, to establish new goals and to decide which new projects of Scottish content could be funded during the present economic climate.

Many possible projects were discussed, but only four obtained support for either COMMITTED or TARGETED funding, as follows:

- To construct, equip and name the Digitization Room in the new Archival and Special Collections Area of the Library at the University of Guelph, at a cost of \$150,000 to be paid over 10 years. The SSF is COMMITTED to this funding.
- To fund community theatre productions in Toronto at a cost of \$3,000 per production (not per performance) and a maximum of 3 productions per year (\$9,000). This would be an annual cost. For SSF this will be TARGETED funding, depending on need, a review and money available.
- To fund the purchase of rare books and manuscripts, collections, etc., for Archival and Special Collections at the University of Guelph, at an annual cost of \$15,000. For SSF this will be TARGETED funding, depending on need, a review and money available.
- To fund the revival of the exhibition (by The Hector Society) of the existing full scale replica of the 'Hector' sailing ship (that arrived from Scotland in 1773) in Pictou, Nova Scotia, at an annual cost of \$15,000. For SSF this will be TARGETED funding, depending on need, a review, and money available. [A proposal for a one time grant of \$50,000 failed to achieve a majority vote.]

During the discussion stage, I introduced the Canadian Museum of Human Rights as a possible project for SSF funding by summarizing the motion at the Clan Ross Canada AGM in 2010, which reads as follows:

MOTION: Denis Fletcher / Wendy Ross that the Clan Ross Association of Canada, as its next National Project, make a financial donation of \$1,000.00 to the new National Human Rights Museum, on the condition that the Museum includes a display explaining Scotland's Highland Clearances ... and, if this motion is approved, that the National Executive immediately advise the Museum's administration of the conditional availability of this donation. CARRIED

Since the discussion, I have learned that Past President Ian Mackay Ross has had two friendly conversations with the Manager of Corporate Donations for the Human Rights Museum, but that details about content will not be finalized until December of 2011. Thus I was unable to report any progress with the proposal by Clan Ross Canada.

Another director knew that the Asper family of Winnipeg was providing major finances for the CMHR, that the president of the Asper Foundation was one of the 11 trustees for the museum and that the Holocaust was one of the areas planned, but neither of us could support the potential funding on the basis of "Scottish content". Perhaps you can understand the dilemma faced by the Scottish Studies Foundation in supporting the museum's cause at this time. Only two of us at this meeting were prepared to support the possibility. We lost.

Shortly after the special meeting of the SSF directors, I visited the CMHR website, pressed the CONTACT button and submitted the following:

As a director of the Scottish Studies Foundation, I attended our special projects meeting on September 10, 2011. Decisions were made about committing major funds for special projects as well as listing target amounts to support others of broad general interest. I mentioned the CMHR as a possible project, but I'm afraid that I was lacking very important information.

A national museum must focus primarily, but not exclusively, upon first nation peoples and the founding cultures of Canada. For example (as a Scottish descendant) I would point to the Declaration of Arbroath as the basis for many charters of basic rights around the world. I am certain that many Scottish groups around Winnipeg would join our Foundation in supporting studies of the Selkirk settlers and treatment of people evicted from their homeland during the Clearances. They brought hope for the future to their new land.

Also, I would name Dr. Alexander Milton Ross (December 13, 1832 - October 27, 1897) as a treasure among Canadian heroes. Among his many achievements, he was a devoted abolitionist and he developed routes of escape to Canada for many American slaves.

Lessons from our past give us renewed hope for our future in Canada.

Cheers,

J. Douglas Ross, FSA Scot

Here it is one month later, and I have yet to receive a reply from the Canadian Museum of Human Rights. I am forced to agree with Ian Mackay Ross that the general outline of facts about the museum has been vague. I would add that the lack of response tends to send a negative message.

Perhaps we may draw some conclusions about where our suggestions would fit in the list of areas. A dozen areas are planned, as follows:

- o Buhler Hall Welcome Zone
- Introduction to Human Rights
- o Indigenous Rights
- o Canada's Human Rights Culture
- The Canadian Challenge
- The Holocaust
- o The Human Rights Revolution the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Mass Atrocity
- Human Rights Forum
- Human Rights Today
- Eye on the World (Documentary photography)
- Hall of Commitment

I have really tried to solve the question of where the founding cultures of Canada fit into this puzzling outline. More specifically, I see no mention of founding cultures beneath the space for The First Nations people (or Indigenous Rights).

As a Crown corporation, the Museum is a distinct legal entity wholly-owned by the Crown. Its mandate, as expressed in the Museums Act, is: "to explore the subject of human rights, with special but not exclusive reference to Canada, in order to enhance the public's understanding of human rights, to promote respect for others and to encourage reflection and dialogue." Under the umbrella of the Canadian government, there is a token commitment to our official languages on the introductory page of the CMHR website; brochures will undoubtedly be printed in both English and French; fifty per cent of the guides in the museum will probably be bilingual. That's it folks . . .

September 17-30, 2011

J. Douglas Ross, FSA Scot



Clan Ross Association of Canada, Inc.

Financial Statement as at December 31, 2010

Bank Balance as at December 31, 2009	\$646.96	
Income Memberships Donations (Next National Project) Clothing Sales AGM TOTAL INCOME	2628.68 170 170 3050	6018.68
Expenses Newsletter, including mailing, winter Spring Summer Fall Total Newsletter printing & mailing: Corporation Fee – Federal Clothing Refund Clan Ross Clothing, Robert Lyon Graphics AGM – All expenses Website Annual Fee Postage/Office Supplies/Copies	216.35 359.15 236.97 <u>303</u> 1115.47 30.00 30.00 93.45 3019.28	
Telephone (Long Distance and Teleconference) CASSOC Membership, for 10-11 Bank Charges TOTAL EXPENSES	16.46 50.00 <u>11.40</u>	<u>\$4366.06</u>
ANNUAL PROFIT	1652.62	

Bank Balance as at December 31, 2010

\$2299.58

2010 Financial Report

To The Members of Clan Ross;

I have verified the 2010 financial records of the Clan Ross Association of Canada and confirm that such records accurately state the financial position of the Association for the 2010 fiscal year ending December 31, 2010.

Rebecca Briley

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