

An Cirean Ceann Cinnidh

# **CLAN ROSS**

**Association of Canada,** Inc. Founded 1960

David C. Ross of Ross, Chief

**SPRING ISSUE MAY, 2008** 



Isle of Iona, Scotland

### 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

(according to Scottish Kith & Kin/Chief of Clan Ross) Septs:

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

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STANDARD OF CHIEF DAVID CAMPBELL ROSS

#### DO IT NOW (please) !!

On April 20 we already had 20 attendees registered (or their registrations in the mail) for the July AGM in Cape Breton. Typically, many more registrations come in during the last month ... or even on opening night ... so this tells us the event is shaping up to be a great success, just like our 2006 AGM in London, Ontario.

Unfortunately, last minute registrations can also cause a few problems for the organizers. For example, arrangements for the Saturday bus tour ("a taste of Cape Breton") are now being finalized. It will be a fun day (Gaelic College, Giant MacAskill Museum, Glenora Distillery and lots of great scenery ... as well as a chance to spend a day socializing and getting to know fellow Ross attendees from across North America). However, we need to know the number going on this tour very soon (by 31 May) so enough bus seats can be provided to ensure you don't miss out on the fun!

Early registration allows the organizers to arrange meeting rooms of the right size. It also lets them enjoy the Friday evening meet & greet ... instead of being stuck at the welcome table taking money and processing last-minute registration forms.

Are you planning on attending, and mean to send in your registration "soon"? *Please do the organizers a favour.* Send in your registration *right now.* You'll find the agenda and form elsewhere in this newsletter. You can accompany your registration with a post-dated cheque, if you prefer.

Thanks for your help. We look forward to having you join us in all the fun in beautiful Cape Breton!



## WORLD WIDE GATHERING OF THE CLANS IN EDINBURGH JULY 25 & 26, 2009

By Andrew Ross Thibodeau, Clan Ross Canada, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

The Gathering 2009 will take the form of an international clan gathering and the largest highland games ever held in Scotland, and will be one of the key events of Homecoming Scotland.

It is estimated that there will be over 80 clan tents, with around 7500 clan and Scottish association members from around the world. The highland games will attract a further 30,000 people over the two days.

A Highlight of the event will be the clan parade on the Royal Mile culminating in a unique clan pageant on the magnificent esplanade of Edinburgh Castle.

To register in order to receive email updates on this fantastic event, go to **www.thegathering2009.com**. If you have not purchased a passport for the event, please do this soon as they will sell out!

Clan Ross VP Andrew Ross Thibodeau and his family, and our Webmaster and Newsletter Editor Doug and Pat Ross have confirmed attendance at this fantastic event. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us in Scotland. (See Andrew Ross's contact info at the beginning of the newsletter.) We plan to represent Clan Ross Canada in the Clan Parade on the Royal Mile and to have a presence at the Clan Tents. We hope to organize a meal with Ross's from around the world, hopefully joined by our Clan Chief and his son. We may venture north to Clan Ross country, to Tain in Ross & Cromarty, for a possible Clan event. Stay tuned to the newsletter for updates.

#### **GREAT OPPORTUNITIES!**

- National Secretary Ian Ross

For you members who would like to gain some experience and contribute at the national level, there are three important positions that will become vacant as at the 2008 AGM:

<u>Secretary and Treasurer</u> These National Executive positions are elected for 2-year terms, with the right to run for unlimited repeat terms. Secretary lan Ross (in the position since 2000) and Treasurer Barb Fletcher (in the position since 1993) will not seek re-election, so we must elect a new Secretary (who looks after all correspondence and meeting minutes, and maintains the by-laws) and a new Treasurer (who looks after national funds).

Membership Chair The Executive appoints this position, which processes new member applications, maintains the mailing list and solicits annual dues payments. It is not a voting position on the Executive ... but the Executive are wise to heed any advice from this office holder! Barb Fletcher (also in this position since 1994) will retire as of the 2008 AGM. Barb notes that the positions of Membership Chair and Treasurer are closely related, especially regards processing of membership dues. She suggests the two positions either be held by one person, or by two persons in the same geographic area working closely together.

These are all excellent opportunities for members to be directly involved in decision-making and to serve their fellow Clan Ross members. And, if you have ever thought you might like to become a National Vice-President and ultimately President, these vacant positions are a great way to gain experience and "get your foot in the door". They require a flurry of activity at AGM time ... otherwise, only a few hours monthly. To be nominated for Secretary or Treasurer you must have been EITHER:

- an officer in a formal regional Chapter, OR
- an appointed Regional Commissioner, OR
- a member in good standing for at least two consecutive years, AND ... IN ALL CASES, you must be a permanent resident of Canada.

To be appointed as Membership Chair, the requirement is simply to be a member in good standing.

If you would like to know more, or be nominated or appointed, contact President Denis Fletcher or Secretary Ian Ross. Contact info is on the inside front cover of this newsletter.



#### **CEUD MILE FAILTE**

#### A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members

Sharyn Ross, Barrie, ON

Donna Fletcher & James Hickerson, Winnipeg, MB

Kenneth & Lorraine Ross, Dartmouth, NS

Barbara & David MacKenzie, Dartmouth, NS

Donald & Linda Ross Innerkip, ON

Dick & Joan Caldwell Coopeville, WA, USA

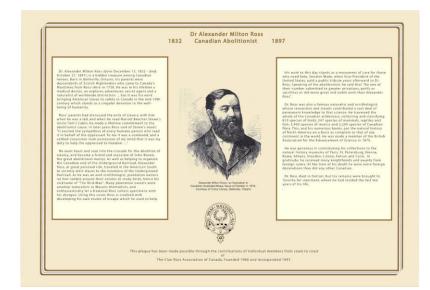
#### **WORK ON THE CHATHAM FREEDOM PARK BEGINS!**

By Andrew Ross Thibodeau, Clan Ross Canada, 1st VP

It's been a long process, but work is starting to happen on the Chatham, Ontario Freedom Park this spring. Why is this of interest to Clan Ross?

As you may recall from previous newsletters, in 2006, the focus of our National Gathering was the work of Dr. Alexander Milton Ross, Canada's greatest abolitionist (1832-1897). Born in Belleville, Ontario he worked for years in helping bring escaped slaves up to Ontario via the Underground Railroad.

Chatham, Ontario is in the heart of the Underground Railroad terminus country. Uncle Tom's Cabin and the Dawn settlement for freed slaves are located just to the north east. The community of Buxton, a national historical site of Black History, is to the south. The Chatham Black Historical Society, lead by Gwen Robinson, has been working with Clan Ross to create a suitable tribute to Dr. Ross. Every 2 years or so we use Clan Ross Canada funds to honour a great Ross's work in Canada. We felt that erecting a plaque in an area where people explore the history of the Underground Railroad would be perfect for Dr. Ross.



We learned in 2006 that the Historical Society was working with the City of Chatham to create a "Freedom Park" in the downtown core. Called the BME (British Methodist Episcopal Church) Freedom Park, its first goal is honour this church which catered to the Black community of Canada in the 1800's. With several little churches across Ontario, the BME would hold an annual gathering of its leadership. The first such gathering was held on this park's grounds in 1856. This April, landscaping students from Ridgetown College, University of Guelph, began initial work on the

The park is going to erect busts and plaques over time to honour "Hero's" of the Underground Railroad and of the early Black community of southern Ontario. The first work to be commissioned is a bust of Maryanne Shad-Kerry, who published the "Provincial Freemen", Canada's first black-owned newspaper, based in Windsor. Ardith Lane, a descendent of Shad-Kerry and a professional artist in California, is creating this bust.

Clan Ross Canada has received approval from Chatham Black Historical Society to erect a plaque in the Freedom Park to honour Dr. AM Ross. They have approved in principal a design and will be getting back to me later this summer for the full approval of a plaque layout. The design, created by my father in law Tom Hunter, received the approval of our National Executive in 2006. This summer I will share the design again at the 2008 AGM, to ensure a final approval on its look. By late summer we hope to have the proof in the hands of the Folia Company (based in Montreal) that specialize in large colourful historical plaques for outdoor use.

I can see the plaque being created by the fall and erected in the park next spring.

Your Clan Ross membership dues helps pay for these important works that honour Canadian history. Thank you! We will keep you informed of the progress of this exciting project.

Please, if your travels take you to south western Ontario, please visit Uncle Tom's Cabin, Chatham and Buxton and see first hand these incredible sites in the history of our country.

#### **FAMILY HISTORY CORNER**

If anyone is interested in sharing family history information on ancestors or descendants of Sir George Ross of the Middlesex area in Ontario (former Premier of Ontario 1899-1905) they are invited to contact Clan Ross member Susan Wilson-Tait at: RR#2, Box 453, Grand Valley, Ontario LON 1G0; susanwilsontait@sympatico.ca

Susan's mother is member Lynn Wilson, also of Grand Valley. Susan's father William (who passed away May 8, 2007) was the great grandson of Sir George.

#### 080315-1

[Information for 991115-4, c/o Mrs.L. Morassutti (Ross), of Thunder Bay]

John William Ross [John Baptiste Guillaume Ross] born in Tain Scotland 1735 and died in 02/01/1822 in Maskinongé (Québec). Married to Marie Louise Delpee St-Cerny (pronounced *Sincerney*) born in Masquinongé. From them I have listed descedants up to myself (for nine generations).

Contact: Bernard Ross of Québec. Email: bernard.ross31@videotron.ca

#### 080315-2

Would like to know names of parents, siblings, and ancestors of my great grandmother Elizabeth (Libby) Ross who married James Kennedy 12 Feb 1890 in Kincardine, ON, at the home of her father who I believe was a farmer. Libby was a mid-wife. She and James lived in Calumet, Michigan for a number of years. Their seven children were born there. The family moved to Rosalind, AB, in about 1906. Libby died in Victoria, BC, in 1945. Any info about 'my' Ross people would be greatly appreciated. Contact: Carrol Burkard, Box 111, Rosalind, AB T0B 3Y0 or Email:lburkard@cable-lynx.net

#### 080315-3

I am looking for information on Rosina Irene Margaret Ross, aka Miss Irene M Ross, late of 308 Beach Drive, Oak Bay BC

Born: New Westminster BC, 02/09/1892 Died: Oak Bay (Victoria) BC 17,02,1971

She lived in a modest cottage at McNeill Bay. She donated some land along Beach Drive for the esplanade near her home. Her house was close to, but not part of the land she donated. There is a plaque on the seawall below Beach Drive that commemorates the gift. I am interested to know more about her. Who were her parents and if she was a descendent of HBC Fort Victoria Chief Factor Charles Ross and his wife Isabella. Isabella Ross was one of the first 5 landowners in Oak Bay.

Contact: Jean Sparks, Oak Bay Archives. Email:jasparks2@shaw.ca



#### **SCOTTISH HUMOUR**

Submitted by Ian Ross

A London lawyer runs a stop sign and gets pulled over by a Glasgow copper. He thinks that he has a better education then any Jock cop and decides to prove this to himself and have some fun at the Glasgow cop's expense.

The Glasgow cop says, 'Licence and registration, please.' The London Lawyer says, 'What for?' The Glasgow cop says, 'Ye didnae come to a complete stop at the stop sign.' The London Lawyer says, 'I slowed down, and no one was coming. What's the difference?'

The Glasgow cop says, 'The difference is, ye huvte come to a complete stop, that's the law. Licence and registration, please!' The London Lawyer says, 'My good man, if you can show me the legal difference between slow down and stop, I'll give you my licence and registration and you give me the ticket. If not, you let me go and don't give me the ticket.'

The Glasgow cop says, 'Sounds fair. Exit your vehicle, sir.' The London Lawyer complies.

The Glasgow cop then takes out his nightstick and starts beating the heck out of the lawyer saying 'Dae ye want me to stop, or just slow doon?'

#### FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

**Carole Ann Little** passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 3, 2008 in Winnipeg, after a courageous ongoing battle with cancer. The Manitoba Chapter of Clan Ross enjoyed her company at many clan events, in company with her partner William "Bill" McCullough. Carole grew up and received her education in West Kildonan and was employed with two prominent companies in Manitoba's trucking industry, retiring in 1990. She treasured time with family and friends.

(Bill McCullough was Manitoba Provincial Commissioner, a founder of the Manitoba Chapter, and National President for the year 1993-94).

Frank Harrington, Halifax, NS, January 6, 2007.

**William "Bill" Wilson** of Grand Valley, Ontario passed away in his 62<sup>nd</sup> year May 8, 2007, leaving his wife Lynn and daughter Susan Wilson-Tait (also a clan member, who had purchased Bill's first membership as a birthday gift). Bill was always proud of his Scottish heritage. He had hoped to start attending Clan Ross outings just when he found out that he was ill. His mobility declined quickly and he was just not up to it physically as much as he wanted to attend.

Bill's Great Grandfather (Premier of Ontario 1899-1905) was Sir George Ross of the Middlesex area in Ontario.



#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

The deadline for submissions for the Summer (August) Newsletter is July 25, 2008.

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Obtained from: http://wwwGreatClanRoss.org

Many items from May and June were included in the Winter Issue. A few more are included here with the summertime festivals and games. Although every effort is made to present accurate information, you are advised to telephone or contact the event organizers about any changes.

May 17, 2008: Courtenay, BC. 13th Annual Comox Valley Highland Games at Lewis Park. Info: (250)338-0363. http://www.cvhg.org

May 17 - 18, 2008: Victoria, BC. 71th Annual Victoria Highland Games, Bullen Park in Esquimalt (250)598-1531 evenings and (250)598-8961 daytime: <a href="http://www.victoriahighlandgames.com">http://www.victoriahighlandgames.com</a> May 30 - June1, 2008: Perth-Andover, NB. Gathering of the Scots Festival at Baird's Memorial Campground. (506)273-6710: <a href="http://www.gatheringofthescots.com">http://www.gatheringofthescots.com</a>

<u>June 6 - 7, 2008</u>: Callander ON (near North Bay). Celtfest in Callander's Centennial Park: http://www.celtfest.org

<u>June 14, 2008</u>: Georgetown, ON. Georgetown Highland Games at the Fairgrounds. (905)584-5440. http://www.georgetownhighlandgames.com/

<u>June 14 - 15, 2008</u>: Hamilton, ON. 17th Annual International Military Tattoo 7:30 PM & 2:30 PM respectively at Copps Coliseum (905)523-1753: <a href="http://www.canadianmilitarytattoo.ca">http://www.canadianmilitarytattoo.ca</a>

Continued on next page......

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS Cont'd.**

June 16, 2008: Campbell River, BC. BC Legion Highland Gathering. For further information visit http://www.highlandgathering.ca/

June 20 - 21, 2008: Sarnia, ON. 24th Sarnia Supreme Highland Games. Hiawatha Horse Park: http://www.sarniahighlandgames.com

June 21, 2008: Red Deer, AB. 61st Annual Red Deer Highland Games. Westerner Altaplex. (403)343-6418. http://reddeerhighlandgames.ca

June 21, 2008: Spencerville, ON. Veterans' Memorial Highland Games:

http://www.veteransmemorialhg.com/http://www.veteransmemorialhg.com

June 27 - 28, 2008: Ancaster, ON. Hamilton Highland Games & Scottish Festival:

http://www.hamiltonhighlandgames.com

June 27 - 29, 2008: Summerside, PE. Summerside Highland Gathering & Celtic Festival. College of Piping. (902)436-5377. http://www.collegeofpiping.com/

June 28, 2008: Cobourg, ON. 44th Annual Cobourg Highland Games. Donegan Park, D'Arcy Street South: http://www.cobourghighlandgames.ca

June 28, 2008: Coquitlam, BC. 77th British Columbia Highland Games. Pervy Perry Stadium (formerly Coquitlam Town Centre Stadium). Held on last Saturday every June. Phone: 604-263-9111:

July 1 - 8, 2008: Halifax, NS. The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo. Halifax Metro Centre. 8 Tickets http://www.bchighlandgames.com

: Phone 902-451-1221. http://www.nstattoo.ca/site2/index.php

July 4 - 6, 2008: Kincardine, ON. 8th annual Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games. Victoria Park. Toll Free: 888-232-795: http://kincardinescottishfestival.ca

July 8, 2008: Toronto, ON. Blue Jays Scottish Day.

Schedule:http://toronto.blueiavs.mlb.com/tor/schedule/home schedule.isp

July 11-13, 2008: Iona, Cape Breton Island, NS. 48th Anniversary Gathering of Clan Ross Canada. Highland Heights Inn. http://www.greatclanross.org/cra~can5a1FORMINTRO.html

July 12, 2008: Haliburton Village, ON. Haliburton Highland Games at Head Lake Park (705)457-3543: http://www.haliburtonhighlandgames.com

July 18 - 19, 2008: Cambridge, ON. 33rd Annual Cambridge Highland Games at Churchill Park. Phone: 519-241-4906. http://www.cambridgehighlandgames.org

July 19 - 20, 2008: Orillia, ON. The 32nd Annual Orillia Scottish Festival. Couchiching Beach Park. Friday night Ceilidh at the Legion. Saturday parade to the Park. Phone: (705)325-8442).

July 18 - 20, 2008: Antigonish, NS. - Antigonish Highland Games. Columbus Field. Phone: 902-863-4275. http://www.antigonishhighlandgames.com

July 25 - 27, 2008: Uxbridge, ON. 13th Annual Highlands of Durham Games. Elgin Park in Uxbridge. (905)852-0112. http://www.highlandsofdurhamgames.com/

August 1 - 2, 2008: Maxville, ON. Glengarry Highland Games. Agricultural Grounds. 1-888-298-1666. http://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/

August 2, 2008: Iona, NS. Highland Village Day. Located in Iona, Cape Breton Island. Phone: 902-725-2272: http://museum.gov.ns.ca/hv/hvday.html

August 3, 2008: Montréal, QC. 32nd Montréal Highland Games. Pierrefond Parc Centre Sportif. Phone: 514-332-5242. http://www.montrealhighlandgames.gc.ca/

August 8 - 10, 2008: Goderich, ON. 16th Annual Celtic Roots Festival. Lion's Harbour Park, West Street. (519)524-8221. http://www.celticfestival.ca

August 8 - 10, 2008: Fergus, ON. 63nd Fergus Scottish Festival and Premier North American Highland Games. Fergus Community Centre. Phone: 519-787-0099. http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com

August 30, 2008: Calgary, AB. Calgary Highland Games. Shouldice Athletic Park. (403)280-9670.

http://www.calgaryhighlandgames.org

August 29 - 31, 2008: Quebec, QC. 3rd Quebec City Celtic Festival.

http://festivalceltique.morrin.org/en/home.php

August 31, 2008: Canmore, AB. 18th Annual Canmore Highland Games. Centennial Park. (403)678-9454. http://www.canmorehighlandgames.ca

September 2, 2007: Toronto, ON. 16th Annual Scottish Cruise aboard the Sailing Ship "Empire Sandy". Times: 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM from pier 27 at Queen's Quay West harbourfront. Celebrate the voyage of the Ship Hector. See the website of the Scottish Studies Society for details: http://www.scottishstudies.com

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#### CLAN ROSS CANADA -GATHERING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### July 11-13, 2008, Iona, Nova Scotia

Do you enjoy - - - - meeting new people? Exploring Canada's rich history? Great Scenery? Friendly People? Celtic Entertainment?

Then come and join your fellow Clan Ross members from across Canada (and the USA) in beautiful **Cape Breton**, in Canada's "New Scotland". Afterwards, stay on and tour the rest of the incredible Atlantic Provinces.

**Place**: *Highland Heights Inn* in Iona, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia Special \$95 (+tax) room rate, call (902) 725-2360 to reserve

#### Events:

- Friday evening, July 11 Registration and Reception at Highland Heights Inn
- Saturday, July 12 Bus tour (Cape Breton Gaelic College in St. Ann's, Giant Angus MacAskill Museum in Englishtown, and Glenora Distillery and Restaurant/Pub near Mabou)
- Saturday evening, July 12 Entertainment with Burns' Address to a Haggis, Slide presentation on Cape Breton, Cape Breton piper, and Celtic fiddler
- Sunday, July 13 Annual General Meeting in morning followed by self-tour of Highland Village Museum in Iona www.museum.gov.ns.ca/hv

#### **Other Local Attractions:**

- Fortress of Louisbourg, near Sydney the largest reconstructed 18th-century French fortified town in North America
- Cape Breton Highlands National Park 1<sup>st</sup> national park in the Atlantic Provinces. Home of the incredible scenery of the world-famous Cabot Trail
- Antigonish Highland Games, the oldest continuous games in North America, July 18-20. Call (902) 863-4275 or www.antigonishhighlandgames.com
- The Hector Heritage Quay in Pictou, Nova Scotia, landing site of the first Scottish settlers
- Sherbrooke Village, Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, a typical historic Nova Scotia village, a living memory of Nova Scotia. <a href="https://www.museum.gov.ns.ca/sv">www.museum.gov.ns.ca/sv</a>
- Visit the Clan Ross monument at Lord Selkirk Provincial Park, PEI, plus the Scottish Immigrant Memorial and St. John's Presbyterian Church at Belfast, PEI
- Kings Landing Historical Settlement, an early 1800's living museum 34 km west of Fredericton, N.B. <a href="https://www.kingslanding.nb.ca/">www.kingslanding.nb.ca/</a>
- > Enjoy the many beaches, walking trips, golf courses, etc.

For Nova Scotia Tourist Information call 1-800-565-0000 <a href="https://www.novascotia.com">www.novascotia.com</a>
For New Brunswick Tourist Information call 1-800-561-0123 <a href="https://www.novascotia.com">www.novascotia.com</a>
For New Brunswick Tourist Information call 1-800-561-0123 <a href="https://www.novascotia.com">www.novascotia.com</a>
For New Brunswick Tourist Information call 1-800-463-4734 <a href="https://www.novascotia.com">www.novascotia.com</a>
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For New Brunswick Tourist Information call

#### Registration form available in this newsletter and at www.greatclanross.org

If you have any other questions, contact Christopher Rayworth, N.S. Commissioner, at (902) 832-9280, E-mail: <a href="mailto:smore@ns.sympatico.ca">smore@ns.sympatico.ca</a>; or Donald Ross, Clan Ross N.S., at (902) 865-9192, E-mail: <a href="mailto:donaldross@eastlink.ca">donaldross@eastlink.ca</a>

Did you know . . . before Canada became a nation, between the years of 1817 and 1838, the population of Cape Breton increased by about 30,000 persons (most of these were Highland Scots)?

## **Registration Form**

CLAN ROSS - CANADA - GATHERING AND AGM July 11-13, 2008 Iona, Nova Scotia

Please include fees for events with the Registration Form. Non-Clan Ross members are more than welcome to attend the weekend events. Please note that Accommodation and Meals (except light lunch with tour) are NOT INCLUDED in these fees. Fees cover tours (and a light lunch with tour), the bus, meeting room rental and entertainment.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM, NOTING THE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE T	O ATTEND EACH EVE	NT
NAME(S):			
ADDRESS:			
HOME PHONE:	E-mail:		
Doonlo Attending		Cost per person	<u># of</u>
People Attending			
Registration		\$ 10.00	
Reception, Friday night (7:00 pm)		\$ 10.00	
Bus Tour only, during the day on Saturday (09:00 - 6:30pm)		\$ 55.00	
Evening Entertainment only, Sat night (7:30 pm till ?)		<u>\$ 20.00</u>	
	TOTAL AMOUNT	¢	

Please make cheque payable to Clan Ross - Canada and note on it '2008 AGM registration'

<u>Send Registration</u> Form and Fees for the AGM 2008 to: Barbara Fletcher, Treasurer, Clan Ross - Canada, 66 Crestwood Crescent, Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H6. Phone 204-257-7511. Email: <u>barbf@miic.ca</u>

<u>Questions?</u> Contact: Christopher Rayworth, N.S. Comm., (902) 832-9280, E-mail <a href="mailto:smore@ns.sympatico.ca">smore@ns.sympatico.ca</a>; or Donald Ross, Clan Ross N.S., (902) 865-9192, E-mail <a href="mailto:donaldross@eastlink.ca">donaldross@eastlink.ca</a>

