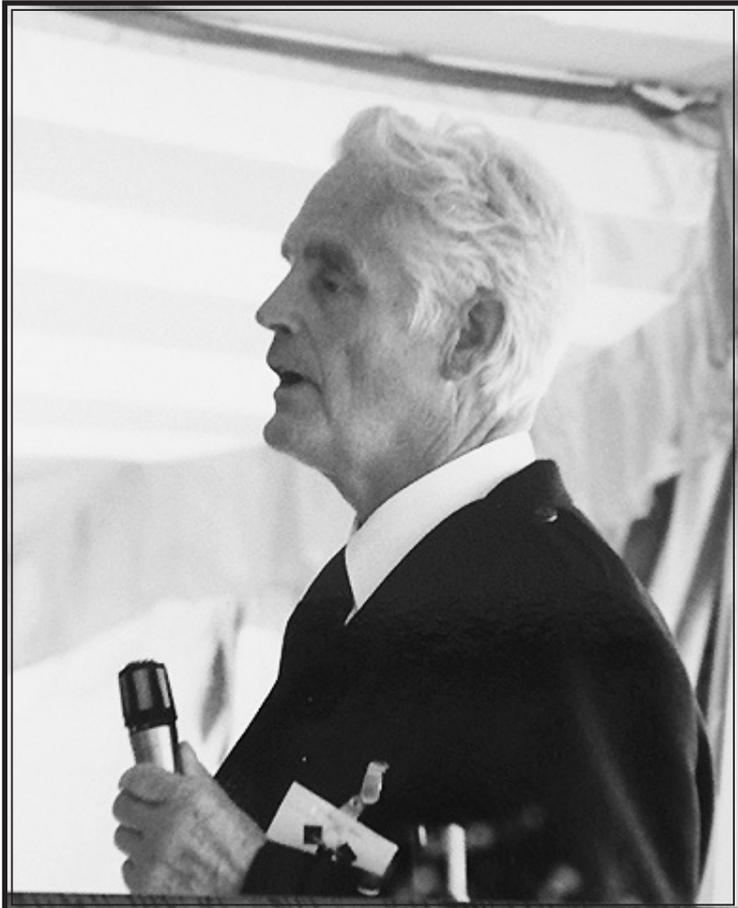




The Leod Voice



Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada
National Council Newsletter #74
Spring 2021



President's Report

by Judy Tipple

As we ride the COVID-19 pandemic wave into its second year I hope this newsletter find you all healthy, able to function in sufficient comfort to carry you through the coming summer with an optimistic outlook.

We have all had to become more comfortable in the use of technology to order goods online, attend Zoom meetings and seminars, chat with distant friends and family on programs such as Facetime, etc and also in many other ways. The vaccination schedules have been encouraging to get us closer to a time of safely meeting together again. There may be virtual Highland Games this summer but hopefully we can attend the real thing in 2022. In the last *Leod Voice* I reported that many of us would be happy to see the last of 2020 and now I feel that I will be relieved to see the end of 2021.



A webinar by Susan Beaumont that captured my attention was entitled *How to Lead When We Don't Know Where You're Going?* She uses the word "liminal" to describe how we are somewhere between the old and "the possibility of something yet undiscovered." The unknowing is uncomfortable, disorienting and disconcerting and we are sometimes tempted to rush to quick solutions rather than doing deeper searching for resolutions to our problems. To accomplish this searching, as a collection of Clan MacLeod Societies CMSC will try to gather the input of as many members as possible through their executives. Please be prepared to make your voice heard.

Handing over the CMSC Presidency was scheduled to occur at the North American Gathering in Livonia, MI in July, 2020. So when the event had to be cancelled the executive didn't change and no annual general meeting was held. We will carry out the executive hand over via a Zoom meeting in the near future and I will introduce Carol MacCrimmon Pugliese as the incoming president in my next *Leod Voice*. Δ

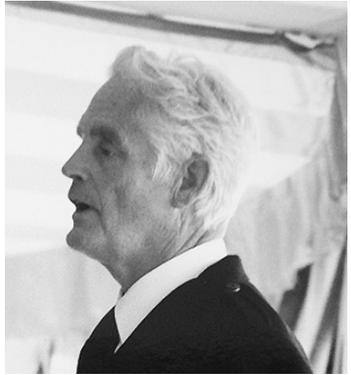
Flowers of the Forrest

Angus Donald MacLeod

1926 -2021

Angus passed away peacefully April 30, 2021 at his home in Sevenoaks, Kent, with his wife, Julia, at his bedside. He was 95 years of age and had been diagnosed with rapidly progressing cancer in early February.

Angus will be remembered as an engaging, kind and intelligent person with a whimsical sense of humour. He was very active with the Clan MacLeod, serving as President of CMS England and as President then Honourary Vice President of ACMS for over 25 year, always exercising superb leadership with energy, efficiency and diplomacy. With his many years of clan involvement, Angus accompanied by Julia, traveled extensively visiting clan societies around the world and sharing their love of clanship wherever they went.



Angus was a remarkable man and a model of dedication to that which he held dear to his heart. He took on the presidency of ACMS in 1990 when the project of creating a MacLeod Culture Centre on the site of the old stables within the Castle Estate was gaining traction. The initial introduction of the idea was put forward in 1977 and simmered slowly in the minds of many until with the encouragement and approval of the various regulatory groups, Angus made it his dream project. There were various articles published in the *Clan MacLeod Magazines* from 1990 onward concerning this project.

Angus was featured in the “Meet the Clan” article in the October 2014 issue No 119 of the *Clan MacLeod Magazine*.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his beloved wife Julia, son Andrew, daughters Fiona (and Clive), Olivia (and Adrian) and grandchildren Cameron, Felicity and Alice. Δ

Isabel (Betty) MacLeod

April 30, 1923 -October 9, 2019

Betty, the widow of ACMS Past President Colonel Bill, died in Silver Spring, Maryland aged 96.

Betty grew up in New Jersey, joining the Army as a nurse during the Second World War. She was on her way to the Philippines for the invasion of Japan when the war ended and she found herself at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where she met her future husband. After their marriage at Camp Carson, Colorado, she accompanied him to Italy, Germany and eventually Turkey, as well as nine different US states.

While stationed in Germany they visited Dunvegan and the reception they received so impressed them that Bill joined the Clan MacLeod Society as a life member. On Bill's retirement in 1976, Betty helped in his duties as Regional VP of the Midwest region and to organize the NAG held at Dearborn, Michigan, the second such joint US-Canadian gathering. This earned them the Clansman of the Year award in 1983.

Betty is survived by her children Bill, Margaret, John and Stewart, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Δ

James Stewart McLeod

Jan 7, 1926 – April 16, 2020



Born in Bellingham, WA, Jim died at home at 94 years. His parents were native Bellingham farmers raising poultry and dairy cows. Jim taught himself Morse code so he could apply to the Army signal Corp when he joined up, the beginning of an exciting globe-trotting career in communication technology. He was stationed in Hawaii during WWII where he ran the Army's telephone system on Oahu. Upon discharge he completed his college studies with a degree in electrical engineering.

Jim was President of CMS USA 1980-1983 and was a long-serving trustee of the Dunvegan Foundation.

Jim is survived by children Lynn, Lee, Laurie, Rory and Erika, and seven grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jim and his late wife Doris were often guests at CMS Vancouver events.

We extend our condolences to Jim's family and friends. Δ

Betty MacLean

December 18, 1932 -January 20, 2021

Elizabeth (Betty) (MacDonald) MacLean, of Halifax, passed away in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

A daughter of the late Alex F. and Emma F. (MacLeod) MacDonald, Betty attended Whitney School, Sydney Academy and Empire Business College. She worked for several private sector companies in Sydney and Halifax before joining the Federal Public Service, at Maritime Command Headquarters Halifax, later transferring to Transport Canada, Halifax International Airport. During her years with Transport Canada, Betty worked in various sections until retirement in 1996. Upon retirement, Betty joined Federal Superannuates National Association (FSNA), Nova Scotia Central Branch, volunteering as Branch Health Benefits Officer, serving on branch executive and various committees.

She visited the USA, Great Britain, Italy and Greece, and several times visited the Isle of Skye, the seat of her Scottish heritage. She was a member of the Clan MacLeod Society of Canada and a member of the Federation of Scottish Culture of Nova Scotia.

Betty also had many interests. She raised and trained horses for 20 years. She enjoyed reading, painting, writing and research. She studied philosophy, psychology and counselling on summer courses at Acadia.

Betty is survived by a large extended family living in Nova Scotia and Indiana.

Betty wrote of her pioneer work with Transport Canada involving the creation of airport security and procedures which quickly expanded beyond the Halifax Airport System:

“In 1973 Transport Canada Headquarters, Ottawa initiated a pilot project at the Halifax International Airport. I was promoted to a totally new function: I became the first Airport Security and Policing clerk in Canada. In effect, my supervisor and I began the first Canadian Airport Security and Policing program and with direction from Ottawa, initiated and modified as necessary, specific aspects of security and policing required at that time. As time went on, other airports followed suit as part of the National Program.

“During my involvement, I saw the initiation of:

1. Photo Identification of all airport employees, which evolved into the process of security screening of all airport employees.
2. Passenger (Pre-board) Screening, installation of X-Ray units and baggage screening equipment. Telecommunications branch trained the operators in the proper operation of the equipment and I became

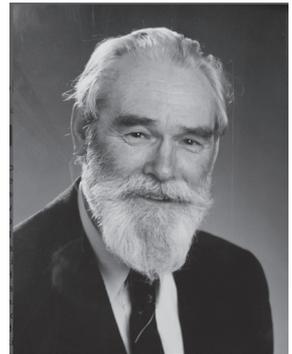
the instructor for the management of personnel agencies contracted to carry out passenger screening. In time, I developed an expanded version of the training package to ensure security guards did not become complacent when taking the refresher courses given on rotation. I later learned that Ottawa took my suggestions and incorporated the expanded training into an updated version of their training program.

“Late in my career my job description changed, and Occupational Health and Safety were added: I became Policing, Security and Safety Clerk. This meant handling accident reports, both for employees of Transport Canada, and accident-injury reports from airlines and other airport tenants, as well as the travelling public. With that position, I also became Taxi Licensing Clerk for the new Airport Open Taxi operation.”

Our condolences go out to all of Betty’s family and friends. I feel fortunate to have had the privilege of knowing Betty for many years. She could always be counted on to send articles for inclusion in *The Leod Voice*. Δ

Dr. Robert Lachlan Coupe

Robert died peacefully after a long and rich life, a day short of his 86th birthday. He was born in Manchester, England, attended Merchant Taylors’ School, and took his medical training at the University of Liverpool. In 1958 he came to Canada, interning in Newfoundland, doing a residency in Halifax and then dermatology training in Montreal. His last year of specialty training was in Minneapolis, where he stayed to complete a M Sc.



His passion for mountaineering then brought him to Vancouver, initially to a research position at UBC and later to private practice in Burnaby. He continued to teach dermatology at UBC and retired as a Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus. A large fraction of Burnaby residents were his patients. They might have been surprised to see him walking home every night through Deer Lake Park, before the days of the boardwalk. When Deer Lake flooded he rolled up his trousers and pushed on through the mud, carefully balancing his briefcase above it. After diminishing eyesight forced him into retirement in 2000, many patients continued to greet him on the street. Robert’s energy, acute intelligence and sharp memory led to many interests. As a BC Mountaineering Club member, he climbed many BC mountains, although the Cuillins of Skye remained his “spiritual home.” His Scottish roots made him enjoy Scottish country dancing and do
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extensive research on his Scottish ancestry. His membership in Mensa led to a bridge group that met weekly at his house.

For many decades he studied and collected the works of 19th century poet, designer, publisher and socialist William Morris, publishing his own definitive book on illustrated editions of Morris' works. That interest lives on in the Robert Coupe Collection of Works by and about William Morris, now in SFU Library Special Collections. Toward the end of his life, Robert expanded his inner horizons by writing five novels. Robert was a man of principle, adhering to a vegetarian diet throughout his life. He also had a discriminating taste for fine wine and good honey. He insisted on precision in everything, doing complex mathematical calculations in his head down to the last decimal point.

Small incidents often made him say "That reminds me of..." followed by a long and interesting story.

Robert and Rosemary were a perfect team in their large garden, she planting and he trimming back. He was a wise and kind father and grandfather. Robert was loved by his wife Rosemary, his sons Iain, Malcolm (Katherine), and Andrew (Andrea); his grandchildren Annaliesa, Rosie, Rowan, Isabella, and Alastair; his sister Heather; and his late brother Philip. Many friends held him in great affection. A memorial will be held eventually.

Robert was a faithful contributor to gatherings of CMS Vancouver, greeting fellow clan with his warm smile and interesting stories. He is remembered fondly and we send condolences to Rosemary and family. Δ

William Ross McLeod

January 28, 1933 - November 5, 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ross on November 5, 2020, after a brief battle with cancer. He is survived by his daughters, Lory LaRoche (Geoff) and Colleen Snyders (Dick) and his grandchildren, Tori LaRoche (Justin), Paige LaRoche (Brogen), Simone Snyders and Tyson Snyders. He is also survived by family members in Arizona of his late wife, Vera Smith. He was predeceased by his parents, Archie and Beth McLeod.

Ross will be remembered as a man who was always willing to help care for others and for his gift of telling great historical stories.

Vera Pearl Cheney Smith McLeod, passed away Feb. 2, 2018, at the age of 94, in Calgary, Alberta, with her devoted husband, Ross McLeod, by her side.

William and Vera were long time members of CMS Calgary and we send our condolences to all of their friends and family. Δ

Victoria Highland Games Association and Cultural Centre

by Malcolm and Karen MacLeod, CMS BC Vancouver Island

Here we are, hunkered down with COVID around us but we are still healthy. We wish to welcome Dave and Linley MacLeod from Campbell River to our society. Dave runs the Loggers Sports Events in Campbell River which they had to cancel in 2020. That festival actually includes the Campbell River Highland Games, Loggers Sports and their Salmon Festival.

Down on the south end of the Island, we held a virtual Highland Games at Craigflower Manor, the 157th and it was recorded and live streamed with an audience of 37,000 at one point and from all over the globe. We were restricted to 50 people on the field at one time, so the dancers and others who occupied the stage had to come to the field in relays. The Heavy Events people were off in their corner and Piping was off in another corner. Agility dogs were on the Gorge side of the building and we had a Celtic Band playing on stage. They even ran a Hurling match in the school grounds nearby. To complement the dancers, some of Cathy White's girls danced to their own choreography, one of which told the tale of eviction and migration.

The Victoria Highland Games Association (VHGA) runs the largest Highland Games in western Canada and are very active with many Clan Societies taking part and helping out when needed. The VHGA has a renewable 30-year tenure with the provincial government for the historic Craigflower Manor and property with permission to build a community centre on the property while maintaining the Manor as an historic house/museum. The committee is well on its way to realizing this \$4 million dollar plus venture and hope to turn sod and get going early in the new year.

Once built, the venue will be used for professional theatre, music, dance presentations or competitions, educational courses, weddings, concerts and conferences. Even though many of the activities will be of a Scottish or Celtic nature, it will be available to the entire south Vancouver Island community and will provide a showcase for a diverse cultural mix. The plans for the 9,000 square foot building are well under way and the ceiling will have a unique arrangement of glue lam beams with a Celtic Knot in the centre of it.

Included in the plans is a complete sound and video system that will

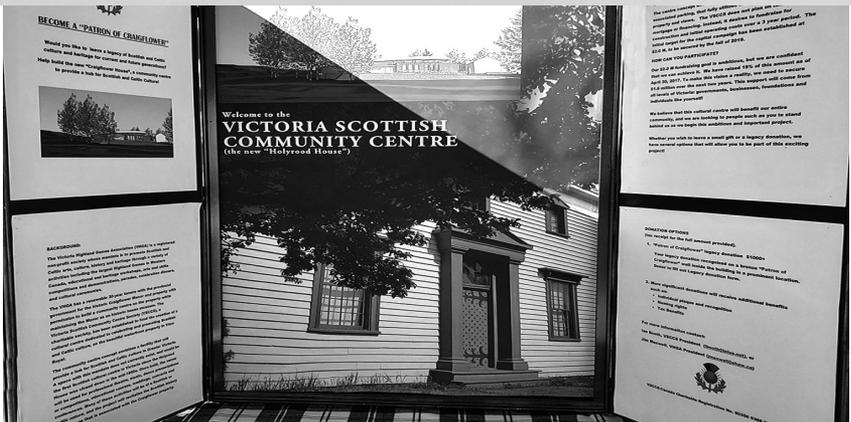
enable events to be recorded and live streamed around the world. Clan MacLeod is looking forward to this new venue as a location where we can hold our gatherings since there is no suitable place available to us at present.

The Games have been run during the last several years as a three day event but had decided to scale back to two days in 2019 to relieve the stress on volunteers; that was before COVID hit.

Attendance on the Saturday and Sunday normally topped 10,000 with Mondays around 8,000. For the building of the Culture Centre this is the major fund raising event along with donations, to supply matching funds from government grants.

Information on how to donate can be had by contacting either Ian Booth at iiboost@telus.net or Jim Maxwell at jmaxwell@shaw.ca. Karen and I have purchased one of a limited number of named bricks for \$250 and have also pledged \$1,000 to have Clan MacLeod recognized as a patron of Craigflower on a bronze plaque that will be displayed in a prominent location in the building.

We challenged other Clan Societies to do the same. If anybody else would like to help by donating it would be appreciated. You can contact us at macleod-m-k@shaw.ca. Δ



Ship *Hector* Reconstruction Project

by Tom Wallace

A few months ago, many of us watched the Ship *Hector* elevated out of Pictou Harbour and onto the Hector Quai. The replica Ship *Hector* was in need of repairs. Friends and colleagues in the Ship *Hector* Society are actively fund-raising to complete these repairs to the replica Ship *Hector*. They hope to have the *Hector* back in the water for their semiquincentennial (250th anniversary) of the Federation of Scottish Culture, in 2023. For more information and how to make donations to the Federation of Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia project contact fscns.secretary@gmail.com

Significance of the *Hector* to the Scottish Community

For those who wish a refresher in why the *Hector* is important: “A full rigged fluyt, the *Hector* was built in the Netherlands before 1750 and was employed in local trade in waters off the British Isles as well as the immigrant trade to North America, having made at least one trip c.1770 carrying Scottish emigrants to Boston, Massachusetts. In 1762 the earliest of the Fuadaich nan Gàidheal (Scottish Highland Clearances) forced many Gaelic families to leave their ancestral lands. The first ship loaded with Hebridean colonists arrived on St. John’s Island, Prince Edward Island in 1770, with later ships following in 1772 and 1774. In 1773 a ship named the *Hector* landed in Pictou, Nova Scotia, with 189 settlers, mostly originating from Lochbroom.

In 1784 the last barrier to Scottish settlement – a law restricting land-ownership on Cape Breton Island – was repealed, and soon both PEI and Nova Scotia were predominantly Gaelic-speaking. It is estimated more than 50,000 Gaelic settlers emigrated to Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island between 1815 and 1870.”

We remember that our late CMS member Gordon McLeod of Pictou was significantly involved in the construction of the replica of the *Hector*. Δ



Gaelic Affairs

Renewing Gaelic language and culture in Nova Scotia

Gaelic language and culture have been a part of Nova Scotia since the late 1700s. Passed down ‘o ghlùin gu glùin’ (literally ‘from knee to knee’) for generations, the presence of Gaelic has long contributed to the province. Almost a third of Nova Scotians today can trace their roots back to Gaelic-speaking settlers from the Islands and Highlands of Scotland. Many are involved in cultural activities that enrich communities and help define Nova Scotia as a unique place in the world.



Gaelic Affairs works to promote the Gaelic language and ensure that Gaelic culture continues to thrive in Nova Scotia.

Working with community partners, Gaelic Affairs contributes to the ongoing development of the Gaelic community.

Gaelic Affairs also plays an active role in the strengthening and renewal of Gaelic language and culture. This includes assisting in the acquiring and passing on of Gaelic language skills and providing opportunities for cultural learning and expression.

Gaelic is an integral part of the identity of the province. As a founding language and cultural group, Gaels have helped shape the Nova Scotian experience we know today. Through the work of Gaelic Affairs, the Gaelic language will continue to be spoken and Gaelic culture will contribute to Nova Scotia’s diversity for generations to come.

Gaelic Nova Scotia: A Resource Guide

This Resource Guide is for educators and those who wish to learn more about Gaelic language, culture, and identity in Nova Scotia.

Download: *Gaelic Nova Scotia: A Resource Guide* (PDF). Δ

Rewilding Dunvegan Estate

by Faith Ridler, *Daily Mail*; Dec. 2, 2020

* Hugh MacLeod to overhaul the ‘lunarscape’ near Dunvegan Castle.

* 371,875 broadleaves to be planted on the MacLeod Estate on Isle of Skye.

* Project awarded £1million grant from the Scottish Government and the EU.

Hugh MacLeod, the 30th Chief of Clan MacLeod, hopes to overhaul the ‘lunarscape’ surrounding Dunvegan Castle by planting a total of 371,875 native trees in its land in an ambitious Clan MacLeod project to transform the ‘beautiful but not natural’ Isle of Skye, and the 42,000 acre MacLeod Estate. It has been in the planning for years, and is now awarded £1million, by the Scottish Government and the EU.

The focus will be on planting trees which historically grew in the Isle of Skye’s peat soil - such as birch, rowan and cherry trees.

This is the first phase of our nascent rewilding plans, and once the woodlands are established, this will create an extensive and biodiverse habitat to support a number of native species to suit the land’s terrain and ecology. It is hoped the rewilding strategy will encourage others to take on similar initiatives to restore Skye’s ‘wet desert’ landscape, which is ‘a legacy of centuries of degradation caused by over-grazing.’ Mr MacLeod, the Estate Director, said: “In a difficult year of persistent bad news, I am thrilled that the MacLeod Estate has been awarded this grant for one of the largest and most ambitious native woodland creation projects on the Isle of Skye. These broadleaf forests will provide a home for reintroduced beaver populations and the declining numbers of red squirrels and wildcats which inhabit parts of Scotland.” He added the current landscape of the Isle of Skye is clear evidence it was an ancient woodland before the land was stripped bare by human activity. “After all, the extensive peatbog on the island is clear evidence of ancient and widespread woodlands,” Mr MacLeod said. “In common with other areas of the Highlands, Skye’s current lunarscape appearance is beautiful, but it is not natural.”

This project aims to restore this piece of land and it will have a positive ripple effect on the local community beyond the obvious ecological benefits, creating more jobs in sustainable eco-tourism and more rewilding initiatives.

Mr MacLeod has been working to turn Dunvegan Castle into a successful tourist destination after inheriting the area from his late father

John more than 10 years ago. The 9th century Castle has been the ancestral home of Clan MacLeod for more than 800 years, and now has an annual turnover of £2.9million with 168,000 UK and international visitors each year. The land includes the MacLeod Tables Café, four retail outlets, five holiday cottages, seal trips, amenity woodlands, Dunvegan Pier, and Glenbrittle Campsite. The clan Chief expects the rewilding, which is being overseen by Scottish Woodlands Ltd, will improve eco-tourism and create more jobs on the Isle of Skye.

The project's first phase will focus on transforming Dunvegan's former home farm, Totachocaire, into a 593-acre native woodland. As one of the largest native woodland projects on the Isle of Skye, this will bring the total number of native trees planted on the MacLeod Estate since 2010 to 432,000.

“Hugh MacLeod’s ground-breaking nature restoration project at the historic Dunvegan Castle on Skye is one of the most exciting rewilding stories in Britain today.” Sarah-Jane Laing, CEO of Scottish Land & Estates, added: “This scheme is testament to Hugh’s vision, drive and ongoing commitment to an environmentally and economically sustainable future, not only for the Estate but for Skye and indeed the whole of Scotland.”

Hugh MacLeod became the 30th Chief of Clan MacLeod in 2007, succeeding his father John who died suddenly that February having been diagnosed with leukemia a month earlier. Clan Chief Hugh is Laird of Dunvegan Castle at 47 years old. He studied Film and Modern History at the University of London and the Sorbonne in 1995. He was appointed head of the ancient Scottish clan 12 years later, also inheriting the ancient seat of the Chiefs of Macleod, Dunvegan Castle. He said “I take a low-key approach to the role of clan chief, preferring to focus my attention on running the MacLeod Estate which leaves me with very little time for anything else. I regard it as a huge privilege and see myself as a custodial link in a chain that stretches back 800 years. My aim is not to be a weak link.” Δ



Angus Graeme MacLeod

January 7 1920 – January 27 2006

by Malcolm MacLeod, CMS BC Van Island

It was 1991 when Karen, Malcolm, Kirstie and Callum MacLeod moved back to Duncan BC from St. Eugene in Glengarry County in Eastern Ontario. That summer, we attended the July 1 parade in Chemainus where the Duncan Legion Pipe Band was marching and when Callum saw them he said, “That’s what I want to do when I grow up.” He was just shy of his eighth birthday.

Now, fast forward four years after he had been to school and excelled at music such as the recorder and coronet. I took him down to the Legion one night to the pipe band practice and enquired as to who taught piping. They told me either Bill Grant or Angus MacLeod and it ended up that we engaged Angus.

I would take Callum up to Angus and Daphne’s house in Lake Cowichan for lessons twice a week and they lasted at least an hour and a half. I would sit and chat with Daphne who regaled me with all sorts of history over tea and scones and I could enjoy the wonderful aroma of supper cooking and she continued her knitting. Their son Allan had recently had a son and named him Callum as well. At these one-on-one sessions with Angus he would teach with canterachd (the mouth music style that MacCrimmons used to use) and Callum learned to read pipe music upside down since Angus had the music upright on his side of the table. Later on, they started meeting in the basement of the Legion in Lake Cowichan with five or six in attendance, with Callum sometimes being the youngest by 50 years. They all got along well though. Between my talks with Daphne and Angus I learned quite a lot of their life story.

Angus was a big man about 6’ 2” from Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis. When he was 16, in 1936 he ran away and joined the army (the Seaforth Highlanders) at Fort George just east of Inverness. His dad found out about this and turned him in because of his age and the military gave him his choice. He could stay in the Army but he would have to join the Pipe Corps, which he did. One time while on leave in Stornoway, he came across a school mate named Donald MacLeod who was delivering baked goods with a horse and wagon, the horse was being obstreperous and Donald was holding onto his head and the horse reared up and lifted him clean off the ground. Angus found this very funny and told Donald that since he was already a prize winning piper, he should join the Army where he would get the best tuition and that was what he did. Wee Donald as they called him, was tutored by the best and played for the Queen and other elite personages. Angus went to France with the Expeditionary Force and was captured at St. Valery on June 12, 1940, spending the rest of the war in a German prison of war camp.

Angus's son Allan thinks that Donald was also captured but escaped while being taken to the prison camp and was able to make it back to England. Fortunately, Angus made it to the prison camp with his pipes and had some more practice chanters sent to him through the Red Cross so that he was able to teach others to play while in Stalag VIII B Lamsdorf. One of whom was Gib Renwick who played with the Vancouver Police Pipe band in 1951. In early 1945, the Germans moved them west to a camp near Fallingbostal where they were liberated in April 1945 by his own Seaforths and shortly afterward flown home to Britain.

Angus and Daphne met at a dance hall in London where as Angus said, "She was the prettiest girl on the dance floor." But Daphne also said that his father was not too happy to learn that he was going to marry a sassenach.

Angus got a job as a Bobby in Kent and they started a family and spent their holiday times in Stornoway. This was the time when Angus became reacquainted with his old friend "Pipe Major Donald MacLeod" (Wee Donald to them) who was reputed to be "The outstanding Piper and Composer of the Twentieth Century" and Daphne also got to know him quite well.

It was these times that Daphne would tell me about while we were sitting in her living room. She said that tunes would just come into Donald's head, like the time they were "Crossing the Minch" and the motion of the boat inspired the tune which just popped into Angus' head. Another time while filling up at a petrol station, a chicken was crossing the road and that brought on "The Hen's March Across the Midden". He also composed a tune and called it "Angus G MacLeod."

In 1951, Angus came to Canada and three months later after getting established, he sent for Daphne and their four children Catriona, Allan, Sheena and Moira. Angus met up with and rode around with his previous prison mate Gib Renwick who had become a Vancouver cop and though Angus had the idea of joining up he didn't like patrolling in a car since he was used to using a bicycle.

Angus spent one season on a steam and sail whaling ship and then worked for American Can Car, Alberta Wheat Pool, BC Ferries and then skippered the little Harbour Ferries in Victoria, which he said was his favourite job of all. It was while living on Salt Spring Island that he worked for the BC Ferries and ran a Scottish import business for a while then started the Cowichan Pipes and Drums Band in conjunction with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #53. He was the second Pipe Major because he had to commute from Salt Spring Island. He was also instrumental in starting the Maple Ridge Pipe Band. When he worked on the Harbour Ferries he bought a boat and they moved to Victoria.

Between Angus and Donald, they ran Piping Schools in the summer time, one in Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan and another in Nelson, BC and Donald stayed with Angus and Daphne when he came over from Scotland. Over the years, Angus must have taught well over a hundred pipers and he never charged for a lesson; he only asked that his pupils pass their knowledge on to others.

Our son Callum became quite a good piper and piped the North Room Group into the Clan MacLeod Opening Ceremonies in Stornoway at Parliament 2006, which seemed appropriate since both Angus and Donald were from there. Δ

MacLeod Music DVD

Length 53 Minutes

Scenery of the Scottish West Coast and the beautiful Hebrides

A Selection of Music with a MacLeod Connection - Each song or tune has been written by a MacLeod, about a MacLeod or about MacLeod Lands. Three pieces follow with a segment on the bagpipes, one, The Green Hills of Tyrol are on Bagpipes alone.

An introduction to each piece explains the MacLeod connection and gives some history of the music.



1. Rise and Follow Charlie
2. Morag of Dunvegan
3. Mrs MacLeod of Raasay
4. Raving Winds Around Her Blowing
5. Road to the Isles
6. Sitting in the Stern of a Boat
7. The Waipu Settlers
8. The Land of MacLeod
9. Calum's Road
10. The Skye Boat Song
11. (Bagpipes only) The Green Hills of Tyrol

Based on a presentation at the Clan MacLeod Auckland Gathering.

See over/page 2, for how to order.

NEW!
Released in
February 2020



MacLeod Battles DVD - Length 53 Minutes

Filmed in the historic Clan MacLeod Lands

Three different Narrators tell of FIVE episodes from the History of Clan MacLeod:

1. The Battle of Glendale, 1490 - Skye's biggest battle. Clanranald MacDonalds and the MacLeods.
2. The Battle of the Spoiling of the Dyke, 1578 MacDonalds raid and burnt the Truman Church.
3. The Battle of Carinish, 1601. The MacLeods raided the MacDonald Territory of North Uist.
4. The Seige of Bearasay, 1610 - 1613. The final days of the MacLeods of Lewis at the hands of the Mackenzies of Kintail.
5. Eviction of the MacLeods of Gairloch, 1606 to 1610. Three raids by the MacLeods of Gairloch on the Mackenzies of Gairloch, PLUS the Sea Fight in Clachan Bay, Isle of Raasay.

Narrators - Ruth MacLeod, Peter Macleod & Kevin Tolmie. Filmed on the Isles of Skye, North Uist, Harris, Great Bernera, Lewis and Raasay, and on the Scottish Mainland at Gairloch and Glenelg.

MacLeod Battles takes us from the Lordship of the Isles to the rule of King James 1st and 6th who ruled England and Ireland as well as Scotland. King James was in no mood to put up with rebellious Highland Chiefs and their Clans and set about bringing law and order to the West of Scotland and the Hebrides.

Narrators give the story backgrounds, describe the military engagements and outcomes. The research is thorough and sometimes, overturns story versions handed down. Released in 2019 - See over/page 2, for how to order.

Tales and Legends of Skye DVD

Length 77 Minutes - Filmed on the beautiful Isle of Skye

Narrators - Janet MacLeod Trotter, Kevin Tolmie, John Davidson-Kelly, Graeme Trotter, Rachael Jackson and Marlin Darrah. A map shows the location of each story. An excellent introduction to MacLeod and other Skye stories.

First released in 2016 - See over/page 2, for how to order.

All Tales and Legends are in North Skye

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Bonnie Prince Charlie's Skye Adventure | 7. The Fairy's Bags of Gold | 13. John Paul Jones |
| 2. Dr Johnson and the Isle of Isay | 8. Duntulm Castle | 14. The Corn Maiden |
| 3. Dunvegan Castle | 9. A Highland William Tell | 15. Finlay of the White Plaid |
| 4. The Fairy Flag | 10. A Whiskered Visitor to Greshornish | 16. MacLeod's Tables |
| 5. Dunvegan Cup | 11. Smugglers of Monkstadt | 17. Campbell Fleet in Loch Roag |
| 6. The Fairy Bridge | 12. Healing Powers of Wells and Springs | 18. The Catherine and Edward |



Flight of the Highlanders: The Making of Canada

Author Ken McGoogan, reviewed by Wayne MacGregor Parker

This is a good book for all Canadians of Scottish decent to read. What sets this book apart from so many well documented accounts is that it goes beyond the clearances, crosses the ocean, and follows the struggles of these wretched souls as they overcome enormous challenges carving out a life and a country here in Canada.

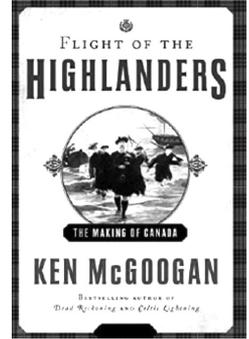
In many instances the author brings the story of their descendants right into the present day. A word of caution though: it is deeply disturbing to fully grasp the dire circumstances under which our ancestors and many others came to Canada. I felt frustration and outright anger at the treatment of these poor people.

The book is divided into three tracks. The first provides a good overview of what was going on in Scotland that led up to the Clearances. The debacle of the failed '45 with Bonnie Prince Charlie and its ramifications is well developed and sets the stage for the destruction of the clan system and the complete corruption of a number of chiefs as they abdicated their duties of protection and support in favour of material gain. This set the stage for the Clearances. It was at this point in the book that my ire began to rise.

The second track deals directly with the forced evictions of poor crofters who had lived for hundreds, if not thousands, of years subsisting on these lands under the collective protection of clan. Heart rending after heart rending account, well supported with direct quotes, tell the stories of widespread brutality at the hands of absentee landlords wishing to improve the financial returns on their lands by forcefully removing people to make room for sheep. They were loaded onto coffin ships with nothing more than the shirt on their backs and then off-loaded at unknown destinations without resources or support. There is one particularly brutal account of the forced eviction of a Gregor as witnessed by Donald Ross.

“Margaret McGregor, aged forty-seven years, was the wife of William Ross, tenant, Greenyard.

This poor woman met with savage treatment at the hands of the police. She wanted to reason with the sheriff on the impropriety of his conduct, because Mr. Munro, the tacksman, had denied all knowledge of the warrants of his removal. The answer she got was a blow on the shoulder, and then another on the left ear with a baton. That blow was so violent that it cut up the gristle of



the ear, breaking the skull and shattering the temporal and sphenoid bones. Result: concussion and compression of the brain. The blow was so forceful that it knocked the poor woman to the ground and caused blood to flow copiously from both ears.

Even after she was on the ground, the police struck her with their batons, and with their feet; and then left her with her head in a pool of blood. Donald Ross could not see the smallest hope of recovery. She was the mother of seven helpless children, and when he saw the poor little things going backwards and forwards, “toddling” around her sick bed, looking with sorrow at her death-like visage, he felt his heart break. The few sentences which the poor woman managed to speak went clearly to show that she had been barbarously treated. Ross’s firm conviction was that she was as cruelly murdered as if a policeman had shot her on the links at Tain.”

At this point my blood, my Highland blood, began to boil. At the outset, the author correctly draws attention to the fact that under the current United Nations definition, these people were not immigrants; they were refugees. In today’s terms, their treatment would indisputably be characterized as ethnic cleansing. The final track deals with what happened to these poor souls once they landed in the new world. Unfortunately, in all too many cases, more of the same in the form of poor treatment, exploitation and abuse. Shamefully, the history of mankind reveals a pattern of man’s inhumanity to man and the struggle of haves and have nots.

The Highlander refugee has to fight for every break against overwhelming odds. McGoogan does a good job of taking the reader through a number of the divisive and often abusive situations they had to work through to get established here in the new world. The emphasis in this final section is centered on how these resilient folks succeeded in stabilizing their lives enough to begin to live again.

In this final section my mood at last transitioned from outright anger, through pity, and on to hope. Eventually their fortunes start to improve as homes and communities are established and institutions based on democratic principles are upheld. It was here that hope blossomed into pride as one begins to see the formation of Canada and the profound effect the mass of Scottish refugees have had on the shaping of our country and its unique and very Scottish form of government.

I highly recommend this book. While historically accurate and presented in good taste, none the less the subject material is disturbing to consider in human terms. It is interesting and well written and will directly appeal to Canadians of Scottish decent. Δ

GAELIC IN CANADA

by Ian C MacLeod, CMS Vancouver

At the time of Canadian Confederation (1867), there was no single or common language – initially there was English, French and Gaelic (in 1850, about 10% of the population spoke Gaelic) and a multitude of aboriginal languages, among at least 629 First Nations.

In 1850 Gaelic was the third most commonly spoken European language in British North America (now Canada), spoken by as many as 200,000 British North Americans of both Scottish and Irish origin. At that time, Gaelic was probably spoken by one out of every ten inhabitants of British North America (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Gaelic).

The family of my father, Rev Alastair “Adder” MacLeod (1915-2000), was from St Ann’s, Cape Breton, but he grew up in Sydney (Whitney Pier). His first language at home was Gaelic. I have his Mother’s well worn Gaelic Bible – which I cannot read.

His maternal grandfather, John A (“Little John”) Morrison (1833-1921), had been elected from Victoria County to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly in 1878, as a Conservative. He served only one term. Late in 1879, during a debate as to whether French should be taught in the Nova Scotia schools, a proposal that he did not oppose, he suggested that it was equally appropriate to teach Gaelic. He was not successful on that suggestion.

He made his speech entirely in Gaelic and he must have had to get a ruling from the Speaker to allow him to do so.

About a century later I have been told that that speech was used as a precedent by Sinn Fein, the Irish unionist party (they were first elected to the British Parliament in 1983, but due to their refusal to take the oath of allegiance, they did not take their seats until 1998 in the British Parliament) when they tried to speak Gaelic in either the British or Irish Parliaments. They lost too (I have been unable to locate the actual Hansard record of that speech or ruling.)

Here is the English translation of my great grandfather’s 1879 speech, from the book *The History of the Morison or Morrison Family* by Leonard A. Morrison, published in 1880.

“Mr. Speaker, and honourable gentlemen.

I have been noticing that great initiatives have been set up, and great assent has been given them by some honourable Canadians

here, and in other places, to establish the preservation of the French language in this corner of the Dominion, by more pay being given to schoolteachers who teach the French children, the French language.

“But I am of the opinion that the venerable Gaelic is as precious and as useful to be taught as any other language; truly, Gaelic is the oldest language, and the best language that is in the world today.

“The speakers of English believe that that language is more entitled to respect than Gaelic; but they are foolish, and I am sure that there won’t be found today one person who speaks English correctly, except the man who has Gaelic.

“Gaelic was the first language on earth, and when that language isn’t around, there won’t be need of any.

“Therefore, if provision is made for the French language, certainly provision must be made for the Gaelic.

“The great scholars in the old country tell us that Gaelic is the king of all languages, that it is rich, perfected, artistic, melodious, and expressive, and very good for worship, and every other good thing.

“Gaelic is the language that Adam spoke, in the garden, it’s the language of the bards, and the historians, and it must be kept up.

“There’s nothing in the French language but poor sputtering; and part of English isn’t much better.

“Therefore, I say: Up with the Gaelic in School, and out of school; and if a shilling is obtained to keep up the confused awkward language of the French, let there be ten shillings for the great, honourable Gaelic. Do you hear?”

The hyperbole is impressive!

In 1890 Senator Thomas Innis (Independent for BC, but raised in Cape Breton) introduced a bill into the Canadian Senate entitled “An Act to provide for the use of Gaelic in official proceedings.” He claimed that there were ten Scots senators and eight Irish ones who spoke Gaelic (out of the then total of about 85 Senators, or about 21%), and thirty-two members of the House of Commons (out of 263, or about 12%) who spoke either Gaelic or Erse (the Irish variety of Gaelic.) He too failed to get Gaelic more formally recognized.

As an aside, another look at the use of Gaelic is set out in the 2007 novel, *A Stone on Their Cairn* (2007) by Kevin MacLeod. It is set in the communities in St Ann’s between 1897 and 1914. Each chapter contains

a mixture of Gaelic and English. It is a very readable history of the time and place, and the Scottish culture there.

Many of you may remember Kevin MacLeod from the 2008 North American Gathering in Ottawa, where he spoke on, and did book signings of that book. In 1992, Queen Elizabeth II invested him as a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) for personal service to the Sovereign. He was appointed Usher of the Black Rod, Senate of Canada, on March 27, 2008. The Usher of the Black Rod carries out a 600 year old Parliamentary tradition as the personal attendant and messenger of the Sovereign or her representative. Δ



Eager to Learn Gaelic?

Colaisde na Gàidhlig / The Gaelic College

We're excited to let you know that registration for classes starting September 2021 is now open! We've re-branded the program as Gaelic Online Gàidhlig air Loidhne with Colaisde na Gàidhlig. There are supplemental programs available according to your learning needs and where you are in your journey that we can fill you in on later as well.

Gaelic Online classes consist of 28 weeks of live instruction via Zoom, where you'll learn with experienced instructors and people from around world. You'll improve your ability to speak, read and write in the language of the Scottish Gaels. Learning this language is a key that can unlock a rich treasure-house of song, story, community, humour and friendship!

Learn more and register at <https://gaeliccollege.edu/.../online.../aga-online-learning/> Δ

Hereditary Piper to the MacLeod Chiefs

The 80th year commemoration celebrating the appointment of Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon as hereditary piper to Chief Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod was recognized in April, 2021.

Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon's initial contact with Chief Dame Flora was in 1940. He and Chief Dame Flora exchanged letters, with Malcolm Roderick requesting permission to attach, in a long-standing tradition, a MacLeod tartan ribbon to his pipes. This tradition appears to have been a symbol of loyalty between the piper and a Clan.

Chief Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod strongly supported this request.

As a skilled piper and with the documentation of direct descent through previous Hereditary Pipers to the Chiefs of MacLeod of MacLeod, Malcolm Roderick seemed to be heir apparent to the family piping legacy – if his musical talents and skills were deemed sufficiently honed.

Dame Flora assembled several talented pipers to perform at Dunvegan Castle. After his performances Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon accepted Chief Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod's request to become her Honorary Hereditary Piper.

After the end of WWII and their 1945 marriage in Scotland, Malcolm Roderick and Mairi Chisholm of Lewis, returned to Scotford Farm in Alberta. While raising their family Malcolm had a long history as one of the leading pipers in Canada, including many awards and public performances.



In 1955 Chief Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod visited Edmonton, Alberta, with Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon and family hosting her visit. Chief Dame Flora and CFRN Television host Laura Lindsay are photographed listening to Malcolm MacCrimmon play his pipes for them on November 9, 1955.

After the Edmonton Clan MacLeod gathering, Malcolm Roderick, cousin Kenneth McCrimmon of Rio de Janeiro and future Hereditary Piper Iain Norman participated in the MacLeod Parliament at Dunvegan in August 1959. Hereditary Piper Malcolm played “Lament for Mary MacLeod” at both the Mhic Criomain Memorial Cairn at Borreraig and at a concert in the Castle’s drawing room.

Chief Dame Flora noted “In this same room nine generations of MacCrimmon pipers have played. They came over the sea from Borreraig and came up the rocks by the stone steps leading to the Sea Gate into the Castle. These nine-foot-thick walls around us showed their bare stone then, and there were rushes on this floor. And the MacCrimmons played their music at the banquets of the Chiefs and their friends where we now stand.”

Of the many awards recognizing Malcolm Roderick’s extraordinary musical and piping skills and dedication to his role as Hereditary Piper to Chief Dame Flora MacLeod there is one that reflected his influence. On August 7, 1992 in Vancouver, BC, National Council of Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada presented him the Clansman of the Year Award.

Excerpts from the Award note Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon “... is awarded this prestigious honour with gratitude and affection by the Canadian members of this ancient Clan and its Septs in recognition and appreciation of his role in re-establishing and subsequently assuming the historical Hereditary Piper position, his prominence as a piper of distinction, and his long and faithful service as Member and Officer of the Northern Alberta Society.”

Malcolm Roderick MacCrimmon served as Hereditary Piper to Chief Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod until her passing.

In 1978, while visiting the Clan and Septs in Edmonton Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod appointed the noted piper and composer Iain Norman MacCrimmon, son of Malcolm Roderick, as his Hereditary Piper. Iain Norman MacCrimmon became the tenth Hereditary Piper to the 29th Chief of Clan MacLeod in succession to his father and his ancestors before him. Δ

CMSC and the Internet

by Judy Tipple

Clan and Scottish Societies of Canada (CASSOC) newsletter *An Drochaid – The Bridge* is a great source of information, organizations and activities well worth following. Clan MacLeod is a member of CASSOC and the site is easily found at www.CASSOC.ca Our hard working CMSC secretary, Karen Macleod McCrimmon is the past chair. She got Clan MacLeod well and truly involved in the organization in 2016-2019 and the Youth Leadership Conference hosted at the University of Guelph was a very productive and enjoyable event. We owe Karen a great deal of thanks for her leadership in the renewal of CASSOC activities.

I very much enjoyed participating in the Spring General Meeting by Zoom where the chairman William Petrie did a masterful job of guiding teams of us through the creation of our team tartan. The terms and important points of designing a tartan were discussed, enabling us to design a tartan to suit a particular purpose, person or group.

In their newsletter you can read about other clans, their history projects and stories. The various advertisers will expand your knowledge of tartans, services and offers of other Scottish products available.

The Scottish Studies Foundation at Simon Fraser University is another such source of very high quality presentations. Pulling out a few of the recent topic headings, I see How a Scottish Indentured Servant in America Became Edinburgh's King of the Indians was one. Another is Decolonizing Scottish Studies. Yet another which replaced the University of Guelph's Annual Scottish Studies Colloquium on April 27 presented Highwaymen, Scandal and Haggis: Recipes from Cleikum Inn.

The website www.scottishstudies.com will provide you with details of presentations and schedules.

I have taken the review of Ken McGoogan's book *Flight of the Highlanders* from the *An Drochaid*.

I would love to receive a review of any other book that you have enjoyed reading.

The www.associatedclanmacleodsocieties.com site lets you connect to the websites of the various world wide national clan societies and much more. This website is being worked on and updated by Emma Halford-Forbes of Scotland. *Clan MacLeod Magazine* #130 and #131 are downloadable and there are many more archived resources on this site.

The [www.Clan MacLeod-canada.com](http://www.ClanMacLeod-canada.com) has past issues of *The Leod Voice* from #41 to #73 and many resources to fill in your knowledge of the history of Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada. There are links to most of our Canadian Societies that have websites.

There are newsletters published by several of the ten National Societies of ACMS that you can read on line or download. Such sites as the following from Australia and New Zealand indicate that there is more openness for gatherings due to a lighter impact of COVID than we are allowed in Canada.

For news from CMS South Australia by Alex McLeod with the witty definitions of Inertia and suchlike go to [www. cmssa.org.au](http://www.cmssa.org.au).

ACMS President Peter MacLeod of Australia sends out an informative newsletter which is available on the website www.clanmacleodsoctetynsw.com. Peter is a keen student of history and puts together great articles which include MacLeod connections.

Other very informative sites well worth examining include the following:

The Scots in Canada

Celtic Life International newsletter to which you can subscribe

History Scotland

Scottish Studies Foundation at the University of Guelph

Scottish Studies at the Simon Fraser University

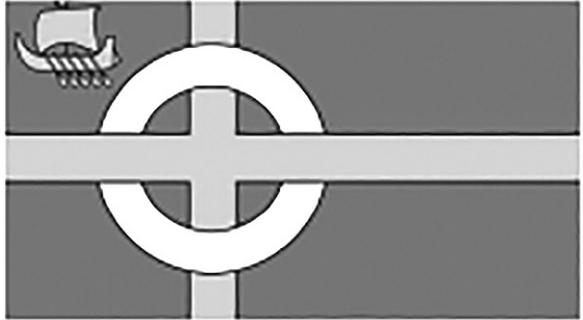
The Mission of the Scot in Canada by Alexander Fraser published in 1903 can be read on line (29 pages) or downloaded to print and read.

I have included a variety of articles from various of these sources and others sent to me that will hopefully give you some interesting reading material.

I long for the day that we can gather at Highland Games and Festivals in our own areas and send in reports of our activities to share with our members. Until then we must Hold Fast to our several mottos with patience and steadfast safety. Δ

Isle of Skye Has Official Flag

The flag was revealed at a ceremony at the Nicolson Memorial in Portree recently, where it was unfurled before a small selection of guests.



The flag, designed by a nine-year-old boy Calum Alasdair Munro, was chosen for the Isle of Skye from 369 entries and has been approved by Scotland’s heraldic authority, the Court of the Lord Lyon.

Calum Alasdair Munro’s design features a Birlinn, a wooden boat used around the island’s coast during the Middle Ages. The background is blue to represent the MacDonalDs and MacKrimmons and the yellow cross represents the MacLeods, the first three clans on the island. Its five oars represent five areas on Skye - Trotternish, Waternish, Duirinish, Minginish and Sleat.

Calum’s design was chosen in a public vote of 7000 in a competition organised by the West Highland Free Press newspaper and overseen by a flags expert. Δ

Interesting sites for videos and music

Tour Dunvegan: <https://www.isleofskye.com/skye-guide/history/macleods-of-dunvegan?fbclid=IwAR3IjxwiyvhpZmu2FZuovtnXu-9vnp9xLBS4xsItyOespsOf3z-hzgOm0K0>

Spectacular Scotland: https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR35THEzRnkA2dm29Z5W-nMYYE0fyv_Btr7UcNqHuHidMsO2LVyzY1KZXnY&v=9iedgGHnOHO&feature=youtube

Dunvegan Castle and Estate

<https://www.dunvegancastle.com/clan-macleod/>

Visit <https://www.theamericanrogues.com> for music, dates and more on their upcoming album “Hammer” Festival Favourites that give fans electrically charges Celtic Music at its finest. Δ

Editor's Page

The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically limited the original material from Clan MacLeod Societies and individual members. I do appreciate the articles which I have received and the Flowers of the Forest are a vital component.



The remaining material has been lifted, with permission, from various newsletters and members can easily subscribe to these newsletters for themselves. Other material has been taken from websites which, again, individuals can access at their own convenience. Zoom meetings, chat groups and Video presentations can be very interesting and entertaining but do not easily contribute to a printed newsletter.

The future of the CMSC communication system must be critically examined.

A closed YouTube group is one possibility where we can update each other on a timely basis and provide live links to interesting events and articles. Tributes and Memorials to our friends who have passed away can be posted or links given to their obituaries.

I am not conversant with all of the online options available and so after 25 years of editing and producing *The Leod Voice*, feel that a media transition is timely. I will produce one final issue of *The Leod Voice* and leave the media platform to someone with expertise in that format.

Time to step forward, Mellenials!

Timelines:

Newsletter

Spring—May 1

Fall—October 1

Membership and Executive Changes:

March 1 and

September 1

My best wishes to all for an enjoyable summer abiding by the restrictions given in each area of our country. Be calm, be safe, be healthy.

Let us *Hold Fast and Shine Brightly* as we struggle to get through this together. Δ

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CMSC Newsletter
c/o Judy Tipple
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**Canadian
National and
Provincial tartans**



1. Maple Leaf, 2. Newfoundland and Labrador,
3. Prince Edward Island, 4. Nova Scotia, 5. New
Brunswick, 6. Quebec, 7. Ontario, 8. Manitoba,
9. Saskatchewan, 10. Alberta, 11. British
Columbia, 12. Northwest Territories, 13. Yukon