



Nordic News

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www.canadiannordicsociety.com



CNS 2011 Dates to Remember

Speakers' Series / Club Events

January 27, 2011	Students on Ice: International Co-operation in Polar Regions
February 24, 2011	Origins of Finnish Architecture and Design
March 24, 2011	A Different Trend: Canadian Children's Literature in Sweden and Finland
April 20, 2011	Canada-US continentalism
May 29, 2011	Boat cruise
June 11, 2011	Midsummer concert

Luncheon Dates

February 7, 2011
March 7, 2011
April 4, 2011
May 2, 2011
June 13, 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First we wish members of the Canadian Nordic Society and families a prosperous 2011. We hope you will find our 2011 program of interest.

Speakers' Series: We have a number of interesting presentations in the upcoming months. Our first Speaker (January 27) will be **Reina Lahtinen**, who will describe some of the activities of Students on Ice and how this non-governmental organization stimulates an interest among Canadian and international youth to become better aware of the world's polar regions. This will be followed on February 24 with a presentation by the well-known architect and long-time CNS member, Professor Emeritus **Don Westwood**. On March 24, we look forward to a presentation by Canada's award winning journalist and author, **Roy MacGregor**, who will talk about his Screech Owl series of books for young readers in Canada and how these are being read in Finland and Sweden. On Wednesday, April 20, we will have the political scientist and media commentator, **David Dymant** discuss Canada-US continentalism and its impact on expanding ties with the Nordic countries in the Arctic region.

Please look elsewhere in this Newsletter for a lengthier description of these upcoming events. We hope you are able to include these into your schedule.

Lucia Pageant: Once again, the Canadian Nordic Society hosted its annual Lucia pageant on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at Christ Church Cathedral. We seemed to have had a record turnout as it was once again a standing room only crowd to view the concert. Simon Snow, our Treasurer, indicates that we had record revenues of almost \$2,500, which would include both admissions and the profit from raffles. We had additional expenses in the purchase of some 12 new Lucia gowns but our final profit was still \$424.

To place this in perspective: most years, Lucia operates at a small loss. We are only permitted a total of 200 within the hall at Christ Church Cathedral and this year we pretty well hit the maximum as a result of some excellent advance publicity in Ottawa media. So even a capacity crowd can, only at best, guarantee a small profit from admissions. One reason for our increased profit this year was the sale of raffle tickets and the donated prizes that accompanied them. CNS would like to thank all those who donated prizes.

The magic that every year turns out to be Lucia is based on many hours of dedicated work from numerous individuals. The Canadian Nordic Society would especially like to thank Mats Lindeberg and Annika Ericsson Kidd for once again leading the Lucia choir and to Beth Young who accompanied them on the piano. Thanks are in order to Ida Capern and her work in securing all those raffle and door prize donations, including donations from the various embassies; Per Talgoy and his son for handling the fish pond; Larry and Gunilla Wade for having a warm Glögg ready for audience members as they arrived; Tuula Bigras and Maria Shaar-Ohman for ordering the various food items and arranging the tables for the distribution of this food as well as baking from other attendees; Martti Lahtinen for helping organize the pre-Lucia publicity in the media; Tony Baron for being everywhere he was needed (which was just about everywhere); and Len Nylund who served as Chair of the Lucia 2010 Pageant and as the go-to person for the many problems that inevitably arise.

The CNS Board will be calling on all members for advice and suggestions with respect to our continued Lucia tradition. We will soon be looking for a new location. Next year we will again hold

it at the Hall at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, December 10, 2011. Since the Anglican Church plans to sell this property in the near future, this will be the last time CNS will be able to hold its Lucia Pageant in this wonderful building. If CNS wishes to continue, what has been for decades our most successful event aimed at families, we will need to find a new location for 2012. The Board will be setting up a committee to begin a search for a new site.

Please Note: In planning events of the size and scale of Lucia, it is essential that we are part of a year-round planning cycle here in Ottawa. Every year, even as the current Lucia program is winding down, your CNS Board has signed a rental agreement with Christ Church Cathedral that same evening to reserve the hall for next year. This also entails a deposit. If CNS does not book a year in advance, we will lose that site for Lucia. I can assure CNS members that if we wish to host Lucia in 2012, it is never too early to begin looking for a new site. Your suggestions on this matter are greatly needed.

Len Sillanpää
President
Canadian Nordic Society

CNS SPEAKERS' SERIES

Students on Ice: International Co-operation in Polar Regions

Speaker: Reina Lahtinen

Date & Time: Thursday, January 27, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West (off Elgin Street), Ottawa

Students on Ice offers youth from across Canada and around the world the opportunity to participate in educational expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctica. The mandate of the program is to educate and inspire the next generation of scientists, researchers, and environmental leaders and provide them with a greater understanding and respect for the environment. Since 2000, over 1,500 high school and university students from 40 countries have visited the Polar Regions with this award-winning program. Awards include the Michael J. Smith Award for Science Promotion in Canada, International Polar Year Official Youth Expeditions, and the prestigious Citation of Merit by The Explorers Club.



Reina Lahtinen, is the Partnership and Development Manager for Students on Ice. Canadian Nordic Society members will know that Reina recently completed two years as Secretary on our Board and was an especially valiant participant in organizing the fish pond at our annual Lucia pageant. Reina's presentation will feature a unique documentary film, entitled, *Imiqutailaq: Path of the Arctic Tern*. The documentary was prepared by two Canadian Inuit teenagers that highlights the journeys of the late glaciologist, Dr. Fritz Koerner, who was nicknamed by the people of Grise Fjord as *Imiqutailaq* (Arctic Tern), after the little seabird that flies from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back each year. Reina Lahtinen will introduce the film and then take questions on both the film itself, and on Students on Ice in general. Coffee will be served. Cash bar.

Origins of Finnish Architecture and Design

Speaker: Donald Westwood

Date & Time: Thursday, February 24, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West (off Elgin), Ottawa.



Donald Westwood, a Professor Emeritus in architecture at Carleton University and a long-time member of the Canadian Nordic Society, will be giving a presentation on one of his long-time professional interests, Finnish architecture and design. In many ways, Professor Westwood will be using this presentation as a means for summing up a number of his observations on Finnish architecture gained over a life-time of work.

Don Westwood is a man of many interests. Born in London, England in 1935; immigrated to Canada in 1959; worked on the design of the Toronto City Hall by the Finnish architect Viljo Revell, and for Hart Massey in Ottawa until 1964. Since 1971 taught in the School of Architecture at Carleton University, Ottawa, on architecture and design, and in the areas of stage-set design, structures, technology and building construction. He has also taught courses in Industrial Design and Civil Engineering and in a Children's Classic Literature course by creating a popular video series of stories read by a master story-teller. Don has won two Carleton Teaching Achievement Awards, and in 1997 became the first professor of architecture in Canada to win a National 3M Teaching Fellowship. He has constantly attempted to bridge the gap between academe and the general public with his publicly televised lectures, which led to writing and hosting the TV Ontario series *The Science of Architecture* in 1988, and *A Sense of Design* in 1991; these have been distributed in over 30 countries and have earned him five ACTRA Awards. Don was an associate in the firm of Phillip Sharp, Architect, working on social and private housing, seniors' facilities and prefabricated building systems. Professor Westwood was the Canadian Delegate to ISO meetings in Central and Eastern Europe and China, chairman of a Canadian Standards Association Committee on Construction Drawing Practice and Chairman of the Standards Council of Canada International Standardization Committee on Technical Services. Don's research interests range from an exploration of multi-media applications in design education, to on-location studies of the architectural, social and cultural history of Southwest France. Don Westwood has also done a lot of acting on stage, on the radio, and on television, including the role of Uncle Jack on *Under the Umbrella Tree*. Coffee will be served. Cash bar.

A Different Trend:

Canadian Children's Literature in Sweden and Finland

Speaker: Roy MacGregor

Date & Time: Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West (off Elgin), Ottawa.



Roy MacGregor is the author of some 40 books, 23 of them in the internationally successful **Screech Owls** mystery series for young readers. What is fascinating is that the **Screech Owl** books have been translated into Swedish and Finnish and are selling in ever increasing numbers to readers in Sweden and Finland. How is it possible that a Canadian author on hockey themes has been attracting an ever greater readership in the lands of Pippi Longstocking and the Moomis?

Come and find out. Coffee will be served. Cash bar.

Roy MacGregor was born in the small Upper Ottawa Valley village of Whitney. He has been a journalist for 35 years and has worked for a number of major Canadian publications, including *Maclean's*, the *Toronto Star*, *Ottawa Citizen* and, since 2002, the *Globe and Mail*.

Mr. MacGregor has won every major journalism award in the country. His novel **Canoe Lake** was a national bestseller. His book on fathers and sons and hockey, **Home Team**, was nominated for the Governor-General's Award. His memoir about his father, **A Life in the Bush**, won numerous national awards and the prestigious U.S. Rutstrum Award, which is awarded every five years to the best book on the wilderness. One of his most important works is **Canadians: A Portrait of the Country and Its People**, a study of the country he has written about and traveled throughout for more nearly four decades.

In 2005, he was named an Officer in the Order of Canada. He is described in the citation as one of Canada's "most-gifted storytellers." Roy and Ellen live in Kanata and are the parents of four grown children.

Canada-US Continentalism

Speaker: David Dymnt

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West (off Elgin), Ottawa.

Political scientist and media commentator, **David Dymnt** will discuss Canada-US continentalism and its impact on expanding ties with the Nordic countries in the Arctic region. More information about this event will be provided at a later date.

CNS LUNCHEONS

CNS luncheons are usually held once a month on a Monday at the Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West. Please arrive by 11:45 am for 12:00 pm luncheon. Lunch is a choice of a light lunch or two hot dishes. Parking is not available at the Mess during daytime hours. Dress code requires jacket and tie, no jeans or jogging suits. RSVP: Please contact Tuula Bigras at 613-424-4539, no later than the Thursday before each luncheon to confirm. Dates to remember are:

February 7, 2011

March 7, 2011

April 4, 2011

May 2, 2011

June 13, 2011

NOTE:

Looking for CNS Events on our website (www.canadiannordicsociety.com)? Try looking under Upcoming Events or the posted Newsletters. If you have questions about any of our events, please don't hesitate to contact a Board Member.

OTHER NORDIC EVENTS OF INTEREST

Constructions Art and Design from Norway

Opening: February 3, 2011 - 5:30 pm

Dates: Friday, February 4 - March 20, 2011

Time: Wednesdays to Sundays, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Karsh-Masson Gallery 136 St. Patrick Street, Ottawa, ON.

Constructions: Norwegian contemporary Arts and Crafts is an exhibition of 27 beautiful objects that inspires our imagination and amazes us with a low key and often humorous outlook on the world around us. The artists work with unexpected materials to play with conventional notions of industrial design, constructing a new and often humorous comment on our conception of reality. The exhibition includes popular workshops with visiting artist and outreach activities for young audiences. Constructions is curated by Edith Lundebrekke for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Association for Arts and Crafts. For further information: 613.580.2424, ext. 14167.

“Finland in Our Hearts” – The expatriate summer festival in Turku

The Institute of Migration is arranging a festival "Finland in Our Hearts" for expatriate Finns and their friends in 2011 in Turku, Finland. They will welcome Finns from near and far to take part in the event. The festival which takes place July 1-4, 2011, includes a parade, lectures and seminars, pesäpallo and golf tournaments, a film festival, folk dance festival, tori – Market Place, music and dance. Additional information on the homepage of the festival: www.migrationinstitute.fi/usj/



Canadian Nordic Society

If you are already a member, please pass this on to a friend!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone (home): _____ Phone (work): _____

e-mail: _____ Fax: _____

To reduce costs, the newsletter is sent electronically to those
with email addresses unless otherwise advised.

**Family Membership - \$30, Individual Membership - \$20. Student Membership - \$15.
As a Member you:**

- will receive the Society's Newsletter
- are invited to participate in all CNS events
- are encouraged to become actively involved in the life of the Society
- receive discounts on tickets to CNS events

Canadian Nordic Society Board Members – 2010-2011

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Lars Öhman - Honorary President

If you have any questions about your membership, please contact one of the Board Members.
Membership dues can be given to any Board member or you can mail your payment to:

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