The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg

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# TheUNIVERSITY of MINNIPEG.

# A Message to our Readers

Anticipation is building for the next Rupert's Land Colloquium, 26-30 May 2004, in Kenora, Ontario, an ancient crossroads both for Aboriginal people and for the fur trade. Your pre-registration form is enclosed, along with information on the preliminary program and on the various events scheduled. To facilitate planning, and to ensure success in signing up for certain events for which numbers are limited, please register soon! Also, please make your hotel reservation early to secure your conference rate at the Lakeside Inn on the shore of Lake of the Woods (see enclosed brochure). David Malaher and an active planning committee based both in Kenora and Winnipeg have been working hard to lay out a rich and diverse program for this memorable occasion. Our gathering promises to be a very special event both for us and for the people of the Kenora area who are preparing a warm welcome.

Last call for papers. The final date for receipt of proposals for papers and sessions is Monday, November 3, 2003. The call for papers is reprinted in this Newsletter. Session times and spaces are limited, so please respond quickly. We have already had a number of submissions and informal suggestions for papers and sessions, and we hope to have the program planned and to notify people about acceptances by mid-January 2004.

Once again, David Malaher has generously offered to compile Colloquium proceedings into a volume to be produced expeditiously at a reasonable price; his guidelines for paper submissions will be circulated to those whose papers are accepted for presentation. The pre-registration form offers you an opportunity to order this volume at a special pre-registration price.

On September 26, the Centre and the University of Winnipeg were host to an exciting event, the launch of the web site, www.ourvoices.ca, bringing forward about 80 of the stories that Cree elder and storyteller Louis Bird, of Peawanuck, Ontario, has collected over the last 30 years. From January to April 2003, an intensive project funded by Canadian Heritage under its Canadian Culture On-Line program and directed by Mr. Bird and co-directed by George Fulford (Anthropology, UW) and assisted by Mark Ruml (Religious Studies) and myself and by numerous hard-working technical and office staff, students, and others, carried out the transcription, sound enhancement and digitizing on CD-Roms, and editing of several hundred hours of cassette tapes in English and Cree. Unfortunately, the tight time frame and a shortage of people both skilled and available to transcribe the Cree-language tapes into Cree syllabics meant that the Cree work could not be completed; but funding prospects are being pursued to complete that phase, of such critical importance to Louis Bird and to all who care about the survival of indigenous languages and literatures.

We have had some excellent discussions with interested members and supporters and with the new University of Winnipeg Foundation about means of developing a stronger and more substantial structure for the work and future of

### Message

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the Centre. As we pursue these discussions, I want to emphasize that your support and interest are of fundamental importance as we demonstrate the breadth and depth of our members' commitment. We enter our twentieth year with a strong membership base that has played a tremendously critical role in carrying us forward.

Now it is once again time to renew memberships, and again the dues continue at \$20 per year, unchanged, for the year 2004. Please check your address label for the year through which you have currently paid (or send an e-mail to rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca if you have a question about membership), and let us hear from you! As ever, donations are most warmly welcomed; amounts of ten or more dollars in excess of membership fees will be receipted and gladly received.

Jennifer S.H. Brown Director

#### The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies

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# The C. Richard Harington Fellow, 2003-2004

We are delighted to welcome M. Anne Lindsay as the Harington Fellow for 2003-2004. Anne completed a BA at the University of Manitoba in October 1981, with a major in Criminology and Philosophy. She returned to study at the University of Winnipeg in 2002, and is presently doing an Honours major in History.

Anne's interests centre on research. She is interested in strategies that various people in the fur trade used to cope with and thrive in their environment. She has recently completed a chapter on salt making in the Swan River region for the Geological Survey of Canada, and hopes to pursue research on salt making in the Red River Valley this year. She did substantial research on Treaty Two in 2002-2003, which she hopes to continue. Both these topic require archival research as little published material is currently available.

Anne received a prestigious University of Winnipeg Undergraduate
Research Award in the Human
Sciences this past spring, which she
has applied to the researching of the
background and context of one of
Cree elder Louis Bird's stories, "The
Wailing Clouds," for the Omushkego
Oral History Project. In consultation
with Mr. Bird, she has drafted a
chapter on this story for an upcoming
book of his stories, now in preparation
for Broadview Press, and will be
researching another of his historical
stories this year.

Anne expresses great enthusiasm about holding the Harington Fellowship, particularly since this is a Colloquium year and she is looking forward to the Colloquium activities next May in Kenora. Anne can be reached through the Rupert's Land office, or by e-mail at malindsay@shaw.ca.

#### Introducing our New Centre for Rupert's Land Studies Office Assistant

We are pleased to introduce Coryna M Sidebottom as the new part-time CRLS office assistant handling our membership files, messages, orders for publications, accounts, and the myriad other matters requiring skilled attention. Coryna completed her degree in History at the University of Winnipeg last spring, and is now in our joint UW / University of Manitoba MA program in history. Her interests are primarily in the history of technology, militarism as a societal force, and the history of disease. She welcomes your queries and requests for assistance. As her major workdays are Mondays, those are the best days to reach her, although we try to check for messages on other days as well. If you wish to reach her directly and quickly on non-working days, her email is likethesong@hotmail.com.

## NEWS FROM THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ARCHIVES

#### Staff

Following a HBCA organizational review there have been some shifts and changes in staff responsibilities in an effort to address our expanded program responsibilities over time and our larger staff complement. One major shift is that Anne Morton, well known to HBCA researchers as the Head of Research and Reference, now heads Public Programming activities for HBCA to make the resources widely known and appreciated. This includes working with external groups (by participating in conferences, delivering talks and presentations) with individuals and groups that come into the archives (by coordinating tour and volunteer programs) and with Archives of Manitoba staff to develop strategies for improving access to records. Anne's incredible knowledge of the records and lengthy career with the HBCA will be a tremendous asset to this position. Marcia Stentz is now Acting Head of Client Service, directing the research and reference work formerly undertaken by Anne. Marcia has considerable experience with corporate and private records in the HBCA and with assisting both our remote and on-site researchers.

#### Biographical Resources at the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Volume II

Since it came out in 1996, Volume One of *Biographical Resources* has been much appreciated by genealogists and students of the fur trade. Volume Two, also by Elizabeth Briggs and Anne Morton, has a wider range. It includes settlers, sailors, store clerks - and more on the fur trade. The book contains 210 pages, with 80 illustrations taken from documents in the HBC Archives. For more details about the book and

information on how to order a copy, contact the Archives at hbca@gov.mb.ca

# Research Projects Modern Day Adventurers Visit HBCA

Five French canoeists traveled by birch bark canoe from Oregon to York Factory over the course of this past spring and summer. The canoe was patterned after the original "canoe du nord." They retraced the trip of botanist David Douglas who traveled in a HBC express canoe in 1827. Like David Douglas, they collected plant samples and one of their crew, Vincent Athias, painted watercolor sketches of plants and the scenes that they passed along the way. They visited the archives to obtain reproductions of photographs, maps and works of art to supplement the illustrations that they are gathering for a publication and documentary film of their trip. The canoeists plan to return to Winnipeg in February for Festival du Voyageur, if they are able to secure funding. For an account of their journey, visit their Website: http://perso.club-internet.fr/ vincent.athias.

#### **BBC Scotland Production**

Wark Clements, a production company has drawn upon HBCA resources in preparing a six part historical series for the BBC in Scotland. The series examines the role of the Scots in the British Empire, with each part focussing on a different region of the world. Programme One looks at the Scots in North America.

#### Recent Acquisitions

The archives received 33 original documents relating to the Hudson's

Bay Company posts in the Michipicoten district of Ontario, dating from 1853-1887. Of special interest is a census of the "Indian Population of New Brunswick and Missanabie Posts", dated June 1, 1877. The archives also received records of Barbara Johnstone (1925-2003), former Curator of the HBC Historical Exhibit at The Bay Store and former director of Lower Fort Garry. Additionally, records were received from Canada's National History Society, *The Beaver* magazine.

#### **Publications**

Recent publications for which HBCA resources were consulted include:

- Colin G. Calloway, One Vast Winter Court, The Native American West before Lewis and Clark
- Frederik L. Schodt, Native
   American in the Land of the
   Shogun, Ronald MacDonald and
   the Opening of Japan
- William Barr, The Arctic Journal of Chief Factor Peter Warren Dease, 1836-1839
- Shelagh D. Grant, Arctic Justice, On Trial for Murder, Pond Inlet, 1923

#### Hours

Researchers are encouraged to check with the Archives before planning a visit.

Winter hours (mid September to mid-April):

Tuesday to Saturday, 9:00-1600 Summer hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00-1600

#### **Book Reviews**

Peguis; A Noble Friend by Donna G. Sutherland Chief Peguis Heritage Park Inc.

Reconstructed primarily from archival sources, Peguis; A Noble Friend is a story about the well known eighteenth century Saulteaux leader, including his many contributions to the Saulteaux/Cree Settlement established in 1832—a community that became known as St. Peter's. Also presented in the story is the birth of the old stone Church of St. Peter (Dynevor), an edifice built on the east bank of the Red River in 1853 that Peguis was closely associated with and that still stands today – fully restored.

To order: Please send cheque or money order addressed to *Chief Peguis Heritage Park Inc* along with your name, mailing address, and telephone number to:

Lorraine Swanson 19 Zachary Drive St. Andrews, MB R1A 3B8 (204) 339-4325 \$26.70 per copy (includes GST)\$4.00 postage

#### News From The Hudson's Bay Company Archives

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Fax. (204) 948-3236
E-mail: hbca@gov.mb.ca
Personal Tel. (204) 945-2620
Personal E-mail:
mdolyniuk@gov.mb.ca
Web site: www.gov.mb.ca/hbca

# New! Guy Lavallee on the Metis of St. Laurent, Manitoba

We are pleased to share the news about a book just published by Guy Lavallee, *The Metis of St. Laurent, Manitoba: Their Life and Stories,* 1920-1988. Guy, the youngest of a



family of 14, grew up in St. Laurent, hearing the oral traditions and learning Michif-French (chapter 5 covers the language

history of St. Laurent and the pressures on Michif in vivid detail). In 1968, he was ordained an Oblate of Mary Immaculate, and in the early 1980s, he completed a Master's degree in anthropology at the University of British Columbia, which forms the basis for this book. Long active in social justice issues and Aboriginal community development, he is also the author of *Prayers of a Metis Priest: Conversations with God on the Political Experiences of the Canadian Metis*.

Both descriptive and personal in style, the book outlines the history of St. Laurent and then looks at family life, education, social life, religion, politics, and language issues, concluding with a discussion of views and perspectives on Metis identity. Families and individuals come alive in its pages, especially in the many photographs interspersed in the text and in the colour portraits gathered at the end.

The book (paperback, illustrated, with bibliography and index) may be ordered from the Metis Resource Centre, Suite 506, 63 Albert St., Winnipeg, MB R3B 1G4; by fax at 204-956-7765; or by e-mail: metisrc@mb.sympatico.ca

The price is \$35.00 plus shipping and handling; please contact the MRC for shipping cost and for information on method of payment.

# Native American in the Land of the Shogun; Ranald MacDonald and the Opening of Japan.

Schodt, Frederik L. Berkeley: Stone Bridge Press, 2003.

In 1948 Ranald MacDonald intentionally marooned himself on an island off Northern Japan, at the time a nation forbidden to outsiders. Although promptly arrested and imprisoned in Nagasaki, the intelligent, well-educated MacDonald fascinated the Japanese and became one of their first teachers of English and Western ways. Based on primary research in Japan and North America, this book chronicles the events leading to MacDonald's adventure and his later struggle to obtain recognition at home.

"...Readable and meticulously researched, this book presents a colourful character in his complex cultural context. After 150 years MacDonald finally has his story told fully and accurately." *Professor Stephen Kohl, University of Oregon* 

432 pp. 6x9" b/w photos and maps. ISBN 1-880656-77-9 Paperbound \$19.95
ISBN 1-880656-78-7 Casebound \$39.95
Stone Bridge Press
Berkeley California
USA 94707
www.stonebridge.com
sbp@stonebrigde.com
Trade Distribution by Consortium 10800-283-3572

This text is one that members of the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies will surely enjoy, having been written by one of its members! This book is an examination of a life that transcended continents and cultures and fills a valuable niche in Native American history.

Announcing

#### Reading Beyond Words; Contexts for Native History.

Second revised edition, paperback, illustrated, edited by Jennifer S.H. Brown and Elizabeth Vibert. Peterborough, ON: Broadview Press, 2003. ISBN 1-55111-543-3

"The research is exciting and engaging," American Historical Review.

It takes patience and dedication to recover and communicate the experiences and perspectives of those for whom the historical record is lacking or severely limited by the interpretation of others - it takes reading beyond words.

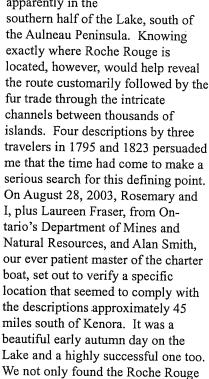
This collection of essays presents work by, among others, a veritable who's who of Centre for Rupert's Land Studies members. It includes chapters by Renée Fossett, Frieda Klippenstein, Trudy Nicks, Germaine Warkentin, Laura Peers, and Theresa Schenck; and new chapters authored by Patricia McCormack on Thanadelthur; George Fulford and Louis Bird on Oblate catechism teachings and Cree responses on Hudson Bay; and Paul DePasquale on the Frobisher expeditions and the Inuit.

The academic fields of the authors include history, anthropology, geography, literature and Native studies. The 17 chapters convey the substance and spirit of the authors' lively new work on Native North American history and historiography and the atmosphere of excitement and challenge in these fields. This revised edition is hoped to inspire further discussion, research, and insights regarding the relationship between Aboriginal people and Europeans. For order information, go to:

www.broadviewpress.com

Locating Roche Rouge in Lake of the Woods

Roche Rouge is mentioned in journals by some of the many travelers through Lake of the Woods. Generally speaking, its location is apparently in the



Roche Rouge is on the northeast corner of Big Island. Some writers have mistakenly placed it on the west side of Painted Rock Island, perhaps thinking Painted and Rouge were the same place. The most important discovery, in my view, is that Roche Rouge is readily identified today, and it is on the Basil Channel separating Big Island from Bigsby Island and Painted Rock Island. This places another definite point on the fur trade route through the Lake of the Woods along with French Portage Narrows. Joining the dots from

where it was expected to be, we also

climbed it and photographed it.



the mouth of Rainy River to Roche Rouge, French Portage Narrows and Rat Portage at the Winnipeg River clearly shows a route through the centre of the

Lake, not on the west or east shores, and avoiding the dangerous Big Traverse Bay.

Roche Rouge outcrop extends ¾ to 1 mile along the shoreline rising 150 to 170 feet and cannot be missed from a boat passing by. The granite has a strong hue of pink, not actually red, and this was a bit disappointing because I had imagined an orange stained vertical cliff. Rocky shores, outcrops and cliffs are found everywhere in the Lake but the usual colour is grey. A canoe moving typically at 3 ½ mph would take about 15 minutes to pass and, being directly in front of the high rock, its constant "red" colour is much too dominant to ignore.

Basil Channel varies from a half mile wide to one and a half miles over its ten mile length but at Roche Rouge it closes down to just 700 feet, thus forming a natural Toll Gate as mentioned in the journals. Indians who acted as gatekeepers could camp in many spots and have plenty of time to get into their canoes to intercept the passersby. There is no escaping anyone who wants to meet you.

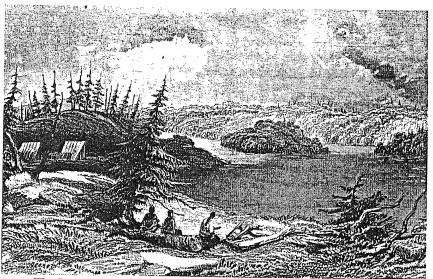
David Malaher, September 21, 2003 david@malaher.org

(Anyone wishing to visit Roche Rouge, French Portage Narrows or other remote historic places on Lake of the Woods before or after the Colloquium should get in touch with me ASAP.)

# Colloquium 2004 Kenora, Ontario May 26–29

Kenora, at the north end of Lake of the Woods has been the site of a constantly changing historical scene. Rich natural resources supported the aboriginal peoples, brought the fur trade of the 18th and 19th centuries, then mining, logging, manufacturing, fisheries, and railroad services. The entrancing scenery attracts cottagers and tourists alike. A city of 17,000, it is located on the Trans Canada Highway 200 km east of Winnipeg or 450 miles north of St.Paul/ Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Accommodation: The Colloquium meetings and accommodation are at the Lakeside Inn (Best Western) on the water's edge of Lake of the Woods. This first class hotel has dining, lounge and banquet facilities, car parking, and a swimming pool. Please contact the Lakeside Inn directly to reserve your room. Specify the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies to receive our special conference rate.



The Rat Portage Lake of the Woods J. Bigsby, The Shoe & Canoe

Lakeside Inn & Convention Centre 470 First Ave. South Kenora, Ontario, P9N 1W5 1-800-465-1120 e-mail: info@bwlakeside.kenora.on.ca http://www.bestwestern.com/ca/lakeside.inn

#### Getting there:

Automobile, approximately 2 ¼ hours from Winnipeg,

- Greyhound bus, approximately 2 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours from the central bus depot in downtown Winnipeg, call (204) 982-8747
- Bearskin Airlines, 40 minutes from Winnipeg Airport, or 1 hr 30 minutes from Thunder Bay Airport, call 1-800-465-2327
- The CRLS office will assist with finding car-pools from Winnipeg. Passengers should help to pay transportation expenses.

#### **PROGRAM**

WEDNESDAY May 26	THURSDAY May 27	FRIDAY May 28	SATURDAY May 29	SUNDAY May 30
	Lakeside Inn	Lakeside Inn	Lakeside Inn	
	SESSION 1	SESSION 5	SESSION 7	
	SESSION 2	SESSION 6	SESSION 8	Field Trip C
Transportation;	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Boat journey
see options reverse side	SESSION 3 SESSION 4	Field Trip A &	Field trip A	to Ft. St.Charles NW Angle Inlet
Registration Lakeside Inn	CRLS Annual Meeting	Field trip B	Field trip B	Boats return to Kenora
Welcome Reception	Dinner Cruise	Banquet		Trough .
Lake of the Woods Museum	MS Kenora Lake of the Woods	Plenary Session Speaker	Fish-Fry Dinner Smith Camps	

### Final Call for Papers - Rupert's Land Colloquium 2004

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies will hold its next biennial Colloquium May 26-30, 2004, in the city of Kenora, Ontario, on historic Lake of the Woods. This beautiful setting was a key link among the many northern waterways from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We welcome paper and session proposals that relate to any aspect of the human history of the Hudson's Bay Company Territories known from 1670 to 1870 as Rupert's Land, and to the surrounding borderlands.

Because the Rupert's Land fur trade had cultural and economic connections to Asia, Europe and North America, the scope of the conference has no geographic limits. However, given the location on Lake of the Woods (shared by Minnesota, Manitoba and Ontario), presenters studying Aboriginal and fur trade history of the Superior, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Winnipeg River basins and the northwestern Ontario region generally are welcomed. We invite proposals to present both

finished projects and works-inprocess that will contribute fresh knowledge and understanding and stimulate discussion. Recent colloquiums have included sessions on fur trade economic and business history, Aboriginal treaty issues, family and social history, and material culture and museum collectors in Rupert's Land.

Authors should submit an abstract of 100 to 200 words and a brief biography to the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies as soon as possible and no later than Monday, November 3, 2003.

Proposals may be sent by e-mail attachment to rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca or by regular mail to:
The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies University of Winnipeg 515 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB Canada R3B 2E9

Enquiries about registration, field trips, special events and accommodations for the 2004 Colloquium can also be sent to the same addresses. CRLS members receive our biannual Rupert's Land Newsletter, the fall 2003 issue of which presents further Colloquium details. Current (2004) members will also receive a Colloquium registration discount to the value of their annual membership (\$20). For membership information, contact the above addresses.

#### Colloquium cont'd

Registration: For details on registration to the Colloquium and Field Trips, contact the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at the University of Winnipeg by post or at the email address. Registration fee is \$180 including the Reception, Field Trips A and B, Dinner Cruise, Banquet, and coffee breaks Wednesday to Saturday. Field Trip C is optional for \$90 including the Fish Fry dinner Saturday night and Sunday boat trip to Fort St. Charles. e-mail: rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca

Field Trip A: Walking tour of Kenora. The fur trade is long gone but mining, fisheries, logging, the Canadian Pacific Railway and tourism have made Kenora a major economic hub in NW Ontario. Vignettes of the past are shown in twenty colourful murals. This tour will visit selected murals as well as historical buildings in the downtown area and continue on to the picturesque cemetery where guides will give entertaining biographies of early settlers. The tour finishes with tea at the Mather-Walls historic Victorian era house.

Field Trip B: A hike in the woods. Five minutes by bus will take this tour to the original, 120 yard Rat

Portage from Lake of the Woods to the Winnipeg River. The hike route covers Tunnel Island, still undeveloped, that forms the natural blockage of water from the Lake into the River. See Old Fort Island, site of the HBC post from 1836 to 1871, and the Norman Dam built on the fast flowing western outlet in the 1890s and Power House Dam on the east outlet.

Field Trip C: Boat trip to Fort St.Charles, Pierre de LaVerendrye's fur trade post established in 1732 on the NW Angle Inlet as his central post for exploring the west.. Boats leave the Lakeside Inn on Sunday morning; lunch is included at a remote camp on the Lake. Ft. St.Charles is in the United States, Passports required. Return to Kenora by 5:30 PM. This is an optional event with its own fee including a Fish Fry dinner Saturday night, boat trip and lunch on Sunday.

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG 5C02 Centennial Hall The University of Winnipeg 515 Portage Avenue Winnipeg MB R3B 2E9 Canada

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# The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg



## **Membership Application**

The annual fee for CRLS is \$20.00; if outside Canada, please remit payment of US\$20.00 or equivalent in British pounds. Your membership will bring you current CRLS Newsletters, which include notices of conferences and current research projects, and items of interest by and for our members, and special offers on publications. Members are also invited to participate in the Rupert's Land Colloquia. We are able to refer members to qualified local research assistants, and can help to put you in touch with others doing research in similar fields.

Please make your cheque out to the THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG, with the notation that it is for membership in the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. All membership funds and donations go to support the Centre and its activities and publications.

Contributions of ten dollars or more in excess of the membership fee will be eligible for a tax receipt from the University, and are gratefully received.

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg facilitates scholarly research and publishing concerning the history of the Hudson's Bay Company territory, known from 1670 to 1870 as Rupert's Land. The Centre hosts biennial colloquia, promotes awareness of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in Winnipeg, acts in a networking capacity for researchers who share our interests, and co-publishes, with McGill-Queen's University Press, a series of documentary volumes on aspects of the history of Rupert's Land. We welcome your support.

Please send membership applications and further queries to:

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies 5C02 Centennial Hall The University of Winnipeg 515 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3B 2E9

tel. 204-786-9003 e-mail: rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca

Fax:

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