

# SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 58 ■ AUTUMN 2018 ■ \$2.00



- HENRY FRY: 19TH-CENTURY SHIPOWNER, PART II
- 90 YEARS AGO: LINDBERGH'S VISIT TO QUEBEC CITY
- KEN DRYDEN AT THE LITERARY FEAST

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The mission of the **Morrin Centre** is to share and foster English-language culture in the Quebec City region. The Morrin Centre is administered by the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec.  
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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members, Partners, and Friends,

I hope you have all enjoyed a restful summer full of warm weather. People from around the globe have been making the most of our great summer in Quebec City, and tours and rentals have been busier than ever at the Morrin Centre. I

fully expect this momentum to continue this autumn as we have a number of wonderful events and activities planned.

On November 15, we will hold our tenth annual Literary Feast fundraising dinner. For this very special occasion, it is our great honour to welcome Ken Dryden as Keynote Speaker. Mr. Dryden is a former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister, and is perhaps best known as the goaltender who won six Stanley Cups with the Montreal Canadiens. We are also fortunate to have Guy Cormier as the evening's

Honorary President. Mr. Cormier is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Desjardins Group, and is very involved with philanthropic endeavours and cultural organizations. The evening promises to be an extraordinary one.

Last October, we were saddened to learn of the passing of Marietta Freeland, a long-time member. In her will, she generously bequeathed funds to the LHSQ. In her honour, I am pleased to announce the creation of the Marietta Freeland Fund for the Arts. Revenue generated from the fund will directly support the Morrin Centre's arts and culture programming. We are very grateful to Marietta, and we know that her donation will have a long-lasting effect on both the Morrin Centre and our entire community. To learn more about how you can contribute to the fund, please check out the feature in the centre of this issue of Society Pages.

Thank you for your support,

**Barry Holleman**  
President

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends, Members, and Partners,

The Morrin Centre welcomed more visitors than ever this summer. It is such a pleasure to see our guides telling the stories of our building and our community to visitors from all over the world. It really is a wonderful opportunity for us to

share our unique story with so many people.

Over the summer, we have been busy putting together our upcoming cultural programming. We have two great projects kicking off this fall.

"In the Press: Promoting Community Involvement and Development Through Storytelling" is a series of four workshops that will cover digital storytelling, broadcast journalism, podcasts, and writing for newspapers and magazines. The workshops will be led by experienced journalists and storytelling professionals from various

media outlets.

"Elites and Orphans" explores the contrasting experiences of leisure and play for Anglophone children from different social milieus at the turn of the nineteenth century. The project includes an exhibition featuring select toys from the Stephens Collection, as well as an event with talks by historians.

Details about these projects will be announced in the coming weeks, so be sure to follow us on Facebook and at [morrin.org](http://morrin.org).

Don't miss Members' Day, which will feature great activities offered exclusively to members, including a beer tasting. Some of these activities will have a limited number of places available, so be sure to reserve ahead of time.

I am looking forward to seeing you this fall,

**Barry McCullough**  
Executive Director



## TRANSACTIONS

REMINISCENCES OF A 19<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY QUEBEC SHIPOWNER

By Henry Fry and John Fry

## INTRODUCTION

During the middle of the nineteenth century, Quebec City's shoreline, from the St. Charles River to Sillery, sprawled with shipyards building giant square-rigged ships. Shipbuilding, ship owning, and timber commerce, conducted by men like the British immigrant merchant Henry Fry (1826–1896), profoundly affected the city's economic life.

Fry possessed an encyclopedic knowledge of cargo rates, tariffs, ship insurance, hull and deck design, and the details of sails and rigging. "No man had a better knowledge of Quebec shipping and shipbuilding," wrote the British maritime historian Frederick William Wallace.

Fry rose to become President of the Quebec Board of Trade and President of Canada's Dominion Board of Trade. In 1891, he wrote a memoir with illustrations that he drew of the ships he owned. *Reminiscences* is a window into the life of a leading citizen in Quebec City between 1854 and 1880.

- John Fry

Part 1 appeared in the Summer 2018 issue of *Society Pages*. Part 2 offers more never-before-published excerpts, edited by Henry Fry's great-grandson, John Fry. John Fry is the author of the biography *A Mind at Sea: Henry Fry and the Glorious Era of Quebec's Sailing Ships*, published by Dundurn Press in 2012. He worked as a magazine editor at the *Times Mirror Co.* and the *New York Times Co.*, and is a director of Canada's *Chawkers Foundation*.

■



Henry Fry, Montreal, QC, 1862

Photograph by William Notman,  
Source: McCord Museum, I-70327.1.

REMINISCENCES: PART II<sup>1</sup>

## U.S. SHIP BARGAIN

In 1859 I loaded a ship called the *Sunbeam* of Boston for London. The Civil War was raging & gold was at 33% premium. Silver even had all disappeared, & shipplasters down to 5 cents were the only currency. Her price was \$24,000 in greenbacks, & I closed at once. The broker thought I had paid a long price as she was 17 years old, but none of the Yankees could then see that their paper dollar, being a legal tender, was not as good as the Government old dollar. In truth she only cost me \$18,000 Canadian money.

The *Sunbeam* was by far the cheapest & best ship I ever owned. At Quebec, I usually loaded her myself for London, & several of her cargoes left handsome profits. I gave so many invalids a free passage to London in *The Sunbeam* (including Rev. Marsh, Revd & Mrs. Edwards, & Geo. Holt), that I called her my "hospital ship."

## INSULTED IN MY OWN HOUSE

In March 1863 I gave command of the "Lotus" to my brother, Samuel

Holmes Fry.

He had a queer temper. In 1865, in a very surly manner, he declined to sail the sailing ship *Lotus* any longer, as he wanted a better ship. I was vexed, as prices were high, but, as I was the eldest son, I deemed it my duty to do all I could to help my brothers. So I went up to London & bought a very fine St. John-built ship of 1100 tons specially for him, £4,300. In 1867 Sam grossly insulted me in my own house and I requested him to resign. Afterwards lived in idleness until it was spent.

<sup>1</sup> These excerpts have been reproduced from the original text. John Fry has added editorial comments, which are inserted in square brackets in the original text. We would like to thank John Fry for graciously granting us the permission to reprint excerpts of *Reminiscences of a Nineteenth-Century Quebec Shipowner*.

## TRANSACTIONS

☞ **HENRY FRY** (continued from previous page)

### PROMISED MONEY FAILS TO SHOW

The winter of 1867/8 I spent in Quebec. Times were bad, & there was much distress among the ship carpenters of St. Roch's; so much so that a meeting was called to promote soup kitchens. I attended the meeting & denounced the proposition on the ground that it would tend to make the men paupers.

"What they want," I said "is not soup, but work, & there are wealthy men in this room who can provide it without loss." I proposed that they should give out contracts for 5 or 6 ships & provide the money for wages, etc. weekly free of commission, & if they wish, I will undertake to send home any, or all, of them, & sell them free of charge beyond the L'pool brokerage of ½ %. In this way you will run no risk, get all your money back, & provide for the 5,000 souls. I will undertake too, to build one myself.

The proposal was highly approved, & as I supposed them to be sincere, I went to McKay & Warner, near Dorchester Bridge, at once signed a contract for a ship of 800 tons at \$38 per ton, but none of them did anything beyond giving small subscriptions. I superintended her building all winter, & had my own way in everything. She was a good model, & a very handy ship, nicely sparred, with double diagonal ceiling, & extra fastenings. I was much pleased with her, and called her the *Rock City*.

### WOODEN SHIPBUILDING'S END FORESEEN

The days of wooden ships, however, were fast coming to an end. Iron ships were too costly for me to handle alone. So early in 1869 one of Allan's young men, a Mr. Alex Ramage of L'pool, set up for himself, & proposed to build some fast iron sailing ships to run to Montreal. He offered me the Canadian agency if I would take ¼th of one to begin with. The ship was built by John Reid of Port Glasgow, & he sent me out a model. She was called the *Oceola*. She proved very fast, her model being almost like a yacht.

She made her first round voyage in the fall of 1869 in about 60 days, & 4 voyages in 1870, paying pretty well. But in October 1871 when close hauled on the starboard tack near Bardsey Island in Wales, & only 16 days out from Quebec, she was run into, in the most stupid manner, by the iron barque "Marmion" running before the wind, & sank in 5 minutes. The "Marmion" remained afloat, & saved Capt Kerr & most of his crew. Five men who jumped into one of the boats were never seen again.



**Mrs. Fry, Montreal, QC, 1861**  
Photograph by William Notman,  
Source: McCord Museum, I-715.1.

### THE COSMO

In the fall of 1876 Mr Dinning came to me & said he had no old work for the winter & no means to build a ship. Some 200 decent men living at Cap Blanc were dependent on his yard for work, & without it, fully 100 poor people would be starving. He therefore begged me to give him a contract for a new ship, & if I found the money weekly free of commission, he could build her cheaply.

I did not want her. I had a heavy stock of wood, & no spare cash, but Mr Stevenson<sup>2</sup> said he would be only too glad to lend me the money. Mr. Joseph of the Stadacona Bank voluntarily offered it to me also.

I went into it very reluctantly, but as I felt that it would be an act of mercy, & that I could easily pay for her when my wood was sold, I drew up a specification for a good ship of 1200 ton, & offered Dinning \$38 per ton, advancing the money weekly. It was a pretty stiff specification. Rock Elm bottom, Tamarac frame, beams & planking, double diagonal ceiling (giving great strength), locust & elm tree-nails, & iron lower masts and bowsprit.

I superintended her construction all winter, chose her dimensions and model, & named her after the old barque I came out in 1853 from England, the *Cosmo*, which had long been a favourite ship in the New York trade. She measured 1220 tons, 200 x 36 x 23, & a very handsome fast ship, but the foreman Lachance, gave her too sharp a floor, & she proved tender, requiring too much ballast.

<sup>2</sup> Note by John Fry: General Manager of the Quebec Bank, whose daughter Laura would marry Henry Fry Jr.

## TRANSACTIONS

Mr Coker, the Surveyor to Lloyd's, pronounced her the best ship ever built in Quebec. Alfred coppered her & sent her to New Orleans. On her return she went to China with colas, & home from Chile with Nitrate. She made some remarkably fast passages, but I was too ill to manage her & she was sold. She now belongs to a Norwegian. Times were very bad, steam was everywhere cutting out the sailing ships.

**FIGHTING U.S. DOMINANCE**

Mr. Wiman has at last revealed his true character, and clearly tells us what he is aiming at.<sup>3</sup> He admits that under his plan of commercial union, "the tariff would be administered by a joint commission, of which the majority would, of course, rest with the U.S.," and that "by the minority of her population Canada would have little or no influence in the regulation of the amount" (of the tariff).

Mr. Wiman knows perfectly well that if ever this were accomplished (which may God forbid) it would immediately involve Canada in trouble with England.

He coolly says, "there would be an immediate rapid growth in the annexation sentiment, and more would be done by that act of disallowance to sever the tie between Canada and Great Britain than almost anything else that could occur."

This may be true, and this bastard Canadian is deliberately plotting to bring about trouble between Canada and Britain and to involve us in such a position that we shall alienate the sympathy and help of our brethren, only to fall into the hands of a set of grasping, selfish, unscrupulous Yankees.

In order the see what confidence can be placed in this

man, it is only necessary to listen to his different arguments on either side of the line, agreements which reveal his utter insincerity and inconsistency. We propose to shew that the latter is the truth, and that in the main the U.S. consumers pay the duty, not Canadians.

The first and most obvious objection to Commercial Union is that it would be unjust to the Mother Country, and incompatible with the maintenance of the Imperial Connection. This alone would be fatal to it in the eyes of nine-tenths of our people.



**The Cosmo, 1877**  
By Thomas Willis,  
Source: Private Collection.

This is not mere sentiment. It involves material as well as sentimental questions. At present we lean upon England's great Navy, the real defense of Canada, and this saves the enormous cost of a standing army, navy, ambassadors, consuls, etc.

Now could we ask England to defend us while we were discriminating against her manufactures in favor of the U.S.? Nay,

it is not likely that she would consent to continue the connection on such terms, and that is too dear to most of us to be risked for a "mess of pottage."

Second objection. It involves the principle of taxation without representation, the very principal against which the Americans themselves rebelled in the last century. How long would five millions of free people submit to be taxed by a foreign legislature where they would be unrepresented? We know enough of American selfishness to realize that the interests of Canada in such a union would have no weight, and repeal, war or political union must be the result. ■

<sup>3</sup> Note by John Fry: Erastus Wiman was a Canadian business and promoter who made a great deal of money running the ferry and developing real estate on Staten Island. Wiman wrote pamphlets and gave dozens of speeches in Canada and the U.S. advocating commercial union. Henry Fry took a great dislike to Wiman. This is an excerpt from an essay on free trade that he wrote in 1890.



## TRANSACTIONS

# LINDBERGH IN QUEBEC CITY

## 90 YEARS AGO

By Charles André Nadeau

On April 24, 1928, Charles Lindbergh landed on the Plains of Abraham. This visit of the famous aviator to the capital has attracted much attention in Quebec over the years. But the event itself constituted only a minor episode in a grand moment of aviation.

John Alcock and Arthur Brown were the first to cross the Atlantic in an airplane in June 1919. In May 1927, Lindbergh was the first to fly solo in the *Spirit of St. Louis*. Others followed that same year, but all flights had originated in North America. The real challenge of the North Atlantic was to fly in the opposite direction, against the prevailing winds. In April 1928, a mixed German and Irish crew accomplished that feat.

At 05:38 GMT on Thursday, April 12, Baron Von Hünefeld and two pilots, Hermann Köhl and Major James Fitzmaurice, left Baldonnel, on the outskirts of Dublin, in a Junkers W33 named *Bremen*. Their destination: Mitchell Field, New York.

On Friday the 13th, after encountering fog, snow, and violent winds, being misled by a faulty compass, losing the lighting system in the cabin, and almost running out of fuel, their situation was becoming desperate. Unsure of their position, they spotted an island with a lighthouse and people thereabout. Without hesitation they opted for a landing. Their 2,125-mile flight had brought them to Greenly Island, near Blanc-Sablon by the coast of Labrador. It was 14:08 Atlantic time. Upon landing, the aircraft sustained damage to its propeller and landing gear. Early in the evening, a telegraph message informed the world that the three aviators had safely reached North America but were stranded on a remote island in the Strait of Belle Isle.

Expeditions were then organized to bring assistance to the *Bremen* crew. On Saturday morning, Duke Schiller, acknowledged at the time as the best Canadian pilot, and Louis Cuisinier, a French aviator who had won the Croix de Guerre during World War I, took off from Lake Sainte-Agnès. Located 12 miles from La Malbaie, the frozen lake served as a winter base for Canadian Transcontinental Airways (CTA), a company that provided mail service to the Quebec North Shore

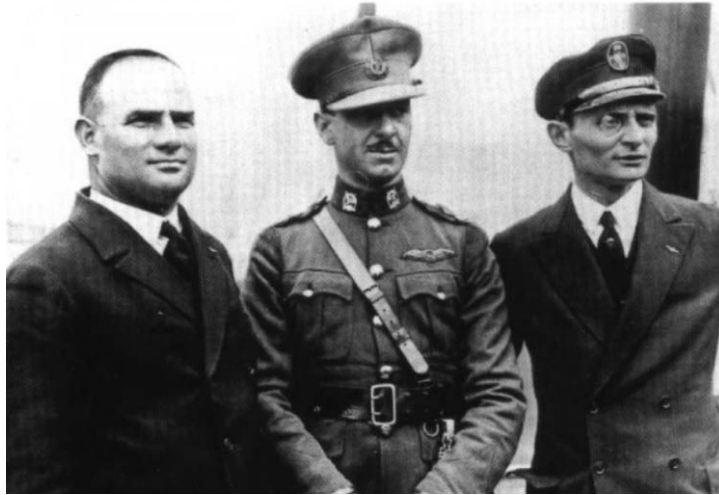
using two Fairchild aircraft. Bad weather forced the two pilots to stay overnight in Sept-Îles. At 15:00 on Sunday, they resumed their trip and touched ground in Blanc-Sablon two hours later.

On Monday, April 16, Schiller and Fitzmaurice departed for La Malbaie while Cuisinier stayed behind to help with the repairs to the *Bremen*. The weather conditions, however, were such that the 700-mile voyage lasted three days. The

aviators first stayed overnight in Natashquan. Leaving at noon the following day, they found themselves unable to proceed beyond Sept-Îles. The two pilots spent the night as guests of the nearby Clarke City paper mill. Finally, during the afternoon of Wednesday, April 18, Schiller and Fitzmaurice managed to reach their destination.

In Charlevoix, the Irishman held discussions with Herta Junkers, who had assumed control of the salvage operation. She had flown to Montreal from New York on Monday and travelled by train, car, and sleigh to Lake Sainte-Agnès.

Spare parts, supplies, and fuel started to arrive at the CTA field on Thursday. A large plane was required,



**The crew of the *Bremen*:  
Köhl, Fitzmaurice, and Baron von Hünefeld**  
Source: The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale



## TRANSACTIONS

however, to bring all this material to the island. A Ford trimotor belonging to Admiral Richard E. Byrd and stationed in Detroit was used for the task. Floyd Bennett was hired as pilot. He had been persuaded to fly the mission despite being sick. Bernt Balchen served as his co-pilot. Byrd and Bennett had earned fame in 1926 by being the first men to fly over the North Pole. Balchen and Byrd would later be part of the first crew to fly over the South Pole.

The trimotor left Detroit at 7:07 Friday, April 20 and landed at Lake Sainte-Agnès at 15:45. Supplies were immediately loaded aboard the aircraft. Departure was

scheduled for the following day. Bennett, however, was too sick and the takeoff was postponed to Sunday. Finally, Fitzmaurice replaced Bennett who, on doctor's orders, was transported

by a Fairchild aircraft to Quebec City. Schiller piloted this plane, which landed on the Plains of Abraham at noon on April 22. Thousands of people gathered at the site to see the famous aviator. But he was quickly transferred to a waiting ambulance and driven to the Jeffery Hale Hospital. He was placed in the care of Dr. W.H. Delaney.

Arthur G. Penny, then editor-in-chief of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, received an urgent message from Herbert B. Swope of the *New York World* informing him of Bennett's situation. Swope, who had won the very first Pulitzer Prize for reporting in 1917, asked Penny to ensure that the pilot received every possible attention. The American newspaper had chosen to finance the salvage mission and Swope had been highly involved in persuading Bennett to fly the Ford trimotor despite his illness.

Bennett was diagnosed with pneumonia. At the Jeffery Hale, his condition continued to deteriorate despite the efforts of the staff and two American doctors dispatched by Swope. Finally, one of the visiting physicians recommended that a serum to combat the disease be brought to Quebec City. This is where Lindbergh entered the picture. He transported the remedy to the province's capital. Like Schiller, he landed on the sports field of the Plains of Abraham.

Lindbergh's daring flight to help his friend was in vain, however. Bennett died the following morning. The efforts to repair the *Bremen* were also unsuccessful and

the plane was eventually brought back by ship. Balchen, in the Ford airplane, transported the three new heroes of aviation to Lake Sainte-Agnès on April 26. The next day, he flew

them directly to New York. At the end of May, the three aviators visited Quebec City and attended a banquet in their honour at the Château Frontenac. ■



**The Bremen**

Source: The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Two short videos about the *Bremen* and its crew are available on **British Pathé**, an online archive for historical film and newsreel.

### Bibliography:

The following publications were consulted: the newspapers *La Patrie*, *L'Action catholique*, *Le Soleil*, the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph*, the *Montreal Gazette*, the *New York Daily News*, and the *Los Angeles Times*; the magazines *Flight* and *Popular Aviation*; and Arthur G. Penny's book *The Shirt-Sleeved Generation*.

## TRANSACTIONS

## GEORGES-BARTHÉLÉMY FARIBAULT

### PAST PRESIDENT OF THE LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By François Faribault

Georges-Bathélémy Faribault was born on December 3, 1789 in Quebec City, where he would reside his entire life. He was the oldest son of Barthélémy Faribault (1762–1829), a notary, and the grandson of Barthélémy Faribault (1728–1801), also a notary and an immigrant from France. On June 10, 1821, he married Julie Plante, and together they had three children (a boy and two girls), two of whom died at a young age. Only the youngest daughter, Mathilde Georgiana, reached adulthood. Married to the painter Théophile Hamel (on September 9, 1857), Mathilde had three sons and two daughters; only two of their children had descendants, with the other three dying at a young age.

After studying at John Fraser College in Quebec City, Georges-Bathélémy Faribault completed his apprenticeship as a lawyer under Jean-Antoine Panet, speaker of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada. On December 15, 1810 he became a lawyer, a profession that he only practiced for two years before serving in the War of 1812 as lieutenant of the 6<sup>th</sup> battalion of light infantry. After demobilization, Faribault was appointed as clerk of the parliamentary archives beginning in 1815. Faribault was gifted in languages and also worked as a French translator. In 1835, he was named as an Assistant Court Clerk in the Legislative Chamber.

Faribault assembled a library that was envied and admired by many of his contemporaries. In 1837, he published his *Catalogue of Works on the History of*


*America and in particular of Canada, Louisiana, Acadia, and Other Places; with bibliographic notes, criticism, and literary studies (Catalogue d'ouvrages sur l'histoire de l'Amérique et en particulier sur celle du Canada, de la Louisiane, de l'Acadie, et autres lieux; avec des notes bibliographiques,*

*critiques et littéraires*). Montreal antiquarian Jacques Viger collaborated on the project by annotating the work. Faribault's *Catalogue* is considered to be the first Canadian bibliography.

And then the Rebellions of 1837–1838 occurred. They were followed by

the trials, hangings, and deportations of 1839, then the clemency measures and pardons of the 1840s—all this culminated in the fire at the Parliament of Canada in Montreal on April 25, 1849. After these events, the Parliament of Canada hired Faribault and sent him to Europe with the purpose of building a new parliamentary library. He spent a couple of years there with his wife, who unfortunately died in Paris in 1852. The parliamentary library, however, would experience another tragedy: the Parliament of Canada fire in Quebec City in 1854. Faribault revived the collection a second time, before retiring in 1855.

Faribault presided over the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec during the 1840s. He was the society's first francophone president, serving first in 1844, then from 1849 to 1854, and again from 1858 to 1859.

A final project occupied Faribault's remaining years: placing a commemorative plaque on General 



Georges-Bathélémy Faribault, circa 1860 (left) and François Faribault, next to the portrait of Georges-Bathélémy Faribault (right)  
Source: Private collection; Morrin Centre, 2018.

## TRANSACTIONS

## IN MEMORY OF CAMERON MACMILLAN

By Shirley Nadeau



Cameron James MacMillan, President of the Literary and Historical Society of Québec from 1981 to 1984 and from 1990 to 1992, passed away on the first day of spring, March 20, 2018, at age 93.

Cameron was a devoted husband to his wife Barbara; a

beloved father to his three daughters Ann, Cynthia, and Susan; a loving grandfather to Anthony, Kate-Marie, Corey, Todd, and Justin; and a dear great-grandfather to Édouard.

Cameron's father, William MacMillan, was president of the Society from 1953 to 1956. A manager at the Holt-Renfrew department store, William loved to write and, in fact, wrote stories for boys' books. He often gathered the children in the family, including Cameron, around the dinner table to discuss words and the use of language.

A graduate of the University of New Brunswick (UNB) with a degree in Forestry Engineering, Cameron MacMillan eventually made his career as an independent travel insurance broker. However, he obviously had theatre in his blood. Along with fellow members of UNB's Class of 1948, Cameron was one of the founders of the Red 'n' Black Revue, which a Fredericton newspaper at the time called "the most

ambitious attempt in the theatrical line ever made by the University students." Still staging shows to this day, the Red 'n' Black Revue is the longest-running show in New Brunswick.

Cameron loved to entertain and make people laugh. He took part in many Y's a-Poppin' variety shows. For many years, he and some friends in Quebec City often dressed up as the Three Wise Men for a private house party on Epiphany, each year rewriting original words to the song, "We Three Kings of Sillery are." He was a trouper to the end, often dancing and entertaining residents at Saint Brigid's Home.

Cameron loved nature and was a great outdoorsman. He adored his time spent at Tourilli (a fishing camp in the Laurentians Wildlife Sanctuary, 30 km north of Saint-Raymond de Portneuf) and Barbara's Folly (their rustic cottage by the sea in Port Joli, Nova Scotia). He was also involved with the Provencher Society of Natural History of Canada

Cameron's love of Quebec City was legendary and throughout his life he dedicated many hours to helping his community. He was a lifelong member and an Elder and a Trustee of Chalmers-Wesley United Church. He was a member of the board of directors of the Mount Hermon Cemetery Association for many years and was the chairman from 2012 to 2015. He was also a member of the Millionaires Investment Club and the Nooners lunch group that met regularly at a restaurant in Old Quebec.

His endearing personality and easy wit will be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved him. ■

☞ *FARIBAULT (continued from previous page)*

Marquis de Montcalm's tomb in the Ursuline chapel in Quebec City. This plaque is still visible today, even though the tomb has been empty since Montcalm's remains were moved to a mausoleum at the Hôpital-Général de Québec cemetery in 2001.

Faribault died in Quebec City on December 21, 1866 at his home on the corner of rue des Carrières and rue

Mont-Carmel, a building that disappeared with the expansion of the Chateau Frontenac in 1908. He was laid to rest in Notre-Dame de Belmont Cemetery, next to his friend, historian François-Xavier Garneau.

(Translated by Kathleen Huley) ■

In July, the portrait of Georges-Barthélémy Faribault was unveiled at the Morrin Centre. His descendant, François Faribault, came to see the portrait in August and kindly provided this biography.



## FUNDRAISING

## THE MARIETTA FREELAND FUND FOR THE ARTS

By Katherine Burgess and Barry McCullough



Last October, we at the Morrin Centre received the sad news that Marietta Freeland, a longtime member of the LHSQ, had passed away.

Marietta Lorimer Freeland was born on April 1, 1921 in Parry Sound, Ontario, the youngest child of Mary Etta and John Anderson Freeland, and died on

October 26, 2017 in Quebec City. She spent most of her younger years in Montreal, living for much of that time in Montreal West. She and her family were longtime members of the Montreal West Presbyterian Church.

After she graduated from Montreal West High School, she obtained her business education and training at the Mother House of the Gray Nuns in Montreal. She then worked until her retirement at the CI Pulp and Paper Co. in their offices in the Sun Life Building in downtown Montreal. She was an avid skier most of her life, and she was a member of the Montreal Athletic Association as well as the Montreal Tennis Club.

She and her sister Hilda bought property in Metis-sur-Mer and spent many happy summers there with members of their extended family and their numerous friends. Both sisters faithfully attended church services in Metis-sur-Mer (in Leggatt's Point) when in the area, or at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Quebec City. Their grandfather, the Rev. Tannahill Love, was pastor of St. Andrew's for over 40 years. Marietta had a strong connection to Quebec's English-speaking community and she will be missed greatly.

Upon her passing, Marietta created an even longer-lasting connection to Quebec's English-speaking community with her generous bequests to several of its organizations, including the Morrin Centre. Council and staff are infinitely grateful for her gift.

In her honour, the Morrin Centre is proud to announce the creation of the **Marietta Freeland Fund for the Arts**. The entirety of her bequest will be used to start the fund, and the revenue from it will be used to support the Arts Pillar programming at the Morrin Centre, such as the Arts Alive festival, the My Morrin program, history and literary conferences, and more.

As a non-profit arts and culture organization, the Morrin Centre depends on support from benefactors to plan and carry out its diverse slate of programming. Marietta's donation has helped to ensure the continuity of this programming, which plays a significant role in our community's vitality. Her gift serves as an inspiration to us all—if you are interested in planned giving, please contact us for further information. ■

  
marietta  
freeland  
fund  
*for the arts*

morrin centre

### Support her Legacy

We encourage you to contribute to the Marietta Freeland Fund for the Arts by visiting [morrin.org/mariettafund](http://morrin.org/mariettafund). Your support will contribute directly to furthering Marietta's legacy and to building our community's artistic capacity.

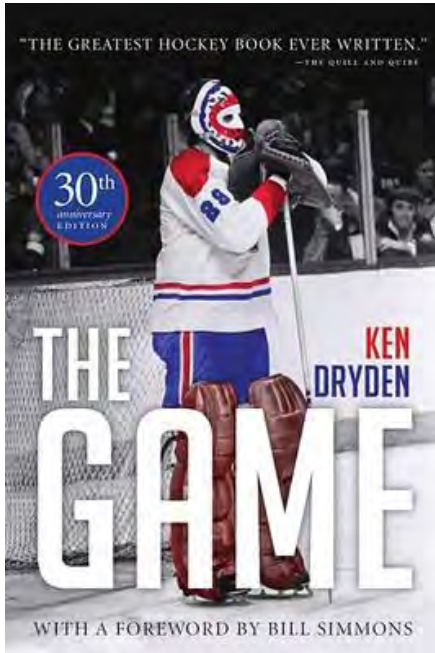
For those making their first donation of \$5,000 or more to a cultural organization, the Government of Quebec has announced the continuation of a special income tax credit. This special credit, which is equal to 25% of the donation, is applied in addition to the standard tax credits.

## LIBRARY PAGES

## ON THE SHELF

### HE SHOOTS! HE SCORES!

By Britta Gundersen-Bryden



Hockey is Canada's game, and though he didn't score goals, it was also Ken Dryden's game. In his eight years as goalie with the Montreal Canadiens, the team won six Stanley Cups. In 1983, Dryden, one of hockey's best, penned *The Game*. Dryden not only wrote about happenings inside locker rooms, team

buses, and general managers' offices, but also, convincingly, captured what went on inside the heads of his teammates and the opponents they faced on the ice. In 2003, Dryden added a new chapter to the 20<sup>th</sup>-anniversary edition, offering insights on how the game—and business—of hockey had changed over the previous two decades.

In his most recent work, *Game Change: The Life and Death of Steve Montador and the Future of Hockey* (2017), Dryden pressed for changes in hockey (and, by association, other sports), where players often suffer debilitating head injuries. Dryden's experience as a lawyer, educator, researcher, lawmaker, and NHL player give him a unique and powerful voice on this matter. Copies of *Game Change* will be available at this year's Literary Feast.

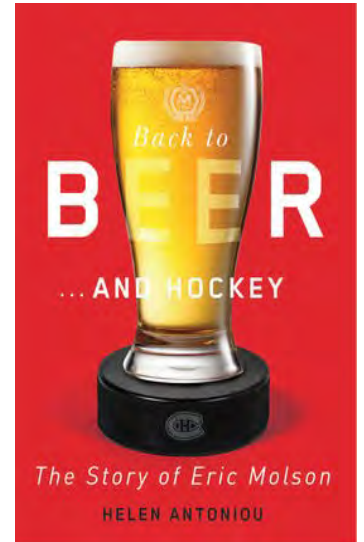
Helen Antoniou is up-front about having insider access while she wrote *Back to Beer ...and Hockey: The Story of Eric Molson* (2018). Eric Molson may be her father-in-law, but her work is much more than a family saga. This is a book about beer, hockey, and Quebec history dating back to 1786. Plus, it's a business book about one of Canada's most enduring enterprises; one

online list places Molson at #4 in terms of longevity, behind the Hudson Bay Company, Quebec City's own *Chronicle-Telegraph*, and the *Montreal Gazette*. *Back to Beer ... and Hockey* may be in the Library's biography section, but it might also end up on a reading list for MBA students.

Some of the Library's books about hockey are on the biography shelves, some are in the sports section, and some are in unlikely spots. *Our Life with the Rocket: The Maurice Richard Story* by Roch Carrier (2001) is the story of a sports legend revered to this day. It is also the story of how Richard influenced not only the game but also those who loved it—and in Montreal in the 1950s, it seems everyone loved hockey. Carrier also saw Richard as a symbol, a harbinger of things to come in Quebec in the second half of the twentieth century. This book offers up childhood memories, sporting exploits, modern history, and Quebec politics—all between two covers.

The Library's collection also includes *Hockey is a Battle* (1969) by Punch Imlach, the Toronto Maple Leafs' longtime coach, and *Jean Béliveau: My Life in Hockey* (1994) by Chrys Goyens and Alan Turowetz. Todd Denault has also written several books about hockey; the Library has *Jacques Plante* (2009) and *The Greatest Game* (2010). In 2017, Karl Subban, father of current NHL players P.K. and Malcolm Subban, gave readers *How We Did It*.

For those who enjoy mastering historic sports trivia, *The Stanley Cup Story* by Henry Roxborough (1964) offers chapters entitled "Ottawa Silver Seven," "The Stanley Cup Goes West," "The American Invasion," and "Individual Histrionics." But the book goes into overtime with period photos, full team rosters, and



## LIBRARY PAGES

👉 **ON THE SHELF** (continued from previous page)

records at the end. Just to remind hockey fans, some cities that no longer have NHL teams were once hockey giants; the Quebec Bulldogs won the Stanley Cup in 1911–1912 and 1912–1913, and the Seattle Metropolitans did so in 1916–1917. In 1913, there was a “non-cup” professional hockey championship that saw the Victoria Aristocrats beat the Quebec Bulldogs.

For something a little different, try **Hockey Towns** (2015) by sportscaster Ron McLean or **Architecture on Ice** (2016) by Howard Shubert. Or what about Stephen Cole’s **The Canadian Hockey Atlas** (2006)? And, for Literary and Historical Society members, what better title to enjoy than **Hockey Haiku** (2006) by John Poch and Chad Davidson?

A new, thin volume captures the spirit of hockey: **The Goal: Stories of Our National Passion** (2017) by Andrew Caddell and Dave Stubbs. Fourteen well-written vignettes have cryptic titles, including “The Goal,” “The Girl,” “The Black Horse,” “The Coin,” and “The Gentleman” (which could have been titled “The Kiss”). This book is a treasure box of memories. (As a bonus, readers will come across a photo of Lit and His board member Peter Black.)

#### For Younger Readers

No children’s collection in a True North library would be complete without a copy of Roch Carrier’s **The Hockey Sweater** (1979). After nearly forty years, this story still speaks to readers, young and old alike. It is a Canadian classic and its lessons are universal. The Library also has a film version of the story on DVD.

A more modern classic is **Z is for Zamboni: A Hockey Alphabet** (2005), written by Matt Napier and illustrated by Melanie Rose. Each letter of the alphabet comes with a little poem and colourful illustration. Youngest

readers can master their A, B, Cs, while older ones can learn new vocabulary and the concept of rhyming (think of “ice” and “nice”). There is also a bit of hockey history embedded in the text (“O is for the Original Six”) and a verse with “W” for hockey great Hayley Wickenheiser.

Allen Morgan (author) and Michael Martchenko (illustrator) added **The Magic Hockey Skates** to the hockey bookshelf in 1991. Lisa Wheeler (author) and Barry Gott (illustrator) combined two things youngsters love in **Dino-Hockey** (2007).



Older readers (or any adult who wants an introduction to Canada’s game) will enjoy **Hockey!: The Book for Kids** (1990), written by Brian McFarlane and illustrated by Bill Slavin. The pages are full of interesting facts and fun trivia: readers can learn who invented hockey, how pucks are made, and why Paul Henderson’s goal is famous. There are chapters on “Girls in Hockey” and “Hockey Heroes.” Although more than 25 years have passed since the book was published, players such as Gordie Howe, Wayne

Gretzky, and Guy Lafleur (who scored 130 goals in a single year when he played for the Quebec Remparts) still have the power to inspire young players and fans of all ages. To add a bit of competitive spirit, there is a 20-question quiz at the end of the book. Bringing this column back to centre ice, McFarlane offered special words of thanks to “former NHL goalie Ken Dryden for his assistance and advice.” ■

*Editorial note:* Since this piece was written, the Library has acquired another book on hockey: **On the Origin of Hockey**, by Carl Gidén, Patrick Houda, and Jean-Patrice Martel. It can be found among the new acquisitions.

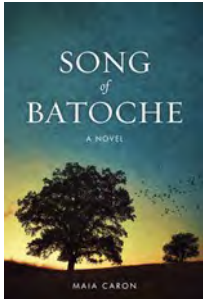


## LIBRARY PAGES

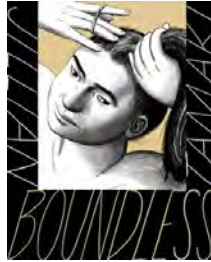
## NEW ACQUISITIONS

Some of the new titles in the Library collection are listed below.

To reserve a book, please contact the library at **418-694-9147**, or visit our online catalogue at **morrin.org**.



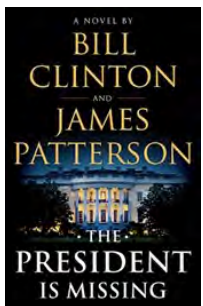
*Song of Batoche*  
Maia Caron  
C293 2017  
**Fiction**



*Boundless*  
Jillian Tamaki  
GN T153 2018  
**Fiction**



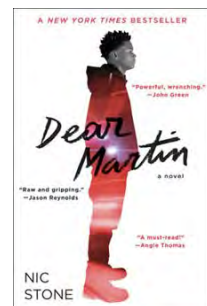
*Robin*  
David Itzkoff  
BIO W722  
**Biography**



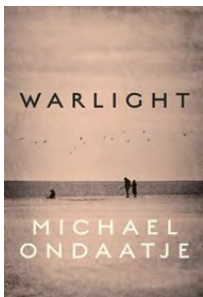
*The President is Missing*  
Bill Clinton and  
James Patterson  
P317 2018  
**Fiction**



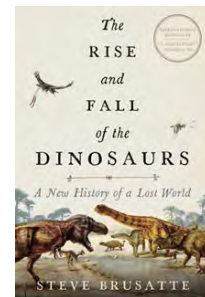
*The Voyage Out*  
Virginia Woolf  
W193 1915  
**Fiction**



*Dear Martin*  
Nic Stone  
YA STO 2017  
**Young Adult**



*Warlight*  
Michael Ondaatje  
O58 2018  
**Fiction**



*The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs*  
Steve Brusatte  
567.9 B912  
**Non-Fiction**



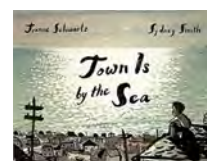
*Peter Nimble and his Fantastic Eyes*  
Jonathan Auxier  
JF AUX 2011  
**Junior Fiction**



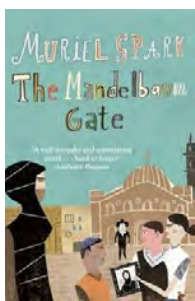
*Little Big Love*  
Katy Regan  
R333 2018  
**Fiction**



*I've Been Meaning to Tell You*  
David Chariandy  
813.6 C473  
**Non-Fiction**



*Town is by the Sea*  
Joanne Schwartz  
and Sydney Smith  
JP SCH 2017  
**Junior Picture**



*The Mandelbaum Gate*  
Muriel Spark  
S736 2013  
**Fiction**



*Calypso*  
David Sedaris  
814.54 S447  
**Non-Fiction**

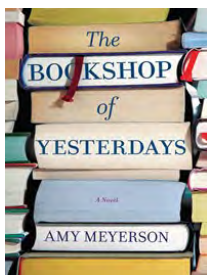


*The Mushroom Fan Club*  
Elise Gravel  
J 579.6 G775  
**Junior Non-Fiction**

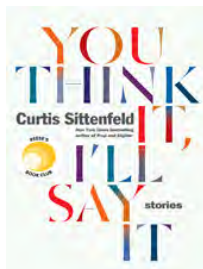
## LIBRARY PAGES

## NEW IN OVERDRIVE

Did you know that your membership to the Morrin Centre comes with access to our ebook collection on Overdrive? Overdrive is easy to use, and ebooks are perfect for traveling—you can read them on a tablet, laptop, or smartphone. Log into the Overdrive system at [morrin.overdrive.com](http://morrin.overdrive.com) to check out some of our new acquisitions!



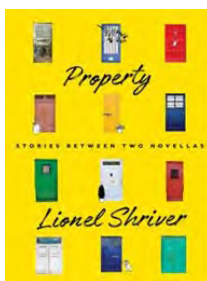
*The Bookshop of Yesterdays*  
Amy Meyerson  
**Fiction**



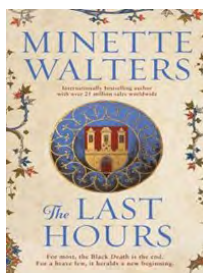
*You Think It, I'll Say It*  
Curtis Sittenfeld  
**Fiction**



*Homes: A Refugee Story*  
Abu Bakr al Rabeeah & Winnie Yeung  
**Biography**



*Property*  
Lionel Shriver  
**Fiction**



*The Last Hours*  
Minette Walters  
**Fiction**



*No Time to Spare*  
Ursula Le Guin  
**Non-Fiction**



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## LIBRARY PAGES

## THE MORRIN CENTRE'S LIBRARY TABLES GET A MAKEOVER

By Rosemarie Fischer

If you have been to the library this summer, you may have noticed that our hundred-year-old library tables have been given a makeover. Furniture conservator and antiquarian Michel Gilbert was responsible for the restoration, which was done in his shop in Vallée-Jonction. Work included removing the old vinyl, levelling out the floating boards of the table top, and installing a protective canvas before placing a new leatherette. He also cleaned and repaired the mouldings, applied new varnish, and toned down the worn-out parts of the tables' aprons, including the drawers.

Some of you might remember that the library tables were looking quite shabby before the restoration and that our annual fundraising campaign last December was aimed at raising funds to have the tables restored. Members and supporters generously raised the funds necessary to bring this project to fruition. We would like to reiterate our thanks to everyone who contributed to the campaign. Special thanks go to our building caretaker, Claude Blaney, for his help in diligently and carefully transporting the tables to Vallée-Jonction and back, and for his ongoing efforts to protect and preserve the Morrin Centre's spaces and furnishings. ■



Before the restoration...



Claude Blaney with the refurbished tables.

More photographs of the restoration can be seen on Michel Gilbert's website: [michelgilberteбенисте.com](http://michelgilberteбенисте.com).



## EVENTS &amp; ACTIVITIES

TUNE-IN AND SWING OUT  
ARTS ALIVE! QUEBEC 2018

By Vivianne Carrier



Anyone passing by Chaussée des Écossais this past August 3 and 4 would have been intrigued by all the hustle and bustle on what is normally a quiet, charming street. The home of the familiar Victorian Library was no longer silent as the Arts Alive! Québec festival filled the space with jazz, swing, and blues. The English-Language Arts Network (ELAN), a non-profit organization that aims to foster the vitality of Quebec's English-speaking artistic communities, was the engine behind this event. Six regions across Quebec—Hudson, Huntingdon, Knowlton, Wakefield, Montreal, and Quebec City—brought their local English-speaking communities together and presented their own spin on the festival's mandate, which is to promote local artists and strengthen the bonds between them and the local Anglophone and Francophone communities.

The Morrin Centre was happy to host the Quebec City portion of the festival for a fourth consecutive year—but this time, with a jazzy twist! Inviting everyone, young and old alike, to “tune in and swing out,” the Morrin Centre took advantage of its impressive interior as well as the outdoor surroundings to infuse the public space with music: concerts, musical workshops for children and adults, swing dancing, and a street fair featuring 16 artisans and exhibitors.

The festival was a great success. The *Daniel Arthur Trio*, a young jazz ensemble, launched the festival on the Friday evening with an enthralling and energetic performance, followed by smooth and eerie songs performed by the *Sienna Dahlen Trio*. On Saturday morning, children learned about the blues with special guest Lp Camozzi, while in the afternoon, adults enjoyed an exclusive songwriting workshop with NJ Taylor. Macramé, knitting, jewelry, fashion, soaps, and books were just a few of the arts and crafts on display outdoors, while *Studio Tempo Swing* offered a free swing dance workshop to those inspired by the music. The musical events continued through the afternoon with two lively swing bands: *Roxanne Burns and the Gentlemen* and *Misses Satchmo*.

If a rainstorm prevented *Tea for 20's* and the *Mardi Gras Band* from playing outdoors later in the afternoon, their desire to perform led to an impromptu concert indoors as the two bands improvised together on the stairs in the Morrin Centre's lobby. It was a spontaneous and wonderful moment that put a smile on everyone's face! Encouraged by this successful festival, the Morrin Centre's enthusiastic team is already thinking of the exciting possibilities for next year. See you again next summer! ■

## EVENTS &amp; ACTIVITIES

# BOOK QUEST 2018: LET'S EXPLORE A LOOK BACK AT THE SUMMER

By Kathleen Hulley



This past summer the Morrin Centre celebrated its 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive Book Quest, our English-language summer reading program for children. The purpose of Book Quest is to provide children ages 3 to 12 with an opportunity to improve their reading abilities in English and to foster a love of reading over the summer months.

Following upon last year's successful Book Quest, we again tailored our activities to two different age groups. In the mornings, we read to children ages 3 and up; in the afternoon, we welcomed older children. In total, we held 12 activities over the course of the summer and set a record for the highest average number of participants per event!

The theme this year was "Let's Explore," and every Saturday, participants explored a different "passion" together: food, science, writing, travel, music, nature, and art! To launch our summer Book Quest, the opening party invited children of all ages to delve into their passion for all things culinary. We read Kyo Maclear's *Spork* and Katie Speck's *Maybelle in the Soup*, while food-inspired activities included playing with Legos made out of Jell-O, creating images with potato stamps, and decorating cookies. Each session allowed children to further explore the week's theme through an activity or craft that related to the reading. For instance, after reading Kathleen Krull's *The Boy Who Invented TV*, older children tinkered and played with

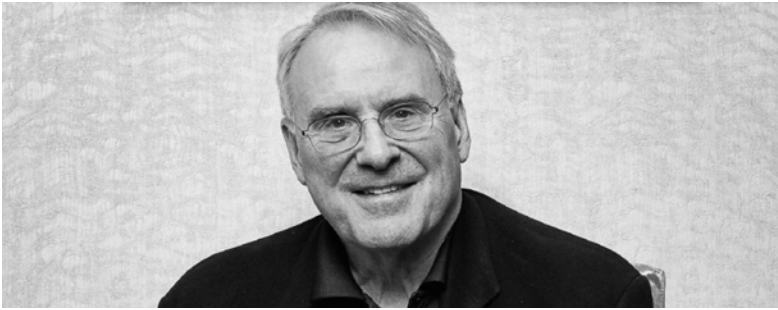
"Little Bits," electronic building blocks that encourage creativity and technological invention. When we read Kirsten Hall and Isabelle Arsenault's *The Honeybee*, children made bee puppets and danced and buzzed like bees. Over the course of the summer, children built toy boats, wrote poems, learned about nature, created scrapbooks, made music, and painted, among other activities!

We welcomed two special guests to Book Quest this summer. Singer-songwriter and children's author Lp Camozzi gave a workshop as part of our 2018 Arts Alive! Festival on August 4. He not only performed his songs, accompanied by guitar and harmonica, but he also taught the children about the blues and how to play the spoons. For the penultimate session, entomologist Kishan Sambaraju gave a fascinating workshop on insects. In addition to teaching children about the life cycles of different insects, he brought some specimens for show and tell.

For the closing party, we celebrated a summer of reading with snacks and prizes. Thank you to the Molson Foundation, who supported the Book Quest programming again this summer, and to our generous sponsors, who provided the prizes for our draw: La Maison Anglaise et Internationale, Canyon Sainte-Anne, Théâtre Jeunesse Les Gros Becs, Observatoire de la Capitale, La Vallée Secrète, and SQUISH candy. We are looking forward to next year's adventure! ■

## EVENTS &amp; ACTIVITIES

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**LITERARY FEAST**  
with **KEN DRYDEN & GUY CORMIER**  
Thursday, November 15

On November 15, the Morrin Centre will host its Literary Feast, our annual fundraising dinner. This year's keynote speaker will be Ken Dryden. Mr. Dryden is well known for his achievements as a goaltender with the Canadiens from 1971 to 1979, during which time the team won six Stanley Cups. He was also a Member of Parliament from 2004 to 2011 and cabinet minister from 2004 to 2006. An inductee into the Hockey Hall of Fame, he is also an officer of the Order of Canada. Mr. Dryden has written several bestselling books on hockey and politics. His latest, *Game Change*, appeared in 2017.

The dinner will be presided over by Guy Cormier, President and CEO of Desjardins Group. Mr. Cormier has been with Desjardins since 1992 and served as General Manager of several caisses. He was then Vice President of Cooperative Network Finance from 2009 to 2012, before being appointed Vice President of Cooperative Network in 2012, Senior Vice President of Cooperative Network and Personal Services in

2013, and then President and CEO of Desjardins Group in 2016. In his role, Mr. Cormier has been working to provide members and customers with a simple, human, modern, and effective Desjardins. He has also created a 100-million-dollar fund to support initiatives from local and regional communities. In addition to supporting numerous charities, Mr. Cormier is actively involved on a number of boards, including those of the Conference Board of Canada, HEC, and Forces Avenir.

CBC Radio's Susan Campbell, host of the Quebec AM program, will be the emcee, guiding everyone through the evening's activities, from the dinner to the silent auction, with her wonderful wit and sense of humour.

Cocktails will be at 5:30 p.m. in the library, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. in College Hall. As part of our tenth anniversary celebrations, we will also be hosting an additional VIP activity in the prison prior to the cocktails: "Penalty box chat" with Ken Dryden!

For more information and tickets, contact Rosemarie Fisher at 418-694-9147, or at [info@morrin.org](mailto:info@morrin.org) ■



**JACQUES POITRAS: PIPE DREAMS**  
**ImagiNation OFF-FESTIVAL EVENT**  
Tuesday, October 2, 7:30 PM

Join us for the Quebec City launch of *Pipe Dreams: The Fight for Canada's Energy Future* by Jacques Poitras, the provincial affairs reporter for CBC News in New Brunswick. Poitras is also the author of *Beaverbrook: A Shattered Legacy*, a finalist for the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, and *Imaginary Line: Life on an Unfinished Border*, a finalist for the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing.

*Pipe Dreams* has been described as a timely, accessible approach to how Canada's oil pipelines become crucibles for debate about the country's energy future, Indigenous treaty rights, environmental activism, and east-west political tensions, told through the story of the rise and fall of the Energy East pipeline. Poitras takes readers on a cross-country journey, exploring themes such as Western Canada alienation, Quebec separatism, Indigenous activism, and climate action alongside questions surrounding the role of fossil fuels in Canada's economy. ■



## EVENTS &amp; ACTIVITIES

## THE MORRIN CENTRE DAYTIME READING CLUB 2018-2019

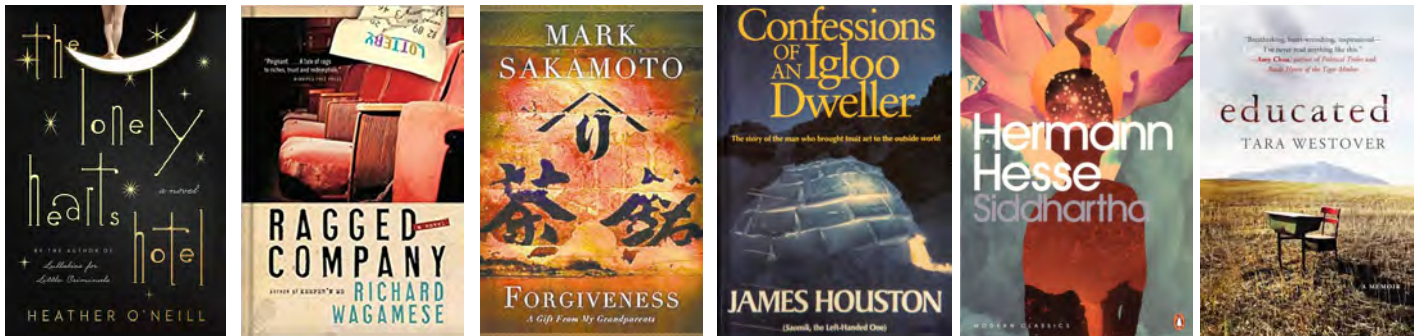
The Morrin Centre Daytime Reading Club is a new group that will meet on the last Thursday of each month, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Morrin Centre. The group was founded by Lisette Paradis, who recently returned to Quebec City from California.

The Daytime Reading Club is seeking like-minded people who would like to share their ideas about books in a relaxed manner, and who would be

interested in planning the reading list together.

Meetings will start on September 27, 2018. The first book is: *Educated* by Tara Westover.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Lisette Paradis at [lparadis42@gmail.com](mailto:lparadis42@gmail.com), and she will respond by email or phone.



## THE MORRIN CENTRE BOOK CLUB 2018-2019

The Morrin Centre Book Club offers participants an opportunity to discuss a selection of books in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Members share their impressions, bring up questions about challenging passages, and discuss themes related to the book scheduled for a specific evening. The selected books represent suggestions from members.

The Book Club tends to focus on Canadian writers of fiction. This year it will continue this tradition, selecting five Canadian novels. In addition, participants will read a novel by an Italian author and a novel dating from 1922.

Each month, a different member of the club will lead our discussions.

Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Morrin Centre from 6 to 8 p.m. We are looking forward to reading and reflecting with you on the books chosen for the 2018–2019 season. New members are most welcome.

Members who plan on attending a meeting are encouraged to read the text carefully beforehand in order to facilitate discussion.

For more information, please contact Claire Turcotte at [claire.turcotte@sympatico.ca](mailto:claire.turcotte@sympatico.ca)

## Book Club Program 2018–2019

**September 11:**

*The Lonely Hearts Hotel* (2017) by Heather O'Neill

**October 9:**

*Ragged Company* (2009) by Richard Wagamese

**November 13:**

*Forgiveness* (2014) by Mark Sakamoto

**February 12:**

*Confession of an Igloo Dweller* (1998) by James Houston

**March 12:**

*Do Not Say That We Have Nothing* (2016) by M. Thien

**April 9:**

*My Brilliant Friend, Vol. I* (2012) by Elena Ferrante

**May 14:**

*Siddhartha* (1922) by Herman Hesse

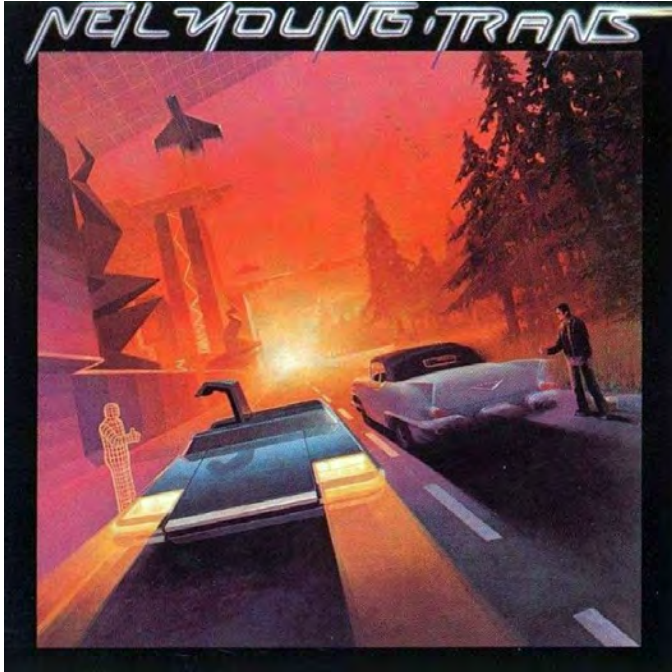
**May 28:**

Select books for the 2019–2020 meetings.

## MISCELLANEA

MUSIC REVIEW  
NEIL YOUNG - *TRANS*

By Barry McCullough

*Trans* (Geffen Records, 1982).

When I learned that Neil Young would be gracing the big stage on the Plains of Abraham this summer, I was ecstatic, just as I'm sure a great number of you were. When artists play huge festivals such as the *Festival d'été de Québec*, their set lists generally read like the tracklist of a greatest hits compilation. If you have been paying attention to Young over the years, you know that he does not follow convention. I was delighted when he opened his set with an eight-plus minute version of the *Trans* cut "Like an Inca," a song that, according to the Neil Young concert database website ([www.sugarmtn.org](http://www.sugarmtn.org)), has only been played at 36 of his 2,350 concerts. It is a safe bet that approximately 99.5% of those in attendance had no idea which song he was playing.

The late '70s and early '80s was a period of great change for Young. His son, Ben, was born with cerebral palsy in 1978, an event that impacted many of the subsequent albums, including *Re\*act\*or* (1981), with its repetitive patterns. In 1982, Young left Reprise Records, which he had been with since 1968, and signed a million-dollar-a-record deal with Geffen Records. While this

represents a tidy sum today, in the 1980s, it was a huge payday.

Initially, for his first release on the label, Young delivered an album based on water and ancient civilisations that he called *Island in the Sun*. In his 2012 memoir, *Waging Heavy Peace: A Hippie Dream*, he stated that the label's founder David Geffen was "not impressed with it. He asked me to do something else. That was the first time that had ever happened to me." So, Young moved ahead and decided to use some of the *Island in the Sun* songs for his next project, which would become *Trans*.

Frustrated that he could not communicate with his son due to his condition, Young decided to record the vocal track on *Trans* through a vocoder. It was also his first album to prominently feature synthesisers. In the biography *Shakey* (2002), Young explained his artistic decisions by stating: "You can't understand the words and I can't understand my son's words."

In his 2002 autobiography, *Waging Heavy Peace*, Young expressed regret about his decision to acquiesce to Geffen's demands. As it was, listeners were confused by the stylistic changes and the use of the vocoder. The final version of *Trans* includes three tracks from *Island in the Sun*: "Like an Inca," "Little Thing Called Love," and "Hold on to Your Love." Young felt that by adding these tracks, listeners were left even more confused and that their inclusion actually lessened the impact of the *Trans* compositions. While it is easy to agree with this assertion, it seems clear that "Inca" is one of the album's standout tracks, along with "Transformer Man" and "Computer Age."

*Trans* is certainly a polarizing album amongst Neil Young fans. No doubt his decision to include a re-recorded, synth-heavy version of the Buffalo Springfield favourite "Mr. Soul" factors into this. Over the years, I have come to appreciate the album as an interesting snapshot of an artist working through something he could not understand. The end result is a slightly uneven record that still stands as one of the most unique pieces in his cannon. ■



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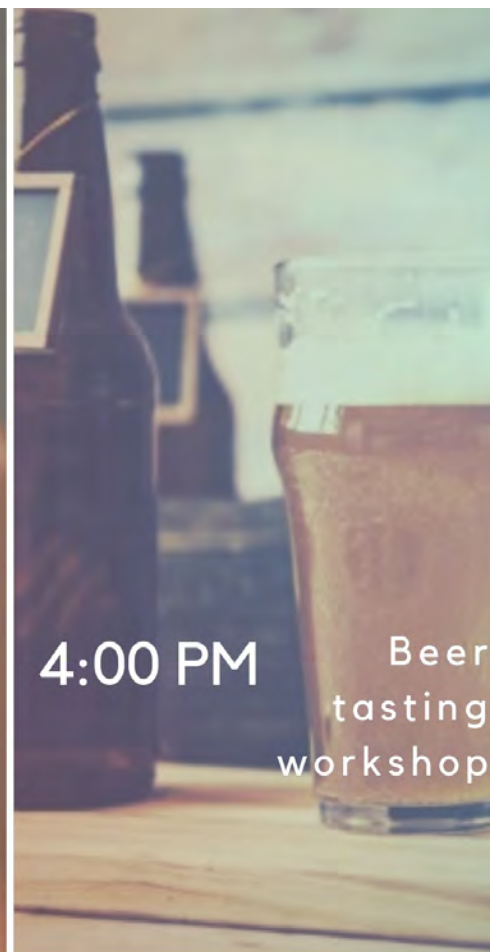
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