

SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 26 ■ WINTER 2010 ■ \$2.00



■
LITERARY
FEAST
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■
EVENTS &
ACTIVITIES
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morrin

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SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 26 ■ WINTER 2010

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LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	12:00PM-9:00PM
Wednesday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Thursday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Friday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Saturday	10:00AM-4:00PM

 PLEASE NOTE: LIBRARY WILL BE
CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 23 UNTIL JANUARY 5 

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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.

ISSN 1913-0732

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In April 2004, the Mayor of Quebec City and long-time supporter of LHSQ, M. J.P. L'Allier, signed a historic agreement whereby the Morrin centre building was transferred to our Society by emphyteutic lease for 99 years. In return, we undertook to restore the building and establish the Morrin centre, the English language cultural centre of Quebec City.

As you all know the major phases of the restoration have been completed and the cultural programming of the centre is growing and expanding with each season.

There does however, remain one final phase of the restoration to complete our undertaking to the City. This includes plans to restore and develop the two historic cellblocks on the main floor and the chemistry lab and offices on the third floor, as well as a multitude of lesser but equally burdensome tasks to bring the building up to code and allow us to be fully functional and open to the public. As an example, this includes discreetly raising the height of the railings of the balconies in a way that protects the public while preserving the unique charm of these beautiful and historic rooms.

Fundraising for this final phase is perhaps the hardest for both private donors and governments are not drawn by the glamour of a new project with this type of request.

Despite this, staff and the executive committee have been diligently pursuing commitment for funding. I am extremely pleased to report that the Jeffery Hale Foundation has recently provided a commitment specifically for this propose to add to those of provincial and federal grants. Furthermore, during his recent visit to the Centre, renowned LHSQ support, the Mayor, Regis Labaume found himself locked in one of the historic dark cells. His appreciation of the importance of the historic site along with his temporary captivity allowed him to be convinced to undertake to support our efforts to the final phase by making a promise for further funding from the City Hall.

In all seriousness, I would like to thank Mayor Labaume for his unwavering support of our Society, the Morrin Centre and indeed the English community. For the final thrust, we are at last beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel.

I take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a Joyous Holiday and a peaceful healthy and prosperous New Year.



David F. Blair

Why give just
one
book for Christmas

When you can offer over
22,000



Offer a **GIFT CERTIFICATE** from the Morrin Centre!
Members receive full access to the Library, discounts on rentals and special events.
A great way to discover this Heritage site, Library and Cultural centre.

Gift certificates are available at the Library / Student \$20 * Individual \$45 * Family \$60

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


I have now been here for five months and I am finally getting the hang of the job (hopefully nothing to do with what they did to prisoners above the front door). In reality, it is still the logistics of the on-going building restorations that occupy much of my time. The Capital Campaign finished with 4.1 million dollars raised, an incredible feat especially for such a small community. However, in order to finish the restoration we still need around \$900,000. I am in the process of applying for grants and negotiating with different public funding partners and hope to have some solid news in the near future. That said, we can not count on all of the funding coming from the public purse, so I urge our members to keep up donations.

Things have been busy since the last publication of *Society Pages*. We held a very successful 4th annual Celtic Festival with over 6,500 participants, followed by the delightful Literary Feast with the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, the former Governor General of Canada as our honorary President, and her husband, the author and lecturer John Ralston Saul, as the keynote speaker.

We have also had an ambitious cultural event calendar this fall, with many different activities. So many, in fact, that we have made a change to our website (under 'Calendar of Events') to make it easier to see what is on and retrieve information. There are many cultural events planned for this winter too, so I hope we will have a chance to see you there at some of them. One project that we are currently working on is a writers' festival to be held from April 7 to 12 in partnership with the *Salon du livre*. We will have more on that when the details have been finalized.

Please note that we are in the process of changing our telephone answering system so that you will be able to phone in to get information at any time, such as the library hours and event times.

I wish you and your family a very Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the Morrin Centre when you are next here.

Aubin

VALUES

- Responsibility
- Solidarity
- Commitment
- Democracy
- Equity
- Equality

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Proud to be a partner of the Morrin Centre!

It's more than a bank. It's Desjardins.

TRANSACTIONS

LORD BURY AND SOPHIA MACNAB

By Professor Donald B. Smith

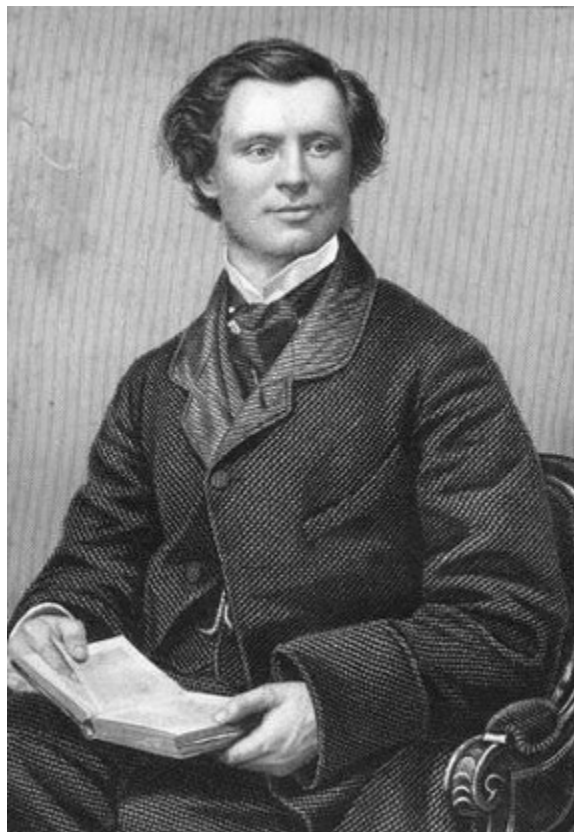
The recent Canadian tour of Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall and her husband Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, has brought to light her Canadian lineage. Her great-great grandmother, Sophia MacNab, was Canadian. Sophia MacNab and Camilla's great-great-grandfather, William Coutts Keppel, or Lord Bury, met and courted in Quebec City during the winter of 1854-55. They married at Dundurn Castle on November 15, 1855.

Donald Smith spoke last month (October 28) at the Morrin Centre on, "Young Bury. A Year in the Life of an English Aristocrat in the Canadian Capital, 1854-55." At our request he has written a short account for SOCIETY PAGES on the courtship of Lord Bury and Sophia MacNab.

At some point in the winter of 1854/55 Lord Bury had occasion to meet Sophia MacNab, then the capital of the Province of Canada (as Quebec and Ontario were then known). Although the exact date and location in the city remain unrecorded, one thing is certain. The young English aristocrat, then serving as the governor general's secretary and his Superintendent of Indian Affairs, immediately found the outgoing Sophia attractive, physically and personally. A sketch that he drew of her confirms her beauty. The talented young woman had studied music with composer Charles Ambrose, the organist at Hamilton's Christ Church Cathedral. A surviving diary written by her as a girl of thirteen confirms how observant she was. Her entries show her discipline and attention to detail.

After her schooling in a good convent school in Montreal Sophia spoke conversational French. Her father, Sir Allan MacNab, now a widower, devoted a great deal of time to her and her younger sister. As an acquaintance wrote of Sir Allan shortly after his death:

"In his habits, he was extravagant, always living beyond his means, but a kind husband and an indulgent father." In Quebec City the accomplished young woman, very socially at ease, assisted her father as his official hostess, after her father became prime minister of the Province of Canada in September 1854.



Lord Bury, 1857, Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich Branch

A woman's reminiscence of the young aristocrat survives, one that suggests why Sophia might have become interested in him. Lady Harriet Sarah Wantage, the wife of his life-long friend and cousin, Robert Lindsay, Lord Wantage, wrote: "Bury was clever, versatile, light-hearted, brilliant in talk, endowed with quick perception and the power of rapid mastery of any subject he took up, and full of life and energy."

Lord Bury's friendship with Sophia came with one complication. She was Catholic. In both contemporary England and in English-speaking Canada anti-Catholicism was fierce. Many Protestants in Canada feared and distrusted Rome. Moreover, Lord Bury was a direct descendant of Walter Joost van Keppel from the Netherlands, an adherent of

William of Orange, the champion of Protestantism in Britain in the late seventeenth century. Albemarle, the Keppel family's English title, had been given for the first Earl's services to the Protestant Crown. Yet, despite his Protestant lineage, William Coutts Keppel, accepted without issue Sophia's Catholicism, for he believed, "universal tolerance in religion is most important."

The new superintendent general of Indian Affairs loved Canada's cold, bracing winter, as did the outgoing Sophia. They found the air quality in Quebec City oppressive, with thousands of coal and wood fires pouring carbon into the air. The young couple sought refuge on sleighing parties. The regular clip-clop, clip-clop sounded as their horses sped over the hard-packed

snow. Sleigh bells rang as they raced along the glistening tracks. The handsome 6' tall Englishman sat beside the bright-eyed Sophia, petite in stature, all warmly wrapped within furs and carriage rugs. During their courtship he told her stories of England, and of his travels in faraway lands in Asia.

Sophia's family in Quebec was influential, and well integrated into both English and French worlds. Her first cousin, prominent Quebec lawyer Andrew Stuart, had married Charlotte-Elmire Aubert de Gaspé, a member of an old French Canadian seigneurial family. Their household was so bilingual that they once trained a parrot to greet Andrew in English and Charlotte in French. Another first cousin, George Stuart, the eldest son of another Stuart uncle, had served as the first English-speaking mayor of the city in the late 1840s. He and his wife were leading members of Quebec society.



Several months before his return to England in early 1856, Bury proposed to Sophia. She accepted. They had two marriage ceremonies at her father's home in Hamilton, Dundurn Castle. As the Hamilton Spectator delightfully phrased it: "The Roman Catholic marriage ceremony, rendered necessary by the bride's adherence to that faith, was performed at an early hour in the morning." The second, more formal, Anglican ceremony followed the arrival of Governor General Sir Edmund Head, and Lady Head, and the numerous other distinguished guests, including several cabinet members amongst whom was the powerful Montreal politician, George-Etienne Cartier. The newly

married couple spent their honeymoon at Spencer Wood, the governor general's residence in Quebec City at the invitation of His Excellency and Lady Head.

Back in England William Coutts Keppel did very well. He ran and was elected to the House of Commons. In London commercial circles, he became a strong advocate of the practicability, and of the imperial importance, of a railway from the Province of Canada to the Pacific Coast. The Keppels had a family of ten children. One child died as an infant but the three boys and six girls, grew up to healthy adulthood.

Bury succeeded to the family earldom of Albemarle on his father's death in 1891, but he himself died three years later. The 7th Earl of Albemarle was buried at the family seat, Quidenham, Norfolk. Sophia survived her husband for nearly a quarter-of-a-century.

Several years after her husband's death his convent-educated widow had the discomfort to see Alice, the beautiful, vivacious wife of her third son George, become the mistress of the Prince of Wales. After the Prince acceded to throne in 1901 as King Edward VII, Mrs. Keppel remained, "la favorita," to quote the widely used phrase of the day, throughout the ten years of his reign. The Dowager Countess of Albemarle died in 1917. ■

Donald B. Smith is a retired professor with the department of history at the University of Calgary.

WISHLIST

Here is a list of classics we are still looking for. You might have some of them!

Fictions, Jorge Luis Borges

Poems, Paul Celan

Berlin Alexanderplatz, Alfred Döblin

Absalom Absalom, William Faulkner

Gypsy Ballads, Federico Garcia Lorca

Dead Souls, Nikolai Gogol

The Devil to Pay in the Backlands, Joao Guimaraes Rosa

Hunger, Knut Hamsun

The Sound of the Mountain, Yasunari Kawabata

Zorba the Greek, Nikos Kazantzakis

Independent People, Halldor K. Laxness

Complete Poems, Giacomo Leopardi

The Golden Notebook, Doris Lessing

Diary of a Madman, Lu Xun

Children of Gebelawi, Maguib Mahfouz

The Tale of Genji, Murasaki Shikibu

Metamorphoses, Ovid

The Book of Disquiet, Fernando Pessoa

Pedro Paramo, Juan Rulfo

Confessions of Zeno, Italo Svevo

LIBRARY PAGES

BOOK REVIEW

AMERICAN FANTASTIC TALES, EDITED BY PETER STRAUB

by Simon Auclair, Library Manager



The Library of America is giving us a nice two volumes anthology exploring the uncanny and the mysterious. *American Fantastic Tales*' first volume (*From Poe to the Pulps*) surveys an array of recurring themes in 19th century american literature: trance states, sleep-walking, mesmerism, obsession, possession, madness, exotic curses, evil atmosphere. Poe and Hawthorne's short stories explore the forces of darkness lying within the bright prospect of a New World. Henry James and Edith Wharton prefer more refined varieties of spectral invasion and, much like Maupassant's *Le Horla*, they will address the disingratiation of the self, a theme which much reflects the feeling of a time where societies had to rede-

fine themselves in the face of progress, liberalism, atheism, industrialized warfare.

H.P. Lovecraft's makes an appearance near the end of the book. Lovecraft's new type of horror fiction, "materialistic horror", was already showing a world where fear, not coming from superstitious beliefs or unknown apparition, was provoked by science itself and man's search for knowledge. In some of his stories, everything is often plausible and could actually happen. It is the impossibility of mankind's science to control it or explain it all that makes the menace frighening. From ghosts to unknown viruses (much like in the story entitled *The Color From the Sky*), fear doesn't change. It is the impossibility to control that breeds it. Does Lovecraft modern approach remind you of a certain pandemia? ■

THE ROAD, BY CORMAC MCCARTHY

by Dominik Parisien



A post-apocalyptic story *par excellence*, McCarthy's novel depicts a world that is anything but picturesque. The setting is dark, gritty, at times simply oppressive; there is only perpetually burning fires, ash that falls like snow, the grey sky, a few ragtag survivors, an unnamed man and his son, and the road. Danger is everywhere in McCarthy's world; in the form of the elements, of cannibalistic survivors, or the simple lack of necessary resources. Survival is a day-to-day struggle.

On the surface *The Road* is the desperate journey of the unnamed pair of father and son to reach the coast. The encroaching winter is partly their reason for relocating there; the other is that their journey simply gives them something for which to hope, for which to live. On a deeper, more evocative level, *The Road* is a story of tenacity, of the incredibly powerful relationship between the man

and the boy who are "each the other's world entire."

Dialogue between the pair is sparse; much is left unsaid, but that which is uttered often has either a remarkable simplicity to it, a powerful, emotional resonance, or a wonderfully speculative, see even prophetic, undercurrent. This is also true of McCarthy's signature writing style. Often compared to that of Nobel Prize winning author Josee Saramago (*Blindness*, *Seeing*, *The Gospel According to Jesus Christ*), McCarthy's style is highly poetic and engaging, but admittedly unusual and, for some, difficult. Comas are extremely rare within the text. Rather, McCarthy effectively utilizes sharp, short sentences, or heavy, run-on sentences to pile detail upon detail. The result is a widely varied, engaging form, which, while peculiar at first, becomes very natural and indeed very powerful.

The strength and beauty of the relationship between father and son is countered by some of the darkest imagery found in modern literature. Rendered in magnificent prose, McCarthy's depiction of the post-apocalyptic condition of humanity is at times raw, often horrific, and always uncompromising.

The Road is quite possibly one of the best books you will ever read, certainly one of the most unforgettable, and unmistakably one of the most powerful. ■

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

MORRIN CALENDAR

WINTER 2010 LINE-UP OF EVENTS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

By Erin Zoellner

CONFERENCE SERIES

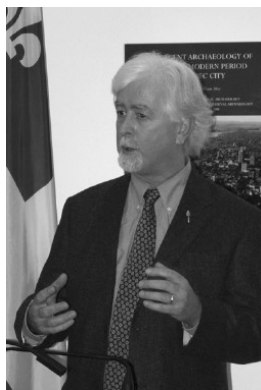
1 **Jamestown, Québec, Santa Fe: The 400th Anniversary of Three Founding Cities (in English)**

- Presented by **William Moss**, Chief Archaeologist for the City of Quebec
- Thursday, January 28 2010 at 7 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- \$8 members and students / \$10 non-members

Mr. Moss compares the founding cities of Jamestown VA, Québec and Santa Fe NM at the time of their first settlement and, 400 years later, through the celebration of this event in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

His observations are based on his participation in a special symposium held by the University of Virginia in each of these cities over the past three years in concordance with a travelling exhibition prepared by the Smithsonian Institution. He also compares the founding of the British, French and Spanish civilisations in contemporary USA and Canada with a special attention to the archaeological portrait of the first century of colonization and to the manner in which today's commemoration highlights the past.

William Moss, M.A., is Chief Archaeologist for the City of Québec. Serving in this capacity since 1985, Mr. Moss coordinates archaeological heritage management for this UNESCO World Heritage City and its partners. He has worked in England and, in the province of Québec, for Parks Canada and the provincial Culture and Communications Department. He is a lecturer at Laval University and a regularly-invited lecturer in Québec universities. A past president of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Mr. Moss is active in learned societies in Québec, Canada and abroad. He has numerous publications in both English and French to his credit.

2 **A very public presence: The British Army garrison in the Town of Quebec 1759-1838 (in English)**

- Presented by **Dr. Larry Ostola**, Director General, National Historic Sites Parcs Canada
- Thursday, March 25 2010 at 7 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- \$8 members and students / \$10 non-members

From 1759 to 1838 (and ultimately until 1871), the town of Quebec was home to significant numbers of British soldiers who made up the Quebec garrison. These soldiers had a significant public presence in the town which took a variety of forms. While there has been a traditional emphasis on the military role of the British army in Quebec/Lower Canada, and for example, the military campaigns waged against the town, there were other significant aspects of this garrison presence and of civilian-military interaction in Quebec which are important in order to better understand Quebec's early urban history and society.

The presentation will explore this garrison presence and make it clear that far from being passive red-coated bystanders who were isolated from and largely indifferent to the urban life unfolding around them, the soldiers of the Quebec garrison were active and visible participants in a host of activities of various types. These activities made them a fixture in various aspects of town life, brought them into constant contact with the town's civilian population, both English and French-speaking and resulted in relationships between soldiers and civilians of a variety of different kinds whether commercial, marital, social or criminal. Through the course of their long association with Quebec and their involvement in various facets of town and later city life, soldiers of the British army helped to write a chapter of Quebec's early urban history.

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Quebec City, five Parks Canada and National Defence historians gathered on February 19 2008 for the launch of their book, *Military History of Quebec City, 1608-2008*, which provides an overview of the city's military past. A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1985 and the cradle of French civilization in North America,

Quebec City is the only city that has retained a large part of its old fortifications. It is of utmost importance for historical study, and constitutes an important part of Canada's national heritage.

Military History of Quebec City, 1608-2008 grew out of collaboration among five authors: Serge Bernier, Jacques Castonguay, André Charbonneau, Yvon Desloges and Larry Ostola and two departments, Defence and Parks Canada, specializing, respectively, in regimental history and the history of Quebec during the Canadian period. Published in English and French by Global Art, *Military History of Quebec City, 1608-2008* will please both general readers and experts.

Dr. Larry Ostola began his Public Service career in 1982 with Parks Canada at Fort Temiscamingue National Historic Site of Canada, and was subsequently employed at a number of other national historic sites in Quebec and Ontario. He then moved to Parks Canada's National Office and held a number of different positions, including that of Chief of Staff to the Chief Executive Officer. In January 2006, Dr. Ostola was appointed Director General, National Historic Sites, providing national direction for historic heritage. In 2008, Dr. Ostola co-authored *Military History of Quebec City, 1608-2008*.



Dr. Ostola holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Canadian Studies from McGill University, a Master of Arts in Canadian History from the Université de Montréal, and a Doctorate in Canadian History from Université Laval in Québec City.

3 Ethics for managers (in English)

- Presented by Marie-France Lebout, professor of Applied Ethics, Laval University
- Thursday, February 25 2010 at 7 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- \$8 members and students / \$10 non-members

How many times have you encountered the word ethics over the past three days? You may have read it in the paper, heard it on the news or even mentioned it in a discussion. The truth is it seems to have become omnipresent nowadays when it was hardly ever heard of twenty years ago.

What does it mean anyway? Is it good for business or me? Is it just a fad? Is it difficult to implement? Let me work this backwards. Ethics can be defined as the choices/decisions we have to make in order to input our moral values in our actions. For instance, the

decision to lie or not to lie to a client about the quality of a product you sell reveals whether you value more a profit that helps consolidate your organization in the short term or the slow building of a reputation of truthfulness and dependability. In that respect, as long as your personal moral values fit with the values in your organization, ethics is good both for you and business. And this is all the more interesting that ethics is here to stay.

It is about being and doing good. Ethics in business is by no means a fad. It should instead be seen as a transformation accompanied by new social demands for more accountability. It finds its roots in deep existential needs to define what being good and doing good means. Indeed religion used to be the only source of reference but in modern times, even before making a decision about what good is, we have to choose what we will retain as a moral reference: liberal religion, fundamental religious beliefs, science and rationality, New Age values, a mix of those or any other, etc.

So, since you cannot escape ethics, is it difficult to implement? Do we have to go back to university benches? The vast majority of ethicists argue that managers must develop their moral and rational judgement in order to be able to take ethics into consideration. Decisions ought to be made after careful moral deliberation (or inner dialogue) if not ethics cannot be aid to have been integrated in the decision-making process. You may do good deeds yet it is not because you are a highly moral person. This message seems to have conquered the business collective psyche. You probably believe that you have to consult a specialist or take some sort of course. It sounds complicated and time consuming. No wonder many are tempted to forget about it.

However, not all ethicists think that ethics is inseparable from rational judgement. This difference of opinion appears to many specialists as the most fundamental division in the history of moral philosophy. To our right, ethicists who believe that reason is fundamental to ethics and see rational deliberation as the sign of the greatest moral evolution. To our left, ethicists who consider that ethics is more intuitive and that the good person is someone who succeeds in aligning her actions with her moral values. For instance, if you jump off a bridge to save an endangered child in the river below, spending time on that decision might be the worst thing to do. It is very easy to rationally justify the jump afterwards. Yet the fact that you made up your mind in an instant shows that your parents did a very good job at raising you. "Thou shall not kill" or

let die. That you know; not much thinking required here.

As a university professor and researcher in ethics and as an ethics counsellor, I am convinced that you do not need to rely exclusively on rational deliberation in order to take ethics into account. That makes me and other ethicists in my case a different kind of counsellors. Indeed, instead of trying to teach you what is moral and how to rationally apply moral principles and values to arrive at the best decision, we prefer to insist on the fact that you already know how to do just that. What we have to do instead is help you identify how you do it and help you build confidence in your moral capabilities. Of course, there are moments when you need to take time to reflect on a situation and weigh your options. But time is precious and rare in the life of a manager and the moral extent of a decision is unrelated to the amount of time you can set aside for it.



WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

4 Book Club (*Bilingual*)

- Workshop given by **Johanne Brochu**, professor ÉSAD (École supérieure d'aménagement du territoire et de développement régional), Laval University
- Starting on Tuesday, January 12 2010 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- Meetings being held once a month: January 12, February 2, March 2, April 6 and May 4 2010
- Free
- Sign up today!

The Book Club will give participants an opportunity to discuss and compare Canadian novels, in a laid back and friendly setting. We will share our impressions and ideas regarding 4 selected novels. Hopefully, the Book Club will be a place to present questions about who we are and the way we interact together. The theme for this first edition is ``glimpses of ourselves and others``. The novels presented mainly take place in isolated settings, in rural and distant places, lost and almost forgotten. The novels set forth characters in search of an inviting home and sense of belonging, necessary for their redemption.

Who has seen the wind, by W.O. Mitchell
Presented on January 12 and discussed on February 2

Three days road, by Joseph Boydens
Discussed on March 2

La porte du Nord, by Vithomir Athik
Discussed on April 6 - The author will participate in the discussion

The Shipping News, by Annie Proulx
Discussed on May 4

5 Pitching and conceptualizing video games (*in English*)

- Course given by **Jeromie Williams**, Game designer at Longtail Studios
- Starting on Monday, February 22nd from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- Meetings being held 3 nights a week: February 22, 24, 26 and March 1, 3 and 5 2010
- \$100 (\$75 for students) for the entire course
- Sign up today!

This course will take participants through being given a theme and then being guided through the process of conceptualizing an idea, choosing the type of console they want to pitch for, breaking it down into core game features, developing those features, developing characters for their game, basic story lines, doing basic competitive analysis, and then helping them find ways to get these pitches seen by different companies or ways to get into the industry. Mr. Williams was trained at Electronic Arts on how to create a concept pitch.

This is a very accelerated course, lasting 2 weeks, 3 nights a week, to ensure that the creative process continues, and to get a sense of the real life pressures in the industry.

Sign up quickly! Minimum of 6 students / Maximum of 12 students

Jeromie Williams has been in the video games industry for 4 years and has worked for such companies as Longtail Studios, Babel Games Services, Blue Lizard Games, and EA Montreal. Starting out as a game tester, he has also worked as a lead tester, project manager, game designer, and conceptor. As a designer he has worked on such games as Boogie, Boogie Superstar, Continental Cafe, and is currently the content designer on a breakthrough project at Longtail Studios.

6 Celebrating St. Patrick's Day: Dance show and workshop with Le Violon Vert

- Sunday, March 14 2010 at 2 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- Free for kids under 12 years old, \$8 for 12-16 years old and \$10 for adults
- Reserve your tickets today!

Back for the first time since the 2009 Quebec City Celtic Festival, the talented dancers from **Le Violon Vert** are ready to share their passion once more. Over the years, they have acquired both technical and artistic skills which have made their Irish dance performances an exciting event. After the show, the audience will be invited to take part in a dance workshop. Come learn new steps and join in the fun, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day!



7 Symposium d'escrime de Québec (SEQ) / Fencing Symposium of Quebec

- March 20 2010 at the Morrin Centre
- Workshops and practices will be held throughout the day, from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Please consult seq2010.wordpress.com for the complete schedule of events.
- \$100 (\$130 after January 1 2010) This price gives you access to 4 workshops (one per section) and to the free exchange period at the end of the day. \$4 for spectators.

The Symposium d'escrime de Québec (SEQ) is an event grouping the major schools and athletes of Quebec City's region and abroad. Our aim is to serve as a bridge between all of these groups, creating links and promoting the practice of armed martial arts, be it related to swords or other historical weapons, western or eastern. We all share a common passion for these arts and so this event is an excellent way to see what is going on outside of our clubs or dojo. We also wish to invite spectators and enthusiasts, to share in this special event.

Keep in mind that although the SEQ is a mainly a French speaking event, most of our instructors will be able to assist you in English shall you find trouble communicating in the language of Molière, and translators will be available to help you. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to communicate with us at: max.shinkendo@gmail.com

8 Advanced English Discussion Group

- Workshop run by **Karina Côté** et **Annie Laliberté**
- Starting on Tuesday January 12 2010, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Morrin Centre
- Meetings being held every Tuesday afternoon from January 12 to April 27 2010
- Free
- Sign up today!

Back by popular demand, our Advanced English Discussion Group has been a great success! Are you looking for a good way to keep up your English? Join us for an advanced-level discussion group. In an informal and friendly setting, various themes will be discussed to help participants improve their conversation skills. Sign up today; places are limited!

9 Kids Readings at the Library! (in English)

- Starting January 16 2010, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Morrin Centre, given by **Marielle Feenstra**.
- Activity running every second and fourth Saturday of the month: January 16 and 30, February 13 and 27, March 13 and 27, April 10 and 24 2010.
- For kids aged 4 to 10 years old
- Free
- Sign up today!

Our free Kids Readings at the Library are a great way to help kids learn how to read, explore themes in English and hear fascinating stories. Specially selected books, based on an interesting theme, will be read out loud, in English. The reading will be followed by a fun craft; don't miss this exciting event for kids! Reading is a great way to open kids' minds and enable them to discover the world. Reading also helps build vocabulary, promotes new ideas and enhances linguistic skills. Best of all, it increases creativity and helps to develop the imagination, through stories and adventures.

Marielle Feenstra is a mom of two boys and she loves to read books to them. As a board member and volunteer of the Quebec City Reading Council, she recognizes the importance of literacy. Books are a great way to increase your vocabulary, whatever your age is. During the summer, you can meet Marielle as one of the guides of the Ghost tours of Quebec. Marielle and her family are Dutch and came to Quebec City in May 2007. She holds a Masters degree in International Relations.

10 Irish Fighting Stick

- Course given by **Maxime Chouinard**, Director of *An Maide Bata* in Canada
- Starting Sunday January 17 2010, 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Morrin Centre
- Course being held on: January 17 and 31, February 14 and 28, March 7, 21 and 28, April 11 2010
- \$40 members / \$50 non-members

A unique chance to learn an ancient Irish martial art, the *An Maide Bata* (the swift stick), a type of Irish fighting stick. This martial art has been transmitted from father to son for several generations and has roots in the very early history of Ireland. This course offers a glimpse of a living tradition which is very seldom taught. You will have a chance to learn the basic techniques, history and traditions of this art. Taught by Maxime Chouinard, director of *An Maide Bata* in Canada.

11 ImagiNation 2010: Discover English Language Literature

- 12 authors from across the country
- From Wednesday, April 7 to Monday April 12 2010 at the Morrin Centre

Events for all ages! A week-long series of activities centered on specific themes found in the works of some of Canada's best authors. Stay tuned for details on how you can come and work your imagination in good company!

Our tentative line-up of authors include:

Neil Bissoondath	George Elliot Clarke
Karen Connelly	Guy Delisle
Camilla Gibb	Lawrence Hill
Nairne Holtz	Mireille Levert
Allistair Macleod	Jeff Moore
Heather O'Neill	Karolyn Smardz Frost

SPECIAL REQUEST

12 Parent's Committee

Interested in taking part in our new Parent's Committee? We are looking for enthusiastic parents with great ideas to improve the kids section at the library and the kids activities throughout the year!

Please contact us at info@morrin.org or 418-694-9147

■

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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

THE 2009 QUEBEC CITY CELTIC FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 4, 5 AND 6, 2009

By Erin Zoellner



Dancers, music, workshops, clans, parade, whiskey and more! The 2009 Quebec City Celtic Festival brought about thousands of Celtic enthusiasts to the Morrin Centre. Thanks to the help and collaboration of many

musicians, dancers, guest speakers, artisans and technicians, the Celtic Festival was once again a September event not to be missed.

We wish to express our thanks to all the volunteers, partners, sponsors and summer students, who helped make the 2009 edition a great success! We welcomed over 6,500 people over the course of the three days of festivities, and we are pleased to say that this 4th edition was filled with both new activities and time honoured classics. We had nearly 1200 people take part in the 32 various workshops inside the building and we offered 80% of our events for free. It is also encouraging to see that 11 new workshops were added to the program this year and more than 3/4 of all the activities were filled to capacity. With a growing festival, many exciting challenges take form and much help is needed to move forward. If you wish to be involved and help the Celtic Festival take place again next year, please let us know! ■

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CELEBRATING THE MORRIN CENTRE AND OUR GENEROUS DONORS

MORRIN CENTRE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

On September 24, 2009, the Morrin Centre celebrated the generosity of its donors and partners who contributed to the success of the Morrin Centre Major Campaign. After the unveiling of the donor plaque, in the presence of the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Mr. David F. Blair, President of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, Mr. Evan Price, Co-Chair of the Morrin Centre Capital Campaign and Mr. Simon Jacobs, Executive Director of the Morrin Centre guests enjoyed a cocktail in the library.

◆ MORRIN CENTRE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2006-2009 ◆			
◆ 1824 SOCIETY ◆	◆ LEGACY CIRCLE ◆	◆ SUPPORTERS' CIRCLE ◆	◆ GOVERNMENT SUPPORT ◆
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◆ LEADERSHIP RING ◆	◆ BENEFACTORS' CIRCLE ◆		
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THE LITERARY FEAST RAISED \$18,000

The cocktail party was followed by a benefit gala — an evening to nourish your mind, body and soul: the Literary Feast. John Ralston Saul, world-renowned author and philosopher gave a speech entitled “Making a Fair Country.” Some 120 people attended, including the mayor of Quebec City, Mr. Régis Labeaume, Mr. Peter Simons and Mr. Evan Price.

A silent auction took place during the evening and we would like to thank **our sponsors and partners for their wonderful support!** Special thanks to our major sponsor Desjardins for their generous contribution to the Literary Feast.



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Théâtre Les Gros Becs

Théâtre Périscope

Traiteur Saint-Amour

SPECIAL THANKS

DEAR VOLUNTEERS:

Volunteers are a core part of our organization and their precious contribution makes the Morrin Centre a better place. We are appreciative of your role in helping us grow and building a strong sense of community. We are grateful for all your help throughout 2009 and look forward to your continued involvement in 2010.

On behalf of all the Morrin Centre staff I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who provided support, advice and guidance to us.

Here are the names of those who have made a difference in the life and operations of the Morrin Centre.

We are thankful to the members of Council for their implication in the governance of the LHSQ.

David F. Blair (President)
 Steve Cameron (Vice-President)
 James Haberlin (Treasurer)
 Diane Kameen (Secretary)
 Marie C. Tremblay (Honorary Librarian)
 William G.K. Boden
 Peter Black
 Louisa Blair
 Sovita Chander
 James Donovan
 Judith Dunn
 Ladd Johnson
 Rob Lemon
 Lorraine O'Donnell
 Hélène Thibault

With the help and generosity of the members of the Capital Campaign Cabinet we have raised 4.1 Million Dollars.

Francis Cabot (Honorary Chair)
 Evan Price (Campaign Co-Chair)
 Peter Dunn (Co-Chair)
 Denis Angers
 Dennis Apedaile
 David F. Blair
 Ronald E. Blair
 Nat Findlay
 Stuart Iversen
 Alain Lemay
 Cynthia Moore
 Cynthia Price
 Peter Simons

It's thanks to volunteers like you that we were able to offer such a variety of interesting and innovative events. With the help of our library volunteers we could offer great services and opening hours to the library users. Thank you:

Johanne Banville
 Raynald Bélanger
 Barbara Bignell
 Hugh Bignell
 Neil Bissoondath
 Ronald E. Blair
 Miriam Blair
 Patrick Bourassa
 Marcel Bourgeois
 Carmelle Bourgeois
 Michael Bourguignon
 Jason Brunwald
 Grégory Cellier
 Jean-François Charest
 Beth Clibbon
 Karina Côté
 Gabrie Demers
 Michel DeSève
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 Steeve Murray
 Charles-André Nadeau
 Shirley Nadeau
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 Marie Rhéaume
 Guy Richard
 Meb Reisner
 Barbara Salomon De Friedberg
 Randall Spear
 Victor Steel
 Michele Thibeau
 Katlyn Thibodeau
 Rémy Trichet
 Donna Yavorsky

**We look forward to working with you again.
 Thank You!**

Simon Jacobs, Executive Director

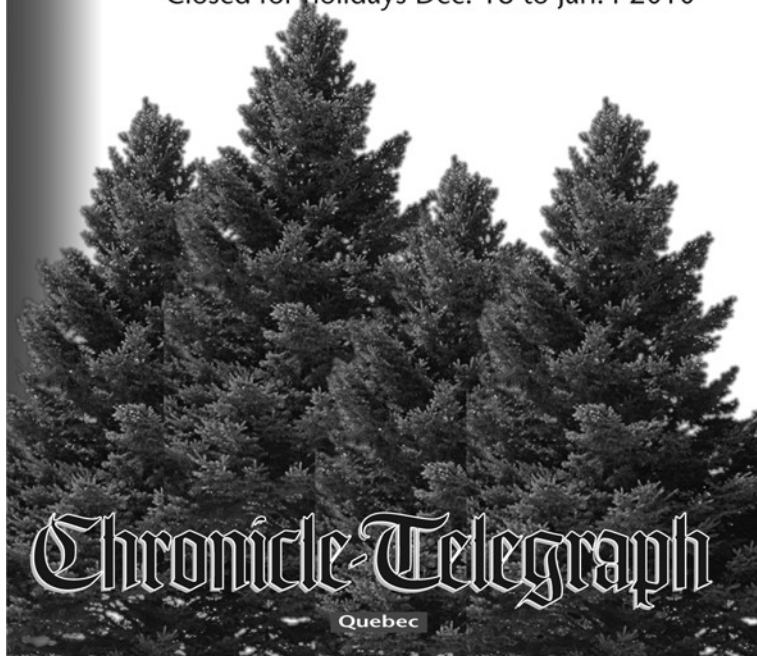


We want to take this opportunity to wish all the members of the Morrin Centre a very Merry Christmas and joyest New Year.

This year we are offering a special gift subscription program. You can now provide a very unique Christmas gift to your family and friends with 50 issues of the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph for only \$19.99.

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