

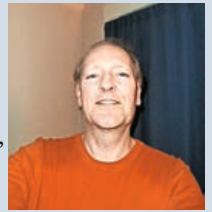
REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA

Dear Readers: On October 19, Albertans will be asked ten questions as part of the **2026 Alberta Referendum**. Crucially, Question 10 on the ballot is: "Should Alberta remain a province of Canada, or should the Government

of Alberta commence the legal process required under the Canadian Constitution to hold a binding provincial referendum on whether or not Alberta should separate from Canada?" In the future, will you be reading the

Regional News Canada and Alberta? While remote, such an outcome should not be entirely dismissed. avs@telus.net



ANDREW VON STUERMER
REGIONAL EDITOR



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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De Montréal à Iqaluit : science, Francophonie et dialogue dans le Nord canadien

En août, la Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal, **Anne-Béatrice Bullinger**, s'est rendue à Iqaluit, au Nunavut, accompagnée d'**Urs Obrist**, Conseiller en science et technologie à l'Ambassade de Suisse au Canada. Cette mission a offert l'occasion de mieux découvrir ce vaste territoire du Nord canadien et de renforcer le dialogue avec ses différents acteurs.

Les rencontres avec des membres du gouvernement du Nunavut et les autorités locales ont porté sur les priorités du territoire et les perspectives de collaboration avec la Suisse. Les discussions avec des acteurs culturels et médiatiques ont également apporté un éclairage sur la culture inuite, la diversité linguistique et les enjeux propres à cette région de l'Arctique canadien.

La Francophonie a elle aussi occupé une place importante. Au Franco-Centre d'Iqaluit, les échanges avec l'Association des francophones du Nunavut ont notamment porté sur le multilinguisme et les défis des communautés linguistiques en situation minoritaire. Malgré les distances, la langue française constitue un trait d'union entre la Suisse, le Québec et les francophones du Nord canadien.

La dimension scientifique de la mission s'est concrétisée avec le départ de l'expédition internationale CASCADES, qui réunit des chercheurs du Canada, de Suisse, de France et du Groenland pour étudier les transformations rapides de l'Arctique.

Pour la Suisse, les recherches menées dans les régions polaires offrent aussi de précieux enseignements sur des phénomènes observés dans les Alpes, notamment la fonte des glaciers et la dégradation du pergélisol.

Ces quelques jours à Iqaluit ont ainsi permis d'approfondir la connaissance mutuelle et d'ouvrir de nouvelles perspectives de collaboration entre la Suisse et le Nord canadien.

Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

From Montreal to Iqaluit - Science, the Francophonie, and Dialogue in Canada's North



In August, **Anne-Béatrice Bullinger**, Consul General of Switzerland in Montreal, visited Iqaluit, Nunavut, accompanied by **Urs Obrist**, Senior Science and Technology Counsellor at the Embassy of Switzerland in Canada. The mission provided an opportunity to better understand this vast northern territory and to engage with a broad range of partners across the region. Meetings with representatives of the Government of Nunavut and local authorities focused on the territory's priorities and areas of mutual interest for future cooperation with Switzerland. Exchanges with cultural and media stakeholders also offered valuable perspectives on Inuit culture, the region's linguistic diversity, and the distinctive realities of life in the Canadian Arctic.

The visit also placed an important focus on the Francophonie. At the Franco-Centre in Iqaluit, discussions with the Association des francophones du Nunavut focused in particular on multilingualism and the challenges faced by minority-language communities. Despite the distances between them, French remains a vital link between Switzerland, Quebec, and French-speaking communities across Canada's North.

The scientific aspect of the mission was marked by the departure of the international CASCADES expedition, bringing together researchers from Canada, Switzerland, France, and Greenland to examine rapid transformations underway in the Arctic. For Switzerland, research in polar regions also provides valuable insights into changes observed in the Alps, particularly glacier melt and permafrost degradation. These few days in Iqaluit fostered mutual understanding and opened promising avenues for cooperation between Switzerland and Canada's North.



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Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver

A Summer Vancouver Won't Forget

Some years in the diplomatic calendar move at a familiar pace. This one didn't. Between May and July, our Consulate General and the Swiss community across BC experienced a summer shaped by three unique events:

Switzerland steps onto the tech stage: Summer really got underway in mid-May, when Switzerland participated at Web Summit Vancouver for the first time. At the Vancouver Convention Centre, seven young Swiss companies in fields ranging from robotics and water technology to health tech and AI-driven tools for everyday productivity came together at the swisstech pavilion and pitched their ideas to founders, investors, and industry leaders. The Consulate worked closely with Swiss Business Hubs Canada and USA, Switzerland Global Enterprise, Presence Switzerland, Business Location Switzerland, Innosuisse, and swissnex. It was encouraging to see the interest in Swiss innovation on the exhibition floor.



A World Cup run to remember: Just as Web Summit wrapped up, Vancouver's focus turned to football (soccer). As one of the FIFA World Cup's host cities, Vancouver's BC Place would host three of Switzerland's games - it's still hard to believe how that worked out. Our team topped its group with a win over co-host Canada, beat Algeria in the Round of 32, and then survived a tense penalty shootout against Colombia - and all of it happened right here in Vancouver! Switzerland eventually lost the quarter-final to Argentina, but that shouldn't overshadow the team's achievement: its best World Cup finish since 1954, when the nation hosted the tournament. For us at the Consulate General, these games brought people together: Swiss citizens who have lived in BC for years, fans travelling from Switzerland, Canadian friends of Switzerland, and plenty of people who simply got swept up in the excitement. I still smile when I think about how many red Swiss jerseys appeared on the streets during those weeks. Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim even gave me a memento from the stadium shortly after the final whistle: a small gesture that captured how warmly the city embraced the tournament.

A presidential visit right in the midst of it all: As if the timing could not have been better, **Guy Parmelin** - the President of the Swiss Confederation - travelled to Vancouver the very week of

the World Cup knockout stage, joining us at BC Place for the match against Algeria. At UBC, he met with researchers at TRIUMF and the Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute, and he sat down for a lunch discussion with UBC President Benoît-Antoine Bacon and members of the university's leadership team. Parmelin also visited Harbour Air, where Swiss company H55 is supplying the battery technology for the eBeaver, striving to make aviation more sustainable.



The President of the Swiss Confederation, Guy Parmelin (centre), with team members of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver

Seeing the President move between a stadium, a university lab, and an aircraft hangar in just a few days says a lot about the many dimensions of Switzerland's relationship with Canada.

What stays with us: World Cups conclude, conferences wrap up, and presidential visits eventually come to an end. What lasts are the connections made along the way. This summer reminded us all just how vibrant the Swiss community in Vancouver is, and how far Switzerland's reputation can travel when we show up, whether on a conference stage, a stadium screen, or in a research lab. For my staff and me, it was a privilege to be part of it all.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER
CONSUL GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN VANCOUVER

Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association (Metro Vancouver)

Swiss National Day celebrations at the SCMRA saw a record attendance, with the final count close to 600, including many children. Following poor weather in the morning, conditions improved greatly as the day progressed. Volunteers from the SCMRA and the Swiss Society worked together to ensure the day was a great success. The lampion parade was well attended with more children than there were lampions. Regardless, all the children participated in one way or another.

The helicopter tours were a complete success and all available seats were sold. This year, many attendees camped on the property and some 40 people came for breakfast at the chalet.

For more details and to view pictures, please visit our website <https://scmra.ca/swiss-national-day-2026>.



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Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

Une immersion dans la diplomatie suisse à Montréal



Le Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal a eu le plaisir d'accueillir **Rico Roffler** dans le cadre du Programme Carrière Consulaire (niveau managérial), une étape importante dans la formation des futurs cadres du Département fédéral des affaires étrangères (DFAE).

Au cours de son séjour à Montréal, il a découvert les différentes facettes du travail au sein d'une représentation suisse à l'étranger, qu'il s'agisse des affaires consulaires, de la gestion administrative et financière ou encore de la défense des intérêts. Cette immersion lui a permis de mieux comprendre les enjeux de la présence suisse à l'étranger tout en contribuant activement aux activités du Consulat général.

Après avoir achevé avec succès son stage au début du mois de juin, il a poursuivi son engagement auprès du Consulat durant les mois de juillet et août, apportant un précieux soutien durant la période estivale. Son passage à Montréal laissera un excellent souvenir à l'ensemble du personnel. Au-delà de sa contribution professionnelle, il a noué de solides relations avec ses collègues et contribué à l'excellent esprit de collaboration qui règne au sein de l'équipe.

Depuis le mois de septembre, Rico Roffler a rejoint le Consulat général de Suisse à Stuttgart pour sa première affectation à l'étranger. Nous le remercions chaleureusement pour son engagement et lui adressons nos meilleurs vœux de succès et d'épanouissement dans la poursuite de sa carrière au sein du DFAE.

An Immersion in Swiss Diplomacy in Montreal

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal was pleased to welcome **Rico Roffler** as part of the Consular Career Programme (Management Level), an important step in the training of future managers at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).

During his time in Montreal, he gained first-hand insight into the various aspects of working at a Swiss representation abroad, including consular affairs, administrative and financial management, and the representation of Switzerland's interests. This immersive experience allowed him to develop a deeper understanding of Switzerland's network abroad while actively contributing to the work of the Consulate General.

After successfully completing his traineeship in early June, he continued his engagement with the Consulate throughout July and August, providing valuable support to the team during the busy summer period.

His time in Montreal will be fondly remembered by everyone at the Consulate. Beyond his professional contributions, he built strong relationships with his colleagues and helped foster the collaborative and positive working environment that characterises the Consulate's daily work.

Since September, Rico Roffler has taken up his first posting abroad at the Consulate General of Switzerland in Stuttgart.

We thank him warmly for his commitment and contributions during his time in Montreal and wish him every success and fulfilment as he continues his career with the FDFA.

Swiss Club Saskatoon

We have lost a long-time member of the Swiss Club Saskatoon. **Maria Eilinger**, known to us as **Rosemarie**, passed away on August 19 after an extended illness. She was 92. Rosemarie and her late husband Leo were in the founding group of members when the club was established. Other than this past year, she rarely missed a club gathering and counted many of the members as close friends. She loved meeting fellow Swiss, welcomed new immigrants and members into the club, and enjoyed the food and camaraderie.

On Saturday, August 1, Dora and Max Hug once again hosted the Bundesfeier at their acreage. We are thankful to have such a lovely location. Sausages, some of the salads, and the bread were provided by the club at no charge, and attendees brought more salads, sides, and desserts to share, as always. The AGM has again been booked at the Skychef restaurant in Warman, SK, for noon on October 25. Our Santa party for children and adults will be held at noon on Sunday, December 6, at the Neuanlage Community Hall in Neuanlage, SK.

To receive information about our club and its activities, contact us at swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com or call / text me at 1 – 306 – 260 – 8030. New members are always welcome, and membership is free for the first year. Although our name is Swiss Club Saskatoon, we welcome Swiss from anywhere in Saskatchewan.



ELISABETH EILINGER, PRESIDENT



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À l'écoute des Suissesses et des Suisses du Canada

À l'occasion du 50e anniversaire des célébrations de la Fête nationale suisse organisées par la Fédération des sociétés suisses de l'Est du Canada au Mont Sutton, **Marianne Jenni**, directrice de la Direction consulaire du Département fédéral des affaires étrangères (DFAE), s'est rendue au Canada pour rencontrer la communauté suisse. Cette visite a permis à Mme Jenni de prendre le pouls de la Cinquième Suisse et d'échanger avec des Suissesses et des Suisses de plusieurs générations. Elle souligne notamment la vitalité de la communauté suisse canadienne ainsi que l'attachement durable à la culture, aux traditions et aux langues nationales, y compris chez des compatriotes établis au Canada depuis plusieurs décennies.

La directrice de la Direction consulaire a également salué l'engagement remarquable des bénévoles et des associations, qui jouent un rôle essentiel dans le maintien des liens entre les Suisses de l'étranger et leur pays d'origine. Selon elle, ces structures constituent un pilier fondamental de la vie communautaire et contribuent à transmettre aux jeunes générations le sentiment d'appartenance à la Suisse. Au-delà de cet aspect associatif, Mme Jenni rappelle que la Confédération a pour mission de représenter les intérêts des Suisses de l'étranger, de les informer, de favoriser les échanges au sein de la communauté et de leur offrir des prestations consulaires adaptées. Les rencontres avec les communautés locales permettent ainsi de mieux comprendre leurs réalités, leurs attentes et les défis auxquels elles sont confrontées, tout en présentant le travail mené à Berne en faveur de la Cinquième Suisse.

Parmi les principaux enjeux actuels, la directrice évoque la croissance constante de la population suisse à l'étranger, la numérisation des services consulaires, la gestion des crises ainsi que le vieillissement d'une partie de cette population. Afin de répondre à ces défis, la Direction consulaire développe de nouveaux outils numériques, renforce ses activités de prévention et poursuit l'amélioration de ses prestations à l'échelle mondiale.

Enfin, la représentante du DFAE encourage les Suissesses et les Suisses du Canada à rester connectés à la Suisse, tant par les moyens numériques que par leur engagement dans les associations et les initiatives locales. Selon elle, ce sont avant tout les rencontres, les échanges et la transmission des traditions qui permettent de faire vivre la Suisse bien au-delà de ses frontières. **L'entretien complet** avec Marianne Jenni est disponible sur le site des représentations suisses au Canada : www.schweiz-kanada.eda.admin.ch/fr/a-lecoute-des-suissesses-et-des-suisses-du-canada



Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

Listening to Swiss Citizens in Canada

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Swiss National Day celebrations at Mont Sutton organised by the Federation of Swiss Societies in Eastern Canada, **Marianne Jenni**, Director of the Consular Directorate of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), visited Canada to meet members of the Swiss community. The visit gave Ms. Jenni an opportunity to connect with Swiss citizens from several generations and gain first-hand insight into the realities of the *Fifth Switzerland*. She highlighted the vitality of the Swiss-Canadian community and its enduring attachment to Swiss culture, traditions, and national languages, including among fellow Swiss who have lived in Canada for several decades.

The Director of the Consular Directorate also praised the remarkable commitment of volunteers and associations, which play a key role in maintaining ties between Swiss citizens abroad and their country of origin. In her view, these organisations are a cornerstone of community life and help pass on to younger generations a sense of belonging to Switzerland. Beyond this aspect, Ms. Jenni emphasised that the Confederation's mandate is to represent the interests of Swiss citizens abroad, keep them informed, facilitate exchanges within the community, and provide tailored consular services. Meetings with local communities help the FDFA better understand their realities, expectations, and challenges while presenting the work carried out in Bern on behalf of the *Fifth Switzerland*.

Among the main issues currently facing Swiss citizens abroad, the Director pointed to the continued growth of the Swiss population abroad, the digitalisation of consular services, crisis management, and the ageing of part of this population. To address these challenges, the Consular Directorate is developing new digital tools, strengthening prevention efforts, and continuously improving its services worldwide.

Finally, the FDFA representative encouraged Swiss citizens in Canada to stay connected to Switzerland, both through digital channels and through active participation in local associations and initiatives. According to Ms. Jenni, personal encounters, community connections, and the passing on of traditions remain essential to keeping Switzerland thriving far beyond its borders.

The **full interview** with Marianne Jenni is available on the website of the Swiss representations in Canada: www.schweiz-kanada.eda.admin.ch/en/listening-to-swiss-citizens-in-canada.



Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir Association

A Memorable Swiss Concert Tour

Following an extraordinary two-week concert tour of Switzerland in the first half of June, the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir (ESMC) has safely returned home. The tour marked the choir's seventh visit to Switzerland in its 45-year history and featured joint concerts with local men's choirs in each of the country's four language regions, strengthening its long-standing friendships and musical connections with Swiss counterparts.

A highlight of the tour was the ESMC's participation in the Schweizerisches Trachtenchorfest (Swiss Traditional Costume Choir Festival) in Sursee, LU, a part of the celebrations marking the centennial of the Schweizerische Trachtenvereinigung. For many of our newer members, this event was a remarkable introduction to Switzerland's rich cultural heritage, living traditions, and strong sense of community.

As part of the celebrations, the ESMC proudly presented two selected pieces - *Lingua materna* and *Möcht no-n-es Bitzeli läbe* - before a discerning musical jury and large audience. Under the inspiring leadership of our music director, and accompanied by the skilful artistry of our pianist, the choir's performance received an outstanding evaluation, recognising everyone's dedication, preparation, and musical commitment. The audience in the packed church responded with a standing ovation - an unforgettable moment of appreciation and connection between the Canadians and their Swiss hosts.

Among the many lasting impressions were the beautifully preserved and immaculately clean cobblestone streets of Sursee's historic old town, the warmth and hospitality of the local people, and the colourful display of authentic Swiss traditional costumes worn by participants of all ages. Approximately 50,000 visitors gathered on the festival grounds and lined the spectacular parade route, creating an atmosphere of exceptional vibrancy and celebration. The ESMC was honoured to be part of the procession, proudly presented on float #47, as it travelled through the heart of Sursee. The entire celebration was truly blessed, with ideal weather during the festivities adding to the joy, enthusiasm, and festive spirit at this once-in-a-century celebration of Swiss traditions.

Another spectacular highlight was the Swiss Air Force's renowned PC-7 TEAM, which surprised festival-goers with a breathtaking airshow above Sursee. The precision formations, impressive manoeuvres, and outstanding flying skills captivated the thousands of spectators, adding a uniquely Swiss touch to an already extraordinary occasion.



Seeing **Guy Parmelin**, President of the Swiss Confederation, walking the festival grounds without a visible entourage of armed security personnel was a particularly impressive moment for the Canadian visitors. Only two local police officers were present in the immediate area, interacting with festival-goers in a friendly manner while quietly ensuring public safety - a striking reflection of the trust, openness, and sense of community that continue to distinguish Switzerland.

Equally memorable was the generous hospitality extended by the host choirs and their members. Throughout the tour, ESMC members and their companions were welcomed into private homes for extended apéros, experiencing Swiss hospitality at its finest. These informal gatherings provided countless opportunities to establish new friendships and renew old ones.

The tour also provided many opportunities to experience Switzerland's outstanding regional cuisine and culinary traditions. Throughout the journey, we enjoyed authentic local meals that reflected the unique character of the regions visited. A special highlight was our time in the Valais, where we tasted some of the canton's finest wines. These culinary discoveries perfectly complemented the musical journey, allowing participants to experience Switzerland not only through song and friendship, but also through its flavours, traditions, and renowned hospitality. Truly, the "cherry on top of the cake" was a relaxing boat cruise on Lake Zurich, a chance to unwind, reflect on the tour's many experiences, and enjoy one final breathtaking view of Switzerland's natural beauty.

Beyond the music, the tour celebrated friendships, cultural exchange, and the enduring bonds between Swiss communities at home and abroad. It created memories that will remain with the choir, its companions, and our Swiss hosts for years to come, while reinforcing ESMC's proud role as musical ambassadors for the Swiss-Canadian community.

FRED SALVISBERG

Swiss Tour 2026 - ESMC Concert Schedule

Date	Location	Concert with Local Choir
June 4	Monastery Church, Ilanz GR	Chor Surselva
June 8	Chiesa dei Santi Rocco e Sebastiano TI	Coro delle Rocce
June 12	St. Peter and Paul Church, Düringen FR	Chœur des Armaillis de la Gruyère
June 13	Catholic Church, Engelburg SG	Männerchor Engelburg
June 14	Community Hall, Wallisellen ZH	Männerchor Rieden-Wallisellen

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Echoes of the Prairies: A Filmmaker's Quest to Rebuild a Swiss Sod House - UPDATE AUGUST 2026

Bringing History to Life: New Voices in *The Journey of the Melody*

As a filmmaker, one of the greatest challenges of bringing history to the screen is transforming archival records into vibrant, deeply human stories. Over the past few months, *The Journey of the Melody*—a film project exploring the Swiss-Canadian migration of my great-grandfather, Emil Kobi Sr.—has taken a significant step forward. At its heart, the story explores memory, isolation, and how cultural identity was preserved on the remote Alberta frontier through an ancestral Bernese song.

A New Connection in Endiang

This breakthrough came through my connection with **Les Stulberg**, a local historian from Endiang, AB, and co-author of the community history book *Endiang: Our Home*. While I originally focused on my own family's chapter, Les introduced me to a remarkable bond: his grandfather, Gustav "Gus" Stulberg, who emigrated from Germany at age nineteen, was a close neighbour and lifelong friend to Emil. Connected by their shared German and Swiss-German languages and separated by 15 km of open prairie, Gus and Emil mined soft coal along the cutbanks of Sullivan Lake to heat their homes through brutal winters. When Emil passed away, Gus rode on horseback to deliver the sad news to the family and returned to prepare his friend's body for burial, which had been temporarily held in an empty granary.

Oral Histories and Prairie Life

To preserve this shared heritage, Les and I will record an in-depth video interview in September. We will explore what early 1900s prairie life was really like—from enduring blizzards and fires in the dirt-roofed sod houses built by homesteaders such as the Kobis and Stulbergs, to the founding of Old Endiang. Crucially, our conversation will also honour the land's First Peoples, exploring the history of the Blackfoot, Cree, and Métis hunters who stewarded this territory long before homestead fences were built, including ancient landmarks like the sacred, thousands-of-years-old Ribstone.

From Real History to the Screenplay

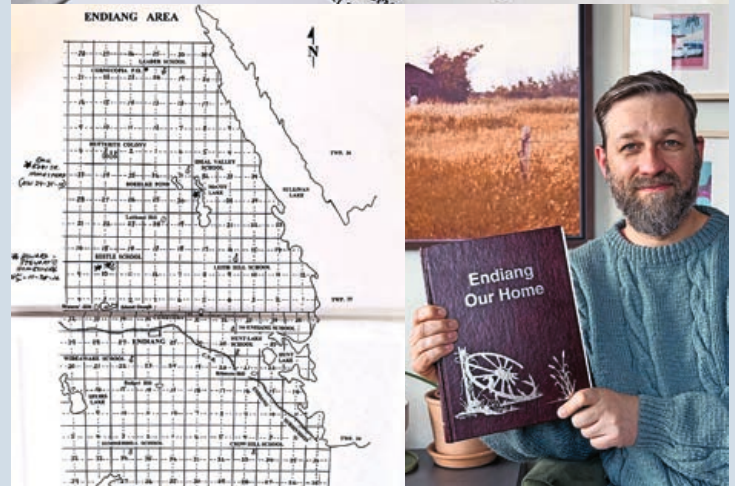
Collaborating directly with Les will enrich the film's screenplay. Instead of relying on fictional background figures, I can now ground the narrative in documented history. In the updated script, Gus and his sister Frieda interact directly with Emil and his wife Barbara (my great-grandmother): On screen, Gus helps haul a 1910 pump organ across rugged coulees and assists in rebuilding the Kobi family sod house, while Frieda helps Barbara, who served as a community herbal healer.

I look forward to sharing excerpts on my website and YouTube, with the full interview on Patreon, offering *Swiss Review* readers an intimate look as we work to keep our ancestors' stories alive.

RYAN MCLAY

RYAN MCLAY

- Website: www.ryandavidmclay.com
- Patreon: Patreon.com/TheJourneyoftheMelody



HOCKEY IN SWITZERLAND

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FÉDÉRATION DES SOCIÉTÉS SUISSES DE L'EST DU CANADA FEDERATION OF SWISS SOCIETIES IN EASTERN CANADA

CINQUANTE 1er AOÛT AU MONT SUTTON

Vous étiez 2 000 personnes à nous rejoindre pour fêter la 50e Fête nationale suisse, organisée au Mont Sutton par la Fédération des sociétés suisses de l'Est du Canada. Un grand merci à vous tous, mais aussi au trio Zmoos-Grosjean, venu tout droit du Jura, aux musiciens locaux et à tous les volontaires qui rendent la Fête possible. Une pensée particulière à ces **bénévoles assidus qui prennent désormais leur retraite** : Jeannette Perriard, qui a géré la logistique de la Fête d'une main de maître pendant plus de deux décennies; Urs Kaiser, le couteau suisse humain sans qui installer le site sera plus ardue; et, enfin, Ken Hill, qui, seul non-Suisse de la Fédération, est devenu un véritable pilier de l'organisation. Un grand merci également au Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal, au Consul Rudolf Wyss, ainsi qu'à l'équipe du Mont Sutton. En un demi-siècle, la fête a bien grandi et l'enthousiasme n'a jamais diminué!

ZOE COMPTON

CRÉDIT PHOTO : © LOUIS WEBER-HOUDE



Matterhorn Swiss Club (Montreal)

Several of our members helped out at the First of August celebrations at Mont Sutton. They put in many hours setting up and taking down the site, helping with parking, selling raffle and food tickets, grilling sausages, and serving food, drinks and coffee. Thank you very much! Our annual summer picnic was hosted by Juerg and Myrtha Hollinger at their lovely waterfront property. Thank you for allowing us to enjoy a summer afternoon at your home! Attendees brought salads, while the club provided sausages, buns, and dessert.

In late September, we will visit an apple orchard in the Eastern Townships, south of Montreal. We were there two years ago, and we all enjoyed it very much. On the agenda: cider tasting, lunch at their creperie, and a visit to the orchard to pick apples. We will also have the option to buy apples and other products at their charming store.

WALTER SPIRIG, PRESIDENT
514 - 694 - 3718

50 Years of Swiss National Day Celebrations at Mont Sutton

2,000 people joined us for the 50th Swiss National Day celebrations at Mont Sutton, organised by the Federation of Swiss Societies in Eastern Canada (FEDE). A big thank-you to all of you, and in particular to the Zmoos-Grosjean trio - who came all the way from the Jura - as well as to the local musicians and volunteers who make this annual celebration possible. A special word of acknowledgement to the dedicated **volunteers who are now retiring**: Jeannette Perriard, who masterfully managed the event's logistics for more than two decades; Urs Kaiser, the human Swiss Army knife, without whom setting up the site will be much more challenging; and Ken Hill, who, as the FEDE's only non-Swiss member, has become a true pillar of the organisation. We also thank the Swiss Consulate General in Montreal, Consul Rudolf Wyss, and the team at Mont Sutton. Over the past half-century, the event has grown significantly, and the enthusiasm has never waned!

ZOE COMPTON

PHOTO CREDITS: © LOUIS WEBER-HOUDE



Swiss Club Thames Valley

In April, the Swiss Club Toronto Theatre Group entertained us with the play *Paket im Aaflug*. As always, it was funny, and everyone enjoyed it. In June, the Swiss Choir held its annual Father's Day picnic that included a short concert and songs for an audience sing-along. The First of August was celebrated on the last Sunday in July. We had a great day, starting with the official celebration, followed by lunch. In the afternoon, the kids enjoyed crafts and face painting and jumped around in a bouncy castle. The adults tested their skills at stone tossing and crossbow shooting. It was a fun day for everyone!

Our next event is the AGM on November 7. Until next time ...

MARIANNE TRACHSEL



YODEL CLUB HEIMATTREU

CALGARY, AB, CANADA

What a whirlwind of a summer this has been! From competing in the Federal Yodelling Festival (Eidgenössisches Jodlerfest) to being on live Swiss national television, our time in Basel was one for the books. We arrived on the Thursday before the start of the festival, welcomed by the blazing 36°C weather. By Saturday, it was a scorching 40°C day, but we didn't let that melt away our passion and dedication to put on the best performance we could. At our judged performance, we scored 49.5 out of 60 points, earning us a class 2 grade! It is a grading system governed by the Swiss Yodeling Association that is quite unique, using a three point grading scale with class 1 at the top and class 3 being the lowest. The score is awarded on three fundamental aspects of yodelling: tone quality and vocal technique, intonation and purity, rhythm diction and dynamics, with each of these three categories having a general impression score for a total of 6 categories worth 10 points each.



Our 5 minutes of fame on Potzmusig, a Swiss national television program, was a very cool experience, and we are so thankful for the opportunity to share how we have been keeping the Swiss yodelling tradition alive in Canada. For those wanting to see our performance, it is on the SRF Potzmusig site, video titled 'Live vom 32. Eidg. Jodlerfest 2026 Basel', our performance at 39:28 into the video. It is also linked on our website homepage for a quick-click access.

We have some potential performances in the works, so keep an eye out on our website (see link below) for updates on when you can see us next! From your TV screen to live and in person. Can't wait to see you soon!

-Nina Rinklef



Facebook: Yodel Club Heimattreu - Jodlerklub Heimattreu
Instagram: @yodelclubyycc

For information about our Club's History and Activities - Visit our Website
www.jkheimattreu.com

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