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Je remercie tous ceux qui ont contribué, d'une façon ou d'une autre, à faire de 1991 une année mémorable et vous adresse ainsi qu'à vos familles, mes voeux de santé et de bonheur pour 1992.

Hermann Buff
Consul général de Suisse à Montréal

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Auf 1. Februar 1993 ist beim Generalkonsulat infolge Pensionierung die Stelle des Hauswarts/Weibels neu zu besetzen, welche im wesentlichen folgende Tätigkeiten umfasst: Unterhalt des Gebäudes, der Umgebung und des Gartens, Unterhalt der Heizung und technischen Installationen, Schneeräumung, kleinere Reparaturarbeiten, Reinigung der Büros, Botendienste, Spezialaufgaben für den Generalkonsul, Büroarbeiten. Interessenten mit einwandfreiem Leumund, die über eine gewisse technische und handwerkliche Begabung verfügen und bereit sind, hin und wieder eine unregelmässige Arbeitszeit in Kauf zu nehmen, senden ihr handschriftliches Bewerbungsschreiben, mit Lebenslauf, Referenzen und Lohnvorstellungen an: Schweizerisches Generalkonsulat, 1572, Av. Dr. Penfield, Montréal, Qué., H3G 1C4, z.Hd. von Herrn Generalkonsul H. Buff.

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107ème anniversaire

Madame Maria Füglister-Antoons, doyenne des Suisses de l'est du Canada, a fêté le 7 février 1992 son 107ème anniversaire. Notre compatriote, qui malgré quelques problèmes de vue et d'ouie, se sent encore en excellente forme, a surpris ses nombreux visiteurs avec une danse. Son secret de longévité : un verre de vin rouge de temps à autre et, avant de se coucher, une gorgée d'Irish Mist . . .

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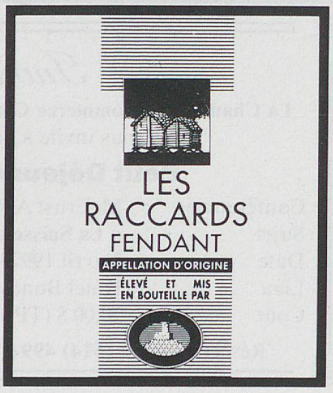

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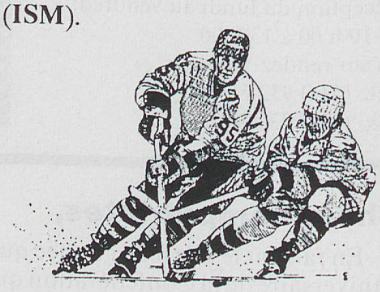

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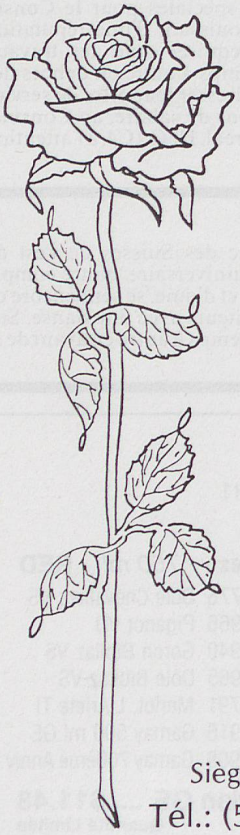

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Originale, construite et robuste, la musique de Honegger, notamment par ses symphonies et ses oratorios, connut des moments de gloire réservés à peu de créateurs . . .

Le Conservatoire de Montréal qui célèbre cette année le Cinquantenaire de sa fondation a inscrit au programme de ses concerts «Jeanne d'Arc au bûcher», poème de Paul Claudel, musique d'Arthur Honegger pour solistes, comédiens, choeur et orchestre qui sera donnée, à l'église Saint-Jean-Baptiste, rue Rachel, (angle Henri-Julien — métro Mont-Royal) les vendredi 10 avril à 20 heures et dimanche 12 avril à 14 heures sous la direction de Louis Lavigueur. Ces concerts seront placés sous la présidence d'honneur de Messieurs les Consuls généraux de France et de Suisse.

Pierre Mollet

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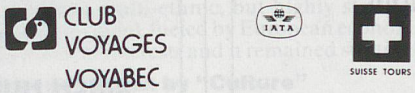

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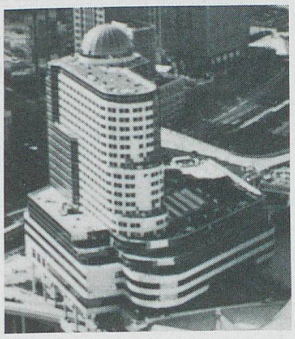

Message from the Consulate General

The Consulate General announces the arrival of Consul Ernst EICHENBERGER, accompanied by his wife Veronica. Mr. Eichenberger succeeds Consul Kurt Mägli who left Vancouver in mid-October, 1991, to take up his new assignment in Kinshasa, Zaire.

Mr. Eichenberger has been with the Federal Departement of Foreign Affairs since 1967; his previous posting was Düsseldorf/ Germany.

Multiculturalism: A Goal?

Making a Living, Making a Life

Exhibition at the Vancouver Museum, co-sponsored by the Vancouver Museum and the Vancouver Multicultural Society.(1)

The exhibition highlights the contribution of both the first people and immigrants to Vancouver. The exhibition focuses on work because work is at the hart of everyday life for most Lower Mainland residents, and as such, provides a common frame of reference from which to locate experiences in common across cultures. The Exhibition will stay in Vancouver to December 1992, when it will travel within B.C. and after across Canada.

The following reflections were triggered by a public programming meeting related to the exhibition "Making a Living, Making a Life".

Multiculturalism and immigrants

First, multiculturalism is not a goal. Secondly, multiculturalism is neither a substitute for cultural equality or for economic equality.

Multiculturalism is a particular strategy adopted in the early 70's to react to the rapidly changing ethnic composition of Canada. The Federal Government, in 1971, responded to the changing ethnic composition by committing Canada to a "multicultural policy within a bilingual framework." In 1982, the Charter of Rights and Freedom guaranteed to Canadian ethnic groups "that this charter shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians". Multiculturalism is an ambitious undertaking to integrate three vastly different perceptions of what Canada is. The first is that of the indigenous or aboriginal societies who inhabited North America thousands of years before any other inhabitants, the second belongs to the descendants of British and French immigrants, and the third is that of other European and non European immigrants.

One underlying assumption of the strategy of multiculturalism is the hope of enhancing political and economic integration by means of cultural pluralism. This concept leaves little or no room for individuals and groups which understand themselves as intrinsically "Canadian". For them, the word "integration" is meaningless. They do not see themselves as a specific ethnic group but as a "nation". This applies particularly to the French-Canadians, and even more so to all indigenous groups. What they share is the claim to the same physical land. In other words, nothing else is higher or above the land; ethnicity is under it. The adoption of a multicultural policy within a bilingual framework and the assumption that this would satisfy Quebec and the aboriginal peoples has proven to be short-sighted.

We should not forget that the early Canadian society was multi-ethnic, but highly stratified (eg. the fur-trade), fueled by European economic and political interests and it remained stratified.

What do I mean by "Culture"

Culture, in a broad sense, encompasses all individuals and social activities. Culturally based values, goals, outlooks and capacities guide the interpretation of human experience. Culture has two main dimensions: a spiritual-social-culturalistic one and a technological-economic-materialist one. We are more familiar with the first aspect and subordinate everything under it. However, cultural values and predispositions are partly responses to oppressive technological-economic-materialistic conditions. Entire social institutions furnish cultural stereotypes in the form of fierce racist/ethnic stereotyping. To give an historic example: unskilled Chinese labourers in B.C. were frequently indentured to contracting companies for their passage to Canada, subjected by the Federal Government to increasing head taxes and systematically denied settler status and the rights of citizenship until 1947 ! This marginal political status, rather than any cultural predisposition, reduced the possibility of successful cultural integration of large segments of the Chinese immigrant workers, who were not allowed to bring their families to Canada over many decades.

What we learn is that any policy of Multiculturalism must pay attention to the question of economic and social equality. Inequalities must be identified and means must be provided to eliminate them, but also to prevent future possibilities. Canada's civil rights policy points in a positive direction. Obvious restrictions on the participation of ethnic groups in civil life have been eliminated (e.g. Equal Pay Act, Fair Employment Practices Act, Fair Accommodation Practices Act, Human Rights Codes). However, laws cannot eliminate the many instances of covert discrimination ! Discrimination is only secondarily a judicial problem. Primarily, discrimination is an economic and social problem which, on the societal level, is institutionalized in entire groups and on the individual level is internalized by each individual.

Why do I believe in a policy of Multiculturalism?

I do not speak for the society or membership at large. These are my personal ideas as to why a policy of multiculturalism, which addresses both cultural and social-economic inequalities is meaningful.

First, the economic globalization makes demands on an export dependent Canada for speedy adaptation in the form of highly skilled intellectual communication and cooperative skills. The rapid world-wide deterioration of environmental conditions, the globalization of poverty, the globalization of migration of large segments of the world population, never experienced in this magnitude in the past, all these trends require highly open and fast adaptation skills. Nations which are ethnically and culturally multifaceted increase their potential for complex problem solving skills.

An interculturally competent person can communicate and cooperate in more than two cultures. Not an ethnic but an ethnically diverse society will further an interculturally diversified individual who is not intimidated but interested in other languages, beliefs, behaviour, morals and values. Or in the words of Dr. Jan Walls, Director of the David Lam Centre for International Communication at SFU (during his keynote address for the VMS 1991 Distinguished Services Awards Dinner); "Unity in Diversity".

In Canada, tradition and reality are inevitably close together, closer than many contemporaries may wish and yet further apart than pleases many traditionalists. Within this range of diametric opposites and all around the natural extremes of this vast country, the many cultural demands, in some ways, create their own insular lifestyles. Despite inescapable trends toward uniformity and a need to conform to the rest of the world, this country permits itself a true luxury: The coexistence of contradiction, the wealth of diversity.

Canadian Multiculturalism could be the sum of formal and ossified national cultures brought here by the many ethnically distinct groups of immigrants or a means of providing a platform for the new shapers of popular Canadian culture. The exhibition Making a Living, Making a Life strives to show the exhibition goer how Canadian culture has been shaped by the contributions of generations of culturally diverse peoples and how this diversity benefits the country.

Rolf Brulhart, Sociologist,
President of the Swiss Society of Vancouver
and a Board Member of VMS.

(1) The Vancouver Multicultural Society is a registered non-profit charitable organization which fosters the ideals of multiculturalism. Membership is made up of various ethnocultural groups (119) and interested individuals (115).

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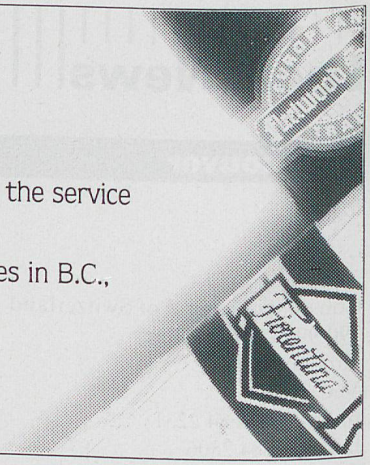

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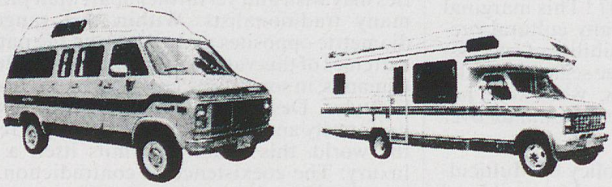

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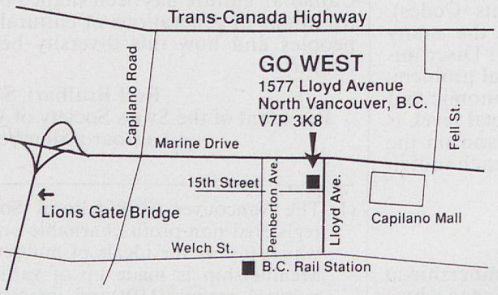

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D'YOUNG SWISS THEATER GRUPPE
spielt am 11 APRIL 1992
im Estonian House, 958 Broadview Ave., Toronto

DIE SPANISCHE FLIEGE

Schwank in 3 Akten von Franz Arnold und Ernst Bach
Dialektbearbeitung von Arthur Brenner
Zeit: Gegenwart

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Erika & Ruedi Hofer	416/271-5708
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Bill Wakefield	416/626-3838

Or come to one of our regular meetings the first Tuesday evening of every month at Graf Bobby Restaurant, 36 Wellington St. E., Toronto.

"Tropicana Festival Toronto, 25-26.1.92, -10° and good spirits".

Swiss Rifle Club Toronto

Excerpts from President Eric Burri's Report at AGM 1992

Sixty-one club members have been shooting and another eight guests and visitors have participated at various outings. 11,110 rounds of ammunition were fired. This translates into 120 kilos of lead discharged. The highest participation was at the end of the season match (Endschiessen) with sixty shooters. The lowest was at the Calgary match, with thirty-three. This wide variance in attendance presents a problem for the Rangemaster with the planning and organisation of each meet and is to a large extent responsible for, what might appear, to be poor planning or control.

As in past years we participated in the international matches sponsored by the Vancouver— and Calgary clubs. In the Vancouver match, out of a total of 604 clubs around the world, we placed 4th, outranked only by Vancouver in first, Los Angeles in second and Société de tir from Diesse, (Switzerland) in third. Our high scorer was René Bertschi with 93 points.

The Calgary match was shot by 85 clubs, and we placed eighth. Here, our best shooter with 94 points, was Robert Vögtle.

The special event last year was the 700th anniversary of Switzerland, which we celebrated by participating in the great shooting competition under that name. It presented a special challenge. Instead of the usual 5 or 10 point target, it was scored on a 100 point target. The shooter was limited to 2 trial shots, to be followed by 5 counting shots. Out of 35 members, 10 reached medal ranking scores.

Eric Burri, President

SHOOTING DATES FOR 1992 — WINONA RIFLE RANGE

2nd. of MAY	25th. of JULY
13th. of JUNE	15th. of AUGUST
27th. of JUNE	12th. of SEPTEMBER
11th. of JULY	26th. of SEPTEMBER

Please mark your agenda with these dates.

edited, Regula Koechli
Secretary

Saskatchewan

SWISS CLUB SASKATOON

Address: 13 Webb Crescent, Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 3L5
Phone: (306) 373-0745

October 20, 1991 was the date of our annual luncheon and general meeting. It was a mild day and as it turned out it also was the last snowfree day in Saskatoon for this winter. A great number of people, some from as far as 250 kilometers away, came together at Saskatoon's Cave restaurant for a pleasant afternoon of good food, good company and for the election of the 1991/92 executive committee and auditor. Reelected were:

President:	Louise Grassmann
Vice President:	Annemarie Buchmann
Secretary:	Marie Louise Wittlin
Treasurer:	Traugott (Tom) Scholer
Social Convenor:	Susanne Johnson
Auditor:	Max Kocher.

Samichlaus Evening, December 6, 1991

Our impressive tall Santa Claus found us assembled in the homelike annex of the Holy Family Church. By candlelight we shared various cold foods and baking from different Swiss Canadian kitchens. The children prepared Christmas crafts while their parents enjoyed the dinner. It was when we all started singing Christmas carols that our impressive Santa Claus made his entrance and delivered one of his entertaining performances. His smart version of "St. Nikolaus" combines the pleasant aspects of the Santa Claus tradition of both cultures. This has earned him the love of the children and the admiration of the adults. Even the shyest of children will talk to him and, with flushed cheeks, will happily accept his little red Swiss bag of nuts and chocolates.

Louise Grassman, President

Edmonton

CH-91 Tour Closing Report

(PART III — END)

A tour of the city and "Gruyere Country" with the indigenous luncheon of "soupe d'alpage" and wine and visit of a local cheese farm made for a colourful day. The evening in comradship and song ended a wonderful encounter. **Monique Chavaillaz** and her volonteers deserve special thanks. The new friendships will continue.

The choir did not forget an important contributor to its success: The composer **Jean Daetwyler.** On Tuesday June 11, 1991 the bus was directed to his home town **Sierre** to a concert exclusively arranged to honour this aging wise musician and to present his music especially written for our choir. A "Raclette" luncheon with an emotional encounter in music with the composer and friendship with the hosts in the setting of the local environment was the highlight of the day, if not of the entire tour. During this event, prepared by his daughter and son in law **Prof. and Mrs. Antoine & Chantal Maillard**, the composer presented his own choir to sing his own compositions. **"L'Amicale des Choeurs d'Hommes du Valais"** and the **"Fédération des Sociétés de Chant du Valais"** represented by **Messrs. Salamin and Marti** were very helpful to make this event possible.

After farewell in the afternoon the tour proceeded over the "Col du Pillon" to the German-Swiss mountain town of **Zweisimmen**. The hospitality by the choirs especially by the **Pfaeffli Family** and the **Hotel Sternen** is a lasting memory. Activities in the evening and on the following day included mountain touring and hiking to restore energy for the public evening concert. Participation of the **Men's Choir Zweisimmen, Mixed Choirs of Blankenburg and Oeschseite** and die organization by **Mr. Karl Deubelbeiss, Ernst Hodel** and all other organizers continued the chain of successful singing performances. The choir is fortunate to have a permanent link with our member **Hans Pfaeffli** to maintain the friendships with the host choirs and their friends.

Thursday June 13, 1991 the tour continued with leasurely sightseeing through the Emmental. The **Town of Zaeziwil** represented this picturesque land and its people with incomparable hospitality (not to forget the innkeepers of the **Hotel "Weisses Roessli"**). The **Men's Choir Zaeziwil** and director/organizer **Alfred Stegmann** provided a concert of joyful singing that will be always happily remembered. Participation by the **"Maennerchor Alpenroesli"** from **Thun** under the direction of **Paul Weber** and the local **Ladies Choir** added colour to the event. It was also great to meet the visiting friends from Biel-Bienne again. A day of lasting memories and friendships, again too short.

June 14, 1991, with mandatory stop in Lucern and scenic drive through the lush green and rolling countrysite of the Swiss Plateau to **Zuerich-City**. A commissioned evening performance in gala style in the classy setting of a small private concert hall of the **SWISS RE-INSURANCE COMPANY** for its Employee Association. A full and demanding program with interludes by our pianist **Irene Tarnowsky** and our **Walter Meier** on the Cello provided a rich and classy performance. The applause reflected it.

Touring under guidance of **Walter Baumann**, shopping and enjoying the last tour day June 15, 1991 in the cityscape of **Zuerich**, bringing greetings from the **Mayor of Edmonton** to the **Mayor of Zuerich** in the ancient courtyard of the "Fraumuenster", lasted until mid-afternoon. From there a short drive to the suburban town of **Wangen-Bruettisellen** leading to a surprise performance at an open air wedding party. Reception by the local mayor and town council in the firehall opened a unforgettable evening. A packed church available as concert hall awaited the widely publicized performance of the EDMONTON SWISS MEN'S CHOIR. The Ladies and Men's Choirs of the local area provide for a befitting framework of the farewell concert. The village festival sponsored by the town lasted deep into the night. The hospitality by the towns people was again unsurpassable.

Sunday June 16, 1991 the end of a straineous but eventful and fullfilling two weeks. For some it meant Air Canada Flight No 879 home to Edmonton, for some a holiday extension, but for all a feeling of a great achievement.

Special thanks to:

Elisabeth Anderson-Lesoway for her determination, devotion and persistance to make the impossible possible.

Irena Tarnawsky for her superb performance (and sense of humor),

Paul Ehrler for his most competent travel guiding and his continued support through SEMA,

Graham Hayward for teaching us the tricks of behaviour and how to look not too bad on stage,

Peter Johner and Bruno Dobler for good taste, great liaison and general entertainment,

Werner Kupper for collecting the stragglers,

Walter Meier, not only for playing the cello, but also in helping to deal with the lenders,

John Neilson for his organizational talent (and looking after me when I forgot something),

Gerry Paravicini and Fredy Ruefli for keeping a close watch over the Swiss Francs.

Karl Strickler, our President, for his strong leadership, supporting me throughout and keeping his cool when I mess up,

Sam Yakimishyn for his tremendous efforts in fund raising,

Fritz Zuberbuehler for his informatory work in Swiss history and tradition and his help in establishing contacts in Switzerland,

and all the other members of the choir for their tolerance, support, time and effort in participation and whatever special tasks they did to make this concert tour the most successful event in the history of our choir.

Erwin W. Baumann,
Chairman CH-91 Committee
August 1991

Due to lack of space, reports from the Ottawa Valley Swiss Club Inc. and the Swiss Mountain Range Association (Vancouver) will appear in the next issue. We apologize.

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