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# REGIONAL NEWS

## CANADA

Next Submission Date:  
December 24, 2018

### Editorial — Online petition "e-voting"

- ♦ *Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA)* has launched a petition calling upon Swiss Federal Council and Parliament to introduce the electronic vote by the year 2021 for all Swiss living Abroad. By law, a petition can be signed by any person independent of age, sex, nationality or place of residency.
- ♦ Last day for signing/submitting the petition is November 28, 2018. To learn more about e-voting, to sign the petition or to see who has signed it already, please click on <https://www.evoting2021.ch/>.

### Thank you, good bye & au revoir as your editor!

- ♦ It's been a privilege and pleasure to work with you, your organizations, societies and members. Thank you for our co-operation on behalf of «Swiss Review» via «Regional News Canada»! A further thank you to all advertising customers for your loyalty & support, and to our efficient and friendly Swiss Representations!
- ♦ Continuing in the function of OSA Delegate & Board Member, please email me at [silv.schoch@gmail.com](mailto:silv.schoch@gmail.com) or stay in touch through <https://swisswanderlust.com/> blog and facebook page, from which my coming projects will be launched. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!



SILVIA SCHOCH,  
REGIONAL EDITOR  
CANADA; COUNCIL  
MEMBER ORGANISATION  
OF THE SWISS  
ABROAD AND MEMBER  
OF THE BOARD

### Personal achievement, camaraderie and goodwill: Swiss Armed Forces at the world's largest international marching event — SILVIA SCHOCH

There are several reasons why the steady number of around 240 men and women of the Swiss Armed Forces continue to voluntarily participate at the *4 Day March* in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, every year during summer.

Colonel Edgar Gwerder, Commander, Swiss Armed Forces Marching Group, points to the athletic achievement of marching forty kilometers a day for four days with ten kilograms of weight on the back.

"Strong camaraderie is forged in shared experience within the unit of the Swiss military", he continues, "and also with the other military participants from around the

globe". Spending time together on and off the marching trails, the developing camaraderie has many a soldier return year-after-year to an event that attracts 5,500 military personnel and 40,000 civilians from 100 countries.

Dutch people love the event! They camp & pic-nic along the way with their extended families, cheering on the marchers, supporting them with water and fruit. The Swiss Forces are highly regarded and the men and women warmly welcomed. The Netherland Government builds a protected camp in a nature reserve and provides the infrastructure to house and feed the peacefully united Armed Forces of 29 countries. Much interaction and shared events are taking place during opening and closing ceremonies of the military camp, but also arises spontaneously during evenings and marching hours. Colonel Gwerder adds: "This special environment facilitates face-to-face exchanges across the ranks from ordinary soldier to three star General. It is a unique experience in the world of military, which gives rise to much positive connection."

Participants encounter commemorative WWII sites daily. In fact, *Operation Market Garden* at the end of WWII took place in this region. *Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery* with 2,100 Canadian and 267 unidentified soldiers is located en route. For sixty years, the Swiss Armed Forces halt their march

at the cemetery to honour the fallen soldiers of WWII.

Out of respect, the marching soldiers polish their dusty boots. Solemnity is shining on their young faces as they regroup. With Canadian Generals and Swiss Brigadiers present; with the Cantonal Police band of Berne playing a moving chorale, each of the Swiss Armed Forces Men and Women plant a long-stemmed rose into the soil of one of the soldier's graves. A hush has fallen over the assembled and many a tear is gleaming in an eye. Photos from forty years ago show the cemetery bare of flowers. Today, the graves are framed by fragrant rose bushes!

Per chance, the author met a young Swiss female soldier who is a dual citizen Switzerland/Canada. She is very proud to be part of this march and ceremony and introduced herself to the Canadian General and Swiss Brigadier.

At the time of this writing, it confirmed through the Canadian General, that Major Gustave Daniel Alfred Bieler, expatriate Swiss, fighting for the Canadian Armed Forces during operation Market Garden in WWII, has been identified as being buried at Groesbeek Cemetery. The fallen major turns out to be a relative of the Swiss Chaplain who held the commemorative speech at this very ceremony.

More information and human interest stories of this international event are on [www.swisswanderlust.com](http://www.swisswanderlust.com).



## New Appointments at the Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal Nouveaux Collaborateurs du Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal is pleased to announce two new staff members  
Le Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal a le plaisir d'annoncer l'arrivée récente de deux collaborateurs



Left/gauche: Eros Robbiani, Deputy Consul General and Head of the Swiss Business Hub Canada/  
Consul général adjoint et Chef du Swiss Business Hub Canada  
Right/droite: Giancarlo Paduano, Consul, Head of Consular, Administrative and Cultural Affairs/  
Consul, Chef des affaires consulaires, administratives et culturelles.

**EROS ROBBIANI** took up his duties as Deputy Consul General and Head of the Swiss Business Hub Canada on July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Mr Robbiani joined the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in 1990 and was trained in Bern and Stuttgart. Subsequently, he was transferred to the Swiss representations in Beijing, Montreal, Milan, Strasbourg, La Paz and Montevideo, where he dealt with consular, political and commercial affairs. During this time, he was promoted to the rank of a Consul and 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary. After his return to Bern in 2011, Mr Robbiani was appointed Deputy Head of Section to the Directorate of Political

Affairs, United Nations and International Organisations Division. From November 2014 until July 2018 Mr Robbiani assumed the position of Deputy Consul General in Sydney.

Mr Robbiani is accompanied by his wife, Mila Berra Robbiani, and his daughter, Gea. As he was already stationed in Montreal in the mid-90s, Mr Robbiani is looking forward to rediscovering Canada with his family in his new position.

**Giancarlo Paduano** arrived from the Embassy of Switzerland in Rome and is replacing Ms. Menghetti Coutinho who left Montreal to take on his role in Rome.

Mr Paduano took office on August 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 as Consul, Head of consular and administrative affairs. He will also direct the communication section and cultural affairs. Giancarlo Paduano studied in Palermo, where he grew up, as well as in Zürich and Lyon. He joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1995 after his internship in Barcelona. Mr Paduano was since stationed in six different countries with two intervals at headquarters in Bern before his arrival in Montreal. His roots are in Klosters, Graubünden, where he likes to spend his holidays. Giancarlo Paduano came to Montreal with his wife, Irene Heller and their daughters, Eleonora and Marisa, fourteen and eleven years old. The family is looking forward to taking up this new challenge and to discover this beautiful province both at work and privately.

**EROS ROBBIANI** est entré en fonction en tant que Consul général adjoint et Chef du Swiss Business Hub Canada le 30 juillet dernier.

Il a rejoint le Département des Affaires Étrangères en 1990 et a été formé à Berne ainsi qu'à Stuttgart. Par la suite, M. Robbiani a eu des affectations à Beijing, Montréal, Milan, Strasbourg, La Paz et Montevideo, période durant laquelle il a été promu Consul et 1<sup>er</sup> Secrétaire. En 2011, après son retour à Berne, Eros Robbiani a été nommé Chef de section adjoint à la Direction politique, la Divi-

sion Nations Unies et organisations internationales. Avant son engagement à Montréal, il était Consul général adjoint à Sydney. M. Robbiani est accompagné de son épouse, Mila Berra Robbiani et de sa fille, Gea Robbiani. Ayant déjà été en poste à Montréal au milieu des années 90, il se réjouit de redécouvrir le Canada avec sa famille dans sa nouvelle fonction.

**Giancarlo Paduano** vient de l'Ambassade de Suisse à Rome. Il a pris la place de Madame Menghetti Coutinho, qui a quitté Montréal pour le remplacer dans la capitale italienne.

Monsieur Paduano a pris service le 6 août dernier en tant que Consul, Chef des affaires consulaires et administratives. Il dirigera en plus la section communication et les affaires culturelles. Giancarlo Paduano a fait ses études à Palerme, où il a grandi, ainsi qu'à Zurich et à Lyon. Entré dans le Département des Affaires Étrangères en 1995, après son stage à Barcelone, il a travaillé dans six différents pays, avec deux intervalles à la Centrale à Berne, avant d'arriver au Canada. Ses racines suisses se trouvent à Klosters, dans les Grisons, où il aime se réfugier pour les vacances. Marié à Irene Heller, ils ont deux filles de quatorze et onze ans, Eleonora et Marisa. M. Paduano et sa famille se réjouissent de ce nouveau défi et de découvrir les atouts que la belle province peut offrir, tant au niveau professionnel que privé.



Photo above from left to right: Kynan Lo, 1<sup>st</sup> runner up; Pascal Borno, Consul General of Switzerland; Neve Kelly, 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up; Etienne and Eljiah Hess-Marion, winners of the grand prize; Walter Muurmans, Edelweiss Air, Manager Western Canada Operations

## Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver – Jungbürgerfeier Class of 2000

For the second consecutive year the Consul General of Switzerland in Vancouver, Mr. Pascal Borno, invited the young Swiss residing in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Yukon to celebrate their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday—age of the legal majority in Switzerland—to the residence of the Swiss Confederation.

With over seventy guests attending including 18 Swiss youngsters coming of age, their parents, a handful of proud grandparents, two delegates of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad as well as several representatives of Swiss societies and businesses, the event organized on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 was a great success. As some of the guests said upon leaving: “a day to remember”.

Following a welcome greeting by the Consul General, Mrs. Claudia Thomas, Head of the consular section, made the members of the Class of 2000 aware of the rights and obligations of a Swiss citizen living abroad. Mrs. Thomas encouraged the young adults to actively contribute to shaping the future of Switzerland and to be part of local community life.

During lunch with traditional meats, raclette, salad and dessert buffets, the young adults completed a fun quiz about Switzerland. Thanks to our generous sponsors, Switzerland’s leading leisure travel airline *Edelweiss* and *Lindt & Sprüngli (Canada)*, four members of the Class of 2000 were able to take home fantastic prizes: two huge Lindt gift baskets full of chocolate for the runners-up and a return ticket from Vancouver to Zurich on Edelweiss Air for the two winners. The Consul General also thanks *Switzerland Cheeses*, *Switzerland Tourism* and the band “*Rocky Mountain Alphorns*” for their contribution to the success of this event. It was inspiring to interact with guests and members of the Class of 2000 and to learn about their achievements, passions, plans and aspirations!

## Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver sponsors “Our Cityride”

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver sponsored a group admission to the “Our Cityride” (<https://www.facebook.com/ourcityride/>) on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Twenty-two fellow Swiss representing various Swiss organizations and friends of Switzerland met at David Liam Park to enjoy the happy, easy going atmosphere of this great family event celebrating the spirit of local communities. It was a fun mass bike ride around the city and Stanley Park. Although moving slowly, the crowds alongside the streets were cheering us on, responding to the sounds of bike and cow bells from cyclists. We are hoping to organize this event again next year with an even bigger turnout!

THE TEAM OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND





Photo left: over 70 children attended the "Lampion Umzug" at the Swiss National Day celebration on July 28, 2018

Photo right: one of the many happy and hard working volunteer teams the Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Chalet could not do without!

## Vancouver Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association

Regardless of the hot weather for the last few weeks, there has been a lot of activity at our Club, with shooting competitions and social events.

On the May long weekend the Feldschieszen and Feldstich were held with good participation. On Father's day, June 17, the ever popular Bruno Huber shoot took place with an excellent steak dinner to follow. Our special invited Guests, Armin and Vreni Meier were presented with a long overdue honorary membership. A big thank you in form of the "Verdienstmedallie" was presented to Frank Suter sen. for his continued

landscaping work around the Clubhouse. He is spending numerous hours on the property to keep it in top shape.

The Mountain Range match was held on July 15 in the morning and the Volkschiessen in the afternoon. We could have used a few more non-shooters as we always get paired up with an experienced shooter. It was a fun event nevertheless with a barbeque to end the day.

In preparation for the National Day celebration we held a very well attended work party on July 21, so on July 28 the club house looked its very best, decked out with Swiss

and Cantonal flags and beautiful flowers. With approximately 400 visitors and 71 children taking part in the "Lampion Umzug" it was a great celebration! Please check out the photos on our website: [www.scmra.ca](http://www.scmra.ca). A big thank you to all volunteers!

We look forward to the annual Schützenfest on October 6 and 7 and the Saushoot on October 21 which ends the outdoor shooting season. Mark your calendar for the Jass-tournament on October 28.

We hope to meet many of you at these upcoming events!

MARLIES BAUMANN

## Edmonton Edmonton Swiss Mens' Choir

The Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir participated at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Sängerfest in Toledo, Ohio over the Canada Day long weekend. As members of the North American Swiss Singing Alliance (NASSA), ESMC joined twelve other choirs from the upper Midwest USA and across Canada where we were warmly welcomed by the host choir, the Toledo Swiss Singers. The culmination of many months of practice came to fruition at the prize singing competition which took place at the historic Valentine theatre. ESMC performed *Maria Iassu* by Bepi De Marzi, and tied for second highest score. All choirs were on stage singing in unison at the Grande Concert, a highlight for audience and participants.

The next NASSA Sängerfest will occur in three years, and the ESMC is honored to host this event June 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Edmonton, Alberta. We welcome you all to the provincial capital for this great event!

### Some of our upcoming events

**Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>: Winzerfest, St. Basil's Cultural Center**

Our annual concert with fine dining and dancing. A fun event and fund-raising opportunity for our choir with audiences of up to 400 guests. If you know of a potential corporate sponsor, we would be pleased to display their advertisement either in our program and/or on screen.

**Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm: Annual Christmas Concert at Saint Vital Catholic Church, 4905-50 Street in Beaumont.**

Please check our website at [www.esmca.ca](http://www.esmca.ca) for more details, other events and more information on how to join or contact us.

You may "like" us on Facebook "Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir" or enter our name into YouTube to watch/listen to some of our past performances.

MARTIN STAUB



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**Saskatoon** Swiss Club Saskatoon

For our June BBQ, held at the acreage of Elisabeth and Kaspar Wirz, we had wonderful, hot weather. Fifteen members enjoyed a variety of grilled meats, along with a communal table of side dishes and delicious desserts.

However, the weather turned on us for our National Day celebration, held on August 4<sup>th</sup> at the Lion's Park in the town of Warman.

The forecast was for scattered showers and we did have a short downpour in Saskatoon mid afternoon, but driving out to Warman the sun was shining and it looked like it was going to be a nice evening. While the forecast kept some members at home, thirty-six hardy souls endured many downpours that started just as we were getting the sausages on the grill. Luckily we had a gazebo to move everything into. That gave us a roof over our heads, but without walls, rain blew in. We persevered, gathered around and yet enjoyed our wonderful supper of bratwurst, cervelat, salads and desserts! Everyone was a bit damp and cold, and our member in charge of the grill, Rosa Nievergelt, was totally soaked by bravely facing the elements so we could have our grilled sausages! Thank you for your dedication, Rosa!

At this time, no date has been set for the AGM, usually held towards the end of October. Complete information will be provided in the fall newsletter, or contact any member of the executive.

We welcome new members to join us. Membership is free the first year, so come and see what we're about!

For information about our club and events, please contact us at [swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com](mailto:swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com) or call (306) 665-6039.

ELISBETH EILINGER

**Guelph** Swiss Canadian Club

Our hot summer started off with our June event, taking us to Kitchener's Bingeman's Mini Golf Park. Despite the weather, we had several members join in for a fun game, and most managed to finish just before the rain started. The summer BBQ took place in August. It was the perfect opportunity to cool off and enjoy the company of good friends, food and traditional Swiss music. There were many delicious salads and desserts shared from mum's "secret" recipes to new first time tries; - our club members are happy to be taste testers!

We have many time-honoured classic club events coming up to round off the year. Our fall hike at the end of September will take us to *The Forks* of the Credit Ontario Park. We look forward to having you join us for a breath of fresh air and to enjoy the natural beauty of Southern Ontario.

To balance out that activity, we hold our cozy cheese fondue evening on October 20<sup>th</sup> at Arkell Church Hall.

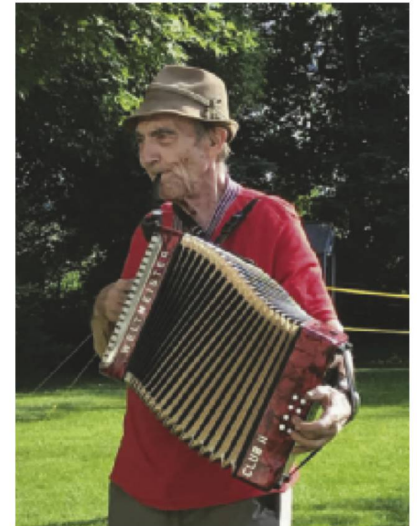
We host our Wald Weihnacht on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The evening will start off in the forest with carols and a tale of our club traditions surrounding our Wald Weihnacht. We have already sent the date to Santa and he has promised to make an appearance once again this year and bring along some goodies for all the good boys and girls.

This is the last club article for the year. We have enjoyed planning out all of the events and hope that all members have enjoyed attending them.

For the most up-to-date club information, please follow us on Facebook (Swiss-Canadian Club Guelph) or check out our website <http://guelphswisscanadianclub.webs.com>.

If you have any questions, we are always happy to help, please email: [swisscanadianclubguelph@gmail.com](mailto:swisscanadianclubguelph@gmail.com).

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Thames Valley Swiss Club

On July 29<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Swiss National Day party – and what a great celebration it was!

Close to 500 people gathered for the official part, which was presented by president Urs Egli and included performances by our various musical groups and several speeches by our guests of honour. It was very special to have five people on stage that attended the first Swiss National Day party in 1948: Frieda Kellenberger (Hug), Stefan Seiler, and Joan Stadelmann with her two sons, Louis and John. Seventy years later, they were able to tell us about those first gatherings at the Hug Farm in 1948 and at the Seiler Farm in 1949. Amazing!

Congratulatory greetings from Ottawa were brought by our MP John Nater, a Swiss descendant, who fondly shared some

personal memories of past Swiss National Day celebrations.

Swiss consul, Raoul Imbach, who is also known as “The Singing Diplomat”, conveyed best wishes from the Consulate in Montreal, and delighted the crowd with the rendition of one of his songs. Musical entertainment and lots of activities for all ages made for a fun-filled afternoon.

A beautiful quilt, depicting something special of each canton was hand-crafted by Sonja Gutknecht and received much admiration, while a photo exhibit about the past seventy August First celebrations invited people to chat and reminisce about the past. And last but certainly not least – there was dancing!

Thank you to all who contributed to this special anniversary celebration and to all who came



out in such great numbers to make this a very memorable day!

**Upcoming Events**

September 15: Jodler Stubete, Rec. Complex Milverton

November 3: General Meeting, Legion Hall Milverton

November 17: Concert Swiss Farmers Band, Rec. Complex Milverton

December 2: Advent Celebration, Legion Hall Milverton.

PIA HAECHLER

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## Montreal Matterhorn Swiss Club

To the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Matterhorn Swiss Club in 2018, we travelled by motor coach to Magog where we enjoyed a three-hour cruise on beautiful Lake Memphremagog. After a delicious lunch on-board we had time for a leisurely walk around town. Our next stop was an informative tour and wine-tasting at the *L'Orpailleur Winery* in Dunham. A souvenir wine glass for everyone will remind us of an enjoyable day!

During this trip, we celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of one of our honorary and very long-time members, Fritz Gaggioli. Fritz has been a member since shortly after the formation of our club.

We are pleased that over twenty members and friends volunteered at Mont-Sutton and helped to make the Swiss

National Day celebrations a success!

In mid-August our annual summer picnic and barbeque was held at the Pfister residence on Ile Cadieux. About fifty members and guests attended, and we had a social afternoon of chatting, playing Bocce and enjoying getting together. Some former members were able to join us and it was nice to re-visit! Dinner included assorted grilled sausages with a nice variety of pot-luck salads, and dessert consisted of fruit, the usual Nussgipfel as well as a special cake baked by our member Willy Suter of "Two Bite Sweets".

The club holds 5 or 6 events or outings each year, and we are pleased to say they are always well-attended. New members are always welcome.

WALTER SPIRIG

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## Überleben am Red River

*Annabarbi stellt sich vor sie hin: "Wirst du heiraten, Elisabeth?" "Gehst du weg mit einem Mann?", fragt Chigi erschrocken. Es ist die Mutter, die antwortet. "Falls Elisabeth heiratet, geht sie nicht weg mit dem Mann, sondern unsere ganze Familie wird mit ihr in sein Haus ziehen."*

Mit packenden Schilderungen aufgrund sorgfältig recherchierten Fakten erzählt Therese Bichsel in ihrem Roman "Überleben am Red River" vom Schicksal der Emmentaler Familien, die aus ihrer Schweizerischen Armut in die "Kolonie des Rhoten Flusses" auswandern.

Hautnah begleiten wir als Leser die neun-köpfige Familie Rindisbacher aus dem heimischen Eggwil in die Siedlung von Lord Selkirk im heutigen Winnipeg. Als im Mai 1821 die gefährliche

Reise beginnt, sind wir bereits im Bann der Hoffnungen, Ängste, und Neugier von Vater und Mutter Rindisbacher und deren fünf Töchter und zwei Söhne im Alter von 7 bis 20 Jahren. Doch dies ist erst der Beginn einer spannungsgeladenen, oft an die Grenzen menschlicher Widerstandskraft stossenden Schweizer Auswanderungs-Geschichte in eine andere Welt im ferne Kanada.

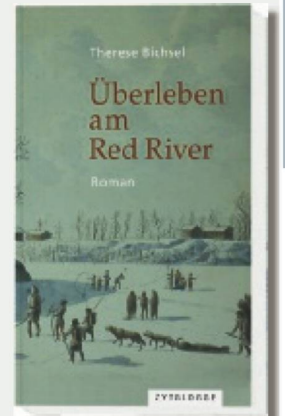
Während zahlreiches Material über männliche Mitglieder Schweizer Auswandererfamilien vorlag, war es der Autorin wichtig, auch Frauenschicksale so vollständig als möglich zu schildern.

Zwangsheiraten wie ungewohnte Freiheiten: auf Grund persönlichen Recherchen vor Ort in Manitoba, in der Schweiz und durch Archive in Grossbritannien sowie zahlreiche weitere Quellen lässt die Autorin in ihrem Roman ein lebendiges Bild einer wahren Schweizer Emigrationsgeschichte packend auferstehen.

Neben berührenden Erzählungen der "alltäglichen" Familienschicksale erfahren wir auch von der ausserordentlichen zeichnerischen Begabung von Sohn Peter, der bereits 16-jährig als erster Europäer Land, Leute und Kultur der Selkirk Siedlung mit erstaunlichem Geschick und Genauigkeit auf Papier festhält. "Überleben am Red River" folgt der Geschichte der Rindisbacher, welche zusammen mit weiteren Schweizer Emigrationsfamilien den Weg für das heutige Leben in Manitoba entscheidend mitgeprägt hat.

Die meisten der 140 erhaltenen Aquarelle und Zeichnungen von Peter Rindisbacher können heute in der *National Gallery of Canada* eingesehen werden. Eine Ehrentafel zu seinem Gedenken zierte noch immer die *Colony Street* in Winnipeg.

Das Roman kann per Mail ([bestellungen@zytglogge.ch](mailto:bestellungen@zytglogge.ch)) oder über die Webseite [www.zytglogge.ch](http://www.zytglogge.ch) bestellt werden. Zytglogge Verlag beliefert Buchhandlungen weltweit, so dass der Roman auch über kanadische Buchhandlungen bestellt werden kann.



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SILVIA SCHOCH

## Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver – Jungbürgerfeier Class of 1999

[www.revue.ch/fileadmin/revue/Ausgaben/2017/05/SRV\\_1705\\_CAN.pdf](http://www.revue.ch/fileadmin/revue/Ausgaben/2017/05/SRV_1705_CAN.pdf)

**Pierce Huser**, winner of two return airline tickets sponsored by *Edelweiss Air* at last year's Jungbürgerfeier at the Consulate General in Vancouver, is seen on this photo whitewater kayaking the Verzasca River. Pierce recently returned from Switzerland with his cousin and spontaneously accepted to share some milestones of their journey with the readers of "Swiss Review".



After landing in Zurich, we took the train to Berne where we had the chance to experience Swiss culture. We saw the parliament building and explored cool parts of the city.

Afterwards, we met with Swiss friends and drove to the Ticino to explore the famous Verzasca River, one of the most beautiful places I've ever been! We were stunned by the gorgeous scenery of the Swiss Alps and crystal clear river water of the Verzasca.

Continuing on to Italy, we explored the rivers of the Piemonte region. After eating lots of pizza and other incredible foods in Italy, we travelled north into Austria to check out some cool rivers in Schladming. Returning to Zurich by train, we relaxed and enjoyed the rest of our vacation, eating delicious cheeses and tasting new beers. It was a truly amazing experience travelling to new countries with such rich culture. Thank you very much to everyone who made it possible!

Pierce Huser

The editorial staff of «Swiss Review» warmly thanks Silvia Schoch for her five years of service as editor of the Canadian regional editions. In the total of twenty regional editions published, Silvia knew how to bring together official information, event notices and feature articles to depict the diverse Swiss community in Canada. In doing so, she made a very valuable contribution to promoting the ties of Swiss citizens living in Canada. Silvia, we wish you all the best! Marc Lettau, Editor in Chief

## Ottawa Ottawa Valley Swiss Club

Swiss National Day celebrations in Ottawa, Canada's Capital, are always eagerly anticipated by young and old alike, and Swiss and Swiss-at-heart. This year's event was no exception. The Ottawa Valley Swiss Club hosted the national day celebration at the historic Billings Bridge Estate on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The evening started out with lovely hot weather and not even a short downpour could dampen anyone's spirits.

Children enjoyed trying to open up the sweet-filled Swiss Pinata, challenging games of tug of war against the adults, and an enchanting lampion parade at dusk. A tombola with wonderful Swiss prizes, stone throwing competition and delicious Bratwurst, Cervelas and Wähe made for a memorable day.

The Honourable Ambassador, Dr. Beat Nobs, toasted to the evening and to Switzerland while the Montagna Singers Choir sang the Swiss National Anthem. A toast of Swiss white and red wine was enjoyed while everyone caught up with old friends and made new ones.

It is with sadness that we bid farewell to Dr. Nobs and his wife Dr. Irene Knöpfel Nobs. On behalf of the Ottawa Valley Swiss Club, we thank them and wish them all the best!

**Please join us for our upcoming events:**

**Metzgete** - November 3, 2018

**Children's Christmas Party & Senior's Luncheon** - please check the website.

For more information, visit our website: [www.ottawa-valleyswissclub.ca](http://www.ottawa-valleyswissclub.ca).

OLIVIA CRAFT

