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REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA

Editorial

Dear Readers: Three recent stories indicate a "melt-down" on the "Swissness" front: First, the removal of the Matterhorn from Toblerone's packaging (as discussed here in the March edition). Then, the collapse of a major Swiss bank. And now to top it off: any cheesemaker in the world is legally allowed

to sell "*gruyere*", at least in the US, where an appeals court has just declined to protect the traditional Swiss *Gruyère*. To put it bluntly - it's *Gruyère* versus generic "*gruyere*". The fear is this could happen elsewhere and dilute the brand. But as you read this edition of the Regional News, you'll see

there's no discounting or marginalising the value of cheese in the Swiss community. Just notice how often the topic crops up! Have a great summer! avs@telus.net



ANDREW VON STUERMER
REGIONAL EDITOR

Swiss Club Saskatoon

As of the Easter weekend, spring has finally arrived on the Prairies after a lengthy period of colder than usual weather in March and early April. The spring melt has begun!

Our Raclette Lunch event was held on March 5 at Heinz and Evi Buchmann's spacious home. A large group of 30 members attended this delicious lunch. As always, we sold the extra cheese to our members, and we also held a successful raffle for two nice-sized wedges of raclette. The Club provided the meal at nominal cost and members supplied the desserts - and oh were there *lots* of desserts!

After the meal, we had a fun Jass, and Walter Zunti, who will be "99-years-young" on April 14, was presented with a trophy for "*most enthusiastic Jass player*". We no longer put on a Jass tournament, and Walter misses attending it. During the Jass, he showed us he still knows his way around with cards!

We'll hold our June BBQ on Father's Day, on June 18, in Neuanlage, SK. This community is about a 30-minute drive north of Saskatoon, and the gathering will be held at the Community Hall in town, hosted by Hayley and Marc Schwendemann. For complete details, refer to our summer newsletter.

The date for the Bundesfeier has yet to be set, but it will be hosted by Dora and Max Hug at their acreage. You'll find complete details in the summer newsletter.



Walter Zunti and Elisabeth Eilinger



If you would like 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 the first year. Even though our name is Swiss Club Saskatoon, we welcome Swiss from anywhere in Saskatchewan!

ELISABETH EILINGER, PRESIDENT, SWISS CLUB SASKATOON





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Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver

Introducing the new Honorary Consul for the Province of Alberta

It's an honour and a privilege to introduce myself to you as the new Honorary Consul for the Province of Alberta.

Originally from Zürich, I've spent the last 22 years in Canada, first in Ontario and now in Alberta, where I reside with my husband and two children in Calgary.

To my new role, I bring a diverse background with experience in business, agriculture, education, and the charitable sector.

In Switzerland, I was employed with various companies in banking, finance, and accounting.

In Canada, I worked as a National Learning and Diversity Coordinator at Ernst & Young in Toronto and at the Toronto Metropolitan University, completing research on immigration and settlement for a Government of Canada-funded project.

My work in education led me to start and lead Canada's first community food literacy centre, a registered charity advancing critical food literacy, food citizenship, and food security.

As a teacher certified in Canada and Switzerland, I recently completed a Doctor of Education degree at the University of Calgary,

where I now teach as a sessional lecturer in the Werklund School of Education.

I'm passionate about promoting intercultural relations, equity, and diversity and seeking innovative ways to network with various stakeholders to find solutions to problems or new ways of doing things.

As Honorary Consul, I look forward to meeting and supporting the Swiss community across Alberta.

Drawing on my experience in intercultural relations in various sectors, I will seek opportunities to develop business, science, educational, and cultural collaborations between Switzerland and Alberta.

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at calgary@honrep.ch!



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Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

Important Message to Swiss Citizens Residing in ONTARIO

Dear Fellow Citizens: We're pleased to inform you that for our "Swiss Consular Days", we plan to come to

TORONTO
from October 16 to 20, 2023.

This service provides Swiss citizens with the opportunity to renew their identity documents without having to travel to Montreal.

Should you wish to take advantage of the "Swiss Consular Days", please complete an online application (one per applicant) by **Sunday, July 16, 2023** using one of the following websites:

- In English: www.schweizerpass.ch [Change language to English in upper right-hand corner]
- In German: www.schweizerpass.ch
- In French: www.passeportsuisse.ch

(Please make a new application – even if you already have an active one with the Consulate!)

IMPORTANT: In the online application, under "Remarks", please make sure to write "**Toronto 23**".

After filing, you'll receive an automated email confirming receipt of your application. Detailed information about further procedures will be sent out by the end of August 2023 at the latest. If you have not received this information by August 31, 2023, please contact us!

Due to a very tight schedule, we will only be able to accommodate customers with a confirmed appointment. Please feel free to pass this information on to other fellow Swiss.

If you have any questions, contact us by email at montreal.biomob@eda.admin.ch.

Please note:

- If your registration with the Consulate in Montreal is not up-to-date (civil status, name, etc.), this may delay or impede the processing of new identity documents;
- As the number of available appointments is limited, priority will be given to those whose Swiss passports are set to expire within the next 12 months;
- The Consulate reserves the right to reschedule its Consular Days should the number of applications not justify the visit, or for reasons of force majeure.

SINCERELY YOURS,

CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN MONTREAL



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

À tous les compatriotes suisses et les ami.e.s
de la communauté suisse,

La Fédération des Sociétés Suisses de l'Est du Canada est fière de vous annoncer la tenue de notre **traditionnelle fête nationale suisse le samedi 29 juillet 2023 au Mont Sutton, à partir de 10h.**

Réservez cette date afin de nous faire l'honneur de votre présence pour célébrer ensemble notre fête nationale!

Vous ne pouvez pas manquer cette journée, car ensemble, nous partagerons...

- ... l'apéro ou le café avec nos vins et bières suisses ou notre café Nespresso!
- ... la nourriture traditionnelle suisse avec la raclette, les saucisses, les grillades et les délicieuses pâtisseries.
- ... la musique suisse avec un groupe qui nous vient directement du Valais : Swing Maniak Trio. Ils vous feront danser jusqu'au bout de la nuit. Ne manquez surtout pas ce spectacle de fin de soirée! Durant la journée, vous pourrez profiter de nos groupes musicaux locaux habituels : Mont-Gleason Chörli, rouleurs d'écu, MGV Harmonie, Maria et Heinz (Jodelduett), soliste Eric Dupasquier, le Quintette de cuivres de l'Union Musicale d'Iberville, les Sonneurs de Cloches... et les Coralpestres qui jouent de ce magnifique instrument... le cor des Alpes.
- ... l'hymne national suisse et canadien avec notre Quintette de cuivres de l'Union musicale d'Iberville.



- ... les prix à gagner avec notre Tombola : cette année, grâce à SWISS, nous pourrons offrir des billets d'avion pour la Suisse pour 2 personnes! Mais ce n'est pas tout, il y aura également plusieurs autres prix très intéressants. Les billets de tombola seront à vendre via les clubs suisses à partir de juin et sur le site de la Fête, le 29 juillet.
- ... la vue magnifique du Mont Sutton depuis le télésiège!
- ... les encouragements pour les athlètes de la compétition de la lutte suisse.

Les enfants sont bienvenus, car il y aura un coin bricolages pour eux et de nombreuses pâtisseries!

Cette année, le canton à l'honneur sera celui de Zoug.

Le programme sera disponible sur notre site Web au courant du mois de juin. Pour plus d'informations, veuillez visiter notre site Web : www.fedesuisse.com ou notre page Facebook : www.facebook.com/Fedesuisse.

Beau temps ou mauvais temps, nous vous attendons avec impatience le samedi 29 juillet 2023 au Mont Sutton!

VOTRE COMITÉ 2023

(English text on page V)



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

Dear Swiss Community; Dear Friends:

The Federation of Swiss Societies in Eastern Canada is proud to announce that our traditional **Swiss National Holiday celebrations will be held on Saturday, July 29, 2023 at Mont Sutton, starting at 10:00 a.m.**

Reserve this date to honour us with your presence and to celebrate our National Holiday together!

You cannot miss this day, because together we will share:

■ An apéritif or coffee with our Swiss wines and beers, or our Nespresso coffee!

■ Traditional Swiss foods including raclette, sausages, grilled meats, and delicious pastries;

■ Swiss music with a group that comes directly from the canton of Wallis / Valais: the Swing Maniak Trio. They'll make you dance the night away. Don't miss this late night show!

■ The enjoyment of our usual local bands during the day: the Mont-Gleason Chörli, Talerschwingen, MGV Harmonie, Maria and Heinz (Jodelduett), soloist Eric Dupasquier, the Quintette de cuivres de l'Union Musicale d'Iberville, the Cow Bell Ringers, and les Coralpestres, who play this magnificent instrument - the alphorn!

■ The Swiss and Canadian national anthems with our Quintette de cuivres de l'Union Musicale d'Iberville;

■ Raffle (tombola) prizes: Thanks to SWISS, you could win plane tickets to Switzerland for two! But that's not all, there will also be several other very interesting prizes this year. The Swiss clubs will sell raffle tickets starting in June. You can also purchase them on-site at the festival on July 29;

■ The magnificent view of Mont Sutton from the chairlift!

■ The cheering on of the athletes at the Swiss-style wrestling (Schwingen) competition.

Children are welcome - we'll have a crafts corner for them and many pastries!

This year, we will honour the canton of Zug.

The programme will be available on our website sometime in June.

For more information, please visit our website www.fedesuisse.com or our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Fedesuisse.

**Rain or shine, we look forward to seeing you on
Saturday, July 29 at Mont Sutton!**

YOUR 2023 COMMITTEE



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Edmonton Swiss Society and Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir Association

Dear Fellow Swiss and Friends in Alberta:

Please join us at the annual Landsgemeinde on Friday, June 9 through Sunday, June 11 at the Ol' MacDonald's Resort on the south shore of Buffalo Lake. The event is organised by the Edmonton Swiss Society (ESS).

For more details, check later on www.facebook.com/EdmontonSwiss.

For those of you who don't know the history of this event, the ESS executive previously published an article written by former ESS President Karl Strickler that included some interesting details. In the article, he wrote:

"The first Albertan-Swiss Landsgemeinde took place in June 1974, initiated by Edmonton Swiss Society President and Honorary Consul Dr. Pierre Monod with the objective to bring together Alberta-Swiss from near and far and all walks of life to share a common experience and celebrate their Swiss roots. The Alberta Government granted funds by supporting the vision for "gathering and the purchasing of costumes, bells, crossbows, flags to throw and alphorns," according to the Societies' archives. In 1976, the Consul General of Switzerland, together with the BC Minister of Culture, attended the unveiling of the Highway marker to Carl Stettler, the Swiss immigrant to Alberta who founded Blumenau which was later renamed Stettler in his honour. The founding of the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir took place at the Landsgemeinde in 1980."

This year, the **Alberta Swiss Landsgemeinde** will take place from **June 9 to 11** at the **Ol' MacDonald's Resort** located near Stettler, AB, on the south shore of Buffalo Lake. It's a 1.5-hour drive from Edmonton; from Calgary, it takes 2 hours.

The group site is reserved for Friday and Saturday night. If you would like to join us, just show up and tell the people at the registration office that you are with the Swiss Club. They will give you a sticker, and the camping fees will be collected later. The more people that come, the lower the cost. Only the group site has hook-ups for electricity. For a full list of amenities, please check out the resort website <http://www.olmacdonalds.com>, or call 403 - 742 - 6603.



Andy Mueller and Tony Koch at the Landsgemeinde in June 2022

The Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir (ESMC) and members of the Wildrose Yodel Club and the Yodel Club Heimattreu will sing a few songs on Saturday afternoon in the big tent, followed by an apéro.

There are also plans for a Jass tournament and some crossbow shooting on Saturday afternoon. For the kids, there is a playground and lots of other fun things to do.

The ESMC is happy to announce they're getting ready to present some new songs at their upcoming **Sunday Afternoon Concert**, to be held on **June 25** at the **Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmonton**. (Note we've changed the date from June 18 - as originally announced in the March edition of the Regional News Canada - to June 25).

Please visit our website www.esmca.ca for more information about future events, and on how to join us.

Like us on Facebook "Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir", or enter our name into YouTube to watch and listen to one of our many performances.

PETER THUT ON BEHALF OF THE ESS AND THE ESMC



Above: Group pictures from the Landsgemeinde in June 2022

Matterhorn Swiss Club (Montreal)

Greetings from the Matterhorn Swiss Club in Montreal!

Our next event will be the Annual General Meeting which will take place on April 29 at Natalino Restaurant in Dorval. This will be followed by lunch at the same location. We look forward to a good meal and friendly get-together with many of our members.

This year, the Matterhorn Club **will be celebrating its 70th anniversary**, and to commemorate the occasion, a special outing is being planned for early summer. This should be an enjoyable day-long event. Information will be sent out to members once details have been finalised.

We hope to have a good turnout at both events.

This year, the 1st of August celebrations will be held on Saturday, July 29 at Mont Sutton. As usual, our members will be asked to help out - many volunteers are needed to make this big event a success.

New members are always welcome!

WALTER SPIRIG, PRESIDENT, 514 - 694 - 3718

Swiss Club Thames Valley

As I sit here at my desk on this beautiful Easter Sunday, I hope everyone got some special time with family - I did - and that the Easter Bunny was good to the children.

On March 4, we had our Metzgete in Milverton with a great turnout, serving lunch to 108 people. In the afternoon, we had a Jass finale. Each participant received a piece of cheese. Congratulations to Urs Egli, the winner!

Our next event will be a play on April 16 in Wellesley.

We're also looking forward to planning our annual Swiss National Day celebrations, to be held on July 30 in Milverton.

Please check out our Facebook group "Thames Valley Swiss Club" and our website <https://swissclubtv.wixsite.com/swiss-club-thames-va>.

Have a great day!

CHRISTINE HEIMPEL

HOCKEY IN SWITZERLAND

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LETTE
LAWYERS • AVOCATS • RECHTSANWÄLTE

DEPUIS PLUS DE 50 ANS, CERTAINS DES PLUS GRANDS GROUPES EUROPÉENS, DE MÊME QUE DE NOMBREUSES PME, ONT COMPTÉ SUR LETTE AU CANADA POUR LEUR OFFRIR DES COMPÉTENCES DU PLUS HAUT NIVEAU ET UNE APPROCHE PRATIQUE À LA RÉOLUTION DE LEURS PROBLÈMES.

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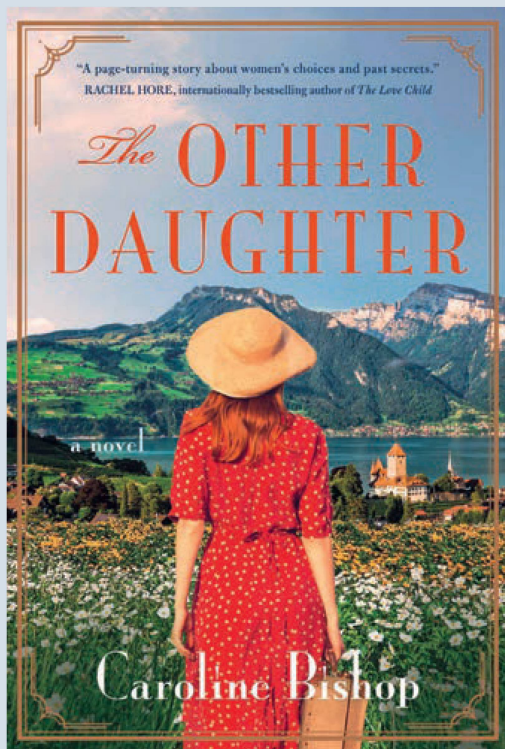
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Book Giveaway: "The Other Daughter" by Caroline Bishop



In the March 2023 edition, we reviewed a new book by Caroline Bishop, a British-Canadian author who lives in Switzerland.

The 432-page novel entitled *The Other Daughter* is about an ambitious London journalist who reports on the fight for women's rights in 1970s Switzerland, and the daughter who uncovers the long-buried truth about the assignment years later.

--> Now, you can enter a draw for a chance to win a copy of this book!

If you would like to participate, simply email avs@telus.net and indicate your interest. Only one entry per person. Entries must be received no later than midnight on June 30, 2023.

Using a random name picker app, the winner will be chosen by the luck of the draw on July 1, 2023. Good luck!

The book will be shipped using Canada Post (only to mailing addresses in Canada) at no charge to the winner.

A.V. STUERMER



To embrace world peace with music ...

On **September 21, 2023** - the International Day of Peace - this major event will take place on many stages around the world. The event is based on an idea by Swiss musician and project initiator Helena Röösl.

On this day, choirs around the world will perform *The Peacemakers*, a composition for choir and orchestra by Karl Jenkins. Based on the different time zones, the words of peace in this musical work will resound around the globe uninterrupted for 24 hours.

Give peace a voice! With this idea and unique message of peace, the organisers are hoping to send out a signal for worldwide solidarity and human dignity, an issue more relevant and urgent than ever!

At the concert in Switzerland, Lea Suter – the activist peacemaker and UN peace representative – will demonstrate her experience in the field. Her impressive portraits of current peacemakers from war zones will accompany the concert and strengthen the musical appeal for the global search for peace. «*An appeal to all of us, wherever we are, to contribute to an uncompromising desire for peace and a 'never-again-war' attitude*». (Lea Suter – www.peaceprints.ch)

The association **TimeDate** (<https://timedate.ch>) - headquartered in Lucerne, Switzerland - is responsible for organising this unique world-wide musical event. Globally, **we are looking for enthusiastic choirs, supportive sponsors, and creative contributors**, who, through music, would like to strengthen positive peace efforts throughout the world. **We are looking for you!**

■ To contact us, please email info@timedate.ch.

Regional News Canada

The Regional Pages are published four times per year (both in print and online) and consist of an eight-page insert in the Swiss Review magazine.

For information on content submission deadlines, publishing dates, and advertising opportunities, visit the following link: <https://www.swisscommunity.org/en/news-media/swiss-revue/news-from-your-region/canada>