



DUM SPIRO SPERO
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

Clan MacLennan Canada

CENTRAL ONTARIO BRANCH (COB)

The Clan motto of "Dum Spiro Spero" - "While I Breathe, I Hope" is an inspiration when we may be facing times of adversity. It forms the backbone of the MacLennan approach to triumph and implies that we will never give up as long as we live.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Melanie McLennan

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Autumn winds always bring change, and this year is no exception. At the 2001 AGM in August, a new vision for Clan MacLennan Canada, of which I am pleased to have been chosen President, was unfurled.

We, on the executive asked Chief Ruairidh for his thoughts regarding the Canadian branch of Clan MacLennan. After his visit in August 2000, Chief Ruairidh wrote the executive a letter from which the following observations and suggestions have been excerpted:

“I thought that many of Robin's comments were valid and that it would be appropriate for me to add some of my own thoughts to those that were brought up. The idea of moving the AGM to Fergus on the day of the Games sounds a good idea, I have seen other MacLennan Associations do this in Melbourne and in the U.S. It saves an extra journey and makes the AGM slightly more light-hearted and also creates a good annual focal point for gathering your members”.

“I would also like to touch on management structure at this point. Because of the vast size of your country, having a number of separate branches proves very difficult. There are many pockets of

MacLennans around Canada, such as Vancouver, Ottawa etc. but there is little point in creating committees in these areas unless numbers are sufficient and people live close enough to each other. COB already acts as the Clan's HQ in Canada and I think you could benefit from taking this role further by having a particular member in each peripheral area (pocket) acting as regional coordinator. This person could be appointed by COB which would act as the sole coordinating committee for Canada. Personally, I get frustrated by committees and think limiting the number of them is a great advantage. These regional 'Reps', or 'convenors' would act as links to channel news/members to and from the COB.”

“A strong communication link with all areas is essential and I think one committee with regional link persons under it could achieve a higher degree of coordination within the Clan in Canada. This is on the national scale. It is important, however, to think of the Clan on a global scale. Having one central committee and appointed regional coordinators makes the job of communication movement much easier as there is a hierarchy from which information can spread. I would like to see far more communication

between all countries within the Clan. I would especially like to see more communication between Canada and Scotland. Scotland unofficially acts as central HQ for the Clan simply due to it being the 'home branch'. The recent demise of The World Federation has highlighted that it is unnecessary to have such a body operating over the Clan. There is no need for each Clan MacLennan Association to be controlled by someone else, i.e. the Federation or by Scotland. There is a need, however, for more communication between the Scottish Committee and other countries. The better your management structure is, the easier it is for us to channel news your way which, in turn, can be channeled to your regional areas."

"I think it is important to not see Scotland as a threat in any way. The

Scottish Committee is now fantastic and pro-Federation members have now given up their rather unnecessary conquest. At this time I think it would be beneficial for Scotland to lead the way in starting a focused communication network that can help to bond the individual Clan MacLennan Associations in an unofficial manner".

"As Robin pointed out, electronic mail is now the popular way of communicating between people. The importance of e-mail should not be underestimated. I think that now 80% of my Clan communication is done electronically. Basically, it is far easier, quicker and more efficient to file information. At one hit of a button, I can send e-mail to 100 Clan members, a task that would have taken a few weeks in my father's time with hand written letters. As a Clan Association, however, we must ensure

that we do not alienate those members who are not on, or do not have access to, e-mail. There is the potential for these people to be left behind and it must be remembered that it is not practical for everyone to be linked up."

Management structure, communication and recruitment are all areas that the Clan Association needs to address on a global basis and each country has differing requirements and needs. It is an increasingly global world that is changing at an alarming rate. It is important that our Clan attempts to keep up with these changes and benefit from the advantages of today's technology."

"Wishing you all the best,
Chief Ruairidh"

As our Chief has concluded, pockets of MacLennans are widely spread

FROM THE CHIEF Ruairidh MacLennan

Email address: ruairidh.maclennan@ic24.net
Sent: Sunday, September 23, 2001
Subject: News update from Ruairidh

Hello all

This is just a short message to you to update you all with our current news. I am pleased to finally say that I have been accepted into the workforce and will be starting work as a trainee Land Agent (Rural Surveyor) with one of Britain's leading Property Companies. Strutt and Parker specialises in the management and selling of large estates, agricultural and forestry land units. Their web site is www.struttandparker.co.uk for any of you who are interested in looking at what they do.

I start work in a week and will be based in Banchory in Aberdeenshire but will mainly be tasked to Highland Estates due to my background. This suits me very well as it means I will have the opportunity to get home to Dores fairly regularly. Strutt & Parker deals with the larger and more exclusive estates, so I should receive a good training. I will be a trainee for two years, after which I sit my Assessment of Professional Competence (APC) and, if I pass this, I will be a chartered

Rural Surveyor accredited to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), and will therefore be a qualified Land Agent.

I have been home this weekend in Dores where we have been celebrating Lorna's birthday (27th I think)!! Kirsten has been home as well so it has been nice to all get together for a while. Lorna is getting quite close to finishing her nurse training and will start work around June next year. This will put all three of us into the working world, not sure if that is a good thing! Kirsten has been travelling a fair bit, mainly to Africa. Her job seems fairly safe at the moment but British Airways are laying off a lot of their staff, so we will see how things turn out.

Other than that, things will be set for a busy few weeks as I have to organise a car, somewhere to live, my dissertation, and I still have a few more days to work on Dunecht Estate this week, so will only have a few days off before starting the new job. I will be in touch soon with details of my new abode and will let you know how the new job is going. Until then, all the best, and I trust you are all in good health and spirit.

Yours aye
Ruairidh

throughout Canada and somewhat isolated and this presents our greatest challenge. To enable groups of MacLennans to be more interactive, the new Executive for the COB have been elected and mandated to achieve a visible and interactive forum for Clan members and activities and to broaden the vision of Clan networking. We believe this can be accomplished by taking advantage of today's communication tools. Over the next few months, we will be developing email communication and a web site for Clan MacLennan Canada. The purposes of these endeavours are:

- To create a national presence for Clan MacLennan Canada.
- To communicate information to a broad range of people on a regular basis about Clan happenings and on a regional, provincial, national and worldwide level.

- To provide a means for Clan members to communicate with each other regardless of distance.
- To provide easy access to Clan history, both international and domestic, and an opportunity for members to seek and exchange family stories.

Our promise to our members is that personal privacy will never be jeopardized and that membership lists will be used only for office communication.

Membership contact information will not be released to others without the written consent of both parties involved.

The start of all this is the domain name of our web site:
www.clanmaclennan.ca

Our e-mail address is:
clannews@clanmaclennan.ca

Please take a minute to send us your address and any mailing address changes.

Over the next few months we will be creating the structure of the web site. Our tentative date of activation is Christmas 2001. Any Canadian Clan history would be most welcome and main groups and/or representatives, as well as individuals' contact information, will be welcome. We will be providing a progress report in the next newsletter that will be available to members by e-mail or surface mail.

I am excited by the potential of these tools to develop Clan relations and activities, and the opportunity thereby to strengthen the identity of Clan MacLennan in Canada and our Fellowship abroad.

Yours,
 Melanie McLennan

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements May10,2001-October 17,2001

Elizabeth Prebble

Receipts

Bank Balance	May 10,2001	1,367.93	
Members Dues -	2000-2001	20.00	
	2001-2002	450.00	
	2002-2003	<u>30.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Donations			55.00
Clan Sales			170.75
Fergus Dinner Draw			<u>87.00</u>
			<u>812.75</u>
			2,180.68

Disbursements

Newsletters-May & July	Copy	50.21	
	Labels	22.99	
	Postage	<u>78.20</u>	<u>151.40</u>
Fergus 2001 -Avenue of Clans			52.00
Shipping Charges re Golf Shirts			45.90
Melanie McLennan -re Web site			84.53
Service charges			<u>3.75</u>
Bank Balance as of October 17,2001			<u>1843.10</u>
Investment - Royal Bank G. I. C.			\$1000.00

EDITOR'S NOTES

Well, The Games are over for another year and it is time to take a look back over the summer before we slip back into hibernation again. We have a new Executive now, for the first time in many years, and a number of new ideas. The success of any initiatives will depend on your support, active participation and, most importantly, constructive feedback of suggestions to make the Clan grow in Canada. This is what Chief Ruairidh asked us to pursue last year during his visit, but we can only do it if the COB is whole heartedly behind the effort.

So much for the commercial! We had hoped that having the AGM at Fergus would result in a better turnout but, alas, we struggled up to the same number as last year--14 souls. We agree that the hot weather before the Games kept some away from Fergus but, as it happened, the weekend was ideal for both the Tattoo and all the

other events - a definite improvement over the last few years. There were 20 at the dinner after the Games, which is about our normal number. I would be the first to agree that last year's dinner with the Chief was a special event but, even to put on a Ceilidh would need the assurance of an increased attendance over the "usual suspects".

An abbreviated financial statement is included in this letter to keep you up to date on how we are doing. I want to draw your attention to a couple of items in the statement:

- Members Dues Received---\$450. This means that thirty subs are outstanding since the start of the financial year on 1st June. Please forward any overdue subs to Elizabeth without delay. Six subs for 1999-2000 are also required and these memberships will be cancelled if no monies are

received by the end of the year. Check the membership form at the end of this letter.

- The first "Web site" charge is included. Melanie will be giving details of progress on this as it develops and ideas on its use will be welcome.

The text of an e-mail from the Chief is also included here as the first instalment of what we hope will be much wider coverage of world-wide Clan news. I have omitted the circulation list to save my poor index finger from additional typing.

May I, on behalf of the Executive, wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the world find more peace, more tolerance and a greater sense of community-and may our children see happier times in this century than at its start.

Don't be missing the exciting Clan changes. Pay up so you can keep up!

Subscriptions for the year 2001-2002 are due on 1 June,2001.The annual subscription is \$10 per family (single address)

Please make cheques payable to Clan MacLennan COB and send to Elizabeth Prebble.

If your dues are in arrears, an X will appear against the year

2000-2001 []
2001-2002 []

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____

Do you have net/web access? Yes No

Please send my newsletter by regular post email