

THE LÖGBERG-HEIMSKRINGLA'S FUTURE FUND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Submitted by: **Oskar T. Sigvaldason**
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Member of **Future Fund Capital Campaign Cabinet**.



Dr. Oskar T. Sigvaldason

It is a source of pride for people of Icelandic descent in North America to know that **Lögberg-Heimskringla** is the oldest continuously published ethnic newspaper in North America. The first edition of **Heimskringla** was published in 1886, and was followed by **Lögberg** in 1888. In 1959, the two newspapers merged and continued as one newspaper to this day, now in English.

On many occasions the survival of the newspaper was in considerable doubt. Its continuing existence was rooted in the dedication and commitment of people who believed strongly in its value and its importance in maintaining ongoing communications between people of Icelandic descent in North America. However, its premises and facilities were spartan and financial resources were extremely limited. In order to provide for the newspaper's present and long-term viability, more secure arrangements are absolutely essential.

In response to this challenge, Dr. Ken Thorlakson has worked with the Board and staff of the **Lögberg-Heimskringla** to review and define long-term requirements and objectives. A Campaign Cabinet has been put in place including representation from across North America. There have been discussions with the Government of Iceland to secure their financial and logistical support and with the Winnipeg Foundation for complementary financial and administrative support for a newly established Endowment Fund. A partnership understanding has been forged with the Icelandic National League of North America to encourage League members to become, or continue to be, subscribers of the newspaper and to make a donation to the recently launched Future Fund Capital Campaign. Garry Oddleifson, First Vice-President of the INLofNA and

previously, a long-time member of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto, is acting as liaison person between the League, its Chapters and the Campaign's Administrative Committee.

Also, I have noted a steady improvement in the scope and quality of the newspaper in recent years. There has been increasing emphasis to extend the "reach" of the paper to all areas of North America where there is some Icelandic history or background. This has resulted in a more generally informative and extensively read newspaper. This improvement in quality and increase in the service that **Lögberg-Heimskringla** provides to the Icelandic community will not continue now or into the future without dedicated and ongoing support by the Icelandic community at large.

Monies from the Future Fund Capital Campaign will go toward properly equipping the newspaper office with the necessary facilities and professional staff. All issues of the paper, past and present, will be scanned and digitized and placed on the Internet. A portion of the Fund will establish an Endowment Fund to ensure the long-term viability of the newspaper.

All of us who take pride in our Icelandic heritage will wish to see that an effective ongoing communication medium for our North American Icelandic community will be preserved. The **Lögberg-Heimskringla** has earned and deserves your support.

With this edition of the *Fálkinn* you will find a letter from Dr. Ken Thorlakson, an addressed envelope for your use and a campaign information brochure with a removable pledge form. I strongly encourage all ICCT members to give generously to the **Lögberg-Heimskringla's** Future Fund Capital Campaign



A recent front page of *Lögberg-Heimskringla*, which had Toronto as a focus point.

Remember our webpage: <http://icct.info>



FÁLKINN

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LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES

National Film Board, Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto, Icelandic Consulate and Icelandic Film Center present:

"A Man Like ME" (*Maður eins og ÉG*) – English subtitles – A film by Róbert Douglas

Thursday, January 26; 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

The National Film Board

150 John Street, Toronto

Admission: \$6 for NFB members, seniors, students, \$8 for others.

Story of a Neurotic Romantic

Director: Róbert Douglas; **Screenplay:** Róbert I. Douglas & Arni Óli Ásgeirsson **Cast:** Jón Gnarr, Stephanie Che, Þorsteinn Guðmundsson, Sigurður Sigurjónsson, Katla Margrét Þorgeirsdóttir.

Iceland 2002, 87 Min

A Man Like Me is the second feature film made by Robert Douglas, before he had made "The Icelandic Dream". Later his third and latest film "Eleven Men Out" came out, which like "The Icelandic Dream" and his documentary "Small Mall" were screened at The Toronto Film Festival. All received a warm acceptance, and the screenings of "Eleven Men Out" were completely sold out last fall. We are therefore happy to fill the gap, and bring "A Man like ME" to Toronto.

Like the other Robert Douglas movies, "A Man Like ME", could be classified as a social satire dealing with everyday life. It features Júlí, a young man restricted by loneliness

and habit. By chance, he meets a young Chinese woman immigrant who brings much needed stability to his life. He falls in love only to see the relationship disintegrate in dramatic fashion, thanks to his insecurity, hyper-nervous state and lack of experience. However, once he manages to put disillusion and disappointment of the breakup behind him, Júlí is determined to do everything in his power to get a second chance.

This is really an excellent, low-keyed romantic comedy, actor Jón Gnarr really shines in his role as Júlí, and other actors, such as Stephanie Che, Þorsteinn Guðmundsson

and Sigurður Sigurjónsson all have a wonderful "day".

This is probably the first Icelandic romantic comedy, and is a good start for that genre, and those who have seen other



Jón Gnarr and Stephanie Che, in the lead roles in "A Man Like ME".

movies by Róbert Douglas, know that this one should not be missed.

Want To Go To Iceland? Did You Go Last Summer? Icelandic Travel Show 12 February

The annual ICCT travel show will be held at the Scandinavian Center, 91 Stormont (Bathurst/Lawrence). As usual the Travel Show will feature slide shows, traveling stories and all necessary information about Iceland and how best to get there. This is a great opportunity for everybody to get information and ask the questions that they always wanted to ask



Hraun in Öxnadalur

And if you have already gone, and have a picture that you would like to share at the travel show, please send it to falkinn@hotmail.com or icegem20@cs.com. Don't miss this opportunity to get answers to your questions about Iceland or simply enjoy to learning more about it.



FÁLKINN-THE FALCON

Falkinn is the newsletter of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto and is published 6-8 times a year.

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Bill og Eivör Tröllabundin

These two great musicians team up for a tour of Canada, which they call "Tröllabundin" (Trollbound). There is only one appearance in Ontario, April 2 - Hugh's Room, Toronto, www.hughsroom.com (416) 531-6604. Don't miss out on this event, there is only this one concert in Ontario, and tickets could go fast.



2006 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

It's time once again to apply for the ICCT Scholarship of \$1000, and the good news is that this year again there will be a second scholarship, the Marion and Ragnar Johnson Memorial Scholarship, donated by Consul General Jón Johnson and his wife Pat in honour of Jón's parents.



This year, you can do it online. Go to <http://icct.info>

If you would prefer to have hard copy, please contact President Leah Salt at cpkexpress@rogers.com or 905 277-5298. The deadline for submitting applications is March 8, 2006.

Remember, before March 8th.

DAYS TO REMEMBER: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday January 26
 Toronto, ON: Movie **A Man Like Me**, an Icelandic movie by director Róbert Douglas.
 National Film Board, 150 John St. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.
 \$8 adults \$6 st/sr/NFB members

Sunday January 22
 Toronto, ON: The Path To Gimli, Slideshow about the horse traveling, from Iceland to Gimli, which happened last summer.
 2:00 pm, Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen St. West. \$6

Sunday, February 12
 Toronto, ON: Movie **ICCT Yearly Travel Show**, information, slideshows, all you wanted to know about Iceland and need to ask about. 2:30 pm, Scandinavian-Canadian Centre 91 St. Mont (Bathurst/Lawrence)

Thursday February 23
 Toronto, ON: Movie **101 Reykjavik**, an Icelandic movie by director Baltasar Kormákur
 National Film Board, 150 John St. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.
 \$8 adults \$6 st/sr/NFB members

Saturday, April 1st,
 The application Deadline for Snorri Plus program.

Sunday April 2nd
 Trollabundin, Bill Bourne and Eivör Pálsdóttir touch down in Ontario, one show only, Hugh's Room. More later.

Saturday, April 8th,
 The yearly ICCT THORRABLÓT, A event not to be missed.

New Members

Freda Hoshizaki, Dryden, Ont.
CORRECTION
 In our #2 - August 2005 Newsletter under the heading of NEW MEMBERS we recorded that CAROL-LYNN BURNS was from Toronto, however she is from LONDON, ONT. where she has lived for the past 40 years. We apologize for the error.

Donations

H.L.(Vern) and Fran Austman, Guelph, for Snorri Prog; Kristin Finkelman, Toronto, for Movies; Don and Norma Young, Sudbury, Library & General use; R.Heather McNamee, Etobicoke, for Kids Camp; Harold and Elizabeth Olafson, Sharon, Ont, for Scholarship; Lynne Thorkelsson in memory of; Jean Thorkelsson, Port Perry, for General Use; Ian and Carole MacFarquhar, Quispamsis, for General Use; Dorothy (Kristjanson) Purchase-Toronto, for General Use
 Edgar R.(Garry) Oddleifson, Winnipeg, for Snorri Prog; William and Laufey Hart, Cambermere for Books
 Marlene Mintz, Toronto, for General use; Kay Sigurjonsson, Toronto, for General use; Brian K.Laxdal, Mississauga, for Scholarship; Eric and Evelyn Sigvaldason, Burlington, for General use; Joan Waterous, Brantford, for Snorri Prog.

Help At Thorrablót

We still need help at Thorrablót, with bringing food, preparing the food, organizing the Silent Auction and various other things. If you would like to take part please contact Gail, 416 762 8627 or icegem20@cs.com

Icelandic Christmas At Spadina House a Huge Success

As readers of Falkinn probably are already aware of, a celebration of Icelandic Christmas, or Jol was held 3 Sundays in December at Spadina Museum, Toronto.



Margrét Björgvinsdóttir gave a speech at the opening reception.

Besides the traditional show that is put up there before every Christmas, to portray Edwardian Christmas, there was now a display showing traditional Icelandic Christmas, with emphasis on the past and the part that the 13 Yulelads (Jólasveinar) play in the Icelandic Christmas traditions.

To demonstrate this a replica of an old "badstofa" was built and various Icelandic artifacts were on display. The ICCT would like to use this opportunity and thank everybody who lent some pieces to the display, but especially Erla McCaulay for the loan of her Icelandic costume, and the Icelandic Museum in Gimli, MB. And many thanks go to Margrét Björgvinsdóttir who headed the work group, that pulled off this remarkable show, and of course many thanks to all the volunteers, that helped, baked, built, cooked, sewed, acted, played, sang, and made this happen. The show started with an reception on November 23rd, which was well attended and the guests seemed to enjoy themselves in the Icelandic Christmas surroundings. The new Icelandic



Ambassador Markús Örn, with some of the volunteers for this great project.

Ambassador, Markús Örn Antonsson was there, and gave a fine speech, and guests were treated with Icelandic Brennivín, as well Icelandic and international treats. The three Sundays were filled with entertainment, Grýla and the Yulelads were featured in a play, Icelandic music was played and Icelandic carols were sung, laufabrauð was baked and of course there was dancing around the Christmas tree. It is not without pride that the Falkinn can announce that the attendance for these events was really good, and much better than the years before. Big thanks to everybody who made this happen.




Grýla and the Yulelads would not miss an event like this.



The Badstofa replica was a huge success

The path to Gimli




SLIDESHOW

SUN. JAN 22nd, 2 p.m.
 at The GLADSTONE HOTEL
 (1214 Queen Street West)

Join us and see beautiful slides of Icelandic horses and their riders. Hear dramatic stories about their adventurous summer trek across Iceland, Ontario and Manitoba.

\$6 ~ all proceeds go to THE SNORRI PROGRAM



The Gladstone Hotel
 a newly renovated historic building