



FÁLKINN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB OF TORONTO

May 2006

ICCT FÁLKINN 46th Year Number 6

See You at The AGM

Icelandic short films, open library and more!

The Annual General Meeting of The Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto will be held at the Scandinavian Center, 91 Stormont Avenue (Lawrence & Bathurst.) at 2:30 on Sunday the 28th of May.

Our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will include **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** for the upcoming year. In particular the club is looking for a new **Marketing Director** and a new **Editor for The Falkinn**, our newsletter

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR CLUB AND TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE... WE WELCOME NEW FACES! Remember that a club is never stronger than the sum of its members, it is when we pull together that things get moving.

If you would like to run for any office, or would like to nominate someone, please contact the head of our Nominating Committee, *Kara Schuster*, email: karaschuster@rogers.com

You'll be guaranteed to learn a lot about your heritage and have a lot of fun!

We will be screening Icelandic short films at the meeting, "The Last Farm", short film by Rúnar Rúnarsson. A charming story about the last

farmer, on the last farm in the valley. Nominated for this year's Oscar and has won prizes at film festivals all over the world. Truly amazing and heartfelt film.



The Icelandic Oscar nominated short film, "The Last Farm" or "Síðasti bærinn í dalnum", will be screened at the AGM

The short film, "The Magician", "Töframaðurinn", by Reynir Lyngdal, will also be shown. It is a strong and personal story, about how one's imagination can help make unbearable situation bearable.

*And don't forget, that you can **borrow books from our library** at this meeting also! Our library is located on the second floor at the Scandinavian Center, there you can choose from*

several hundred books, related to Iceland, Icelanders in Canada or Icelandic culture, either in Icelandic and English. The summer is an excellent time for a knowledge search, whether at home or at the cottage. You can borrow the books for short time or longer periods, our librarians are very flexible regarding terms.

Members \$5 Non-members \$6 Coffee and goodies to follow

Celebrate the 17th of June, the Independence Day of Iceland, see back page for details.



FÁLKINN-THE FALCON

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

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*Membership information: Single \$20,
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Senior Single \$15.*

Webpage: <http://icct.info>

NEW MEMBERS

R. Hiorth, North York(Tor.); Jill Tomasson-Goodwin, Kitchener; Bright & Jeff Cuzen, Corunna; John Long & Helena Mitchell, Toronto; Peter & Kimberly Rowntree, Barrie; Leif Einarson, London; Mrs.G.Williams, Winnipeg,Man; Laurie Bertram, Hamilton; Simone Scott, Toronto; Vahid Spencer, Toronto;. Susan Einarson-Ainsworth, Napanee; Otmar,Kordula & Josephine Fueth, Magnetawan; Heather & Derek Prinsloo, North York(Tor).

DONATIONS

Brian Eyolfson, for Gen.Use; Jean Davis, for Scholarship; Dr.W.S. Goodman, for Scholarship; Sturla Gunnarsson, for Movies; Blair Laxdal, for Gen.Use; Karen Wallington & Reynold (Bo) Mosley, for Gen Use;

No Movies During Summer!

As last summer, the Icelandic movie screenings will take a pause during summer. The May screening of "In Tune With Time", will be the last screening, until fall.

Look forward to screenings to resume in September.

Meanwhile, enjoy the summer.

From The Editor

As I will, due to personal reasons, be stepping down as editor of the Falkinn, at the AGM in late May, I would like to thank all of the good people in the ICCT who have assisted and contributed to the Falkinn those years. Without all this help, this task would have been way beyond my capabilities.

Special thanks is due to Gail Einarson-McCleery, for all her contribution, coaching, and not the least proofreading.

I will try, as time permits, to keep on contributing to the newsletter. At last I would like to use this opportunity to wish whoever takes on this responsibility, all the best and promise my support.

Tómas Gunnarsson

Icelanders Vote on May 27th

Icelanders head to the polls on 27th of May in municipal election. As usual Icelanders who are eligible to vote can do so at the Icelandic Consulate here in Toronto.

The voting will take place until May 20, 2006.

People who want to vote should call the Consulate at 416 979 6740 and make an appointment. The hours are between 10 a.m. and 12 noon or between 3 and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. The Consulate is located at Suite 2400, 250 Yonge Street in Toronto.

Ontarians can also head to the Embassy in Ottawa, if that is more convenient, but it pays to call ahead, the embassy phone is (613) 482 1944, and the embassy is located at 360 Albert Street, Suite 710, Ottawa, and is open from 8:30 to 16:00 Monday to Friday. The embassy's email is emb.ottawa@mfa.is

PEARL PALMASON (Oct. 2, 1915 - Feb. 17, 2006)

“She was such a sweet person, smart and charismatic. She had so much spirit in her.” This apt description by Judy Kang, one of her many talented admirers, outlines Pearl’s life and love of music. She was in her own words ‘hooked on the violin’.

Pearl was born in Winnipeg, the third of four children to Sveinn & Gróa (Sveinsdóttir) Palmason, Icelandic immigrants who had settled there. They came from Ysta-Gil i Langadal, Húnavatnsýsla district, and Klettur respectively. She was predeceased by her parents, brothers Palmi and Stefan, and sister Ruby. Her beloved brother Stefan, a Sgt.-Pilot in WW II was killed in action in 1942. During the Depression her father’s successful career as an architect in construction was wiped out and the family moved to a farm north the city. Yet, no matter how dire circumstances became her parents managed to scrape enough money together to provide their eldest son Palmi with violin lessons, initially with violin builder and teacher Olafur Thorsteinson in Husavick MB, a five mile walk from the farm. Palmi, in turn, became his little sister’s teacher until she turned eighteen, followed in short order by her winning many awards and scholarships.

She studied in England with the renowned Hungarian master, Carl Flesch. During her studies overseas she played solo concerts in Iceland and London. After the outbreak of WW II in 1939 she returned home, spending a short time studying in New



York. Then, in 1941 she joined the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, rising to No. 2 rank of assistant concertmaster. Among her other accomplishments were playing with Hart House Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company and her own chamber group *Perla Quartet*. In 1981 she retired after forty years with the TSO, with a resounding standing ovation from the 10,000 strong audience. During the 1980s she became the concertmaster of the Oakville Symphony, and member of the Toronto Senior Strings during the 1990s. In 2001 Bravo TV made a documentary about her life called *Pearl – A Passion for the Fiddle*.

Pearl was a forty year member of the Heliconian Club for women artists, serving as a term president. She was also a long standing member of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto. On June 18, 1987, Pearl gave a recital at the Unitarian Church, and all receipts were donated to the ICCT.

Perhaps her greatest legacy to music will be her prized 1747 Januarius Gagliano rich-sounding violin which she purchased in 1960 for \$3,500 (US), which is presently insured for \$220,000. She lent it to the Canada Council Musical Instrument Bank so that talented young Canadians might play a master violin for three years. The first recipient of this honour was Ms. Kang.

Pearl is survived by two nephews Arthur Dawson (Sieglinde) and Gerry Dawson (Diane) and her niece Valerie Thompson (Marcel), her cousin Erla Palmason Macaulay and cousins Lois and Douglas Macaulay of Toronto.

Dr. DAWSON WRAY EINARSON (1923 –2006)

“A Lifetime of Love, Devotion and Friendship”

by Don Gislason Dawson, formerly of Parry Sound, Ontario was born in Capreol, son of the late Einar and Olive Einarson of Rosseau. He passed away in Kingston in his 83rd year, March 9th 2006. Dawson’s Ontario Muskoka pioneer family history goes back to 1887, when his paternal grandparents, Einar Bjarnason and Sesselja Gudmundsdottir with their three sons, Gudmundur (Mundi), Vigfus (Fusi) and Thordur Einarsson (Fred), left ‘Klettsia’ farm in North Ardals township in Myrasysla county of southwestern Iceland. Their daughter Dyrunn Einarsdottir remained there for several more years. They embarked from the port of Reykjavik, ending up in the Muskoka District. It appears that Einar and Sesselja took their sons’ patronym of ‘Einarsson’ dropping one ‘s’ as their new Canadian family surname rather than keeping ‘Bjarnason’ which was the custom. This may have had something to do with the ease of name pronunciation in English, and that there was already an unrelated but familiar ‘Einarson’ family name established by 1878 in the district at Hekkla. It wasn’t until 1912 that Dyrunn Einarsdottir with her husband Gisli Finnsson and their three children emigrated and joined her relatives in Muskoka.

Dawson enjoyed distinguished civilian and military careers. In 1952 he graduated in medicine from Queen’s University and spent several years in general practice in Parry Sound before becoming a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 1967. He served as an anesthetist at Kingston General Hospital and as Queen’s Medical School Admissions Officer. He was the recipient of the Medical School teaching awards in 1969, 1984 and 1985.

During WW II, Dawson served with the First Canadian Parachute Battalion, receiving the Order of Military Merit and Canadian Forces Decoration. He subsequently was awarded the Knight of the Order of St. John and was the past Honorary Colonel of The Princess of Wales’ Own Regiment.

Dawson is survived by his wife Eleanor Taylor Einarson, and children Susan (Neil), Ruth (Bryne), Martha (Dave), Elisabeth (Roger), Margaret (David), Sarah (Cliff) and Jeffrey (Julie), all of the Kingston area. There also remain many distant relatives of Icelandic descent in various pioneer and historic Muskoka settlements. Dawson was a long standing member of the ICCT, and vastly proud of his Icelandic Canadian heritage.

YOUNG ACHIEVERS HONoured AT THORRABLÓT

At our recent Thorrablót, two scholarships were presented. The first was the Ragnar and Marion Johnson Memorial Scholarship, awarded by Consul General Jón Johnson and his wife Patricia, in honour of Jon's parents, former Consul Ragnar Johnson and his wife Marion, to Unnur Fjóla Evans, who has just been accepted at McGill University in their Music program. Fjóla plays the cello.

In her essay on her cultural heritage, Fjóla says,

I emigrated from Iceland a few weeks after my 11th birthday. Fortunately, I knew how to speak, read and write Icelandic by then. Even though I have become a Canadian, I keep my Icelandic heritage alive in most parts of my life. I am continually immersed in Icelandic culture and language.

I am a musician, and I have a great interest in performing Icelandic music. I have found out about some interesting modern composers such as Elias Daviðsson and Hafliði Hallgrímsson and I enjoy listening to popular Icelandic music such as the music of Björk and Sigur Rós. Playing Icelandic music is also very exciting for me. I have introduced a number of musicians to the work of various Icelandic musicians. In this way I have also brought these composers and musicians to the attention of people in Canada who normally would not have heard of them. I would like to reach more people by one day playing Icelandic music in a public venue in Canada.

I am a big reader as well as being a musician. I am currently working in a bookshop where I can influence which books will be offered to customers. I have been actively involved in promoting Icelandic literature within the store. I have made sure that the store stocks books of classic authors such as Halldór Laxness, and up-and-coming authors such as Hallgrímur Helgason.

It will be a challenge to continue keeping my heritage alive once I leave home and go to university and can no longer speak Icelandic to my family. As I cherish my language and my heritage, it's a challenge I'm keen to accept by continuing to spread awareness of the culture of which I am so proud.

The winner of the ICCT Scholarship was Brian Colley. His grandmother, Stella Hansen, joined the club in its very early days and has been active in it ever since. Brian is pursuing a career in heating, ventilation and air condition-

ing, and has been an honour student for two years at Durham College.

In his essay, Brian says,

My name is Brian Hansen Colley, and my amma is Stella Hansen. I am very proud of the Icelandic flag on my desk and have answered many questions on the Icelandic decals on my car. The decals were brought back by Gigi Fridriksson. Most people have never met anyone of Icelandic descent. I enlighten them. Every Christmas the Icelandic (and Danish and Canadian) flags decorate the Christmas tree and I plan to carry on this tradition when I get my own tree. Pönnukökur is among one of my favorite foods. My mother assures me she has a recipe and my great grandmothers pan that she will give me when I move out. I even brought pönnukökur to kindergarden for my favorite food. I remember the fun times at the annual Icelandic picnic at Erla and Cam's farm. The last time I was at Thorrablót was a few years ago, helping my mother at the bar when my Uncle David was indisposed. Whenever I have family I plan to carry on all these traditions and more.



Unnur Fjóla Evans, and Consul General Jón Johnson

Eventually I hope to visit Iceland, after finishing school and establishing myself in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning trade. How appropriate; a descendant of the land of fire and ice working with fire-furnaces and ice-freezing and air conditioners!

Grants were also given out to three participants in this year's Snorri program, which sends youth between 18 and 30 to Iceland for six weeks each summer. Two of them were Kristín and Erika Graholme, daughters of club member Elin Graholme. when asked why they wanted to go on the program, they replied,

When my Amma moved to Toronto in 1999, I began to learn more about my ancestral roots and became increasingly interested in Icelandic culture. She made vinarterta at Christmas every year, but it only tasted good when accompanied by stories of her ancestors passing on the recipe over generations to keep alive the tradition. My aunt visited Iceland last year and brought back hundreds of beautiful pictures of the landscape and people. I was enchanted by what I saw, but it was her stories of the history of the places she visited that really brought them alive.

INL Annual Convention – Victoria, B.C.

Apple trees and flowers in full blossom greeted us in Victoria on Thursday April 20th, as we arrived at the Hotel Grand Pacific for the 87th annual convention of the INL. Old friendships were renewed and new ones formed as the delegates socialized following registration in this beautiful, green city. Our hosts, Fred Bjarnason, President, Icelanders of Victoria Chapter and members provided us with an array of seminars, business meetings, and entertainment. On Friday there was a seminar on creating your life story and a discussion on updating the INL of North America bylaws. Dinner offered delegates the opportunity to enjoy “A Taste of Iceland” at a couple of local restaurants. During the official opening ceremonies and the presentation of honorary life memberships and the Lawrence Johnson Lifetime Achievement Award, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of B.C. was in attendance and gave a warm



Members of ICCT attending: Brian Eyolfson, Gail Einarson-McCleery, Kara Schuster, Tracy Morrison and Holly Garrett

by Tracy Morrison

speech, staying afterwards to mingle with delegates. Over the course of the weekend, business was attended to, with a revitalization of the International Visits program being presented, as well as other important ventures, such as the Snorri programs and the fundraising for the Lögberg-Heimskringla. Our own Holly Garrett worked tirelessly during the weekend with Robert Asgeirsson, on bringing the conference “almost live” to the website. Holly has taken on the important role of webmaster for the INL site and Robert will be stepping down shortly. The themes of unity and communication promoted by Walter Sopher during his leadership, are reflected in the website, which is a tool to keep us informed and involved regarding events in the Icelandic community. Holly encouraged all clubs to forward their updated information to her and to keep their websites current.

I know a few Icelandic words, but to me they're just strange sounds. I'd like to hear an Icelander ask me a question, and be able to respond.

When my sister and I participate in the Snorri Program this summer and visit Iceland, we will be part of a great learning opportunity. Of course, I can't wait to taste the different foods, see the beautiful scenery, and learn more than just a few words of the language. I'm most excited, though, to discover my heritage, which for me isn't found solely in the language, pictures, or cuisine of my ancestors. It will be in the people themselves, and their approach to their lives.

The third grant for participation in the Snorri program was awarded to Megan Williams, Megan sent this reply to Falkinn:

This summer, I am going on an identity hunt! Typical adventurous Canadian kids all do it, but the Snorri program is the only one of it's kind that I have heard of. I will get a full cultural experience with other kids who are motivated to visit their second home.

When the Snorri program was in its beginnings, I was 18 years old, just finished high school, and visiting my oldest Icelandic Canadian relative. My 93 year old uncle Ben Sivertz lived in Victoria and had invited me to visit while he finished his autobiography. While I was there, he took me

to on a few short walks to Denman Street where he grew up in the early 1900s with his parents and 5 brothers (including my grandpa Sam) in a little community of talented Icelandic immigrants. He told me about the Sunday picnics they had where dynamic community members read their poetry and favorite stories in Icelandic. On the same trip to Victoria, my uncle introduced me to Mattie and Al Clegg. Mattie was Icelandic Canadian like him. She wrote to me 2 years later on the occasion of my birthday and sent the Snorri program description, suggesting that I would make a great delegate for Canada. At the time, I was in university and had to spend my summers working, but I have always kept Snorri in mind.

Today I am an elementary school teacher and feel that the time to go is now. I asked for a leave of absence and will be missing the last 14 days of the school year for the trip. I am certain that the Snorri experience will be incredibly rich for me and I will attempt to make the most of every moment there. With all gratitude to the ICCT for your scholarship,
Megan Williams

Falkinn would like to congratulate all these young people, thank them for their contribution and wish them well, in their studies, their trip to Iceland and in everything else.

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

Ice (land's) Cold Water

Those who know Icelandic water, usually miss it. That might not be

necessary here in Ontario much longer, at least not if Larry Finnson has anything to say about it. As half of the team that brought Clodhoppers to Canadians and the world, he has

entered on a new quest. To bring refreshing, clean Icelandic water to Canadians. Those who attended our annual



Thorrlablot, may have seen or even put forward an offer, for a case of "Icelandic Glacial" water, in the Silent Auction. Soon, an offer will not be necessary any more, as the Icelandic water will be on the shelves of Shoppers Drugmart and at other location (which can not be listed as Falkinn was going to print).

The water comes from a spring near Þorlákshöfn in Iceland, and has been gaining foothold both in Europe and North America. Finnson is 100% of Icelandic descent, originally from Riverton, Manitoba and runs his company 24K Water Co, in Winnipeg.

The Icelandic Krona Takes a Hit

Iceland's economy has been attracting a lot of interest lately, and various international banks and financial institutions have published their reports. Some of them have been casting the stability of the economy in a rather poor light, while others have given it a solid grade. The result has been uncertainty resulting in a rather sharp decline in the value of the krona, and the Icelandic stockmarket has taken some beating as well, but is still ahead compared to the year end value. The good news for those who are planning a trip to Iceland this summer, is that the Canadian dollar now buys approximately 65 Icelandic kronur, compared to about 52 in last November. So one could argue, that it is as if most prices has been lowered 20%.

This change in the exchange is also welcome news for exporting companies in Iceland, which has had a rather tough time lately, because of the strong krona. This should also help balancing the trade deficit, which was close to 15% last year.

Icelandic Composer in Toronto



Soundstreams Canada is bringing Icelandic composer **Tryggvi Baldvinsson** to Toronto as part of their Toronto Fanfare Project (May 31 to June 4, 2006). Soundstreams

commissioned Mr. Baldvinsson to write a short brass fanfare for the Project, which will be played at the **MASSBRASS** concert on June 4, 2006! We are delighted that the composer will make his first ever visit to Toronto on our behalf and hope that Toronto's Icelandic community will join us at the concert.

Nassbrass: Stockholm Chamber Brass, True North Brass & More Alain Trudel, conductor
June 4, 2006 @ 3pm (2:00 pm Fanfare YOUTH! student performance)

St. Anne's Anglican Church, 270 Gladstone Avenue (Gladstone & Dundas)

TICKETS: \$30 ADULT/\$20 SENIOR/\$5 STUDENT call 416-366-7723.

For further information call or got to: <http://www.soundstreams.ca/>

THE FIFTH ANNUAL PICNIC FRIENDS OF ICELAND INL, OTTAWA CHAPTER

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2006
PERTH, ONTARIO**

Volundur Thorbjornsson and Daja Kjartansdottir will host this picnic at their home at 256 Islandview Drive, Perth, Ontario commencing at 2:00 p.m.

YOU ARE INVITED TO MARK THE DAY ON YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO BE THERE WITH US FOR A DAY OF FUN. PLEASE BRING YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF SUITABLE PICNIC FOOD FOR US TO SHARE, AND OF COURSE, ANY BEVERAGE THAT YOU MIGHT NEED FOR THE OCCASION.

At 2:00 p.m. we plan on opening the picnic with the raising of the Icelandic flag and the singing of the Icelandic national anthem in Icelandic.

There will be boat rides on Mississippi Lake; a play area for children will be open all day; a sheep show by Stefania Sveinbjarnadottir of Yeoman Farm; and an Icelandic horse show from Hidden Valley, are being worked on.

The Ambassador Markús Örn Antonsson, and his wife, Steinunn Armannsdottir, will be there with us.

We will start sharing the foods and drink around 5:00 p.m.

The hosts offer fireworks, a bonfire, and Icelandic music far into the evening for those willing to participate.

If it rains, the picnic will be moved indoors, there is lots of room.

Please bring your own lawn chairs.

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS WILL VOLUNTARILY ASSUME THE RISKS THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN THIS ACTIVITY, AND WILL BE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY LOSS OR DAMAGE CAUSED OR SUSTAINED.

Subscribe to Lögberg-Heimskringla, the Icelandic paper in North-America. Check out their website: <http://www.logberg.com>

DAYS TO REMEMBER: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday May 25

Toronto, ON: Movie "In Tune With Time", an Icelandic movie by director Ágúst Guðmundsson, featuring the Icelandic band Stuðmenn.

National Film Board, 150 John St. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.
\$8 adults \$6 st/sr/NFB members

Sunday, May 28,

ICCT Annual General Meeting, Scandinavian Center, 91 Stormont Avenue (Lawrence & Bathurst.) at 2:30 . Election of officials. Icelandic short films will be shown, the library will be open.

Saturday June 17

Toronto, ON: High Park, ICCT celebrates Icelandic National Day with Picnic/Pot luck in High Park. Site #22

Saturday, June 17

Toronto, ON: High Park Kvinnahlaup. Annual ICCT

Kvinnahlaup will be held in High Park. Come and run and join the Icelandic National Day celebration afterwards.

Distances for every age, 5km run and 2km walk.

Things To Look Forward to in the Fall

Expect an Icelandic dinner in the beginning/middle of September, there will likely be some Icelandic films screened at the Toronto Film Festival. The ICCT dinner will be held at the same time as the Film Festival. More news as things progress.

Thursday September 28

Icelandic film series begin again, film to be announced.

Steinunn's Show in Fall

Icelandic sculptor Steinunn Þórarinsdóttir will visit Toronto again with her worksm in the fall. Her exhibition will open on the 21st of September at Odon Wagner Contemporary Gallery (196 Davenport Road, east of Avenue Road). Steinunn exhibited in Toronto in 2003, to good reviews. More details later.



Journey, one of Steinunn's older workds

Ione Thorkelsson Show in Fall.

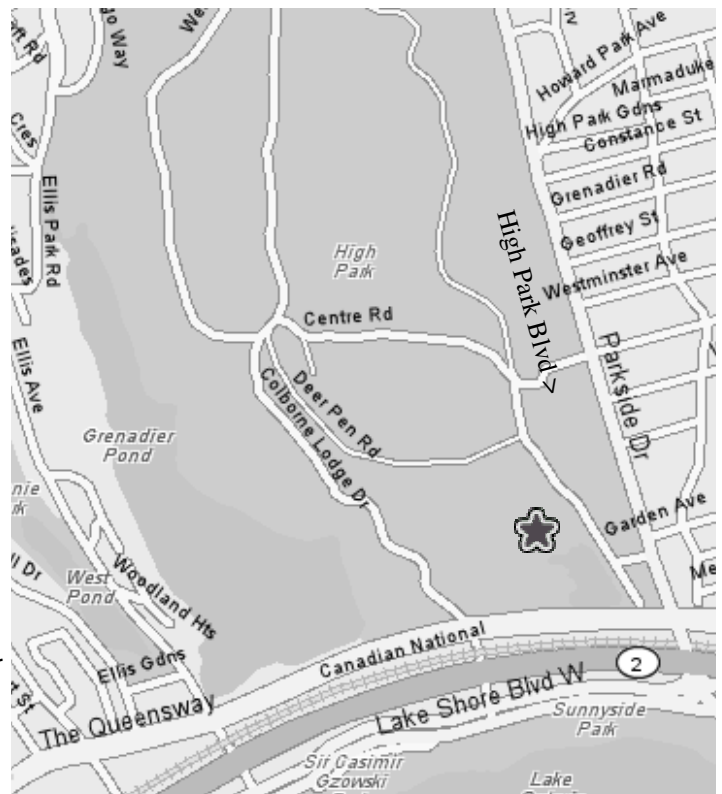
"The show will be held concurrently at Material Matters 215 Spadina Avenue and at The Toronto Free Gallery, 660 Queen Street E. in November 2006. Tentative title is 'Ossuary 501'. I don't yet have an opening date."

"Ione Thorkelsson is a renowned glass artist who has exhibited at the Winnipeg Art Gallery and across Canada. Her works of glass sculpture inspire poetry."

Icelandic National Day and Kvinnahlaup - How To Get There

The easiest way to the Kvinnahlaup or the Icelandic National Day celebration, is by the Gardiner/QEW, then onto the Lakeshore Blvd or The Queensway, and turning north on Park Side Dr. On the north side, one turns from Bloor onto Park Side Dr, or comes down Keele (Park Side Dr. takes over where Keele ends, just the other side of Bloor)

The parking lot that is closest to the site, is accessible from High Park Blvd. Coming either south or north on Parkside Dr one turns into High Park Blvd and then turns left. Another parking lot is by Grenadier restaurant, then one walks down Deer Pen Rd, through the little zoo and the site is on the right side, over a little bridge. A very nice children's playground is located just a few hundred meter from the site. The number of the site is 22.



17th of June: Icelandic National Day Celebration and Kvannahlaup

ICCT will be celebrating **Iceland's national Day**, on Saturday 17th of June. This year the gathering will be held in High Park, at gathering place #22 (see map on Page 7.)

The annual **Kvannahlaup (Womens run)** will be held the same day, also at High Park. There will both be a 5 km run, and a 2 km walk, suitable for females of all ages.

Kvannahlaup, which originates in Iceland and has spread through women of Icelandic descent through the world, increasing in numbers every year. Please book in advance with karaschuster@rogers.com. Bring your friends, Kvannahlaup is not restricted to Icelanders. The run will start at 11:30 followed by the 17th of June celebration that starts at 1:00.

The order of the day is picnic/potluck, so bring the food you like, and would like others to taste.

There will not be a formal agenda, but this is an excellent



opportunity to meet fellow Icelanders, old friends and bring kids and teenagers together. There is an excellent playground located near the site, and a small zoo, featuring llamas, buffalos, deer, peacocks and

other animals, is also within short walking distance.

Swimming pool is located in the park.

Though tables and seating are on the premises, there can be no guarantee of their availability, so we encourage everyone to bring their own lawn chairs, blankets and so on. Amplified music is not allowed in High Park nor the consumption of alcohol.

This event is still in progress, so expect an email with further information as it draws closer.

Gas BBQs Anyone?

We are hoping to have 2 or 3 gas BBQs at our picnic (charcoal are not allowed in High Park). We are looking for volunteers who would be able to bring theirs. If you would be able bring your BBQ, please let us know. tommigunnars@hotmail.com or 416 986 2819 or icegem20@cs.com or 416 762 8627.

Film of the Month - May:

National Film Board , Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto, Icelandic Consulate and Icelandic Film Center present: "In Tune with the Time " (Í takt við tímann) – English subtitles - Film by Ágúst Guðmundsson

Thursday, May 25

6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

The National Film Board

150 John Street, Toronto

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

Director: Ágúst Guðmundsson; **Screenplay:** Ágúst Guðmundsson, Stuðmenn, Eggert Þorleifsson

Music: Stuðmenn.

Cast: Ragnhildur Gísladóttir, Egill Ólafsson, Jakob Magnússon, Eggert Þorleifsson, Þórður Arnason, Tómas M. Tómasson, Ásgeir Óskarsson, Iceland 2004,

Tuning In 20 Years Later

Those familiar either with Icelandic music scene, or the Icelandic film industry, is bound to have heard of Stuðmenn, at one point or another. The band has been turning out hit songs since the early seventies, and starred and produced the biggest Icelandic box office hit, "Með allt á hreinu", almost 24 years ago, then taking in just over 120.000 people (Icelanders were back then only 240.000).



This Icelandic music "institution" is back, in this comedy which shows us what has happened to the member of the band 20 years after we left them. Though the films are in this way connected, one does not need to have seen the first film to enjoy the boisterous humour in the movie. The film follows as the band gets together, even recruiting the same roadie as before, and tries to re-establish their popularity, competing against younger bands with sometimes rather unscrupulous methods.

It is unavoidable to compare those two movies, made 22 years apart, though the second one lacks the originality of the first one, the humour is good, the music highly entertaining and the quality of the production much higher. Therefore this is an absolute must for anybody who saw the previous film, has a heard of Stuðmenn, or simply enjoys catching Icelandic pop music.