



FÁLKINN

ICCT FÁLKINN 50th Year No. 1

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Toronto Hosts 2010 INL Convention

The Icelandic National League of North America (INL of NA) was formed in 1918 and held its founding convention on March 25, 1919 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Since the very beginning, it has played a leading role in most public spirited and cultural activities among people of Icelandic heritage in Canada and the U.S.

This coming spring Toronto is hosting the annual convention, which rotates between North American cities, at the *Courtyard by Marriott*, downtown Toronto (www.courtyard.com/YYZCY)

The dates are April 22 to 25, and the theme is "Icelanders: Then and Now". Along with 'Friends of Iceland' in Ottawa, we will be focusing on the early immigration years, with presentations on settlements in eastern North America, and then moving on to today, featuring accomplished people from the region. Guests from Iceland are invited to discuss contemporary issues, such as the 'kreppa' (financial melt-down) and the relationship between Iceland and North America, in the areas of cul-

ture and energy, and many other subjects.

We start on Thursday, April 22nd with a field trip to the initial settlement areas of *Hekkla* and *Kinmount*. Friday and Saturday will feature early immigration history leading to the present, as well as a chance to see the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. An opening reception Friday night will be full of music and pageantry. Saturday night will see our Gala dinner, again with music. On Sunday, we are working on a very special presentation... more information is coming soon!

Icelandic films will be featured all day Friday and Saturday along with two other program choices every hour each day. There will also be an Art Show and a vendor's area. Let us know if you are interested in either of these, or if you would like to be involved in any aspect of this exciting convention.

For those attending from a distance, we encourage you to come early and stay late! There is much to see and do in the Toronto area ~ there will be tours to Niagara Falls and the downtown area of Toronto on Sunday after-



The Icelandic National League Convention will be held at the *Courtyard by Marriott Hotel* in Toronto April 22-25, 2010

noon. For children there's Canada's Wonderland, Marineland and the African Lion Safari... for adults Blue Jays games and much more.

If you would like to contribute funding to help make it a success, please contact Lynne Thorkelson at mlyn-net@gmail.com or inl2010toronto@live.ca

As events are confirmed watch for more info. on the INL website www.inlofna.org or the ICCT website <http://icct.info/>

ICELANDERS: THEN AND NOW

2010 Icelandic National League Convention

Toronto April 22 - 25

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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Congratulations to our ICCT Scholarship Recipients!

Stefan George Jackson Snow
 Recipient of the Ragnar and
 Marion Johnson Memorial Scholar-
 ship 2009.

Of Icelandic descent, my
 Amma, Margret Sigvaldson Jackson,
 was born in Riverton, Manitoba.
 Daughter of Rosman Arelius Sig-
 valdson, son of Sigvaldi Simonarson
 and Margret Benediksdóttir from
 Miðfriði, Iceland and Anna Eastman,
 of Riverton, Manitoba, daughter of
 Halldór Guðjon Austmann
 (Eastman), Borgarfjörður, Iceland
 and Anna Sigríður Hálfánardóttir of
 Kelduhverfi, Iceland.

In August of 2008, my family
 had the privilege of visiting the
 original homesteads of my great
 grandparents, great-great grandpar-
 ents as well as the location of many
 ancestors dating back to 1700s in
 Iceland. Throughout our tour of the
 'ring road' in Iceland and many
 places of natural beauty and histor-
 ical significance, I couldn't help but
 feel pride and a strong pull to be-

come more involved and knowl-
 edgeable about my Icelandic heri-
 tage.

My mother, Arden Jackson has
 ensured connection to and knowl-
 edge of our heritage through in-
 volvement with the Icelandic Cana-
 dian Club of Toronto since my two
 brothers and I were small children.
 As members of the ICCT we have
 participated in Xmas parties, the
 Vikings in Canada Gala in 2000,
 Icelandic Festival in Kinmount in
 2005, Independence Day Picnics,
 and Thorrablots. At Thorrablots I
 have assisted with serving and clean
 up. It is enjoyable to be able to meet
 local Icelandic families and contrib-
 ute to our local Icelandic group. As I
 become older I value these connec-
 tions more and more. Involvement
 in the club has allowed me to meet
 and learn about interesting people of
 Icelandic descent. As an instrumen-
 tal guitarist I have become aware
 and have been inspired by musicians
 such as Lindy, Tom Cochrane and

Sigur Ros.

In high school I successfully
 completed the Mayfield Secondary
 School Regional Visual Arts spe-
 cialty program and demonstrated my
 talent as a strong creative and three
 dimensional thinker. I have a per-
 sonal fascination with structural
 engineering and have completed
 first year Civil Engineering Tech-
 nology at Humber College in Etobi-
 coko, Ontario. I hope to apply this
 knowledge in future, along with my
 artistic and creative talents to de-
 signing and building structures.

I appreciate receiving the Rag-
 nar and Marion Johnson Memorial
 Scholarship as a student of Icelandic
 descent. As well as adding to my
 sense of pride in my heritage, this
 financial support is greatly appreci-
 ated and contributes to my ability to
 achieve the high goals which I set
 for myself.

Continued on page 3

Scholarship Recipients (continued from previous page)

Paul Aidan Tomasson Goodwin was the recipient of an ICCT scholarship at the 2009 Annual General Meeting. Paul completed grade 12 at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate in Kitchener, with excellent grades, and has been accepted into a new and very challenging honours program at the University of Waterloo called Knowledge Integration. This program requires students to make connections across many different fields of knowledge - fine and performing arts, sciences, social sciences and the humanities - and to communicate new ideas in new ways to a variety of audiences.

Paul is very active in his community. He instructs Ki Aikido (an internal martial art) at the Kitchener YMCA. For three hours on Tuesday evenings, Paul is the Head Student (sempai) and aids the Instructor (sensei) in teaching teens and adults. He is also a lifeguard and



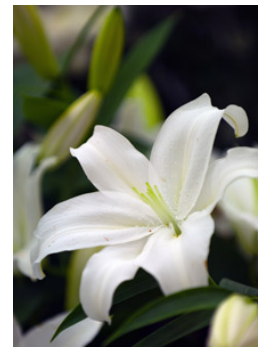
Recipient Paul Goodwin accepting ICCT Scholarship Award from Honorary Consul Gail Einarson-McCleery and ICCT President Brian Eyolfson

swimming instructor with the City of Kitchener and he has done community ser-

vices work with his high school in a variety of ways. For example, in the last two years, Paul has worked with Habitat for Humanity and the New Hamburg Mennonite Thrift Shop.

Paul is very proud of his Icelandic heritage and plans to attend the Snorri program with his cousins from Vancouver who are equally interested in not only immersing themselves in Icelandic culture, but doing so together, as the next generation of Icelandic Canadians. As he has done since grade school, Paul plans to study Iceland when he gets to choose his project topics.

Congratulations Paul and Stefan!



IN MEMORY OF Haraldur Bessason

The Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto has made a donation to The Icelandic Chair of the University of Manitoba in memory of Haraldur Bessason, former head of The Icelandic Department at the University of Manitoba and former president of the University in Akureyri, who died on Wednesday April 8, 2009. Mr. Bessason was 77 years old.



2009 Ragnar and Marion Johnson Memorial Scholarship award winner Stefan Snow visiting Iceland in 2008.

Nordic Nights at NFB

Note: All film screenings will be held at the NFB 150 John St., Toronto and will be subtitled in English.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30th 7 p.m. White Night Wedding
White Night Wedding will be preceded by a reception at 6:15

\$8.00 members/seniors/students \$10 general public



'*White Night Wedding*' (*Bruðguminn*) director *Baltasar Kormakur*. 'White Night Wedding' updates and modernizes Anton Chekhov's *Ivanov* and transplants it to Flatey, a remote island off Iceland's north shore. Jon, a literature professor, is about to marry his former student Thora. Her parents, Lalli and Sísi, are the island's most prominent family, owning its only pub, guest house and convenience store. The impending nuptials are endangered by financial disputes – a business deal between Jon and Thora's parents went sour – and by Jon's past. This is not his first marriage, and Jon's guilt over the way things ended with his first wife and his doubts about his worthiness may be the biggest stumbling blocks to the wedding. As Thora points out, Jon tends to make things complicated.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27th 7 p.m. —Finnish Film *Pahat Pojat / Bad Boys*

Free



'*Bad Boys*' (*Pahat Pojat*) director *Aleksi Makela* (2003)

'Bad Boys' is loosely based on a band of brothers in a small town in Finland, nicknamed the Daltons of Eura, who made a career out of robbing gas stations without ever resorting to physical violence. *Bad Boys* was an audience favourite with all the necessary elements for a hit – comedy, action, and drama. A well-loved (and hated) veteran actor *Vesa-Matti Loiri* plays the schizophrenic father, *Jouko*, who rules his four boys with an iron fist. *Jouko* lives according to his own personal interpretation of the bible and figures the boys' loot is actually something owed to him by the government.

Finnish with English subtitles.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25th 7 p.m. *Country Wedding*

\$8.00 members/seniors/students \$10 general public



'*Country Wedding*' (*Sveita Brúðkaup*) Director *Valdís Óskarsdóttir* *Ingibjorg*, the bride and *Bardi*, the groom, have decided to get married after living together for three years. The ceremony is to be held in a small church, an hour's drive from Reykjavik. *Ingibjorg* wants to keep to the tradition of not letting the groom see the bride dressed in white until at the ceremony. Therefore, *Ingibjorg*, *Bardi* and the guests drive off in two buses with champagne and a wedding cake. Actually, the convoy are in three buses with a band in the last one. *Grjoni* – *Bardi*'s best friend had decided to give the happy couple live music as a surprise wedding present. No one knows exactly where this country church

is located except for *Bardi*, who got the direction from the priest over the phone.

DECEMBER—No Screening

JANUARY Finnish Film T.B.A.

FEBRUARY 24th 7 p.m. *Quiet Storm*

\$8.00 members/seniors/students \$10 general public

'*Quiet Storm*' Director *Gudny Halldorsdottir* A young girl breaks up from her petit bourgeoisie home and her piano lessons to lead an entirely new life, as one of the personnel at an institution for juvenile delinquents in a remote part of Northern Iceland. It is the 1970s and the young people in charge of the place are heavily into flower power, sitar music and solving problems by frank talk sessions with the delinquents. However, the hippies, who themselves despise authority, soon find their own authority under attack by the rebellious youngsters, especially after the arrival of a mysterious young girl. Then a violent incident occurs that will have a decisively detrimental effect on relations at the institution.

The Vikings are Coming!

Legends and lore abound about the Vikings, mythical traders, fierce explorers and adventurers from Scandinavia who roamed the high seas from the eighth through the tenth centuries. But who were these people and what were they really like? Were they merely plunderers and warriors, or more? The Vikings: Master Mariners, Traders, Colonists and Artisans, a traveling exhibit developed by The Manitoba Museum, presents an overview of the traditional life and outstanding contributions of the Vikings or Norse people (early Swedes, Danes, Norwegians, and Icelanders). The exhibit will be on display from November 19th, 2009 to January 17th, 2010 at the new Scugog Shores Heritage Centre and Archives in Port Perry, Ontario.

As a first exhibit of this type in Western Canada, The Vikings exhibit was initiated and developed by former Curator of Archaeology, Dr. E. Leigh Syms.

The exhibit was developed in hopes of dispelling erroneous and negative stereotype images generally attributed to the Vikings. The exhibit reveals an insight into their technological and artistic accomplishments and the deep impact they made on the development of European history.

Key among this updated appraisal of the Vikings is their impact in establishing major trade routes between eastern Russia, Constantinople, Dublin, and Jorvik or York in England, routes which continued to be traversed in successive centuries. Closer to home, evidence now exists that Birka in Sweden, Hedeby in Denmark, and Bergen, Norway, were not only departure points for Viking longboats, but also major centres of sophisticated artisans, traders and supporting populations of farmers, fishers and whalers. Information about North American settlements, both L'Anse aux Meadows and Inuit sites in the High



Arctic, reveal a high degree of cultural sophistication previously unacknowledged. Examples from several excavated Viking sites, along with photographs, text and illustrations bring this conclusion vibrantly to life.

For more information please contact:
Shannon Kelly
Scugog Shores Heritage
Centre & Archives
1655 Reach Street
Port Perry, ON L9L 1P2
skelly@scugog.ca
905-985-8698



2010 INL
CONVENTION

*Please contact
us if you are
interested in
volunteering for
the INL
Convention in
April, 2010.*

**STUDENT
POSITIONS**
*The Club is
always looking
for volunteers.*

*Consider
working as a
volunteer to
gain your
credits!*

Volunteers Corner

The ICCT is currently looking for volunteers for our Executive, as well as planned events throughout the year. Experience the difference your time will make in helping to grow our organization and in making our events a success.

GET INVOLVED! Meet other Iceland enthusiasts, Icelanders and Icelandic Canadians, and learn more

about Iceland, its people and its culture. Volunteers are always needed. Calls for volunteers are periodically posted in the newsletter, but if you have a special skill that you think you could contribute, let us know!

OPEN POSITIONS

- Merchandise Director
- Phone Committee Chairperson
- Social Convenor

JOIN US!

Feel free to approach any of the Board members at an ICCT event.
Or email
gaileinaronmccleery@gmail.com

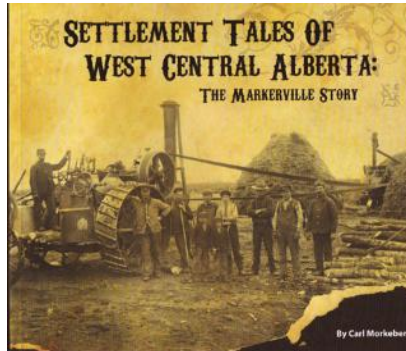
Settlement Tales of West Central Alberta

SETTLEMENT TALES OF WEST CENTRAL ALBERTA: THE MARKERVILLE STORY

By Carl Morkeberg

A series of weekly article by the manager of the Markerville creamery originally published in the Innisfail Province between 1967 and 1972. These entertaining and informative front page articles recount the colorful history of the Markerville area from 1888 to the late 1960s. Included here are family histories, comical anecdotes and inspiring stories drawn from the country west of Innisfail.

This is history telling by the people who lived it. First published under the title Markerville Story in



1980; now reprinted by the Central Alberta Historical Society with a foreword by Don Johnson, Carl Morkeberg's nephew and drawings by Markerville artist Marie Sveinsson. Illustrations, historical photographs, footnotes and sidebars have been added to clarify obscure con-

cepts to a new generation. A new index allows for easy searching for names and places.

Dedicated to all the hardy pioneers who settled in the Markerville district. Also to all heirs and successors, to them and to everyone who has ever called Markerville "HOME".

To order contact:
dhepburn@telus.net
Central Alberta Historical
Publications
4525 - 47A Avenue
Red Deer, AB
T4N 6Z6

Or call Shirley Dye (403)346 5218

Price \$39.95. plus shipping and handling.

News From Iceland

Iceland Airwaves Festival

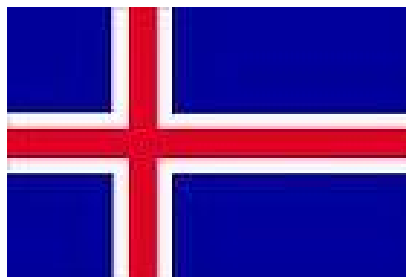
October 14-18, 2009, kicks up the heat and the volume in one of the premier showcases for new music – Icelandic and otherwise – in the world. Twenty more international artists have been added to the already impressive list of forty-eight local and international bands confirmed. For more information, including festival tour packages, check out <http://www.icelandairwaves.is>

Population Decline in Iceland

In a country of 319,246 (on July 1 this year) residents that have not seen a population decrease in over 120 years, news that the population is on the decline makes headlines. Although the drop is small, Statistics Iceland is keeping a close watch on numbers. While Reykjavík has experienced the largest drop in population, figures show that many of these people are moving out of the capital to other settlements. Sta-

tistics Iceland reports that most of those emigrating are foreign workers.

Iceland Review Celebrates 45 Years in Print. This longest running English-language magazine in Iceland celebrates its 45th birthday this year. "The magazine is really a window into Icelandic society. We cover culture and the working life of the nation as well as its wonderful but harsh nature," explains renowned photographer and deputy editor Páll Stefánsson. *Iceland Review* reports a circulation of 20,000



with readers in over 100 countries. For more information email: icelandreview@icelandreview.com

Norway Contributes to Iceland's Economy. A group of Norwegian investors want to dedicate ISK 20 billion (USD 159 million, EUR 101 million) to long-term investments in Iceland. The idea is for the Norwegian investors and the Icelandic pension funds to establish a special investment fund, with the pension funds contributing ISK 20 billion to the fund in addition to the contribution from the Norwegian investors. "We consider it very interesting to cooperate with the Norwegians on their participation in the restoration process because it is necessary to get foreign capital into the country, especially from our friends in the Nordic countries," states Hrafn Magnússon, managing director of the Icelandic Pension Funds Association.

Icelandic Camp 2009

Dear INL members,

As I have finally finished up the last of camp business for this year I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone and every club that helped make this summers Icelandic Camp a huge success. This year we had 32 campers with 4 counselors, 2 cooks and 1 director plus a few volunteers.

Campers were able to enjoy Electronic language lessons, saga and crafts, 2 trips into Gimli where they took part in the Gimli Film festival. Campers watched Kraftur...the final ride, a tour of city hall, pictures with the Viking statue, a chance to play in the water park, a tour through the Icelandic museum

and even a taste of Rullapylsa from Amma's kitchen. While back at camp they played games, swam, got to know each other and enjoyed all that Icelandic Camp had to offer. We even watched a film about Jon Pall Sigmarsson the world's strongest man....Thetta er Ekert Mal.

All of this would never be possible without the support that you have shown to this camp. I would like to personally thank the following clubs for their monetary support and sponsorship of a camper....Calgary, Toronto, Selkirk, Gimli, and Vancouver. I would also like to acknowledge Gary Odleifsson for his

personal sponsorship of one of our campers. Because of your contributions our camp was a massive success.

I would like to challenge the Icelandic Community to help us achieve our goal of 50 + campers for next year. Our camp will run from July 25th, 2010 to July 30th, 2010. I look forward to working with you all in building this camp back up to the huge camp it once was.

Thank you again.

Brad Hirst
Winnipeg, Manitoba



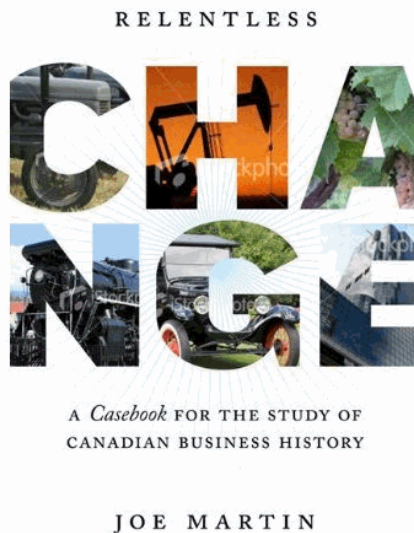
Winnipeg indie band
THE WEAKERTHANS
will be performing live
at the following clubs:

September
15 Tue: Hamilton, ON
- Casbah

28 Mon: Waterloo,
ON - Starlight Lounge

[http://
www.theweakerthans.
org](http://www.theweakerthans.org)

The ICCT Presents a Book Launch featuring Joe Martin, Director of Canadian Business History at the Rotman School of Management



Members \$5, non-members \$6 with a reception.

Director of Canadian Business History, Adjunct Professor of Business Strategy and Executive in Residence at the Rotman School of Management, Mr. Joseph Martin, will be present at the Scandinavian Canadian Club to celebrate the publication of his wonderful new book on Canadian business history.



Joe Martin of the Rotman School of Management will be on hand to launch his new book .

For those unable to attend this event there are additional dates to see Mr. Martin at the Rotman School of Management in Toronto or in Winnipeg at the Fort Garry Hotel (see sidebar for dates and contact information).

The ICCT Presents Joe Martin with his newest publication—"Relentless Change: A Casebook for the Study of Canadian Business History"

The Scandinavian Canadian Club of Metropolitan Toronto
91 Stormont Avenue
Sunday October 18th at 2:30p.m

"Relentless Change: A Casebook for the Study of Canadian Business History"

Winnipeg:
Monday, September
21, 2009
Fort Garry Hotel

Toronto:
Tuesday, September
29, 2009
Rotman School of
Management

FEE: \$39.95 per person plus GST (includes presentation, 1 signed copy of "Relentless Change" and cocktails)

For more information contact:
events@rotman.utoronto.ca or call 416-946-7462

THE OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER OF
THE ICELANDIC
CANADIAN CLUB OF
TORONTO

Membership information:
Single \$25, Family \$30,
Senior Couple \$25,
Senior Single \$20.

Treasurer: Lynne Thorkelsson
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Port Perry, ON L9L 1E2
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ICCT

IMPORTANT DATES!

September 25—"Anna Danova to the Rescue"
London Music Club, London
7-9 pm

September 29—Book
Release at U of T Rotman
School of Management.
Author and Speaker Joe
Martin, Toronto

September 30—"White
Night Wedding" NFB
Reception at 6:15 p.m.

October 18—Joe Martin—
Book Launch (see page 7)

October 27—"Bad Boys"
NFB, 7 p.m.

November 25—"Country
Wedding" NFB, 7 p.m.

**November 19 through
January 17** The Vikings
Travelling Exhibit
Port Perry (see page 5)

2010 April 22-25
INL Convention
Toronto

FÁLKINN

Anna Danova to the Rescue!

ANNA DANOVA (the alter ego of singer/songwriter Ann Helga Denny) is ready to rock her home town London on Friday September 25, with a musical comedy sketch featuring all-original songs, including "My stalker and me", "Snack Attack", "The Conditions of Love" and "Emotional Condom" [how prepared are you for casual sex?]

Yes, it's "Anna Danova to the rescue...!" -- she's on a quest to fix the world, one big or little problem at a time. Described by Richard Cameron (Phil Collins on The Trailer Park Boys) as the "ingénue of indie rock comedy", Anna Danova is a singer with a future AND a past (in classical, jazz, pop and rock music). See a music video and learn more at: www.anndenny.com

Times are good in Anna-land, with two recent guest appearances at the Yuk Yuk's comedy club in Halifax, as part of the Picnicface Tuesdays (picnicface.com) Her new song, "Emotional

Condom", was greeted there with a standing ovation! She appeared on the online broadcaster haligoniac.ca during the Tall Ships Festival in July. At a Music Nova Scotia open mic at the Seahorse Tavern her talent was spotted by Doug Taylor, owner of Codapop Recording Studios, one of the newest and best-equipped additions to the Halifax recording scene (www.codapop.com). This led to a full "Anna Danova Show" on August 27 2009, which was video recorded with studio quality sound at Codapop (with Anna on a

baby electric grand piano, and surrounded by candles!). Video footage from the three cameras is being edited into a beautiful recording of the night, complete with jokey interview intros recorded post-show.

Upcoming:
September 23: the London Art Coop, London, ON
September 25: the London Music Club, London, ON
For interviews, booking and further information contact: ann.denny@gmail.com, 902-877-5894 or Tammy Milbury, tammymilbury@eastlink.ca, 902-449-1456



2010 INL Calendars Are Now Available!

The 2010 INL calendar features excellent photographs of beautiful and thought-provoking works by Western Icelandic Artisans. Amongst the works included are a quilt by Erla Macaulay, sculpture by Gudrun Girgis and glass art by Ione Thorkelsson. Merrill Albert has contributed to the calendar with a digitally altered

photograph of the Viking Ship sculpture in Reykjavik. Other submissions include pieces in wood, fabric, porcelain and other media.

Those who have seen the 2010 calendar have declared it the most beautiful INL calendar so far. These will make great Christmas gifts and will support our Icelandic-Canadian artists.

The price has been reduced to \$8.00 each. Prices with mailing costs are: 1 calendar for \$10.00 (\$8 & \$2 mailing), 2 for \$19, 3 for \$28, 4 for \$37, 6 for \$54.

Send orders to
Lynne Thorkelsson,
1680 Scugog St.
Port Perry, ON
L9L 1E2