

# REGIONAL NEWS

## CANADA

### Editorial

Dear Readers:

Riddle me this - a significant, regularly-occurring Swiss "event" is coming into focus this summer. Can you guess what it is? Hints: (1) It predates the modern Olympics by a century, and professionals who have created Olympic ceremonies are now working on it; (2) It has been logged into a prestigious international register, where it is listed along-

side entries entitled "The Basel Carnival", "Avalanche Risk Management", and "The Art of Dry Stone Walling". Still puzzled and wondering? Perhaps this will help: (3) It's associated with vine-growing and wine-making ...

Whether you solved it or have given up, all will be revealed on page VIII. Enjoy! [avs@telus.net](mailto:avs@telus.net)



ANDREW VON STUERMER  
REGIONAL EDITOR, CANADA

### Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association (Metro Vancouver)

We've completed the 300m shooting house renovation and celebrated the achievement on April 5 with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by champagne and a traditional raclette. A big THANK - YOU to all the volunteers who put in countless hours of work over the past 4 months. We now have a good-looking and bright facility, and shooters are hoping their scores will improve!

35 members were present as we opened our outdoor season on April 7. The day included a practice shoot on all the ranges, as well as the annual safety session.

Mark your calendars for July 27 so you won't miss the Swiss National Day celebrations at our beautiful property! Many volunteers are needed in order to make this big event a success.

We look forward to a great season and hope to see you soon. Please check our webpage [www.scmra.ca](http://www.scmra.ca) for any program changes and for photos.

#### 2019 Summer and Fall Program

August	11	Championship all Ranges - 13:00 Bell Shoot at the 300m Range
	17	Work - Party
	25	Championship all Ranges - Last Day for OP & Feld
September	8	Championship all Ranges -- Trap Cheese Shoot
	15	Cup of Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver
	21	Work - Party
	29	Last Day Championship all Ranges
October	12 & 13	Schützenfest
	20	Saushoot
	26	Work - Party
	27	Jass Tournament
December	7	Santa Claus Party

Marlies Baumann



The SCMRA Chalet, as it welcomed work-party and spring-cleaning volunteers on April 13, 2019

#### Job Opportunity: OSA-Canada Website Seeking Editor



Support the Swiss in Canada and become the editor of our website!

If you're a little bit familiar with Wordpress and Facebook, we want to hear from you. Content will be supplied by Canadian OSA Delegates, and others.

To apply, please email Silvia Schoch at [silv.schoch@gmail.com](mailto:silv.schoch@gmail.com)

## Swiss Club Thames Valley

2019 club activities officially began on February 22, when the many rounds of card games played in various groups throughout the winter culminated in the “Metzgete and Jassfinal” in Milverton. Prior to the card competition, people of all ages enjoyed a delicious meal featuring the typical fare of a good old-fashioned “Metzgete”. Congratulations to the 36 players who made it to the “Jassfinal”, and especially to Ernst Gubelmann, who won this year’s championship.

On April 6, the Swiss Choir Thames Valley invited to “An Evening of Fun at the Milverton Recreation Centre” (see top two pictures on the right. Photo credits go to Heidi Offak Gregoric). The event started with a concert, with tunes in three languages that ranged from traditional Swiss songs to modern classics.

A delightful interlude by the “Gregoric Brothers” (3rd generation band members of the “K-W Golden Keys”) followed, showcasing their amazing musical talent on the accordion, the guitar, and the baritone euphonium.

The social part of the evening offered something for everyone: a fine meal, specialty desserts, great raffle prizes, and - of course - lots of dancing to the tunes of the “K-W Golden Keys”. What an evening of fun! The choir will be spoiling us again on May 26 with their very popular brunch event.

In the meantime, Swiss Club Thames Valley Board members are busy planning a big event, the annual “Bundesfeier”. We are very excited to announce our special guests, the Ländlerkapelle "die urchigen Emmentaler" from – you guessed it – the picturesque Emmental in Switzerland!

We hope to see you at our upcoming events!

### Upcoming Events 2019

May 26	Brunch (Chörtli), Rec. Complex, Milverton
July 7/14	Motorcycle Tour, guide: Walter Burkhardt
July 28	Bundesfeier, Monkton
August 18	Seniorentreff (Schweizer Jodlerfreunde)
September 21	Jodler Stubete (Schweizer Jodlerfreunde), Rec. Complex, Milverton
November 2	Generalversammlung, Legion, Milverton
November 16	Concert and Dance (Swiss Farmer Band), Rec. Complex, Milverton
December 1	Adventsfeier, Legion, Milverton.

PIA HÄCHLER



Die urchigen Emmentaler



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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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## Fête des Jeunes Citoyens Suisses

Samedi 6 avril 2019, le Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal a accueilli une vingtaine de jeunes citoyens à venir célébrer leur majorité. C'était l'occasion pour eux de tisser des liens avec d'autres jeunes suisses de leur âge. L'événement se présentait sous la forme d'un concours interactif. Les jeunes ont ainsi pu visiter les locaux et partager un moment convivial autour d'un lunch. Voici l'expérience de l'une de nos invités.

CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE SUISSE À MONTRÉAL

Un petit mot pour dire merci! Samedi passé, le Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal a invité tous les jeunes ressortissants suisses nés en 2001 à assister à une rencontre pour en apprendre plus sur notre pays d'origine. En conduisant pour m'y rendre, je trépiginais, un mélange de stress et d'excitation. Que me réservait cette invitation ? À l'arrivée, nous avons eu une brève explication sur le déroulement, puis, jouant avec les chaises, nous nous sommes im- C'était totalement imprévu, et des gens que l'on ne connaît pas facile. Après quelques rencontres quatre couleurs qui nous liaient à la clef, des récompenses allées des « Jaunes », et je suis fière de riviés premiers... en partant de la de citoyens suisses, nous avons



Mais la chasse aux réponses était nous apprenant des anecdotes naissions pas. Après ce concours, sandwichs et beaucoup de cho- plus d'un... Surtout celui de l'un des garçons qui, en estimant le plus précisément possible la population Suisse, s'est mérité un kilo de lapin Lindt, le rêve de tout amateur de cacao. Merci à toute l'équipe de nous avoir accueillis si chaleureusement dans votre lieu de travail et de nous avoir expliqué vos fonctions avec passion, j'en ai appris beaucoup sur ma patrie et je ne regrette pas d'être venue ! Comme on dit: à la revoyure!

provisés un petit «speed-meeting», drôle, car essayer de discuter avec en une minute n'est point une tâche res, les groupes se sont rassemblés, dans un concours sans merci avec chantes. Je faisais partie de l'équipe vous annoncer nous sommes ar- fin ! Pour défendre notre honneur perdu de deux points seulement...

divertissante et très bien organisée, sur notre patrie que nous ne con- nous avons eu droit à de succulents colat, ce qui a fait le bonheur de

ROMAINE BRAND

## Important Message to Swiss Citizens Residing in Ontario

Dear Fellow Citizens:

The Consulate General is pleased to inform you that the Swiss Consular Days in Toronto will take place during the week of October 7, 2019. This service allows Swiss citizens to renew their passports without having to travel to Montreal.

If you wish to take advantage of the upcoming Swiss Consular Days in Toronto, you must apply using one of the following two official websites: [www.schweizerpass.ch](http://www.schweizerpass.ch) or [www.passeportsuisse.ch](http://www.passeportsuisse.ch). Make sure you input "Toronto 2019" in the "Remarks" section.

Your application must be submitted no later than July 30. Please note that the number of available appointments is limited; priority will

therefore be given to holders whose Swiss passports are set to expire within the next 12 months.

**IMPORTANT:** Neglecting to update your current civil status (or name change) with the Consulate General may delay or even impede the processing of your passport application. The information must be confirmed by the competent authorities in Switzerland before a new ID document can be issued.

For detailed information about our consular services, please visit our website [www.eda.admin.ch/montreal](http://www.eda.admin.ch/montreal) and select the desired subject matter under "Services".

CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN MONTREAL

## Swiss Club Saskatoon

As usual, our raclette lunch on February 24 was well attended. Hot cheese on a cold winter Sunday is always appealing! Thank you, Rosa Nievergelt, for hosting us!

Our Jass (and other games) afternoon was held on April 7. As attendance was low last year, we decided to make it a family event this year, and that a Jass tournament would be held only if at least 8 players joined. We did get our 8 participants and are happy to announce the winners: Nicole Gerber and Emil Eigenmann. A thank-you to Rosemarie Eillinger for hosting us!

The June BBQ event will be hosted by Max and Dora Hug at their acreage on Father's Day, Sunday, June 15, 2019. This is in keeping with past BBQ events, which often coincided with Father's Day, and has become somewhat of a tradition for our Swiss Club!

We are pleased to hear that Consul General Pascal Borno and his wife Elena will join us on August 3, 2019, to celebrate both the Bundesfeier and our Club's 40th anniversary! The event will be held at The Legends, in Warman, SK, with a catered meal, activities for the kids, displays, a few short speeches, and a lot of reminiscing.



Jass tournament action on April 7. From left to right: Emil Eigenmann, Riel Zunti, Nicole Gerber, and Jacob Zunti

More information about these summer events will be published in our upcoming newsletter, or you may request them directly from the Club.

If you would like to receive information about our Club and upcoming events, please contact [swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com](mailto:swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com), call me at 1-306-665-6039, or text us at 1-306-260-8030.

ELISABETH EILLINGER, PRESIDENT, SWISS CLUB SASKATOON

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Learn about us at [pasturetoplate.ca](http://pasturetoplate.ca)

## Matterhorn Swiss Club (Montréal)

In early June, we will visit Exporail, the Canadian Railway Museum in Saint-Constant, QC. We'll have a guided tour through the site, as well as free time to visit the exhibits on our own. This will be followed by a supper at a nearby family-friendly restaurant. Adults and children alike should find this to be an interesting and enjoyable day.

Information regarding our summer picnic and barbeque will be sent out to members when available.

As usual, our Club will participate in the Swiss National Day celebrations at Mont Sutton. Once again, we will be asking members and friends to help out, volunteering a few hours of their time. We need many volunteers in order to make this big event a success.

The Club holds 5 or 6 events or outings each year, and we are pleased to say, they are always well attended.

New members are always welcome!

For more information, please see the Matterhorn Club section on the Federation website [www.fedesuisse.com](http://www.fedesuisse.com).

WALTER SPIRIG, PRESIDENT, 514-694-3718

## Forum Schweizer Geschichte Schwyz.



# Switzerland elsewhere

Die Schweiz anderswo

13 April – 29 September 2019

[www.nationalmuseum.ch/e/microsites/2019/Schwyz/DieSchweizAnderswo.php](http://www.nationalmuseum.ch/e/microsites/2019/Schwyz/DieSchweizAnderswo.php)

An exhibition, developed in collaboration with the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad, that looks at the history of the Swiss Abroad with a special focus on the life histories of individual emigrants from the past and present day.

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# Fête des 20 Vignerons 19

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*All ages welcome.*



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## Swiss Canadian Club Guelph

In March, we hosted a movie afternoon of the Swiss classic Schellen-Ursli (in a release from 2015). Many club members enjoyed the movie, and the afternoon was filled with tasty treats and sweet laughs.

Our annual Wine and Cheese party on April 13 was also a big success ... but then again, what can really go wrong when both wine and cheese are involved! We travelled all the way to the Himalayas - that is by virtue of a beautiful slide show created and presented by two Board members who are travel and hiking enthusiasts.

Our upcoming events include striking it rich... or at least getting a strike at our Bowling Afternoon in June. This event will take place on Sunday, June 9, at 2 pm at Woodlawn Bowl in Guelph.

To help cool off in the summer, we're hosting the 13th annual Summer BBQ at a Board member's house. Everyone will be able to find something that makes them smile - be it the food, swimming pool, badminton, music, and - of course - the company of good friends. This event will take place on Sunday, August 11 in

the Rockwood area.

Please stay tuned for other events later this year: the fall hike, our annual toasty night in cheese fondue, and the Waldweihnacht party.

For up-to-date club information, follow us on Facebook (Swiss Canadian Club Guelph), or check our website <http://guelphswisscanadianclub.webs.com/>.

Have questions? We're always happy to help, just email us at [swisscanadianclubguelph@gmail.com](mailto:swisscanadianclubguelph@gmail.com).

We look forward to warmer weather and to our upcoming events. See you there!



RINA THOMA



## Vancouver Swiss Choir

# JOIN THE VANCOUVER SWISS CHOIR!

WITH CONDUCTOR DR. SERGIO PIRES

## DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

Come join us! We are a mixed choir of all ages and voices singing Swiss Folk music in many languages. We practice once a week and perform at many exciting events!

May: European Festival  
June: Spring Concert  
August: Swiss National Day  
2020 Pacific Coast Singing  
& Yodeling Festival in LA



**NO AUDITION. GET IN TOUCH!**

Email Rolf at [rbrulhart@hotmail.com](mailto:rbrulhart@hotmail.com)

53 YEARS OF SINGING SWISS FOLK MUSIC !



## VANCOUVER SWISS CHOIR

### 2019 Spring Concert

**Musical Director: Dr. Sergio Pires**

**Saturday, June 15 at 2pm DOORS OPEN @ 1:30**  
**All Saints Church - 7405 Royal Oak Ave., Burnaby**

Join us for a musical adventure to the four cultural regions of Switzerland. A unique experience of singing, yodeling, and alphorn tunes. After the concert, you are all invited to join us in the basement for coffee, tea, and goodies.

**Tickets: \$20 Children under 12 are free.**

**All our Choir members have tickets for sale - or call Rolf at 604-710-7653, email [rbrulhart@hotmail.com](mailto:rbrulhart@hotmail.com), or buy at the door.**



## Fédération des Sociétés Suisses de l'Est du Canada / Federation of Swiss Societies in Eastern Canada

### FETE NATIONALE SUISSE

La 43e édition du programme de la Fête Nationale Suisse que nous organisons sera sur notre site web vers la mi-mai. Vous y trouverez aussi la programmation de cette journée du 3 août 2019. Si vous voulez participer à cette Fête jusque tard en soirée, n'attendez pas pour réserver votre hébergement dans le village de Sutton...quelques-uns sont annoncés dans ce programme. Nous vous attendons...Au plaisir.

### APPEL AUX BÉNÉVOLES

La fête nationale suisse à Sutton a besoin de vous! Inscrivez-vous auprès de votre club/société ou directement à la Fédération des Sociétés Suisses à [info@fedesuisse.com](mailto:info@fedesuisse.com) en indiquant votre disponibilité: VENDREDI et/ou SAMEDI et/ou DIMANCHE. Les bénévoles ayant travaillé 4 heures ou plus se verront offrir l'entrée gratuite et des coupons de nourriture. Certificat de bénévolat émis pour les étudiants de moins de 30 ans.

### TOMBOLA

10 prix très intéressants, d'une valeur de 80\$ jusqu'à plus de 5 000\$. Le 1er prix est un vol vers la Suisse avec SWISS, un Rail Pass de 8 jours et l'hébergement pour une nuit dans un charmant hôtel à Adelboden, pour 2 personnes. Liste de tous les prix sur le site web. Le tirage aura lieu le samedi 3 août 2019 en soirée, au Mont Sutton. Les billets (4000) sont disponibles à partir de la mi-mai, auprès des membres des comités de la Fédération et de plusieurs clubs, et toute la journée sur le site de la Fête. A 2.50\$ le billet, vous pouvez en acheter plusieurs!

N'oubliez pas de consulter notre site web de temps en temps:

[www.fedesuisse.com](http://www.fedesuisse.com).

VOTRE COMITÉ 2019

### SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

The 43rd edition of the Swiss National Day events program will be posted on our website around mid-May. You'll also find the activity schedule for that day - August 3, 2019. If you want to enjoy the festivities until late at night, make sure you take care of accommodation in the village of Sutton...some accommodation listings are advertised in the events program. Join us and enjoy!

### CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Swiss National Day in Sutton needs you! Sign up through your Swiss Club or Society or directly with the Swiss Federation. Email us at [info@fedesuisse.com](mailto:info@fedesuisse.com) and let us know when you are available: FRIDAY and/or SATURDAY and/or SUNDAY. If you volunteer for four hours or more, you'll receive free admission, as well as food coupons. We'll issue Certificates of Appreciation for volunteering to students under the age of 30.

### RAFFLE

10 very interesting prizes are available, valued from \$80 to more than \$5,000. 1st prize is a flight to Switzerland with SWISS, a Rail Pass for 8 days, and a one-night stay for two in a charming hotel in Adelboden. A list of all the prizes can be found on our website. The draw will be held on Saturday evening, August 3, 2019. Tickets (4,000) are available starting mid-May and can be purchased from Federation Committee members, from several of the Clubs, and all day directly at the festival site. With tickets going for \$2.50, you can afford to buy several! Don't forget to visit our website from time to time:

[www.fedesuisse.com](http://www.fedesuisse.com).

YOUR 2018 COMMITTEE

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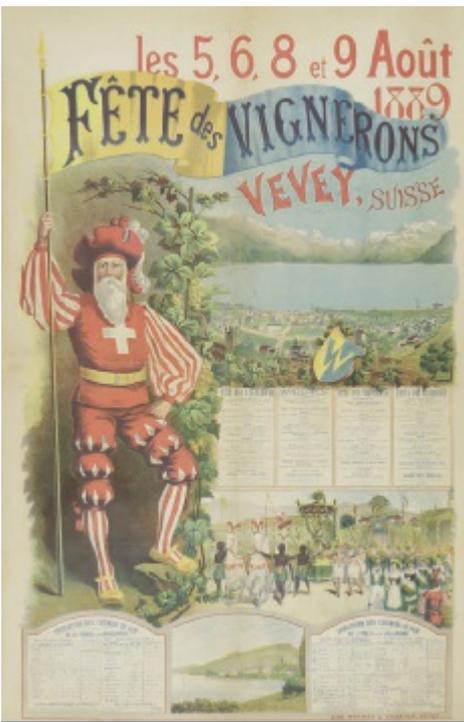
## Events - La Fête des Vignerons (Vevey, Switzerland)

After a 20-year hiatus, Vevey will once again host the momentous Fête des Vignerons, the (Vevey) Winegrowers' Festival ("the Fête" or "the Festival"). This traditional celebration of vine-growing and wine-making (in the Lavaux vineyards and in parts of the Chablais wine region) returns on July 18 and runs until August 11, 2019.



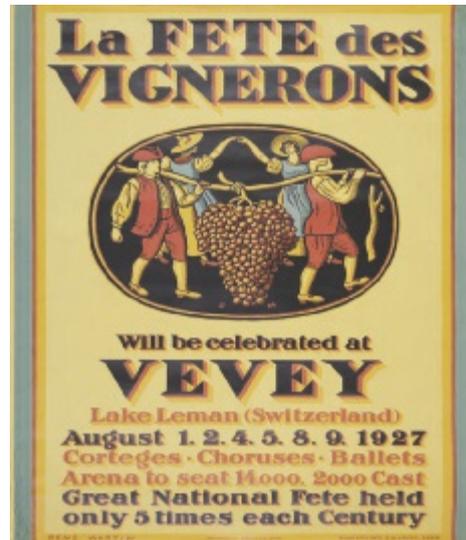
Notable: The history of the Fête des Vignerons goes back to 1797, pre-dating the first modern Olympic Games (held in Athens, Greece, in 1896) by just about 100 years.

Yet in spite of its long history, the upcoming Fête is only the 12th spectacle of its kind! The reason: The Fête des Vignerons may not be held more than five times per century, making it a rare and highly-anticipated event. Typically, the Festival is put on every 20 years or so - the last five were held in 1999, 1977, 1955, 1927, and 1905, respectively.



Adding to the cachet of this once-in-a-generation event, in 2016, the Fête received a UNESCO designation that put it on a register of "Intangible Cultural Heritage". (There are only three other Swiss entries: The "Basel Carnival", "Avalanche risk management", and the "Art of dry stone walling").

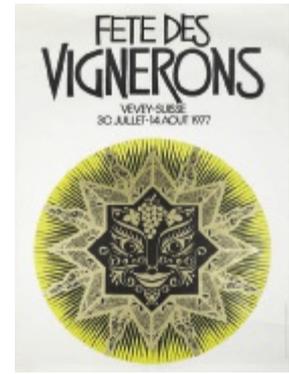
The 2019 Fête's main show - the pageant - will be staged in a large (yet temporary) open-air arena / stadium in Vevey's town centre. While the first Fête in 1797 featured a simple wooden platform with fewer than 2,000 seats, the 2019 Festival arena required 700 tonnes of steel to support five stages and 20,000 seats! And it has an LED screen built right into the



main stage floor to generate visual effects.

The 2019 pageant is a massive and elaborate affair involving 2,700 actresses, 1,700 actors, 1,000 children, a choir of 600, and scores of volunteers. The pageant was created by a team led by Daniele Finzi Pasca, a Swiss actor and stage director who has worked for the Cirque du Soleil and on two Olympic closing ceremonies. By the way, drummer and composer Jérôme Berney, a member of Pasca's team, was born in Vancouver, Canada.

The Festival's show schedule calls for 20 live performances - 10 during the day, 10 at night - each lasting roughly 2.5 hours. The inaugural performance is longer, as it incorporates the Fête's all-important crowning ceremony (Couronnement des vigneron-tâcherons)



during which the Confrérie des Vignerons (the Brotherhood of Winegrowers) honours the best winegrowers. The Confrérie's main purpose is the promotion and improvement of vine / wine production in the region, and it has been organizing the Fête since its advent in 1797.

Festival activity is not limited to the arena; far from it! In the spirit of la Ville en Fête, Vevey will host countless cultural, musical, and culinary events spread across much of the town. Several processions / dress parades will also take place; here, one might encounter prize-winning winegrowers, Confrérie members, pageant performers, or visiting delegations and choirs.

July 25 will be a first for the Fête - a day dedicated entirely to the Swiss Abroad. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad and Swiss Wine Promotion SA are hosting a wine-tasting event that breaks with tradition. Rather than offering local wines (produced under the watchful eye of the Confrérie), the event will showcase a dozen or so wines produced abroad by Swiss expat winemakers.

A.V. STUERMER

