

20
ANNIVERSARY



WINTER 2021

ISSUE 50

CLAN MACRAE CANADA

KINTAIL

Greetings, Clan MacRae Family,

Happy New Year for 2021. As we look back on 2020, I'm sure you feel as I do, that you are glad it is over. With all the news about the Covid-19 virus, self-isolation, the shutdowns in our schools and places of business, our Clan activities have been severely limited.

As we look toward a new year, it's one of celebration for Clan MacRae Canada as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of our Society. In this 20th Anniversary edition of our Kintail newsletter, Ken MacRae takes us back in time to the formation of our society by sharing his memories of an important trip when Scottish clans from all over the world gathered in Scotland.

During that gathering, Ken and five other MacRaes decided that we should have our own Clan MacRae Society of Canada. Thank you, Ken, for sharing that story with us. We recognize the leadership and vision of our first President, Dr. Robert MacRae (Ken's brother), who organized the society and charted our course. Now here we are, still going strong 20 years later.

I wish to thank both Clan MacRae Scotland and Clan MacRae North America for their good wishes and congratulations on our 20-year milestone. Also, I would like to express a special thank you to Sharon Graves-MacRae for the wonderful Clan MacRae Holiday Book, she produced and got out to us, just in time for Christmas.

Please stay safe and be healthy, and God bless you all. Wishing you all the best for 2021.

Owen C. MacRae

President
Clan MacRae of Canada

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ANNUAL CLAN MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASED ON JANUARY 1, 2021

On June 27th, a motion was passed at the Annual General Meeting to increase our Clan MacRae membership fees.

New dues in Canadian funds, as of January 1, 2021:
1 year \$30 or 3 years \$75

The lifetime membership fee (age 70 +)
was not increased – it remains \$150.00.

BALMORALS OFF!

As we express our thanks
to Kenneth and Kathy MacRae,
and Owen MacRae for
generously sponsoring
this issue of Kintail.



Payment of dues can be sent by cheque to:
Sharon Clayton, Membership Secretary
14431 16A Avenue, Surrey, BC V4A 1S8
Or
sent by e-transfer to omacrae@telus.net



Our objectives are to: promote Clan MacRae history, traditions, literature, music and genealogy; educate and foster members with the Scottish Highland traditions; and connect with other Clan MacRae Societies throughout the world.

LOOKING BACK AT CLAN MACRAE SOCIETY OF CANADA ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

ARTICLE|PHOTOS: KEN MACRAE

Events of the 2000 Millennium Clan MacRae Gathering were detailed in the article “The Beginning of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada” originally published in the first issue of our Kintail newsletter.



As one of the original six founding members of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada, I thought I would share some recollections with you on our 20th Anniversary. In 1999, we heard of plans for a Millennium gathering of Clan MacRae in Scotland, said to be the first international gathering of the Clan since 1923. Not wanting to miss the Clan gathering, my late brother Robert (Clan MacRae of Canada's first President), son Darrell, and I decided to join the celebration in August 2000.



KEN MACRAE, HIS SON DARRELL AND BROTHER ROBERT
AT EILEAN DONAN CASTLE IN AUGUST 2000

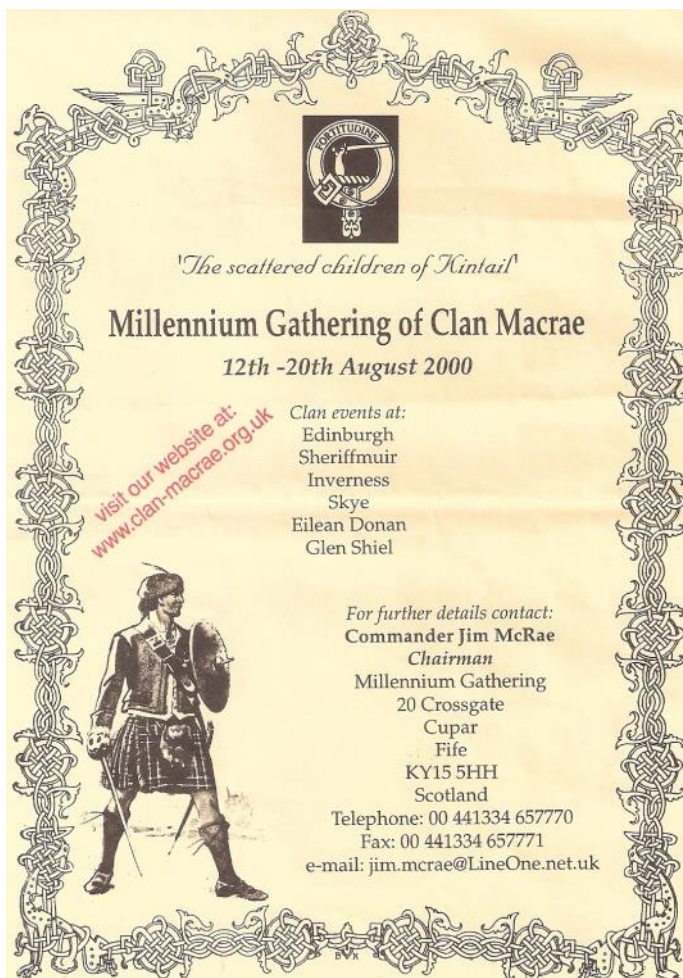


L TO R: ROBERT MACRAE (VICTORIA, BC), HELEN MACRAE (HALIFAX, NS),
DARRELL MACRAE (CALGARY, AB), TINA GRAHAM (LONDON, ON), KEN
MACRAE (CALGARY, AB) AND MARY MACRAE PELLERIN (HALIFAX, NS).

Our family's visit to Scotland culminated in a three-week sight-seeing tour of ancient family farms and cemeteries. It began with our flight touching down in Glasgow, where we acclimatized with a short stay at the Scott Inn. Early the next morning, we set out to fetch our rental car. Little did we know that our first challenge was interpreting what I'll call "Scottish English". We began to suspect that the word 'wee' was much more versatile in Scotland than thought. The agent returned with the keys and directions: "Take a right at the 'wee' sign and travel a 'wee' distance until you encounter a 'wee' stop sign. On

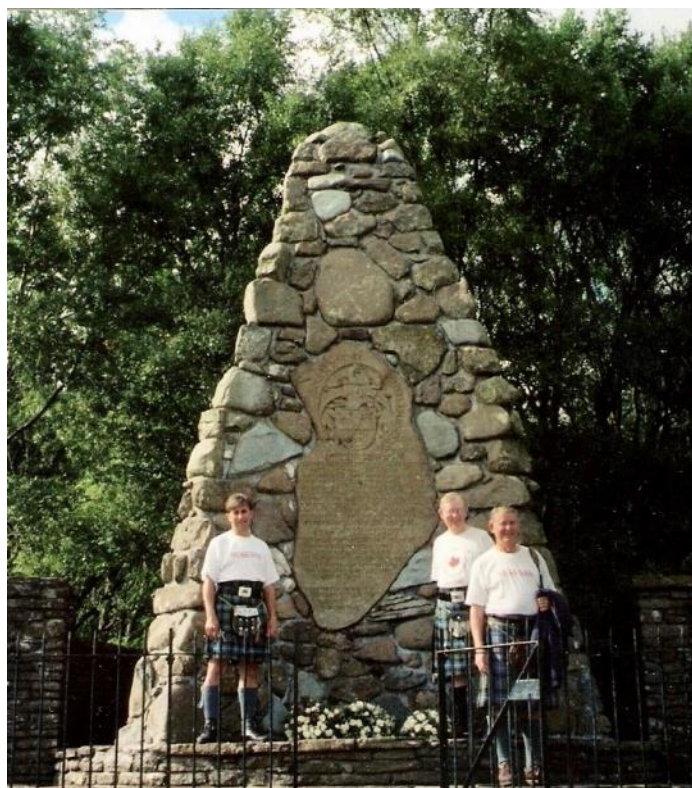
your right there's a 'wee' pub where you could engage in a 'wee' stop for a 'wee' round of whiskey." The three of us looked blankly at each other, hoping that one of us understood his "English". Impossible! - we were in total confusion. Only when the agent handed over a map did we leave, laughing hilariously, until the agent shouted out, "Throw out the map, boys."

Following his directions, we suddenly realized we were driving on the wrong side of the road! As we entered our first roundabout, we encountered a large lorry. In order to avoid a collision, we missed our exit, continued around and exited, only to find ourselves back at the rental agency. Our adventures had only just begun.



Since the main events were centered around Eilean Donan Castle, we were fortunate to rent a caravan (a large camper trailer) at a site immediately across the Loch, looking east toward the Castle. We stocked up on British pounds to plug into the electric heater every 4-6 hours, to warm up our cool evenings. Many evening events commenced with a wee dram of single malt while watching remarkable sunsets at the castle.

We were now off to join 250 wonderful Clan MacRae members from the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, England, and even Sweden. Daily excursions included Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Castle, the Isle of Skye and the site of the Battle of Sheriffmuir.



DARRELL, ROBERT AND KEN MACRAE AT THE SHERIFFMUIR MONUMENT, WHICH WAS ERECTED IN 1915 TO HONOUR THE JACOBITE MACRAES KILLED ON NOVEMBER 13TH, 1715.

One of our unforgettable events was marching, lead by piper Jimi MacRae, 822 feet up to the summit of "Arthur's Seat", in commemoration of the famous MacRae Highlanders' mutiny of 1778, when the newly recruited 'wild Macraes', suspecting they were being duped into service in the East Indies, refused to set foot on the boats and marched to Arthur's Seat, where the standoff was finally resolved and an agreement was made.



DARRELL MACRAE AND PIPER JIMI MACRAE AT THE TOP OF ARTHUR'S SEAT. THE EXTINGUISHED VOLCANO IN HOLYROOD PARK RISES MORE THAN 800 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, LOOKING DOWN AT THE CITY OF EDINBURGH.

I have fond memories of the Highland Games, commencing with the Grand March from Eilean Donan Castle to the Games site, led by a striking Drum Major and pipe band. The parade was so popular that the local constabulary was forced into action as the traffic snarled and came to a halt. The original banner was then unveiled from the 1918 grand opening, following the castle's reconstruction.

Son Darrell and I registered for the Game events - Darrell would never miss an opportunity to engage in a new adventure. He signed up for the cross-country race, straight up the steep and muddy mountainside. Unfortunately, he was ill equipped, with only street clothes and dress shoes. The sight of Darrell crossing the finish line during a slight shower was something to behold - mud from top to bottom and soaking wet. He was a good sport and proceeded to enter his second event - the caber toss. As a rookie tosser, Darrell didn't realize that the caber was a 16 to 20-foot larch tree, weighing between 90 and 150 pounds. Running forward with a supreme effort, he stumbled under the immense weight - his launch was disqualified.

Not wanting to be a poor sport (and with prodding from Darrell) I entered the tug-of-war. Despite my hefty efforts as anchorman, our team came away with the silver medal. Both Darrell and I came back to Canada with our Highland Games medals hanging around our necks.

While at the Games, we were introduced to the Drum Major, who said we should not leave Scotland before meeting Patrick Dalzel-Job, a local Naval Intelligence Officer and Commando from the Second World War. After the war, still living as a spy, Patrick chose to live on isolated Burns Lake, BC, with access only by boat or aircraft. Our excitement grew as we heard more about him, and we agreed to meet him. Finding his property was no easy feat, but after driving into a secluded laneway, we were stopped by a large iron gate. A voice on the loudspeaker demanded that we introduce ourselves, whereupon a huge gate swung open. As we travelled up a remote, tree-lined, one-way road we were abruptly stopped by a second roadblock checkpoint. Once again, we were required to identify ourselves before we were able proceed. We looked at each other in disbelief – should we proceed or turn and hightail it out of this clandestine estate? Finally, we arrived at his residence, which resembled a military museum. Patrick was seated in front of several monitors where he had watched our entire approach.

Our meeting with Patrick reminded us of a WW II spy story. While sequestered by the British admiralty, he met Ian Fleming of "James Bond" fame. He enthusiastically shared stories of the escapades he experienced during a military career as a spy, sailing up and down the coast of Norway, entering many of the Norwegian uncharted fiords all the way to the Arctic. We could feel his pride as he told us how he was towed across the English Channel in a two-man submarine before setting explosive charges on German ships. He later hid away on an isolated island, monitoring German shipping information that he radioed back to the Admiralty. As a commando, he parachuted into Nazi Germany to assist in undercover

activities. For his warning to evacuate a Norwegian coastal town, the day before it came under a heavy bombing attack, the Norwegian King awarded Patrick with a medal.

An accomplished author, navigator, mariner and skier, Patrick authored two books. I still cherish one of them, which he signed for me. By accident, I purchased a 2003 Globe and Mail newspaper that announced his death. The obituary cited him as the inspiration for some of Ian Fleming's James Bond stories.

During those remarkable weeks in Scotland, we met the only other Canadians at the Clan gathering: two sisters Helen MacRae and Mary MacRae-Pellenin from Halifax, and Tina Graham from London. It had been more than 200 years since our MacRae ancestors arrived in Canada, on one of three ships hired by Lord Selkirk to carry settlers across the stormy Atlantic. Our early family history had been lost, except for a number of letters, dating from 1802 to 1810, sent from Scotland to Prince Edward Island. Following the lead of numerous other countries, it was time to start our Canadian Clan Society. Over drinks, the six of us vowed to initiate the Clan MacRae Society of Canada.

At the 2016 Clan MacRae gathering in Vancouver, Darrell (being Darrell) decided to play a joke on our American friends. He printed several stickers to give to American MacRaes attending the gathering, implying that the stickers could provide unencumbered access across our mutual border. How things have changed in the intervening 20 years!



DURING THE 2000 CLAN GATHERING, DR. ROBERT MACRAE SPOKE FROM THE OUTSIDE WALL OF THE ROOFLESS CLACHAN DUICH CHURCH AND CEMETERY OF THE MACRAE'S OF KINTAIL.

THE CHURCH IS ONLY A FEW MILES FROM EILEAN DONAN CASTLE.

CONGRATULATIONS ON 20 YEARS OF CLAN MACRAE CANADA!

ARTICLE|PHOTOS:

MARIGOLD & MIRANDA VAN LYNDEN

We first met The Venerable Robert MacRae about 20 years ago when he came to Scotland to find out his ancestry and see the country his forebears came from.

He attended a Burns Night Supper where we had a Clan MacRae table, he was very knowledgeable about Scotland.

He came over to our Millennium Gathering and went back to Canada full of enthusiasm with the idea of starting a Clan MacRae Society there. This he did with great success and it is due to his vision and drive that it is such a flourishing Clan Society today.

It was quite an undertaking in such a large country, but he persevered and arranged Gatherings in different parts every year.

We have attended Gatherings in 2009, on Prince Edward Island, Vancouver in 2010, Ottawa in 2015, Mum came to Toronto with Jim in 2008, and then I came over on my own to Toronto in 2018.

Robert, and his family were very musical and he commissioned a piece to mark the 100th anniversary of Flanders Fields.

Sadly Robert died on the last day of our Gathering, a service which he would have taken.

Thanks to him, Clan MacRae Canada is thriving, with an active committee, we owe him a lot.

We also thank Owen and his wonderful team for including us at your Clan Gatherings, where we have been so well looked after and met so many wonderful people.

We all have so much in common, keeping up the Scottish traditions and we look forward to seeing you in Canada or welcoming you in Scotland.

Marigold & Miranda



MARIGOLD AND REVEREND ROBERT MACRAE



MIRANDA, CLAN PRESIDENT OWEN MACRAE AND MARIGOLD AT THE 2015 CLAN MACRAE GATHERING IN OTTAWA, ONTARIO

MACRAE HOLIDAY BOOK 2020



*Just a few of
the nice messages
we received about
the 2020 MacRae
Holiday Book!*

OWEN MACRAE WHITE ROCK BC

Sharon, what an amazing holiday recipe book you have put together for the Clan MacRae Society. My daughter has printed off in a book form, for family members to enjoy for years to come.

CYNTHIA MACRAE

Thanks for all your effort in putting together this beautiful book. What a treasure! ... Here's hoping that 2021 brings you and your family health, happiness and lots more chances to visit with family and friends.

LIZ MACRAE FROM MONTREAL, QC

What a beautiful collection of recipes and stories and photos! Sharon, this took a lot of hours to do! It's really gorgeous! Thank you so much!

SHARON CLAYTON

Many thanks for producing such an attractive family heirloom.

KATHY MCCAULEY

Wow! This is beautiful. Lovely work. Thank you so much for making it available before Christmas. Happy Christmas!

BETTY LAUWEREYS

Thank you Sharon. You & your helpers did a wonderful job on the book. We are having a similar Christmas as well. Merry Christmas to you and your family, and a Happy New Year as well.

JOHN DUFF

I was impressed with your creation of the holiday recipe book. Thank you for taking the time to work on this. The graphics and photos are very vibrant and it was nice to read the notes attached to the recipes. It was a wonderful idea and very well done.

BILL AND LYNN MCRAE FROM HALIFAX, NS

Thanks for the effort Sharon with the Holiday Recipe Book, hopefully it didn't take up too much of your time. It turned out quite well I must say with a well-rounded group of entries, Main Meals, Deserts, Quilting Projects, ect., ect., I look forward to what next years will bring.

DOREEN POWELL

Thank you for the wonderful cookbook ~ a grand project.

SUSAN MACRAE

The Clan Christmas book that you made for us is terrific. Thank you so much. It is obvious that you put a lot of work into it, the result is very professional looking indeed AND in it is the recipe that my Mum and I used to make at the ranch when I was just a young girl helping her with all the cooking. We called it Wash Day Pudding and I have been searching for the recipe for ages. You found it for me. In your book it is Isabel MacRae's Brown Pudding with sauce.

A Blessed and Happy Christmas to you and yours.

KATHI BOBB

Thank you so much for creating such a lovely book. I did not expect a personal write-up about myself and it was a very pleasant surprise. I love the MacRae quilt!!! It's beautiful!

MYRNA MCRAE

This is certainly more than just a recipe book so is a marvelous Christmas book! Well done to all involved!

GAYLLE AND ALLEN

I am so impressed with the beautiful job you did in putting together such a wonderful recipe book for all the clan to enjoy. Its eclectic content is really quite unique and all works in perfect harmony. Thank you for including my Cory cookie one.

ANNE YOUNG

Thanks so much to all the people who put together that fantastic cookbook. It is lovely to have recipes from our Clan that bring our heritage and Scotland into each of our kitchens this Christmas. I would like to extend a Merry Christmas to all MacRae's wherever you are and however you spell our name. We are the lost children of Kintail but perhaps all these Clan events bring us closer to being the found children of Kintail. Blessings and thanks to you all.

BARBARA DUFF

The Cook Book is just lovely. John and I love your graphics. Great job!

INTRODUCING DAVE MCRAE, PACIFIC VICE PRESIDENT, CLAN MACRAE OF CANADA

ARTICLE|PHOTOS: DAVE MCRAE

With research and editing assistance from Sharon Clayton



Dave McRae and his wife Roslynn (Roz) have been active with Clan MacRae of Canada since 2012.

This photo was taken at "Hycroft" Vancouver's MacRae mansion in Shaughnessy, during the 2016 Gathering of Clan MacRae of Canada.

Dave McRae's ancestral roots are from Kintail in the Scottish Highlands. From there, his MacRae family relocated to Northern Ireland, travelling back and forth between Scotland and Ireland (as economic opportunities dictated) many times over several decades.

Economic conditions forced the family to relocate to South Carolina in 1772. When King George III granted 400 acres of South Carolina land to the MacRaes, Dave's widowed 6th Great Grandmother Elizabeth MacRae took her three sons from Antrim, Northern Ireland to look for new opportunities in the new world. Arthur MacRae (Dave's 5th Great Grandfather), the eldest of the three boys, was 26 years old at that time.

These MacRaes were loyal to the King, so after the American War of Independence, the family was forced to relocate to New Brunswick in 1783. King George granted the MacRaes another allotment of land in NB, but they settled there for only 10 years. In 1793, Arthur MacRae (1746-1845) sold the New Brunswick land and moved the family to Cape Traverse, Prince Edward Island. In 1845, Arthur MacRae died at the age of 99, in Indian River, PEI.

Later the MacRae family settled in Tignish, PEI and the surrounding areas, where they stayed for many generations. Dave's line of MacRaes is now spread out over PEI, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, with a few individuals in western Canada.

? MacRae 1720-1772

Arthur MacRae 1746-1848

John MacRae Sr. 1790-1867

George T. MacRae 1826-1895

Robert Turnbull MacRae 1849-1906

Frederick William MacRae 1874-1972

Ronald McRae 1936-

Elizabeth Spence 1728-1787

Isabella Walker 1754-1818

Agnes (Ann) Leard 1791-1857

Hannah Gray 1827-1916

Martha M. Cluney 1850-1936

Eva Gray MacRae Unknown-1984

Pauline Green 1937-



DAVE'S GG GRANDFATHER ROBERT TURNBULL MACRAE (1849-1906), GREAT GRANDFATHER OF DR. ALLAN MACRAE IN CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI, WHO TOOK THIS PHOTOGRAPH OF A PAINTED PORTRAIT OF THEIR COMMON ANCESTOR.



DAVE'S FATHER, CANADIAN AIR FORCE CORPORAL RON MCRAE, AERO-ENGINE MECHANIC IN 1968, CHATHAM (NOW MIRAMICHI CITY) NB.



DAVE'S PARENTS PAULINE GREEN MCRAE AND RONALD MCRAE IN CHEMAINUS, BC IN 2015.

Ronald McRae is now 85-years-old, the last surviving male of 18 siblings. Ron was the only child whose surname was incorrectly documented as McRae instead of MacRae. When Ron joined the Canadian Air Force in 1954, he was informed that his legal name was now "McRae". This is just one example of how the spellings of our Scottish surnames have evolved over the generations.

Dave was born in Middleton, Nova Scotia in 1956. As a child, he lived in Greenwood, NS; Baden Baden, Germany; Chatham (now Miramichi City) NB; Gimli, MB and Courtenay, BC. As an adult, he has lived in Courtenay and Ladysmith, BC; St. Albert, AB and Ladysmith (for a second time). He and Roz now live in Abbotsford, BC. and have a cottage in Birch Bay, Washington, USA that they enjoyed, as often as time permitted before Covid-19 caused the border to be closed.

Love of travel, most likely ingrained into their DNA by their respective Scottish ancestries, has always been in Dave and Roz's blood. One of their most memorable trips occurred in 2015 when they travelled to Scotland with Clan MacRae of North America.

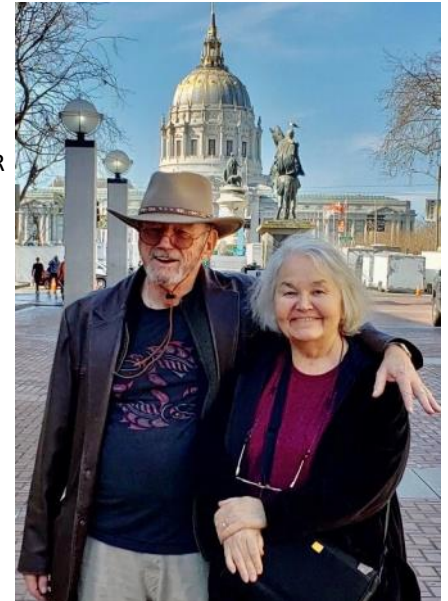


DAVE AND ROZ MCRAE
VISITING EILEAN DONAN CASTLE IN 2015

They made lifelong friends on that trip, especially with James and Mary McCrea of San Francisco. The two couples have stayed in touch, visiting each other as often as they can.

Mary McCrea is successfully recovering from a series of illnesses and Jim is doing his best to provide for her needs. The pandemic has prevented Dave and Roz from visiting, but a post-Covid priority will be a trip to California to reconnect with Jim and Mary.

JIM AND MARY
MCCREA - DAVE SAYS
THAT JIM LOOKS SO
MUCH LIKE HIS FATHER
RON MCRAE THAT
STRANGERS WOULD
ASSUME THEY WERE
SIBLINGS.



Dave and Roz have enjoyed travelling throughout Canada (especially the Maritimes) and to many American states, especially to their second home in Birch Bay, Washington. When it is safe to travel again, Dave and Roz plan to take a cross-Canada holiday, and particularly want to spend time in Dave's ancestors' stomping grounds around Tignish, PEI.

Dave's Professional Career

Dave started his forest industry career in 1976 when he joined Crown Zellerbach's operation in Elk Falls (Campbell River), B.C. While living in Courtenay and working with several valued mentors, he worked his way through several positions as the company changed ownership from Crown Zellerbach to Fletcher Challenge Canada, and then to TimberWest.

After 18 years with TimberWest, the family moved from Courtenay to Ladysmith when Dave joined Doman Forest Products (Value-Added Division) in Chemainus, B.C. Working as a Site and Operational Superintendent for four years provided Dave with valuable learning opportunities.

Dave joined Forintek Canada Corp in 1998. He relocated from Ladysmith, B.C. to St. Albert, AB to join Forintek's regional office in Edmonton. Forintek, Canada's Wood Products Research Institute operated out of two world-class laboratories in Vancouver and Quebec City, along with several regional offices across Canada. At its height, FPInnovations employed more than 500 people. Support programs (directed by Forintek members) were focused on the priority needs of the solid wood products industry.

The programs were sustained by forest sector industry members, Natural Resources Canada and the Ministry of Forest departments in every province except PEI.

Forintek also provided research and testing services for both pre-competitive and proprietary research. Recognized for excellence, Forintek formed many worldwide research alliances, especially in areas dealing with international standards pertaining to the use of wood in buildings.

The five major areas of research were: Building Systems, Composites Manufacturing, Lumber Manufacturing, Wood Drying and Protection, and Resource Characterization. Based on more than 24 years in the Sawmilling and Secondary Manufacturing Industry (with specialized expertise in lumber drying and teaching) Dave was asked to share his knowledge with member companies to help them improve their drying performance, increase product quality, and lower overall drying costs.

Two years into his position in Edmonton, Dave was asked to take over the leadership role of that office. He was then responsible for Forintek's service to the forest industries throughout Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and as far away as Thunder Bay Ontario. He spent six years in the Edmonton office. It was a truly great experience - new friendships were established across the prairies. During his career, Dave taught more than 300 lumber drying seminars across Canada. For three of the years he worked for Forintek in Edmonton, he also taught for the "Wood Products and Technical Engineering" department at NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology). Dave's Forintek mentors became lifelong friends - 21 years later, they are still "family" who are truly dedicated to one another.

In 2004, Forintek's senior management offered Dave an opportunity to join the Forintek team at the office and laboratory located at UBC in Vancouver. After negotiating his way back to Vancouver Island, he opened the first Forintek office in Ladysmith in 2004.

During a 2006 seminar for secondary wood manufacturers in Nanaimo, Frank Brown of the Heiltsuk First Nation was one of three Indigenous gentlemen who joined in on the conversation. Frank invited Dave to visit his territory and the community of Bella Bella, BC.



HEILTSUK FIRST NATION'S
HEREDITARY CHIEF FRANK BROWN

Dave flew to Bella Bella (on the central coast of BC) to meet with Frank, community leaders, and the Heiltsuk Nation's Chief and Council. On his first day in Bella Bella, Frank asked Dave to walk around the village on his own for a few hours. Many Heiltsuk elders, band members and children gave Dave a warm welcome.

Staying at a Bella Bella Bed and Breakfast, Dave saw Indigenous living conditions - up close and personal. It was his first time on any reserve in Canada. His life was never the same after that - the experience had a tremendous impact on him.

While in Bella Bella to discuss the opportunities and needs of the Heiltsuk people as they pertained to the forest industry, Dave discovered that there were many First Nations British Columbia communities requiring the same and/or similar services. From a simple conversation, Frank and Dave developed a concept to provide services to empower these communities to take advantage of new economic opportunities and build wealth for their Nations and Band members.

First Nations had recently regained access to wood fibre supply, but no one in the province had a plan to realize financial success with the newly acquired opportunity. The Deputy Minister said, "Boys you have the missing link".

With the support of the Ministry of Forests in Victoria, Dave and Frank visited more than 100 First Nations communities in BC to add local perspectives to their concept plans. The information garnered during these visits was put into a proposal that Dave and Frank presented to Shawn Atleo, then Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN). With the Regional Chief's support, the proposal was put forth at AFN's 2007 Annual General Assembly.

CREE GRAND CHIEF DR.
ABEL BOSUM AND DAVE
MCRAE AT THE GRAND
COUNCIL OF THE CREE
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
SYMPOSIUM IN VAL D'
OR, QC



Dave and Frank's proposal was unanimously supported by the entire Chief's Assembly of BC. Dave then secured the support and backing of Forintek Canada Corp., which was transitioning to FPInnovations, a not-for-profit R&D private organization that includes the pulp and paper industry, forest operations, wood products, and bio-sourced products. FP Innovations has partnerships with many universities and other institutions in Canada and abroad.

With that support in hand, Dave and Frank went back to BC's Ministry of Forests and the federal government (Western Economic Diversification Canada) to acquire and secure financial support, ensuring that this new service was available to all First Nation communities in B.C.



L TO R: FPINNOVATIONS (FORMER) VP JEAN-PIERRE MARTEL; DR. CHRIS GASTON (FPINNOVATIONS/UBC); DAVE MCRAE; DOOR CARVING BY EDWIN NEEL; INDIGENOUS MP DON RUSNAK, THUNDER BAY-RAINY RIVER; FORMER FPINNOVATIONS CEO PIERRE LA POINT AND ULKATCHO FIRST NATION (FORMER) CHIEF ZACK PARKER.

170 of 203 First Nation communities in BC have access to commercial forests. Dave secured 50% funding from the province and 50% funding support from the federal government.

The program's goals were to help create viable and sustainable Indigenous businesses, develop Indigenous jobs within their communities, and develop Indigenous technical and business capacity. Since the program was launched in October 2007, through access to FPInnovations' industry experts and Technical Support Program, First Nations bands have been strengthening their capacity to operate their forest tenures more efficiently:

- 64 British Columbia Indigenous businesses have been created, maintained or expanded
- \$15.2 million in Indigenous capital has been invested
- 687 direct and approximately 950 indirect Indigenous BC jobs have been created/maintained

Dave's visits to hundreds of First Nation communities have resulted in his developing lifelong friendships with many Indigenous people. For the past 13 years, as First Nations Liaison, Dave has managed the "First Nations Wood Products Technical Support Program" in BC. He has worked closely with local First Nations communities and businesses, helping them realize opportunities for economic development and capacity building.



DAVE MCRAE WITH CHIEF SEYMOUR OF THE COAST SALISH NATION DURING DAVE'S 2014 PRESENTATION AT ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY IN VICTORIA, BC.

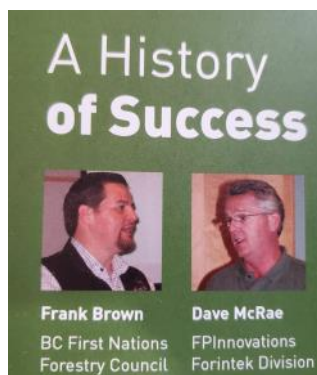
Building on B.C.'s success, Dave was asked to expand the program to other provinces and regions in Canada. In 2017 he took on the responsibility of

being the National Indigenous Lead for FPInnovations while maintaining his position as the BC Indigenous Liaison. He has travelled to Indigenous communities in every province of Canada (except PEI) and spoken hundreds of times across the

country. He has also travelled several times to the Yukon, to share this BC success story.

DAVE SAYS, "IT HAS BEEN AN HONOUR AND A GREAT PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH SO MANY CANADIAN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES." HE TREASURES ALL THE FRIENDSHIPS HE HAS DEVELOPED WITHIN THE FOREST INDUSTRY, WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND MANY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT CANADA. IT HAS BEEN ONE OF DAVE'S GREATEST JOYS TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS TO SHARE

THIS INDIGENOUS SUCCESS STORY WITH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ACROSS CANADA.



Along with his Maritime heritage, Dave believes that his dad's military career (which called for many childhood relocations) gave him great advantages in being able to easily identify with people from Happy Valley, Goose Bay to Whitehorse, Vancouver

Island, Val d'Or, Halifax, Marimachi City, La Ronge, Thompson, Sault Ste Marie, High Level, and Terrace, and hundreds of communities all across the country. He has marvelled at the beauty of each and every region of Canada. Dave is thrilled that Roz has been able to share the opportunities and pleasure provided during many of these trips and to meet many of the same people he has been meeting.

Dave has been saddened by the deplorable conditions of the vast majority of our Indigenous communities. He is proud, humbled, inspired and challenged by the many people in Indigenous communities he has worked with, and now calls friends.

Dave says, "It has been a blast, but, in part due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the future for this portion of Dave's life is unknown. Dave's 21-year career with FPInnovations, and his overall career of 42 years in the forest industry, has come to an end. He continues to look for opportunities to share his experiences and knowledge with others.

Dave and Roz are looking forward to their next stage in life. There are still many adventures ahead - many more places to see, more great people to meet and many old friends to visit.

Guidbye Bye Bye for noo See ye efter
go n-éirí an bóthar leat
Dave McRae

BORDER CLOSING



LARRY & MARY RUTH MCRAE

ARTICLE|PHOTOS: LARRY MCRAE

From Winston Salem North Carolina, Larry is the former editor of the Clan MacRae North America newsletter and a DNA cousin of clan president Owen MacRae.

The Peace Arch was dedicated, in 1921, soon after the end of the Great War in which Canada had made such profound sacrifices and the United States had entered belatedly but, in American opinion, to save the day. It was also a little more than one hundred years after the Treaty of Ghent that ended the War of 1812, the last armed conflict between the U.S. and its English-speaking cousins. By 1921, the United States and Canada had a long history of friendly relations, easy movement of people back and forth and, famously, the longest undefended international border in the world. While Canada had benefited from U.S. investment and a large open market for her goods, the United States had certainly, benefited from having a friendly neighbour and been enriched by importing talented people in science, the arts, academics and media. (In my trade, economics, one of the most famous “American” economists of the 20th century was John Kenneth Galbraith, a Canadian by birth who came to California for graduate school and stayed. His memoir *The Scotch* will be captivating to anyone of Scottish descent on either side of the border.) Thus the inscription “MAY THESE GATES NEVER BE CLOSED” was altogether appropriate.

Of course, the United States had several times invaded Canada intending to annex, at least, southern Canada; the redoubts in Quebec City and the Citadel in Halifax still bear witness to Canadian apprehensions of the United States. So, the inscription was a remarkably friendly gesture from the Canadians and, we hope, an acknowledgement on the American side of the value of the relationship.

Yet today the gates are closed to all but essential travel as they have been since March 21st of last year as the world has battened down in an attempt to stop, or at least slow, the

spread of COVID-19. Those of us of a certain age can't help feeling that a year has been stolen from our lives. We've cancelled travel plans, we've missed seeing our friends and our family, missed reading to our grandsons, missed eating out and going to church. We've gotten tired of one another's company and fatigued from the constant, low-level fear of the disease. Perhaps worst of all, we've been dismayed by the panic and confusion that have beset America's medical and political leaders by their mixed messages and erratic responses. The closing of these gates seems all too symptomatic of that confusion.

At that, considering the recent events in Washington, D.C., and the current pandemic conflagration throughout the U.S.,

Canadians may well feel that it's better to have the border closed. The continuing dysfunction in the American government at all levels is dismaying.

Brilliant minds, mastering a technology we can hardly begin to understand, have produced an effective vaccine in an unbelievably short time. But I can't get vaccinated because the vaccines haven't shipped and because my state and local medical officials can't devise a workable system for administering them.

Closing the border to our nearest and best neighbour and friend is sad beyond belief, but of course, the author of the inscription couldn't have imagined the impact of COVID-19. The spirit of the inscription still lives. I have lived long enough to know that short-term perceptions are usually wrong, that we shouldn't be ruled by the passions of the moment and that nothing lasts forever. We will get through this, and the friendship between our two nations will not be diminished. The border will be open to all traffic soon enough. God willing, Mary Ruth and I will come to the next Gathering of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada, and, as soon as it's possible, our Canadian friends are welcome here.

CANADA 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS FROM CLAN MACRAE NORTH AMERICA

ARTICLE|PHOTOS: BRUCE MCRAE

Greetings Owen & Clan MacRae of Canada,

On behalf of the Clan MacRae Society of North America, I extend a hearty congratulations to our Canadian cousins on the 20th anniversary of your Clan MacRae Society of Canada!

As I recall, it was birthed during the 2000 Millennium Gathering of Clan MacRae in Scotland. Judy and I were privileged to attend that Gathering, and I remember talking to the venerable Robert MacRae about his heritage and his plans. I remember calling Robert a few times to talk and was pleased to see the new website come online. There is a lot of work that goes into starting up a new Society and Robert and his team did achieve their vision of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada. Thanks to Robert's and others' hard work, you have a thriving active Society that all MacRaes can be proud of. We were all sorry to hear of Robert's passing in 2015.

Just as there is much work in getting something started, there is also much work keeping it going. So, Owen, I say "Kudos"

to you and your team for keeping our customs and Clan MacRae heritage alive and well in Canada.

Judy and I, as well as, some of our other members, have also greatly enjoyed attending your Canadian Gatherings. We both enjoyed our time in beautiful Vancouver and the Gathering in Halifax and Prince Edward Island was over the top! Our Canadian cousins do live in a beautiful land and we thank you for revealing it to us through your newsletters and especially your Gatherings.

Keep up the good work and remember we are all descendants of the "Scattered Children of Kintail". In fact, my two closest YDNA matches are with Canadian MacRaes. Looking forward to the next 20 years of your Society!

Sgurr Uaran,
Bruce W. McRae
President, Clan MacRae Society of North America



2017 HALIFAX



2017 HALIFAX



2016 VANCOUVER



2016 VANCOUVER

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

ARTICLE|PHOTOS: SHARON CLAYTON

Cynthia MacRae's article *MEMORIES OF SCOTLAND IN CLAY (Kintail - Fall 2020)* brought back some pleasant memories for our Clayton family. Before we moved from Ontario to BC in the early 1980s, I remember telling the guys packing our household possessions, "You can break anything else in the house, but if *that lamp* gets broken, I won't be able to forgive you." I kept an eagle eye while the delicate ceramic lamp was wrapped in layers of crumpled packing paper, then carefully inserted into its own large packing box, to be surrounded by dense layers of crumpled paper. When the lamp arrived safely at our new home, I heaved a grateful sigh of relief.

Richard Gill created *MEMORIES OF SCOTLAND IN CLAY* and years earlier, he had created our much-loved lamp, and a small wall plaque depicting the mill where we purchased the lumber to build our first home. Forty years later, the lamp and wall plaque are among our favourite possessions. Several years ago, we asked a stained glass artist to design a lampshade to replace the lamp's tatty fabric shade. The photo doesn't do it justice – we love our little "farm" even more when sunset gets turned on.

We didn't see anything on Richard Gill's website that bore any resemblance to our lamp and plaque, so several of our photos are being sent to him to add to his "Early Works" gallery.

Thank you, Cynthia MacRae – your article took us down a very pleasant trip down memory lane.

http://burnstown.ca/bittersweet/richard_gill



RICHARD GILL'S "FARM ON A HILL" LAMP (C 1978)



GILLIES YARD IN BRAESIDE, ONTARIO



1982 CERAMIC PLAQUE BY RICHARD GILL



IN MEMORY OF MARGARET JEAN BANFIELD

A HEART OF GOLD

DATE 1940 – 2020

Clan MacRae of Canada lost a very proud member in December 2020. Marg (as she liked to be called) was very proud of her McRae heritage that she inherited from her mother. Marg was born at home, 3996 Hastings St. Burnaby, BC. She finished school after completing grade 10 and went on to work for the Metropolitan Store in Vancouver. Later Marg worked at ABC Custom Brokers and CN Telegrams.

In 1959 she joined the RCAF and was stationed in St. Foy, Quebec for basic training. After completing her training, Marg attended school in Clinton, Ontario to become a Fighter Control Operator. She was stationed at Comox, BC and then transferred to the Radar station in Sylvester, Quebec. While there, she joined the softball team that won the Canadian Softball Championship in Winnipeg. She also played basketball and won provincial championships in Nova Scotia, Quebec and New Brunswick.

Marg met her husband in Quebec City. They married in 1960, had three sons, and made their home in Surrey, BC. Marg's husband passed in 1975, leaving her to raise her boys on her own. She went to work for CP Air, organizing their first corporate Van Pooling operation and the first corporate Day Care Centre in BC. She won several awards for her achievements.

An avid golfer, Marg was a member of the Surrey Ladies Golf Club for 14 years. She enjoyed quilting and knitting, making more than 60 large quilts. She loved to share her creations, and if you were in need of anything, Marg would be there to help you in any way that she could.

Marg spent countless hours creating a 245-page book on our McRae history, which will forever be so appreciated by our families.



IN MEMORY OF LT.-COL (RET'D) ROBERT (BOB) MACLEOD

DATE JANUARY 27, 1952 - DECEMBER 2, 2020

It is with great sadness that the family of Robert Stewart MacLeod announces his passing on Dec 2, 2020 in hospital from COVID-19 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was predeceased by his parents Allison and Annette MacLeod, Ebenezer PE. He is survived by his wife Geraldine, Colorado Springs, Colorado, children Tara MacLeod-Achiardi (Adam), California, Jared MacLeod, Colorado, Sharilee Pajtas (Stephen), Washington State, Step-children Brent Smart (Dusti) New Mexico, Sherri Will, Colorado Springs as well as 7 grandchildren. He is also survived by his siblings: Eric (Lois) MacLeod, North Bay Ont., Judy (Roland) Vessey, York PE, Frank (Agi) MacLeod, Vancouver BC, Aubrey (Darla) MacLeod, Ebenezer PE, Randy (Joye) MacLeod, Ebenezer PE, Kevin (Wanda) MacLeod, Charlottetown PE, Blair MacLeod, Fredericton PE. He will be also deeply missed by many nieces, nephews and extended family.

There is no funeral service scheduled at this time and cremation has taken place.

Online condolences may be made through our website at www.fergusonlogan.com

It is with great sadness we report the death of Bob MACLEOD due to COVID-19. Bob grew up on the family farm on Glasgow Road, it was next-door to the MACRAE Homestead that was settled by John MACRAE and his wife Mary Matheson. Their son Farquhar MacRae and his wife Isabella MacMillan took over the farm in the 1840s and had nine children the youngest was Suzanna who was Bob MAC LEOD's great grandmother and a descendant of Reverend Farquhar McRae born 1580.

On behalf of the Clan MacRae society we wish to express our sincere condolences to the MACLEOD family for their tremendous loss. www.fergusonlogan.com/obituaries/150533/

**Get your poppy mask at the Royal
Canadian Legion in your area!**



OR PURCHASE ONLINE HERE

<https://www.poppystore.ca/adult-mask-non-medical-300754-group>