



1884

# THE SALTIRE



1912

The St. Andrew-Caledonian Society of Calgary



## TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION



Vol. XIX No. 1  
January 2015



**4 APRIL 2015**  
**MURDOCH'S BAR & GRILL**  
(1935 – 37th Street, SW)  
**4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
Hosted by the **St. Andrew-Caledonian Society of Calgary**



**Evening Events:**  
Society Pipers  
Scottish Country Dancing  
Society Choir  
Wilson School of Highland Dance  
Team Trivia – “Scottish Knowledge”  
Door Prizes

### Contents:

- Tartan Day
- St Andrew's Ball
- City Presentation
- Scots gathering
- Burns dinner for the Homeless
- Board Openings
- Society Casino
- Muckle Archive



**Special Scottish Menu**  
**Opening Remarks at 5:00pm**



## The St. Andrew's Ball 2014

The Society celebrated its 131st St. Andrew's Ball with great food, entertainment, dancing and fine company on Saturday, 29 November 2014 at MacEwan Hall Ballroom, University of Calgary. The evening started with a social hour and a performance by the Pipers of the Society which was well received. Shortly after the company was seated, Mayor Naheed Nenshi arrived and the evening was adjusted to accommodate the short time he could spare before departing for another event in Vancouver. The Mayor made the Toast to the Patron Saint of Scotland and touched on the many aspects of Calgary existence that can be attributed to the Scottish settlers who came to this area of Western Canada. The President presented, on behalf of the Society, a copy of the Minute Book entry of the North West Territorial Council to the Mayor, who accepted it on behalf of the City of Calgary. The entry documents the proclamation of the



Town of Calgary on 7 November 1884. It is not known where the original parchment copy resides and the Mayor expressed the gratitude of City Council for this document. Following the soup course, the main course was served and the company was entertained by the Calgary Fiddlers who presented a display of Calgary's Celtic musical heritage which was greatly enjoyed. During dessert, the company was well entertained with Scottish Airs by the Society's Choir. The toasts were made starting with the President and company toasting the Monarch; Doreen Herdman, Sec-

retary of the Society; toasting Calgary, Andrew Joo, Life Member, toasted Canada and Jason Lychak, Director of the Society, toasted the Homeland. The dinner concluded with the choir and company singing 'Auld Lang Syne' and then prepared for the Ball starting off with the Grand March : 'Scotland the Brave' and 'The Garb of Old Gaul'. The Society was pleased to have our local band, Mercat Cross, supply the music for the dancing. At the intermission, the piping group and dancers from the Wendy Wilson School of Highland Dance performed again as everyone rested and prepared for the second half of the



Ball. The music was very well received and the Dancemaster, Jim Adamson, managed to wrap the whole program up by midnight. The Society wishes to thank the Society Gaelic Choir, Piping Group and the Ball Committee: Jim Adamson, Margot Aftergood, Janyn Bertram, Donna Gillespie, Catherine Hand, Sheree Iffla, Barrie Purvis, David Stewart, Eric & Nonie Sundstrom, Jan & Sarah van der Wal, all the other volunteers and the staff at MacEwan Hall for all their great work in making the St. Andrew's Ball a great success. The 132nd St.

Andrew's Ball is set for 28 November 2015. Pictures of the Ball can be viewed on the Society's website.

## City of Calgary Presentation 2014

On Monday, 15 December 2014, The Society was honoured with the opportunity to present the City of Calgary with a copy of the minutes of the North West Territories Council proclaiming the Town of Calgary. The original proclamation has been misplaced for many decades and the Mayor accepted the framed document on behalf of City Council. In his acceptance, the Mayor mentioned the significant role the Society, and its first President, George Murdoch played in the formation and development of Calgary

describing "some very significant shared history here!". The Mayor also said, "On behalf of my colleagues on Council and the City of Calgary thank you to... the Calgary St. Andrew-Caledonian Society for this beautiful gift and a timely reminder of this milestone moment in our community's journey." The proclamation was then read aloud as it was 130 years ago after which the Mayor continued, "As Calgarians, we are blessed that our predecessors (especially my



mayoral predecessor George Murdoch) brought a spirit of love of community and volunteerism to their new home...George Murdoch could have just sat in his harness shop and work all day long making money and keeping to himself, but he got involved in his community, got together with his neighbours and work hard to build a better Calgary... this proclamation is actually Calgary's Birth Certificate, and its 130 years old this year." It will be displayed in Old City Hall.

## SCOTS GATHERING IN CANMORE 2015

The Society, in conjunction with the Royal Scottish Country Dancing Society—Calgary Branch, is presenting a Scottish cultural weekend in Canmore, 9-12 October 2015. Scots from many parts of the world have expressed an interest in coming to this area for a cultural experience and the Society has put together a package to suit many interests. Interested persons can stay wherever they like, but it is recommended that reservations be made early. The host hotel for the Scots Gathering 2015 is the **Coast Canmore Hotel & Conference Centre**, and is offering a basic room for \$129/night. The hotel can be contacted at: 403-678-3625, 1-800-716-6199, please mention Scottish Cultural Weekend to secure the Scots Gathering Special Rate or <http://coa.st/83lp> After 9 September 2015, regular rates will apply subject to availability. Meals are part of the \$140 registration and include a Buffet dinner and Ceilidh on Saturday night, a sit down Thanksgiving turkey dinner and formal Ball on

Sunday and the Farewell Lunch on Monday, all in the Wild Rose Ballroom. All other meals are at the participants discretion. Classes are \$10 each and include: Gaelic language, country dancing, whisky tasting, art activities, highland dancing, lectures, singing, step dancing and piping. See full details at [www.calgaryscots.org](http://www.calgaryscots.org) including a wide range of local activities and sights to see in the Canmore area.



## Burns Dinner for the Homeless

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Burns Dinner for the Homeless was held on Sunday January 18, 2015 at the Calgary Drop-In and Rehabilitation Centre in the East Village. It was a fabulous success!! Thank-you. Thank-you for the 45 plus volunteers that showed up to help. We are the ONLY volunteer group that brings in the meal, serves the meal then cleans up afterward. We are also the best dressed!! (in my opinion) The day started out with a parade of kitchen workers, sporting tartan aprons, taking up their positions to load the plates



with the day's lunch: roast beef, mashed potatoes, turnip, gravy and haggis. The Burns Show started at 11:30 am with the pipers, highland dancers, and bard putting on a demonstration of Burn's work culminating in the Address to the Haggis. Then the performers paraded to

the kitchen and started serving the dinner. Mercat Cross serenaded the patrons through the lunch time service. The entertainers then performed a another show for the overflow crowd. This dinner is the largest Robert Burns dinner in the world! We all stayed afterward for lunch, it was a great day. In all about 1000 persons were served. This dinner is one of the Drop In Centres "highlights" of the year. I wish to personally thank everyone who came and volunteered their precious time for this worthy cause. The show and dinner is always well received and I look forward to seeing everyone again next year! Thank-you once again for a day well received. Tapadh Leibh *Margot Aftergood*



More photos at [www.standrewcaledonian.ca](http://www.standrewcaledonian.ca)

## Board Member Openings

The Society's Board of Directors is looking for two members who would like to get involved with the operation of Society events and activities. The Board is the place for those who would like to make a difference in the Society. Board positions are elected for two year terms and meetings are held at the beginning of the month, usually the first Wednesday evening. A director would be expected to take on a project during their term to determine: 1. the funding required, 2. source of the funds, 3. the member participation and , 4. to bring the project to commencement and/or to completion. Interested members are asked to contact Robert Henderson at [roberthenderson@yahoo.com](mailto:roberthenderson@yahoo.com) or 403-245-5514.

## Muckle Archive

A new resource has gone online aimed at recording the Scots tongue in its many guises. Clumsily named the "Scottish Corpus of Texts and Speech" so that it could use the acronym "SCOTS", it has been put together by the University of Glasgow, with 400 texts ranging from Broad Scots to Scottish English, capturing the rich linguistic, historical and cultural background to Scotland. It includes prose, poetry, drama, essays, letters and business writing in every type of Scottish dialect, along with cultural and social information about the text and its author. There is also audio and visual material on the site. By coincidence, I overheard the word "jalouse" (meaning suspect, supposed that) in conversation today and the SCOTS site provided 14 examples of the use of the word. Unca guid. See <http://www.scottishcorpus.ac.uk/>

*Celebrating Scottish Culture in Calgary for over a century*



## Society Casino

The Society's Casino has been set for Monday, 22 June and Tuesday, 23 June 2015 at the Cash Casino, 4040 Blackfoot Trail SE. This casino is noted for their restaurant and volunteer treatment. Ample parking is on the north side and they have night time escorts to the parking area. The Society truly appreciates the members and friends who have stepped up to support this major fund raising activity. The Society is looking for chip runners for a 6 hour shift on both days with split shifts available if you have a sharing partner and Count Room Staff (2230-0330hrs) for both days. Interested members should contact Robert Henderson at [roberthenderson@yahoo.com](mailto:roberthenderson@yahoo.com) or (403) 245-5514 and he will be calling as well. Your participation helps Calgary's Scottish community activities and is greatly appreciated.

## Member Benefits

Benefits of Society membership include:

- reduced rates for pipers at your function,
- 10% discount on purchases at the Highland Scottish Gift Shoppe,
- Free entry to the Foothills Highland Games,
- Free entry to the Calgary Highland Games,
- Free entry to the Canmore Highland Games.
- Free entry to the Foothills Highland Games,
- \$2.00 reduction in the regular adult admission to the Globe Theatre 617—8th Avenue SW.

Members should consider renewing for several years to avoid missing any activities or events.

The St. Andrew-Caledonian Society  
Of Calgary

PO Box 34233

Westbrook RPO Calgary AB

T3C 3W2

<http://standrewcaledonian.ca/>