



# Nordic News

240 Sparks Street, PO Box 55023, Ottawa, ON K1P 1A1

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

## **CNS 2011 Dates to Remember**

### **Speakers' Events**

**Wednesday November 23, 2011**

**H.E. Teppo Tauriainen**

**Sweden's Ambassador to Canada**

### **Special Speakers' Events**

**Tuesday November 15, 2011**

**Professor Benedicte Ingstad**

### **Luncheon Dates**

**Monday December 12, 2011**

**Monday January 9, 2012**

### **Lucia Pageant**

**Saturday December 10, 2011**

(Rehearsals Sundays November 13, 20, 27,  
and Saturday December 3, 2011)

**Wednesday January 18, 2012**

**Nordic Film Night**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Canadian Nordic Society would like to thank Doreen Riedel for her presentation on early expeditions through Canada's Northwest Passage with special comparisons between those of the first one by Roald Amundsen at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the second one during World War II by her father, Henry Larsen. We had an audience of more than 50 for the opening event of this year's Speakers' Series and there was much discussion afterwards.

CNS wishes to point out that we have included an additional Speakers' event on the fall program. On Tuesday, November 15, the Royal Norwegian Embassy and CNS will be hosting a presentation on the Viking site at L'Anse aux Meadows by the distinguished Norwegian anthropologist, Benedicte Ingstad, whose parents were the ones who initially discovered this ancient site. Please note the date. The event will also be held at the Army Officers' Mess.

On Wednesday, November 23, CNS is proud to host a presentation by His Excellency Teppo Tauriainen, Sweden's Ambassador to Canada. As long-time members of CNS know, it has been a part of CNS tradition from our founding to encourage a working relationship with each of the Nordic embassies located in Ottawa. To that end, each Nordic ambassador is an Honorary member of our Society. It is customary that each Nordic ambassador, at some point during his or her tour of duty in Ottawa, makes a presentation to the Society on socio-economic, political and cultural matters in their homeland and possible co-operation with organizations in Canada. CNS is especially pleased that Ambassador Tauriainen will be speaking on Sweden-Canada Co-operation in Today's Arctic.

CNS is planning on holding a Nordic film evening in on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. The film is yet to be selected. On Wednesday, February 22, 2012, David Richeson will give a presentation on his travels through Greenland. We will be providing more information on each of these in a future Newsletter.

This year's Lucia Pageant will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011 in the sanctuary of St. Peter's Lutheran Church on Sparks Street. Please note the new location. Because of scheduling conflicts and a huge construction project, CNS is no longer able to use the facilities we had used for the past 20 or more years at Christ Church Cathedral. Len Nylund is the head of the Lucia Pageant Organizing Committee. We are fortunate that Annika Ericsson Kidd and Mats Lindberg will once again lead the choir. Members of the Swedish Club and Swedish Language School are stepping forward. The Lucia magic is again taking hold.

While Lucia has a new home and surroundings for this year, one tradition has not changed. THE OPENING PROCESSION STARTS AT 7:00 p.m. SHARP.

## **CNS EVENTS**

### **CNS LUNCHEONS**

These have become increasingly popular and have been on our event schedule for a number of years now. All of our monthly luncheons are held on a Monday at the Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street W. (off Elgin Street), Ottawa, Ontario

The date of the next luncheon is: Monday December 12

This special luncheon at the Officer's Mess will feature roast turkey, at a price of \$21.00 including taxes and gratuities. To reserve, please contact Lennart Nylund, 613-829-8602 or [lnylund@sympatico.ca](mailto:lnylund@sympatico.ca)

Other Monday luncheon dates will be:

2012: January 9, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4.

Board member Kathleen Tipton has organized our luncheon program.

## **SPEAKER'S EVENTS**

### **November Speaker**

#### **SWEDEN – CANADA CO-OPERATION IN TODAY'S ARCTIC**

##### ***H.E. Teppo Tauriainen***

Sweden's Ambassador to Canada

Date & Time: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 149 Somerset Street West (off Elgin St.), Ottawa



Teppo Tauriainen was appointed Sweden's Ambassador to Canada in 2010. Mr. Tauriainen first joined Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1987 where he held a series of increasingly senior positions both at the Ministry and in foreign assignments. He initially worked on international trade policy issues as well as issues related to Sweden's role in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He served Swedish embassies in Helsinki and Santiago, before appointments as Swedish Ambassador to Singapore and Brunei Darussalam (2002-2006) and a special Ambassador on special duties located at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Stockholm. Teppo Tauriainen is a graduate of the University of Gothenburg School of Business and has studied at the City University Business School in London. Mr. Tauriainen served as Chair of the EU 133 Committee (services) during the first Swedish Presidency of the EU in 2001 and is a member of the Board of the Swedish Export Credit Guarantee Board.

Ambassador Tauriainen's presentation for the Canadian Nordic Society is especially timely. In 1996, the five Nordic countries, Canada, the United States and Russia met in Ottawa to sign the Arctic Council Charter in which the governments of these eight countries work together on common issues affecting the Arctic region and its peoples. The Chair of this international body alternates every two years. The Chair is currently held by Sweden which will do so until the fall of 2012. So, as well as timely, there is every reason to expect that this presentation can also be a particularly substantive one.

Cash Bar and coffee after presentation.

### **Special November Speaker**

#### **Benedicte Ingstad and L'Anse aux Meadows**



Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Army Officers' Mess, 147 Somerset Street West (off Elgin), Ottawa.

The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Ottawa and the Canadian Nordic Society are co-hosting a special Speakers' event featuring the noted Norwegian anthropologist, Professor Benedicte Ingstad, who will give a presentation on the discovery by her parents and follow-up research on ancient Viking settlement site at in Newfoundland.

In 1960 the Norwegian Helge Ingstad discovered a Norse settlement in Newfoundland dating from 1000 A.D. During the sixties his wife and archaeologist, Anne Stine, led an international team excavating the site. Their findings proved that

the Vikings went to America 500 years before Columbus in accordance with the Saga stories about Vínland. This was a great achievement and prolonged European-American history by 500 years.

Benedicte Ingstad (born 1943) is the daughter of Helge and Anne Stine Ingstad. She is a professor in medical anthropology at the University of Oslo. She spent several summers during her adolescence with her family at L'Anse aux Meadows and assisted her mother with the excavations. She's also the only person with access to the rich archives the Ingstads left behind.



In Norway she recently published a biography on her father, Helge Ingstad, and a book about the discovery, the excavations and her parents.

Cash Bar and coffee afterwards.

(The Royal Norwegian Embassy provided the picture of Professor Ingstad; I found the picture of the site on-line. Peter)

## ANNUAL SANTA LUCIA PAGEANT

The annual Santa Lucia Pageant will be held Saturday, December 10, 2011.  
Doors open 6.00 pm Performance 7.00 pm  
ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
400 Sparks St. at the corner of Bay St.

**Note:** this is a new location for the event.

### Admission:

Adults, age 18 and over \$15.00  
Members of Canadian Nordic Society, \$10.00  
Children age 17 and under: free.

Memberships to Canadian Nordic Society will be available for sale at the door:  
Family \$30.00; Individual \$20.00; Student \$15.00

For the day of the pageant, we will depend on volunteers to assist the Event Coordinator to set-up tables and chairs, decorate the hall and Christmas tree; and assist the Food Coordinator to prepare the food to be served after the performance.

As customary, donations of baked goods and other treats for the children will be very much appreciated.

To **volunteer** and for further information, please contact:  
Lennart Nylund, Vice-President, Canadian Nordic Society  
Chairman, Lucia Planning Committee  
613-829-8602  
[lnylund@sympatico.ca](mailto:lnylund@sympatico.ca)



## Future events

Wednesday, January 18, 2012 Nordic film evening. The film is yet to be selected.

Wednesday, February 22, 2012, David Richeson will give a presentation on his travels through Greenland.

## OTHER NORDIC EVENTS OR ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Lutefisk Lovers and Others Dinner Montreal Norwegian Club Christmas Sale

You know when the leaves start changing colours, it is time to start thinking of lutefisk!

For the 10th year in a row, I am selling frozen lutefisk. My break-even price this year is \$18.00 for a 1.75 pound package.

I am also taking reservations for the 4th Annual Lutefisk Lovers and Others Dinner, booked for Saturday November 26, 6:00-9:00 pm at the New Edinburgh Field House, 193 Stanley Ave. I supply a dinner of lutefisk, boiled potatoes and peas, as well as coffee and tea. My break-even price this year will be \$14.00/person, \$3/person for those not eating lutefisk (the "Others" in the title) to cover hall rental. Each year, people bring lovely desserts for everyone to enjoy. I hope that happens again this year! Last year, we were very close to full seating capacity at 40 people, so don't delay in booking, first come, first serve!

Email me at [per.talgoy@nrc.ca](mailto:per.talgoy@nrc.ca) or call me at home in the evening - 613-260-9066.

If you know of people who are interested but do not have email, please give them my phone number.

The Montreal Norwegian Club Christmas Sale is on as follows:

Friday November 11 - Christmas sale – 4.30 – 8.30 pm

Saturday November 12 - Christmas sale – 11 am – 3.30 pm

As I did last year, I have asked for their price list, which I will send out when I receive it. I will take orders which I will pick up in Montreal for those that cannot travel and will bring back to Ottawa. Last year, I picked up \$600 worth of orders, so let's see if we can give them even more business this year!

Per Talgoy

**Note: Per has had to reschedule the lutefisk dinner from Nov. 12 due to supply problems with the lutefisk. He asks all who had registered to advise him if they are still coming.**

### Icelandic Information –Friends of Iceland

Allan Miller has provided some information. There is a beautiful video in HD of the midnight sun around Iceland that lasts over 4 minutes. Visit <http://vimeo.com/30581015>

(I have checked the link with Norton360 anti-virus and it is OK. Peter).

There will be the annual Jólaglögg in December. Details to be provided.

“The Friends of Iceland is an Icelandic club based in Ottawa. The first official meeting was held on March 19, 2002, and hosted by Ambassador Hannesson and Anna Birgis Hannesson. The Ambassador welcomed our club into the Icelandic National League and presented a gift from the INL. He also presented the club with a set of Sagas and wished our group well.” (I took this from their web site,. Peter).

## **Ottawa Finnish Church Committee - Finnish church services**

The following church events will be held:

Nov. 27th 3 p.m. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Christmas Carols Sing-along

Dec. 11th 3 p.m. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Finnish Christmas Church service, Coffee and Social

## **Canadian Friends of Finland Events**

Friday December 2. Annual Christmas Party, St. Bartholomew's Church Hall, 6PM

Sunday January 22, 2012 Kahvikutsut (Concert Fundraiser) Rockliffe, 1 PM

Friday March 16, 2012 St. Urho Celebration Mooney's Bay Bistro

Sunday April 1, 2010 CFF Concert: Kuusisto & Djokic, MacKay United Church

Friday June 22, 2012 Juhannus Billings Estate.

For more information contact Connie Whitmore, President CFF, [connie.whitmore@ipnet.com](mailto:connie.whitmore@ipnet.com)

## **Danish Bazaar**

Saturday November 19. The Danish Club of Ottawa will be holding its annual Danish Bazaar at Lakeside Gardens from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## **European Union Film Festival**

All showings are at Library and Archives Canada.

### **Finnish Film on Sunday, November 20 at 19:00**

**LAPLAND ODYSSEY** (Napapiirin Sankarit, 2010)

Directed by Dome Karukoski, written by Pekko Pesonen, produced by Aleksis Bardy

Production by Helsinki-Filmi, Ripple World Pictures, Anagram produktion

Cast: Jussi Vatanen, Jasper Pääkkönen, Timo Lavikainen, Pamela Tola, Kari Ketonen, Miia Nuutila

Length: 95 min

Synopsis:

Lapland Odyssey is a comedy about Janne, a man from Lapland in northern Finland, a man who has made a career out of living on welfare. Inari, his girlfriend, is tired of Janne's inability to get a grip on life. Janne wasn't even able to buy a digital TV converter box that Inari had given the money for. Inari gives him an ultimatum: the converter needs to arrive by dawn or she leaves. Janne sets out into the night with his two friends to find one. On their way to the city of Rovaniemi, Janne and his friends face many challenges, obstacles and temptations. They learn that they need to be daring. They must not give into bitterness. The most important thing isn't success, but the journey itself.

Swedish Film: Monday, November 21 at 19:00.

**Miss Kicki, Dreaming the Dream**

The Swedish film at the Ottawa European Union Film Festival 2011 is "Miss Kicki", directed by Håkon Liu and starring Pernilla August.

"Kicki has after several years abroad returned to Sweden. Her 16-year old son has been brought up by his grandmother and has a very distant relationship to his mother. In an effort to get reacquainted Kicki takes her son on vacation to Taiwan. But her hidden agenda is that Taipei is also the home of the Taiwanese businessman with whom she has been conducting an internet romance".

This is a Swedish-Taiwanese co-production. 88 minutes.

Film Awards:

Special mention award at Pusan 14th International Film Festival 2009:

"A perfect example of how "big" a "small" can be. The director's talent shines and portrays multi-national issues, social problems, domestic conflict, friendship and other intricate dilemmas within simple drama. The script, acting and directing are all well composed."

Rainer Werner Fassbinder Prize at Mannheim-Heidelberg:

"The Rainer-Werner-Fassbinder Prize goes to "MISS KICKI" by Håkon Liu from Sweden, as it shows us in an exemplary manner, how an actress shapes a film. In ever surprising ways it shows us that cinema does not need many words to express the unsaid and inexpressible in human relationships."

Winner of Telia Film Award at Stockholm International Film Festival:

"With a subtle, yet precise emotional and visual language, this movie takes us on an inner and outer journey, describing one of the most complex relationships of all - that between a mother and a son. The Telia Film Award goes to Miss Kicki by Håkon Liu"

Danish Film: Friday, November 25 at 21:00

**HUSH LITTLE BABY (SE MIN KJOLE)**

This year's Danish contribution to the EUFF is a road movie about four girls who drive across Denmark in search of a future. All they really wanted was to pick up some smokes but one thing leads to another and they soon find themselves heading west in a stolen Volvo. For some of the girls there's an old score to settle. For others, the trip is about a new sense of freedom. What the four girls have in common is they're all trying to kick a drug habit. But maybe an abused substance abuser can't be cured through therapy and methadone but instead through confrontation and forgiveness.

The director of the drama is Hella Joof, known for SHAKE IT ALL ABOUT (EN KORT EN LANG) and OH HAPPY DAY. Among the many great features of the film is how it spotlights the geographical beauty of Denmark, as well as the values of friendship and love.

## Report on October's Speaker Event



Doreen Riedel, a CNS member, addressed the club on October 19 on the connections between Roald Amundsen and Henry Larsen, the first two explorers to traverse the Canadian North-West Passage by ship (Amundsen west-bound; Larsen east-bound). Being the daughter of Henry Larsen, Doreen had a unique vantage point to this issue. She compared the two expedition leaders – both came from Norway, both developed a strong interest in the Arctic at an early age, and both were modest men and exceptional leaders. As well, both knew the value of learning lessons from the Inuit who survived and thrived in the inhospitable climate. Amundsen was Larsen's hero, and as a boy her dad decided to go to the Arctic on hearing the news of Amundsen's successful passage.

Henry Larsen joined the RCMP to serve on the *St. Roch*, a purpose built auxiliary schooner intended to patrol the Arctic and supply the northern outposts. The crew was small – often just eight in total, so everyone had to do multiple jobs. Interestingly, the *St. Roch* was actually a floating “detachment” with members drawn from across

Canada as they would be for any other detachment. Thus generally they were not sailors.

By 1937 The *St Roch's* hull had been damaged by the several years of heavy ice in the western Arctic up to that time. At a stop at Cambridge Bay the crew pulled the ship on the beach and made repairs using material from the wreck of the *BayMaud*. What an incredible job it must have been for the small crew to drag the ship clear of water, make repairs, and refloat it!

Eventually Henry became captain, and tried to push the RCMP for approval to cross the North-West Passage, but was denied permission until during the Second World War when it was necessary to assert Canada's sovereignty in the eastern Arctic. It took 28 months to reach Halifax, with one member of the crew dying on the way at Pasley Bay and his remains were buried in a cairn of rock. The return trip was done in one season, 1944.

Doreen related to us that several years ago she received a telephone call from the RCMP, asking her who her father was. Once the caller was satisfied who she was, he announced to Doreen that he had a letter from her father. It seems that within the cairn built to inter the crewman who died, a glass jar was left containing letters and reports in case the ship vanished. The jar had been found during one of the visits to the cairn by a RCMP patrol.

Doreen's presentation was fascinating and well received by the almost full house. Here's a picture of Doreen with the Nordic Society coffee cup presented by Lennard Sillanpää at the end of her presentation. Thanks to Len Nylund for the picture.



## Special Congratulations to Eric Enno Tamm

The Canadian Nordic Society would like to congratulate Eric Enno Tamm, author of *The Horse That Leaps Through Clouds* which describes the epic travels through Siberia and China of the great Finnish military hero and patriot, C.G.E. Mannerheim, which recently won the Ottawa Book Award for Non-Fiction. Jim Watson, Mayor of Ottawa, presented Eric with the award. It seems that Marshal Mannerheim's epic trek across Asia continues to enthrall people. Here's the jury's statement for the award:



"The Horse that Leaps Through Clouds retraces a 1906 journey across Asia by Baron Gustaf Mannerheim, a spy in the service of Russia's Tsar Nicholas II. By following in the Baron's footsteps on his own personal and sometimes clandestine journey, over the same vast territory from St. Petersburg to Beijing nearly one hundred years later, author Eric Enno Tamm builds toward a memorable portrayal of the state of modern China. Tamm's

account, which combines vivid travelogue, historic inquiry and personal essay, richly rewards readers with a rare blend of epic sweep and intimate meditation." -- Jurors: John Geddes, Sarah Jennings and Kerry Pither

Members of CNS will recall that Eric Tamm gave a presentation to our Society on his book in October 2010 before a jam-packed crowd at the Army Officers' Mess.

## NORDIC RESOURCES

Just a reminder that there is a list of Nordic Resources located on our website

<http://www.canadiannordicsociety.com/resources.html>

including the Nordic Embassies, the Ottawa based social organizations, and links to newspapers and museums in Nordic Countries. The list is on the Nordic Resources tab on the general web site, or use the link above.

## NORDIC FACTOIDS

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has just published a report entitled "How's life? Measuring well-being" measuring the well-being of citizens in member states along 11 themes: income, jobs, housing, health, work and life-balance, education, social connections, civic engagement and governance, environment, personal security and subjective well-being. The Nordic countries and Canada were amongst the top countries of the OECD:

Country	Rank	Score
Denmark	1	7.8
Canada	2	7.7
Norway	3	7.6
Sweden	5	7.5
Finland	9	7.4
Iceland	16	6.9

China was at the bottom of the list with a score of 4.7. The OECD currently has 34 member countries, and has a mission to promote the economic and social well-being of people around the world. This "How's life" report is part of OECD's efforts to devise new measures for assessing well-being that go beyond GDP. For more information, visit [www.oecd.com](http://www.oecd.com) and follow the link to Better Life Initiative under Topics. There is even a tool that you can use to weight the components in a custom way. Thanks to Len Nylund for the pointer to this study.

## MEMBERSHIP

Our Treasurer Simon Snow said that many of those who attended the Doreen Riedel presentation also took the time to renew their membership with CNS and reminds us that if you have not done so, please fill in the form found below and send it along with your cheque to the Canadian Nordic Society to the address indicated.



## Canadian Nordic Society

If you are already a member, please pass this on to a friend!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax : \_\_\_\_\_

To reduce costs, the newsletter will be sent electronically to those with email addresses unless otherwise advised.

### **Family Membership - \$30, Individual Membership - \$20. Student Membership - \$15.**

As a Member you:

- will receive the Society's Newsletter
- are invited to participate in all CNS events
- are encouraged to become actively involved in the life of the Society
- receive discounts on tickets to CNS events

#### Canadian Nordic Society Board Members – 2011-2012

Lennard Sillanpää - President	613-837-1641 cell: 613-298-4799 <a href="mailto:lennard.sillanpaa@sympatico.ca">lennard.sillanpaa@sympatico.ca</a>
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Lars Öhman - Honorary President	

If you have any questions about your membership, please contact one of the Board Members. Membership dues can be given to any Board member or you can mail your payment to:

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