


 Canadian Irish Studies Foundation
FUNDAMENTALS

NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF IRISH STUDIES

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FOUNDATION PLANS MARCH FUNDRAISING CONCERT

Critically acclaimed Irish band Lúnasa to perform at Bourgie Hall

Dubbed the hottest Irish acoustic group on the planet, Lúnasa will be in town to treat audiences to an evening of traditional and contemporary Irish music as part of a concert fundraiser for the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation. Raising funds for Irish Studies at Concordia is crucial to support students through tuition help remission and scholarships.



Lúnasa

The Lúnasa concert will take place on March 30, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. at the Bourgie Hall of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, 1339 Sherbrooke St. W.

Contact the school to purchase your concert tickets. They'll make great Christmas gifts and by acting early you are eligible for a 2016 income tax receipt for part of the cost. Call 514-848-2424, ext. 8711, or email cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca.

SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Goal of \$240,000 to fund graduate students

At a recent meeting of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation trustees, chairperson Pamela McGovern announced the launch of a fundraising campaign to support students in Irish Studies, especially graduate students. She noted that as the profile of the school rises, an increasing number of graduate students are applying to study at Concordia, many with an interest in various aspects of the Irish heritage, particularly the history of the Irish in Quebec and Canada. School principal Michael Kenneally explained that the history of the Irish in Canada is still not fully appreciated, whether it be the Irish in Montreal, Newfoundland or the West.

"In these and many other regions of the country, little is still known of the shaping influence of the Irish in Canadian life, whether in politics, sports, business, religion, education or culture," he said.

(Continued on page 2)



The Foundation's chairperson and trustees wish all its supporters a happy Christmas and good luck in 2017!



SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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(Continued from page 1)

Kenneally added that the relationships between Canada and Ireland are long-standing and offer unique pathways to a deeper understanding of both countries. This is especially timely, given that Britain has announced its intention to withdraw from the European Union and Canada is strengthening its ties to Europe with the recently completed CETA free-trade agreement. As the only remaining English-language country in the E.U., Ireland will be an important facilitator for countries such as Canada for European access.

The special historical ties between Canada and Ireland, therefore, will offer unique opportunities for closer economic, cultural, social and educational partnerships. Graduate students who have studied the historical and contemporary intersections between the two countries will be uniquely equipped for career options as this relationship deepens.

The Foundation wishes to establish a master's scholarship in Irish Studies as well as increase undergraduate student support. Further information is printed on the back page.

In encouraging people to support such scholarships, McGovern said: "As a community-based foundation, we are delighted when people participate at whatever level they can. I know that my own involvement stems from a passionate belief in the value of Irish Studies at Concordia, not just for the students who benefit but for the future vitality of the Irish community in Montreal and Canada."

THE JOHNSON FAMILY: SIX GENERATIONS LATER

Members of the Johnson family, who have long been associated with Quebec politics, trace their Irish origins back six generations. Their ancestor, George Johnson, left Ireland after the Napoleonic Wars and arrived in Quebec in 1822.

Arriving long before the waves of famine-stricken immigrants in the 1840s and the 1850s, the Johnsons prospered in Quebec. The first of the famous political dynasty, Daniel Johnson Sr., was born in Sainte-Anne-de-Danville in the Eastern Townships in 1915 to a French-Canadian mother and an Irish father. A passionate nationalist, he entered politics in 1946 to run as a candidate for Maurice Duplessis' Union Nationale and was elected to the National Assembly as the member for the riding of Bagot. Ten years later, he was appointed Minister for Hydraulic Resources. In 1961, he became leader of the Union Nationale and then Premier of Quebec in 1966 after defeating Jean Lesage's Liberal Party.

Johnson advocated political equality between Francophone and Anglophone Quebecers and continued the social reforms initiated by Lesage during the Quiet Revolution, most notably, through the creation of Radio-Québec and Université du Québec. Sadly, he died suddenly in 1968, before seeing many of his long-term reforms come to fruition.

Daniel Johnson's sons, Pierre-Marc and Daniel Jr., had two contrasting political careers. Pierre-Marc was a minister in René Lévesque's Parti Québécois government before becoming Premier of Quebec in October 1985. However, he lost the provincial election to Robert Bourassa's Liberal Party a few months later. His brother Daniel Jr. served as a minister in Bourassa's Liberal government and succeeded Bourassa as premier in January 1994. His government was defeated by Jacques Parizeau's Parti Québécois in September 1994 — bringing to a close a dynastic presence that had lasted for almost five decades.

The Johnson brothers are proud of their Irish ancestry, and Daniel Jr., who is now an honorary patron of the Foundation, served for many years as one of its trustees, thereby underlining the strong bonds between Quebec and Ireland.



Daniel Johnson Sr.



Daniel Johnson Jr.



Pierre-Marc Johnson

Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, professor, School of Canadian Irish Studies

La Chaire Johnson en études canado-irlandaises au Québec / Johnson Chair in Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies

FOUNDATION WELCOMES THREE NEW TRUSTEES

Chairperson Pamela McGovern welcomed three new members of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, who will step in for retiring trustees.

"It is an exciting moment for the Foundation as we continue to build for the future," McGovern said, introducing Stephanie Murphy, Christopher Deehy and Jim Barriere as the newest members of the CISF board.

McGovern said she was delighted to welcome these newest trustees, whose skills will benefit the Foundation as it moves forward.

"I thank them for agreeing to serve and I look forward to working with them as we strive to promote the mandate of the Foundation," she said. "I also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to retiring trustees Daniel Colson, Paul Marion, David Scott, Stephen Kelly and Thomas Rogers, and pay special thanks to Daniel Colson for agreeing to become a director."

Jim Barriere has been a successful businessman and committed member of Montreal's Irish community for more than 40 years. He is the president of BGL Brokerage, a customs and freight forwarding company with 85 employees in eight offices across Canada.



Jim Barriere

Throughout his life, Barriere has been proud of his Irish heritage on his mother's side, and has been a committed supporter of many organizations in the city.

The Montreal Irish community has recognized his generosity in various ways: in 1987, he was named Irishman of the Year by the Erin Sports Association; in 1999, he was Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and, in 2008, served as its chief reviewing officer. He is a member of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, the Montreal Board of Trade and a former director of the Canadian Society of Customs Brokers.

He founded the James Barriere Foundation for the Underprivileged, which helps the poor and the homeless, and is a founding director of the Generations Foundation, which provides food to 102 schools and 11 centres daily in the Montreal area. In addition to community and corporate awards, Jim Barriere was awarded the Order of Canada in 2000.

Stephanie Murphy is project manager, Americas and Asia, at Investissement Québec, where her role is to attract foreign direct investment to the province. She works with financial, legal and accounting partners, companies, government and research institutes across a range of sectors, including gaming, IT, aerospace, life sciences, environment, transportation and mobility, in establishing subsidiaries in Quebec.

Murphy's work experience spans academia, industry and government. Her background in trade and international development includes working in Ottawa with Industry Canada before working for the Japanese and British governments in Montreal and abroad. As advisor to Université de Montréal's Bureau Recherche Dévelop-

pement Valorisation and commercial arm Univalor; she produced a best practice report on commercializing health science innovations for the university and its affiliate institutes. Later, as a consultant, she served Canadian and European clients seeking to expand their respective markets.

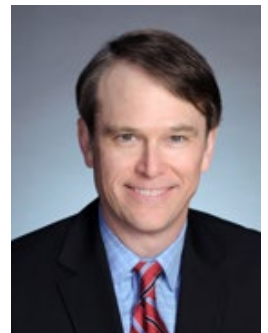


Stephanie Murphy

A former director on the Board of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, Murphy remains an active community member, taking in Montreal Irish happenings both business-related and cultural. Motivated to contribute to the Foundation, she has already attended several events organized by the School of Canadian Irish Studies along with her family, which includes an Irish dancer and aspiring fiddlers.

Murphy holds an MBA from Université du Québec à Montréal and a BSc in biology and environmental sciences from Université de Montréal.

Christopher Deehy has been practising with the law firm Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melançon since 1995 and is currently the head of its Labour and Employment Law group. He has been a member of its management committee since 2012.



Christopher Deehy

He holds an LLB from Université du Québec à Montréal, an MSc in industrial relations from Université de Montréal and a BA in political science from McGill University.

Deehy is a member of the St. Patrick's Society and has been the attorney for the Coalition for Peace in Ireland and the Quebec-Ireland Committee since 1998. He was an international observer with a Canadian delegation that travelled to Belfast and Portadown for the 1999 Orange Marches. Christopher's family originally hails from Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary.

While speaking about the Foundation and its work to support Irish Studies, Deehy remarked, "I have always considered the School of Canadian Irish Studies to be an extremely worthwhile and positive project that highlights the Irish community, Concordia University and the city so well. A truly unique achievement."

HELP SHARE OUR SUCCESS

We have developed a new promotional kit to highlight the Foundation's work and its benefits to the School of Canadian Irish Studies. To receive yours, please contact us: 514-848-2424, ext. 8711, cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca.



STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS ON THE MOVE

Putting Irish Studies at Concordia on the international map

A full house of 400 people attended the only screening in Canada of *1916: The Irish Rebellion*, written and produced by University of Notre Dame professors Briona Nic Dhiarmada and Christopher Fox. The filmmakers were thrilled with the screening and expressed their admiration for the School of Canadian Irish Studies, describing it as the most exciting and multidisciplinary Irish Studies program in the world.



Mike Rast, PhD candidate; filmmaker Briona Nic Dhiarmada, professor, University of Notre Dame; Gavin Foster, professor, Concordia; Brian Hanley, Irish historian and author; Pamela McGovern, chairperson, CISF; executive producer Christopher Fox, professor, University of Notre Dame; Michael Kenneally, principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies.

Faculty news

Johnson Chair **Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin's** book *Flowing Tides: History and Memory in an Irish Soundscape* was published in July by Oxford University Press (OUP) along with a digital companion of rare recordings, interviews, videos and photographs. This first publication by OUP on Irish traditional music examines the history of music in County Clare and its impact in Irish musical communities around the world. It was launched at the Irish Embassy in Washington, D.C., in Ireland at the National University of Ireland Galway and at Concordia on November 17. Ó hAllmhuráin also published "The Place of Sound - The Sound of Place: Irish Music and Cultural Memory in Rural Quebec" in *Ireland and Quebec: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on History, Culture and Society* (2016), and presented the paper "The Carricks of Whitehaven: Irish Famine Dinnseanchas in the New World," at the conference *Landscape Values: Place and Praxis* (2016).

Gavin Foster, professor, School of Canadian Irish Studies, published "Republics, Rabbles, and Revolutionary Generations: Labour in the Revolution's Centenary Historiography," a review essay in *Saothar: Journal of the Irish Labour History Society* (2016). In October, he organized the panel discussion on the school's screening of *1916: The Irish Rebellion*, and gave the lecture "The Irish Citizen Army and the Class Politics of the Easter Rising" at the Canadian Association for Irish Studies' (CAIS) 1916 centenary conference, delivered at the Irish ambassador's residence in Ottawa.

Susan Cahill, professor, School of Canadian Irish Studies, gave a keynote lecture at the CAIS annual conference in Banff titled "Teenage Vistas: Youth, Futurity, and the Adolescent in Irish Literature and Culture," and published "Where Are the Irish Girls?: Girlhood, Irishness and L.T. Meade" in *Girlhood Studies and the Politics of Place: Contemporary Paradigms for Research* (2016). In addition to moderating ongoing talks by Irish authors P.J. Lynch and Aoife Murray, she spoke at the Jewish Women's Book Club and gave a guest lecture to the Literary Pedagogies Graduate Seminar in Concordia's Department of English.

Rhona Richman Kenneally, professor, Department of Design and Computation Arts, and fellow of the School of Canadian Irish Studies, recently participated in a keynote panel at the 2016 Dublin Gastronomy Symposium. Her essay "Towards a New Domestic Architecture: Homes, Kitchens and Food in Rural Ireland during the Long 1950s" appeared in a collection titled *Food and Drink in Ireland*, published by the Royal Irish Academy.

In addition, she contributed to *Ireland and Quebec: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on History, Culture and Society*. Her essay "Memory as Food Performance: The Cookbooks of Maura Laverty" was selected by Four Courts Press and *The Irish Times* to represent the collection, with excerpts of the essay published in the newspaper. At the invitation of André Roy, dean of Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science, Richman Kenneally gave a presentation on "taste" at the Faculty's Beyond Disciplines event, "Come to Your Senses: Sensescapes in Research and in Life."



Pictured are Mary McAleese (centre), former President of Ireland, and Rhona Richman Kenneally, fellow at the School of Canadian Irish Studies, who delivered keynote presentations at the 2016 Daniel O'Connell Summer School in Kerry, Ireland, with Michael Kenneally. The school's director, Maurice Bric, is a former Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar and the Inaugural James M. Flaherty Fellow, held at the school in 2016.

Emer O'Toole, professor, School of Canadian Irish Studies, gave the workshop "Look Who's Walking" at the Performing the World conference in New York City. She presented two research papers: "THEATREclub and the Social Turn in Irish Theatre Practice" at the International Federation of Theatre Research conference in Stockholm, Sweden, and "No Propaganda But... Activism, Art and Irish Theatre" at the Canadian Association of Irish Studies conference in Banff.

Michael Kenneally, principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies, participated in the Irish launch of *Ireland and Quebec: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on History, Culture and Society*, which he co-edited and was published by Four Courts Press. The launch was hosted by Canada's Ambassador to Ireland, Kevin Vickers. In September, the new Irish Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency Jim Kelly, launched the collection in Canada at the School of Canadian Irish Studies. Michael Kenneally's own essay, "Fictionalized History: Representation and Identity in Jan Henry Morgan's *A Chronicle of Lower Canada*," was among the 14 essays in the collection.

Our students

Irish Studies students participated in a range of activities over the past several months.

Graduate students **Helene Jane Groarke** and **Isobel Plowright** each received Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grants of \$17,500: Groarke for her work on the Irish communities in Montreal and Toronto in the 19th century and Plowright for her research on the Magdalene laundries in Ireland.

Congratulations to **Keith Pine** and **Liam Patterson-Morris**, Concordia student members of Team Canada, on their participation in the football component of the Gaelic Athletic Association World Games in Dublin this summer.



Concordia student Rachael Hutchinson immersed herself in a Gaeltacht, an Irish-speaking community.

Students studying in Ireland

Thanks to the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation, six students undertook field studies and three students attended the National University of Ireland Galway Irish Language Summer School. The experience had a profound effect on all participants.

"Travelling to Ireland this summer was life-changing. Telling people about my research and the amazing opportunity I was given by the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation has further illustrated to me how unique this experience is for an undergraduate," says student **Sarah Michaud**.

Graduate student Kate Bevan-Baker's research trip to Ireland included visits to libraries and archives, music lessons with renowned Irish fiddlers and the presentation of a paper at an international conference in Galway.

For **Rachael Hutchinson**, the most memorable aspect was being immersed in a Gaeltacht, an Irish-speaking community. An Cheathrú Rua, the small Connemara town where she stayed, featured signs only in Gaelic. She was billeted by a family in which the mother, three sons (aged 18 to 25) and their friends spoke only Gaelic. Hutchinson described the experience as "almost surreal and kind of old-fashioned."

The students unanimously expressed their gratitude to donors of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation for making their Irish educational experience a reality.

Sarah Michaud on the Dean's List

It was a proud moment for **Sarah Michaud**, a student majoring in Irish Studies, as she was honoured for making the Dean's List with a grade point average above 3.75. Sarah was also recognized by Dean André Roy as the highest-achieving student in the School of Canadian Irish Studies.



André Roy, dean of Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science; Sarah Michaud, student, School of Canadian Irish Studies; Michael Kenneally, principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies.

REMEMBERING AND REFLECTING ON THE PAST 100 YEARS

An impressive Concordia Irish Studies contingent participated in the Canadian Association for Irish Studies' 1916 commemorative conference. They are pictured at right at the Ambassador of Ireland to Canada's residence in Ottawa. Front: Rhona Richman Kenneally, professor; Gabrielle Machnik-Kekesi, MA student; Helene Jane Groarke, MA student; Gavin Foster, professor. Back: Julie Guyot, PhD student; Sonja Tiernan, professor, Liverpool Hope University and former Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar (2015); Siobhán Ní Mhaolagáin, Irish language instructor; Jane McGaughey, professor; Robin Brodrick, undergraduate student; Kayla Gasperec, undergraduate student; Linda FitzGibbon, PhD student; Michael Kenneally, principal of the School of Canadian Irish Studies.



COMMUNITY MOURNS PASSING OF ANDRÉ GERVAIS AND GUS O'GORMAN

The chairperson and trustees note with sadness the recent death of André Gervais, BA 54, former trustee of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation and former chair of Concordia's Board of Governors.

André earned his Bachelor of Arts from Loyola College, one of Concordia's founding institutions, in 1954. He was a member of the first graduating class of Université de Sherbrooke's Faculty of Law and went on to a distinguished legal career. He remained committed to the community and proud of his Irish heritage.

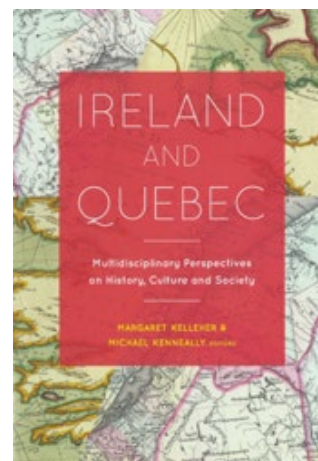
Irish Studies at Concordia joins Montreal's Irish community in mourning the sudden death of Gus O'Gorman.

The school's staff, students and professors, along with members of the Foundation, extend their sympathies to Gus's wife Karin Austin, his daughter Aisling and son Michael. An esteemed physician at the Montreal Children's Hospital, he was a central figure in Montreal's Irish community for almost 50 years. He served as president of the St. Patrick's Society, was the inspiration and founder of the Irish language group Comhrá and participated in many projects and initiatives of the Irish community over the years. He was committed in particular to the preservation of the Irish language and worked tirelessly to promote its use. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

The Canadian Irish Studies Foundation is planning to honour Gus O'Gorman's achievements. For detailed information, please contact the school at 514-848-2424, ext. 8711.

ESSAY COLLECTION ON IRELAND AND QUEBEC LAUNCHED

Ambassador of Ireland His Excellency Jim Kelly officially launched *Ireland and Quebec: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on History, Culture and Society*, edited by Margaret Kelleher, University College Dublin, and Michael Kenneally, principal of the School of Canadian Irish Studies, in September. The fruit of three years of research, the 14 essays in this volume bring together leading Irish and Quebec scholars from different disciplines, including history, literature, linguistics, design and material culture, ethnomusicology, sociology, theatre and music, to examine historical and contemporary aspects of the two societies.



Seven distinguished professors from each place have written essays on a range of subjects so that insights and discoveries from different fields can resonate with and inform each other. In their historical scope — from the 16th century to the present day — and thematic range, these contributions open nuanced and compelling perspectives on the continuities, transitions and adaptations that have characterized the social, cultural and political evolution of Ireland and Quebec.

IRISH LITERARY TREASURES DONATED TO CONCORDIA LIBRARY

Barry Sheehy, BA 75, gave Concordia 14 rare books that he lovingly collected over the years. The 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century unique editions now form the keystone of the new Irish Studies Rare Book Collection at the university.

Sheehy, who resides in Nova Scotia, returned to his alma mater on October 17, 2016, to officially launch the Irish Studies Rare Book Collection featuring the literary works he donated to the Concordia Library. He also gave a lecture on the Elizabethan War titled "Fynes Moryson's Itinerary, Pacata Hibernia, the Elizabethan conquest and the end of Gaelic order in Ireland," to some 50 guests.

"This is a very generous gift that we are honoured to receive. It is always special when a graduate pays tribute to their education by giving back," said Graham Carr, Concordia's provost and vice-president of Academic Affairs.



"The quality of our research and the program at our school of Canadian Irish Studies was certainly the inspiration to create this collection," said Concordia University Librarian Guylaine Beaudry.

Sheehy is an accomplished writer himself. He has authored several business and history books, including *Winning the Race for Value* and the American Civil War book *Savannah: Immortal City*.

"Coming back to Concordia is like coming home," said Sheehy. "I'm delighted to have this opportunity to share these extraordinary historical works with my alma mater."

Concordia Chancellor Jonathan Wener, BA 71, thanked Sheehy for making his treasures accessible for the public good. "Your books will take on new life in the hands of our students," he said. "They will become part of the Concordia educational experience."

Listen to the podcast at concordia.ca/alumni/podcasts.



Guylaine Beaudry, Concordia University Librarian; Jonathan Wener, BA 71, chancellor, Concordia; donor Barry Sheehy, BA 75; Rhona Richman Kenneally, professor, Department of Design and Computation Arts and fellow, School of Canadian Irish Studies; Michael Kenneally, principal, School of Canadian Irish Studies; Graham Carr, Concordia provost and vice-president, Academic Affairs.

THANK YOU TO OUR RECENT DONORS

Chairperson Pamela McGovern gratefully acknowledges the special lead donations (\$5,000 or more) received from **Richard Hart, Mark Mulroney, Robert J. Loewen** and the St. Patrick's Society, as well as the generous donations from the following supporters (donations received after November 22, 2016, will be acknowledged in the next newsletter):

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Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

HELP FUND SCHOLARSHIPS IN IRISH STUDIES

The average Canadian student graduates with more than \$25,000 in debt. Many Concordia students take on part-time work while pursuing their education in order to support themselves. Your donation will recognize excellence and allow our students to focus on what matters most: their academic and professional development.

Our campaign goals

Please consider donating to one of the two following scholarship endowment funds. Your support is greatly appreciated!

A. Create a new Master's Scholarship in Irish Studies of \$10,000.

To establish this prestigious annual scholarship in perpetuity, we need to raise \$240,000 for its endowment.

B. Increase the D'Arcy McGee Undergraduate Scholarship to \$1,000.

To grow this existing undergraduate scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000, we must raise \$10,000 to add to the scholarship's current endowment.

Are you interested in establishing a scholarship in your name or that of a family member or loved one? Please contact us for further information: 514-848-2424, ext. 8711, or cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca.

The Canadian Irish Studies Foundation counts on your support to help students



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