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HISTORIC VISIT OF IRISH PM TO IRISH STUDIES AT CONCORDIA

TAOISEACH ENDA KENNY COMMENDS WORK OF SCHOOL



Pictured are Christopher Deehy, foundation trustee; Patrick Shea, foundation vice-chair; André Roy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science; Roger Côté, vice-president of Services; Jim Kelly, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada; Taoiseach Enda Kenny; Jim Barriere, foundation trustee; and Michael Kenneally, principal.

For the first time in more than six decades, a sitting Irish prime minister has visited Montreal. On May 4, 2017, Taoiseach Enda Kenny had a breakfast meeting with members of the Irish community and senior Concordia administrators, as well as professors and students in the School of Irish Studies. Later in the day, the Montreal Chamber of Commerce hosted a lunch for Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Taoiseach Kenny, with a sold-out attendance of 500 community and business leaders.



Speaking at the School of Irish Studies, Taoiseach Kenny stressed the importance of the mandate of the School of Irish Studies, the need to teach Ireland's history and share its rich culture with others. "We have an important story to tell and we ourselves first need to understand it so that we can share it with the world," he said.

Representatives of more than 20 Montreal Irish associations, including Patrick Shea, vice-chair of the foundation, met with the

Taoiseach. He was accompanied by Jim Kelly, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, as well as aides from several government departments. Concordia was represented by Roger Côté, vice-president of Services, and André Roy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. In welcoming the Taoiseach to Concordia, the principal of the School of Irish Studies, Michael Kenneally, thanked the Irish government for its ongoing support. He underlined that the creation of the school was the result of a unique partnership between Concordia, members of the Irish community, and the governments of Quebec, Canada and Ireland.

GREETINGS FROM PAMELA MCGOVERN, CHAIR, CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES FOUNDATION



Pamela McGovern

This newsletter brings readers and supporters news of all the academic events and achievements taking place at Concordia's School of Irish Studies. It has been an eventful term, and on behalf of our trustees and all our generous donors, I congratulate the deserving students, undergraduate and graduate, who have recently been awarded scholarships and fee remission grants.

The core mission of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation (CISF) is to assist in the development of Irish Studies as an academic discipline at Concordia. Central to that goal is to encourage academic excellence and reward success. This support is possible because of the hard work of many trustees over the years, and I

am pleased to report that the tradition of generous commitment continues with the current members of the board.

It has been a time of transition for the foundation, yet what remains impressively constant is the enthusiasm and engagement of our trustees. Current board members were active and generous in their support of the Lúnasa concert (see page 4). Several trustees even donated tickets so that students could attend this incredible musical experience. So I thank our exceptional trustees for their participation and ongoing support of the foundation.

It is a great pleasure for me to work with such committed individuals as we strive to achieve our fundamental goal — the education of coming generations.

—Pamela McGovern
Chair, Canadian Irish Studies Foundation

FOUNDATION WELCOMES THREE NEW TRUSTEES

Canadian Irish Studies Foundation chair Pamela McGovern welcomed the following new trustees at the last meeting of the board in March 2017.



Kate Molson

Kate Molson (née Katherine Brigid Finn) was born into a large Irish family in Boston, hailing from such Irish names as Ward, O'Toole and Mahoney. Her father's grandparents emigrated from Ireland in the late 1800s and settled in Boston. Her mother's parents arrived in Connecticut in 1930 from County Longford.

Molson worked in a corporate capacity for 10 years, handling large business accounts for AT&T and American Express. When her family relocated to Denver, Colo., she settled into raising four children. Molson has served on a variety of committees, including those at Westmount, Que.'s Selwyn House School and Villa Sainte-Marcelline, where she and her team managed the school's largest fundraising initiative. Molson has also worked on various projects with the Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation and Loyola High School.



Donald Regan

research and marketing projects at CN for over a decade, he joined Ronsco Inc. as a partner in 1971. Headquartered in Montreal, Ronsco is one of North America's largest privately held suppliers of products and services to the freight rail, passenger and transit industries.

In 1984, Regan took full control of Ronsco, becoming chairman and president. He is also chairman and president of Donnelgan Investments Inc., a real estate and private investment company.

He has been a member of the Railway Research Advisory Board of the Railway Association of Canada, and is past chairman of the Canadian Railway Club and past president of the Canadian Association of Railway Suppliers. He is a past president of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association.

Regan has a wide variety of philanthropic interests, including Irish Studies at Concordia. He looks forward to serving as a trustee of

Donald Regan is a Montrealer who earned a BA in economics in 1970 from Sir George Williams University, one of Concordia's founding institutions. Having worked at various

the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation as it continues to consolidate Irish studies as an academic discipline at Concordia.



Erin O'Brien

Erin O'Brien, CFA, ICD.D, is a member of Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited (JFL)'s executive committee. She is a registered portfolio manager with 30 years' experience

at JFL, one of Canada's oldest and largest independent investment advisory firms. Throughout this time she has worn many hats, including CFO and head of operations. She also manages foundation and private client portfolios.

O'Brien is past president and currently a board member of Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Foundation in Montreal and the Canadian Guild of Crafts. She has more than 10 years of public company board experience at MRRM Inc., which was purchased and privatized in 2015.



SUMMER SCHOOL



Kevin Whelan

For the first time, the School of Irish Studies will have an intensive two-week summer course: **Evolution of the Irish Cultural Landscape: 1600-2017.**

The course runs from August 14 to 24, 2017, and is taught by **Kevin Whelan**, director of the Keough-Naughton Notre Dame Centre in Dublin, Ireland. This course will use the Irish landscape as a text to explore the evolution of Ireland from the early modern period to the present day. It will be interdisciplinary in focus, with a concentration on the interaction of geography, history and literature. While in Montreal, Whelan will give a public lecture on Friday, August 18. More information will be posted on the School of Irish Studies website closer to the event.

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VISITING SCHOLARS



Maureen Murphy

Maureen Murphy, co-director of the undergraduate Irish Studies minor at Hofstra University in Long Island, N.Y., will be the Peter O'Brien Visiting Scholar at the School of Irish Studies for fall 2017.

While at Concordia, Murphy will give a public lecture and teach two courses, **Highlights of Irish Literature** and **Irish Mythology and Folklore.**

Congratulations to **Emer Nic Labhraí**, who has been chosen as our Teagascóir Gaeilge and will be arriving at the School of Irish Studies in the fall to teach two Irish language courses. Her position as junior visiting scholar is jointly funded by the Ireland Canada University Foundation and the School of Irish Studies.

GUS O'GORMAN IRISH LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW

With the help of many donors, more than \$26,000 has been raised toward our goal of \$50,000. This amount will generate an annual scholarship of \$2,500 to send a student each year to an intensive Irish language course in Carraroe, County Galway, Ireland. The Gus O'Gorman Irish Language Scholarship will be a permanent

recognition of all that O'Gorman did to promote the Irish language and culture in Montreal and Canada.

Please join us in this effort. Your tax-deductible donation is an important step toward reaching our goal. Make your contribution by contacting the School of Irish Studies at 514-848-2424, ext. 8711.

COURSES OFFERED BY THE SCHOOL OF CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES IN THE 2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR

SUMMER

The Evolution of the Irish Cultural Landscape: 1600-2017

FALL

Introduction to Canadian Irish Studies
 The Irish Home: Food, Space and Agency
 The Irish Literary Revival
 The Irish in Montreal
 History of Ireland
 Classics of Irish Theatre
 The Troubles in Northern Ireland
 Sexualities in the Irish Diaspora
 Irish Cultural Traditions in Quebec
 Highlights of Irish Literature
 Irish Mythology and Folklore
 Celtic Christianity

FALL/WINTER (September 2017-April 2018)

The Irish Language & Culture I
 The Irish Language & Culture II

WINTER 2018

The Irish in Canada
 Nationalism & Unionism in Scotland & Ireland
 Intercultural Ireland: Film, Theatre & TV
 Research Methods in Irish Studies
 History of Early and Medieval Ireland
 Contemporary Irish Theatre
 Irish Film Studies
 Rebellions in Ireland and the Canadas

LÚNASA CONCERT: A MEMORABLE EVENT

WONDERFUL MUSIC AND A FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

At the Lúnasa concert at the Bourgie Hall of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts on March 30, 2017, were Canadian Irish Studies Foundation trustees (from left) Richard Hart, Honora Shaughnessy, Catherine Richards, Pamela McGovern, chair, John O'Connor, Michael Shannon, Katherine Peacocke, Erin O'Brien, Stephanie Murphy, Kate Molson and Michael Kenneally, principal of the School of Irish Studies. Not in the photo but also in attendance was trustee Christopher Deehy. The foundation sold 220 tickets and raised approximately \$13,000, which will be used to fund scholarships for students in Irish Studies.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR IRISH STUDIES UNDERGRADUATES

Undergraduate scholarships for 2016-17

Fr. Shaun Gerard McCarthy Govenlock
 Matthew Hamilton Gault
 Irish Protestant Benevolent Society
 McKenty
 Geraldine O'Loghlin Stanford
 Stephen Dowd
 J. Armand Bombardier
 McGee/Hincks/Travers
 Moira Ann Snow
 Arthur Meighen
 Patrick Vallely
 Gerard Keyes
 Sean Treacy
 Timothy Edward McIninch

Amount

\$1,500
 \$1,500
 \$1,300
 \$1,000
 \$1,000
 \$1,000
 \$1,000
 \$1,000
 \$1,000
 \$700
 \$700
 \$500
 \$500
 \$500

Recipient

Victoria Lowery
 Kayla Gasperec
 Sarah Michaud
 Eamon Toohey
 Rebecca Stacey
 Alexandra Taylor Grimes
 Sinead O'Halloran
 Raken Howell-Slater
 Victoria Di Paolo
 Kayla Fanning
 Gabriel Gilker
 Hannah Legault
 Lisa Davies
 Robin Brodrick

Summer language scholarships for 2016-17

Robin Brodrick
 Kayla Gasperec
 Rachael Hutchinson

This year, the following students received financial support from the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation:

Brian O'Neill Gallery Tuition Remission Grant Recipients

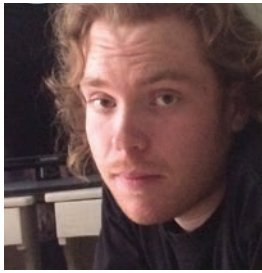
Kevin Aikman-Carter	Raken Howell-Slater
Donivan Bell-Kisiel	Rachael Hutchinson
Sarah Bissonnette	Erin Hynes
Robin Brodrick	Morgan Kleinsasser
Nicole Delacroix	Hannah Legault
Victoria Di Paolo	Victoria Lowery
Brigita Ehrensperger	Sarah Michaud
Kayla Fanning	Sinead O'Halloran
Kayla Gasperec	Rebecca Stacey
Gabriel Gilker	Eamon Toohey
Alexandra Taylor Grimes	Kameryn Whyte
Olivia Houde	Kayla Williams

FESTIVAL BLOOMSDAY MONTRÉAL

Festival Bloomsday Montréal, the literary festival centred on Irish author James Joyce's *Ulysses*, runs from June 10 to 16, 2017, with activities related to the School of Irish Studies on June 12 and 14. For more information visit bloomsdaymontreal.com.



WHAT FREE TUITION MEANS TO THESE STUDENTS



“I am grateful for receiving the Brian O’Neill Gallery Grant Tuition Remission. It is an honour to represent the School of Irish Studies as an undergraduate in the major program. This grant gives me a chance to develop my academic skills while honing my

knowledge of Irish subjects.” — **Donivan Bell-Kisiel**



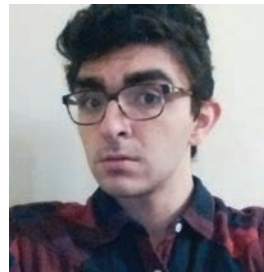
“With the generous money provided by the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation I was able to study abroad in Cork, Ireland, last term. Being in Irish Studies and having the opportunity to study in Ireland will be something I will remember for the rest of

my life. Thank you so much.” — **Kevin Aikman-Carter**



“I am finishing the final term of my undergraduate degree, with a double major in Irish Studies and History. I am infinitely grateful to have received the Brian O’Neill Gallery Grant Tuition Remission, as it allowed me to take 18 credits this term and complete

my degree on time. Without this support, I would not have been able to leave my job and focus my full attention on my courses, and you have my sincere thanks for allowing me this opportunity.” — **Kayla Gasperec**



“I am immensely thankful to have received the tuition remission grant from the department. It represents the lifting of a significant financial burden from my shoulders, allowing me to fully commit myself to continuing the work I’ve been doing, both in university and in the community. Now, I can finish my

undergraduate degree in a year’s time and move on to both graduate school and meaningful community work.”

— **Eamon Toohey**



“The Brian O’Neill Gallery Grant Tuition Remission has been a massive help with my school financial situation. It allowed me to focus more on my studies and I will be forever grateful for this grant. *Go raibh míle maith agaibh.*”

— **Rachael Hutchinson**



“I feel privileged and am extremely thankful for the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation and the School of Irish Studies at Concordia for their continued support both academically and financially, through the Brian O’Neill Gallery

Grant Tuition Remission. The financial assistance has enabled me to continue to focus on my studies. Without a doubt, the external support has allowed me to strive for my best and to surround myself with some of the most encouraging and dedicated individuals in academia. Thank you for all the fantastic support shown to the students in the School of Irish Studies at Concordia!”

— **Robin Brodrick**



“I am so very pleased and excited to have been awarded the Brian O’Neill Gallery Grant Tuition Remission! The Irish Studies program and the trustees of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation provide the greatest acknowledgment of students’

hard work through their help and support. I am extremely grateful for the kindness and generosity shown to students, which allow them to thrive. The professors are tough, but they care! Wishing continued success to myself and my fellow students.” — **Alexandra Taylor Grimes**

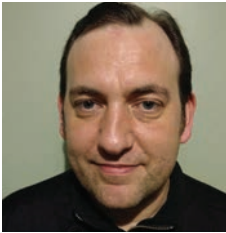
GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2016-17



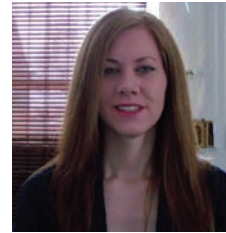
"I am immensely grateful to the Irene Mulronev Scholarship donors for their support of my research. This award affirms the importance of interdisciplinary research connections between departments at Concordia, and will help to solidify a cooperative dissertation project between the School of Irish Studies and the Film and Moving Image Studies PhD program. This generous scholarship will go toward continuing my work on Irish cinema and media, a field that never ceases to surprise, excite and challenge me." — **Patrick Brodie, Irene Mulronev Scholarship, \$2,500**



"My deepest thanks to the School of Irish Studies for selecting me as one of the recipients of the 2016-17 Irene Mulronev Scholarship. As I complete my second year in Concordia's PhD in Humanities program, I am grateful to the school for its continued support of my work, both as a research-creation scholar and a newly published poet. The scholarship will enable me to devote the summer to researching the transmission of emigration stories among Irish-Canadian families in Montreal. As a doctoral student affiliated with the school, it is a privilege to be surrounded by such a vibrant and supportive community of scholars." — **Kelly Norah Drukker, Irene Mulronev Scholarship, \$2,500**



"I feel very privileged to be one of the two recipients of the St. Patrick's Society Scholarship. This scholarship means that I can continue to contribute to the study of the Irish in Canada while helping to develop my career in academia. As both a full-time student and a full-time parent I feel honoured to have been acknowledged for my academic accomplishments and am very appreciative of the financial support this scholarship provides. Thank you." — **Raymond Jess, St. Patrick's Society Scholarship, \$2,500**



"The generous financial assistance provided by the St. Patrick's Society Scholarship will allow me to further my research within the supportive environment of the School of Irish Studies. I am grateful to have the strong encouragement of this vibrant community as I continue my academic journey." — **Georgine Althouse, St. Patrick's Society Scholarship, \$2,500**



"I am very grateful for the United Irish Societies Scholarship, as in the final years of a PhD, funding is scarce but remains critical to overall success. This scholarship will reduce the financial burden placed on me while completing my doctorate, which applies translation studies models to peace and community reconciliation processes in the Northern Irish context. I am keen to live up to the tradition of community and cultural support that the United Irish Societies embodies, through my academic work. A sincere thank you very much!" — **Amanda Leigh Cox, United Irish Societies Scholarship, \$1,000**

INAUGURAL GRADUATE CONFERENCE



The Irish Studies Inaugural Graduate Conference was held at the School of Irish Studies on March 24 and 25, 2017, on the theme "Transcending Disciplinary Frames." Panellists included graduate students from the United States, Ireland, Canada and Brazil. The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Georgina Laragy from the Department of History at Trinity College Dublin. Pictured are Irish Studies Graduate Students Organizing Committee members: Isobel Plowright, Helen-Jane Groarke, Gabrielle Machnik-Kekesi, Jessica Poulin, Camille Harrigan, Daniel Bartlett, Amanda Leigh Cox and Georgine Althouse.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR IRISH STUDIES GRADS?

Congratulations to these three graduate students as they move forward with their careers.

Isobel Plowright will begin her PhD in history at Columbia University in New York City in fall 2017, on a full scholarship.

Jessica Poulin will be pursuing a graduate certificate in Museum Management and Curatorship at Fleming College in Peterborough, Ont., in fall 2017. The program includes a full-time internship.

Helene-Jane Groarke is in her final year of her MA studies and then will be applying to the Government of Canada's Diplomatic Corps Services.

FACULTY NEWS

Professors in the School of Irish Studies continue to raise their individual academic profiles and, in the process, enhance the international reputation of Irish Studies at Concordia. Here are recent and forthcoming highlights:

Susan Cahill has been awarded a Visiting Research Fellowship at the Institute of English Studies at the University of London in the United Kingdom for her 2017-18 sabbatical leave. She will use this prestigious fellowship to continue her research on Irish literature focusing on young adults. Cahill has also been awarded a Curran Fellowship, worth US\$2,000, by the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals.

Gavin Foster gave a paper at the special Canadian Association for Irish Studies' conference on 1916 hosted by the Irish Embassy in Ottawa in fall 2016. His recent publications include an essay for the popular *Revolution Papers* series and an article in the spring issue of *History Ireland*. In June, Foster will graduate his first PhD student, Michael Rast, and then travel to Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland, where he'll speak at a symposium commemorating civil war and partition.

Michael Kenneally will give the keynote lecture at this year's Festival Bloomsday Montréal. "Introducing Mr. Joyce's *Ulysses*" will take place on June 14, 2017, at the Jewish Public Library, 5151 Cote Ste. Catherine Rd., Montreal, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., \$15. Later in the summer, he will give a lecture at the conference of the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies at the University of Coruña in Spain, and in the fall he has been invited by the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco to give a lecture on the Irish in Canada.

Jane McGaughey has returned from maternity leave and, as president of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies, will preside over its annual conference in July in Derry. Liverpool University Press has confirmed that it will publish her next book, *Violent Loyalties: Manliness, Migration, and the Irish in the Canadas, 1798-1841*. McGaughey will give two lectures: "The Irish in Montreal," to the Women's Canadian Club on May 23, 2017, at Victoria Hall in Westmount, Que., and "Ireland's

RECENT DONATIONS

The Canadian Irish Studies Foundation acknowledges the following donors for their generous support of graduate students.

Power Corporation donated \$5,000, another contribution in its long-standing support of Irish Studies.

An anonymous donor gave \$20,000 toward the graduate student scholarship fund.

Mark Mulroney added \$5,000 to the Irene Mulroney Scholarship fund, which, because of the generosity of the Mulroney family, had reached \$126,718 as of March 31, 2017.

The estate of the late **Sylvia Heuckendorff** gave \$5,000 to the D'Arcy McGee, Mary Travers, Francis Hincks Scholarship Fund.

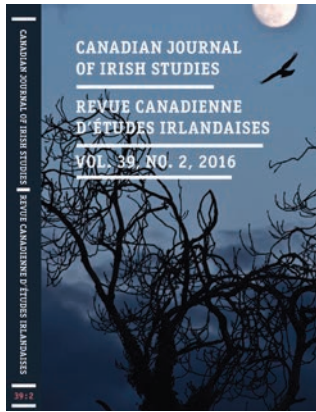
Defender: Colonel James FitzGibbon and Irish Immigration to Upper Canada" at the Niagara Historical Society Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., on August 17, 2017.

Gearóid Ó hAllmhuirín published *A Short History of Irish Traditional Music* with the O'Brien Press in April 2017. He also published "The Green Fields of Canada — Forgotten! A Reappraisal of Irish Traditional Music History in Canada" as part of the anthology *Landscapes and Landmarks of Canada: Real, Imagined, (Re)Viewed*, from Wilfred Laurier University Press. This summer he will deliver a lecture as part of the Benjamin A. Botkin Folklife Lecture Series at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. He will also speak at Trinity College Dublin and will represent Canada at the inaugural Global Irish Diaspora Conference in August at University College Dublin.

Emer O'Toole has been awarded a research grant of \$53,417 from the Government of Quebec for her project *Activism, Aesthetics and Ideology on Contemporary Irish Theatre*, and a Moore Institute Visiting Research Fellowship at the National University of Ireland Galway, to conduct research into the marginalization of Irish playwright Lady Augusta Gregory in the Irish drama canon. She will present a paper at the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies. In July, she will give a paper at the International Federation for Theatre Research conference in São Paulo, Brazil, where she will be launching a collection of essays, *Ethical Exchanges in Translation, Adaptation and Dramaturgy*, co-edited with Andrea Pelegrí Kristić and Stuart Young.

Rhona Richman Kenneally has published another issue of the *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* — her sixth volume as editor. Later in 2017, Four Courts Press will be publishing *The Vibrant House: Irish Writing and Domestic Space*, a collection of essays co-edited with Lucy McDiarmid. During the summer, she will present papers on Irish design and material culture at the conference of the Canadian Association for Irish Studies and at the conference of the European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies.

ANOTHER VOLUME OF CANADIAN JOURNAL OF IRISH STUDIES PUBLISHED



The new issue of the *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies*, edited by Rhona Richman Kenneally, features nine essays by scholars from Canada, Egypt, Ireland, Scotland and the U.S., as well as a report on Irish Studies in China. It features a photographic essay on the landscape of John McGahern's fiction, as well as 15 book reviews, including two by Concordia Irish Studies graduate students.

CANADIAN IRISH STUDIES FOUNDATION FUNDAMENTALS

Executive editor: Michael Kenneally

Editor: Howard Bokser

Assistant editor: Marion Mulvenna

Design: Concordia Advancement and Alumni Relations

The Canadian Irish Studies Foundation seeks support for students from all readers

Help us to empower students to pursue their dreams.
We appreciate donations of all amounts.
Thank you for your generosity.

Please note: It is possible to donate appreciated stocks, bonds and mutual funds as a way to take advantage of the best tax benefits. A gift of this kind can be made today, or as part of your will.

A transfer of securities — stocks, bonds, bills, warrants and futures — can be made directly to the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation instead of giving cash. Alternatively, if you were to sell your securities and donate the proceeds, 50 per cent of the gain would be taxable. In other words, it is more advantageous to transfer securities directly to the foundation than to liquidate them in order to make a donation. If you would like more information on these possibilities, please phone Matina Skalkogiannis at 514-848-2424, ext. 8711.



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My cheque to the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation is enclosed

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