

Celebrating EXCELLENCE!



ORDER OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

Spring 2008

Celebrating International Women's Day with Canadian Aboriginal Women

On March 8, I met with 50 First Nations, Métis and Inuit women for a roundtable discussion about the challenges they face and the successes they have achieved. Among the participants were several members of the Order of Canada who are committed to improving the quality of life in their communities: Mrs. Marlene Brant Castellano from Shannonville, Ontario; Ms. Maggie Hodgson from Edmonton, Alberta; Mrs. Dennice Leahey from Pugwash, Nova Scotia; and Ms. Muriel Stanley Venne from Edmonton.

Together, these women shared their vision of the world with me. It has been my privilege to witness the promise in their actions, to hear the insight in their words. They inspired me and filled me with such hope.

This encounter reminded me that everywhere I have been, from coast to coast to coast in Canada, from Africa to Afghanistan to Brazil, I have seen it with my own eyes: the future of our communities depends on the daily efforts of women. Women around the world do so much of the work, yet they receive very few of the resources. Women are the backbone of our societies. When women are empowered, they can improve the quality of life of their children, their families and their communities.

I have always felt that our true strength, as women, lies in our ability to understand the human side in any situation. We have an innate ability to bring people together and inspire others to help one another. This is particularly true of the Aboriginal women I have met across our country. I have no doubt that our discussions will pave the way to new solidarities and to possibilities we could never have imagined.

Her Excellency the Right Honourable
Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada



Photo: Sgt. Eric Jolin, Rideau Hall

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The Governor General with First Nations, Métis and Inuit women at the discussion on March 8, 2008.

ABORIGINAL ART TAKES CENTRE STAGE AT RIDEAU HALL



Photos: MCpl. Serge Gouin, Rideau Hall

Their Excellencies the Right Honourable
Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada,
and Mr. Jean-Daniel Lafond, with award
recipient Kenojuak Ashevak.



The Governor General honoured Alex Janvier
during a ceremony for the Governor General's
Awards in Visual and Media Arts.

The Governor General honoured two members of the Order of Canada, Alex Janvier and Kenojuak Ashevak, at the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts, on March 28, 2008, at Rideau Hall. These two members had each been invested at historic Order of Canada ceremonies. Kenojuak Ashevak was one of the first recipients of the Order of Canada and attended the inaugural ceremony in 1967. Alex Janvier was invested last fall, at the 100th ceremony of the Order of Canada, which was held in October to celebrate 40 years of excellence.



Photo: Sgt Eric Jolin, Rideau Hall

FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): Bertha Clark, O.C.; Doreen Hall, C.M.; Richard Macaulay Ivey, C.C. (on behalf of the late Beryl Ivey, C.M.); H. P. Daniel (Sandy) van Ginkel, C.M.; Rock Demers, C.C.; The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, P.C., C.C.; Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D.; His Excellency Jean-Daniel Lafond, C.C.; The Honourable Charles D. Gonthier, C.C.; Chaviva Milada Hošek, O.C.; Jean E. Portugal, C.M.; Leon Katz, O.C., O.Ont.; Flora M. Dell, C.M.

SECOND ROW: Jacob H. Masliyah, O.C.; Bunny Ferguson, C.M.; Jaymie M. Matthews, O.C.; Dorothy M. Pringle, O.C.; Michael Maclear, O.C.; Brent Hawkes, C.M.; Ginette Lemire Rodger, O.C.; Ronald (Ron) Edward Lawless, C.M.; Elizabeth Parr-Johnston, C.M.; The Honourable William Hoyt, O.C.; Frederick (Fred) A. Walsh, C.M., Pamela Wallin, O.C., S.O.M.; Ronald J. Gillespie, C.M.

THIRD ROW: Timothy Vernon, C.M.; Alexander (Al) Davidson, C.M.; David A. Young, C.M.; Molly Johnson, O.C.; Nicolas D. Georganas, O.C., O.Ont.; Gerald R. McMaster, O.C.; Barbara Gowdy, C.M.; Kent Stetson, C.M.; Maria K. Eriksen, C.M.; Peter A. Howlett, C.M.; Robert H. A. Haslam, C.M.; Terrence Gillespie, C.M.

ABSENT: Gerald W. Schwartz, O.C.

News from the Citadelle

On Friday, May 30th, at the Citadelle in Quebec City, Their Excellencies inaugurated an exhibit produced by the Chancellery of Honours to mark the 400th anniversary of the City of Quebec. The exhibit, entitled **The City of Québec: A Story Told Through Honours**, was launched in the presence of Mr. Jean-Pierre Kelche, *Général d'armée* and *Grand Chancelier de la Légion d'honneur*, and Mr. Bernard Voyer, President of the *Ordre national du Québec*. Through French, British, Canadian and Quebecois honours, this exhibit focuses on 40 women and men who have contributed to the development of Québec, and who have been recognized by the city's consecutive regimes and governments since its foundation in 1608.

Visitors will be able to see the insignia of the *Légion d'honneur*, the Order of the British Empire, the *Ordre national du Québec* and the Order of Canada. Guests will also find out how, since the foundation of Québec, the coats-of-arms and flags of France and



Photo: MCpl Serge Gouin, Rideau Hall

Their Excellencies and *Général d'armée* and *Grand Chancelier de la Légion d'honneur* Mr. Jean-Pierre Kelche visiting the new exhibit now on display at the Residence of the Governor General at the Citadelle of Québec.

Great Britain have been used as symbols of identity, authority and sovereignty. The Residence of the Governor General at the Citadelle of Québec now offers guided tours of the State Rooms and special exhibitions. Guided tours last 60 minutes and are free. For more information please call 1-866-936-4422 or visit www.gg.ca.

This exhibition is made possible through the collaboration of the Canadian Chancellery of Honours, *le Musée national de la Légion d'honneur et des ordres de chevalerie*; the Ceremonial Office of the United Kingdom; the *Secrétariat de l'Ordre national du Québec*; the *Association des membres de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur*; and the *Association canadienne des membres de l'Ordre National du Mérite*.



Michael R. L. Davies, C.M.



Denis A. St-Onge, O.C.



Helen K. Mussallem, C.C.

The Canadian Heraldic Authority Celebrates 20 Years!

Founded in 1988, the Canadian Heraldic Authority creates armorial bearings (coats of arms, flags and badges) that celebrate the history of individuals, families and institutions in Canada.

What is heraldry?

Heraldry first appeared in Europe in the 12th century. Coats of arms were originally painted on shields and were used to identify combatants on the field of battle. Their use soon spread to other sections of society and, gradually, monarchs took responsibility for the granting and use of coats of arms within their realms. Heraldry came to Canada with the voyages of the French and English explorers in the late 15th and early 16th centuries. Today, Canadian

heraldry also includes Aboriginal emblems, many of which have existed for centuries. Obtaining a coat of arms is a unique way to celebrate one's family and one's achievements. It allows an individual to look to the past while reaching into the future because a coat of arms is passed down in perpetuity to the descendants of the original holder.

With the Governor General as its head, the Canadian Heraldic Authority is administered by a herald chancellor, a deputy herald chancellor, and by the chief herald of Canada, who is director of the heraldry program. The chief herald of Canada is supported by officers who, in keeping with ancient traditions, are known as heralds of arms and specialize in the design of arms, flags and badges.

For more information, visit www.gg.ca. You can also call Ms. Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada, toll-free at 1-800-465-6890.



DID YOU KNOW?

The members of the Order of Canada:

- can surround their shield with a red circlet bearing the motto of the Order of Canada;
- can suspend a representation of their insignia below their shield;
- can be granted supporters if they are Companions of the Order.

Message from the Secretary to the Governor General



Sheila-Marie Cook (left), Secretary to the Governor General and Herald Chancellor, receives her Coat of Arms from Claire Boudreau (right), Chief Herald of Canada, at a ceremony at Rideau Hall.

Nearly two years ago, I assumed the role of Secretary to the Governor General. In doing so, I also became the Secretary General to the Order of Canada and the Herald Chancellor of Canada. Protecting the integrity of the Order of Canada and promoting the values it recognizes—not to mention celebrating the remarkable contributions of its members—are duties I am committed to fulfilling.

Many of you have been active in your support of the Order, for which I thank you wholeheartedly. As this 40th anniversary year draws to a close, I encourage you to continue working with the Governor General and the Chancellery to strengthen and showcase this, our highest national honour. I look forward to meeting with you, our members, during upcoming events.

— Sheila-Marie Cook,
Secretary to the Governor General
and Secretary General of the Order.

