



CANADIAN LANGUAGE MUSEUM
MUSÉE CANADIEN DES LANGUES

Canadian Language Museum Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

Museum News

Dear Museum Members,

We have had a very exciting winter and spring! The museum has been very active locally, nationally and internationally. We developed a new exhibit, toured our existing exhibits, worked with students and faculty on Glendon campus, hosted special events and welcomed individual and group visits to our gallery space.

We couldn't have done it without our volunteers, members and donors – thank you for your continued support!

Elaine Gold
Director



[Welcoming New Board Members](#)
Page #2

[Our 2017 Exhibit & Exhibit Launch](#)
Page #3

[International Mother Language Day](#)
Page #4-5

[International Network of Language Museums](#)
Page #5

[Photo Gallery](#)
Page #6

[The Birth of Nanabozho](#)
Page #7

CLM AGM

On June 6, we held our Annual General Meeting. I am pleased to announce that the following people will continue to serve on the CLM board:

Returning Directors:

- Elaine Gold, Chair
- Marcia Zuker, Vice Chair
- Mike Barrie
- Brandon Fry
- Heather Bliss
- Ian Martin
- Katharine Snider McNair
- Mireille Tremblay



A special welcome to our new board members:

- Amos Key Jr.
- Mary Jane Norris

Introducing our New Board Members

Amos Key Jr.

Tae ho wehs was born into the Onkwehonweh Civilization, and is a member of Mohawk Nation, gifted into the Turtle Clan of his Mother and conferred to the Sacred Circle of Faith Keepers of the Longhouse, at Six Nations of Grand River Territory.

He is an educator and staunch advocate for: First Peoples' human, civil and linguistic rights; social justice; the decolonization of Indigenous Education and the emancipation of Indigenous Peoples.

Amos is Director of First Nations Languages at Woodland Centre, where he co-founded the Gawenni:yo Cayuga/Mohawk Immersion School System. He was central to the creation of the digital archive of Onkwehonweh Ceremony and Rituals, the publication of a Cayuga Dictionary, and the ongoing restoration of the former Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School.

Amos was recently appointed a Professor at University of Toronto's Centre for Indigenous Studies.



Amos Key Jr.

Mary Jane Norris

Mary Jane Norris is an independent researcher specializing in the areas of Aboriginal demography, and the demographics and mapping of Indigenous languages in Canada.

She is an off-reserve member of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, in the Ottawa Valley, and resides in Chelsea, Quebec. She received her B.A. Honours and Masters in Sociology from Carleton University.

She has been a member of the Foundation for Endangered

Languages (FEL) since 2003 and a co-founding board member of FEL Canada. She also served as the contributor for Canada in the third edition of the UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger.

Click here to read Elaine Gold's article about the CLM in the FEL Canada (Foundation for Endangered Languages) newsletter.

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/00a62d_f45a37a29db54ac0824cfdac60888d23.pdf



Mary Jane Norris

Contributors for this newsletter include:

Elaine Gold (editor), Stephanie Pile (design & layout), Hilel Essadi & Adèle Aubin (French translation), Mireille Tremblay, Päivi Koskinen, Stefan Dollinger, Maggie Kyle, Amos Key Jr., and Mary Jane Norris

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Introducing Hilel Essadi!

We are thrilled to welcome the newest member of our team - Hilel Essadi! Hilel is a student intern from Paris, France, and is studying Foreign Languages at Université Sorbonne Nouvelle. This is her first time working abroad, and her first time in Canada!

Along with her formal language studies, Hilel has also worked as an English tutor for children in France. Hilel is passionate about meeting people from new cultures and traditions, and learning what language and

tradition means to people from different places.

She is also interested in how language and culture can connect and transcend different generations.

She will be working with us throughout May and June, giving tours of the museum, helping us prepare for our next exhibits, and sharing her discoveries with us on social media. We were very happy to have her working with us and we will definitely be staying in touch!



Hilel Essadi

Our Newest Exhibit: 150 Years of Language in Toronto

On May 3 we opened our newest exhibit *Read Between the Signs: 150 Years of Language in Toronto*.

This is the museum's sixth exhibit but represents a number of firsts: it is the first opening of a CLM exhibit in our space in Glendon Gallery, our first wall hung exhibit, our first exhibit focused around photographs, and, because of that, the first time that the CLM participated in the Toronto-wide CONTACT photography festival.

Thank you to curators Jocelyn Kent, Christine Pennington, and Katie Wilson, recent graduates of University of Toronto's Master of Museum Studies program.

Read Between the Signs: 150 Years of Language in Toronto

Toronto's diverse languages shape our city's streets. These languages are part of the landscape, visible in storefronts, building facades, and street signs.

They can reflect, and sometimes even obscure, the communities that live and work in this city. In presenting a visual history of Toronto's languages, this exhibition makes use of archival and contemporary photos.



Guests enjoying our newest exhibit at our official launch in June 2017

International Mother Language Day in Canada

Celebrating Cree as a Mother Language: Inclusion and Outreach in Toronto

By Stephanie C. Pile

On Saturday February 19th, we celebrated International Mother Language Day at the Maria A. Shchuka Public Library in Toronto. Director Elaine Gold was joined by Executive Assistant Stephanie Pile and Vice-Chair Marcia Zuker to celebrate the day. We were also assisted by museum volunteers including members of the Glendon Linguistics Club.



Brenda Wastasecoot, member of the York Factory Cree Nation, and author of 'Granny's Giant Bannock', sharing her story.

We set up our "Cree: The People's Language" exhibit in the Library's front entrance, and had much engagement with visitors. We had language-themed activities throughout the day, including colouring and crafts for the younger children and a scavenger hunt in the afternoon for the older children.

They answered questions like "Can you figure out how to write "awa" ("this") in Cree syllabics?" and "Find someone who speaks a language other than English."



Natalie Staviss, 5, and Honey Staviss of Toronto doing a language crossword puzzle together at the Maria A. Shchuka Public Library.

We were honoured to be joined by Dr. Brenda Wastasecoot, member of the York Factory Cree Nation, and author of 'Granny's Giant Bannock'. Brenda read her story aloud to an intergenerational room, and shared her experiences with audience members.

The day was a huge success and enjoyed by all! Thank you to all of our volunteers, and to the Maria A. Shchuka Public Library for hosting us!



Student volunteers from the Glendon Linguistics Club

International Mother Language Day in Surrey, BC

By Päivi Koskinen, Ph.D.

Faculty of Arts, Department of Language and Cultures
Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Celebrating International Mother Language Day in Metro Vancouver always feels special, given that the original proposal for recognising this day came from Vancouverite Mr. Rafiqul Islam. In 1998 Mr. Rafiq wrote to the Secretary General of the United Nations, asking him to take steps to protect all languages of the world from the

possibility of extinction and to declare an International Mother Language Day. February 21 was chosen as the date in honour of Bengali-speaking students who died in 1952 while lobbying for official recognition for their mother tongue in what is now Bangladesh. In 2000 UNESCO formally proclaimed IMLD as a day to celebrate all mother languages.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University's department of language and cultures organizes an annual community event to honour the

multitude of indigenous and immigrant languages in the area. In 2017 the focus was on French, Japanese, Mandarin, Punjabi, and Spanish. Canadian Language Museum's exhibit *Le français au Canada*, along with the duo Vazzy's toe-tapping performance of Québécois and Acadian music, showcased Canadian French.

Spanish poetry by distinguished Mexican authors was recited, and a traditional Chinese story was told in Mandarin. The attendees eagerly joined in Japanese chants, learned Mandarin New Year's

Con't from previous page.

greetings and numbers through song and dance, and sang along to traditional French Canadian songs.

British Columbia's Lower Mainland is one of Canada's, and the world's, most multilingual areas. In 2016, children in the Surrey School District spoke 172 different mother tongues.

Observation of International

Mother Language Day brings linguistic diversity and multilingualism to the fore, an encouragement to appreciate, respect and share the languages that our ancestors bequeathed to us.

Top Right: Suzanne Leclerc and Bryn Wilkin of Vazzy perform traditional French-Canadian music

Bottom Right: Ms. Mingzhu Lu leads the audience to sing in Mandarin



International Network of Language Museums

Museums of Language – Experimenting Language Exhibitions

By Elaine Gold

I was thrilled to be invited to participate in a Workshop about Language Museums at the Istituto Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence on February 9 and 10. My presentation gave an overview of the CLM's goals and our approaches to creating accessible

exhibits about Canada's languages.

There were representatives from language museums and planned language museums from a large number of countries: England, South Africa, France, Germany, Turkey, Norway, Lithuania, Austria and Italy. Participants also included graduate students from the Museum Studies programs in Florence and Rome. The organizers are planning to

produce a book about Museums of Language based on the proceedings, and my chapter will be about developing traveling exhibits.

I look forward to further contact with my Language Museum colleagues through my work as a board member of the International Network of Language Museums.

Welcome to DCHP-2, the Second Edition of A Dictionary of Canadianisms on Historical Principles

by Stefan Dollinger
www.dchp.ca/dchp2/

This is the Second Edition of A dictionary of Canadianisms on Historical Principles, DCHP-2. It combines the legacy data of the first edition from 1967, DCHP-1, with a systematically re-conceptualized update focusing on 20th and 21st-century words and meanings, including a revision of select DCHP-1 entries. This work shows changes in the meanings of words over time, using dated

quotations to illustrate these shifts. Thus, DCHP-2 includes words that have become outdated or obsolete and lists for the sake of historical completeness words and meanings that are considered offensive or derogatory today. These words, however, are clearly marked.

The project was carried out by the Canadian English Lab at the University of British Columbia under the leadership of Stefan

Dollinger (editor-in-chief, UBC and Göteborgs Universitet) with associate editor Margery Fee (UBC).

Click here to read an article about DCHP-2 that includes a reference to CLM Director Elaine Gold's research on eh?.

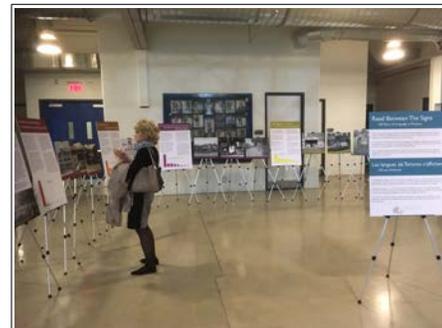
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/dictionary-of-canadianisms-is-tabled-and-all-dressed/article34274504/>



“A Tapestry of Voices” Exhibit at the University of Calgary, AB



“Speaking the Inuit Way” at the University of Toronto’s Inuktitut Language & Linguistics Workshop



“Read Between the Signs” at Congress 2017, ON

Canadian Language Museum Exhibits: At Home and on the Road



“Canadian English Eh?” Exhibit at Museum on the Boyne, ON



Visitors enjoying our new posters at Glendon Gallery



“Le français au Canada” at Canada Post in Ottawa



Christina Clark Kazak’s reception at the Language Museum



Innovation@Glendon Reception at the Language Museum



Inuit & Cree Language Exhibits at Queen's University

Save the Date! September 19, 2017

We will be hosting a special event in the Rose Garden adjacent to the Museum at Glendon. Award winning choreographer and York University professor Carol Anderson will present an original piece that brings together contemporary dance and language.

Anishinaabemowin: The Birth of Nanabozho

By Maggie Kyle

For the class Case Studies of Canada's Aboriginal Languages with Professor Maya Chacaby we were tasked with creating a community project that involved taking a traditional Anishinaabe story and putting it into a creative format. This project would then be given to the Anishinaabe community who wanted to learn the language.

For this project my classmate Megan Flanigan and I decided to go back to my high school, Paris District High School and run a workshop with students showing them what we learned in the class and giving everyone a page in the book to create.



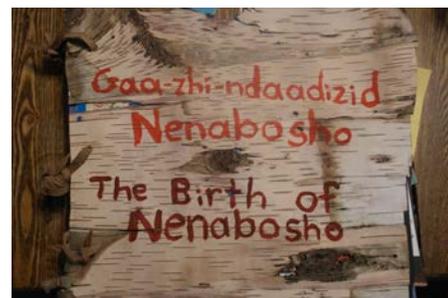
Maggie Kyle and Megan Flanigan, with their Anishinaabemowin book "The Birth of Nanabosho"

It was important to me to teach the students about Anishinaabe culture and language as well as give the students an opportunity to be creative without restrictions as these are two things I found lacking when I was in high school.

We provided the students with many different mediums to create their pages. The pages of the book that the students created were beautiful and unique in their own way. It was a positive experience all around. Everyone learned something new, and it was beautiful to see the collaboration put together.

We also created a canvas where everyone was able to add whatever they wanted to. In the end, we put the pages together as a YouTube video where we spoke Anishinaabemowin and had the text in both Anishinaabemowin and English.

I found some old Birch bark and wrapped it around the book as the cover because in the story "The Birth of Nanabozho" he is a



"The Birth of Nanabosho"

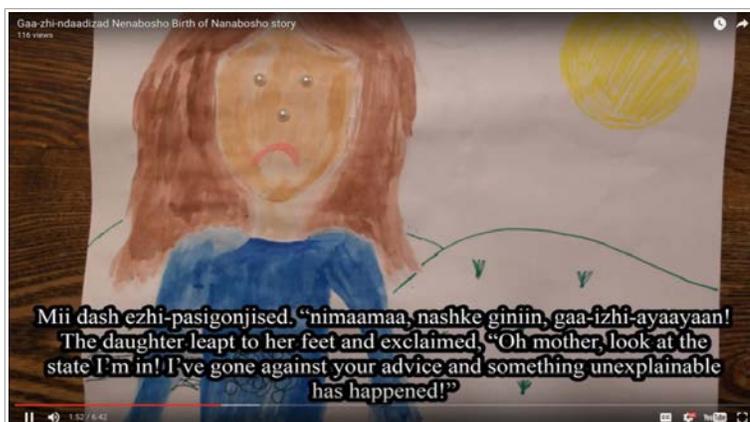
blood clot wrapped in Birch bark and nurtured after he is born.

Through this process I learned the importance of going back to my community and teaching what I learn in university with others in a positive and inclusive environment and teaching people important things they wouldn't necessarily get a chance to learn elsewhere.

We decided to donate the book to the Canadian Language Museum to be able to share a one of a kind book with people who are interested in Anishinaabemowin, especially because my Professor taught me the importance of sharing your gifts with others.

You can view the YouTube video where Maggie and Megan read their book "The Birth of Nanabosho" in Anishinaabemowin, and show the text in both Anishinaabemowin and English here:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/uaokHFTEXbg>



Director's Closing Remarks

Dear CLM members, thank you so much for your continued support. We hope that you enjoy visiting our exhibits and reading our newsletters! As you know, we rely on our members' and donors' contributions for all of the museum's operations. Please consider making an additional donation to the museum at the same time that you renew your membership. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Click on the link below to make a valuable contribution:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/dn/18838>

Canadian Language Museum Newsletter

Glendon Gallery,
Glendon College

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Connect with the Museum!



Hilel, Elaine, and Stephanie

www.languagemuseum.ca

www.facebook.com/clm.mcl

www.twitter.com/CanLangMuseum

www.instagram.com/CanLangMuseum

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Closed for the Summer!

The gallery will be closed for July and August but we will be busy behind the scenes preparing for the fall. Have a wonderful summer!

Special thanks to our Newsletter team!

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