

A newsletter by, for & about
Canadian Gregors, their
heritage and their kin

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Maple Leaf MacGregors

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VOLUME 8 ISSUE 1

WINTER 2024-2025



Greetings from the Chair

I for one, am finding it really hard to believe we are just a few short days away from closing out 2024 and ushering in 2025. The progression of days, weeks and months have been relentless, just like waves on a beach.

We tend to mark our time in terms of seasons and events and this year is no different. For many of us this was the year our calendars said we were off to Scotland to attend an international Clan Gregor Gathering. Originally planned for 2022 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of our Society, the event got pushed back two years during the pandemic and thereafter. At long last we gathered in our ancestral homeland and oh, what a week it was! By

now many of you would have already seen evidence of this grand outing, but we include here some pictures and reflections of our times together from a Canadian perspective.

Our Chapter held it's AGM on October 26th, our first entry into Zoom country. It was well attended with broad representation from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. The minutes, financial reports and a recording of the meeting are included for those interested in our Chapter specifics and proceedings.

View the meeting on YouTube : <https://youtu.be/WIZGs3QpTQU>

If you are pressed for time, be sure to at least watch the opening remarks from Chairman Richard McGregor and Overseas Rep Keith MacGregor. The highlight of the meeting was the election of two young and gifted lassies, Stacey Crawford and Alix MacGregor Williams to Chapter Council. Their ener-

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Greetings from the Chair

(Continued from page 1)

gy, enthusiasm and dedication to the Society's best interest are most welcome.

In addition, stalwart members June Jain, Sylvie Theriault and Bill Petrie have been reelected to help me manage and direct our uniquely Canadian Chapter. For their efforts I am most appreciative! Before leaving the meeting, I want to reiterate that the Society is dedicated to serving its members by educating and disseminating accurate information about our Clan's history and heritage. As such, your active involvement is critical. We are always looking for members interested in joining Council or just showing up at Games and events to help us hold up the banner of MacGregor and promote our Society. Don't be bashful about offering to help!

Of special note is the arrival of our Clan Gregor Society booklet, *The Dalmally Stones*. Be sure to order your copy as you will want to know the story behind their importance and restoration. This is a Society fund raiser and your support will be most appreciated. You'll also really enjoy the book and welcome it to your library of Gregor reading materials and references.

Sadly, your copy of Newsletter #99 from the Society has been languishing in the postal system for over a month now. While service has resumed there will be delays in clearing backlogs so here are links for digital versions so that you have some good reading material over the holidays.

For a flip-book :

<https://www.mapleleafmacgregor.ca/index.php/cgs99winter2024>.

For the downloadable PDF :

<https://www.mapleleafmacgregor.ca/Newsletters/CGS99Winter2024.pdf>

Lastly, I want to thank each and every one of you for your interest in your heritage and in the work of helping to maintain the sense of Clan that has traditionally held Gregors across the centuries and from all over the world together. You and your families are a part of this proud history. We here in Canada are 131 members strong and growing. Thank you for doing your part.

I wish you the blessings of the Christmas Season and every good wish for a healthy and prosperous 2025.

Wayne MacGregor Parker



Important Announcement - The Dalmally Stones

The Dalmally Stones, written by Keith MacGregor and Richard McGregor is now available for sale to members. After years of research, lobbying, fundraising and organization, the most substantial relics from the time of our early Chiefs are these grave-stones, and they are now successfully preserved. They have been raised and are permanently restored to the inside of the Dalmally kirk where they were originally placed to mark the lives of Gregor Chiefs in the 14th and 15th centuries.

Between the loss of our lands, the proscription of our very name, and the challenging times Clan Gregor endured, we have no castles and very few permanent relics beyond these stones to visit or anchor us to a physical space. It is therefore important that we understand their significance. This little booklet is easy to read and tells their story and the work behind the largest project the Clan Gregor Society has ever undertaken. Complete with color photos, it is now available for \$10.00 plus shipping.

This booklet belongs in the library of every member of Clan Gregor.

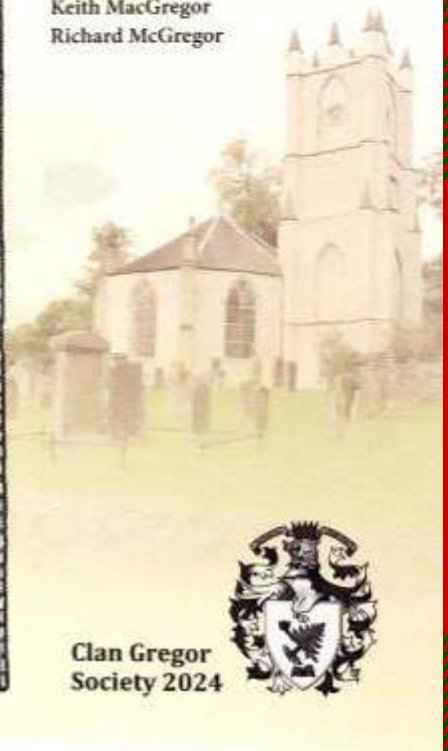
Contact macgregor@telizon.ca to place your order.

Wayne MacGregor Parker



The Dalmally Stones

Keith MacGregor
Richard McGregor



Clan Gregor
Society 2024



CGSCC 2024 AGM Minutes

CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND - CANADA CHAPTER

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DORSET, ON

OCTOBER 26th, 2024 4:00 PM EST

PRESENT : Wayne, MacGregor Parker, William Petrie, Sylvie Theriault, Vina Parker and Frances Ferguson. Over twenty (20) members joined us by Zoom.

WELCOME

Wayne Parker declared the meeting open with sufficient quorum to transact business as a Chapter of the Society. Before the business portion of the meeting, he introduced two (2) special guests. Dr. Richard MacGregor, England who has been the Chair of Clan Gregor Society for thirty (30) years. He has been at the helm of research of Clan history, the Dalmally Stones project and, in the future, maybe some digging at the home of Rob Roy's house at Inversnaid. And the second guest was Keith MacGregor, USA, Overseas Council Representative. Keith has also been heavily involved in researching our history, organizing digs and the Dalmally Stones project, as well as Gatherings. He has been on Council for 27 years and welcomed Wayne to Council.

Frances Ferguson was introduced as the Recording Secretary for this meeting. (A wave on Zoom).

Chairman's Report - Chapter status

- Year in review
- Dalmally and Gathering – brief comments as this is covered elsewhere on the agenda
- Games attended- Georgetown, Northumberland, Kingsville, Uxbridge Glengarry, Montreal, Fergus, North Lanark, Niagara.
- 130 members- interest strong- closure rate at games over 80%- 30-40% at best online – New members used to receive a copy of the constitution; however, it is available now on the Website
- DNA inquiries
- MLM content. This is your publication so please provide content!
- New faces on council- emphasize youth involvement
- Constitution discussion – openings and how to get involved
- Renewals. Invoicing. Digital option discussed

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A lot of history was shared and a new booklet titled “Dalmally Stones” was mentioned and is available now for purchase on the Website. The cost is \$10.00. It is a fund raiser and a must-have booklet.

MLM EDITORS REPORT (Bill Petrie)

Bill and Sylvie are co-editors. Bill explained how the publishing of the newsletter appears on the website as a PDF and a Flip Book. Only members can sign in and read the book. He also showed the statistics of the number of persons using the site. It is definitely growing since 2019. December 2022 had 1026 visits and in December 2023 it had 1242 visits.

Bill and Sylvie reported that a Clan Gregor tent was represented at Games in Georgetown, Northumberland, Kingsville, Uxbridge, Glengarry, Montreal, Fergus, North Lanark, and Niagara. Next year they are planning on going to Nova Scotia. We are considering invoicing members in January when membership is due instead of just sending out reminders. Bill reported that people respond almost 100% of the time when they receive an invoice. If a member chooses to receive the Newsletter digitally, they would receive \$5.00 / year discount as it would save the cost of mailing.

Wayne accepted this report with thanks to Bill and Sylvie for their efforts as Editors and as ambassadors at various Games.

REPORT ON FINANCES AND BANKING AGREEMENT

Copies of the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement to October 21, 2024 are attached.

The bank balance is \$3,345.09, Total Assets \$3,682.09 and Membership Fees due Scotland are \$2,255.00. Income by Ways and Means \$830.00 is what is sold at Games and the Website. One expense missing is the Rob Roy Pipe Band Scholarship that CGSCC sponsors. Because of Covid there were no candidates this year, but there will be next year. The report is unaudited. Wayne does the treasurer's work using QuickBooks. CGSCC is not a registered charity and does not require auditing.

Motion by William Petrie to accept the Financial Report. Seconded by Theresa Pelley. **Carried**

Wayne noted that he does the banking and the account is held at the Bank of Nova Scotia in Huntsville. He and his wife, Vina, are the present signatories. It is a small business account with minimal fees. Wayne explained that one signature was required for under \$2,000.00 and two were required for over \$2,000.00. The reason is to avoid double the fees if the payment to Scotland was sent in more than one transfer. A Motion was requested to add two more people as signatories.

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CGSCC 2024 AGM Minutes

(Continued from page 5)

Motion by Ronald Gregory to add Bill and Sylvie to be signatories on the bank account. Seconded by Alix Williams. **Carried**

It was noted that Jenn Tromellen Jones had offered to look into a designation for CGSCC as a “Not For Profit”.

Slate Of Officers For 2025-2028

Sixty five (65) proxy ballots were returned. All were positive. A motion was requested to affirm the slate of Council and Officers as presented.

Re-elected, William Petrie, Co-editor, 3 year term

Re-elected, Sylvie Theriault, Co-editor, 3 year term

Re-elected, June Jain, Director in Chapter Council, 3 year term

Elected, Alexis Williams, Director in Chapter Council, 3 year term

Elected, Stacey Crawford, Director in Chapter Council, 3 year term

Re-elected, Wayne M Parker, Chapter Chairman, 3 year term

MOTION by Ronald Gregory, Seconded by Dale MacGregor, CARRIED

INTRODUCTION OF ALIX WILLIAMS AND STACEY CRAWFORD

Wayne introduced our newest Members of Council and asked them to share their experiences on the International Gathering of 2024.

Alix gave a wonderful report on her experience of attending the Gathering with her son. They celebrated this trip together in recognition of his graduation during Covid. They had to do something special and this definitely was very special to them. They have memories for a lifetime and are very thankful to the organizers and volunteers who made this Gathering possible.

Stacey reiterated the specialness of this Gathering for its amazing history, historical sites, people, Clan knowledge and the experiences. They both said they needed more time there. Thank you again for all the work and co-ordination that went into making the Gathering so special. Wayne thanked both for sharing their experiences.

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SCOTTISH CULTURE, ACTIVITIES AND IDEAS

There is an old saying, “the family that plays together, stays together”. Along that line of thought, Alix and Stacey have ideas of some of the things we could do as “a family”.

Stacey is wondering about an AGM, that could also be a get-together weekend where we could enjoy a meal together and maybe do cultural activities. The logistics were noted, as we cover a large amount of territory! She mentioned that the University of Guelph has the largest collection of Scottish History outside of Scotland.

Alix suggested crafting of things Scottish. Also, she put forth an idea for a “hospitality tent” instead of a very small tent that we use now. In it we could have displays on positive things about the Clan Gregor. She mentioned the negativity of how we were introduced at the Fergus Games as “cattle thieves”.

They are asking people for any suggestions they may have, or thoughts on some of the things they are suggesting. And would there be any interest in attending Games in the USA?

FUTURE CHAPTER AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sylvie gave a rundown of the work they do with the Chapter. In addition to editing the MLM, she does the Facebook page and games. She and Bill are involved with Scots Canada and they do almost 100% of the traveling to the Games and work at the SC tent. Sometimes, Sylvie is by herself manning the Gregor tent. She would be pleased to have volunteers help at the Games. She also asked members to submit stories for the MLM.

Before adjourning of the meeting, Brandan MacGregor brought up the subject of the family name “Greer” being used as an alias for MacGregor. “Boyd” was also mentioned as another alias.

Wayne thanked everyone for attending and reminded us about the volunteer opportunities and to please send in your family stories. Also, reminder about the “What's in a Name?” contest. See Page 8 of Maple Leaf MacGregors, (Winter 2023-2024) for details. Looking forward to those stories and photos. The prize for photos is a free five-year membership subscription.

Motion to adjourn by Ronald Gregory, Seconded by Alix Williams, carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM

Watch the recording of the meeting on YouTube : <https://youtu.be/WIZGs3QpTQU>

CGSCC 2024 Balance Sheet

Clan Gregor Society Canada Chapter YTD 2024 Balance Sheet

As of 10/21/2024 ¹

ASSETS

Bank Balance	\$3,345.09 ²
Inventory	\$215.00 ³
Cash on hand	\$122.00

Total Assets \$3,682.09

LIABILITY

Membership fees due Scotland	\$2255.00 ⁴
------------------------------	------------------------

Total Liability \$2,255.00

RETAINED EQUITY \$1,427.09 ⁵

Notes

1. All activity in Canadian dollars
2. Bank of Nova Scotia CGSCC account
3. Estimated inventory on hand
4. Consisting of memberships collected YTD at estimated exchange rate as of 21/10/2024
5. Unaudited

CGSCC YTD 2024 P&L Statement**1/1/2024 through 10/21/2024****INCOME**

Annual Member Dues	3036.86	78.5%
Ways And Means	830.00	21.5 %
TOTAL INCOME	3866.86	100.0 %

EXPENSES

Bank Charges	56.03	2.2 %
CGSCC Games Expense	250.00	9.6 %
Subscriptions to CGS	1990.00	76.6 % 1
Deposit returned	253.00	9.7 % 2
Subscriptions	50.00	1.9 %
TOTAL EXPENSES	2599.03	100.0 %
NET	\$1267.83	100.0 % 3

Notes

1. Dues collected in 2023 and transferred to Scotland in 2024
2. Deposit for Tour 2 reimbursed due to cancellation
3. All numbers in Canadian dollars
4. Unaudited

Gift Idea for Christmas!



**I'M THINKING ABOUT JOINING THE
CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY.
EXCELLENT IDEA SIRE, I WILL GIFT
YOU A MEMBERSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS**

Pictured above is King George reading the Highland Rogue by Daniel Defoe.

For more about membership go to www.mapleleafmacgregor.ca/belong

Dues Reminder

Membership renewals for 2025 are soon due in January for those whose memberships expire in 2024. New for this year, you will receive an invoice showing your renewal amount and payment details. We received the message loud and clear that it is more convenient for members to receive an invoice than to rely on memory and voluntary subscription. Your prompt response will be much appreciated.

As an FYI, your membership number is shown along with the expiration date of your membership (eg mine is 3221/27) on the mailing label of the Newsletters you receive from Scotland. If in doubt call or email me and I'll be happy to assist.

Please send your \$45.00 Single or \$60.00 Family by e-transfer to treasurer@mapleleafmacgregor.ca or by cheque to CGSCC, PO Box 232, Dorset, ON P0A 1E0. Remember your best deal is to renew for five years for the price of four (\$180.00 Single/ \$240.00 Family). Your prompt attention to this will be much appreciated.

Do keep in mind that the Society is considering a reduced fee for those who wish to receive a digital copy of the Newsletter instead of a hard copy. Do let us know if you want to go digital. Should Scotland go ahead with this, your membership will be extended by whatever savings you are due.

If I don't receive your subscription by the end of May, I will send you an email reminder. Please consider that I'm a volunteer and it's always nice to receive prompt renewals without having to make repeated appeals! Many thanks.

Wayne MacGregor Parker

General Inquiries

A reminder that should you need to update your contact information, seek specific information or just have a general question regarding your membership or anything related to Gregors, please contact me directly at macgregor@telizon.ca or 705 766 1810.

We are a Chapter of the parent Society in Scotland and as such all inquiries and issues are to be channeled through the Chapter unless specifically directed in cases such as sending deposits for the Gathering etc. Your attention to this will be much appreciated.

Reflections : Highland Tour Gathering Summer 2024

A few reflections from Canadians on the Highland Tour Gathering summer 2024

This was a really special trip for a number of reasons: I got to experience the beauty of the Scottish Highlands with my parents, led by a passionate and knowledgeable guide (thanks Peter!) and meet kind and interesting people with whom I share a common ancestry. I'm very grateful to those who took the time to organize and lead this trip, and absolutely loved my time in Scotland.

Jennifer Tromellen-Jones, Ontario

I thoroughly enjoyed my highland adventure at this year's Clan Gregor gathering.

It was, for me, a humbling and at times deeply moving experience. I have never before felt such a powerful sense of kinship along with the realization that I am part of a very special extended family. It is a feeling that I'll not forget.

The Gathering as a whole was well-organized with interesting and informative tours. They certainly kept us busy! I had no one absolute favourite so what follows are a few of my personal highlights in no particular order.

The profound sense of "my" history that I felt while visiting Dalmally Church and a heartfelt appreciation for the efforts of those who worked tirelessly to see the Dalmally Stones Project to completion

Participating in the march of the clans as we arrived at Lochearnhead Games. There can be no doubt that Clan Gregor is here to stay - despite them. What's more, we won the tug of war against Clan MacLaren. I cheered until my voice was gone.

Viewing our clan artifacts at Castle Menzies and seeing my fellow Gregors dressed in their highland finery for the formal CGS banquet at the Crieff Hydro hotel. The pipers stirred a deep sense of clan pride as they honoured our Chief.

Meeting friendly folk from many different countries and most especially my fellow Canadian Gregors. The week was over all too quickly.

I am truly grateful for having had the opportunity to share in this exceptional experience. Here's to 2028!

Brenda Zundel, British Columbia

This week created such a beautifully focused Gregor perspective of Scotland. I appreciated the itinerary and each destination we experienced with Keith who communicated the history and significance of each location. Certainly, the Dalmally and Kilmartin stones of the Lock Awe school, along with the stories of the Knights Templar are now an important part of every tour. The visit to Balquidder and Rob's grave site: the beauty surrounding that glen can not be overstated and hopefully the archeological digs will add more to the Balquidder story as time passes. We cannot overlook the spontaneous events that created magical moments as well. Richard

Reflections : Highland Tour Gathering Summer 2024

playing his pipes on the deck of the hotel and then watching the Connelly's and Scot MacGregor's grandson - 4 Gregor pipers from around the world share their talents with us. I particularly enjoyed the Gala dinner and sea of Gregor tartan at both the Menzies Castle and the Highland Games. Highland festivals in Scotland have some uniquely different traits and it was lovely to walk in the parade and absorb the events of the afternoon. I'm not the least bit sorry we beat the McLarens at tug of war.

The added bonus were the bus drivers. Tracy and Colleen were funny and in sharing their stories they added a "Scottish flavor" to the surroundings as we drove through them. Particularly at Nix Toll when Tracy suggested the Picts were cannibals and they ate the IX legion. Brilliantly funny and yes, I'm aware that the IX was disbanded after battling the Picts with their surviving soldiers often becoming the leaders of other legions. She also quickly pointed to the location of one of the first crannog discoveries after leaving Seil. That's significant since they are still learning important aspects of neolithic life from crannog sites.

We could have spent an entire day in Kilmarten Glen. The Cairns and museum were excellent. I would have added a walk along the trail to the stone circles and standing stones. Additionally, I wish we had hiked up Dunadd, talked more about King Giric and Eochaid and the transition of the Picts /Alba into the kingdom of Dal Riada. It's a significant turning point in Scottish history and its proximity to and on Gregor lands is a realization that the tour brought into focus. The location and tours of Oban and Dunollie castle help tie the history of this region together as well.

Thanks again for all your hard work and hours of co-ordination to build this tour.

Stacey Crawford, Ontario

View highlights of the Gathering at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3nf8LYhNCrY>



© Daniel McGregor-Huyer Photography

MacGregors in the News

MacGregors In the News

Our own Lt. Colonel, Dr. Trevor MacGregor Jain has once again been in the news. Early in 2024, the Quilts of Valour Society – Canada Society presented a beautiful Quilt to Trevor in recognition of his service and sacrifice to Canada.

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Thank You for Your Service

On behalf of Quilts of Valour – Canada Society®, in recognition of your service and sacrifice for Canada and all Canadians it is a privilege to honour and comfort you.

Though we may not know the depth of your sacrifice to protect and defend our freedom we thank you. As a gesture of gratitude from a grateful nation, we present you with this Quilt of Valour™.

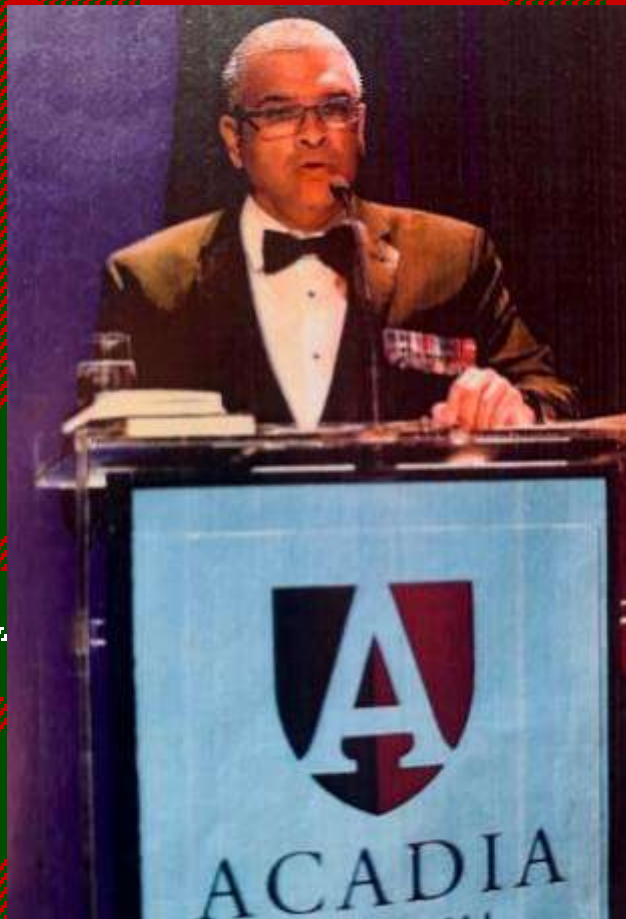


(Continued from page 14)

Later in the summer, The Walker Wood Foundation established a \$10,000.00 Dr. Trevor MacGregor Jain Scholarship at Acadia University, his alma mater. The scholarship is to be awarded annually to a Canadian under student enrolled in a BSc program with a preference for those serving in the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves. In receiving the award, Trevor wrote, "I'm honoured this family foundation would have thought of me and donating money in my name. Looking forward to many students benefitting. Thank you, Acadia."

The Walker Wood Foundation is a private, family-managed foundation historically focussed on the gift of educational opportunity.

Editorial Note: Walker is often a Gregor alias. We wonder if they knew they were recognizing a fellow Gregor!



Dr Jain receiving Scholarship award

2024 Clan Gregor Gathering

By Co-editor Sylvie Thériault

What an amazing experience for the Canadians who came to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Clan Gregor Society! The following are highlights from the Gathering tour starting with us back at the hotel from the Lochearnhead Highland Games.



Below: Clan Gregor pipers at the hotel terrace on the shores of Loch Awe



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering



Professor Richard MacGregor (left) and Keith MacGregor (below) providing background on the Dalmally Stones during an evening session at the hotel



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Dalmally Church



Above: Approaching the Dalmally Church

Below: The marker for Dalmally Stone 1 outside of the church



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Dalmally Church

Keith MacGregor giving us an introduction about the Dalmally church where the chief's stones have been restored. See the next page for two of the stones as mounted.



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Dalmally Church



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Dalmally Church



Above: Professor Richard MacGregor, Sir Malcom MacGregor and Lady MacGregor during the presentation of the Stones in the Church.

Below: View from the church balcony



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Touring



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Touring



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Banquet



Above: Keith MacGregor, William Petrie, Richard MacGregor, and Wayne MacGregor Parker at Bicentennial Commemorative Banquet

Below: Alex Petrie, David Petrie, Michael Petrie listen in suspense at the banquet. Are their father's words another wild tale, a myth or family secret?



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Lochhearnhead

At the Lochhearnhead Highland Games



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Lochhearnhead



2024 Clan Gregor Gathering - Lochhearnhead



2024 GAMES REPORT

2024 Games Report

By Sylvie Thériault and William Petrie

This was another busy year attending games in 2024. Due to being away for most of July in Scotland, we were able to attend games only in Ontario and Québec. Nonetheless, we came across many of MacGregors descent, enjoying conversations about their family history and traditions.

Shout out to our helping volunteers : Erica Petrie, David Petrie, Stacey Crawford, Alix MacGregor Williams, Sharon and Bob Beattie

Games attended were:

- **Georgetown Highland Games : Georgetown, Ontario – June 8, 2024**
- **Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Port Hope, Ontario – June 15, 2024**
- **Kingsville-Essex Highland Games : Kingsville, Ontario – June 22, 2024**
- **Uxbridge Scottish Festival : Uxbridge, Ontario – July 27, 2024**
- **Glengarry Highland Games : Maxville, Ontario – August 2-3, 2024**
- **Montréal Highland Games : Verdun, Québec – August 4, 2024**
- **Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Fergus, Ontario – August 9-10-11, 2024**
- **North Lanark Highland Games : Almonte, Ontario – August 24, 2024**
- **Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival : Lockport, New York – September 14-15, 2024**
- **LBA Highland Games : Ormstown, Québec, September 22, 2024**

Here are some of the highlights. Please forgive us for not mentioning you in the pictures, there was not often time before publication to obtain accurate information.

2024 GAMES REPORT

Georgetown Highland Games : Georgetown, Ontario – June 8, 2024

An early start of the season at the Georgetown Highland Games. The temperature was a perfect 19C. Rain that was threatening to make its appearance all day, and thankfully showed up just as we were leaving. We are hoping that next year, organizers will move the clans in an area that is more central to where the games activities are taking place.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Port Hope, Ontario – June 15, 2024

This was the Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games 60th occurrence. These games have been moved from Cobourg to Port Hope. This venue is much larger. The clan tents area is backed by the vendor area and faces the highland games field. The bonus for us was camping accommodations within walking distance to the games.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Kingsville-Essex Highland Games : Kingsville, Ontario – June 22,2024

The Kingsville-Essex Highland Games have also changed their location to the Canadian Transportation Museum & Heritage Village. This was a well-attended game, despite Environnement Canada posting heat warning on their weather website. We managed to survive with a cooler full of water and non-alcoholic beer!



2024 GAMES REPORT

Kingsville-Essex Highland Games : Kingsville, Ontario – June 22,2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

Uxbridge Scottish Festival : Uxbridge, Ontario – July 27, 2024

The Uxbridge Scottish Festival is held at Elgin Park in Uxbridge. The park has shaded areas, most welcomed in 34C+ temperatures. This festival offers the usual vendors, dancing competition, band competition, and dog show!



2024 GAMES REPORT

Glengarry Highland Games : Maxville, Ontario – August 2-3, 2024

The Glengarry Highland Games are one of the most popular games in Ontario. Well over 10,000 people attended the games on Saturday. Always a treat to have MacGregor accompany us for the clan parade.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Glengarry Highland Games : Maxville, Ontario – August 2-3, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

Montréal Highland Games : Verdun, Québec – August 4, 2024

Quick packing up in Maxville to head over to Dougals Hospital Grounds in Verdun for the Montreal Highland games. No mercy for us this summer, the temperature hitting 35C+. Clan Gregor was honored with Best Clan award. The prize, a 12-year-old bottle of Aberlour!



Montréal Highland Games : Verdun, Québec – August 4, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

Montréal Highland Games : Verdun, Québec – August 4, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Fergus, Ontario – August 9-10-11, 2024

For the past few years, Clan Gregor has been able to attend 3 days of the Fergus Scottish Festival. A ceilidh is held on the Friday night with Scottish music, singing and dancing, ending with fireworks and a concert on the main stage. The clans are invited to light a torch during the ceremonies.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Fergus, Ontario – August 9-10-11, 2024



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2024 GAMES REPORT

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games : Fergus, Ontario – August 9-10-11, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

North Lanark Highland Games : Almonte, Ontario – August 24, 2024

Clan Gregor was present at the North Lanark Highland Games.



2024 GAMES REPORT

North Lanark Highland Games : Almonte, Ontario – August 24, 2024

Pleasantly surprised by a visit from the Rob Roy Pipe Band.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival : Lockport, New York – September 14-15, 2024

A fun festival to attend is the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival. Gratitude to Erica Petrie, auntie Sharon Beattie, and fellow Macfarlanes for helping with setup. Thanks to family that crossed the border to make sure we got fed and mended the tent when we needed a break. And special shout out to Erica and Aunt Sharon for volunteering to festival activities (torch ceremony, memorial service) the festival organized that clans could participate.



2024 GAMES REPORT

Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival : Lockport, New York – September 14-15, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival : Lockport, New York – September 14-15, 2024



2024 GAMES REPORT

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LBA Highland Games : Ormstown, Québec, September 22, 2024

Our season ended at the LBA Highland Games, about 10 miles north from Vermont, USA. This is the first time that the Ormstown Fair Grounds are hosting the Highland Games at the fair. On the program, Pipe Bands, dance demonstrations, traditional Scottish music, and highland games.



2024 GAMES REPORT

LBA Highland Games : Ormstown, Québec, September 22, 2024



Loch Broom Church - Dr. James Drummond MacGregor, DD



History

The first permanent settlers in Pictou County arrived in the ship *Betsy* on June 10, 1767. They carved a tiny settlement out of the forest about two miles from the present town of Pictou.

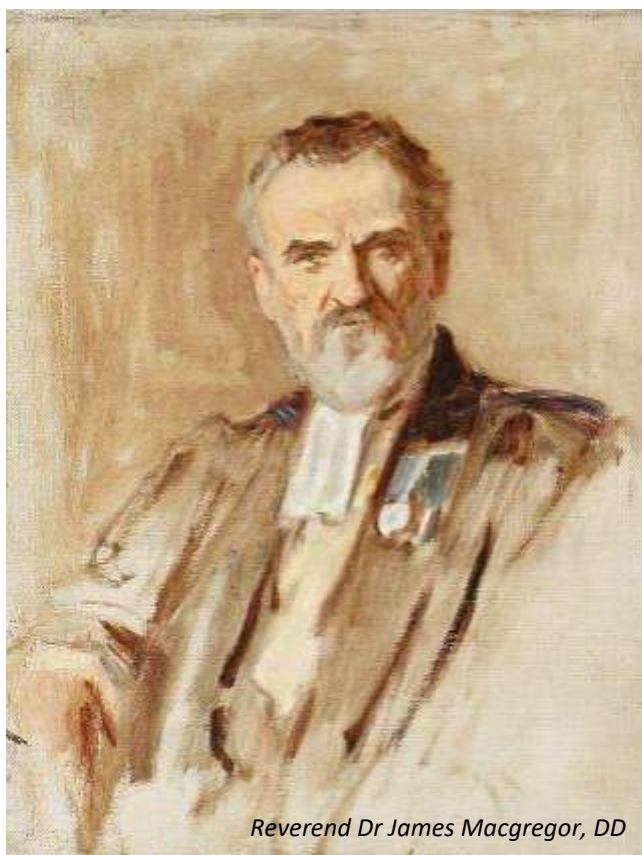
Six years later, on September 15, 1773, the ship *Hector* arrived with 189 Scottish Highland immigrants on board. Alexander Cameron, one of these settlers, settled along the shore of the West River and named the place Loch Broom because it reminded him of his homeland in Scotland.

Scottish immigration to Pictou increased and by 1786 a call was made for a minister capable of speaking both English and Gaelic. Dr. James Drummond MacGregor arrived in Pictou from Scotland in July 1786. The year following his arrival, he had the first two churches in the county built; one on the West River at Loch Broom near the head of the harbour and the other on the East River on the west side of the river, near the site of the Duff Cemetery, between Stellarton and New Glasgow.

George Patterson quotes from Dr. MacGregor's autobiography in his book "History of the County of Pictou" published by Dawson Bros., Pictou, NS, 1877:

"By Squire Patterson's direction I gave out sermon next Sabbath on the East River, at the head of the tide, and the second Sabbath on the harbour, a few miles up from Squire Patterson's; and the sermon continued alternately at these places for about two months, when the people agreed to have two meeting houses - one on the west side of the East River, half a mile below the head of the tide, to accommodate boats; and the other on the east side of the West River, two miles below the head of the tide - alternate preaching to be at these places till winter, when a winter regulation should be made. These two places were ten or eleven miles apart, and there was no road to either."

"During this month (July) ... the men were chiefly engaged in building the two meeting houses; but, instead of employing contractors to build them, they agreed to divide the



Reverend Dr James Macgregor, DD

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Loch Broom Church - Dr. James Drummond MacGregor, DD

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work into a number of lots, and appointed a party of themselves to every lot. One party cut the logs and hauled them to the site; another hewed them and laid them in their place; a third provided boards for the roof and floors; a fourth provided the shingles; those who were joiners were appointed to make the doors and windows, and those who did not care to work provided the glass and nails. Moss was stuffed between the logs to keep out the wind and rain; but neither was one of them seated otherwise than by logs laid where seats should be."

"Such were the first two churches of Pictou, and for a while they had no pulpits, purely because they could make a shift without them, and when they were made they were not of mahogany, but of the white pine of Pictou."

The churches were approximately 40 feet long and 25 feet wide. The seats were logs with the upper surface hewn flat supported on blocks. An upper story or gallery where the younger members of the congregation sat, had similar seats and was reached by a ladder. Service was held in each church on alternating Sabbaths. Dr. MacGregor preached two sermons - one in Gaelic and one in English - both sermons were two hours long.



"Though I preached two sermons every Sabbath, yet the people heard but one sermon in two weeks, except those who understood both languages. Even this circumstance was sometimes productive of trouble; for some who were backward to support the gospel, insisted that they who understood both languages should pay a double share of the stipend."

The current Log Church at Loch Broom is a replica of the original built in 1787. Under the direction and initiative of Rev. Frederick Pauley a stone cairn was erected and unveiled on August 15, 1965 to mark the site of the church. The land for the cairn and the church was donated by Alvin McCabe - a direct descendant of James McCabe - the pioneer who donated the property for the original log church. July 29, 1973, as a result of the dedication and untiring efforts of numerous volunteers and Rev. Pauley, construction of the replica log church was completed.

Click image on left for the Historical Markers Database webpage.

Previous page : Reverend Dr James Macgregor, DD by George Reid (1841–1913) Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums

Editor's Note: *This church came to our attention through the Friends of Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia announcing a church service that was held there this last Sunday Sept 8. It was during follow up research that we discovered the con-*

2025 Games Outlook

The following are the upcoming Highland Games and Festivals that, at this point, we know there will be a Clan Gregor presence at.

Please provide updates and comments by email to editor@mapleleafmacgregor.ca

Date	Event	URL
31-Dec	Hogman-eh! 2024, Ottawa	https://ottscot.ca/new-events-3/2024/9/10/hogmaneh-nye-2024-ottawa
14-Jun	Georgetown Highland Games, Georgetown, ON	https://georgetownhighlandgames.com/
Jun 20 - Jun 21	Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Port Hope, ON	https://www.northumberlandhighlandgames.ca/
28-Jun	Kingsville-Essex Highland Games, Kingsville, ON	https://kingsvillehighlandgames.ca
Jul 18 - Jul 20	47th Annual Orillia Scottish Festival, Orillia, ON	https://scottishfestival.ca/
July TBA - ...	Cambridge Scottish Festival, Cambridge, ON	http://www.cambridgescottishfestival.ca/
July TBA	Sherwood Park Highland Gathering, Sherwood Park, AB	https://www.sphg.ca/
26-Jul	Uxbridge Scottish Festival, Uxbridge, ON	https://uxbridgescottishfestival.com/
Aug 1 - Aug 2	Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville, ON	https://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/
03-Aug	Montreal Highland Games, Verdun, QC	https://www.montrealhighlandgames.com/
Aug 8 - Aug 10	Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Fergus, ON	http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/
23-Aug	North Lanark Highland Games, N.L.A.S. Fairgrounds, Almonte, Ontario	https://almontehighlandgames.com/
Sep 13 - Sep 14	Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games, Lockport, NY	https://www.niagaraceltic.com/
Sep TBA	LBA Highland Games, Ormstown QC	https://expoormstown.com

McGregor Kilts



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