

## AMONG OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The associate membership of the Canadian Historical Association includes several societies whose activities harmonize with our own in promoting history both as a discipline and a means of preserving our heritage. For a better understanding of the objectives and action programs of these societies, the Board has decided to publish a brief description of them in the *Bulletin*. To do so, we contacted some of these societies to develop the most up-to-date profile possible. We are pleased to introduce these societies to you with special attention to their nature, goals, methods and accomplishments. As you will see, they are dynamic partners of definite interest to you as possible collaborators. The first society in our series of introductions hails from Saskatchewan.

### Saskatchewan History & Folklore Society Inc.

A non-profit corporation in operation since 1957, the Saskatchewan History & Folklore Society now has over 500 members interested in both history and folklore. Its objectives cover three areas: collecting, conserving and discussing the facts that make up Saskatchewan's historical and cultural uniqueness. A recognized Provincial Cultural Organization, it receives financial support from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, and enlists a variety of other funding mechanisms including donations and its business activities. And although it pays generous attention to stories, poems, songs, memoirs, letters and images from the past, it is also very active in the area of commemorative and cultural activities.

To popularize local history and traditions, the Society has developed various programs including the *Folklore* magazine and guided coach tours. The *Folklore* magazine is published four times a year and focuses mainly on social history through personalized or family accounts. With a circulation of 1 400, it is also sold in stores and distributed to five other provinces and four foreign countries. The magazine is now in its 18th year of publication.

The guided tours operate every summer and travel to sites mostly in Saskatchewan and sometimes in the other Western provinces or the United States. These tours feature sites of historical attraction but can also include visits to places of cultural or artistic interest.

Apart from these promotional methods, the Society has also developed various other programs designed to support initiatives by private individuals or local groups that advance the Society's objectives. One of them, the Local History Marker Program (LHMP), provides administrative and financial support for commemorative projects. Since its creation in 1988, it has installed 120 aluminium plaques to commemorate various historical events or sites that underscore original features of Saskatchewan's settlement and history (human settlements, school and religious facilities and military facilities such as pilot training centres during the World War II which also benefited local industry, etc.).

Another program aims to promote local history projects through financial support for a wide range of activities from research or the publication of historical books to the creation or presentation of historical vignettes, support for local archival contributions or musical performances, and the development of oral history projects.

At the same time, the Society has devised an original promotional program that offers a certificate of recognition to persons whose farm, house or company has remained in the same family for at least 80 years. One of the major spinoffs of this program has been to highlight the importance of history to the public, especially in rural areas.

Lastly, in addition to its many publications, some written for students in grades 4,5 and 6, and its training activities, particularly in oral history, the Society has launched a vast research project in the south-western part of the province which has already helped locate the trail once patrolled by the NorthWest Mounted Police. This 200-mile (322 km) trail will soon be featured in a publication that will undoubtedly help enhance its importance in the public eye.

To reach the Society or obtain more information, please contact: Saskatchewan History & Folklore Society Inc., 18860 Lorne Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 2L7. Tel.: (306) 780-9204; toll free (800) 929-9437; fax: (306) 780-9204

### McGill Institute for the Study of Canada

The McGill Institute for the Study of Canada receives each year a large number of calls from reporters, scholars and representatives of various organizations from across Canada and abroad. The object of their questions varies greatly including labour relations in Ontario, the sovereignty movement in Québec, the history of Montreal's architecture, Canada's broadcasting policy, Nunavut, immigrant literature in Canada, and others.

In order to answer all these questions more efficiently, we are presently compiling a directory of specialists in various fields related to the study of Canada. This will enable us to offer a better reference service. Furthermore, we plan to have this directory available on the Institute's Web site and it will therefore be accessible to anyone from around the world interested in the study of Canada. The address of our Web site, which is consulted by over a hundred people a week is: <http://www.arts.mcgill.ca/programs/misc/>.

We would like to put your name in our directory of specialists. This does not commit you to anything and you may ask to have your name removed from the list at any time. Remember that the information contained in this directory will be available to anyone "surfing the net". Thus, please give only the information you wish to see appear in the directory. Information on your research topics and spoken languages is essential. We thank you for your cooperation. Please contact: [jcadoret@heps.lan.mcgill.ca](mailto:jcadoret@heps.lan.mcgill.ca).