

## LEIF EIRIKSSON ICELANDIC CLUB OF CALGARY NEWSLETTER



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### LEIF EIRIKSSON ICELANDIC CLUB OF CALGARY FALL FEAST

SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

DANISH CANADIAN CLUB

727 - 11 Ave SW, Calgary, Alberta  
Upstairs in the Valhalla Hall  
(an elevator is available)

*please  
join us*

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Menu: Buffet including AAA Sirloin Roast

Prices:

**Early bird (until Sept 1):**

\$45 - Adult (ages 12+)

\$22.50 - Children (ages 5-11)

FREE - Children 4 and under

**Regular Pricing (Sept 2 - 18):**

\$50 - Adult (ages 12+)

\$25 - Children (ages 5-11)

FREE - Children 4 and under

No tickets at the door

For payment or information - please contact Afton Barabash

Payment by cheque, via PayPal through [leicyyc.com](http://leicyyc.com) or E-transfer by **September 18 -  
make cheques payable to L.E.I.C and send to**

**Afton Barabash** (587) 229-5971 [myownslideshow@gmail.com](mailto:myownslideshow@gmail.com)

**75 Kincora Grove, Calgary, AB, T3R 1R5 587**

Program featuring presentations by the Snorris who went to Iceland this past summer,  
**Suzie Forsyth and Eric Sherwin.**

Following the program games of whist, bridge, cribbage and an Icelandic game to be played.

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## VINARTERTA BEE AT THE SCAN CENTER

*October 18 from 10 AM to 4 PM*



All members are welcome to come whether you have made vínarterta for years or want to learn how to make the Icelandic cake.

Please bring:  
Apron and rolling pin

and a noon bag lunch.

**Coffee/Tea and dessert will be provided.**

To sign up please contact Lorie Dobson at  
**403-912-6869** or email [thedobsons@telus.net](mailto:thedobsons@telus.net).



For more information about office hours for the Scan Centre or any information about library books, please call, Christine Stuart-Smith or email [christinestuartsmith@gmail.com](mailto:christinestuartsmith@gmail.com) if you want to locate a particular item.

Follow us on **social media:Facebook:**

Leif Eiriksson Icelandic Club of  
Calgary Instagram: @leicyyc.

Please share your photos and stories with us



If you know of anyone celebrating a special occasion or has health issues and you would like our members to know please call **Nancy Tarr** as she is

now our Care and Concern representative - call her at **(403) 253-7433** or email at [mtarr@telusplanet.net](mailto:mtarr@telusplanet.net).

## Three Interesting items about Things Icelandic

From Gail Einarson-McCleery and Lorna Tergeson

**Kristin Sólvadóttir is the mother of one of our LEIC members, Sigrun Magnason.**

Subject: **From Snow White to Bugs Bunny:** Gimli cottage was childhood home to the artist who shaped cartoon history | CBC News.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/gimli-home-cartoonist-charles-thorson-snow-white-bugs-bunny-1.4734882>

and here's one from **Brandur Olafsson...**

Below is a story about **Tryggvi Snaer Hlinason**, a young Icelandic basketball player, who has come out of nowhere to become a potential NBA player, currently on the Toronto Raptors summer league roster (they have a team of prospects who play against prospects from other teams over the summer). Story about Tryggvi on ESPN:

[http://www.espn.com/nba/story/\\_/id/20149591/how-tryggvi-hlinason-went-7-foot-farmer-iceland-rare-nba-prospect](http://www.espn.com/nba/story/_/id/20149591/how-tryggvi-hlinason-went-7-foot-farmer-iceland-rare-nba-prospect)

Another interesting link to watch.  
click on the link below....

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/gallery/20180731-an-icelandic-legacy-in-the-heart-of-canada>

## **An Icelandic legacy in the heart of Canada.**

Almost 1,000 years after Leif Eiriksson first stepped foot at L'Anse Aux Meadows, Icelanders returned to North America. Today, their traditions live on in a Canadian prairie town.

## ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA

The INLNA is Celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1919 at a convention in Winnipeg, MB.

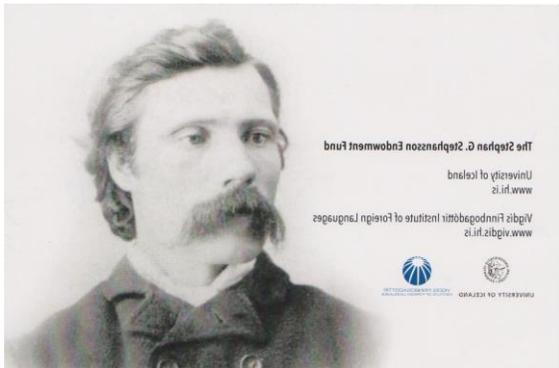
In honour of this special occasion a tour to Iceland is planned for August 14- 26, 2019.

To see more information regarding this tour, please go to [www.inlofna.org](http://www.inlofna.org) for more information.

# LEIF EIRIKSSON ICELANDIC CLUB OF CALGARY NEWSLETTER

## THE REKTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND VISITS CALGARY

On Thursday, July 5, an informal reception was held at the home of Dr. Hallgrimur Benediktsson and his wife Guðrun Jörundsdóttir to honour the visit of Jón Atli Benediktsson, his wife and their two sons. Jón Atli is the Rektor of the University of Iceland. (In Iceland, the title Rektor is only used for Headmasters or Presidents of institutes of higher education, and never for a church position). The main purpose of this trip was to promote “The Stephan G. Stephansson Endowment Fund” for the University of Iceland and the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages. The University of Iceland has a registered qualified donee status in Canada as a registered University outside of Canada. A small group enjoyed food and drinks while chatting with the congenial visitors. Stephan Benedictson kindly toured the family to the mountains and then to the Stampede on Friday where they took in the parade and later went to the Stampede grounds. On Saturday, he drove them to Markerville where they continued their visit to Alberta.



## MARKERVILLE CELEBRATION, JULY 16/18

The day began with a bus trip to Markerville by approximately 30 people. Thanks to Barb Sigurdson for recording the attendance and making sure we were all accounted for on the bus. A big thank you to Nancy Tarr for purchasing the ingredients, making sandwiches and putting together the lunches for our bus trip; and thanks to the young girls for distributing the lunches.

It was a beautiful day (with a slight change of rain) and the children and adults enjoyed races which was followed by ice cream at the creamery grounds. As usual, Dárcy Gamble was having fun calling the races and children and spectators alike enjoyed the event. Following the races and ice cream, a tour of Markerville was organized which many took part hearing about the history of the hamlet. At Fensala Hall, preparations were underway for the program and the crowing of the Fjallkona. This year Joedy Englesby from Edmonton had the honour of being crowned Alberta's Fjallkona for the coming year with her granddaughter Aimee as her princess. Stephan Benedictson escorted her in as the Saga Singers from Edmonton sang Fósturlandsins Freyja. Donna Crozier was the M.C. for the day. Stephan Benedictson brought greetings from Iceland, Beverly Arason-Gaudet gave greetings from the INL, and Margret Grisdale brought greetings from Calgary in the absence of president Lorie Dobson who was on vacation to the Maritimes.

Following the program, a delicious pot luck dinner was served in the Fensala Hall. Many thanks to Ruth Thorkelson for cooking a turkey and bringing it to the bus (she wasn't even going to picnic due to out of town guests). Thanks to Marg Finnson for baking and slicing the ham – also thanks to all who contributed to the wonderful array of food that we enjoyed. Then onward home were the weary passengers after enjoying another old fashioned celebration of the Independence of our mother country, Iceland.

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### Grand Opening of the Seattle Nordic Museum

by Edith Lewis

The weather made the Ribbon Cutting Opening so enjoyable for the approximately 2000 People outside the Front Door. The President of Iceland made the first speech and described the Nordic culture as respectful for every human being. There is a particular love and great appreciation for Nature. He spoke of the fact that Nordic people are only 10% of the world's population. The next speaker was HRH Crown Princess Mary of Denmark. She congratulated everyone involved in the Museum construction and all the donors. The Mayor of Seattle also spoke and the Congressman and Representative for the area.

The Icelandic items and stories on the many Videos included lava-based ceramics, a felted hat, the Althing, that is the Parliament started in 930 A.D. Photos showed some of the landscape of Iceland, including some of the 30 active volcanoes. There was an example of the Cod Skinned shoes - a story of Halldor Laxness, the 1955 Nobel Prize winner for Literature. Someone donated a beautiful Fjallkona dress and headdress.

I had a good visit with the Curator - a well-spoken woman who told me that there were 80,000 artifacts and after viewing the four floors, I could believe this.

There was an inclusive display of the Scandinavian designs of furniture and household items that we take for granted.

The 4th Floor was divided into the history of the Fishing Industry and the Logging Industry.

There were several Viking type boats, the largest of which was displayed in the outside yard at the back, along with two ancient carved large stones from the 15th Century commemorating men who died during the Crusades.

On the main floor was a Modern Art Gallery with several items on loan from major New York and other Galleries.

Along the main stairway were some individual 4 ft. x 4 ft. modern paintings depicting the 8 Wagner Operas. Very Beautiful! The feature wall was near the front door with the amazing list of donors. The cafeteria will be open in about a week but has a front corner, all glass and looks like a place to rest while viewing this huge museum. The Gift Shop had all Scandinavian items, including

Royal Copenhagen china and Iittala Crystal from Finland, linen and books.

The size of the Concert Hall was most impressive. For two days there was continuous entertainment. Of course, the highlight was the Icelandic 100-member Choir who were beautifully trained with exact diction, dynamics and tuning. They were a treat to hear. The performance was partly A Cappella and partly accompanied by a marvelous woman who played for the Icelandic Opera.



By Vera Goodman

We are hosting a Variety Show and fundraiser to send a *Story Circle* team to a refugee camp in Ethiopia:

**Wednesday, Nov. 7 in the Bella Theatre!**

We are calling the show, *Vera & Friends*. My friends will be on stage, in the audience and hopefully will be assisting as Sponsors of the event. I am looking forward to having a reunion with the many people I have met through the years: it will be very exciting to have everyone together in the same venue!

Over the years I have tried to attend the galas, concerts, signings and other events that my friends have promoted. I know how much work is entailed in all these things. We need 650 people to fill the theatre, so I will need all of you, my friends, to help me make this an AMAZING success.

It will be a fabulous evening of fun and entertainment. Ten totally different acts will keep you surprised and entertained. **Darryl Janz** and **Michelle Cameron** will host the party. I'm not mentioning names of performers because, like a good book, I want you to be asking "What's next?"

You will soon receive an invitation to the event and if you could forward it to your friends with a personal note asking them to meet you there I would greatly appreciate it. With your support and assistance, we can make a HUGE difference for the children and families in the refugee camp. It is a big undertaking for an 'old girl'.

Thanks for helping me take *The Story Circle Model of Education* into the world.

Tight hugs and happiness,  
Vera 403-240-0402

Medium  

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## LEIF EIRIKSSON CLUB PHOTOS



Club members at the reception for Jón Atli Benediktsson  
Photo by Karl Torfason



Jón Atli Benediktsson and Dr. Hallgrimur Benediktsson  
Photo by Gwen Mann

## Markerville Celebration photos by Karl Torfason



Fjallkona Joedy Englesby and granddaughter Aimee



**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE FALL FEAST!**