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Fêtes de la Nouvelle-France celebrations fit for a king

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For a single weekend, Old Quebec returned to its roots. From Aug. 4 to 7, the Parc de l'Esplanade was transformed into a village from the time of New France for the annual Fêtes de la Nouvelle-France (FNF). Hundreds of thousands of people flocked to the event, many dressed as pirates, noblemen and ladies, or peasants and artisans. Some of these people even offered helpful hints to others who were trying to solve the riddles of the treasure hunt.



Pierre Lévesque, the architect of the Hôtel-Dieu, the first hospital in North America, shares his passion with visitors to the Fêtes de la Nouvelle-France.

People who had purchased a medallion had to crack three numeric codes before handing the medallion to the notary of New France. Only those with the right code could enter the contest. "I loved the treasure hunt last year and I am super happy that they brought it back; I only wish it lasted

longer than the weekend, because I would have loved to have finished it," said Laurent Turcotte, who was dressed as a peasant.

This year, there were three separate treasure hunts in three sectors of the site: The Village, the Old Port and the Trading Post. Each

took people on a trail filled with historical references. After completing all three hunts, participants brought their filled-out tickets with their names, phone numbers and emails to the notary for verification.

Inside the Village, people learned about the history



King Louis XIV travelled far to attend a picnic in his honour on Aug. 6 at Parc des Gouverneurs in the Old City as part of the Fêtes de la Nouvelle-France.

of the oldest hospital in North America, Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu, run by the Augustinian Sisters. Even Pierre Lévesque, the architect, was on site to share his wisdom.

On Aug. 6, His Royal

Highness Louis XIV invited the public to dress in period outfits and join him for a picnic at Parc des Gouverneurs, near the Château Frontenac. People could either order their lunch through the festival

or bring their own picnic to enjoy with Louis XIV and his court. Those who missed him could join him for Sunday brunch at the Village.

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New Cigale Festival forced to compete with the heat

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Dressed in their brightest colours, glitter on their cheeks and hair still wet from the waves, Quebecers flocked to Baie de Beauport to enjoy the province's newest music festival, the beach-themed Cigale Festival, on the weekend of Aug. 6-7. The electro-pop-folk set list succeeded in attracting many guests from as far away as Montreal with artists like Kaleo, City & Colour, Kid Francescoli, Andy Grammer, Portugal. The Man, Allan Rayma and Kim Churchill.

For Vivianne Roy of Les Hay Babies, an indie folk trio from New Brunswick, the festival was a lovely stop on their own 10th-anniversary tour. The heat, unfortunately, kept many fans away, with most of them seeking refuge in the shade or the water. Local singer Marième, who performed after Les Hay Babies, worked hard to get the crowd dancing; an hour later, The Franklin Electric managed to get some noise

and groove out of the crowd. The site's occupancy steadily increased until the City & Colour and Kaleo shows – a highlight for a lot of festival-goers – coincided with the setting sun.

With the sun beating down and the waves so near, most festival-goers preferred enjoying the water activities offered. For the Boutique de la Baie and the École de planche à voile de la Baie de Beauport, it was an excellent opportunity to introduce people to their paddleboard service. A festival ticket provided access to an hour-long paddleboard rental.

Similarly, Vieux-Port Yachting's discounted prices for their two-to-three-person catamaran tours were very popular. However, the Motomarine Québec rental service was less upbeat about the event. As the hottest hours of the day went by, employee Tania, who gave only her first name, said she was afraid they would not make more than a quarter of their usual sales for this period.

The beach was closed to the public for the weekend, which led to some disappointment and traffic jams as cars were turned around on Boul. Henri-Bourassa.

The event was still a great opportunity for some merchants. For example, partiers could discover the services and products of KRWN Barbershop with on-site free haircuts. For the Old Quebec-based swimwear store Othersea, the sales of an average summer day were reached in just a few hours.

Most food vendors enjoyed good sales. The Shaka Vibes kiosk enjoyed a steady flow of customers early in the scorching-hot day with their soft-serve-like smoothie bowls selling like, well, hotcakes.

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Like most of the artists who performed at the peak of the day's heat on Aug. 6, the Limoilou-born rapper Marième was greeted by a sparse crowd, as most people were trying to keep cool in the shade. Later artists like Forest Blakk enjoyed a larger and more responsive crowd.



Label /

 COMMENTARY

Noting ripping changes in Montreal in latter-day Van Winkle visit



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“The very village was altered; it was larger and more populous. There were rows of houses which he had never seen before, and those which had been his familiar haunts had disappeared. Strange names were over the doors – strange faces at the windows – everything was strange. He began

to doubt whether both he and the world around him were not bewitched.”

Bewitched. OK, that's one word to describe the overall impression of this latter-day Rip Van Winkle's recent visit to Montreal (in the company of a spouse much more pleasant than the much-maligned Dame Van Winkle).

In Washington Irving's 1819 tale, Rip wanders off on a hunting trip and meets an odd Dutchman, who introduces him to his weird cronies, and imbibes some brew from a flagon. He wakes up 20 years later to find much has changed in his village in the Catskills.

Although we had not been zonked out on a drink like Rip was, it has been more than 30 years since we lived in Montreal. Sure, we've been back many times over the years – except the past three – but almost always for

some family or work occasion, never to actually visit the city itself.

So we decided to be tourists in Montreal for a few days, staying in a downtown hotel, visiting old haunts and taking in some of the mind-blowing changes the city has undergone since we called it home.

Bewitched? More like bedazzled. When we left the city in 1991 to take up residence further east, Montreal was on the verge of a great leap forward economically, a surge put on pause during the turmoil of the 1995 referendum.

The construction and real estate markets were starting to take off, a phenomenon I covered as a journalist, reporting on new condominium and office tower projects left and right. As it turns out, they were but a warm-up for the downtown construc-

tion mega-boom that was to come.

At least 25 towers more than 100 metres tall have been built since we left town, and, as we witnessed with our rubber necks, another eight such skyscrapers are slated to be completed this year and next. There are several other such soaring towers in the works, and that's just in a relatively condensed space downtown.

(Just so Montreal is not tempted to feel too high and mighty, it's worth noting that the city's tallest building, 1250 René-Lévesque, is 21st on the list of Canada's top towers; all but three of the other 20 are in Toronto.)

More down to earth, on street level, we noticed a spectacular proliferation of bicycles and a dizzying variety of electric-powered boards, scooters and the like. Bike rental racks were every-

where, a trend Quebec City is just now catching up to.

There are bike paths on major streets downtown, and, unlike in Quebec City, e-scooters are banned from the paths – in law if not always in practice. Several central streets have block-long pedestrian malls.

Below the street, the famous Métro system has undergone a vast expansion with much more to come. Say what you will about Quebec City's tramway project, *la métropole* is kilometres ahead in public transit.

One could go on and on about the structural changes Montreal has undergone, but the most staggeringly obvious shift in the past 30 years has been demographic. It's about the people. Walking the streets for hours, soaking up the vibe in the several neighbourhoods we visited, it became clear the city has

a stunningly diverse and vibrant population, a fact borne out by recent statistics.

With its mix of French, English and countless other languages, Montreal is a unique urban experience in the world, a treasure of diversity – and, for some, a target.

As Rip said, “There had been a revolutionary war – that the country had thrown off the yoke of old England.” Modern Montreal, it seems to be, is decades away from the anglo-dominated, franco-suppressed regime that fuelled a revolution, quiet or otherwise. It's an observation even your average tourist would surely make.

Lastly, what this Van Winkle was pleased to notice hasn't changed? Our favourite Greek resto in the Plateau. It hasn't changed a bit in 30 years, nor has the food.

Province scales up monkeypox vaccination campaign

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Quebec is expanding eligibility for monkeypox vaccination as case numbers gradually rise in the province. The virus, long endemic to parts of Africa, began spreading in Europe and North America earlier this year and the first confirmed cases in Canada were reported in mid-May. Since then, 407 cases have been reported in Quebec, mainly among men who have sex with men in Montreal. Five cases have been reported in the Capitale-Nationale region.

Studies have shown existing smallpox vaccines to be

effective at preventing monkeypox. Most Canadians born before 1972 have already been vaccinated against smallpox. When the disease was declared eradicated in 1980, routine smallpox vaccination stopped, although vaccine doses were still produced to protect laboratory personnel whose work exposed them to smallpox. Smallpox vaccines are now being offered to prevent monkeypox transmission.

“All men in the province can now get this vaccine if they have, or plan to have, sex with other men,” Quebec public health director Dr. Luc Boileau announced Aug. 4.

Dr. Judith Fafard, the medical director of Quebec's

public health laboratory overseen by the Institut national de santé publique du Québec, is a microbiologist specialized in infectious diseases. She advised the public to “get vaccinated if you're at risk and not give in to panic.”

She explained that monkeypox is spread by skin-to-skin contact with infected people. It can also be spread by touching the clothes or sheets of an infected person, or by droplets through prolonged very close contact. Catching the disease from surfaces such as doorknobs touched by an infected person is “extremely improbable,” Fafard said.

“The virus doesn't care about your gender or sexual orientation, but skin-to-skin

contacts tend to happen during sex,” she said. “With the recent strain, we're wondering if skin-to-skin contact is the only mode of transmission or if it can be transmitted by saliva or by sexual relations as such.” It's also not clear whether people can transmit monkeypox before they are symptomatic, although Fafard said a small Belgian study has indicated the possibility of asymptomatic transmission.

An infected person is likely to experience fatigue, muscle pain, inflamed lymph nodes and painful red lesions, in the genital region or scattered around the body. People who think they have been exposed should speak to a doctor, get tested and avoid

skin-to-skin contact with others for three weeks. As a preventative measure, Fafard recommended having fewer sexual partners; abstaining from sex if you have a fever, fatigue or inflamed lymph nodes; and vaccination.

“Monkeypox has been around for hundreds of years, and traditionally, people have been infected after contact with animals,” said Fafard. As with many tropical diseases, she said research about the disease has been limited because countries where it is endemic don't have the resources.

“We don't know why it is outside of its traditional reservoirs – maybe because we stopped vaccinating against smallpox; maybe because

people are handling wild meat more,” she said. “We are lucky in that we have access to a lot of vaccine doses.”

In the Capitale-Nationale region, the vaccine is available at the CLSC Haute-Ville and the Promenades Beauport vaccination centre; appointments can be booked on the ClicSanté portal. Mathieu Boivin, spokesperson for the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale (CIUSSS-CN) told the *QCT* there are no plans for a mass vaccination campaign on the scale of the COVID-19 or seasonal flu campaigns, because of “existing eligibility criteria.”

Food banks ‘squeezed two ways’ amid inflation

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Since the beginning of the year, the list of people requesting food hampers from La Bouchée Gèneuse has gotten longer.

“Last week, we prepared 780 hampers for people in Quebec City, in Lévis and along the South Shore,” said Marie-Pier Gravel, the assistant director of the Limoilou-based nonprofit. “Our numbers are already higher than they were for the last crisis [at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic].”

Before the pandemic, Gravel said, many people who picked up hampers came

from similar backgrounds – people living on disability or on social assistance, recent immigrants and seasonal workers for whom work had temporarily dried up. Now, “people from all walks of life” are lining up, including families where both parents work year round.

Increased demand “started with the pandemic, and we thought things would calm down once the restrictions had been lifted,” said Gravel. “Then there was inflation, the war in Ukraine, gas prices went way up ... and we're seeing a lot of new users.”

La Bouchée Gèneuse is not alone – similar situations have been reported in food banks around the region and across Canada. Élisabeth Fortin is the communications

director of Moisson Québec, which collects and distributes food to La Bouchée Gèneuse and other food security organizations in the Capitale-Nationale region. She said demand has risen by 30 per cent in the last year alone, and by 80 per cent compared to pre-pandemic levels. As a result, food banks are getting “squeezed two ways.”

On one hand, demand is rising. On the other hand, because of rising costs, grocery stores are buying less food from wholesalers, which means they have less unsold merchandise to pass on to food banks. Normally, food banks purchase what they can't source from grocery stores, wholesalers or farmers, “but if we take

\$100 to the grocery store, it doesn't go as far as it used to,” Fortin explained. Before the pandemic, Moisson Québec spent \$200,000 annually on buying food out of pocket; it now spends an estimated \$1.7 million. Food banks nationwide were able to fall back on \$330 million in federal funding over the course of the pandemic, but that support is expected to run out in September.

Although La Bouchée Gèneuse relies on an “amazing” network of wholesalers and farmers who provide meat, vegetables and nonperishable items, Gravel said its supply chain has been showing signs of strain. “Milk, dairy products, baby formula, canned goods ... one week we didn't have

bread,” she said. “Anything that qualifies as a luxury, we're not getting it.” They have had no choice but to “give out baskets that are a bit less full.”

Fortin and Gravel are concerned that as the school year approaches with no end in sight to inflation, and as pensions and social assist-

ance payments fail to keep pace with the cost of living, more people – especially seniors and families with growing children – will need food aid. “You can't reduce your rent, you can't reduce your car payment, so what do you reduce?” said Fortin. “Groceries.”

For more information on donating to Moisson Québec, visit moissonquebec.com/dons-et-benevolat/dons. Cash donations to La Bouchée Gèneuse can be made via PayPal at laboucheegenereuse.org; in-kind donations can be dropped off at 145 boul. Wilfrid-Hamel during business hours. If you are in need of a hamper, you can collect one from La Bouchée Gèneuse any Thursday from 8:30 to 11 a.m. or from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. – please bring three or four reusable bags, your own ice pack or frozen bottle and the \$1 service fee. To find a food bank in your neighbourhood, visit ville.quebec.qc.ca/citoyens/ressources-communautaires (in French only) and click on “Aide alimentaire et matérielle” or call Info-Social 211.

STREET VIEWS

The story behind Rue Crémazie

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This street was named after the writer and poet Octave Crémazie, who was born in Quebec City in 1827. Recognized both during and after his lifetime for his patriotic verse and his significant role in the cultural development of Quebec, he has been called “the father of French-Canadian poetry.”

From 1836 to 1844, Crémazie studied at the Séminaire de Québec, where the American priest John Holmes introduced him to the works of the French Romantic writers. Alfred de Musset, Alphonse de Lamartine and Victor Hugo, in particular, had a profound influence on the future poet.

After finishing his studies, Crémazie went into business with his brother Joseph, a

bookseller. Their shop, the Librairie J. et O. Crémazie, established in 1833 and later installed on Côte de la Fabrique opposite Quebec City Hall, was instrumental in the North American dissemination of works by many Romantic writers. It was also a meeting place for the members of a budding literary and cultural movement. While still in his early 20s, Crémazie helped found the Institut canadien, an organization devoted to the promotion of French-Canadian culture. He served as the organization's president from 1857 to 1858.

Crémazie's first published poems appeared in *L'Ami de la religion et de la patrie* and other Quebec City newspapers. He produced poetic works centred on patriotic themes. The 40 or so poems of



This photo of Octave Crémazie entitled “poète canadien” was taken in 1905 by Albert Ferland.

fluctuating quality composed between 1849 and 1862 reflect his somewhat haphazard apprenticeship to the poet's trade. On the other hand, his prose – his correspondence and his *Journal du siège de Paris* – reflect his literary



Rue Crémazie runs parallel to Boul. René-Lévesque between Avenue de Manrèse and Avenue Turnbull in the Montcalm district of Quebec City. Coincidentally, there is a small secondhand bookstore, Au Lieu du Livre (on the right in this photo) located near the intersection with Rue de Candiac.

sensitivity.

Despite the popularity of his and his brother's bookstore, Octave Crémazie's extravagant taste for foreign luxuries led to large debts and trouble with

creditors. By 1862, his financial situation had become so dire that he fled to France in secret, leaving the bookstore bankrupt. He died in Le Havre on Jan. 16, 1879. His *Oeuvres*

complètes were published in Montreal in 1883.

Sources: *Ville de Québec toponymie*, *Wikipedia* and *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*

MEMORIALS AND THINGS OF FAME

Researched and compiled by Lorie Pierce, lorie@qctonline.com

August 9, 1822 – The Quebec Gazette

Duel

London – The Paris papers of Saturday last relate particulars of a duel between Benjamin Constant and the Marquis Forbin des Issarts, in consequence of a letter written by the latter in which he observed he was ready to answer Constant “at the tribune or anywhere else.”

Without further explanation, the two Honourable Deputies proceeded on Friday morning to the ground, with their respective friends. Benjamin Constant, being lame and unable to stand, the combatants were provided with two chairs, placed at ten paces from each other, and in that novel posture they both fired twice without effect. ... [The] seconds interfered and declared the business terminated.

August 9, 1872 – The Morning Chronicle

An Alarm and a Preparation – An alarm was conveyed to Diamond Harbour last night, that a body of men were moving down to clear out the locality. Preparations for war were at once made. In less than half an hour about eight hundred men, all armed, were massed in Champlain Street; several field pieces, stored in the neighbourhood, were brought out and planted so as to command all approach, while guns were obtained from steamships, and placed in position.

The Harbour was made ready for attack, but fortunately for the peace of the city, there was no occasion for all the preparation, as no attacking body had been massed.

August 12, 1897 – The Quebec Morning Chronicle

(To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle)

Dear Sir – A groan has gone up from the loyal Canadians who are spending the summer on the coast of Maine, on hearing that the fine old Gate at the end of John Street [sic] is to be sacrificed to the spirit of vandalism which seems to prevail in Quebec in reference to the old historical landmarks. I have read with pleasure an appeal from Mr. Scott for a “crumb of comfort to the true lovers of the grand Old City,” viz: that the stones inscribed “St. John's Gate” and the date 1867, should find a place in the new masonry of the flank walls. ... But why new masonry? What's the matter with the old? Where in all North America can you find such a fine old gate? Is there a reason it should be destroyed, or is it from want of reason?

Being in Quebec last winter I was particularly struck with that handsome old gate. ... If the trolley can't run through it, the trolley car had better run round it. ...

Do try, Mr. Editor, to arouse a little spirit in your fellow citizens. Brace up, protect, and put a stop to the destruction of the only old Gate in your town. You will never have another like it! A couple of Americans told me they reckoned on going to Quebec, and they wanted to climb up that curious old flight of Breakneck steps ... In sorrow and wrath, I explained that they are *non est*, – wantonly torn down. ...

Lux, Old Orchard Beach

Note from Lorie: In 1893, the wooden staircase was demolished and replaced later by a larger iron one with three banisters. The one in place today dates back to the late 1960s. Like its predecessor, it is known locally as Escalier Casse-cou. (Source: *Ville de Québec*)

Archives de la Ville de Québec via Wikimedia Commons - public domain



This photo of the Breakneck Stairs in Old Quebec was taken in 1892.

August 8, 1922 – The Quebec Chronicle

Drug Traffic In This City

The city police department have [sic] succeeded in rounding up the quartette of young men engaged in the illicit sale of cocaine in this city. ... The arrest of the young men has brought to light the fact that the cocaine drug has gained a foothold in Quebec. Every effort, however, will be made to stamp out the nefarious traffic.

August 10, 1957 – The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

Montreal Also Concerned About Welfare Of Refugees

We note that the two leading English language newspapers in Montreal have at last sprung to life on the question of aid for the Hungarian refugees ... [by reporting on] the recent demonstration in Edmonton by 100 young Hungarians who protested that they could not get work ... [A recent *QCT* editorial] calls on national service organizations, with or without federal aid, to take on the job of aiding these stricken people, particularly towards helping them to learn one of the spoken languages here.

Note from Lorie: In October 1956, protesters in Hungary took to the streets demanding a more democratic political system and freedom from Soviet oppression. Twelve days later, the protests were crushed by Soviet tanks and troops. Thousands were killed and wounded and nearly 250,000 Hungarians fled the country. More than 37,000 settled in Canada. (Sources – *History.com*; *Parks Canada Directory of Federal Heritage Designations*)

Editor's note: Articles from the archives are reproduced with the original vocabulary, spelling and punctuation. Explanatory notes may be added.

Fêtes de la Nouvelle-France celebrations fit for a king

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Members of the Huron-Wendat Nation were very much a part of the festivities; dancers danced and musicians played inside the Village. The performers also shared their culture and language with curious festival goers.

Although the parade, a fixture of pre-pandemic editions, did not return this year, the iconic giant puppets were part of the decor.

Long lines formed at the entrance to the Village. People were eager to start the treasure hunt, learn about New France or taste the turkey legs, ice cream and other

treats on offer.

Organizers declared the festival highly successful and just as popular as ever, despite the sweltering heat, beating sun and high humidity. Fortunately or unfortunately, it rained on the last day, giving people in full costumes with wigs and hats a break.

New Cigale Festival forced to compete with the heat

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The festival organizers deliberately approached vendors less known in the Quebec City area to ensure an original offer and to pique the festival goers' curiosity. Shaka Vibes, for example, is based in Saint-Hyacinthe and Venise-en-Québec; Mello's, selling chocolate-dipped fruit and marshmallow skewers, is from Trois-Rivières; and Monsieur Pincette is a new Montreal lobster bar. Saint-Roch Italian tavern Birra &

Basta and festival partner Archibald definitely had the broadest food offer, though, with kiosks in several locations around the site.

Despite attracting mostly young adult music fans, Cigale remained a kid-friendly event. In addition to water activities, several playgrounds and fountains were available for kids. The size of the site also allowed families to find calmer areas when needed.

The food service will require adjustments in future editions, with guests experi-

encing hour-long lineups for most stands well after the expected 6 p.m. dinner rush and some stands running out of key menu items. Similarly, washroom lines were long and water refill stations were continuously overwhelmed.

With some logistical improvements and if the quality of the performers is maintained for future editions, the Cigale Festival could become a new must-attend in the region.



McCord photography show features rare images of 19th-century Canada

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Those with just a passing familiarity with Quebec historical photography will know the names Notman, Livernois, and, especially in Quebec City, W.B. Edwards.

Lesser known, nearly anonymous, is Alexander Henderson. The McCord-Stewart Museum in Montreal is rectifying that curious lack of recognition with an exhibition of some 250 photographs from the Scottish immigrant's body of work, spanning from 1857 to 1897.

When Henderson died in 1913, the exhibit's notes say, his obituaries made no mention of his remarkable career as a photographer, "an omission that continues to mystify Henderson experts today."

That omission might have been even more mysterious, were it not for the foresight of a former head curator at the McCord, Stanley Triggs, who acted to secure Henderson's archives from his last direct descendant.

That was after the grandson, who in 1965 inherited the



This photo of a Mi'kmaq man "Ribbing a bark canoe" was taken in about 1870.

family's home in Westmount, removed boxes of precious glass negatives from the basement and "disposed of his grandfather's life's work by way of the municipal garbage service."

Only 15 of Henderson's glass negatives survive: eight in the McCord collection and seven at the Musée National des beaux-arts du Québec in Quebec City. The MNBAQ also has a collection of some 80 prints, one of which, a scene of snowfall in Lac-Beauport, is on exhibit.

The absence of negatives

meant McCord curators, to mount the exhibit, had to use the original prints, selected from nearly 2,000 photographs. This is considered to be "but a fraction of [Henderson's] total output." The photos mounted in the multi-room exhibit are a sampling of a varied career that took Henderson across Canada and to many regions of Quebec.

Henderson and his wife Agnes Robertson, both from well-to-do families, arrived in Montreal two weeks after their marriage in 1855. He

had opted to forego the dull life of an accountant for which he had studied and practiced briefly in Edinburgh.

The newlyweds quickly integrated into their Montreal milieu, which had a large population of immigrants from the British Isles. Henderson, who was already familiar with the emerging art and science of photography, took his inspiration from William Notman, with whom he would travel on photo missions, notably to Niagara Falls.

He started with a portrait studio — one of his subjects was prominent politician Thomas D'Arcy McGee — but eventually followed his interest in nature and his new environment, and embarked on a journey into landscape photography.

Railway construction was booming at the time, and Henderson was hired to take pictures of the structures being built. One such assignment, shared with Quebec City photographer Jules-Ernest Livernois, was to photograph all the railway bridges on one line between Quebec City and Ottawa.

Henderson, besides being a highly artistic photographer, was also somewhat of an innovator in the craft. One of his techniques involved superimposing images of clouds on a landscape scene. At that time, because of the constraints of exposure time, it was difficult to capture sharp images of the foreground as well as the sky. Henderson used his stock of cloud shots to fill in the blank sky.

As McCord photography



The exhibit features this juxtaposition of a painting by Quebec City artist Cornelius Krieghoff with a photo by Alexander Henderson of essentially the same scene.



This photograph of Pointe-de-Lévy was taken by Alexander Henderson, probably in 1870.

curator Zoë Tousignant told the *QCT*, the Henderson exhibit is an exceptional opportunity to see Canada as it was during its formative years.

"It's extremely rare in Canadian 19th-century photography to see the original prints that the photographer made at the time, because these are rare and precious objects and very fragile," Tousignant said. "It's so rare to see 19th-century Canadian photography anyway, but to have a show that is almost exclusively period prints is just amazing."

Images of note for *QCT* readers would include photos of the then-villages of Sillery and Lévis, several historic buildings in Old Quebec, and an 1876 photo of people tobogganing down the ice cone at Montmorency Falls which is featured on the exhibit's poster.

The exhibit curator, the recently retired Hélène

Samson, said in a news release: "Henderson is a profoundly Romantic artist. His work conveys the emotions he felt faced with the beauty of nature — the metaphysical awe it inspired. His attention to detail and the sensuality of the environment, whether rural or urban, distinguished him from other photographers of the era, such as Notman."

Besides documenting structures and scenes from late 19th-century Canada, Henderson captured images from the lives of Indigenous people he encountered on his photographic travels. According to exhibit notes, Henderson represented "their realities without artifice, unlike his contemporaries who would romanticize them to satisfy the interests of their bourgeois clientele."

The Henderson exhibit is part of the museum's centennial celebrations. It opened in June and continues until April 2023.

The museum has published a coffee-table book, *Alexander Henderson: Art and Nature*, containing most of the photos and documentation from the exhibit.

New World Festival

September 4

Noon to Midnight

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YOUR AD
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Hit The Floor brings the universal language of dance to Festivent

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Hit The Floor founder Nicolas Bégin paired up with his friend and Festivent general director Sébastien Huot to provide some family-focused dance shows at the festival for the first time and teach festival-goers some basic dance moves.

"It's really a family thing," said Bégin, who started the Hit The Floor festival in Lévis in 2010, growing it into a world-class multi-style dance event. The Festivent Hit The Floor tutorial included everything from disco moves, the shimmy and the swim to contemporary hip-hop moves.

Everyone has a move they really love, said the dancer and CEO, whose specialty is breaking (known commercially as breakdancing). The goal is to "just have a great vibe" and get audience members participating in a safe space, he explained. If you feel shy, rest assured that no one is forced to go onstage. "You don't need to be dancing full out: just a little shoulder, a little head, a little feet."

Kassandra Boivin hosted the shows on the Radio-Canada stage at Place de la Famille – getting many



After Eight, a dance troupe from the South Shore dance studio Hypnose, exploded onto the Festivent stage with fierce energy.

people in the crowd up on their feet for the interactive beginning of the show before the arrival of elite dancers. On Aug. 6, the fourth day of the five-day festival, it was 28 degrees without a breeze during the late-afternoon performance. "It's something else to dance in this heat," admitted Boivin onstage while leading the workshop.

After the audience worked up a sweat, it was time to watch. Young dancers from New Brunswick, Montreal and Quebec City graced

or pounded the stage, depending on the dance style. Soloists like Marie-Eve Quenneville and Ryleigh Mayo commanded the audience's attention; a real-life couple, Tommy Durand and Audrey Mainguy from Quebec City, did impressive elegant lifts, and five small group dance troupes (Lotus, After Eight, Darling, RK Tÿpe and Dream-pieces) performed varied styles from hip-hop to lyrical contemporary dance.

The pandemic-inspired Bouge Mobile show was also presented at Festivent. Bégin

described the Bouge Mobile trailer as a "surprise box" traveling to different parks with dancers building the stage wherever they go. The 40-minute show/workshop presented at Festivent featured two "B-boys" breaking alongside contemporary and commercial dancers.

Coeur de Pirate and The Strumbellas shared the spotlight for the 39th edition of Festivent, which featured local and international headliners on the main stage. The festival started in 1982 when André Boucher, a hot air



Darling, a dance ensemble from New Brunswick, performed at Festivent on Aug. 6.

balloon pilot, was looking for a place to fly. With its wide-open space, Parc Champigny on Avenue Taniata in Saint-Jean-Christophe (now amalgamated with Lévis) was the ideal spot, and the city allowed organizers to use the land for a weekend. Following the popularity of the impromptu event, the local Lions Club saw the

potential for tourism in the Chaudière-Appalaches region and a festival was born. After 20 years, with energy and revenue flagging, the festival – the oldest hot air balloon festival in Canada – was passed on to the events company Evenma, which has organized it ever since.

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Canada



An artisan beer festival is brewing in Maizerets

MYRIAM LABBÉ
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The sixth edition of the Festival des Brasseurs et Artisans de Québec (FBAQ), to be held at the Domaine de Maizerets from Aug. 12-14, is “for local brewers, by local brewers!” said project manager Maxim Légaré. The first edition since 2019, the event had to be organized faster than usual amid the labour shortage that has hit the brewing and event sectors.

Despite Légaré’s claim, the FBAQ welcomes all – and not just beer lovers. The event is aptly named “the artisans’ festival” as it aims to showcase the know-how of various local craftspeople. This year, the artisan section will include nearly 30 stands with artisans ranging from painters and tailors to jewellers and soapmakers. Families will also find the event kid-friendly, as there will be play areas and face painting. Légaré is also proud of this year’s music lineup, which includes Les

Bleu Pelouse, Alcoholica and Pépé et sa guitare.

“Inherently, a brewer is an artisan,” said Légaré. Accordingly, brewers who participate in the FBAQ will often prepare an exclusive brew for the event, showing off their craft to their colleagues. The event is an opportunity to meet local brewers, discover products and flavours, share experiences and eventually develop or renew partnerships. The organizers allow emerging breweries to share stands to save costs, while well-established breweries like La Souche distribute their official FBAQ beer at most of their local retail outlets.

According to Francis Beauchamp, production supervisor at La Souche Limoilou, the brewing industry in Quebec is still blooming. However, he expects that brewers who sell exclusively on-site might have more success growing their business in the next few years, as distributors are now running out of space. With inflation over the last

year, some ingredients have doubled in price, making good marketing invaluable. “[In this situation] you need to convince your client that the extra price they pay for the quality of the ingredients and the recipe is worth it,” Beauchamp explained.

Beauchamp spoke warmly of the FBAQ as a place for brewers to chat with fans about their creations and with other brewers for advice and ideas. For example, although IPAs are still very popular, brewers are starting to look for new ideas in thirst-quenching lagers like Kölsches, Pilsners and Helles. The FBAQ presents an opportunity to establish contacts or find new recruits.

For the FBAQ organizers, the ripple effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are still creating countless inconveniences. Several of their trusted collaborators and suppliers have had to alter their services or even close. Their own staffing, relying mainly on volunteers, suffered from the labour shortage, forcing them



Photo by Myriam Labbé

This year, the official beer of the Festival des Brasseurs et Artisans de Québec is the Maizerets 2022, a “festive pseudo-pils” with 4.5 per cent alcohol.

to revise their traditional token system. The shortage has also made it harder for breweries to find someone available to work the kiosks, as most are already working with limited staff.

Although the FBAQ focuses on beer producers from the

Quebec City area, it reserves a special place for guest breweries and other producers. This year, the festival invited Pit Caribou from Percé and Hop Station from Coaticook, as well as the local cider maker L’Intrus, the Lévis-based

mead maker Crue d’abeille and Ubalde Distillerie from Saint-Ubalde.

Admission to the FBAQ is free. More information is available at facebook.com/festivaldesbrasseursetartisansdequebec.

Arts Alive! returns to Morrin Centre

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The annual Arts Alive! festival will return to the Chaussée des Écossais, in front of the Morrin Centre in Old Quebec, on Aug. 19 and 20 for its seventh edition. The theme for this year’s festival will be “Built Heritage.”

The festival will open Aug. 19 at 7:30 p.m. with a concert by the Aurian Haller Band and the Blaze Velluto Collection, as local artist Julie Freedom paints along with the music to create an evolving, spontaneous work of art.

On Aug. 20, the festivities begin early with Book Quest

Storytime for children aged three to seven starting at 9:30 a.m. From noon to 5 p.m., the traditional artisans’ fair will enliven the Chaussée des Écossais. There will also be thematic activities for all ages including a treasure hunt, a sandcastle competition, a history quiz and a flamenco workshop by the Garage Flamenco Trio. Performers from Artbeat Theatre will bring festivities to a close at 4:30 p.m. with a preview of their new musical, *Just Say The Word*, scheduled to première at the Théâtre Lebourgneuf in September (see below).

The events will take place outdoors, weather permitting.

“Last year, our theme was street art, and that was very visual,” said Jeanne Lebossé-Gautron, events co-ordinator at the Morrin Centre. “This year, we wanted to do something a bit different, and this [Built Heritage] is what we landed on. There will be information panels on the surrounding streets, and people will be able to learn more about the buildings around us. There’s also the sandcastle-building contest, which we originally planned for kids, but if adults want to join in, no one will stop them.”

The Aurian Haller Band are Quebec City alt-rock mainstays, known for Haller’s intricate, introspective song-

writing; their most recent album, *Songs To See By*, takes listeners on a multisensory, genre-bending journey through Canadian art.

The mellow, inventive, sometimes surrealist rock of the Blaze Velluto Collection, also a Quebec City group, will follow, with hits from their 2020 album *We Are Sunshine*.

The Garage Flamenco Trio and Artbeat Theatre are both Arts Alive! first-timers. “The goal of [the Garage Flamenco Trio] is to present flamenco in an accessible way, because everyone sees it as this complicated dance, and we liked the [emphasis on] making it easier to understand,” said Lebossé-Gautron. She said she was

particularly looking forward to the Artbeat Theatre performance, which will feature two current Morrin Centre staff members as part of the ensemble cast of an original local musical.

The Arts Alive! festival series was founded in 2014 by the English Language Arts Network (ELAN) in collaboration with English-speaking cultural organizations around the province, including the Morrin Centre, to provide a platform for local English-speaking artists. After the 2018 edition, the Quebec City incarnation of Arts Alive! was taken over by the Morrin Centre. This year’s edition is being presented by the



Morrin Centre with support from the federal government, Videotron, Les producteurs de lait de la Capitale-Nationale et de la Côte-Nord and Satir Productions.

“Arts Alive! is a great opportunity to show off what our community can do, to keep building on the momentum we’ve built [over previous years] and to showcase local culture,” Lebossé-Gautron said.

Just Say the Word: Artbeat lifts curtain on eclectic new musical

SUBMITTED BY ARTBEAT THEATRE

It’s hot ... and getting hotter! The cast and crew of J.P. Chartier’s fourth musical, *Just Say the Word*, are busy putting together a show that will not soon be forgotten. Seventeen of Quebec City’s most passionate singers and actors have been working hard since February to put together this original musical, and don’t mind getting their hands dirty or their feet wet.

Inspired by Hans Christian Andersen’s *The Emperor’s New Clothes*, Chartier decided to shift the focus of the story from the vain, pretentious king to the strong, independent princess. “This story always fascinated me,” said Chartier. “However, I saw an

opportunity to put a different spin on the well-known story in order to make a more contemporary narrative that highlights the strength and perseverance of the well-rounded female characters – that’s what my story is about.”

Just Say the Word boasts 18 original songs with a focus on ensemble numbers that will have the audience tapping their toes throughout the show. “I’ve grown a lot as a writer and composer in the past few years, and have included many different styles of music in this production that are new to me. You can expect grandiose Broadway-style numbers, a little hip-hop, a tango and even a sea shanty, just to name a few,” added Chartier.

Just Say the Word is currently

holding a silent auction to raise funds for the production and tickets are already on sale. For more information, visit the Artbeat Theatre Facebook page (facebook.com/ArtbeatTheatre) or contact J.P. directly at 418-473-3690. Want a sneak peek at some of the songs? The cast will be performing at the Arts Alive! Québec festival at the Morrin Centre on Aug. 20 at 4:30 p.m. (see article above). Tickets will be available from the cast before and after the preview performance.

Just Say the Word will be playing at La Scène Lebourgneuf from Sept. 15-17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at lepointdevente.com/billets/justsaythewordjpchartier.



Poster image courtesy of Artbeat Theatre

TICKETS: [FACEBOOK.COM/ARTBEATTHEATRE](https://facebook.com/artbeattheatre) AND/OR [LEPOINTDEVENTE.COM](https://lepointdevente.com)

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NEWS FOR YOUTH:

Community newspapers encourage young readers

BY RUBY IRENE PRATKA



As younger readers turn increasingly to social media platforms and mobile apps for news, newspapers across the country are wrestling with the question of how to keep younger readers engaged with their content, while continuing to publish the print publications that older generations rely on. Quebec's community newspapers are confronted with the same puzzle. Here are three creative ways that QCNA member papers have connected with younger readers.

IT'S A SNAP

Data from News Media Canada confirms the cliché that Millennials are less likely than older generations to get news from print newspapers – 42 per cent of self-identified Boomers prefer to access news in print compared with only 27 per cent of Millennial/Gen Y readers. However, nearly 90 per cent of Millennial and Gen Y readers engage with news content; they are just more likely to do so on a smartphone or laptop than with a print newspaper.

Lily Ryan, publisher of the *West Quebec Post*, *Gatineau Bulletin*, *Pontiac Journal* and *Aylmer Bulletin* and mother of two teenage daughters, enjoys telling a particular story that illustrates this – and illustrates the fact that the stories published in community newspapers still resonate with young readers.

“Shortly before the pandemic, my daughters’ friends were chatting in the kitchen and I heard one of them say, ‘Did you hear Rosie’s mom was on the front page of the *Bulletin*? She won the marathon!’ I thought, ‘How cute! The kids read the *Bulletin*!’” Actually, someone left the paper sitting out on the table and a kid saw it, took a picture of it and shared it on Snapchat. That’s how that story got from one medium to another and one generation to another,” she recalled. “Local news is still of top interest.”

The incident pushed Ryan to rethink her papers’ social media strategy. Although all four papers use social media to share news, Ryan ultimately decided she didn’t have the time or money to invest further in websites. However, she did receive a Quebec government grant to support a digital transition. As a first step, the paper is equipping staff with the same smartphones its readers use, and investing in training staff.

STARTING IN SCHOOLS

The *Gaspé Spec* in the Gaspé Peninsula region is one of several community newspapers that work with local public schools. At the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, through funding from the Community Media Strategic Support Fund, the *Spec* sent kits with cameras, recorders, notebooks and journalism guides to all English and Indigenous public schools in its coverage area, along with monthly suggestions for topics to cover.

“We’re sending them reminders that the *Spec* would like to hear from them and that we’re there to support them, and we’re starting to reap the benefits of that,” said *Spec* publisher Penny MacWhirter. Schools “are contacting us and, as a result, our readers are learning about all the exciting activities happening in those schools.”

In the future, MacWhirter hopes that when young people “have something exciting that they want to tell the public about, *Spec* will come to mind right away. ‘We’re doing a fundraiser for school; let’s write something and send it to *Spec*.’ One article at a time, MacWhirter and her colleagues are creating a new generation of *Spec* readers.

THE WELCOME WAGON

Every September, Bishop’s University in Lennoxville, the only English-language university in Quebec outside of Montreal,

welcomes thousands of students from across the country and abroad. Publisher Sharon McCully and her colleagues at the *Sherbrooke Record* see these students as new neighbours and potential readers.

“...someone left the paper sitting out on the table and a kid saw it, took a picture of it and shared it on Snapchat. That’s how that story got from one medium to another and one generation to another...”

Three years ago, the *Record* worked with a group of Bishop’s students to produce a video tour of Lennoxville. “We did a walking tour and said ‘Here’s the pub and here’s where you can get pizza and health food.’ We can’t expect students to come from another part of the country and embrace a community they know nothing about. So, it’s a bit of a greeting, ‘Hi, welcome to the whole community, not just Bishop’s. Meet your neighbours,’” McCully said.

Traditionally, at the beginning of every school year, the *Record* also offers a free digital subscription to students at Bishop’s and at Champlain Regional College, the local English-language CEGEP. Students see volunteer opportunities in the paper and get involved in organizations like Meals on Wheels. “It helps them see that they’re part of a community, and learn about what’s going on off campus,” she said. “All they have to do is log on.”

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HIDDEN ENGLISH HISTORY

Steven Cameron keeps community history alive through true crime

RUBY PRATKA
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As any lover of murder mysteries or true crime knows, one of the biggest challenges of solving a case is figuring out who to believe. Difficult even under the most straightforward of circumstances, this becomes even harder when the facts are tangled in a web of lies, half-truths, local legends, political and sectarian spin and more than 150 years of gossip and hearsay.

Steven Cameron, an author and amateur historian in Sainte-Agathe-de-Lotbinière on the South Shore, was well aware of this when he decided to try to solve the 1855 murder of Saint-Sylvestre resident Robert Corrigan. “Whenever there’s the potential for more than one version of events to appear in the Corrigan story, it always does,” he writes in *Hill Search*, his 2014 book on Corrigan’s death.

The “Corrigan story” has followed Cameron around for most of his life. “I grew up in Montreal, in what was then a

bit of a rough area, and every summer, my parents would ship me out to my uncle’s farm near Kinnear’s Mills,” he said. “I used to listen to the old guys telling stories, telling lies, and sometimes there was some truth to what they were saying.”

The tale of Corrigan, who, legend had it, was stoned to death on the Plains of Abraham, stuck with Cameron. “I didn’t believe this story, and I asked the guys who were talking about it, ‘Where did [the murderers] hide? They said, ‘up in the handkerchief,’” Cameron recalled, referring to a nearby hilly patch of land. “That was the driver for me.”

True crime stories, Cameron said, “can’t be told without explaining the context and where these people came from.” Corrigan and his neighbours arrived in the Lotbinière region in the decades preceding the potato famine, leaving an Ireland riven by sectarian strife – but taking some of that strife with them. Corrigan was a “somewhat difficult man,” born into a Catholic family, who converted to Protestant-

ism while still in Ireland for reasons that are unclear, and became the black sheep of his family as a result. As documents from the era unearthed by Cameron attest, he was beaten to death in nebulous circumstances in a brawl over the judging of a sheep fair in 1855. “I have no idea where the ‘stoned to death on the Plains of Abraham’ story came from,” Cameron said. “He might have been hit by one stone.”

Cameron worked for many years in administration for Canada Post, spending much of that time in Halifax and Sept-Îles. He also worked for the Réseau de transport de la Capitale, Quebec City’s public transit network, in the late 1990s. When he retired in 2006, he threw himself into learning about the history of the English-speaking community of the South Shore.

“Immigration to this area started around 1820 – before that, [there were] only the Abenaki people, and they came seasonally,” he said. The Lotbinière region “was nearly empty in 1820, full in 1855, and 70 per cent Irish and Scottish until the

late 1800s,” he explained. “People had large families but relatively little land, so their children would have to go elsewhere to find land.” Young English-speaking families filtered out of the Lotbinière region in the late 19th century and settled in the Eastern Townships, in Ontario, in New England and in the midwestern United States.

“Now, you may find a few people with Irish names but a good number of them won’t speak English,” said Cameron. “There are only six or seven [English-speaking families] left. That’s why I’m doing this work, to make sure their stories don’t get lost.”

The book came out of a challenge issued to Cameron by the late historian Marianna O’Gallagher, shortly before her death in 2010. “While I was researching the story, I went to visit Marianna. She had a notebook by her hospital bed and she wrote in it, ‘Steve Cameron promised he would write a book on the Corrigan affair.’ That kind of forced me to write the first book, and then I stumbled on other stories

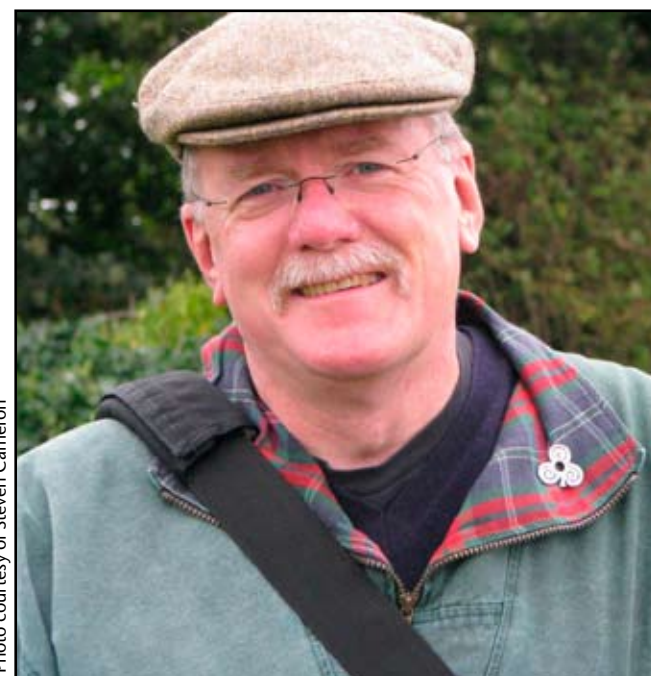


Photo courtesy of Steven Cameron

Amateur historian and Lotbinière resident Steven Cameron has written three books about the history of the English-speaking community of the region.

that gave rise to the other books.” Those books include *Hill Tales: Still Searching* (2015) and *Hill Notes: Glimpses of Before* (2017).

He is continuing to unearth true crime stories and use them to breathe new life into the history of the English-speaking community of the region, using historical documents and discussions

with the distant descendants of victims, suspects and witnesses to move the stories forward, and giving public presentations about his discoveries. “People are intrigued by the violence, but they don’t always understand the wider context,” he said. “I want to make sure the people of these communities understand their history.”

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FLIP Fabrique's new circus show might send you back to school

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If you had strolled around the Domaine de Maizerets on Aug. 5, you might have noticed an odd, brightly coloured structure with a basketball hoop. If you stopped to linger, you would have been delighted by FLIP Fabrique's new travelling show, *Récréation*.

In time with the frenetic back-to-school season, the show wants to appeal to its audience's youthful energy and buffoonery. To bring back the restless atmosphere of a schoolyard at recess, the performers combine dancing, juggling, balancing, jump rope, trampoline and seesaw-like teeterboard feats. As their advertisement says: "During recess, no one can tell us what to do; we do whatever we want, and all are invited!"

And all came, indeed. The première attracted a diverse crowd with families, senior citizens and groups of friends, tourists and locals alike. For Stéphanie and Raphaël, who provided only their first names, the performance in the park

was an excuse for a bike ride from Lévis to Saint-Sauveur. They were excited to see the performance, but their expectations were high: "It is FLIP Fabrique after all!"

For those who are not familiar with Quebec's prolific circus scene, the availability of such events is surprising. For Ursula and Christian, from Zurich, Switzerland, the spontaneous event was a highlight of their three-day stay in Quebec City. They were particularly impressed with the size and diversity of the crowd, explaining that they had never seen a performance of this level that was free and family-friendly. The versatility of the rather simple-looking structure which allowed professional acrobats to perform outdoors was also a surprise for them.

The Ville de Québec contributed nearly \$500,000 for the creation, production and performance of *Récréation*. In a press release, Coun. Catherine Vallières-Roland pointed out this opportunity to "decentralize culture and make it available for more



Photos by Myriam Labbé

Shorts? Skirt? Tie or tape? Come as you are! It does not matter at *Récréation*! Even unicorns are welcome.

citizens." The travelling aspect of the show was particularly important for the city, as it created the possibility to enliven all of the city's districts

and connect with people. The small cast (eight artists per performance) also allows the audience to recognize the artists and follow them across



Photos by Myriam Labbé

FLIP Fabrique performers provide a dynamic show thanks to their well-designed and versatile outdoor structure.

the stage, creating a sense of proximity.

The 30-minute performances will take place every weekend until Sept. 4, in each

of the city's eight districts. The schedule can be found at flipfabrique.com/en/show/recreation.

International mountain bikers conquer Mont-Sainte-Anne

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Three full days of mountain biking competition at Mont-Sainte-Anne entertained tens of thousands of spectators at the 30th Velirium-Mercedes-Benz UCI World Cup. Despite the blistering sun and high humidity, thousands showed up to watch hundreds of athletes race through short track, downhill and cross-country Olympic courses.

On day one, Aug. 5, men and women spent the day training and completing the short track qualifications leading to the finals that evening. It was a long day with the hot sun overhead. As day turned into evening, the heat began to dissipate, to the great pleasure of the athletes. At 5:30 p.m., 31 women on mountain bikes launched themselves from the starting line. Tied for first place, Jolanda Neff of Switzerland and Gwendalyn Gibson of the United States, completed the eight laps of 1.1 kilometres in 22:51.

About 40 male racers assembled at the starting line minutes after the women completed their race. Filippo Colombo of Switzerland won the men's race by one second, ahead of Jose Gerardo Ulloa Arevalo of Mexico and Sebastian Fini Carstensen of Denmark.

On day two, the sun was back and just as strong, increasing the level of humidity. While the thermometer read 22 degrees,



Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Swiss racer Filippo Colombo, 25, wins the elite men's short-track race at the Velirium-Mercedes Benz UCI World Cup on Aug. 5.

it felt like 40. Spectators, volunteers, the athletes and their teams were instructed to wear sunscreen, remain in shaded areas and stay hydrated. The conditions were intense, yet 16 women and 61 men in full mountain bike gear with padding, helmet and goggles waited at the summit of the mountain.

At 12:30 p.m., the women launched individually from the starting gate at one-minute intervals, a long time on a five-minute racecourse. The 2.8-km downhill course was filled with obstacles: roots, rocks, mud, turns, narrow pas-

sages, tight corners and jumps, all surrounded by an invasive, yet respectful and cheering crowd. Winner Valentina Höll of Austria and second-place finisher Nina Hoffmann of Germany managed to break the five-minute mark.

If spectators thought the women's race was spectacular, they were in for a nail-biting performance by the men. Most racers recorded times around the 4:20 mark, until Laurie Greenland of Great Britain launched from the starting gate. At each milestone, his time energized the crowd as



Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Women biked down the same bumpy trail as the men at the UCI Mountain Bike Downhill World Cup on Aug. 6. Jess Blewitt from New Zealand placed fourth in the elite women's race.

he sped by. As he crossed the finish line, no one could believe their eyes: 4:11.955, an eight-second gap. The next 16 racers tried their utmost to beat his time, but without success. Troy Brosnan of Australia got closest with 4:15.221.

Everyone felt the strain of the beating sun and intense humidity. Spectators were anxious for the downhill race to end just to get a moment of reprieve for refreshments. But one last racer, Canadian Finn Iles, stood in the starting gate. He mounted a remarkable challenge to Greenland, beating the British rider's split times one after the other and thrilling the crowd and the onsite commentators. Around the tight corners, over the rocks and

through wooded areas, Iles kept his focus and his speed.

Then, his gears broke. He refocused and continued to plummet down the bumpy and challenging course. His split times were still registering as the fastest. As he arrived in the open area, he could see the finish line hundreds of metres away, but between him and the line lay a long rugged strip leading to two jumps – the giant Red Bull jump and the final jump. He landed both jumps. Iles sped across the finish line in 4:11.717, beating Greenland's time by 0.238 seconds and winning his first World Cup in front of an ecstatic crowd.

The competition continued the next morning with the cross-country events,

despite the rain. More than 30 women and 58 men separately completed a series of laps around a racecourse through the wooded, rocky and muddy area at the base of Mont-Sainte-Anne. The race lasted over 80 minutes. As morning became afternoon, the weather improved, despite the light sprinkle of rain. Neff won the women's race with a time of 1:26:53, followed by Mona Mitterwallner of Austria and Haley Batten of the United States, in second and third place respectively. As for the men, Carid Titouan of France was first to cross the line with a time of 1:24:48, followed by Colombo and David Valero Serrano of Spain.

For more information, visit velirium.com.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Researched and compiled by Lorie Pierce, lorie@qctonline.com

Celebrating the 400th anniversary of the birth of Comte de Frontenac

Louis de Buade (1622-1698) was born in Saint-Germain, France, into a family of high social and political status. His father was Henri de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau. His mother, Anne Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain, was the daughter of one secretary of state and niece of another. When he was baptized in 1623, King Louis XIII was his godfather.

Early in his military career, Louis de Buade was an officer in the French and Venetian armies. As an old *noblesse d'épée* family, the de Buades were granted a fiefdom by the French king in the Frontenac region, east of Bordeaux.

At the age of 50, Frontenac became governor of Canada, administering the king's affairs in North America. The appointment provided little income, but it effectively blocked Frontenac's creditors from attempting to seize his properties, and deferred his

legal obligation to repay his sizable debts.

During a lecture to the Literary and Historical Society in 1884 subsequently published in the *Morning Chronicle*, historian George Stewart Jr. described Frontenac's first steps as governor, in 1672. Upon arrival "[Frontenac] convened a council at Quebec, [administering] an oath of allegiance to the leading men in his dominions. He sought to inaugurate a monarchial [*sic*] form of government. He created, with much pomp, three estates of his realm – the clergy, nobles and commons. The former was composed of the Jesuits and the Seminary priests. To three or four *gentilshommes* then living in Quebec, he added some officers belonging to his troops; and these comprised the ... nobility. The commons consisted of the merchants and citizens."

Other reforms Frontenac instituted met with the

king's disapproval, and, as Stewart explained, Frontenac was "forced to change his plans ... bring them into more equity with those of the court." In his lecture, Stewart alluded to Frontenac's quarrels with the local clergy and his dissensions with the royal intendants (administrators). "The King and his minister were kept pretty busy reading and answering the recriminatory letters of Frontenac and his unsympathetic intendants, whose feelings always prompted them to side with the Jesuits and the Church, against the Count," the historian said.

For Frontenac, as a settler governor, building relationships with the colony's Indigenous peoples was of prime importance. Stewart concluded that, in this area, "Frontenac's management of the Indians [*sic*] was said to approach the marvellous. ... He divined the Indian nature well, though he had been in

the country but a few months, and the longer he remained in the colony, the greater his influence over them became. ... He really liked the Indians, and could enter into their ways and customs with a spirit born of goodwill. He was a frank, and often fiery soldier, and a true courtier," Stewart said, but Frontenac "could be playful with the Indian children, and it was not beneath his dignity to lead a war-dance, should policy demand, as it did sometimes."

After 10 years, Frontenac was recalled to France, replaced in turn by LeFebvre de la Barre and the Marquis de Denonville, both celebrated soldiers. These new governors proved ineffective in administering the colony

during turbulent times. As Stewart recounted, "Other troubles overtook the colony: the rebellion broke out in England, war was declared between Britain and France, in the midst of which Denonville was recalled, and braver chivalrous Frontenac, now in his seventieth year, crossed the seas again, his past conduct forgiven by King Louis [XIV], to administer for a second time the affairs of Canada."

During his second governorship, Frontenac actively extended the fur trade, despite Louis XIV's policy of curbing expansion into the interior in order to strengthen the central colony. Though threatened with a second recall to France, Frontenac



This illustration of Louis de Buade de Frontenac is by Christian Robert de Massy for the Fondation Lionel-Groulx.

maintained his position as governor of New France for the rest of his life. He died in Quebec City in 1698.

(Sources – *The Morning Chronicle*, *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*)

LOOK BACK IN TIME

Mob politics makes a mark in Quebec City

CHARLES ANDRÉ NADEAU
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Aug. 5, 1872, was voting day for the second general election in the young country of Canada. In the riding of Quebec Centre, the poll led to a tragic result.

The candidates were Joseph-Édouard Cauchon, for the Liberal Party, and James Gibb Ross, an independent Conservative seeking to represent the British Protestant minority of the city. The campaign degenerated into a bitter confrontation centred around ethnic and religious differences.

Cauchon was an experienced lawmaker who was first elected in 1844 to the Montmorency constituency in the Canada East subdivision of the Province of Canada. Ross, on the other hand, was new to politics. He had agreed to run for the Quebec Centre

seat in the House of Commons at the insistence of his fellow businessmen. He was perhaps the richest man in town.

In 1872, voting was done verbally. Reporting officers recorded votes in a book. The secret ballot would not be introduced for another two years. Threats and bribes were thus part of the electoral process.

It is very difficult to determine what happened exactly on Aug. 5, 1872, because the main sources of information on the subject are the newspapers – which, at the time, were associated with political parties. *The Morning Chronicle*, *The Quebec Mercury* and *The Quebec Gazette* were friendly to Ross. *Le Canadien* and *Le Journal de Québec* supported Cauchon. Fake news formed an integral part of the campaign and its aftermath.

On Aug. 7, *Le Canadien* reported that early results had shown a close race between the candidates. However, in the afternoon, victory seemed to elude Ross. His partisans then decided to act. Around 1 p.m., a bunch of thugs tried to seize the records of the d'Aiguillon poll, without success. Armed with revolvers, clubs and stones, they proceeded towards the polling station on Rue Couillard. There, the reporting officer managed to escape with his book.

According to *Le Courrier du Canada*, an ultramontane* conservative paper, the mob then moved in the direction of the Château Saint-Louis and threw rocks at the nearby headquarters of *Le Journal de Québec*, breaking 50 windows.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

OBITUARY

Iola (Boyd) McCARTNEY (1928 – 2022)

The family of Iola are sad to announce her peaceful passing on Aug. 2 at the age of 93.

She was predeceased by Leonard, her husband of almost 55 years.

She is forever in the hearts of her children Barry (Danielle Dumont), Heather (Jim Montgomery), Dale (Glenn Waters) and Terry.

She was the proud and loving grandmother of William (Ashley), Amanda (Josh), Ryan (Christine), Lori (Adam), Jennifer (Alex) and Sarah (Sebastien).

Her great-grandchildren Hendrix, Axel, Alex, Lucas, Sophie, Caleb, Emersyn, Kira, Alice, Julianna and Isabella brought her such great joy.

She also leaves behind her brothers-in-law Irvin McCartney (Edith Stovold) and Glen McCartney along with many nieces, nephews and friends.

Mom was very kind and generous to all. Everyone was always welcome at the farm. She enjoyed a good game of cards and great conversation.

Mom lived most of her life in Valcartier Village on the family farm. After Dad passed away, she started a new chapter in her life by moving to Ontario to be closer to family, and created more beautiful memories.

The past few years were spent at a retirement residence where staff and friends were impressed with her puzzle expertise and looked forward to seeing her beautiful smile.

As per her wishes, she will be laid to rest in her beloved Valcartier at a later date.



OBITUARY

Christianne GAGNON (1957-2022)

Christianne Gagnon passed away peacefully on July 21, 2022, at home on the Stairs-Gagnon farm in Tewkesbury, with her family by her side.

Born in Saint-André, N.B., Christianne was the eighth child of nine born to Roméo Gagnon and Jeanne Caron. She was brought up on a potato farm, and with four older brothers and three older sisters she quickly learned how to stand up for herself. As a youngster on the farm, she developed the qualities that would prove so valuable to her and all those she touched during her life: honesty, generosity, hard working, love of family, amazing sense of humour and love of art and animals.

Christianne moved to Quebec City in 1979. In 1981, she joined the Canadian Coast Guard, where she met her future husband Alan Stairs. They were married in 1984 and moved to their farm in 1987. Along the way, they had four wonderful children, Jonathan, Mackenzie, Christine and Jane. As of today, seven grandchildren have appeared, with two more on the way.

Christianne was a tireless volunteer in her community with stints on church committees, the Tewkesbury citizens association, the Stoneham thrift shop and many other worthwhile causes. Art was a big part of her life and she was an accomplished pastelist who loved to paint the animals she was surrounded by daily – cats, dogs, farm animals and particularly roosters. Weekly trips to the tennis courts with her large circle of friends allowed her to expend some of her prodigious energy. The Tewkesbury community garden and Tewkesbury chorale, two activities which she particularly appreciated, helped to keep her mind otherwise occupied while she fought her battle with cancer. Unfortunately, this was one battle she was destined to lose.

A celebration of Christianne's life was held at the farm on Saturday, Aug 6.

The family would like to especially thank the CLSC La Source palliative care unit for the tremendous care they provided, allowing Christianne to finish her days at home, on the farm, the place she loved the most in this world, surrounded by her family and friends.



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Community Calendar of Events

Note: If there is a community event you would like to have publicized, please let us know by email at least two weeks in advance (editor@qctonline.com).



June to Aug. 20 – Festival International du Domaine Forget de Charlevoix in Saint-Irénée offers a huge variety of performances by visiting orchestras, musicians, singers, dancers and students of the summer academy. For information and tickets, visit domaineforget.com.

June to Oct. 10 – Passages Insolites. Sixteen works by 18 local, national and international artists are displayed outdoors in the historic sectors of Place Royale, Petit-Champ and Vieux-Port over approximately 2.5 kilometres. For details, visit passagesinsolites.com/en.

June to Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to nightfall – Mosaïcultures Québec 2022 in the Parc du Bois-de-Coulonge. Tickets range from \$10 for children five-17 to \$20 for adults, \$32.50 for a family package or \$50 for a season pass. Free for children under five. For more information and reservations, visit mosaiculture.ca/en.

July 5 to Aug. 15 – Free Summer Concerts at five Quebec City parks. For details, visit sallealbertrousseau.com/concerts-d-ete-gratuits-2022.

July 21 to Sept. 1 – Les Grands Feux Loto-Québec: Free fireworks shows over the St. Lawrence River between Quebec City and Lévis with shows every **Thursday** evening. Parties on the waterfront – Quai Paquet in Lévis and Place des Canotiers in the Old Port of Quebec City – start at **6 p.m.** The fireworks begin at **10 p.m.** For details, visit lesgrandsfeux.com/en.

Aug. 7 to Sept. 10 – The Agora du Port de Québec 2022 summer concert season continues throughout the summer. For information and tickets, visit agoradequebec.com.

Upcoming shows include:

Aug. 11 to 15 – ComediHa!

Aug. 19, 20 and 21 – 3-on-3 basketball tournament

Sept. 10 – Festival Celtique de Québec

Aug. 5 to Sept. 4 – Flip Fabrique will perform *Récréation* circus shows in Quebec City parks, giving two free 30-minute performances each evening at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. For dates and locations, visit the Ville de Québec website at ville.quebec.qc.ca/citoyens/art-culture/grands-evenements/cirque and the Flip Fabrique website at flipfabrique.com/spectacle/recreation. See article on page 9.

Wednesday, Aug. 10 at 12:05 p.m. – Pianist Alain Châteauevert will perform a program of music *From Chopin to Debussy* at the Musical Wednesdays concert at Chalmers-Wesley United Church, 78 Rue Sainte-Ursule in Old Quebec. Free admission; donations welcome. Draw for gift certificates from Café de Paris at the end of each concert.

Aug. 10 to 14 – The fifth annual Rendez-vous d'histoire de Québec marks the 400th anniversary of the birth of Louis de Buade de Frontenac and the 350th anniversary of his arrival in Quebec City as the governor-general of New France with special lectures (in French only) and other entertaining events. For details, visit rvhq.com/volet-special-frontenac-400-ans.

Thursdays, Aug. 11 to 25 at 12:15 p.m. – Midi en Musique. Organist **Samuel Croteau** gives a series of 30-minute concerts in homage to composers Anna Magdalena Bach (Aug. 11), Mozart (Aug. 18) and Beethoven (Aug. 25). on the historic 1790 chamber organ at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Admission is free, donations welcome.

Aug. 11 to 25 – Musique de chambre at Église Sainte-Pétronille, 21 Chemin de l'Église Sainte-Pétronille, Île d'Orléans. On **Aug. 11**, the great Israeli-American pianist **Shai Wosner** will play Beethoven's monumental *Diabelli Variations*; **Aug. 18**, Québécoise soprano **Marie-Josée Lord** will charm the audience; **Aug. 25**, **Trio Con Moto (Jocelyne Roy, Elvira Misbakhova and Valérie Milot)** will play Debussy's Sonata for flute, viola and harp. For complete details, visit musiquedechambre.ca.

Aug. 12 to 15 – Festival Jazz Etcetera Lévis: For details, visit jazzlevis.ca

Aug. 12 to Sept. 3 – Annie, the musical (in French) is coming to the Salle Albert-Rousseau. For information and tickets, visit sallealbertrousseau.com/programmation/annie.

Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 12:05 p.m. – Le Duo Cordes au Vent: Peter Calkins (flute) and Lise Lavoie (classical guitar) will perform at the Musical Wednesdays concert at Chalmers-Wesley United Church, 78 Rue Sainte-Ursule in Old Quebec. All are welcome. Free admission; donations welcome. Draw for gift certificates from Café de Paris at the end of each concert.

Divas take centre stage at the Grands Feux Loto-Québec

PHOTOS BY CASSANDRA KERWIN
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The music of Céline Dion, Ginette Reno and Lara Fabian, among others, was celebrated at the Grands Feux Loto-Québec on Aug. 4.



The Grands Feux Loto-Québec celebrated Divas with a spectacular display on Aug. 4.

Mob politics makes a mark in Quebec City

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

They continued towards Cauchon's residence on Rue Saint-Louis, but at the Esplanade, decided instead to go down to the Faubourg Saint-Jean-Baptiste. There, they met supporters of the Liberal candidate.

A police contingent arrived in the area at the same time, but officers could not prevent

the confrontation, which then took on a different character. It became a Quebec equivalent of the gunfight at the OK Corral. The main battleground was the cemetery of St. Matthew's Church on Rue Saint-Jean. A cavalry detachment came to assist the constabulary. However, the fighting continued until 7:30 that evening. Fifty people suffered bloody injuries,

according to *Le Journal de Québec*. James Gandle, a young sailmaker from the Cap-Blanc district who was carrying an Irish flag, was killed.

Around three o'clock, election officers had closed most of the polling stations. Cauchon won by 270 votes.

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Photo by Notman from The Canadian Illustrated News



Joseph-Édouard Cauchon was the first speaker of the Senate of Canada from 1867 to 1872.

James Gibb Ross, who was a senator from 1884 to 1888, was said to be the richest man in Quebec and owned Holland House (on the corner of Ave. Holland and Chemin Ste-Foy) from 1885 to his death in 1888.

Photo by Livernois. Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec




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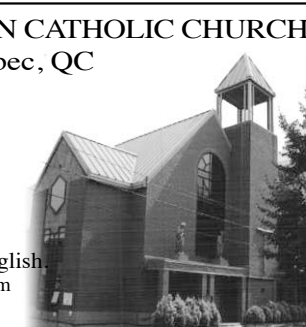


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SPORTS

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Capitales end losing streak by trouncing Trois-Rivières 9-1

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The Quebec Capitales ended an eight-game losing streak on Aug. 7 when they trounced the Trois-Rivières Aigles 9-1 in Frontier League action at Stade Canac.

Capitales starter Carlos Sano was brilliant on the mound, allowing only one earned run and four hits in eight innings pitched, for his second victory of the season. Reliever Nick Horvath struck out the side to end the game for Quebec.

Offensively, Jeffry Parra

hit two doubles and produced two RBIs. T.J. White and Yordan Manduley also had two RBIs in the game.

It was Quebec's first win in nine games, and they saw their lead in the East division melt to only three games ahead of the second-place Ottawa Titans.

After being swept by the Washington Wild Things, the Capitales travelled to Little Falls, N.J., to play the New Jersey Jackals. The Jackals were not friendly hosts, winning the three games they played against Quebec on Aug. 2, 3 and 4.

Back home, the Capitales lost their first game against Trois-Rivières on Aug. 5 by the score of 2-1. The score was tied at 1-1 when, in the top of the eighth inning, the Aigles scored the winning run on a groundout to second base, which allowed Ricardo Sanchez to score.

On Aug. 6, the Aigles broke a 4-4 tie in the top of the ninth inning, when they scored two runs off Caps closer Samuel Adames, to win the game 6-4 in front of a second consecutive sellout crowd of 4,205 fans.

This week, the Capitales

are hosting the Tri-City ValleyCats from Troy, N.Y., at Stade Canac. The three-game series started on Aug. 9, and ends on Aug. 11.

The team will then travel to Ottawa for a crucial three-game series starting on Aug. 12 that will impact the top of the league standings.

After a day off, the Capitales travel to Trois-Rivières for another three-game set against the Aigles. The first game in that series is scheduled for Aug. 16.



Photo by Luc Lang

A fan favourite, the ever-smiling T.J. White produced two RBIs in the Capitales' much-needed win over the Trois-Rivières Aigles on Aug. 7.

Alouettes, Diamants get set for LBJEQ playoffs

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The regular season has come to an end in the Ligue de Baseball Junior Élite du Québec (LBJEQ), and the two local teams now have their eyes on the title.

The Charlesbourg Alouettes completed the season with a record of 22 wins and 20 losses, good for third place in the East division, four games behind the first-place Trois-Rivières Aigles.

As for the Quebec Dia-

mants, they finished last in the East division, one game behind Charlesbourg, with 21 victories and 21 losses.

According to the LBJEQ playoff scenarios, the three division winners (Trois-Rivières, Saint-Eustache and Granby) along with the second-place team with the best record (Repentigny) advance directly to the second round.

Fifth-place Jonquière and sixth-place Charlesbourg could choose their opponents in the best-of-three first-

round series from among the teams that finished ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th (Coaticook, Gatineau, Lasalle and Laval, respectively.) Quebec, in seventh, had to choose from the remaining two teams. Longueuil was the last team to qualify for the playoffs; Montreal, last in the regular-season standings, will miss the postseason.

After a league meeting held on Aug. 7, it was determined that Charlesbourg would play the Lasalle

Cardinals. The series will start on Aug. 11 in Lasalle. Games 2 and 3 (if necessary) will be played at Parc Henri-Casault in Charlesbourg on Aug. 13.

The Diamants will play the Laval Pirates. Game 1 will be on Aug. 10 in Laval. Games 2 and 3 (if necessary) are scheduled for Aug. 12 at Stade Canac.

The quarterfinals will be a best-of-five series while the semifinals and the league championship will be best-of-seven.



The Trois-Rivières Aigles defeated the Granby Guerriers four games to two in the championship. In 2021, they

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Para-cyclists stop in Quebec City for the UCI World Cup

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Quebec City hosted the UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) Para-cycling Road World Cup, held in the streets of Charlesbourg and Beauport from Aug. 4 to 7.

The 274 para-cyclists from all over the world took part in the many road races. Canada and Italy had the most para-cyclists, with 20 each – seven women and 13 men.

The classification for para-cyclists is based on the type of bicycle used and the type of handicap the athlete has. The classifications are C (regular bicycle with or without adjustment), T (tricycle), B (tandem, which is reserved for athletes who have a vision impairment and require a guide) and H (hand cycle).

Fifty-two events were held in different categories – time trials, team relays and individual road races. The organizers mapped out an 8.8-kilometre circuit in the streets of Charlesbourg and Beauport. Charlesbourg and Beauport were chosen

to differ from the other road races that are usually held in the Old City, like the Grand Prix Cycliste de Québec, which will take place on Sept. 9.

In the individual time trials, Italy came out on top with 10 medals, including four gold, five silver and a bronze. Germany came in second with eight medals, including three gold.

Canada won five medals (one gold, one silver and three bronze) in the time trial events.

The team relay race, which had three athletes per country, was held on a 3.3-km circuit and was won by France. Italy came in second and Spain captured the bronze medal.

The individual road races were reserved for the last two days of the event, with the longest races reserved for the tandem category. In that division, the men raced for 96.8 km while the women raced 79.2 km.

The Italians, once again, dominated the races and the medal standings with 12, including four gold, five silver and three bronze. Germany



Photo courtesy of Paralympics Canada

Keely Shaw, from Midale, Sask., captured two bronze medals at the UCI World Cup in Quebec City.

and France captured eight medals each on the road. Canada won one silver medal and two bronze in the 25 events held during the two days of road racing.

Overall, Italy won 23 medals and Germany and France won 16 medals each. However, the Germans had more gold medals (seven) compared to the five the

French athletes won, to give them the advantage on the medal table.

Canada finished seventh with eight medals.

After the Quebec City World Cup, all the para-cyclists moved on to Baie-Comeau for the 2022 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships.



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