



SICAN NEWS



June 2008

Volume 2 Issue 3

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President's Message

Dear Skålleagues,

Many of us have recently returned with fond memories from the 47th Annual NAASC Congress in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The theme of the Congress "Friends for Life" set the atmosphere for a truly memorable Skål experience. I am assured that all the Canadian members who attended would agree that this Congress exemplified the true meaning of Skål: Friendship and Amicale and the opportunity of "Doing Business Among Friends".



I believe the members who attended, would agree that the best way to experience Skål is to attend a Congress. I would encourage you to share your Skål experiences in Jamaica with your fellow Skålleagues. Please "talk it up" at your monthly meetings. Together we can continue the challenge to have a greater Canadian representation at the Skål International World Congress in Taipei Taiwan this October and the 48th Annual NAASC Congress in Anchorage Alaska, 2009.

On behalf of SICAN, I would like to thank V.P. John Duggan and the Skål Halifax Club for their dedication and assistance in forming a new Skål Club in New Brunswick. I will be attending the first meeting on June 16th, in St John New Brunswick.

Thank you to Loretta Clarke for all the time and dedication she has put into the SICAN Newsletters. They are an excellent form of communication.

Congratulations to the Skål Halifax Club on winning the Skål Club of the Year Award. Congratulations to Skål Edmonton on their 45th Anniversary celebrated in May.

As I read your monthly meeting minutes, I am very pleased and proud that everyone is dedicated to keeping the Skål movement alive and well in Canada. Let us strive to increase our membership numbers.

In the next few months, I would like to encourage everyone to continue networking together in the true Spirit of Skål, embracing an atmosphere of friendship and amicale.

Have a great summer. Enjoy. Have fun.

Regards and Skål
Norman Bevilacqua, President

Region: John Duggan,
Halifax

Vice-President Western
Region: Jona Way, Calgary

Vice-President Central
Region: John Scott,
Toronto

PR/Communications: Bill
Rheume, Canadian
Rockies

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**Thunder Bay: Mary Long-
Irwin**

Hamilton: Kimberly Hartley

London: Del Wright

**Toronto North: Murray
McPhail**

**Toronto: John Scott, Doug
Patterson**

**Ottawa: Carmine
Domenicucci**

Montreal: Christine Killinger

Quebec City: Brian Aubé

Halifax: John Duggan

**St. John's: Harold Hefferton
represented by Stephen
Outerbridge**

Top Ten Reasons to Join Skål!

1. Meet business executives in the local tourism industry
2. Network with local, national and international colleagues you meet through Skål
3. Camaraderie – make new friends instantly at

Skål International Canada

Membership Report

Jona Way, CTC
SICAN Vice President, Membership

Skal International Canadian Clubs continue to work very diligently on increasing club membership. During our meeting in Montego Bay the Canadian clubs had a total of 16 new members that were pending. By the time of this newsletter most will have been inducted. Congratulations to all the club executive members and the Membership Development Officers within the clubs working to increase membership. I will be updating the Membership Toolbox over the summer and hope to have a totally new look complete with lots of new ideas. If you have something that has worked well within your club, please e-mail me so that idea can be shared and used by other clubs.

We are very excited about the upcoming meeting in New Brunswick with the goal of forming a new club in Canada. Please encourage your members to make phone calls or send e-mails to people they know in New Brunswick – make sure they are on the invite list and know the importance of this new group who will be 'Doing Business Among Friends'.

World Skål Day

28th April is World Skål Day and Clubs are always encouraged to commemorate this special day in solidarity with fellow members worldwide. If a special event cannot be celebrated on the actual date a convenient date should be found as close as possible to the actual date. Send photographs of World Skal Day celebrations to the General Secretariat at skal@skal.travel for publication on the Skål International website photo gallery.

Thunder Bay Celebrates



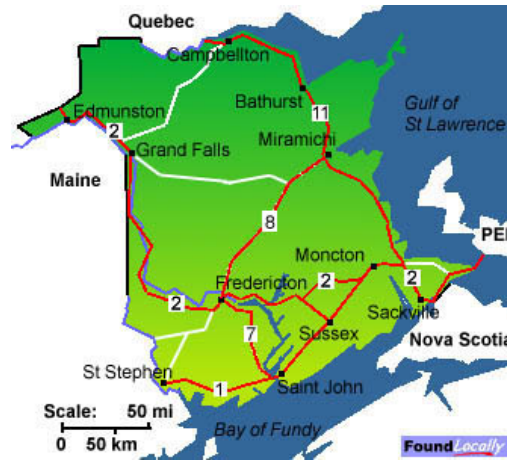
Members of Skål International Thunder Bay gathered in Fort William Historical Park, to celebrate World Skål Day. Pipers from Fort William Historical Park greeted members as they arrived. Roberta Sawchyn, President of Skål Thunder Bay and Norman Bevilacqua, President of SICAN were piped into the Canot Du Nord Dining Room. The gentleman, Kenneth McKenzie, proposed a historical toast to welcome the members and to start the meeting. President Norm responded with the Skål toast.

Everyone enjoyed an excellent gourmet dinner prepared by the staff of the Travelodge Hotel Airline. A special cake featuring the SKÅL logo was baked for the event.

monthly meetings

4. Superb Food & Wines
5. Creative Venues – learn more about local and regional attractions & destinations
6. Attend North American and International Congresses – expend your knowledge about other cultures and discover new business opportunities
7. Member Benefits – discounts, trips, inter-club travel
8. Learn from the Best – Top speakers and experts to inspire you locally and internationally
9. A Port in a Storm – with over 20,000 members internationally you can attend a Skål meeting wherever there is a Club
10. Tourism Advocacy – From the United Nations to local politics – Skål is there to speak with the voice of the world's largest travel and hospitality industry

Formation of Skål International New Brunswick



Something exciting is happening in the SICAN Eastern Region! A team of travel and tourism professionals, led by Ellen Tucker, Glen Earle and Lorie Cohen Hackett, are forming a Skål Club of New Brunswick.

The first organizational meeting will be held in St. John on Monday, June 16th, 2008 at 1700 hours: Hilton Hotel in Saint John. The plan is to rotate meetings with members in Moncton and Fredericton. Cocktails and Dinner will be served. The cost will be \$50.00 and there will be a cash bar. The Hilton Hotel is offering a room rate of \$109.00 for anyone attending the dinner. Skålleagues are encouraged to attend to support this new club. Contact the Hotel at (506) 693-8484 to reserve, requesting the Skål rate.

Skål International Halifax will be sponsoring the formation of the New Brunswick Club and John Duggan, Vice-President of SICAN will be attending. Norman Bevilacqua, President of SICAN will also speak to the group on the Canadian Skål organization. RSVP: Glen Earle: glen.earle@rbc.com

The minimum members required for formation of a Club is 20. If you have industry colleagues in New Brunswick, encourage them to become a charter member!

Montreal Skål Club 2008 Golf Omnium: June 13th AASC Golf Tournament

The Annual Montreal Skål Club Golf Omnium will be held Friday June 13th at the La Belle golf course (Gray Rocks), in the Laurentians area.

Éric Douay, President of the Montreal Skål Club, invites all the Travel and Tourism Industry colleagues to attend this event and meet with the Club members. «Come to see your Montreal friends and colleagues and share your thoughts about this International organization with over 22 000 members spread throughout 80 countries», says Éric Douay.

The «Dinner & Golf» rate is \$ 125 per person. The limit date for registration is Friday May 30th. For registration and information, Denis Monfette at 514-255-6140 or e-mail at yuldm@sympactico.ca

Michel Villeneuve
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Skål International Hamilton

SI Hamilton covers a large geographical region which includes the areas of Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Guelph, Burlington, Oakville, and surrounding towns. We have an extremely dedicated Executive Board who continues to work diligently to make our meetings fun, interesting and beneficial for our members. Our club was formed in 1978 and chartered in 1979. We have decided to celebrate the creation of our club this November 2008, and welcome other SICAN clubs to join us in the celebration. We will also be hosting a fantastic Silent Auction at this event.

Eight Plans are underway to continue on a Twinning program with Hamilton, Bermuda. It is the intention to bring these clubs together to partner on events, ideas and programs.

The 2008 Executive is busy working with the Directors to prepare for our Annual Ken LeClair Memorial Golf Tournament which is a very large fund raiser for the club. We welcome all Skålleagues from other clubs to join us this July.

- July 8, 2008: Savannah Links Golf Club, Cambridge
Annual Ken LeClair Memorial Golf Tournament

Kimberly Hartley, SICAN Representative Skal International Hamilton

The Hamilton Club is also to be congratulated for having six members attend NAASC Congress in Jamaica.



(L) Jamaica Minister of Tourism & Kimberly Hartley, SICAN Rep Hamilton.



(R) Hamilton Delegation: Stacey Coupland, Randy and Barbara Raphael, Sharon Hales, Mary D'Alton, Kimberly Hartley, Ian Tillson. Note: one of these names is not in the photo.

Skål International Toronto

Toronto, Hamilton and Toronto North Skålleagues meet on Apr. 22



Over 70 Ontario Skålleagues and guests met on Apr. 22

Members of the Toronto SKAL Club joined their 'Skålleagues' from SKAL Hamilton and SKAL Toronto North at Spencers at the Waterfront Restaurant in Burlington, April 22nd. The annual joint SKAL meeting, organized this year by the SKAL Hamilton Club was a great success with over 70 Skålleagues and guests in attendance. Mary D'Alton, President of the Hamilton Club Phil Reid, President of the Toronto North Club and Tim Booth, President of Toronto SKAL were on hand to promote their clubs' upcoming events including golf tournaments and meetings. Toronto SKAL club will organize the annual joint meeting next year. The next Toronto SKAL meeting will be held over lunch on Tuesday, May 27th at the Boulevard Club in Toronto. For more information, visit torontoskal.org. (Reprinted from TravelHotNews.com)



Skål International Vancouver

At the Vancouver Skål meeting held May 14th at The Mad Greek Restaurant in Richmond, Peter Lintner, President Skål New York (Left) and David Batey, Past President Skål London, Ontario (Right) exchanged club banners with Vancouver Skål Vancouver President Brian Veitch (Centre).



Skål International Toronto North

Frank Vismeg, a Skål member from Toronto North was at the BiNational Summit in Buffalo held in April 2008.

From left to right are: Frank Vismeg, Managing Director of Hilton Garden Inn & Conference Centre, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Hon. Diane Ablonczy, Secretary of State for Small Business and Tourism and Stephen Brereton, Canadian Consul General at the 3rd Annual Binational Tourism Summit, which was held in Buffalo, NY where over 200 delegates attended from all levels of government and representatives from Tourism partners from both sides of the border. Mandate was to eliminate the barriers to cross-border tourism and cultural development between the U.S. and Canada, while

maximizing prosperity, sustainability and quality-of-life in the important global destinations, through Advocacy, Professional Development and Information-Sharing.

Skål International Quebec City



The Quebec City delegation with our Canadian and International presidents. Quebec City always does Canada proud with their large delegations! Québec City délégation included Brian Aube, Sarah Aube, Sylvie Blais, Jean-Francoise Cote, Valeries Cote, Louis-Georges & Melanie Jalbert, Jean Langlois, Georges Saint-Cyr, Curtis Sommerville, Renel Drapeau, Magalie Pelletier, Vidal Claudia and Johanne de Blois.

World Tourism Day: September 27th

Don't forget to incorporate recognition of World Tourism Day with your September meeting.

The theme for World Tourism Day 2008, 27 September 2008 is "Responding to the Challenge of Climate Change" As Skål International is an Affiliate Member of UNWTO, Clubs are encouraged to celebrate World Tourism Day by holding a special event for their members. For more information go to <http://www.unwto.org/wtd/index.php>

Skål International Winnipeg

A group of Winnipeg Skålleagues recently spent a night at the world-class newly opened Hecla Oasis Resort at Gull Harbour -returning with great revues of this newest tourism destination in Manitoba. Maria Paletta, the newest Skål member in our Club, was pleased to be able to showcase the Paletta Family's newest facility. Hecla is blessed with spectacular natural beauty, surrounded by the majestic Lake Winnipeg. This luxurious destination resort offers an invigorating European spa treatments, fine dining and wines while you relax in world class comfort. Whether you are looking for adventurous activities such as Eco Tours or more passive pursuits like golf, all is made possible by staff trained to the highest standards. The Hecla Oasis Spa is designed to help soothe your mind and calm your soul. <http://www.heclaoasis.com>



VICTORIA | VANCOUVER | CANADIAN ROCKIES | CALGARY | EDMONTON | SASKATOON
WINNIPEG | THUNDER BAY | LONDON | HAMILTON | TORONTO | TORONTO NORTH
OTTAWA | MONTREAL | QUEBEC | HALIFAX | ST. JOHN'S