

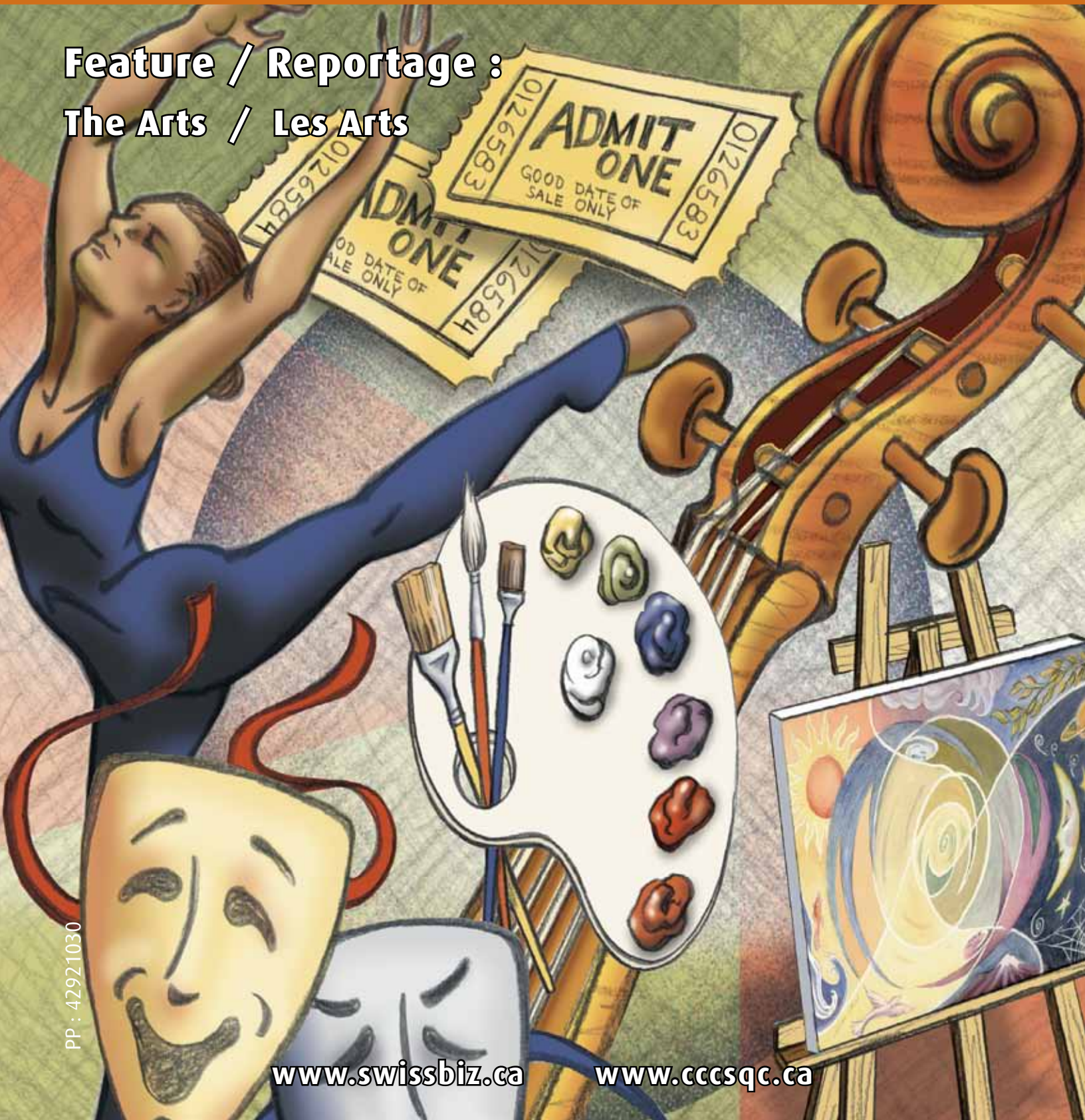


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"I think that is what film and art and music do; they can work as a map of sorts for your feelings."
~ Bruce Springsteen



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Dear Readers,

As of October 1st, Mr. Beat Guldemann has been appointed Honorary Consul of Switzerland for Toronto. We are very happy to have Beat in this role. His network, experience, knowledge, legal background and language skills make him the ideal person to hold this role. Beat is already a board member of the SCCC and we look forward to an increased and closer relationship with the Swiss Consulate in Montreal and the Swiss Embassy in Ottawa. On behalf of the board of the SCCC, please join me in congratulating Beat and thanking him for his initiative to represent the Swiss community in Toronto.



During the first week of October, Federal Councilor Doris Leuthard, acting as Vice-President of the Government of Switzerland as well as Minister for Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication, paid an official visit to Canada. She was accompanied by an important business delegation focused on Cleantech, including senior executives from ABB, Accenture, Leclanché, Meyer Burger, Swiss Engineering, SVUT, Polytechnik Swiss AG, Stadler Rail, Von Roll Infratec and Economiesuisse. Two State Councilors (Mr. Luginbühl and Mr. François), the President of ETH Zurich, Prof. Guzzella, and members of the Ministry (DETEC).

As President of SCCC, I was able to attend a dinner with Mrs. Leuthard and the above delegation together with our newly appointed Honorary Consul Beat Guldemann. At that dinner, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of the Province of Ontario, Glen R. Murray was a guest of honour as well as a number of guests who were entrepreneurs in the Cleantech space. The next morning, the Board members of the SCCC were able to meet with Mrs. Leuthard's business delegation for a visit at the University of Toronto Institute of Sustainable Energy and a tour of MaRS.

Switzerland was also represented at this year's Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) with the film "Ma vie de Courgette", by Claude Barras. The Swiss-French coproduction is Switzerland's official candidate in the running for an Academy Award for Foreign Language. Swiss Film's Director Catherine Ann Berger and the Swiss Consulate in Montreal represented by Urs Wüest extended an invitation to a few members of the SCCC to attend the premier of this fascinating and heartfelt stop-motion film. Dinner with the filmmaker, distributor, Swiss Films and Consulate and SCCC representatives followed afterwards.

And as we are already in the later part of the fall, I hope you can join us at our annual Gala Dinner & Dance with this year's featuring Kanton of Ticino, taking place on November 19th at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto. The Ambassador of Switzerland Mr. Beat Nobs will also be attending.

Yours sincerely,

Julien Favre
President, SCCC

2016 COMING EVENTS

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Chers Membres,

C'est avec grand plaisir que je vous adresse aujourd'hui mon premier « Mot de la Présidente ».

En juin dernier, vous m'avez confié la présidence de la Chambre de Commerce Canado-Suisse (Québec). J'ai été très touchée par cette marque de confiance et j'ai accepté ce mandat avec gratitude et fierté, mais surtout avec un grand sens d'engagement et de responsabilité. Je suis confiante qu'avec l'équipe extraordinaire qui m'entoure au Conseil d'administration, je serai en mesure de faire progresser notre Chambre, de relever les défis auxquels elle fait face et d'atteindre nos objectifs.

Ceux-ci sont principalement axés sur le développement de notre Chambre, l'accroissement de notre membership et la poursuite du virage affaires auquel je tiens et auquel j'ai consacré beaucoup d'efforts depuis mon entrée au Conseil d'administration de la Chambre en 2014. Ces efforts et le travail assidu des membres du CA, ont engendré des résultats dont nous pouvons être bien fiers : des événements mensuels à thématiques d'affaires. Il s'agira désormais de maintenir ces événements variés, tout en développant notre réseau de communications et notre membership.

Nous sommes une Chambre en plein développement et à très grand potentiel. Grâce au soutien de nos membres et commanditaires actuels, nous avons le vent dans les voiles et nous constatons que les possibilités sont sans limites. Nous vous invitons donc à vous impliquer, à mettre la main à la pâte, de la manière qui vous conviendra. Communiquez-nous vos suggestions, vos désirs et nous nous ferons un plaisir d'en tenir compte. Contribuez par des articles, donnez-nous de vos nouvelles et nous nous empresserons de les publier. Présentez-nous vos amis et vos partenaires d'affaires, nous serons ravis de les rencontrer et de les accueillir!

Je m'en voudrais de terminer sans vous glisser un mot au sujet de nos récents événements dont nous sommes particulièrement fiers. Vous retrouverez plus loin des articles au sujet du Cocktail soulignant le départ de M. Beat Kaser (p. 20), au sujet de notre Cocktail d'ouverture et accueil de notre nouvelle Consule Générale, Mme Bösch Malinen (p. 21), au sujet de notre conférence à l'écoute de M. Maurer, Président du Comité International de la Croix Rouge (p. 22) et au sujet du déjeuner-conférence en l'honneur de la Vice-Présidente et Conseillère Fédérale, Mme Leuthard (p. 22).

Il ne me reste plus qu'à vous en souhaiter bonne lecture.

Au plaisir de vous revoir lors de nos prochains événements!

Marie Habre, Présidente de la CCCSQ
Avocate au Cabinet Lette & Associés



ÉVÉNEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS 2016

5 décembre, 2016 : Visite du Cabinet Richter & Nomination de notre nouveau Gouverneur Honoraire

INFORMATION et détails/and details : www.cccsqc.ca ou/or (514) 937-5822



Ontario producers make great film coproduction partners

Ontario is the third largest film and television production centre in North America (after California and New York), and it continues to grow and thrive, hitting another record year in 2015 with \$1.5 billion in film, television and digital media production activity.

That growing level of activity meant over 32,000 skilled professionals worked to ensure Ontario's reputation as a high quality and reliable production jurisdiction, which contributes significantly to the province's \$17-billion creative cluster.

The Ontario Media Development Corporation invests in these creative industries, providing both grants and tax credits to Ontario producers, some of whom choose to co-produce with any of the 54 countries, including Switzerland, which have co-production treaties with Canada.

"Co-productions connect producers," says Karen Thorne-Stone, OMDC President & CEO. "And co-producers can gain access to domestic financing and policy structures in their respective countries. Each partner brings different skill sets, new locations and new markets."

Successful co-productions pool their creative, artistic, technical and financial resources to develop projects that may be eligible for a variety of tax benefits, grants, and services available to Ontario-based productions.

Co-production treaties are administered in Canada by federal funder, Telefilm Canada,

and each co-production treaty is subject to different rules and regulations as outlined by Telefilm and the department of Canadian Heritage. (<http://www.telefilm.ca/en/coproductions/coproductions/guidelines>)

Switzerland's co-production treaty is similar to many of the other treaties with European countries such as France, Germany and the U.K. Most recently at the Toronto International Film Festival, Canadian Heritage Minister Joly re-signed the New Zealand co-production treaty to include digital content and platforms.

A German-Swiss-Canadian co-production, "The Guantanamo Trap" (2011), exemplifies the benefits of the Canada-Swiss agreement. Produced by Amythos Media Inc. and Xenophile Media Inc., this 92-minute feature film documentary examines the impact that the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp had on four interrelated people. In his film review for Canada's national newspaper, "The Globe and Mail", journalist Guy Dixon wrote that "The Guantanamo Trap" made for "terrific documentary cinema" and did "a tremendous journalistic service." It was an official selection at the prestigious Hot Docs, Jerusalem and Thessaloniki film festivals.

If based in Ontario, Canadian-Swiss co-productions also benefit from a wide array of services provided by the OMDC. It may be eligible for a film grant or possible film and television tax credits.

Producers also have unfettered access to the OMDC's Ontario Film Commission and its vast resources that include pre-production research, location scouting and support, and a welcoming team ready to help the production succeed. It's innovative database features over 250,000 digital images in 12,000+ locations and is accessible 24/7. Learn more at www.omdc.on.ca

Suzan Ayscough is OMDC's Head of Communications. sayscough@omdc.on.ca



OMDC President and CEO Karen Thorne-Stone with Telefilm Canada Executive Director Carolle Brabant and Canadian Heritage Minister Melanie Joly at TIFF16

Photo courtesy of Telefilm Canada by George Pimentel Photography

Quotation of the Month

Film as dream, film as music. No form of art goes beyond ordinary consciousness as film does, straight to our emotions, deep into the twilight room of the soul. A little twitch in our optic nerve, a shock effect: twenty-four illuminated frames a second, darkness in between, the optic nerve incapable of registering darkness.

Ingmar Bergman



L'art au service du tourisme culturel : un vaste secteur économique pour Montréal

Par Kelly Parnia, éditrice de l'info suisse

Réputée mondialement pour sa créativité, Montréal regorge d'artistes dans de multiples domaines, que ce soit au niveau des arts numériques, des visuels de la scène, du design, ou encore de la musique. Ce vent créatif se fait d'ailleurs ressentir dans chaque quartier de Montréal, que ce soit lors d'un vernissage dans une galerie d'arts du Vieux-Montréal, d'un pique-nique aux sons des tam-tams sur le Mont-Royal, ou encore lors d'une prestation du Festival International de Jazz dans les Quartiers

des spectacles. L'art fait partie intégrante de la culture montréalaise et il n'est pas étonnant que cette cité aux mille couleurs soit aujourd'hui considérée comme l'une des dix plus importantes métropoles culturelles d'Amérique du Nord.

Selon une étude menée par Tourisme Montréal, la culture à Montréal, qui regroupe les attraits et sites patrimoniaux, les festivals et événements, ainsi que les musées et autres, contribuait en 2014 à 130 939 emplois directs et indirects dans le secteur de la culture, ainsi qu'à 10,7 milliards de dollars en retombées économiques pour la grande région métropolitaine de Montréal. Cinq activités culturelles majeures participaient à ces chiffres, soit les attraits culturels, les festivals, les arts de la scène et le Vieux-Montréal. En 2012, 25,9 % de l'ensemble des touristes à Montréal avaient participé à des activités culturelles, et fait intéressant, ces touristes culturels avaient également

été responsables à 39,9% de l'ensemble des nuitées par personnes et à 44,9% de l'ensemble des dépenses touristiques pour un total de 1,1 milliards.

Pourquoi Montréal? Avait-on demandé aux touristes culturels. La réponse fût en faveur de l'art, de la culture, et des festivals. Ces trois attraits ont d'ailleurs remporté la palme d'or en matière de satisfaction client avec une moyenne d'expérience très satisfaisante à 64,5% et satisfaisante à 96%. Il a aussi été démontré lors d'un sondage que les activités culturelles comptaient parmi les aspects les plus importants à expérimenter lors d'un séjour d'agrément à Montréal. Parmi les aspects culturels importants, 35% des participants au sondage ont mentionné les musées et sites historiques, 33% les événements et festivals, 29% les manifestations culturelles (spectacle, théâtre, comédie...etc.) et 19% la création



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actuelle (arts numériques, arts visuels, arts de la scène, musique, design...etc.).

En conclusion, l'art sous toutes ses formes contribue au rayonnement de Montréal, et ce, autant au niveau culturel, touristique et économique. De toute évidence, l'art prend

place avec un grand A lorsqu'il est temps de d'imaginer un futur prospère pour Montréal.

Sources :

www.tourisme-montreal.org/Decouvrez-montreal/Montreal-par-theme
www.octgm.com/toolkit/fr/tourisme_cult/culture-levier-economiqueVC.pdf

Nespresso célèbre sa passion pour le cinéma et la gastronomie



NESPRESSO
IL SISTEMA

Partenaire café officiel du Festival de Cannes, Nespresso est fière de supporter le talent cinématographique d'ici et d'ailleurs. La marque a d'ailleurs lancé cette année la toute première édition de Nespresso Talents, un concours s'adressant aux créateurs de films verticaux à travers le monde. Les gagnants ont pu voir leurs œuvres diffusées durant le Festival de Cannes.

Localement, l'entreprise suisse s'est démarquée dans le cadre du TIFF (Toronto International Film Festival) en créant des expériences uniques célébrant à la fois le septième art et la gastronomie.

La série d'événements se déroulait du 9 au 12 septembre dernier. Celle-ci débuta par la présentation d'une soirée festive avant la première du film américain Snowden, réalisé par Oliver Stone et mettant en vedette Joseph Gordon-Lewitt, Shailene Woodley, Melissa Leo et Zachary Quinto, tous présents à la soirée. En plus de profiter de la vue imprenable sur Toronto, les invités ont pu déguster un savoureux cocktail Nespresso infusé avec le Grand Cru Darkhan.

Les activités se sont poursuivies le 11 septembre avec la première édition de Café et créateurs, une table ronde intime en compagnie des vedettes du tout dernier chef d'œuvre de Xavier Dolan, Juste la fin du monde. Un groupe restreint de journalistes ont pu discuter cinéma, café Nespresso à



Le Festival International de Jazz de Montréal



Le Vieux-Port de Montréal



la main, avec Nathalie Baye, Léa Seydoux, Gaspard Ulliel et Xavier Dolan. Ceux-ci ont ensuite pu déguster un savoureux lunch au Fring's mettant en vedette quatre services infusés des Grands Crus Envivo Lungo, Vivalto Lungo et Dulsao do Brasil.

Nespresso a également présenté la soirée d'après-première de Juste la fin du monde au tout nouveau restaurant Figo de Toronto. Les invités étaient transportés dans une atmosphère feutrée, intime et florale, à l'image du film. Un cocktail signature Nespresso était aussi offert, Rose Without

Thornes, alliant le Grand Cru Rosabaya au Hennessy V.S., au porto rubis avec une touche de framboises et de sirop simple.

Afin de terminer cette série de festivités, l'équipe s'est envolée le 12 septembre pour souligner la première et la soirée d'après-première de Juste la fin du Monde en sol montréalais.

En plus de son soutien pour les créations cinématographiques mentionnées ci-haut, Nespresso a également établi un partenariat média d'envergure avec Entertainment

Tonight Canada pour la durée du festival à Toronto.

Pour découvrir tous les moments Nespresso du TIFF 2016 ainsi que les recettes des cocktails signatures visitez le <http://www.nespresso.com/canada-moments/tiff-2016/>



Joseph Gordon-Lewitt, acteur principal dans Snowden, en compagnie de Sylvie Charette, VP Marketing et Commerce Électronique pour Nespresso Canada



De gauche à droite : Xavier Dolan, Nathalie Baye, Léa Seydoux et Gaspard Ulliel.



L'espace Nespresso lors de la soirée d'après-première de Juste la fin du monde au tout nouveau restaurant Figo de Toronto.



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The Swiss Art and Culture Scene

Discovering the Arts in Switzerland

As a country where diverse traditions and cultures meet and interact, Switzerland has been a melting-pot in the heart of Europe since time immemorial. This is why cultural life in cosmopolitan Switzerland displays such enormous variety.

As in many other ways, Switzerland proves to be a real paradise for aficionados of contemporary art and culture. A vast range of attractions such as museums and galleries as well as festivals of music, theatre and literature are concentrated within a very small area. Visitors can admire numerous outstanding examples of architecture or historic locations where important artists worked. On a journey through the Swiss

artistic and cultural scene, you will encounter names such as Thomas Mann, Hermann Hesse, Le Corbusier, Ferdinand Hodler and Alberto Giacometti – as well as some names that have achieved more recent renown such as Pipilotti Rist, George Gruntz, Andreas Vollenweider, Bruno Ganz and Marc Forster, to mention only a few.

The arts scene - yesterday and today

What is typically Swiss about Swiss art? Not very much, in actual fact. But a closer look does reveal certain special features. Time and again, typically Swiss modesty is conspicuous.

Switzerland is home to more visual artists than virtually any other country of comparable size. If we are to believe the relevant ranking lists such as the Art Barometer, Switzerland numbers among the world's leading countries as far as art is concerned. Veterans such as **Dieter Roth** and

Jean Tinguely certainly play their part in this achievement. More recent representatives who are also known internationally include the **Fischli/Weiss duo, Pipilotti Rist, Roman Signer, Ugo Rondinone, Olaf Breuning, Urs Fischer, John Armleder, Olivier Mosset, Jean-Frédéric Schnyder, Franz Gertsch, Helmut Federle, Fabrice Gygi** and **Thomas Hirschhorn**.



credit: Jean Tinguely Sculpture

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Constructivism: a special case

Works by **Hans Arp** and **Sophie Taeuber-Arp** from 1917 onwards, and planar compositions by **Paul Klee** and **Johannes Itten** marked the start of constructive art in Switzerland. During the Second World War, Switzerland ultimately became a kind of European refuge for avant-garde constructivists, centering on figures such as **Max Bill** and **Richard Paul Lohse**. While the end of the war found Europe distancing itself from everything that existed in the pre-war era, the constructivist movement continued to flourish in Switzerland. Its strictly mathematical thinking exerted a particular influence on **design** and **graphic art**, with a corresponding impact on Switzerland's image abroad.

Iron sculpture – a speciality

The 1950s saw the emergence of the first exponents of iron sculpture – an art form

that is still regarded as typically Swiss today. Outstanding representatives of this genre at international level include **Robert Müller**, followed also by **Jean Tinguely** and **Bernehard Luginbül** as well as **Daniel Spoerri** and **Dieter Roth**.

Catching up with European events

Towards the end of the 1950s, when works by “concrete” artists such as **Cuno Amiet**, **Max Gubler** and **Ernst Morgenthaler** were still regarded as genuine modernist art, young artists such as **Franz Fedier**, Rolf Iseli and Matias Spescha represented this country at the Biennales – with their art which was, in the broadest sense, informal. Switzerland caught up with the rest of Europe again. The pop-art phenomenon then emerged in Switzerland too – albeit very briefly. For artists such as **Franz Gertsch**, **Markus Raetz**, **Max Matter** and **Urs Lüthi**, the engagement

with pop was particularly important at the start of their careers.

Swiss inwardness

A specifically Swiss trend emerged in the early 1970s in the form of a strong interest in inner worlds, minor masterpieces and drawing – artists shied away from large-scale gestures. Well-known artists who created small, meditative pencil drawings include Ilse Weber, **Markus Raetz** and **Hugo Suter**.

Read more about it at:
<http://www.myswitzerland.com/en-ca/about-switzerland/the-swiss-art-and-culture-scene/from-creating-art-to-the-art-market/the-arts-scene-yesterday-and-today.html>

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A Historical Perspective: Swiss Cultural Policies and Instruments

Author: Christoph Weckerle in cooperation with Hubert Theler

Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe is a transnational project initiated by the Council of Europe's Culture Committee and Secretariat.

Federal involvement in the development of Swiss cultural policy gained a new, more modern momentum following the transformation of Pro Helvetia (otherwise known as the Arts Council of Switzerland) from a governmental consortium into an independent public foundation in 1949. Until this time, support for culture was derived mainly from the cantons and cities. Federal support for cultural activities was minimal, with the exception of resources provided to build the Swiss Federal Archives (1848), the National Museum (1890), and the Swiss

National Library (1894). The constitutional basis for these cultural activities of the Swiss Confederation was the unwritten cultural competency of the Federal Constitution, which arose as a result of the overall context of the Constitution. The Swiss Confederation began promoting culture with the establishment of the Federal Office for the Conservation of Historic Monuments in 1886 and with the Federal Decree on the Promotion and Elevation of Swiss Art of 1887. Today, federal involvement in cultural life has increased. However, the cantons and cities continue to provide the majority of resources to support cultural activities.

From the 1950s, there were signs that the quality of life in Switzerland was improving. General rates of participation in cultural life increased parallel to rising levels of education, widespread use of the mass media and a reduction in the amount of hours devoted to working life. At the same time, traditional structures, including the family, were breaking up and the sprawl of urbanisation was expanding. The arts tried to address these societal developments on various levels, which led to a broader mandate and definition of culture.

Until the end of the 1960s and early 1970s, culture was mainly considered a private matter in Switzerland. There was almost no public discussion on it. Exceptions are the federal promotion of the film industry, which was already incorporated in the Federal Constitution in 1958 (Article 27ter of 1958, now Article 71), in 1962 the enactment of Article 24sexies (now Article 78), which encourages the Confederation to protect the environment and the cultural heritage of Switzerland, and in 1959 Article 22bis (now Article 61) as the first statutory basis for the cultural heritage protection. In the late 1960s, discussion on cultural policy intensified and resulted in the establishment of a legal basis (Pro Helvetia Act of 1965) and the definition of a public mission for Pro Helvetia; the creation of a temporary Federal Commission of Experts for Swiss Cultural

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Matters (the Clottu Commission, 1969); the Conference of Swiss Cities on Cultural Matters (CSCC 1970) and the establishment of the Federal Office of Culture (FOC) in 1975.

While the concept of culture was being broadened, based on the UNESCO concept, culture as an important dimension in many policy sectors was being discussed. National

cohesion (identity) and diversity as well as the growing gaps between urban and rural areas became central issues in this context.

In 1980, the “Federal Cultural Initiative” reinvigorated the debate on cultural policy in Switzerland. According to the initiative, one percent of federal expenditure should be spent on culture. Both the “Cultural Percentage Initiative” and the moderate counterproposal of the Federal Council of 1986 were rejected by a narrow margin by the Swiss electorate. The Confederation introduced a further cultural initiative in 1991, through which the Federal Council sought to emphasise especially the identity-establishing function of culture both within and beyond Switzerland, on a local, regional, and national level. The initiative of 1991 highlighted culture and its promotion as an element conducive to unifying Switzerland, a country formed of four language groups and of several cultural communities. In 1994, this initiative was also rejected by a narrow margin.

During the 1980s, there was a growing interest on the part of the cantons and cities to increase their support for cultural and socio-cultural activities. This interest manifested itself in action and in the realisation that a more comprehensive structure for cultural policy at the local



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level was required. Toward the end of the 1980s, the need to evaluate cultural policies appeared on political agendas. One example in this respect was the establishment of the Conference of Cantonal Directors of Culture (CCDC).

Public budgets were cut in the early 1990s. Responsibilities between the different levels of government with regard to culture needed to be more clearly defined in areas such as the support granted to institutions of national interest, equality between different language regions of the country, and foreign policy. These developments were also influenced by the failed ballot of 1992 on Switzerland's accession to the European Economic Area (EEA), which put the country's political cohesion to a serious test, as the French-speaking part of the country voted in favour of accession, but were outvoted by the German-speaking majority, who voted against. The Languages Act (2007) can be considered one of the consequences of this

period. There was also renewed interest in pursuing scientific debates about culture and cultural policy as well as continuing public discussions on the establishment of a constitutional basis for cultural competencies. The promotion of culture in Switzerland was not placed on a firm constitutional basis until the revision of the Federal Constitution in 1999. Essentially, responsibility for culture continued to reside with the cantons (Article 69 para. 1 Constitution). The new Constitution confirmed the previous responsibilities of the Confederation for film (Article 71), for national heritage protection and conservation (Article 78), for language and understanding between linguistic communities (Article 70), and for foreign affairs (Article 54). Pursuant to the constitutional revision, the federal government now has legal base for the promotion of cultural endeavours of national interest and for lending support to the arts, especially in the areas of film and education (Article 69 para. 2).

On the legal basis of the revised constitution, Swiss Parliament passed the Federal Act on the Promotion of Culture (Culture Promotion Act) at the end of 2009. This Act renders concrete and implements Article 69 of the Federal Constitution. On this basis, strategic aims have been defined for the first time for the most important actors of the Confederation for the period from 2012 to 2015.

Today, culture is an important element in different policy areas - from the debate on national cohesion (including the discussion of a language and minority policy) to the discussion on whether cultural industries have to be considered as part of a forward-looking cultural policy.

Chapter published: 12-11-2014
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Public Pension Systems in Canada and in Switzerland

by Kurt Schlöpfer, Switzerland

While Canada's Finance Ministers have recently agreed to improve the Canadian pension system, a citizen-initiated referendum was held in Switzerland dealing with the same goal of increasing the Swiss public pension called AHV. These national efforts give rise to look more closely at the existing social security systems in both countries.

Most countries offer either a state pension or a social pension or both for their citizens when they retire. The typical characteristic of a state pension is that all employees and employers have to pay a percentage of salaries into this system, and the pension paid to a person depends on their contribution history. Social pensions, however, are paid to older people regardless of income, assets or employment. Over 80 countries including Canada and Switzerland offer social pensions.

This article focuses only on public pension systems and does not cover other sources of retirement income such as occupational pension plans. To keep the article easy-to-read, the many exemptions in these systems are not mentioned.

Canada

In Canada, there are two main pension programs that provide benefits to retired people, i.e. the Old Age Security program (OAS) and the Canada Pension Plan (CPP).

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is a form of retirement income that is open to all Canadians who have worked and paid into the system through deductions from their salaries. The amount a person receives under the system depends on how much and for how long a person contributed. The maximum CPP payout is \$934 per month

at age 65. If the annual salary is less than \$54,900, this will result in a reduction of the final benefit amount. The CPP contribution is deducted from the employee's earnings and amounts to 4.95 %. The employer is obliged to contribute an equal amount, totalling the CPP contribution to 9.9 %. Self-employed people must contribute 9.9 % of their net business income. A person can begin receiving CPP any time after age 60, but the CPP payout will be reduced. On the other hand, for each month after age 65 the benefit will increase. Earnings less than \$3,500 per year are automatically exempt from CPP contributions.

The Old Age Security (OAS) program is the Government's largest pension program and funded out of the general revenues of the Government of Canada, meaning that nobody has to pay into it directly. To qualify

for a full OAS pension, a person must be resident of Canada for at least 40 years after turning age 18, and continuously for the 10 years immediately before the approval of the OAS pension. The maximum OAS pension is \$573 per month. Unlike CPP, most people get the maximum, because it is based solely on residency. The government claws back OAS payments from high-income Canadians. If the income is higher than \$70,954, the government will reclaim part of the OAS payment, currently 15 cents for every dollar of income above the \$70,954 threshold. That means that if an annual retirement income is higher than \$114,640, the OAS payout will be reduced to zero.

In addition to regular Old Age Security benefits, there is the Guaranteed Income Supplement benefit (GIS). The GIS provides benefits in addition to the OAS pension,



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to seniors whose income or combined income with their spouse is very low. The maximum GIS amount is \$856 per month, if the recipient has no retirement income.

Switzerland

In Switzerland, everyone is entitled to an old-age pension from the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, better known under the Swiss abbreviation AHV. The AHV is a combination of state and social pension. Men, at 65, and women, at 64, are entitled to this old-age pension. Payouts may be started two years earlier or can be postponed up to five years, which leads to a corresponding decrease or increase in payments. If an insured person dies, any dependent family members will receive a survivor's pension.

The minimum AHV pension is CHF 1,175 per month, if the average annual income is not higher than CHF 14,100. For instance, if a person never earned more than CHF 1,000

per year, the monthly AHV pension is still CHF 1,175. In this respect, the AHV is truly a social pension. Above an annual income of CHF 14,100 the AHV pension depends on the contributions paid and reaches a maximum amount of CHF 2,350 per month. As in Canada, AHV contributions are deducted from the employee's salary, the rate in Switzerland being 5.125 %. Together with the employer's amount the total CPP contribution is 10.25 %.

If a person obtains an AHV pension and his income does not cover basic needs, he is entitled to supplementary benefits (Ergänzungsleistungen). To be eligible, a certain number of legal requirements have to be fulfilled. There is no maximum limit for supplementary benefits. Typically, the monthly amounts paid can vary between CHF 2,000 and CHF 3,000.

On September 25, 2016, a citizen-initiated referendum was held under the name "AHV plus" demanding that the current AHV

pensions be increased by 10 %. According to the initiators of the referendum, a higher AHV pension is necessary, because people on low incomes rely on receiving a higher retirement income. As this referendum faces serious problems for the Swiss state finances, neither the Federal Council nor the national Parliament can see any financial way of increasing the AHV pensions. In the vote on September 25, nearly 60 % of voters rejected the referendum. The Swiss government welcomed the result, with Interior minister Alain Berset commenting "The people have understood the major hurdle we are facing of creating a stable first pillar".

Comparison between Canada and Switzerland

A direct comparison between the Canadian and the Swiss pension systems is difficult, because the calculation basis is very different in the two countries. Nevertheless, an attempt is made to present some

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comparative figures. The basis for the calculation are the average employment earnings per year (in Canada below a maximum cap) between the age of 20 and 65. It is also assumed that this average salary is also the retirement income at the age of 65 for a single person without any other assets. The comparison shows that the pensions paid to old-age people are more or less comparable in the two countries. However, it is interesting to note that Canada pays higher pensions than Switzerland to people with a low retirement income and vice versa. And it may be added that old-age people in Switzerland who do not qualify to receive an AHV pension obtain supplementary benefits (Ergänzungsleistungen).

Average annual income between age 20 and 65	Canada	Switzerland
	CCP+OAS+GIF*	AHV
\$/CHF	0	0
2,000	1,435	1,175
5,000	1,265	1,175
20,000	977	1,389
60,000	1,671	2,162
90,000	1,581	2,350

* Source: Homepage of the Government of Canada

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CREATING EMPLOYMENT

- ▶ 174,000 Torontonians work in the culture sector.
- ▶ With 23,700 resident artists, Toronto is home to nearly twice as many artists as any other

Canadian city. One in every six Canadian artists resides in Toronto.

- ▶ Toronto's creative workforce has grown by 34% since 20015 – a higher rate of growth than our overall labour force.
- ▶ Ontario is among North America's top entertainment and media economies, ranking third in employment behind California and New York.
- ▶ In 2010, the number of culture jobs in Ontario was 278,801 (representing 4.1% of the provincial economy) while the number of jobs in cultural industries was

301,090 (representing a 4.5% share of the provincial economy).

PROVIDING RETURNS ON INVESTMENT

- ▶ Every \$1 the City invests in the non profit arts sector generates \$8.25 in earned revenues plus an additional \$11.77 from other levels of government and the private sector.
- ▶ The City of Toronto has made a commitment to increase arts and culture funding to \$25.009 per capita by 2017 but it has a long way to go. This is less than Montreal (\$55), Vancouver (\$47), Calgary (\$42) and Ottawa (\$28) spent in 2009.

THE ARTS ARE GOOD FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

INCREASING SPENDING

- ▶ Overnight arts and culture tourists outspent other tourists at a rate of almost 2-to-1, spending an average of \$667 per trip.17
- ▶ Overall spending in Toronto increased by 12.1% during the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF).
- ▶ Attendees at the 2015 Hot Docs Festival spent \$6.4 million, and the Festival's industry market yielded Canadian business deals worth \$16.1 million.
- ▶ Since 2007, the Luminato Festival has generated over \$450 million in visitor spending.

- ▶ Torontonians spent over \$132 million on tickets to Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) members' performances in 2009/10, supporting local employment and commerce.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

- ▶ In 2010 arts and culture tourists to Ontario spent \$1.1 billion on lodging, or 38% of all visitor spending on lodging, and \$1.1 billion on food and beverages.
- ▶ These arts and culture tourists also contributed 43% (\$0.6 billion) of all retail spending by visitors in Ontario, and 51% (\$0.5 billion) of all entertainment and recreation spending.

- ▶ 52% of Canadians feel more favourably towards businesses that support arts and culture.
- ▶ Average annual corporate support of arts and cultural organizations rose to \$69,000 per organization in 2014, from \$56,000 in 2008.
- ▶ 57% of Torontonians think support for arts in Toronto should be a priority for local businesses.

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Demagogues and Narcissists in the New World Order

By: Beat J. Guldemann, LLD
14 November 2016

A few decades ago a group of reasonable human beings formed the college of world leaders: Ronald Reagan in the United States, Mikhail Gorbachev in Russia, Helmut Kohl in Germany; you get the drift. People that could have a serious conversation. While focusing on their own national interest first they were still committed to building a better world. And they were all reasonable folks, open for a reasonable compromise.

In 1989, Ronald Reagan saw an opportunity to end the reign of Communism in Eastern Europe as the Soviet regime started to crack in Moscow. Helmut Kohl, with the unwavering support of Reagan (and his French counterpart, Francois Mitterand) saw an opportunity to re-unite Germany after the defeat of the Third Reich had forced the formation of two separate German states.

Not a single shot was fired to deal a fatal blow to the USSR; much rather Ronald Reagan overcame his "Evil Empire" rhetoric, gave a televised speech and called out: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall". A reasonable man read the situation perfectly and gave another reasonable man the opportunity to seize an historic moment and end the isolation of the Soviet Union. And with another reasonable man sitting in the German Chancellor's office, both Superpowers could be comfortable enough with a reunited Germany.

Flash forward to today, or maybe into a point in time after January 20, 2017:

There will still be reasonable politicians running their countries. Just think Merkel, May, Renzi and Hollande in Europe, Abe in Japan and Trudeau in Canada. While Abe and Trudeau can govern comfortably on a stable majority, the leaders in key European states have to face the real possibility of being voted out of office by a populace that is frightened, disillusioned and angry over what they believe is a failed migration policy.

Populist leaders may not form a government anytime soon in Europe, but they will give established parties a real run for the support of voters. And a strengthened populist right will definitely change politics

What is even more concerning is that narcissistically inclined demagogues are taking control in the nations that really matter; the entities we formerly called Superpowers.

Vladimir Putin is hardly a reasonable man; if he were he would not have annexed Crimea and started to play with fire in Ukraine. In China, Chairman Xi Jinping is turning into a hardline autocrat ruthlessly cleaning house in his new Mandarin Court, all the while rattling a few sabers in the South China Sea.

In an unexpected major upset of the political establishment in the U.S., Donald Trump just won the Presidential elections on November 8. If we can take the vitriol of his election campaign as any indication, he will trump (pun intended) both Putin and Xi in his readings on the narcissism meter. His populist message has always caused reasonable heads to shake, but with a Trump White House now reality, his antics are not just annoying; they represent real geopolitical risk.

The good news is that, Mr. Trump, now the 45th POTUS, will not be able to turn the United States into an autocracy like Russia or China, no matter how hard he may try. The checks and balances ingrained in the U.S. Constitution and the separation of powers between the White House and Congress will guarantee the survival of democracy, however bruised, in America.

Donald Trump will have to prove to the world that he can and will behave differently as President than he did as Candidate.

Watchers of the election campaign learned over the past 18 months that nasty is in his DNA. As a result, global leaders may well try to avoid dealing with President Trump whenever they can.

This is hardly good news for America's attempt to fulfill its global leadership ambitions and for Trump "Making America Great Again". At least from a global perspective.

President Elect Trump now a reality, we will begin a new chapter in the rise to power by narcissistic demagogues with a populist agenda. Populistic nationalists across Europe will take November 8, 2016 as an endorsement of their efforts to upset the "Classe Politique" in the EU.

To keep geopolitics in balance, the person sitting in the Oval Office is supposed to be a measured leader. A person that is respected as a statesman, not feared for their outbursts; a person that combines character strength with the ability to lead global institutions like the G7 and G20. I find it hard to imagine how Donald Trump can fit this profile, no matter how much he tried in the first few days after his victory to act with decency and humility.

The peaceful coexistence of nations depends on building consensus and compromise on a global level. If the main decision makers in G7/8/20 summits are a group of narcissists, however, the main objective of global debate may soon be to determine winners and losers, not finding solutions that work for the global community.

We can't predict who will win and who will lose, but what we can predict is that global cooperation will lose out to a resurgence of nationalistic tendencies, including the belief in supremacy of certain nations, races, and religions over others.

If in 1989, Reagan wasn't Reagan but Trump, and Gorbachev was Putin, the Berlin Wall might never have come down. If narcissistic demagogues end up in control of the global agenda, the progress symbolized by the Fall of the Wall may all go up in smoke and we risk watching the clocks being dialed back to a point in the 20th Century where nobody wants to go.

Hopefully I will be proven wrong.



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Un au revoir à notre Consul général

par Olivier Rodriguez, gestionnaire de portefeuille chez Mirabaud Canada Inc.

Le 6 juillet dernier, la Chambre prenait congé de Beat Kaser, Consul général de Suisse et Représentant permanent de la Suisse à l'OACI dont le mandat s'est achevé cet été à Montréal.

Un cocktail-entrevue en son honneur a été organisé à l'Auberge St-Gabriel, où plus de 50 membres et amis s'étaient réunis afin de souligner cet événement.

L'entrevue a été animée par nul autre que notre gouverneur honoraire, Simon Durivage.

D'entrée, Simon Durivage a mentionné que c'était le premier Consul qu'il tutoyait; le ton était donné pour la suite de l'entrevue! Leur grande complicité construite au long des années, leur finesse d'analyse et leur vivacité d'esprit ont rendu cette entrevue extrêmement savoureuse. Les questions portaient sur les années de Beat au Québec mais également sur la politique ainsi que les relations entre la Suisse et le Canada,

un entretien parsemé d'humour suivi par un auditoire très attentif.

Par la suite, une statue inukshuk lui a été remise en gage de notre reconnaissance et de souvenir pour ces années passées sur les terres québécoises.

Au nom de tous les membres du Conseil d'administration et membres de la Chambre, je remercie Beat pour son engagement indéfectible envers la Chambre.

Durant ces quatre années à Montréal, il a grandement contribué à son épanouissement et a tout mis en œuvre pour la dynamiser et remplir son rôle au sein de la Chambre de commerce. Ses interventions et remarques pertinentes lors des Conseils d'administration ou lors des réunions des différents comités, auxquels il participait avec application, ont été grandement appréciées par tous. Il a également contribué à un rapprochement avec la chambre de l'Ontario.

Avec un nouveau mandat qui l'installera à Lyon, il appréciera sans doute davantage, après les déplaisants bouchons de circulation montréalais, les réputés bouchons lyonnais ! Nous souhaitons bonne chance à Beat pour la suite de sa carrière et espérons avoir

l'occasion de le revoir prochainement à Montréal ou à Lyon.

Cet événement tout particulier a été sponsorisé par Busch Vacuum Technics, le cabinet Lette, Mirabaud ainsi que l'Auberge Saint-Gabriel. Nous les remercions vivement de leur soutien et de leur générosité.



M. Beat Kaser, ancien Consul général de Suisse à Montréal, en entrevue avec M. Simon Durivage.



M. Beat Kaser et son épouse Mme Ting Liu Kaser avec leur statue inukshuk.

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Cocktail d'ouverture et accueil de notre nouvelle Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal, Madame Elisabeth Bösch Malinen

Par Marie Habre, Présidente de la CCCSQ et avocate au Cabinet Lette & Associés

À l'occasion de notre Cocktail d'ouverture, qui a eu lieu le 8 septembre dernier, M. Olivier Schlegel et l'équipe du Restaurant Le Léman ont réservé un accueil remarquable aux membres de la Chambre de Commerce Canado-Suisse (Québec).

Ce cocktail marque généralement la reprise de nos activités suite à une petite pause estivale traditionnelle. Cette année, la pause estivale a été assez courte, faisant suite à notre assemblée générale, notre tournoi de Golf et notre cocktail d'adieu à M. Beat Kaser. Aussi, le cocktail d'ouverture de cette année a été très spécial, car il nous a permis d'accueillir notre nouvelle Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal et Représentante permanente de la Suisse à l'OACI, Madame Elisabeth Bösch Malinen.

À cette occasion bien spéciale, nous étions réunis en grand nombre, et avons eu l'honneur de recevoir son excellence Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Beat Nobs, qui a tenu à participer à notre soirée pour accueillir Madame Bösch Malinen et pour nous la présenter. Il a donc résumé le parcours bien riche de notre nouvelle Consule générale, qui succède à M. Beat Kaser, après avoir été en poste à Berne, Copenhague, Nice, Antananarivo, Helsinki, Vienne, Canberra, Dhaka et Moscou.

Ensuite, prenant la parole, Madame Bösch Malinen a su impressionner son auditoire, par sa cordialité, sa franchise, sa modestie et son enthousiasme. Elle a fait un retour rapide sur le cheminement qui l'a menée à ce poste et a brièvement effleuré sa vision et ses projets pour l'avenir. Elle s'est aussi réjouie de ne plus avoir à subir la barrière linguistique qui la limitait dans son poste précédent à Moscou. Au Canada, comme en Suisse, elle aura l'embaras du choix au niveau linguistique!

Les échos qui ont suivis cet événement ont été très positifs et nous avons noté que les aspects les plus appréciés auront été la disponibilité et l'amabilité de nos invités d'honneur, qui ont passé la soirée à échanger avec nos membres.

Un grand merci au Restaurant Le Léman, où nous sommes toujours si bien reçus, dans une

chaleureuse ambiance qui nous fait penser à la Suisse, avec des petits soupçons du Québec.

Tous nos remerciements également au Consulat général de Suisse qui nous a offert le verre de l'amitié. Mais surtout, nos chaleureux remerciements à nos invités d'honneur, son excellence M. l'Ambassadeur Nobs et Mme la Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal, Madame Bösch Malinen, et son époux Monsieur Sampo Malinen.

Au plaisir de vous revoir lors de nos prochains événements !



De gauche à droite : M. Beat Nobs, Ambassadeur de Suisse au Canada, Mme Marie Habre, Présidente de la Chambre de Commerce Canado-Suisse, Mme Elisabeth Bösch Malinen, Consule générale, Représentante permanente de la Suisse à l'OACI.



Les membres de la Chambre de Commerce Canado-Suisse écoutant attentivement le discours de la nouvelle Consule générale Elisabeth Bösch Malinen.



Un petit-déjeuner conférence prestigieux

Par Olivier Rodriguez, gestionnaire de portefeuille chez Mirabaud Canada Inc.

Le 26 septembre dernier, s'est tenu au très chic Club Mont-Royal, un petit-déjeuner conférence organisé par la Chambre, en partenariat avec Mirabaud qui célèbre cette année ses 30 années de présence au Canada et qui, pour l'occasion, a convié comme invité de marque, M. Peter Maurer, Président du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge (CICR).

À la soixantaine de personnes présentes -dont des collaborateurs de Mirabaud Canada-, se sont joints des représentants de Mirabaud Genève, dont M. Yves Mirabaud, associé sénior de la banque, ainsi que des délégués du CICR et de la Croix-Rouge canadienne.

Après avoir été introduit par M. Yves Mirabaud, M. Maurer a livré une conférence axée sur les défis qu'affronte la diplomatie humanitaire aujourd'hui, ainsi que la contribution du CICR à la gestion des crises internationales.

Ce fut une conférence extrêmement intéressante et très bien vulgarisée. Les nombreuses questions suscitées par son allocution ont témoigné de l'intérêt de l'auditoire envers l'activité humanitaire en général et par les activités du CICR dans le monde en particulier.

La Chambre tient à remercier chaleureusement Mirabaud pour leur générosité qui a permis la tenue de cet événement. Ce fut un privilège pour nos membres d'avoir eu l'opportunité de rencontrer M. Peter Maurer.

De plus, la Chambre est fière de remettre tous les profits générés par ce petit-déjeuner à la Croix-Rouge canadienne.



M. Peter Maurer durant son allocution.
Crédit : Tora Photography



De gauche à droite : Olivier Rodriguez, Cédric Anker, Marie Habre, Peter Maurer, Yves Mirabaud, Georges Paulez et Yves Erard.
Crédit : Tora Photography

Une visite très appréciée de la vice-présidente du gouvernement suisse, Mme Doris Leuthard

Par Me Jean-Marc Ferland, membre du C.A. de la Chambre de commerce canado-suisse

Le 3 octobre dernier, Mme Leuthard, aussi Conseillère fédérale et cheffe du Département fédéral de l'environnement, des transports, de l'énergie et de la communication (DETEC), a prononcé une allocution très attendue devant une salle bondée lors d'un événement organisé par le Conseil des relations internationales de Montréal (CORIM). Ce dernier fut mis en place en association notamment avec la Confédération suisse (Consulat général à Montréal), le Swiss Business Hub Canada et votre Chambre de Commerce Canado-Suisse du Québec.

Après avoir été présentée par Son Excellence, l'Ambassadeur de la Suisse au Canada; Dr Beat Nobs, Mme Leuthard a brossé un tableau sommaire des objectifs à court et moyen terme de la Suisse au plan économique et surtout technologique, incluant la lutte au changement climatique, sa « stratégie énergétique 2050 » et son

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emphase sur les technologies vertes. La vice-présidente s'est aussi arrêtée sur la relation de la Suisse avec le Canada en soulignant qu'elle considérait que la Suisse avait à nouveau un partenariat à part entière avec le Canada, surtout depuis l'élection des libéraux, et du Premier Ministre Trudeau. Pour elle, le Canada rejoint désormais la vision globale de la Suisse, en partageant des défis communs dont ceux énumérés plus haut.

Plus précisément, Mme Leuthard mentionnait que les changements climatiques, tout en posant de sérieux défis, s'accompagnent d'opportunités intéressantes au plan de l'avancement technologique, notamment au niveau énergétique, tout en pouvant être rentables. Mme Leuthard s'est d'ailleurs réjouie du fait que, contrairement au

passé, le Canada entendait se rallier à la communauté internationale en faisant en sorte que l'accord de Paris sur le climat soit entériné sous peu.

Les politiques de l'énergie, des transports et des changements climatiques ont en fait été la dominante de toute sa visite de travail, très fertile, en sol canadien. Elle a rencontré en rafale plusieurs ministres, tant au niveau fédéral que provincial, et même le premier ministre du Québec, avec lequel elle a convenu d'accentuer encore la coopération dans le domaine de l'efficacité énergétique, de l'assainissement des bâtiments et du stockage de l'énergie, selon un communiqué de presse du DETEC.

Elle a aussi pris avantage de son voyage pour visiter certaines entreprises actives

dans les domaines du transport, de l'énergie et des cleantech. Entre autres, elle est passée chez Hydro-Québec, que le DETEC considère comme « ... une des entreprises hydroélectriques les plus importantes et les plus innovatrices au monde », ainsi que la compagnie ABB, qui célèbre cette année son 125ème anniversaire, et l'agence du transport à Toronto, Metrolinx.

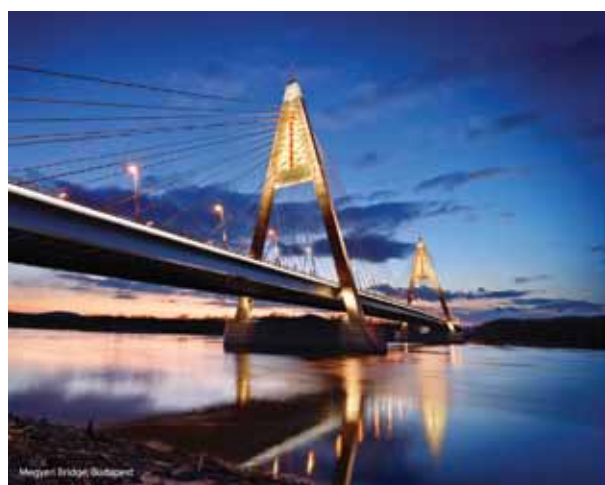
Votre Chambre a été fière de s'associer au CORIM pour convier ses membres à profiter du passage de cette politicienne fouguese, admirée et très éloquente. Comme pour bon nombre d'autres activités à caractère économique ou d'affaires proposées aux membres cette année, et celles prévues pour l'an prochain d'ailleurs, cette activité a été d'un vif intérêt, pour tous ceux qui ont décidé de donner une « touche Suisse » à leurs activités au Canada.



De gauche à droite : Elisabeth Bösch Malinen, Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal; Christine St-Pierre, Ministre des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie; Pierre Lemonde, Président-directeur général du CORIM; Dr. Beat Nobs, Ambassadeur de Suisse au Canada et Marie Habre, Présidente de la CCCS(QC)



De gauche à droite : Mme Marie Habre, présidente de la Chambre de Commerce Canada-Suisse accompagnée de trois membres de la Chambre de Commerce, ainsi que de Mme Elisabeth Bösch Malinen, Consule générale, Représentante permanente de Suisse



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BUSINESS NEWS

Google supports Zurich start-up scene

Google is entering into a partnership with Impact Hub Zurich. In doing so, the California IT giant will promote the Zurich start-up scene from its European headquarters in Zurich.

Google is supporting Impact Hub Zurich – and thus the local start-up community. Concretely speaking, around 800 members of Impact Hub in Zurich will now gain access to programmes and events hosted by Google for Entrepreneurs worldwide, as the Neue Zürcher Zeitung reports. Of even greater importance is the exchange of ideas, said David Grunwald, manager of Global Partnerships at Google. “We want to support the start-up culture in Zurich and the entire world.”

“This exchange is of course a great thing for us,” said Christoph Birkholz, director of Impact Hub. It represents a tremendous opportunity particularly for young talent from the technology sector. He also stressed that the partnership does not impose any obligations on the start-ups. For instance, Google does not have pre-emption rights to any of the promising start-ups.

Both the Zurich start-up scene and Google are set to benefit from the partnership. The internet giant operates its largest R&D centre outside of the US in Zurich, employing over 1,800 people. By supporting Impact Hub, Google is looking to create an ecosystem that attracts as much talent as possible.

The first joint events are already being planned. Google, for example, wants to organise regular Techtalks or round tables with start-ups where young entrepreneurs can exchange ideas with experts from Google.

Zurich set to become skin research centre

Zurich-based universities and hospitals are launching a joint flagship project on the topic of skin. The aim is to position Zurich as a leading global centre for skin research. The University Medicine Zurich research network, which includes the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH), the University of Zurich (UZH) and hospitals in Zurich, is planning a new flagship project dedicated to skin. Researchers, engineers and doctors will work together to develop new therapies and diagnostic procedures for skin diseases and tissue repair disorder, and to push forward fundamental research. The ETH Zurich and the UZH are each receiving CHF 500,000 from the project, revealed a statement.

The big project known as Skintegrity is primarily designed to promote interdisciplinary research and lead to new partnerships. It comprises ten sub-projects including, for example, the production of artificial skin for transplantations or for research purposes, and the measurement of the mechanical properties of skin in order to diagnose fibrotic skin diseases such as scleroderma in the early stages. Meanwhile, several fundamental research projects will look at wound healing and carcinogenesis.

Detlef Günther, vice president of Research and Corporate Relations at the ETH Zurich, explained that Zurich, as a hub for medical research and clinical care, could now further develop its interdisciplinary strengths in the area of skin research. He added: “Not only will the project promote skin research in Zurich, it will also give a crucial boost to the medical technology industry, biotechnology,

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and the pharmaceutical industry in Switzerland.”

In the medium-term, the partners aim to expand the project beyond Zurich and to work with experts from other Swiss universities. There are also plans to find further sources of funding to secure the project’s long-term viability.

University of St.Gallen establishes institute in Brazil

The University of St.Gallen is expanding its hub in Brazil as an institute, thereby consolidating its research and consultancy activities in Latin America.

The St. Gallen Institute of Management in Latin America (GIMLA) will serve several purposes, as the University of St.Gallen (HSG) explains in its press release. On the one hand, it will be used to arrange exchange semesters for HSG students, enabling them to familiarise themselves with Latin America. Currently an average of 200 students and 25 lecturers from the university complete a period of stay abroad in Latin America. In future, the GIMLA will also find students practical placements in Latin America.

On the other hand, the university wants to increase its practical research and intensify its research cooperation and consultancy activities. The focus of the hub already established in Sao Paolo in 2010 is “Impact Investing” and “Social Finance”. In so doing, research is carried out on business models which have a positive influence on society and the environment. The GIMLA will also advise regional companies in how to improve their business sustainability.

On 18 October 2016, the University of St.Gallen is scheduled to host its fifth Impact Business Conference on the subject of “Innovative Business Models for a Sustainable Society – Insights from Latin America”. The GIMLA will be officially inaugurated within the framework of the conference.

Distance University launches unique program in biometrics

The Swiss Distance Learning University will offer an online distance learning program on biometrics and privacy protection. The program will open in April 2017.

It’s a first in Switzerland and Europe: Valais-based Swiss Distance Learning University has launched a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Biometrics and Privacy. This unique program will encompass all aspects of biometrics, from biometrics technologies and standards, to security and privacy protection, criminal sciences, legal issues and data protection, culture and society. The program, which will be taught by world-renowned professors, was developed in collaboration with the Idiap Research Institute.

“The goal of the CAS Biometrics & Privacy

is to provide decision-makers, authorities and citizens with a better understanding of biometrics, including aspects pertaining to privacy and data protection”, said Sébastien Marcel, program manager and senior researcher at Idiap, in a press release.

The creation of the CAS Biometrics & Privacy responds to emerging challenges in the field of biometrics. According to a EU directive that will enter into force in May 2018, public administrations and companies dealing with biometric data will have to work with a data security officer.



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We strive to continuously improve and expand the service offering to our members. As such, we are pleased to announce that the SCCC will be offering **discounted rates on auto and home insurance** to its members through an exclusive SCCC group insurance plan underwriting by Aviva Canada. **Aviva Canada** is the country's second largest property and casualty insurer and offers an extensive Claims Service Satisfaction Guarantee. If you are interested in learning how much you could save, call 1-877-787-7021 to get a quote. This latest addition expands our current insurance offering from health insurance provided by Nacora to now also include preferred rates on auto and home insurance by Aviva.

Earlier this year, the SCCC also launched a **private LinkedIn group** to help our members gain easy access to a broad network of leaders in local, national, and multi-national organizations. We encourage that you take advantage of this great opportunity to stay connected with fellow members.

We are proud to offer yearly **scholarship awards**. These awards are open to children of members of the Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce. The deadline for scholarship applications is July 15 for the academic year starting in the fall. We will continue to work hard to add more benefits in the near future.

For more information, please contact Patricia Keller Schläpfer at the SCCC.

TRAVEL NEWS

Adrenalin Kick in Morschach: New Flying-Fox adventure

The greatest family and leisure resort in Switzerland, namely Swiss Holiday Park in Morschach/SZ, has newly opened the Flying-Fox facility as an additional attraction for guests.

The Flying-Fox facility first opened in the family-friendly Swiss Holiday Park in Morschach/SZ on 1 May 2016. Here, summer sees you whizz down an approximately 1000-meter zip line above several stations, forest park and a cliff directly above the Axenstrasse road - with in-depth and far-reaching views. A genuine hour-long adrenaline kick and an opportunity to test your personal endurance and skills - with 3 diverse stretches made up of the Cliff Trail, Fronalp Trail and Panorama Trail, and a total 18 platforms up to 10 meters high.

Tatort Tell crime-scene - and experimental search for clues

The newly developed outdoor "Tatort Tell" game leads through the mountain and lake landscapes of fabled URI - as big and small get closer to national heroes in a playful way - with modern production technology on a journey through Tell's village of Bürglen, central Altdorf point and famous Tellsplatte on the lake of URI.

Somebody has been murdered. A man has been shot in a Küssnacht alleyway - with an arrow from a crossbow that punctured the middle of his heart. Now, as Commissioner it's up to you to try and shed light on the death of this man, a bailiff. Armed with a game plan, crime scene cards and Commissioner identity tucked away in your backpack, you embark on a journey through the URI holiday region.... in the footsteps of the unerring marksman, Wilhelm Tell.

Around 15 stations scattered here and there bring you closer to solving this mystery. One experiment after the next leads to the answer. The combination of puzzle solving and a visit to the original Tell sites, surrounded by some truly stunning lake and mountain scenery, makes a perfect outing not only for families, but friends, companies and clubs too. "Tatort Tell" - a mind-boggling excursion to remember!

The Gottardino special train Flüelen to Biasca

At 57 kilometres, the Gotthard Base Tunnel is the longest railway tunnel in the world. A journey through this structure of the century on the Gottardino special train and an exclusive stop in the heart of the mountain massif is an unforgettable experience.

You will discover the Gotthard's unforgettable world of experience, on a tour of the multifunction station of Sedrun, more than 800 meters deep inside the mountain. You will then be one of the only privileged ones to have ever alighted in the Gotthard Base Tunnel.

Further information,
www.sbb.ch/gottardino

Thrill Walk

Schilthornbahn AG opened the new Thrill Walk cliff path at the Birg mid-station.

From the terrace at Birg the Thrill Walk leads down to the vertical drops of the breathtaking rock massif. A steel structure, about 200 meters in length and closely hugging the mountain, passes underneath the observation deck and the cable car and ends below the station.

The cliff walk contains a variety of different segments and creates an interplay of air, railings and glass.

The first breathing trail in Switzerland - Safenwil

In mid-2016, Switzerland's first breathing trail opened in the woodland surrounding the Aargau communities of Safenwil, Oftringen, Uerkheim and Zofingen. This trail offers a sensual way to experience external and internal living spaces.

The trail is suitable for anyone who wants to learn about conscious breathing, needs to address breathing for health reasons or simply enjoys an activity in open nature. Along the 7-kilometre route, ten stations featuring small, playful experiments invite you to breathe consciously.

Zentralbahn LiveGuide: the new digital travel companion

The Zentralbahn is launching its LiveGuide app: a new digital travel companion for the railway line between Lucerne and Interlaken.

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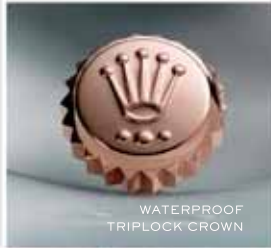




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