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REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA

Editorial

Judging by the number of mentions COVID-19 received in this issue of the *Regional News*, it's clear the event-killing pandemic remains top of mind for Swiss clubs / organisations: much of the reporting is about the things we could not do, and cannot do. While there are now glimmers of

hope for a (gradual) re-opening, we also face numerous mixed messages about "the next wave"! Yet perhaps there is truth to the saying *It's darkest just before dawn*? Maybe we are already at "peak pessimism" and about to turn the corner? I'll leave you with that enticing thought, and hope you enjoy reading - in spite of it all!

avs@telus.net



ANDREW VON STUERMER,
REGIONAL EDITOR,
CANADA

Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir Association



Erwin Baumann

Dear Kamerade:

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Erwin Baumann passed away on February 1, 2021 at a long-term care home in Stony Plain, surrounded by his children Gisela, Barbara, and Daniel. He would have been 92 years old in April.

We extend our deepest condolences and sympathy to Erwin's family here and in Switzerland. Erwin was both a Founding and Honourary Member of the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir (ESMC) and established his legacy with the Erwin Baumann Scholarship. He was also most involved in organising the first few choir trips to Switzerland. From 1985 to 1995, Erwin also served as the Honourary Swiss Consul for Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Erwin will be missed and remembered - not only by his family but by everyone who knew him. He was a great singer, friend, and supporter of our Choir. May he rest in peace! Due to COVID-19, no official funeral service has taken place. However - Alberta Health Services permitting - at a later date, there might be a Celebration of Life event at the family acreage west of Edmonton.

HANS VOEGELI

The ESMC had to cancel its plans to host the 43rd NASSA Sangerfest in June 2021 in Edmonton. We had invited choirs from the US Upper Midwest, the West Coast, Switzerland, and Canada, representing close to 250 singers in Mixed, Men's, Ladies, and Yodel choirs.

Due to so many uncertainties with COVID-19, the ESMC membership decided against going ahead with organising the postponed NASSA Sangerfest in 2022. Our Choir had the privilege of hosting this international singing festival in the year 2000. It was a great success and enjoyed by everyone who participated.

On a positive note, we are delighted that Jerry Paravicini - a former ESMC member and President - has offered to work in our office to put together an archival history of the ESMC from 1980 to the present (we're now in our 41st year).

The basic archive will consist of details such as Choir members for each year, executives and their roles, directors, accompanists, community involvement, fundraising, honours received, general activities, travel, and any additional information gathered from the records that may be deemed pertinent to the project.

We would like to ask if you could submit any relevant photos or memorabilia, or items from the Choir's journey, preferably identified by location and date. If individuals are included, they should be named. Should you wish to provide a brief history of your involvement with the Choir and any other details, please do so!

If you have contact addresses, emails, or phone numbers of former ESMC members, please forward them as well. Contact Jerry Paravicini at tenorpower@shaw.ca, or call him at 780 717 6223.

PETER THUT



**FÉDÉRATION DES SOCIÉTÉS SUISSES DE L'EST DU CANADA
FEDERATION OF SWISS SOCIETIES IN EASTERN CANADA**

Membres et ami(e)s de la communauté suisse,

Notre assemblée générale annuelle 2021 a eu lieu via vidéoconférence au début du mois de février. Les membres du comité 2020 et les président(e)s de la plupart des clubs et sociétés suisses du Québec y ont participé. Les membres du comité 2021, nouvellement élus ou réélus, sont le vice-président Bruno Setz, la trésorière Jeannette Perriard, la secrétaire Nazly Safarzadeh, les administrateurs Silvia Baertschi, Carl Diehl, Vincent Galland, Juerg Hertner, Sebastian Hertner, Kenneth Hill, Urs Kaiser, Louis Savaria, Holley Vosburgh, Barbara Zaugg-Beugger. Le poste de président reste vacant.

**Y'AURA-T-IL UNE FÊTE NATIONALE SUISSE 2021 CÉLÉBRÉE
AU MONT SUTTON?**

À la fin février, nous aurions déjà dû avoir amorcé certaines démarches pour l'organisation de la fête. Dans la situation actuelle, avec tant d'incertitudes, il serait illusoire de penser que cette fête pourrait avoir lieu comme depuis plus de quarante ans, et de réunir environ 2,500 personnes. En conclusion, il n'y aura pas de Fête nationale suisse au Mont Sutton en 2021. Cependant, un groupe de projet est en place pour préparer une vidéo pour le 1er août 2021.

Continuez à nous suivre, sur notre page Facebook www.facebook.com/Fedesuisse/ et à visiter notre site web www.fedesuisse.com.

Espérons que l'année 2022 nous apportera d'agréables surprises et que nous pourrons recommencer à fêter en grand! Nous vous souhaitons de rester en santé, COURAGE à tous!

VOTRE COMITÉ 2021

Members and Friends of the Swiss Community:

In early February, we held our 2021 AGM via videoconference - 2020 Committee members and the presidents of most of the Swiss clubs and societies in Quebec were in attendance. Here are the (newly elected or re-elected) members of the 2021 Committee: Vice President Bruno Setz; Treasurer Jeannette Perriard; Secretary Nazly Safarzadeh; and Directors Silvia Baertschi, Carl Diehl, Vincent Galland, Juerg Hertner, Sebastian Hertner, Kenneth Hill, Urs Kaiser, Louis Savaria, Holley Vosburgh, and Barbara Zaugg-Beugger. The position of President remains vacant.

**WILL THERE BE A 2021 SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION
AT MONT SUTTON?**

By the end of February, we should already have taken certain steps towards organising the celebration. Under the current uncertain circumstances, it would be an illusion to think that this event could still take place this year, as it has for over 40 years, to bring together approximately 2,500 people. In conclusion, in 2021 there will be no Swiss National Day celebration at Mont Sutton. However, a project group has been established to prepare a video for August 1, 2021.

Continue to follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/Fedesuisse/ and visit our website www.fedesuisse.com.

Hopefully, 2022 will bring some pleasant surprises and we can start celebrating again! Stay healthy and STAY STRONG everyone!

YOUR 2021 COMMITTEE



Talerschwinger / ronde de l'écu au Mont Sutton

Matterhorn Swiss Club (Montreal)

Due to COVID-19, we have been unable to hold any activities for over a year, but we're hopeful these can resume sometime during 2021.

Under normal circumstances our yearly activities usually consist of four or five events:

- February or early March: Annual General Meeting and dinner.
- June: A visit to a place of interest, either local or out of town, followed by a dinner.
- Mid-August: A barbecue picnic at a member's home.
- Fall: Sometimes, an outing followed by a nice meal.
- November: An informal get-together at a restaurant.

Usually, we also have about 25 volunteers helping out at the Swiss National Day celebrations at Mont Sutton.

Until we can meet again, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy. New members are always welcome!

WALTER SPIRIG, PRESIDENT, 514 - 694 - 3718



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Nouveau Consul honoraire de Suisse à Winnipeg



Matthew Erhard © M. Erhard

Le Consulat général de Suisse est heureux de vous présenter le nouveau Consul honoraire de Suisse à Winnipeg en la personne de Matthew Erhard.

Dans cette fonction, il dépend directement de la Consule générale de Suisse à Montréal, Line Leon-Pernet, et a notamment pour tâche de représenter le Consulat général lors de divers événements

politiques, culturels et économiques. M. Erhard s'efforce en outre de développer et d'entretenir un réseau de contacts liés à la Suisse.

Notre Consul honoraire offre une assistance à nos concitoyens de passage (touristes et/ou étudiants) qui se trouvent en situation d'urgence au Manitoba. Les résidents suisses sont priés de continuer à contacter le Consulat général à Montréal pour obtenir des services consulaires.

Né à Ottawa en 1983, Matthew Erhard a obtenu en 2005 un baccalauréat en commerce de l'Asper School of Business de l'Université du Manitoba. Actuellement partenaire principal et associé directeur de Summit Search Group (entreprise nationale de recrutement professionnel et de recherche de cadres) à Winnipeg, M. Erhard a occupé par le passé des postes de directeur de portefeuille et de promoteur des ventes dans le domaine médical.

Citoyen canadien, Matthew Erhard est également président et directeur du conseil d'administration du "Future Leaders of Manitoba Council" à Winnipeg. Matthew Erhard a pris ses fonctions le 1er janvier 2021, il a été chaleureusement accueilli par le Consulat général à Montréal alors qu'il rejoignait l'équipe des consuls honoraires basés dans l'Est du Canada.

Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

New Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Winnipeg

The Consulate General of Switzerland is pleased to introduce the newly appointed Honorary Consul of Switzerland in Winnipeg, Matthew Erhard.

Reporting directly to the Consul General of Switzerland in Montreal - Line Leon-Pernet - Mr. Erhard's duties include representing the Consulate General at various political, cultural, and economic events, as well as developing and maintaining a network of contacts linked to Switzerland.

Our Honorary Consul provides support in emergency situations to fellow citizens who are temporarily in Manitoba, such as tourists and / or students. Swiss residents, however, are asked to continue to contact the Consulate General in Montreal for consular services.

Born in Ottawa in 1983, Matthew Erhard graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor's Degree of Commerce from the Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba.

Currently a Principal and Managing Partner at Summit Search Group (a national professional recruitment and executive search firm) in Winnipeg, Mr. Erhard has in the past occupied positions as a portfolio director, and as a sales representative in the medical field.

A Canadian citizen, Matthew Erhard is also President and Director of the Board of the Future Leaders of Manitoba Council in Winnipeg.

Matthew Erhard took office on January 1, 2021 - as he joined the team of Honorary Consuls based in Eastern Canada, he was warmly welcomed by the Consulate General in Montreal.

Message important aux citoyens suisses résidant en Ontario

Journées de consultation consulaire Toronto 2021 - étant donné les restrictions en cours dues au Covid-19, nous n'avons pas de nouvelles dates pour le moment.

Toutefois, nous vous tiendrons informés dès que la situation sanitaire du Covid-19 le permettra.

Important Message to Swiss Citizens Residing in Ontario

2021 Consular Consultation Days in Toronto - In view of the ongoing restrictions due to COVID-19, new dates are yet to be determined.

We will update you as soon as the COVID-19 health situation allows it.

Happy Birthday, Rosa!



Congratulations! In early January, Rosa Zumbrunn celebrated her 103rd birthday! She is one of the oldest Swiss citizens in Western Canada and used to be very active in Vancouver's Swiss community. Due to COVID-19, birthday celebrations were low-key. We wish you all the very best, Rosa!

Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association (Metro Vancouver)

The past year was very challenging and limited our number of shooting days. Due to COVID-19 regulations, the annual Absenden, normally held at the end of January, had to be cancelled.

The AGM was also put on hold. Our Executive is carrying on with Zoom meetings, hoping that this epidemic and its restrictions will soon improve, and that we may return to our regular shooting schedule. No yearly programme has yet been set up.

One bit of good news is that we now have an improved website with more information and pictures - check us out at www.scmra.ca.

All the best to you; hopefully, we can meet again soon!

MARLIES BAUMANN

Swiss Club Saskatoon

Other than handing out Santa treat bags, our Club did not hold any events in 2020. We look forward to getting together again!

Taking inspiration from an article in the previous *Swiss Review*, our Treasurer Georg Nievergelt suggested a great idea: the Club executive is currently discussing a possible way to celebrate the 1st of August ... but only if COVID-19 restrictions in Saskatchewan have been sufficiently lifted for us to do so safely! Right now, events with food are not allowed. Depending on the rules at the time, we envision a drive-through BBQ event where we hand our members a plate with cervelat, bratwurst, salads, and breads which can then be eaten either in cars or on lawn chairs, maintaining any social distancing required. If we're lucky, we might be able to sit around tables and visit. Hopefully, by then all of us will have had at least one shot of vaccine, too. At this time, this is the only type of event we are thinking about. And if we cannot do this for August 1, it's an event we can put together relatively quickly for another possible time.

If you're not already on our contact list and would like to receive information about the Club, contact us at swissclubsaskatoon@hotmail.com, or call / text me at 1-306-260-8030. New members are always welcome, and membership is free for the first year. Even though our name is Swiss Club Saskatoon, we welcome Swiss from anywhere in Saskatchewan.

ELISABETH EILINGER, PRESIDENT, SWISS CLUB SASKATOON



When Nature thrives, so do you.

We supply the Vancouver area with healthy meat products through our butcher shop on Commercial Drive and our home-delivery service; since late 2020 we now also ship frozen meat packs across the province in completely compostable packaging and insulation.

Planning a vacation in BC? Why not visit the ranch! We have beautiful accommodations and excellent food served at our on-ranch restaurant by our Swiss chef.



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Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce (Western Canada)

“Meet the SCCC” - Introductory Event

Sometimes, it's not quite clear what a Chamber of Commerce actually does and how it helps its members. Typically, the easiest way to get to know us - the Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce (SCCC) - is by attending one of our events. Since this option is still out of the question, we created a new event series called 'Meet the SCCC' and successfully hosted our first introductory event on February 24.

■ Event replay link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=32zFIZCA5qM

We miss seeing our members, meeting new Swiss-Canadians, and hosting events. The SCCC has tried to embrace the pandemic by finding new and innovative approaches of staying in touch and strengthening the online collaboration with its partners.

The online event was a great success! The 23 attendees received an overview of the SCCC; discovered how we can help individuals, start-ups, and companies strengthen their networks and businesses in Western Canada; met our President and Directors; and asked questions.

Alberta Chapter: Even though most of our members are located in BC, we represent the Swiss Canadian Chamber in Western Canada. We therefore dedicated this introductory event to our Swiss friends in Alberta. Two SCCC Directors are located in Edmonton; this helped us



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We look forward to meeting you!

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reach other Swiss organisations, such as the [Edmonton Swiss Society](#) and the [Swiss Cultural Society of Calgary](#). We were very happy to see that most of our attendees were based in Alberta, but appreciated the fact that event marketing reached some BC residents as well.

We would like to thank everyone for attending! A special thank-you goes to Brigit Eichenberger, Fabian Lemann, Nick Siegenthaler, Oliver Jarzyna, and Melanie Ferreira for hosting the event.

Movetia / educationsuisse: Language Assistant Programme for the Swiss Abroad

■ Note the flexible application deadline (details below)

■ One student's experience with the programme: www.movetia.ch/en/good-practice-and-know-how/good-practice/she-just-gets-the-language-across-to-us-in-a-different-way



Language assistantships in Switzerland

Teach the mother tongue and provide an insight into the culture of the home country

Swiss abroad make ideal bridge-builders

A stay in Switzerland working as a language assistant is the perfect way to gain teaching experience while getting to know the parents' or ancestors' homeland. Afterwards, the option is to return to your own country with a particular qualification, continuing training in Switzerland or becoming permanently employed.

Movetia places young students and graduates from universities and colleges from abroad as language assistants at Swiss grammar schools (Gymnasium) and VET schools. As native speakers, they enrich language lessons and can offer an insight into the culture of their home countries. Because of their own intercultural background, Swiss abroad make ideal bridge-builders. Meanwhile, the assistants gain initial work experience, become better acquainted with their second homeland and improve their knowledge of one of Switzerland's national languages. At the same time, students and teachers at the host schools benefit from the additional opportunities in the classroom.

The programme is aimed at Swiss nationals who have grown up in countries where the official national language is English, German, French, Spanish or Italian.

Who are we?

Movetia is the Swiss agency for exchange and mobility. We support projects and activities in education and training at national and international level, both in schools and in the extracurricular sphere.

educationsuisse's advisory office for young Swiss abroad offers counselling and answers questions on anything related to education and training in Switzerland.

The most important points at a glance

- 📅 Employment duration: 1 school year, August/September to June/July (depending on canton)
- 🕒 Workload: 12 hours or 16 lessons a week
- 💰 Salary: approx. CHF 3,200 gross per month (around CHF 2,600 net)
- 🎓 Preferred fields of study: English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, educational science, teaching at upper secondary schools. Other fields of study by agreement.
- 📍 Host region: French- and German-speaking Switzerland
- 📅 Application deadline: end of March or by agreement
- 📧 More information: movetia.ch/en/lap-incoming

Movetia
info@movetia.ch

educationsuisse
info@educationsuisse.ch



Organisation of the Swiss Abroad / Auslandschweizer-Organisation

Inviting Swiss Citizens Residing in Canada to Become MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD for the Four-Year Term 2021 - 2025

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) (German: "Auslandschweizer-Organisation" or "ASO") is headquartered in Berne, Switzerland. The OSA's highest organ is the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA), often referred to as "the parliament of the Fifth Switzerland".

The CSA represents the interests of the approximately 780,000 Swiss abroad before the authorities and the general public in Switzerland. The CSA consists of 120 delegates of Swiss nationality from around the world (representing regional Swiss communities abroad), as well as of 20 delegates from within Switzerland. The number of in-country delegates is determined by the size of a country's regional Swiss communities. This year, Canada was awarded an extra seat, increasing the number of Delegates / Members of Council from five to six: there are now three Delegates for Eastern Canada and three Delegates in Western Canada. The election process begins with this call for qualified candidates to express their interest, and the election takes place and candidates will be confirmed in early June. The first OSA / CSA meeting for elected Delegates is scheduled for mid-August 2021 at the OSA Congress in Lugano, Switzerland.

Aufgaben der ASO-Länderdelegierten / Ratsmitglieder

- Vertreten der Anliegen der regionalen Schweizergemeinschaft und ihrer Institutionen im Auslandschweizererrat ASR
- Wirken als Anlaufstelle und Auskunftsperson für Landsleute in der Region
- Orientieren der Schweizervereine über die Arbeit und Angebote der ASO sowie über die Aktivitäten des Auslandschweizererrats
- Kontaktpflege (auch virtuell) zu Schweizervereinen, offiziellen Vertretungen und schweizerischen Institutionen in der Region
- Fördern der schweizerischen Präsenz in Kanada und der politischen Partizipation der Auslandschweizerinnen und Auslandschweizern in der Region
- Präsenz und Mitwirken im Auslandschweizererrat und gegebenenfalls in Kommissionen und Arbeitsgruppen.

Anforderungen

- Schweizer Bürgerin oder Schweizer Bürger
- In Kanada dauerhaft ansässig
- Gute Deutsch- oder Französischkenntnisse
- Eintrag im schweizerischen Personenstandsregister als Stimmbürgerin oder Stimmbürger
- Guten Kontakt / Vernetzung mit der regionalen Schweizergemeinschaft

- Teilnahme an ASR-Sitzungen in der Schweiz, vor allem am jährlich im August stattfindenden ASO-Sommerkongress
- Amtsperiode von vier Jahren: August 2021 - August 2025.

Für die Anreise in die Schweiz wird eine Entschädigung von CHF 400 vergütet und ein bescheidenes tägliches Sitzungsgeld gewährt.

Interessiert? Für weitere Informationen oder die Zustellung Ihrer Bewerbung beachten Sie bitte folgendes:

- Interessentinnen und Interessenten in den Ost-Provinzen Kanadas (bis und mit Manitoba) erhalten weitere Auskünfte oder richten ihre Bewerbung an Herrn Bruno Setz in Montreal, Québec.

E-Mail: brunosetz@videotron.ca

- Interessentinnen und Interessenten in den West-Provinzen Kanadas (Saskatchewan, Alberta, Britisch Kolumbien, Yukon, Nordwest-Territorien) erhalten weitere Auskünfte oder richten ihre Bewerbung an Herrn Nick Siegenthaler in Edmonton, Alberta.

E-Mail: siegenthaler.nick@gmail.com.

HOCKEY IN SWITZERLAND

If you are a hockey player and eligible for a
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All ages welcome.



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Organisation des Suisses de l'étranger

INVITATION AUX CITOYENNES ET CITOYENS SUISSES DU CANADA À DEVENIR MEMBRE DU CONSEIL DES SUISSES DE L'ÉTRANGER POUR UN MANDAT DE 4 ANS: 2021 – 2025

L'Organisation des Suisses de l'étranger (OSE) a son siège social à Berne. L'organe suprême est le Conseil des Suisses de l'étranger (CSE) qui représente auprès des autorités et de l'opinion publique suisse, des intérêts généraux des Suisses et Suissesses vivant à l'étranger (environ 780 000). C'est pourquoi les médias le qualifient souvent de « Parlement de la Cinquième Suisse ».

L'OSE se compose de 120 délégués(es) de nationalité suisse de l'étranger à travers le monde et de 20 délégués(es) résidant en Suisse. Le nombre de délégués(es) est proportionnel aux nombre de Suisses et Suissesses vivant dans une communauté locale ou un pays. Cette année, le Canada a vu son nombre de sièges passer de 5 à 6, c'est-à-dire 3 délégués(es) élus(es) dans la partie est et 3 délégués(es) élu(es) dans la partie ouest du Canada.

Les procédures d'élection débiteront dès le début de l'année 2021. Le nom des candidats(es) élus(es) sera connu début juin. Les personnes élues seront invitées à leur première rencontre de l'OSE / CSE lors du Congrès des Suisses de l'étranger à Lugano à la mi-août 2021.

Les devoirs des candidats(es) au CSE:

- Informer l'OSE / CSE des questions et des problèmes des associations suisses et organisations faitières à l'étranger
- Faire connaître l'OSE et le CSE au Canada en collaboration avec les associations suisses à l'étranger
- Maintenir des contacts avec les associations et institutions suisses de la région représentée
- Maintenir des contacts avec les représentations suisses (ambassade, consulats de carrière et consulats honoraires) de la région représentée
- Inciter les Suisses et les Suissesses de l'étranger à participer aux activités politiques
- Promouvoir la présence suisse au Canada
- Participer aux travaux des commissions et des groupes de travail de l'OSE.

Les personnes souhaitant se porter candidates aux élections doivent répondre aux conditions suivantes:

- Posséder la nationalité suisse
- Résider au Canada
- Parler couramment français ou allemand
- Entretenir des contacts avec la communauté suisse de la région représentée
- Être inscrit au registre cantonal en Suisse pour exercer son droit de vote
- Avoir la possibilité de se rendre en Suisse pour participer aux séances du CSE et au Congrès des Suisses de l'étranger en août de chaque année.

Le mandat de 4 ans débute en août 2021 et se termine en août 2025. Les délégués(es) reçoivent une indemnisation pour le voyage en Suisse de CHF 400 par voyage et une modeste somme pour les frais de séance.

Êtes-vous intéressé à recevoir des renseignements supplémentaires et savoir à qui remettre sa candidature?

- Toute personne intéressée résidant dans une province de l'est du Canada (Manitoba jusqu'à Terre-Neuve) doit s'adresser à Monsieur Bruno Setz, Montréal, Québec: brunosetz@videotron.ca.
- Toute personne intéressée résidant dans une province de l'ouest du Canada (Saskatchewan, Alberta, Colombie-Britannique, Yukon, Territoires du Nord-Ouest) doit s'adresser à Monsieur Nick Siegenthaler, Edmonton, Alberta: siegenthaler.nick@gmail.com.

Nous espérons recevoir de vos nouvelles.

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Books! Books! Books!

**European Book Club:
"The Pledge" by Friedrich Dürrenmatt**

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver is delighted to announce the next European Book Club event. We invite you to join the discussion on April 28. Due to the current restrictions, the discussion will be held online on Zoom.

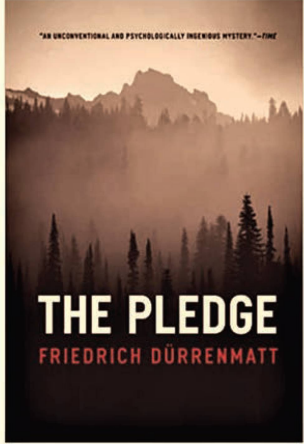
About the book: *The Pledge* (original title *Das Versprechen*) is a gripping detective novel by Swiss author Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Set in a small town in Switzerland, *The Pledge* centers around the murder of a young girl and a detective who vows to find the girl's killer. After deciding the wrong man has been arrested, the detective becomes obsessed by his pledge to find the real murderer. *The Pledge* is one of Friedrich Dürrenmatt's most famous novels; it was adapted into a screenplay and made into a Hollywood movie in 2001.

EUROPEAN BOOK CLUB

"THE PLEDGE"
REQUIEM FOR THE DETECTIVE NOVEL
BY FRIEDRICH DÜRRENMATT

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
 12pm noon, online

Moderator:
Prof. Charlotte Schallié, University of Victoria



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Consulate General of Switzerland in Vancouver
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When and Where:

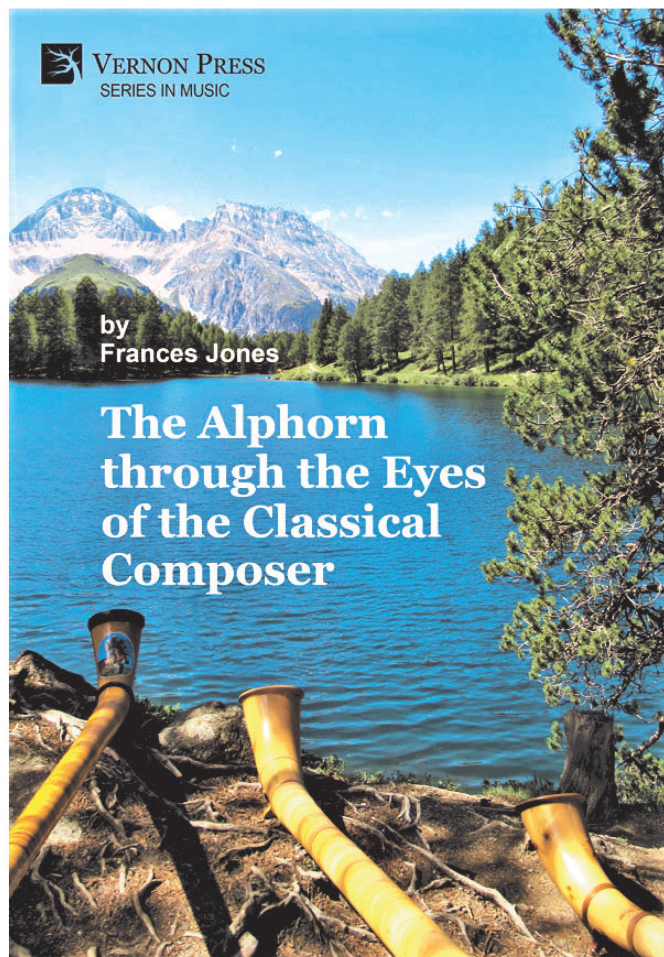
Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 12:00 noon PST

This is a virtual event on Zoom with free access

--> Register here: bit.ly/3vMlynI

Moderator: Prof. Charlotte Schallié, University of Victoria

We're giving away a limited number of **free copies** of *The Pledge*. To request a copy, contact us at vancouver@eda.admin.ch. This book discussion is part of our 100 Year Anniversary Celebration of Friedrich Dürrenmatt.



The Alphorn through the Eyes of the Classical Composer by Frances Jones is the first and definitive book in English about the alphorn. Written with English-speakers in mind, it examines the extensive interest of primarily non-Swiss composers, writers, and artists in the alphorn as a symbol of the Alps; its influence and significance in culture, literature, and the arts across the globe; and the ways in which the instrument has been specifically utilised by the Swiss as an iconic representation of their country.

The book also explores the use of the musical language of the alphorn call, to ascertain why and how references such as those by Berlioz or Beethoven convey so much meaning. Dr. Jones explores what it is that a composer brings to the concert hall, the theatre, the opera house, the church, or the drawing room by such a quotation, to what heritage they are referring, and upon what basis there are grounds for assuming such a reference will be understood by an audience.

The book - of interest to researchers in Swiss cultural studies and ethnomusicology - builds on Dr. Jones' research and PhD thesis. The six chapters deal with a variety of topics, including a basic introduction to the alphorn, an exploration of the promotion of the instrument as a symbol of Switzerland, as well as the reasons behind symbolic references to alphorn motifs by European and British composers in concert repertoire, jazz, and film.

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