

## CLAN HUNTER ASSOCIATION (CANADA)

### 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2019 Annual General Meeting of Clan Hunter (Canada) was held on Sunday, October 29th at Chalmers Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario.

**PRESENT:** Tom Hunter (Clan Officer); Christine Hunter; Lynn Hunter Ball ; Lizz Hunter Thibodeau; Andrew Thibodeau; Mida Hunter Lecocq; Kathryn Lecocq; Bill Jones, Carolyn Jones; Paul Hunter; Dale and Daphne Hill.

**REGRETS:** Don and Marion Hunter; Bob and Aldene Hunter; .

The meeting was called to order at 3:01pm by Clan Officer Tom Hunter who welcomed those present.

#### **CLAN OFFICER'S REPORT:**

Tom reported that this year has been a good one. His health is improving and he's received a good bill of health from his doctor. Tom has spoken to Don & Marian Hunter who unfortunately have not been able to join us for a few years due to medical issues. Don is still doing the financials.

Tom spoke to Bob & Aldene. Aldene is now in a long-term care facility with Alzheimers. Bob is now living in a retirement home and is doing well.

Sharron Jackson & Julie Nycamp were hoping to come but had unexpected visitors from out of town.

Tom was thrilled to report that Clan Hunter once again had a presence at the following games thanks to the following members who responded to his request for members to help out. **Richard Wright and his mother, Lynne** (Coquitlam Highland Games, BC); **Dale Hill and Daphne** (Fergus Highland Games); **Judith Harrison and John** (Canmore. Alta. Highland Games) and **Jean Pierre Bautista-Hunter** who will be at the Regina, Sask. Games in mid-late May, 2020. Tom mentioned that all these folk mentioned that they are looking forward to being at

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these games, next year. Tom also mentioned that he and Christine visited the Fergus Games on the Saturday, and enjoyed meeting some of the folk at the Clan tent as well as being able to take in some of the events.

**MINUTES OF THE 2018 AGM** were accepted as circulated on a motion by Mida Betty Lecocq, seconded by Kathryn Lecocq. Carried.

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

a) **New Clan Directory** Tom passed around copies of the new Clan Hunter, Canada, 2019 Directory (updated Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>) and noted that this Directory is for members only and under no circumstances should it be shared for commercial purposes. A statement to this effect appears in the Directory.

b) **Response from previous Grant Recipient.**

Christine reported that she had contacted Justin Hunted for an update on what he has been doing since he received the Grant and learned that he had taken a year off but is hoping to complete in the Canadian Highland Dance competition.

(c) **Response from members for Clan Tent hosts.**

- Tom & Christine said last year that they were no longer able to keep up with attending all of the Games. Tom found the following people to help:
  - Richard Wright – Lynne (mother)      Coquitlam Highland Games BC  
June 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Dale Hill – Daphne -      Fergus Highland Games  
Ontario 9-11 August
  - Judith Harrison –John -      Canmore Highland Games  
Alberta 1st Sept
  - Jean Pierre Bautista-Hunter -      Regina, Saskatchewan mid to  
late May.2020

### **TREASURER'S REPORT (Tom Hunter, Clan Officer)**

Tom passed out copies of the Financial Statement for the year ending June 30, 2018 and in the absence of our Treasurer presented the report.

As of today we have \$1,620.61 funds available for Clan use .

**The Dr Nadene Hunter Scottish Youth Heritage Fund** has a Balance of \$500.00 available.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as amended (the "cash on Hand was shown as being as of June 30, 2018 instead of 2019) on a motion made by Paul Hunter and seconded by Bill Jones .

Tom then expressed thanks and appreciation to Don Hunter (in absentia) for a job well done.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT: (Christine Hunter)**

We have had a wonderful year of welcoming new members in late 2018 and to date in 2019, with 12 new members being added to our numbers.

November of last year saw **Kelly Hunter** from Moose Jaw, Sask. Joining us.

In February of this year , **Susan Cote**, from, Lindsay, Ont. And **Dianne Anderson**, from Toronto joined us.

April saw **Caine Benham**, from Minnitaki

, Ont. and **Lynne Wright**, from Surrey. BC. join us.

In May, we added **WhiteFeather Christie Hunter** from Gatineau, Quebec.

July, saw **Beth Phippard** joining our ranks. Beth lives the USA, in Swanzey, New Hampshire—but has strong family connections to Canada.

In late July, we welcomed **Graham Hunter**, from Toronto and **Jeff Hunter**, who resides in Fall River, Nova Scotia.

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August, saw us welcoming **Mason Hunter** of Bracebridge, Ontario to our numbers.

Our most recent members are **Caroline Lenardon**, who comes from an interesting sounding place called Nanoose Bay in BC. and **Linda Hunter Wright** from Ottawa.

This great influx of new members is so encouraging and we hope they enjoy being part of the Association.

**We are mostly still a little tardy at paying our yearly dues.** With a membership of 109, we only have 43 payments to date. These payments are what keeps the Association viable, allows us to have a presence at some Highland Games, helps some young people to realize a dream that they may have with some connection to Scotland, also helps us contribute to Hunterston Castle so that we may be able to go there and enjoy a tour, or a Gathering.

Christine moved the acceptance of this report, seconded by Carolyn Jones.

### **GENEALOGY REPORT: (Lizz Thibodeau**

For the genealogy report, I like to try and take an aspect of genealogy that I've dealt with over the past year and highlight it. This year, one of the articles I wrote focused on a trip that Andrew and I, Torry and Isla took with nana and papa to the East Coast. We went to Acadia, although I didn't realize that at first. I thought that Acadia was in New Brunswick, but I learned that part of Acadia is in New Brunswick but there is also a part in Nova Scotia—in an area aptly named the French shore. There is actually a lot of French in the Annapolis Valley as well, but when you pass Digby, it's even named the Acadian Shore

Andrew's 11<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Pierre Thibodeau, arrived in the Annapolis Valley in 1652. Because he married the daughter of an important Acadian official, his family tree is well documented. Andrew's distant cousin from Louisiana, Shirley Thibodeau, researched Pierre's family tree extensively and basically shared it with all the Thibodeaux in North America since pretty much all of them are descended from Pierre and his 13 children. It wasn't until another distant cousin, from Massachusetts, made connections between an ancient map of Acadia and

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present day Annapolis Valley around 2003 that they were able to piece together that what is now called Poplar Grove was actually once Village Thibodeau.

What is amazing about this story of genealogy is that it doesn't just end there. The land that had been Village Thibodeau was given to the Shaw family by the British Crown during the Acadian expulsion. The Shaw family still lives on that property today. Only two families have owned that property from 1690 until today—the Tibodeaux and the Shaws.

When we walked up to the farm, the current owner, David Shaw, came out, shook Andrew's hand and said "welcome home", invited us inside and we enjoyed a wonderful visit. Andrews remarked "To stand where my ancestors lived for 60-70 years, to know the struggles they went through as they experienced losing everything and Having to move hundreds of kilometers away. To return with my family and my children and look out over the St, Croix River as they did 280 years ago. To laugh and talk with the current stewards of that land who welcomed us like family..I find it difficult to put the feelings to words"

### **FACEBOOK PAGE (Lynn Hunter Ball)**

Our Clan Hunter Facebook page has grown a little bit this year, with a 244 followers (up from 228 last year) and 253 people have 'liked' our page (again up from last year's total of 238). We are adding new followers slowly, but our posts are continually reaching 200+ people when they are sent out. Mostly this year we have just had people liking and sharing pages and pictures that have been posted on the page by administration. Requests for input and comments have fallen (mostly) to deaf ears. I have been looking into some new ideas for the website and am going to try some more interactive means of communicating, such as posting a "where is this? Picture to have people make guesses as to where in Scotland the picture was taken. The more people that actually interact with our page, the more people will see your posts. Regardless though, our page remains strong, and is a useful tool for people to find us, ask questions, and get in touch

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with the Clan or Tom directly. I ask for continued support, submissions, and any and all input to help the page continue to grow!

### **NEWSLETTER: (Lizz Thibodeau)**

At last year's AGM, Lynn and I agreed to take over joint-editorship of the Clan Hunter newsletter. It took us a little while to get the first edition out, but once we figured it out, we found our groove. We published a fall-winter newsletter together and then realized that it would be more efficient if we took turns as the lead editor instead of trying to co-produce each edition. So Lynn took the lead in the spring and I took the lead in the summer. We still work together to bounce ideas around and search for articles, but we realized we needed one person to actually be 'in charge'!

We have added a column highlighting various Scottish recipes or traditional foods. We would love to have some input from others on things that their families enjoy or favourite recipes passed down.

We were very excited to have some outside contributions this year too. Constable Richard Wright with the Surrey RCMP, a Clan Hunter member, has started contributing "Memories of a Mountie" with some amazing photographs, and we will have an article in the fall edition from Judith Harrison who attended the Canmore Highland Games.

As always, if you have any news happening in your family, recipes you'd like to share, a tasteful Scottish joke, or anything else our members would enjoy, please send it our way.

### **THE DR. NADENE HUNTER YOUTH HERITAGE FUND: (Tom)**

There were no requests for assistance from the Fund this year.

Tom made the suggestion that we consider changing the criteria for applying for assistance. He suggested that we move to restrict applications to applicants who

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have been member of Clan Hunter Canada for at least two years. This would eliminate the possibility that applicants could not join the Clan just to apply for a Grant.

After some discussion, it was moved by Paul Hunter and seconded by Bill Jones that an applicant for assistance from this Fund be members of the Association for at least two years. **Carried**

It was also suggested that once again we publish information about the Grant process and requirements in the newsletter. This also was agreed to by those present.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion was held about the feasibility of once again moving the AGM back to the Fergus area at the time of the Highland Games (aka The Fergus Scottish Festival). Because of the cost of admission to the Festival a point was made that it would probably discourage some Clan members from attending the AGM only if they weren't attending the Games. The past few years the AGM has been held in London, Ont. but we recognize that it is not convenient for a lot of our members. A highlight of the AGM has always been going out for dinner at a local restaurant afterwards. A suggestion was made that now that we have a presence at other Games across Canada that perhaps folk who visit the Clan tent could be invited to go to a venue in their area to meet other Clan members and learn more about us.

The AGM could still be held in London, Ont.

### **2020 HUNTERSTON CLAN GATHERING .**

Tom announced that the 2020 Clan Gathering will be held at Hunterston the week-end of September 4-6. Madam Pauline chose this date to co-inside with the "**Largs Viking Festival**" which is held every three years. Lizz then showed a video of a former Viking Festival which was very interesting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Bill Jones moved we adjourn.

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After the meeting those present once again enjoyed a time of fellowship and dinner at a local restaurant.

Respectfully submitted

Mida Hunter Lecocq

Secretary.