



## FRIENDS' NOTES SUMMER 2009

Newsletter of the Friends of Royal Alberta Museum Society  
Supporting the programs and exhibits of the Royal Alberta Museum

### 2009-2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Marla J. Daniels  
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Harry Nichiporik  
Harold Robinson

**BUSINESS MANAGER:**  
Marilyn Nelson

**FRIENDS' NOTES  
EDITOR:**  
Marla J. Daniels



Marla Daniels  
President, FRAMS

### MISSION STATEMENT

FRAMS will support and enhance the objectives and activities of the Royal Alberta Museum through a mutually beneficial relationship.

**Friends of Royal Alberta Museum Society (FRAMS)** is incorporated under the Societies Act and is a Federal Educational Charity registered as #118933225RR0001.  
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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the newly elected president of FRAMS, I am excited about the year ahead and I am grateful for the kindness and encouragement of Godfrey Huybregts, in whose gigantic footsteps I follow. In 2006, I joined the Friends of Royal Alberta Museum Society as a board member with a lot of passion for the Royal Alberta Museum and limited knowledge of the Society's business operations (although I have been a Friends supporter since 1992). As an active member of the Communications Committee and editor of this newsletter, I have enjoyed my three terms on the board, most recently as vice president. Researching and writing content for the launch of our new website in 2008 was a great way to learn about and recap the accomplishments of the Society over the past two decades!

As a new Edmonton resident in Canada's centennial year (having lived in Brooks and Calgary, where I was born), one of the aspects about my new home that I enjoyed the most was being able to visit all the "big city" attractions in Alberta's capital on a regular basis. The new Provincial Museum of Alberta was about to open its doors to the public in the fall of 1967, and, little did I know then, it was to become a cultural facility that I would grow to love and return to dozens of times throughout each year. And now, 42 years later, it is a pleasure and an honour to be the Society's 17th president.

My role as president is to provide leadership to the FRAMS board of directors as we oversee strategies and policies of the Society. Building a collaborative team of board members that continues to deliver positive results in support of the Royal Alberta Museum is our priority. Another important role is ensuring effective relationships with FRAMS donors and supporters and the Royal Alberta Museum. I would be interested in hearing your thoughts and ideas about growing the Society and its programs. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail: [Marla@framsociety.ca](mailto:Marla@framsociety.ca) or through Marilyn Nelson at the FRAMS office at 780-453-9103.

Marla J. Daniels  
President, FRAMS



Chris Robinson  
Acting Executive Director,  
RAM

## MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

“To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.”  
– French philosopher Henri-Louis Bergson

I've thought of this quote often over the last few months, as both the Friends Society and the Royal Alberta Museum have recently experienced some significant changes. Times of change are both an opportunity to reflect on past accomplishments and to foster new beginnings.

As the new Acting Executive Director of the Museum, I'd like to extend my hearty congratulations to long-time Friend Marla Daniels as she embarks on her first term as president of the Friends Society.

As I recall the Museum's past associations with the Friends, I am reminded of the essential nature of our partnership, for the Friends have been front and centre in many meaningful Museum activities. Their sponsorship of our interpreter-led education programs (which draw close to 50,000 school visitors annually) and public program interpreters are vital in creating memorable experiences for our patrons. It's through the Friends Society's support that we're able to create rich museum experiences for many visitors.

As I look to the future, I'm excited for the possibilities that can be realized as a result of our continued partnership. Together, we're charting a shared destiny - one filled with great benefits to our organizations and, indeed, all Albertans.

Chris Robinson, Acting Executive Director, Royal Alberta Museum

## FAREWELL TO BRUCE MCGILLIVRAY

The Friends Society congratulates Bruce McGillivray on his retirement as Executive Director of the Royal Alberta Museum. Bruce has seen some tremendous opportunities over his 26 year career at the museum. A particular highlight was the designation of the museum by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Alberta's centennial year. Bruce's passion and dedication for the museum is evident throughout the facility, but most notably in the birds of Alberta gallery, natural history gallery and the Syncrude Gallery of Aboriginal Culture.

Thank you, Bruce, for your commitment to the Royal Alberta Museum and to the Friends Society. Best wishes for a rewarding and happy retirement!

## FRIENDS' CALENDAR

Please mark these dates on your calendar! Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Royal Alberta Museum.

To September 13, 2009: *Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2008*

To October 31, 2009: *Hummingbirds of the Americas*

September 18-20, 2009: Alberta Arts Days at the Royal Alberta Museum

September 26 to January 10, 2010: *Much More Munsch*

October 3 to December 11, 2009: *Natural Selections - Darwin*

October 31 to January 17, 2010: *Diamonds*

November 3: Inside Info – Talk and Tour “Diamonds” – especially for FRAMS members and guests

November 12 and November 19: VIP Events for *Diamonds*- watch for news about advance ticket sales



## BOARD BUZZ

### Annual General Meeting

Thank you to the Friends members who attended the 2009 Annual General Meeting, which was held on June 25. If you were unable to attend and you would like a copy of the **2008-09 Annual Report**, please call Marilyn Nelson at 780-453-9103 and a printed copy will be mailed to you.

Special thanks to outgoing director and president – Godfrey Huybregts – for his contributions to FRAMS over the past six years! Congratulations and welcome to newly elected director, Judy Ferguson, and returning directors, Ewa Burton, Karen Hansen, and Kim Lynch-Staunton.

### Your 2009-10 Board of Directors and Executive are:

President:	Marla J. Daniels
Vice President:	Kim Lynch-Staunton
Secretary:	Lois Drew
Treasurer:	Manny Isla
Directors:	Ewa Burton, Judy Ferguson, Karen Hansen, Dallas Huybregts, Harry Nichiporik, Harold Robinson

### Standing committees include:

Communications:	Dallas Huybregts, Kim Lynch-Staunton, Marla J. Daniels
Fund Development:	Harry Nichiporik, Ewa Burton, Judy Ferguson
Membership:	Karen Hansen, Lois Drew
Nominations:	Marla J. Daniels, Kim Lynch-Staunton

### Summer Students

With the end of summer approaching, the summer students will be leaving the museum to return to school. This summer, we employed seven students with the Royal Alberta Museum – five through the provincial Summer Temporary Employment Program, one through the Young Canada Works program, and one aboriginal intern through the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation program with Syncrude Canada.

### Summer Camp

Summer Camps at the Royal Alberta Museum were administered by FRAMS through a grant from the Alberta Community Initiative Program (CIP). This was the second year for this pilot project to run nine camps for children aged four to twelve. Five individuals ran these programs – three FRAMS employees, the Museum School teacher, and an exchange student from Quebec.

### Donation Boxes

Three new FRAMS donation boxes have been placed in the Syncrude Gallery of Aboriginal Culture, the Natural History Gallery, and in the main lobby of the Royal Alberta Museum.

### Inside Info: Talk and Tour

The first three events have been a huge success. Watch the mail for your **Nov. 3** invitation!

## ANNOUNCING NEW FRIENDS DIRECTOR

**Judy Ferguson** - Judy is Program Director for the Rural Alberta's Development Fund. Prior to this position, she held senior executive positions with not-for-profit industry associations both in Edmonton and Calgary. Judy currently sits on the Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector Initiative Collaboration Committee.

## Explore the Museum with the

### CURATORS' CHOICES

The combined program collections of the Royal Alberta Museum contain more than ten million objects. In this column titled **Curators' Choices**, *Friends' Notes* profiles some of the outstanding objects in the collections.

#### **Have you ever wondered how Edmonton's Anthony Henday Drive received its name?**

On your next visit to the museum, check out the *Syncrude Gallery of Aboriginal Culture* and look for **Henday's Journal** - A Journey Inland 1754-55. As one of the earliest written records of Aboriginal people in Alberta, Anthony Henday's journal is of profound importance. It provides a window into the Aboriginal world prior to the changes brought about through European contact.

#### **Dene Th'a Baby Strap**

The baby strap or belt is used as a sling to carry a baby on the mother's back. Adeline Sibbertson Semper of Fort Simpson, NWT made this strap in 1940. Adeline used only the finest quills taken from the sides of the porcupine. She coloured them using a pencil crayon for purple, kidney pills for green and Easter egg dyes. The end tabs are Caribou hide and crane bird bones are used as interior supports. Baby straps continue to be made and used and are often kept as childhood mementos.



#### **Help us grow our membership!**

After enjoying this issue of *Friends' Notes*, please forward it to friends, family and colleagues. And invite a prospective member to join you at our next *Inside Info: Talk and Tour*, scheduled for November 3, 2009.

If you received a paper copy of this newsletter, it means we need your e-mail address! Please e-mail your name and e-mail address to [Marilyn@framsociety.ca](mailto:Marilyn@framsociety.ca) to receive future newsletters electronically. By helping reduce the number of newsletters we print, you'll also help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions. E-mail us today and stay informed in an environmentally-friendly way.