

Do you have a
streak of
yellow and blue?

Y & B

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➤➤➤ UPDATE FROM THE BOARD

The Board continues to meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The following is a summary of what transpired during our March meeting.

In attendance: Karmen Blackwood, Kristin Josephson, Riitta Huttunen, Monica Severinson, Pia Hilton, Carina Spencer, Linda Olofsson, AnnaKarin Tornqvist, Monica Olofsson

Absent: Emma Carpenter, Marie Olsson

Guests: Erica Jonsson (Swedish School)

Building inspection for the Centre done on Feb. 18. - Ron Stubbings new Centre President

-Midsummer Festival changed theme will be "Journeys to a New Home".

-Fundraising: The ramp project has raised over \$30K (March 2025). Swedish Cultural Society to donate \$5k towards the ramp.

-The Next Social Event: Jazz concert May 23. The Jazz Vikings will perform.

Add to your calendar!

- Spring Work Party, May 10th
- Valborg Ambleside beach, April 27th
- Scandinavian Community Centre Fundraiser, May 23rd
- Sweden National day celebration, June 7th
- Midsummer Festival, June 21-22

VALBORG <<<

Please join us to celebrate Valborg on Sunday April 27th at 6pm! As always, we will be celebrating at Ambleside Beach (beside dog park) in West Vancouver.

This is a celebration of the arrival of Spring! We will gather around a bonfire, sing songs and roast hot dogs. Please bring your own hot dogs and a sweater/jacket as it can get a bit cold on the beach. We will provide song sheets so that everyone can join the singing!

Did you renew your SCC membership for 2025?

\$30 for family and \$25 for single.
e-transfer to scstreasury@gmail.com.

*Membership is for January - December (calendar year)

Thank you!

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- Valborg
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- Sweden's National Day
- Midsummer
- Runeberg Society Closure

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Sweden's National Day Celebration June 7!

Join us on June 7th to celebrate Sweden's National Day at the [Scandinavian Community Centre!](#)

We'll be joined by Swedish School to make this a memorable event - there will be entertainment, scholarships awarded, lunch and cake! This is an event you don't want to miss - stay tuned for more information or contact [SwedishCulturalSociety.ca@gmail.com!](mailto:SwedishCulturalSociety.ca@gmail.com)

To learn more about this Swedish celebration, check out our [National Day Events Page](#)



Save the date: Scandinavian Centre Society Fundraiser May 23!

Mark your calendar - the Scandinavian Centre will be hosting a fundraising event on May 23rd! The Jazz Vikings will perform.

We need the help of our community to raise funds to keep our Centre running!



Scandinavian Centre Spring Work Party

Saturday May 10th, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Come out & help & keep your Centre beautiful! Bring pails and rags, work inside or outside. Rain or shine.

Breakfast at 8:30am

Lunch at 12.00pm

Please let the office know if you are coming, and if you are joining us for breakfast and/or lunch iinfo@scancentre.org



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SWEDISH CULTURAL SOCIETY AND SWEDISH SCHOOL APPAREL! <<<

Please checkout https://urstore.ca/swedish-cultural-society?srsId=AfmBOoox9LwZm3DAgVVHB4s7KT_1YkS1PU_XGAFeg_LM34CNGaydlfxZ to purchase Swedish Cultural Society and Swedish School branded clothing.

We have many options available - sweaters, t-shirts, hats and bags!
These items make great gifts and also show that you're part of the Swedish Cultural Society community 😊



SWEDISH LANGUAGE EVENING <<<

The recent Swedish-language evening for adult Swedish students was a great success. Attendees enjoyed a warm and pleasant evening practicing Swedish in good company, with lively conversation and a relaxed atmosphere throughout.

It was a wonderful opportunity for connection and cultural exchange, and based on the positive feedback, more of these evenings will be organized in the future. Stay tuned for upcoming dates!



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RUNEBERG SOCIAL CLUB DISSOLVING AFTER 100 YEARS <<<

On March 23, 2025, the Runeberg Social Club marked its 100th anniversary with a special celebration at Koskela in Coquitlam. Surrounded by friends, family, and community leaders, members also bid farewell, as the club will officially close on May 1, 2025, after a century of fellowship and service.

Guests enjoyed historical displays, catered appetizers, and speeches from the Presidents of Sweden House and Finland House. A commemorative plaque will be installed at Finland House to recognize the club's \$80,000 donation toward the building's elevator. A paving stone was also purchased as part of the Scandinavian Community Centre's "Pave the Way" campaign.



Founded in 1925 as Lodge 124 of the International Order of Runeberg, the club was part of a network supporting Swedish-speaking immigrants from Finland. Named after Finland's national poet, Johan Ludvig Runeberg, the club offered activities ranging from choirs and socials to bowling and skiing. Meetings were originally held in Swedish, switching to English in 1946.

At its peak, the club had 750 members. Over time, declining participation led to its transition into the independent Runeberg Social Club in 2015. Despite a shrinking membership, it remained active in the community, donating over \$230,000 to charitable causes, including scholarships and support for the Scandinavian Community Centre.

Though formal meetings are ending, friendships endure—and Runeberg's legacy lives on each February 5 with the tradition of serving Runeberg Tarts, a sweet reminder of this remarkable chapter in our community's history. **/Reta Stanley**