

REGIONAL NEWS

CANADA



SILVIA SCHOCH,
EDITOR AND OSA
DELEGATE FOR
WESTERN CANADA

Editorial

The spring session of the Council (CSA) of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) took place in Brunnen early April this year.

President and Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann addressed OSA & council and extended his congratulation to the organisation's 100th anniversary. It will be officially celebrated August 5-7th this year at the Congress in Bern.

For that particular session, the Council of the Swiss Abroad has the honour of conducting its meeting in the Bundeshaus.

Swiss and their guests are invited to observe from the spectator's tribune and to also join in the many festivities on the Bundesplatz. For more information see: www.aso.ch/en/100-years-of-the-osa.

The Area of the Swiss Abroad in Brunnen also celebrates a milestone 25 years. Located at the junction of the Vierwaldstättersee and the Urner Becki, infused by energizing winds soaring across the water – the gaze lifted to the glacial white of the mountains – one feels spellbound by the sheer beauty of this powerful spot. A truly spectacular tribute to the Swiss Abroad! Read up on the history,

the new placards, the plans for the Area after the current improvements are completed and consider supporting this project with a donation at www.auslandschweizerplatz.ch/.

Lastly, I'm very happy to confirm that I will continue as editor of the Swiss Review. I'm looking forward to receiving your articles for the next issue by August 8th, 2016.



Montreal Federation of Swiss Societies of Eastern Canada 40th Anniversary National Day Celebration in Sutton July 30, 2016

Chers Compatriotes et Amis de la Suisse, Dear Compatriots and Friends of Switzerland,

Nous célébrerons la 40^{ième} édition de la Fête Nationale Suisse à Sutton Samedi le 30 juillet 2016. C'est avec grand plaisir que nous vous invitons à se joindre à nous en grand nombre à Sutton pour découvrir la région du Tessin ses traditions, ses spécialités, sa musique, sa culture.

You will be entertained by a very special music group, the trio Tacalà whom we fly in specifically from Switzerland to entertain you with typical music from this region. You will also have the opportunity to taste wine imported from the Tessin. As usual, we will also feature many local groups as well as activities for children and adults alike.

La FSSEC a le plaisir de vous annoncer que son nouveau site internet interactif est maintenant opérationnel. Amongst many interesting features is the main calendar on which you find all events from participating Swiss Clubs. The web address is/Vous pouvez visiter le site Internet à l'adresse: www.fedesuisse.com. Nous espérons vous voir nombreux à Sutton.

PETER FUHRER

Montreal Consulate General of Switzerland

Message to Swiss Citizens Residing in Ontario

Due to the popularity and success of the "Swiss Consular Days" organized in Toronto during the autumn of 2014 and 2015, the Consulate General strongly intends to repeat the experience by making another visit to Toronto with a mobile pass station this October.

Since the introduction of the biometric passport, applicants must present themselves in person in order to have their biometric data recorded (photo and fingerprints). The mobile pass station allows us to offer Swiss citizens the opportunity to renew their passports without making a trip to Montreal. If you wish to take advantage of this set-up in Toronto during the upcoming "Swiss Consular Days", you must apply for its renewal via either of the following official websites: www.schweizerpass.ch or www.passeportsuisse.ch and make sure to mention "Toronto 2016" in the *Remarks* section.

Your application must be submitted no later than August 14th, 2016.

Please note that, as the number of available appointments is limited, priority will be given to holders of Swiss passports expiring within the next twelve months.

IMPORTANT: If you have neglected to update your current civil status or a name change with the Consulate General, which has to be confirmed by the competent authorities in Switzerland, your request for a passport renewal will regretfully not be considered.

Should you wish to receive further information about our consular services, please visit our website or send an e-mail to: mon.vertretung@eda.admin.ch.

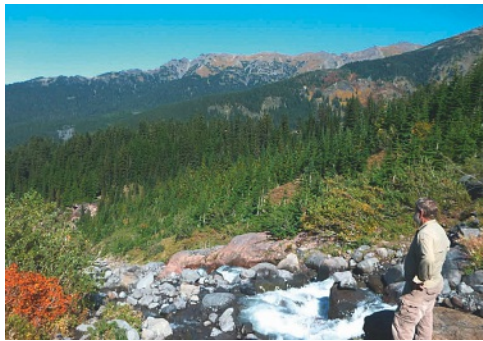
CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN MONTREAL

Outdoor Club of Vancouver Swiss Society Beautiful Cabin for Rent at Special Swiss Club Rates

Nestled in the stunning alpine scenery of the Cascade Mountains in Northern Washington and part of the Glacier Springs community lies the cozy cabin of the Outdoor Club.

Approximately eighty kilometers drive from Vancouver, BC, the wooden chalet on a treed meadow enjoys sunny views over the mountains. The wrap-around deck, comfortable living/dining area, complemented with a crackling wood stove and a fully equipped kitchen (including several fondue sets!) and a brick-built barbecue in the garden provide the setting and ambiance for a memorable experience for young and old. Comfortably housing twenty guests in either more private or larger, single and double bunk bedrooms plus an open area with more bunk beds and mattress space, the cabin is available for rent at favourable rates to other Swiss organizations.

The wood beam construction was built by local contractors, but the interior is lovingly finished by skilled Vancouver Swiss Club members. The ground-level entry has a heated mud room ideal for skis, boots and clothing, while the upper two floors are heated electrically and divided into living and sleeping quarters. The cabin is popular for fantastic ski weekends for both downhill on Mount Baker,



twenty-four miles east of the cabin, and cross country in the surrounding State parks.

Summer and fall are equally spectacular for a multitude of hiking; for example the vast area of nearby Heliotrope Ridge. With nose-to-nose access to Mount Baker, there are woody walks over relatively short, well-maintained trails with mild elevation gain that bring hikers glacier-side in no time. Alternatively, big Canyon Creek can be walked along for miles right from the cabin. Sub-alpine hiking is reached twenty-nine miles from the cabin and accessed by car right above the tree-line.

During the Outdoor Club's member events, the coffee pot is always bubbling and everyone contributes to the cooking with pies, jams or a bottle of wine. German books, games and musical instruments with sing-alongs complement the sense of connection and community during their popular New Year's Eve, year-round weekend stays and clean-up parties. For more information or to rent the cabin, go to www.swiss-society.org/outdoors-club or email ssvoutdoorsclub@gmail.com. SILVIA SCHOCH

Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir

Swiss & Tyrol Concert Tour
Thurs., June 16th - Sat., July 2nd

Friday, June 17th

Performance at the opening of the Inner-Schweizer Gesangsfest in Cham, Zug

Saturday, June 18th

Competition Singing in Cham

Sunday, June 19, 7th pm

Concert with Männerchor Engelburg

Tuesday, June 21th

Concert with Cor viril Engiadina Bassa

Wednesday, June 22nd -

Sunday, June 26th

Alta Pusteria, see:

www.festivalpusteria.org/en

Tuesday, June 28th

Informal concert with Jodlerklub Seerose, Flüelen

Friday, July 1st - 8:00 pm

Canada Day Concert with Männerchor Rieden, Wallisellen (see poster)

Edmonton Swiss Society National Day Celebration

August 1st at Mettler's Farm in Tomahawk, Alberta

Edmonton Swiss Society

Winzerfest 2016

St. Basil's Cultural Center, Edmonton, Alberta.

For more information please check our website at <http://www.esmca.ca>.

PETER THUT

Vancouver Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association

Our season started with the opening of the outdoor shooting ranges end of March and the obligatory safety instruction. It was a pleasure to see that some of the Junior shooters also participated. The Crossbow Fondue stich gets more popular every year, even some new members tried their luck in aiming and hitting the target with great success. The big winner was Joe Morach with 55 points. Congratulations and thank-you, Joe and Connie, for organizing this great event.

There was also a very good turnout for the cheese Fondue and the entertainment of accordion and Alphorn was superb. Hope we can have many more get together's like that. Besides all the target shooting and socializing, there is a lot of upkeep necessary on the shooting ranges and the surrounding grounds. The club house sparkles again after a few ladies did a thorough spring cleaning. Even if you are not a target shooting fan, you are still welcome to visit us on any scheduled shooting days, be it for lunch or just coffee and Nussgipfel. With a little luck you might even spot some wildlife. For more information and photos, check our website www.scmra.ca.

MARLIES BAUMANN

Swiss Canadian Mountain Range Association Summer and Fall Program 2016

JUNE 5+19: Championship all Ranges; **June 11:** Work-Party **JULY 3:** Mountain Range Match; 09:00-12.00/13:00 Volksschiessen, all non-shooters welcome; **16:** Work-Party; **17:** Championship all Ranges—Trap; **30:** Swiss National Day **AUGUST 7+21:** Championship all Ranges **SEPTEMBER 4:** Championship all Ranges—Trap cheese shoot; **17:** Work-Party; **18:** Consul Cup **OCTOBER 2:** Last day Championship all Ranges; **8+9** Schützenfest; **23:** Saushoot; **29:** Work-Party; **30:** Jass Tournament **DECEMBER 3:** Santa Claus Party.

Calgary Yodel Club Heimattreu 40th Anniversary Gala

On an unusually balmy evening in early April, Yodel Club Heimattreu celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a stellar Gala performance at the brand new, exquisite Bella Concert Hall at the Taylor Centre of the Performing Arts. While dignitaries, the public and the choir's long standing audience friends filled the comfortable seats in the elegant hall, fifty guest performers assembled around the Yodel Club on stage.

The lights dimmed under the wooden ceiling carved in an Alberta rose, and the performance opened to the sound of two Alphorns. With their last notes still hanging in the air, the impressive stage-spanning mass choir set in with the song *Aabeglogge*.

Consul General of Switzerland Mr. Urs Strausak delivered a message of appreciation and congratulations to the anniversary choir. Master of Ceremony Stephanie Weidmann ably hosted the evening and



Heimattreu's President Klaus Zahnd greeted guests and fellow performers.

The evening continued with a medley by the Yodel Club Heimattreu. Clad in Swiss folk dress of black, white and red—hands in pockets as is tradition—eighteen male and two lady singers sang and yodeled a Swiss German medley of friendship, village Chilbi, Schnittertanz and more.

Guest performers started to join in and the ladies of the Swiss Folk Dance Club Alpenrösli danced Schottisch and Waltzes in their colorful, authentic costumes. Subse-

quent presentations by the Wildrose Yodel Club and the Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir rounded out the program magnificently.

In-between performances short, ingenious video clips informed the audience of Heimattreu's history, its members and what it means to be part of a group for so many years. Founded in 1976 by seven Swiss immigrants around a kitchen table in Calgary, "...fueled by a small dose of home sickness and the need to create a bit of Switzerland in the Canadian West...", the Gala was a fitting tribute to forty years of musical achievement, fellowship and the power of community. As one singer so aptly summed it up during the evening: "The best part is the friendship; the camaraderie; and 40 years together to look back on with a lot of memories!" For more information on the club or the event including sound samples go to: www.jkheimattreu.com/.

SILVIA SCHOCH



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Manitoba: Swiss Club of Manitoba

We held our AGM on March 20th, 2016. With thirty members present and after the regular business, two exciting new items were presented: the possibility of an Honorary Consul in Manitoba and the preparation for our club's 60th Anniversary Celebration in July.

Manitoba has a long history of Consular activity and the Montreal Consulate is actively searching for candidates to fill the position of Honorary Consul. The 60th anniversary will be a celebration of good food, old friends and an afternoon/evening of fun and memories. The present Swiss Club of Manitoba started in September 1956. Our Club would really enjoy meeting any Swiss and Swiss descendants from the city of Winnipeg. Of course, all Swiss living in Manitoba and even from other provinces are invited to this Celebration. Anyone as a friend of Swiss or interested in Swiss culture is welcome to join us! Please find the invitation in this Swiss Review, or "Like" us on Facebook.

As President, I have undertaken to organize the historical archives of the Swiss Community in Manitoba. Swiss history goes back to the Selkirk Settlers and the Club has pictures from 1910! There were other organizations prior to 1956, the Swiss Benevolent Society of Manitoba and a Club Suisse from 1929 to 1939. If anyone has knowledge on these earliest Clubs, the information would be much appreciated. Copies of letters, documents, pictures or any Swiss material would be valued. Please contact me if you can assist our historical records search at telephone (204) 728-4609 or email swissclubmanitoba@gmail.com. Thank you!

FRANÇOIS CARRARD

Vernon: Interior Swiss Club

For weeks, we were excited about Kamloops hosting the International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Cup.

Monday, March 28th was the first game: Switzerland vs. Japan. Dressed in red, grabbing our cowbells, we took our seats in the arena. The parents of the Swiss National team happened to be sitting right behind us. It didn't take long to make friends and we invited them to our house the following evening.

With the help of neighbours and Swiss friends we organized dinner. Some of us hiked up the mountain while others enjoyed a glass of wine before our shared feast of beef tenderloin, steaks, morel sauce, delicious salad, baked potatoes and an enormous raspberry tart.

Dinner was partly sponsored by the Interior Swiss Club and the

guests provided the wine. Everyone had a great time!

For Thursday's game we were met by Claudia Thomas, our Swiss Consul. Despite our cowbell ringing and cheering 'Hopp Schwiiz!', the Swiss team lost to the Swedes. On Friday and Sunday, we supported very exciting games which Switzerland won. As we said good-bye to our new friends, player number seven, Lara Stalder, presented us with a team jersey signed by all team members! Meeting the Swiss National Women's Hockey team and seeing them play in Kamloops was a touching and exciting experience! ELISABETH NYFELER



**SWISS CLUB OF MANITOBA
1956-2016
60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Saturday, July 23, 2016

12:00 noon Opening Activities

4:00 pm Greetings and Aperitif, Courtesy
Consulat General of Switzerland in Montreal

5:00 pm Dinner

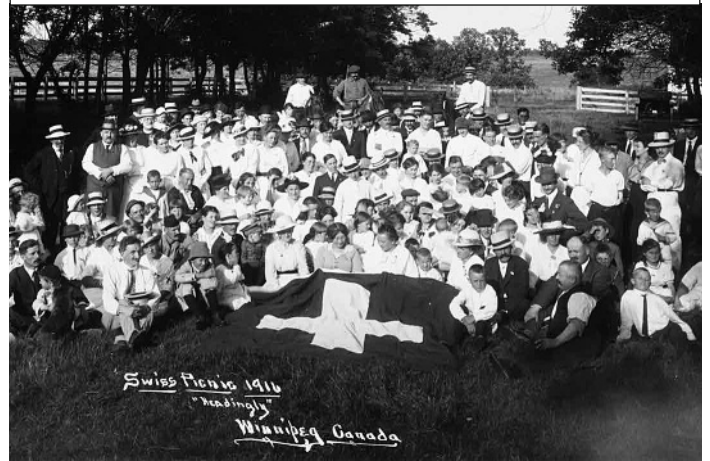
Entertainment

Shooting Competition, Music and Dance, Bonfire,
Fireworks and much more!

Location Schlup Farm, Beausejour, Manitoba

Admission \$20 per person, children six and under free.

Please confirm attendance A.S.A.P or by July 1st, 2016,
with Hanna (204) 268-3359 or François (204) 728-4609,
or leave a message at swissclubmanitoba@gmail.com.



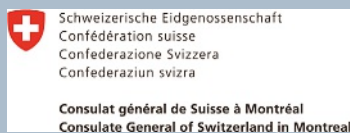
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Depuis plus de 50 ans, certains des plus grands groupes européens, de même que de nombreuses PME, ont compté sur Lette au Canada pour leur offrir des compétences du plus haut niveau et une approche pratique à la résolution de leurs problèmes.

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Position of Honorary Consul, based in Winnipeg

The Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal is seeking qualified candidates interested in the position of "Honorary Consul of Switzerland, based in Winnipeg". This is an honorary position and the appointment will be made by the Head of the Swiss Federal department of foreign affairs.

Mandate: The Honorary Consul is the local representative in Winnipeg of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal and the Embassy of Switzerland in Ottawa.

Functions: The Honorary Consul acts as an agent to the local authorities and business, scientific and cultural circles as well as the Swiss expatriate community. He/she represents and promotes the image of Switzerland and its reputation and informs the Consulate of opportunities for the development of relations in the field of business, science, education and culture. Build and maintain useful, harmonious ties with local authorities, the business community and scientific, cultural, academic and media circles. Provide business-related information to interested persons in Canada and support to the Consulate and to the Embassy in the event of official visits. Promote solidarity within the Swiss expatriate com-

munity and its ties with Switzerland. On request by the Consulate, provide assistance to visiting or residing Swiss citizens in the event of a natural disaster, major accident, act of terrorism, kidnapping, detention, by taking appropriate measures particularly with the local authorities.

Profile: Swiss national with close links to Switzerland and professional activity compatible with the requirements of an Honorary Consul. Maintain an established and extensive network of contacts in the fields of business, science, education, culture and the local political authorities. Participate in the activities of the Swiss community and speak at least one Swiss national language fluently. Interested in taking on the position for a minimum of four years (according to Swiss regulations, retirement age is 65 years). Able to provide the necessary business infrastructure (office space, telephone/fax/computer lines, administrative service, etc).

Interested parties are kindly asked to submit a detailed curriculum vitae and a letter of motivation by July 31st, 2016, to: Consulate General of Switzerland, 1572, Av. Dr. Penfield, Montreal, Qc. H3G 1C4, or email Montreal@eda.admin.ch

Montreal: Matterhorn Swiss Club

Fourty-four adults and children participated at our annual winter fun weekend at Domaine Saint-Bernard at Mont-Tremblant in February.

Some walked, some went snowshoeing or cross-country skiing; others went downhill skiing or stayed in the lodge, playing games. Our Saturday night supper consisted of sauerkraut, potatoes, assorted sausages, applesauce along with fruit salad, cookies and nussgipfel. This change in menu was popular! Our spring outing will be a day trip to Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg, ON and we will close off the day with a supper at a nearby restaurant. This should be a very enjoyable day for old and young alike! Our summer picnic will be held in mid-August at the Pfister residence on Ile Cadieux. As every year, our members are asked to help at the 1st of August celebration at Mont-Sutton. Please volunteer in order to have another successful event.

We hold six events each year and are pleased that these are well-attended. New members are always welcome. For more information go to the Matterhorn Club section on the Federation website: www.fedesuisse.com. WALTER SPIRIG



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Toronto Swiss Club

Swiss National Day Celebration Sunday, July 24, 2016 12:00 noon - 5:00 pm at the Country Heritage Park in Milton, Ontario

The Swiss Club Toronto cordially invites you and your friends to a fun filled afternoon with great entertainment, Swiss food, refreshments, our famous Nussgipfel, wagon rides, and much more. Take your family to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. Meet Swiss artists and enjoy their work, and don't forget our famous raffle.

12:00 noon - The park opens

Visit some of the thirty heritage buildings. Taste great Swiss food, coffee and Nussgipfel. Beer, wine and soft drinks also available.

1:30 p.m. - Official celebration and entertainment until 4:30 p.m.

followed by our famous raffle draw.

Directions from Toronto: Country heritage Park is located on 8560 Tremaine Road, west of Milton. Take 401 west to Highway 25 exit; go north to the third traffic light; turn left onto Side Road 5/Regional Road 9. After three kilometers turn left onto Tremaine Road (hidden intersection); go over 401 bridge and the park is immediately on the right. For more information please visit www.swissclubtoronto.ca, and park information: www.countryheritagepark.com.

SASCHA FRASSINI

Ottawa Valley Swiss Club

In January, the Ottawa Valley Swiss Club, along with members of the Swiss Seniors Club and Montagna Singers, gathered for our AGM. The evening was filled with a delicious dinner by one of our "in-house" chefs Joe, a presentation from our esteemed Ambassador Dr. Beat Nobs, an overview of the year by our president Helen Natterer and an entertaining Swiss trivia quiz. We welcomed our new president Luc André Burdet who has been on the board for a number of years. We thank Helen Natterer for her three years of dedicated service and hard work as president and are pleased to have her carry on as treasurer. We are also happy to welcome Berny Huber to the Board of Directors.

There was a great turn-out for the very entertaining play by the Swiss Theatre Group Toronto at Ste. Geneviève Church. *Kei Regel ohni Usnahm* entertained both Swiss and non Swiss-German speakers with its comedic tale of the happenings at a Swiss old-age home when identical twins register under the same name to save money. We thank the Swiss Theatre Toronto Group for coming to Ottawa.

We look forward to the First of August celebrations full of delicious food, lampion parades and tombola. This year, the festivities are held on the grounds of the historic Billings Estate Museum in central Ottawa on July 24th. We look forward to seeing you and your families there. Please join us in June for our Annual Golf Tournament and the Swiss Seniors Club monthly luncheons among other events. For more information, please visit www.ottawavalleysswissclub.ca.

OLIVIA CRAFT



Daniel Stripinis and daughters Irene and Francine receive an award from Past President Helen Natterer. They were recognized at the AGM for their many contributions to the Swiss Club over many years

Montreal Swiss Women's Club Edelweiss

It is with deep regret that I have to announce that after 94 years of doing good work, the Swiss Women's Club Edelweiss will be closing in June 2016 and will cease to exist. Over the years, the Edelweiss club has helped many Swiss people in need, whether they be elderly, alone, unemployed, ill, etc. As time went on, and thanks to welfare, employment insurance and health care, the individual needs became less, but we continued to support those where help was needed, and we also supported several charitable organizations in the Montreal area.

The majority of our members are over seventy years of age, with many being in their eighties and even some who are over ninety years. Fewer members are able or willing to assume chief positions on our committee as well as taking on the responsibility of organizing our annual fund-raising bazaar. Many of us have done so for several years and can no longer continue. The members voted by secret ballot last fall that the time had sadly come to close the Swiss Women's Club Edelweiss.

We thank our many sponsors who have donated items or money over the years, all of which contributed to the success of our bazaars and allowed our club to continue its good work. There is a possibility that a Swiss Bazaar will be held in the fall of 2016. However, this will be organized by another group. A farewell luncheon is planned for early June.

JOANNE SPIRIG

Thames Valley Swiss Club

For our first events in 2016 we had a full house at our Metzgete and Jass Finals in Milverton. Good food and camaraderie were enjoyed by all, and the weather “cooperated”, it rained all the way home! The Swiss Theater Group Toronto came to Moorefield, and their matinee performance: *Kei Regel ohni Usnahm* is a hit! The comedy by Cornelia Amstutz was well attended and made everybody laugh. After the play, coffee, cold drinks and a nice buffet of sweets was offered.

In April, our Chörli hosted a get-together dance in Milverton and on May 29th they are inviting everyone for their famous brunch also in Milverton, where last year over nine hundred guests were served! The motorcycle tour, organized by Walter Burkhardt, takes

place July 10th or 17th, weather permitting. On July 31st, we are celebrating our Bundesfeier in Moncton with a day full of entertainment for the whole family, and are serving throughout the afternoon and evening Kalbsbratwürste, Cervelats, Porksteaks off the BBQ. Not to mention the Nussgipfels and other Swiss specialities!

Just one week later, on August 6th, we have a special visitor to the Fryfogel Tavern Museum east of Shakespeare. Dr. Beat Nobs, our Swiss Ambassador, will come to see this Swiss Heritage site which was built in 1845. The Stratford Perth Heritage Foundation has applied to Parks Canada, Historic Sites and

Monuments Board of Canada for Federal recognition of this Tavern, and we are excited to be part of the celebration! For more information, please visit our website www.swiss-clubthamesvalley.com.
SONJA GUTKNECHT



Consulat général de Suisse à Montréal

Chères et chers compatriotes,

La belle saison approche et l'envie de voyager augmente. Les Suissesses et Suisses, sont de grands voyageurs et préparent habituellement bien leurs voyages. La grande majorité d'entre vous actualisent régulièrement leurs dossiers personnels. Le Consulat général aimerait néanmoins sensibiliser encore ceux celles et ceux d'entre vous qui n'auraient pas encore fait les démarches suivantes :

- vérifier les documents de voyages suisses et entamer à temps la procédure de leur renouvellement, environ 3 mois avant leur date d'échéance (passeport et/ou carte d'identité).
- enregistrer tout changement d'état civil survenu (mariage, divorce, décès, naissance, adoption, changement de nom) à temps et
- annoncer tout changement d'adresse, adresse courriel, numéro de téléphone.

Vous vous assurerez ainsi que nous serons en mesure de traiter vos demandes de documents d'identité rapidement.

Le Consulat général souhaiterait également attirer votre attention sur le fait qu'il ne sera pas en mesure de traiter les demandes de renouvellement de documents d'identité si les changements d'état civil n'ont pas été enregistrés chez nous et également confirmés par votre commune d'origine, processus qui peut prendre de 4 à 5 mois.

Certain de pouvoir compter sur votre collaboration, votre Consulat général est à votre disposition pour toute question. Il vous suffit d'envoyer un courriel à l'adresse mon.vertretung@eda.admin.ch. Ce lien direct vous garantira un contact rapide et efficace avec votre Consulat.

CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE SUISSE À MONTRÉAL

Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal

Dear compatriots,

Travel sharply increases as the summer season approaches. Swiss citizens are avid travelers and typically prepare trips efficiently. Although the vast majority of you regularly update your personal records, the Consulate General would like to bring to your attention the need to take on the following steps prior to travelling:

- Check the Swiss travel documents and initiate the procedure for renewal approximately three months prior to their expiration date (passport and/or identity card)
- Register civil status changes which might have occurred (marriage, divorce, death, birth, adoption, name change)
- Announce any changes in home and email address and phone number

Observing these guidelines will allow for the prompt renewal of your identity documents.

The Consulate General draws to your attention the fact that processing the applications of identity document renewals may not commence until your records have not only been updated at the consular level, but a confirmation of receipt of the updated information is also received from your place of origin in Switzerland; an administrative process which can take up to five months.

The Consulate General counts on your cooperation and remains accessible for any questions you may have. Simply forward an email to mon.vertretung@eda.admin.ch. This direct method of communication will guarantee quick and efficient contact with your Consulate General.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF SWITZERLAND IN MONTREAL

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