



# SWISS HERALD

Issue January/February 2014

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## **Swiss Society AGM in March 2014**

The Annual General Meeting will take place in [March 2014](#) at the Vancouver Alpenclub. An official invite with the date and time will be sent out shortly. Please make yourself available to elect the board members and to take part in society relevant decisions.

One important topic will be the special resolution that will replace the old constitution with the version that has been accepted at the AGM in 2013. Irregularities in the registered version and the working document of the board made this step necessary.



## The Swiss Society Online

There is much going on in the world wide web, as the Swiss Society of Vancouver is transforming its online presence. We are in the process of redesigning the website of the Society with the idea of de-cluttering its contents and make it easier to navigate through the menu. The website is an important portal to attract new members and keeping the Swiss community informed about our events. With the redesign we would like to better promote the cabin in Glacier Springs and the lodge in Whistler to increase the number of visitors to these beautiful places. We also welcome any contributions from our members to the website, such as pictures, a story or a request such as supporting Swiss-Canadian artist Rykka who won the peak performance contest.

Along with the website, we have also increased our presence in the social media. The Society has a facebook page and a meet up group, where we announce our events. We have received good feedback and hope to reach out to the young Swiss Canadians using these channels.

Please visit the new website, a continuous work in progress and let us know what you think. Like us on facebook and let your friends and family know about the meet up group. Welcome to the Swiss Society online.

Aio Haberli

Webmaster SSV

[webmaster@swiss-society.org](mailto:webmaster@swiss-society.org) <http://www.swiss-society.org/>

<http://www.meetup.com/SwissSocietyofVancouver/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vancouver-Swiss-Society/207321859286339>

## European Festival 2014

The 17th Annual European Festival will take place on **May 31st - June 1st** 2014 at Swangard Stadium, Burnaby. Germany and Métis Canada have been chosen as featured nations this year to continue the tradition that was started in 2013 very successfully by Switzerland. Detailed information about the festival can be found shortly on the website [www.europeanfestival.ca](http://www.europeanfestival.ca) which is being updated right now.

Volunteers for the EuroFest BC Society can register online for positions such as admission or parking volunteers. Volunteers receive free admission passes from the EuroFest BC Society. As a member of the EuroFest BC Society, the Swiss Society of Vancouver is able to provide its members with admission tickets at a reduced price. The tickets will be sold for \$7 at upcoming SSV events as soon as they are available.

# Seniors' Section

Werner Rutishauser: 604 929-6923 or seniors@swiss-society.org

Membership: Susanne Wilson: 604 888-6949 or membership@swiss-society.ca  
*For Swiss members who are 55+*

## Filmnachmittage fuer Senioren

### Next Movie Afternoon:

**January 26, 2014: "Ernstfall in Havanna"**

im Deutschen Haus

4875 Victoria Drive (Ecke 33rd Ave),

Vancouver, BC

Kosten: Kaffee und Kuchen

Zeit: zwischen 2 und 5 Uhr am Nachmittag

Future Movie-Afternoons: **February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014; March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014; April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014; May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014; October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014; November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

(Aenderungen der Daten vorbehalten)



### Having fun at the Christmas Seniors' Luncheon







**Turning 65?** Please let Susanne Wilson know. She will add your name to the Seniors' List. You will be entitled to a reduced membership fee in the Swiss Society.

## **We Are Here To Help!**

The Seniors Committee has created a new network for needy, lonely or sick seniors – including members or non-members of the SSV – who would like to get a friendly telephone call and/or a visit.

At the moment we are able to visit people in the areas of Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. Please let us know when somebody has passed away, so we can inform the members of the SSV. We also would like to know about special birthdays (80 years or older), since the SSV has not registered these dates.

**The coordinator of this network for White Rock and South Surrey will be Irma Karsenbarg, Tel. 604-531-1215. For other areas: Trudi Schmidt, 604-988-9543**

## **Choir News**

The Swiss Society of Vancouver has advantageously evolved over the last couple of years and a whole group of younger people have added their energy, ideas, talents and enthusiasm to the club.

In particular the Swiss Choir has benefited. Fresh voices have added range and closer ties to the homeland. We have now three ladies who are willing to travel 1 ½ hours to practice each week and to join our performances. They farm in the fertile Fraser Valley and practice Swiss Mountain Yodeling songs, which offer more variety to our performances. We also have a Korean Member Hung Kim who is famous in Korea for his Swiss folk group. He has recently been on Swiss TV. Who Knew???

December is a busy time for the choir as we perform not only at the Society Christmas lunch but also at the extremely popular "German" Christmas Market in Vancouver. We are much appreciated there by the mostly German speaking stall holders whose memories of their childhood are refreshed by listening to our songs like "Oh Tannenbaum", "Leise rieselt der Schnee", "Es ist ein Ros entsprungen" etc.

Another super popular family activity is at Van Dusen Gardens where we sing outdoors while many visitors wander around the pathways amid millions of tiny lights scattered throughout the trees and lakes – as most of them are avoiding abdominal winters in other parts of the county and are enjoying family visits here.

May your Christmases be bright as well as 2014 to you all.

Melanie Crook  
Vancouver Swiss Choir

## FAREWELL TO NICK SCHWABE!



On Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup> 2013, a few old friends and family members gathered at Calvins Restaurant in North Vancouver for lunch to say good-bye to **Nick Schwabe who will be leaving for Nelson, B.C. in the early days of 2014.** Nick, who left the Vancouver General Hospital two days ago, was in good spirits and enjoyed a good meal as well as a few glasses of red wine.

The people who were present were Nick's sons, Stefan & Chris Schwabe, Rolf & Gloria Eipper, Werner & Blanche Rutishauser and Francois & Nina Freyvogel. All enjoyed a good meal prepared by Milo, Calvins' owner and exchanged old memories with Nick. Although Nick is sorry to leave Vancouver for good, it is his wish to be closer to Stefan, his son, who will take care of him at his home in Nelson. All of us are sad to see Nick leave Vancouver, but we understand that at the age of 95 years, Nick needs a little TLC!

Chris Schwabe who specially flew into Vancouver from St. Gallen in Switzerland, wanted to assist his brother Stefan with the move to Nelson and to ensure that their father was comfortably settled in his new surroundings. During some short opening remarks, Werner Rutishauser wished Nick on behalf of all attendees a safe trip and all the very best for 2014.

We are sure that we speak on behalf of all Swiss here and around Vancouver, who know Nick so well after his many years as editor of the Swiss Herald, in wishing him the very best of luck and good fortune in the future.

Francois Freyvogel



# Outdoor Club Program

President: Jacques Goldschmidt - 604 996-6253 or [outdoor@swiss-society.org](mailto:outdoor@swiss-society.org)

Membership: Susanne Wilson: 604 888-6949 or [membership@swiss-society.org](mailto:membership@swiss-society.org)

Cabin booking: Deborah Zurbuchen Junker: [ssvoutdoorsclub@gmail.com](mailto:ssvoutdoorsclub@gmail.com)

***We believe in "friendship, fitness and fun!"***

## Waldweihnacht 2013

Some 100 plus attendees did come up to Mount Seymour to enjoy this nice evening under dry skies and a nearly full moon. We thank David Varty for leading the outdoor sing along of some Christmas songs all well known to us. We did enter the Camp Luther cabin and were welcomed by the sound of music provided by seven Dorfmusik members. Santa was introduced to all our children who have waited for a long time to get their reward. They have been so good all evening. Thank you Santa.

Hot chocolate and Gluehwein as well as assorted goodies were offered.

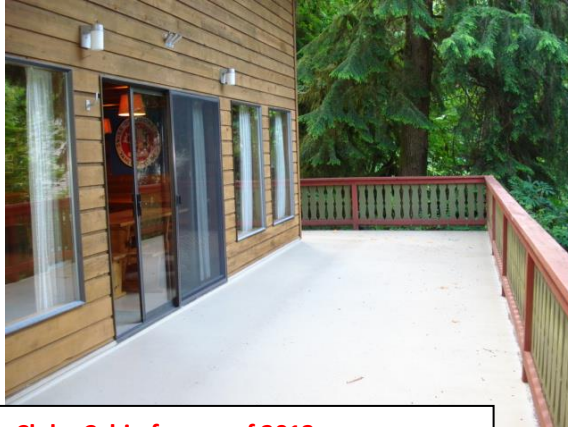
A big thank you to all who came and for your support of the Outdoors Club.





## Some dates for you to mark your calendar:

- **January 11-12, 2014:** Ski weekend at Glacier Cabin Deborah and Susanne
- **January 29, 2014:** January 29, 7:00 pm: AGM Swiss Outdoors Club  
Edmonds Community Center, 7433 Edmonds St,  
Burnaby, B.C. Jacques Goldschmidt  
New facility with underground parking, elevator to first floor, meeting room overlooking swimming pool. Coffee tea and Nussgipfels will be served.
- **February 01, 2014 :** Snowshoe on Cypress Mountain
- **February 08-10, 2014:** BC Family long weekend at Glacier Cabin Deborah and Susanne
- **March 01, 2014:** Snowshoe on Mount Seymour
- **March 02-06, 2014:** Sun Peaks Resort snow week
- **March 15-16, 2014:** Ski weekend at Glacier Cabin Deborah and Susanne



### **Swiss Outdoors Club Cabin fees as of 2013**

#### Whole cabin

Winter rate: \$ 480.00 for 2 nights  
\$ 200.00 extra night or  
\$ 280.00 1<sup>st</sup> night and extra night rate applies after

Summer rate: \$380.00 for 2 nights  
\$ 130.00 extra night o  
\$250.00 1<sup>st</sup> night and extra night rate applies after

#### Individual rates:

Swiss Outdoors & Swiss society members	\$15.00 per night
Swiss Society members only	\$20.00 per night
Non members	\$25.00 per night
Children rates : 0-3 year n/c	
6-16 year 50% of adult rate	



# Youth Club

## Youth Club Activities

The Youth Club has a number of exciting events coming up in 2014 and we look forward to seeing you to our meet ups. Check the Swiss Society's website regularly for updated schedules and send us an email if you would like to organize an event. We look forward to seeing you at our meet ups!

Aio Haberli

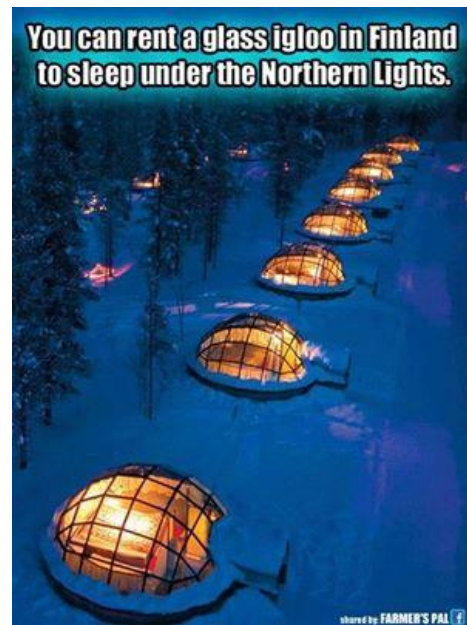
SSV Youth Club Coordinator

[youth-group@swiss-society.org](mailto:youth-group@swiss-society.org)

- **January 23**, 6pm – After Work Beer (Ceilis, Granville Street)
- **February 15**, 6pm – Snowshoeing (Mt. Seymour, Vancouver)
- **March 11**, 6pm – After Work Beer and Random Cinema Movie Night (Scotiabank Theater, Vancouver)
- **April 15**, 8pm – Karaoke Tuesdays (Backstage Lounge, Vancouver)
- **May 15**, 7pm – Forbidden Vancouver Prohibition Walking Tour (Vancouver Downtown)
- **June 14**, 2pm – BBQ and Badminton (Jericho Beach, Vancouver)
- **July 26-27**, 10am – Overnight Kayaking Trip to Granite Falls (Deep Cove, North Vancouver)



In Summer



and maybe next winter???



## Rykka, Swiss/Canadian Musician Won Peak Performance Project!



Rykka (Christina Maria Rieder) was born in Vancouver as the daughter of Susan Pattee and Willi Rieder. Rykka, 27 has been a professional musician for years and some of you might remember her as “Christina Maria”. Rykka is well known in Switzerland, Germany and here in Canada.

The Peak Performance Project is an annual music competition by which 20 bands or solo artists from British Columbia are chosen to participate. The competition started in June. One of the Peak Performance challenges was to raise money for a charity. Rykka wrote her latest album from an animal’s perspective in the hopes to bridge the gap between humans and nature, so she chose the David Suzuki Foundation as her charity. In addition, the musicians spent a weeklong boot camp in Princeton with the goal to develop the artists in performance, collaboration, song writing, music, live performance and career planning.

Rykka's big showcase for the Peak Performance Project was at the Fortune Sound Club, Vancouver in September. In addition to being judged at the showcase, people could vote for her on the website of the Peak Performance Project. And finally, on the big night on 21.November at the Commodore Ballroom in Vancouver the winner was announced. Rykka is the first solo female performer who won the Peak Performance Project! Rykka won a prize of \$102.700.

Her latest album is called Kodiak. One of her songs is called “Map Inside” and is about the storks in Switzerland that are born and only two months later migrate to Africa. If you want to learn more about Rykka and listen to some of her songs, check out her website: <http://rykka.com>. You will also have a chance to see Rykka live at her concert on 31. January at the Imperial, live music venue in Vancouver.

I had the chance to meet Christina and was able to chat with her about her recent success:

**Christina, congratulations on the first place of the Peak Performance Competition!**

**How did you enjoy the experience with the Peak Performance Project?**

It was great. It was a long project which started in June and went until the end of November. I met a lot of great people. I was able to learn a lot during the boot camp in August where we had daily conferences and where I was able to meet a lot of people from the industry.

**Where do you see yourself going in the next couple of years?**

I would like to keep doing what I’m doing now. I would like to travel and extend into other countries like the UK and USA. So far I have been performing in Switzerland, Germany and Canada.

**Are you thinking about staying in Canada or moving back to Switzerland?**

I was born here in Vancouver but I have lived in both countries. My boyfriend lives in Switzerland and I also have a record label there. I like to travel.

**How are you going to spend your \$102.7000?**

I would like to record my next album, create videos and travel.

**Thank you so much for your time and all the best for the future!**

Mirjam Fleming

# Vancouver Dorfmusik

Did you know that the Vancouver Dorfmusik is on Youtube? Check it out on: [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)!



Of course it is always much better to hear us live in concert. Book your tickets soon for our annual concert at the Alpenclub Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 8pm.



## 29th Annual Spring Concert

Saturday April 5, 2014 8 p.m.

Vancouver Alpenclub - 4857 Victoria Drive, Vancouver

Special Guests: Vancouver Egret Choir

Admission \$ 20 Juniors \$ 10 - Food and Bar Service

For tickets call Urs Fricker 604 274 0802 or Band Members

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BC Registration 3656

## Rolf A. Brühlhart tritt als Delegierter Kanada's im Auslandschweizerrat zurück

Mit diesen Zeilen teile ich Ihnen mit, dass ich aus persönlichen Gründen per 31. Dezember 2013 als Delegierter Kanadas im Auslandschweizerrat der ASO in Bern zurücktrete. Mein Entscheid 'to move on' war nicht einfach.

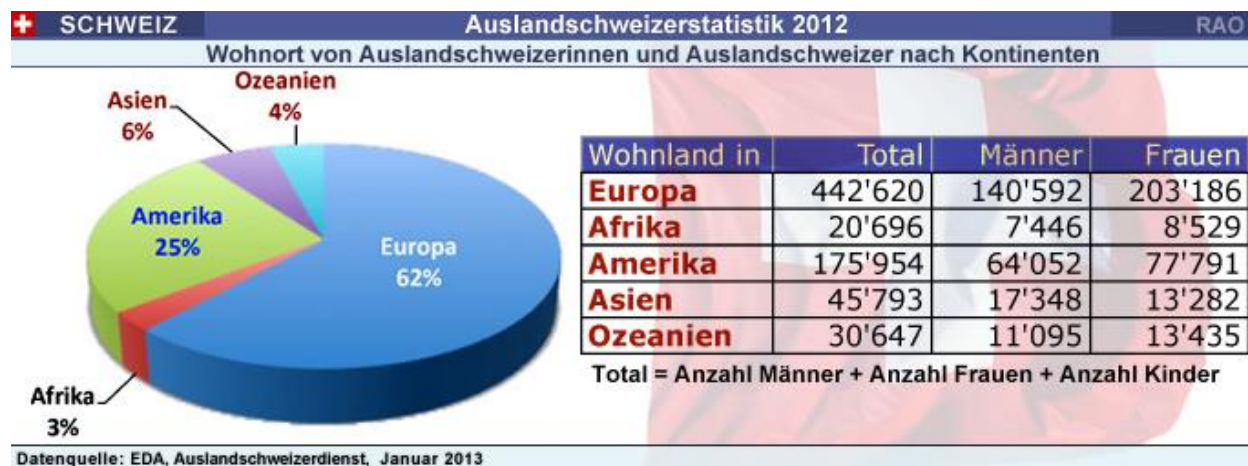
Ich bedanke mich bei Ihnen allen, dem Generalkonsulat Vancouver, den vier Delegierten Kanadas -Silvia Schoch, Kati Lyon-|Villiger, Ernst Notz, Bruno Setz- dem ASO-Vorstand und bei meinen 140 Kolleginnen und Kollegen im ASR für die stets gute Zusammenarbeit. Ganz besonders danke ich all jenen der "Presidents Conference of Swiss Organizations in West-Canada", die mich zweimal gewählt hatten.

Ich betrachtete es immer als eine Ehre und ein Privileg die Auslandschweizer des riesigen Konsularbezirkes Vancouver seit 2005 Teil in der Auslandschweizer-Organisation in Bern zu vertreten.. Die Über acht Jahre gaben mir einen kleinen Einblick in die Komplexität dieser vielschichtigen Institution aber auch ihres grossen Potentials für die Zukunft. Als Angehöriger von Auslandschweizern ausserhalb Europas war und bin ich besorgt, dass wir Uebersee-Auslandschweizer in naher Zukunft vermehrt als Drittklassschweizer nebst Schweizer-Schweizern und Eurpa-Auslandschweizern behandelt werden könnten.

Auf regionaler Ebene werde ich mich weiterhin für das Wohl der Schweizer Kolonie in Westkanada und die Förderung unseres soziokulturellen Lebens im Ausland einsetzen. Dazu gehört auch, dass ich mich sofort fuer die Neuwahl eines Delegierten bzw. einer Delegierten aus dem Konsularbezirk Vancouver einsetzen werde. Diese Person kann von der "Presidents Conference of Swiss Organizations in West-Canada" sofort bestaetigt werden und ihre Arbeit im Auslandschweizerrat sofort beginnen. Sollten sie Personen wissen, die sich für diese Aufgabe interessieren könnten, bitte ich sie mich sofort zu benachrichtigen.

Ich grüesse sie alle herzlich und wünsche ihnen eine Fröhliche Weihnachten und ein Neujahr mit Frieden und guter Gesundheit.

Rolf A. Brühlhart





# Upcoming Events

## January 2014

January 11/12<sup>th</sup>: Skiweekend at glacier cabin  
January 20<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting  
January 26<sup>th</sup>: Filmnachmittag  
January 29<sup>th</sup>: Outdoor Club AGM

## April 2014

April 5<sup>th</sup>: 8pm Dorfmusik Concert in the German Alpenclub  
April 15<sup>th</sup>: 8pm – Karaoke Tuesdays  
April 27<sup>th</sup>: Filmnachmittag  
April 28<sup>st</sup>: Board Meeting

## July 2014

July 26-27: 10am – Overnight Kayaking Trip to Granite Falls (Deep Cove, North Vancouver)

## October 2014

## February 2014

February 01<sup>st</sup>: Local snowshoe trek  
February 8-10: Ski long weekend in Glacier Cabin  
February 17: Board Meeting  
February 15<sup>th</sup>: 6pm – Snowshoeing at Mt. Seymour  
February 17<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting  
February 23<sup>rd</sup>: Filmnachmittag

## May 2014

May 15<sup>th</sup>: 7pm Forbidden Vancouver Prohibition Walking tour (Vancouver Downtown)  
May 25<sup>th</sup>: Filmnachmittag  
May 26<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting

## August 2014

## November 2014

## March 2014

March 1<sup>st</sup>: Local Mountain Snowshoe  
March 2-6: Sun Peaks Resort  
March 11<sup>th</sup>: 6pm – After work beer and random cinema movie night  
March 15/16: Ski weekend at the Cabin  
March 17<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting  
March 30<sup>th</sup>: Filmnachmittag

## June 2014

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2pm – BBQ and Badminton (Jericho Beach, Vancouver)  
June 16<sup>th</sup>: Board Meeting

## September 2014

## December 2014



Es gaht nueme lang..... En Gruess a alli Heiwehschwizzer!

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- Hon. Jason Kenney, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Employment and Social Development

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## **ADVERTISING IN THE SWISS HERALD**

**Do you run your own business, do you offer a service, do you want to sell something or rent out your cabin?**

Each issue of the Swiss Herald, including all ads, will be posted on the Swiss-Society Webpage. It will be accessible to lots of readers throughout B.C. and world-wide.

**This is a great place to advertise it.**

**These are the rates:**

**Fees for design:**

**To make minor adjustments: Free**

To make major changes to an ad: \$ 25

To create a new ad: \$ 50 - 100

**Deadlines for sending in ads or articles:**

15<sup>th</sup> of August, October, December,  
February, April and June

Ad size	One Issue	Six Issues
1 full page	\$ 150	\$ 825
216x280 mm		
½ page	\$ 90	\$ 495
216x140 mm		
1/3 of a page	\$ 60	\$ 330
(Banner)		
216x93 mm		
¼ of a page	\$ 40	\$ 220
55x140 mm		
Small Box	\$ 20	\$ 110
95mmx50 mm		

# You know you've been living in Switzerland too long when....

- you wonder why anyone would want to shop outside of working hours.
- you think it's OK to drive slow on Sundays.
- you feel like you're broke if you have less than SFr. 300 in your pocket.
- you dress up to go grocery shopping.
- you understand why Chinese food should cost more than normal food.
- you prefer Swiss wine.
- you wish that your hometown had expensive garbage bags too.
- you start thinking, 'Why can't they just speak Schwizerduetsch?'
- your German is better than the waiter's.
- you think Thursday night shopping is really convenient.
- you think it's cool to drink expensive imported American beers.
- you prefer fizzy mineral water to tap water.
- you throw a party and expect everyone to leave by 11:30 pm.
- you clean up during parties.
- you expect dinner guests to help with the washing up.
- you begin to understand the subtlety of the Swiss cuisine.
- you appreciate the differences between the cantons.
- you feel really hungry if you don't start eating lunch by 12:00.
- you have breakfast cereal for dinner.
- you say Gruezi to everyone, and consider it impolite when they don't say it back.
- you don't mind paying SFr.16 for a paperback book.
- you think that Swisscom approved telephones are better.
- you buy a new one instead of getting it repaired.
- you think that 3% unemployment is high.
- you believe it was through its own efforts that Switzerland stayed out of World War II.
- you only eat fondue in winter.
- you complain to your neighbour about the noise when he flushes his toilet after 10 pm.
- you take part in Jass tournaments.
- you get interested in Schwingen.
- you volunteer to help organise the Dorffest.
- you expect to be delayed by road works every summer.
- you become concerned about the colour of your neighbour's curtains.
- you put Aromat on all your food.
- you worry about getting a cold when there's a draft.
- you think sponteniaty is OK, as long as it's planned.
- you become offended when reading this.

Von der Webseite: Schweizer Besonderheiten





## Board of Directors

President: Karin Kapp <a href="mailto:president@swiss-society.org">president@swiss-society.org</a>	Membership: Susanne Wilson <a href="mailto:membership@swiss-society.org">membership@swiss-society.org</a>	Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce Vince Sciamanna, President <a href="mailto:chamber@swissccc.com">chamber@swissccc.com</a>
Vice-President: Mirjam Mai <a href="mailto:vice-president@swiss-society.org">vice-president@swiss-society.org</a>	Advisor: Andrea Stolte	Delegate for all Swiss Societies in West-Canada on the Council of Swiss Abroad in Bern: Rolf A. Bühlhart, <a href="mailto:rbrulhart@hotmail.com">rbrulhart@hotmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.aso.ch">www.aso.ch</a>
Treasurer: Connie Buechler Financial Advisor: Matt Buechler <a href="mailto:treasurer@swiss-society.org">treasurer@swiss-society.org</a>	Advisor (Herald): Nick Schwabe <a href="mailto:nickschwabe@telus.net">nickschwabe@telus.net</a>	Legal Advisor: David Varty <a href="mailto:dvarty@smartt.com">dvarty@smartt.com</a>
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Choir: Marie-Louise Hanna <a href="mailto:choir@swiss-society.org">choir@swiss-society.org</a>	<b>OTHER CONTACT INFO:</b>	Swiss Herald: Christina Lips <a href="mailto:swissherald@swiss-society.org">swissherald@swiss-society.org</a>
Outdoors Club: Jacques Goldschmidt <a href="mailto:outdoor@swiss-society.com">outdoor@swiss-society.com</a>	Honorary President: Urs V. Strausak, Consul General 604-684 2231 <a href="mailto:vancouver@eda.admin.ch">vancouver@eda.admin.ch</a>	
Youth Club: Aio Haeberli Youth advisor: Mirjam Weiss <a href="mailto:youth-group@swiss-society.org">youth-group@swiss-society.org</a>	Deputy Consul General: Hans-Peter Willi 604 684-2231 <a href="mailto:hans-peter.willi@eda.admin.ch">hans-peter.willi@eda.admin.ch</a>	



Let's have fun in the snow too!



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Pacific Arbour Retirement Communities has crafted a solid reputation for building exceptional retirement residences where we can serve long standing members of the community.

Our three Metro-Vancouver retirement residences, The Summerhill, The Mulberry and Cedar Springs are committed to making their residences great places to live by building stronger communities — from the inside out.

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604.980.6525 | [thesummerhill.ca](http://thesummerhill.ca)



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