

With the unprecedented events of 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic, it is safe to say that all organizations have had to change and adapt to this new way of living and working. We have now moved to an online format for some of our events, while others have been unfortunately put on hold, or cancelled.

Events that are being held online include: Swiss Socials, Kaffee-Klatsches and Jass. Join us on Zoom via video chat for some social time with fellow members of the Swiss Community! You can find all of our events info on our Facebook page (Swiss Club Toronto) and new Facebook discussion group.

Unfortunately, this year we have had to cancel our annual Swiss National Day celebration. Our Swiss National Day event celebrates the founding of the Swiss Confederacy with music, food, games, and prizes. With usually over 400 people in attendance, it is our biggest event of the year that draws in members and non-members, young and old, families and friends. We will greatly miss everyone this year. We hope that you all find your own ways to celebrate Swiss National Day safely and with lots of delicious cheese and chocolate!

Our Annual General Meeting, where we hold elections and report on the events of the past year is on-hold at this time. If possible, we would still like to hold this event in person, and are waiting to see what the rules look like for public gatherings in the coming weeks. We will provide an update when a date for the event has been determined, either online, or in-person.

Nadia Berger,
Interim President



Past president Thomas Guignard and interim president Nadia Berger.



Thomas Guignard cutting the cake at our 100th Swiss Club celebration

Spotlight on Our Long-Time Members

Did you know that there are over 200 members of the Swiss Club Toronto and more than double that if you include family members? Did you know that almost 40% of our members have been members of the Swiss club for over 20 years?

It's quite a staggering thought! The amount of time, effort, and energy our members have given to the club over the last 100 years is something for which the club is grateful. We'd like to invite you to share your story with us. We will spotlight them in upcoming *Tell Tales* and on social media. If you have been a member for 20+ years, we would appreciate your responses to the following questions via email or regular mail:

1. Where in Switzerland are you from?
2. Tell us the story of why you decided to move to Canada?
3. What year did you move to Canada?
4. Where in Canada do you live? (town/city)
5. How have you been involved with the Swiss Club throughout the years?
Please share one of your favorite memories.
6. Do you keep close connections with Switzerland and how often do you visit?
7. Would you ever move back?
8. Include a photo

We will also be reaching out to members over the coming months. We look forward to hearing from you by email: info@swissclubtoronto.ca or regular mail: Swiss Club Toronto, P. O. Box 823, Station Q, Toronto, M4T 2N7

Membership

As you may know, we are now able to accept payments for membership online (www.swissclubtoronto.ca). **If you have not yet paid for your membership, you can do so in two ways: online or by mail.**

To pay online, you can learn more or you can sign up by emailing us at info@swissclubtoronto.ca. If you already have an account, you can sign in to your account on the Swiss Club Toronto website in the Memberships section.

To pay by mail, please send a cheque with your full name and address to:

Swiss Club Toronto
P. O. Box 823, Station Q
Toronto, Ontario
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Please note that we only check our mailbox once a month so there may be a delay in cashing your cheque and updating the system.

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COUNCIL OF SWISS ABROAD

Florence Pasche Guignard, Toronto

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Welcome Nadia and Charlotte!

We were hoping to elect a new president to replace Thomas at our AGM this year, but as you know it has been postponed due to COVID-19. We're nevertheless happy to announce that two people have stepped forward to fill in the Club's leadership positions, and were confirmed by the Board as interim president and vice-president until elections can be held:

Nadia Berger is the interim President of the Swiss Club. Nadia joined in the club in 2017, and has been active on the Board, taking on Membership, Swiss Socials, and the Vice-President role for the last year. She is excited to contribute to the club as interim President, and looks forward to supporting the club and its events throughout the year. She can be reached at info@swissclubtoronto.ca

Charlotte Mariller is the Swiss Club interim Vice President. She joined the club in March 2020 as webmaster and social media coordinator. She is really excited to be a part of the club and to second Nadia as our interim president. Charlotte can be reached at charlotte.mariller@swissclubtoronto.ca

We wish Nadia and Charlotte all the best in their new positions, and thank them for volunteering their time and expertise to the club!

So long and thanks for all the cheese

As some of you may know already, my family and I are moving to Québec this summer to follow new professional opportunities and discover another part of this wonderful country. I am excited for this new chapter in our Canadian adventure, but I'm also sad to be moving away from Toronto after nearly eight years. I had a great time in this city, and met some amazing people, including of course the members of the Swiss community here in the GTA. It's been an honour to get to know you all, and to serve as President of the Swiss Club for the past two years. I have enjoyed listening to your stories, sharing a meal or a drink with you, scraping raclette and cleaning fondue caquelons, and altogether having a good time. I would not have been able to do so much without the help of volunteers and Board members of the club, in particular Nadia Berger who has agreed to step in as your new President and Charlotte Mariller, Vice President elect and website and social media coordinator. Thank you all for everything, and I wish you all the best for the years to come.

Thomas Guignard

Women's Section

Who would have thought that for all the months of spring we would be isolated. I must say, I am getting restless.

Due to the outbreak of COVID 19, we cancelled several Kaffee-Klatsches, the visit to the races and the nice trip to the lavender farm in the Niagara region.

The women's section has a good support system and there were a lot of phone calls made to each other.

The big hope we have is to be able to attend the anniversary luncheon at the Old Mill in October and of course the Christmas luncheon at St. George's Golf and Country club.

In the meantime we send out cheers and be patient, hang in there, Every day will start to look better.

Your chairperson

Paula Rico

Men's Section

Come and join us every Monday morning from about 10:00 till noon for a Zoom Kaffi Klatsch.

As you all know by now the yearly Family BBQ at the Egger Dairy Farm in Milton had to be cancelled, due to the Covid 19 problem.

Even the Swiss National Day had to be cancelled and there will not likely be any other Men's Section event till November.

There will be no Raclette of the Amicale Romande, this year. Hopefully it will be back again next year.

In November I will try to have our regular Swiss Movie Matinee, if I can reserve the Hillcrest Library. More details to follow later.

MEMORABLE BIRTHDAYS

René Wälti was 75 on June 10

Jean-Marc Velen will be 75 on Sept. 24

Heinz Vollenweider will be 75 on Sept. 24

Many happy returns and good health to you all!

Arno Sigrist