

Book Launch

"It is more important than ever that the youth are involved in preserving their culture . . . Providing them a place, such as your website [Elders' Voices: Cultural Digitization Project], to share their stories and projects allows them to develop a connection with youth from other regions . . . As our Elders continue to age and leave us, we are losing many of our traditional stories and experiences. The Foundation's initiative will assist in the preservation of these stories."

—Hon. Pearl Calahasen,
Minister of Aboriginal
Affairs and Northern
Development

"I am delighted to find this website, and I . . . thank you for the contribution to effectively teaching Canadian women's history, particularly with a western Canadian focus."

—Sharon Cook,
Professor

"Thank you for your hard work and dedication in preserving the history of Alberta."

—Hon. Lyle Oberg,
Minister of Learning

"Your website will be an excellent resource for [all] who are interested in our roots and how they impact our lives."

—Hon. Gene Zwozdesky,
Minister of Community
Development

Satya Das, *The Best Country: Why Canada Will Lead the Future* (Edmonton: Sextant, 2002), \$20.00, paperback.

Satya Das is a well-known journalist, author, communications specialist and public policy analyst. He served on the Editorial Board of *The Edmonton Journal* for many years and has been the recipient of many awards. His previous book, *Despatches from a Borderless World* (Edmonton: NeWest Press), was named one of the top 10 books of 1999 by the Edmonton Public Library. He is also a Trustee of the Heritage Community Foundation and has helped to shape our thinking and the positioning of heritage in a changing world.

The Best Country: Why Canada Will Lead the Future provides a dynamic vision of our country no longer in the shadow of our larger neighbour to the south. Satya believes that the people of Canada, in all of their diversity, comprise our intellectual capital. In essence, Canada is a microcosm of the world, and its peoples and the traditions,

Reaching Out

**Taking it to the Streets
Welcome Back Amiskwaciy Academy Students!**

Much to the dismay of students everywhere, September came too quickly again this year! It seemed like it was only yesterday that we launched our first Virtual Museum of Canada web project, *"The Making of Treaty 8 in Canada's Northwest"*, at the Amiskwaciy Academy, before we were invited to return to help welcome their students back to classes for another year of study. On September 3 and 4, Foundation staff Kim Palmer and Andrea Bell headed over to the Academy to present a series of 10 half-hour sessions titled "The Treaty 8 Website and Using the Internet as a Research Tool." Kim and Andrea described it as a fantastic experience, as they found that, despite the growing popularity of the internet and particularly its growing use among teenage kids as a resource for their studies, very few of the students had any idea that there were actually good, informative sites AND not so good and informative sites out there on the Net!

Kim and Andrea fielded all kinds of questions, talked a little about key indicators for authoritative and trustworthy sites and then led the students into an exploration of our *"The Making of Treaty 8 in Canada's Northwest"* website. From all accounts the students had a great time, learned a little about Treaty 8 and its significance to their everyday lives as Canadians and peoples of a First Nations background. Through this experience, the Foundation learned a great deal about what interests students today, as well as the perils of presenting to eager students in a

governance and habits of tolerance built over the past century and a half have equipped us to become a model of the "multicultural state." That is not to say, that we can sit on our laurels; rather, we must continue to improve our human rights record and actively lead on behalf of those who are less fortunate, particularly those in the Third World. As he states in his preface, "If we are indeed the best country, then we will lead the future by working in that more complex sphere where society, culture, politics and economics intersect."

Satya is a contemporary humanist and writes about civil society that old concept that has been redefined to address the need to form citizens and states that are motivated by the greater good rather than economic self-interest and greed. At the beginning of a new millennium, rather than cursing the darkness, like Eleanor Roosevelt, he is lighting candles. Partnerships with a wide variety of our rich heritage is enjoyed and appreciated by all. As a result of our partnerships with a wide variety of stuff

computer lab! A big thanks goes out to Principal Phyllis Cardinal and Vice-Principal Shirly McNeill for inviting the Heritage Community Foundation to participate. A great time was had by all, and we look forward to doing many more of these in-services in the future!

CKUA Comes Alive



CKUA Radio Network has the distinction of being Canada's first public radio station. In operation since

1927, the station broadcasts throughout Alberta and has a large archive of past programming. Our second collaboration with the Canadian Culture Online Program (CCOP), the *CKUA Sound Archives Online Catalogue* website, delves deep into the history of the station, and tells the story of a number of CKUA programs, including "Arts Alberta" and "Speaker of the Week." The Foundation has digitized about 900 hours of fascinating programs, available on the site through streaming audio. You can also get some "behind-the-scenes" information on site hosts, producers and writers. CKUA is a true cultural institution in Alberta with lots of stories to tell about the province, its politics, arts and people. Don't forget to tune in early in the New Year!

Heritage Link

Linking People with Heritage



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Welcome! From the Executive Director

As the number of the Heritage Community Foundation's partners and stakeholders continues to grow, sharing information about the range of our activities with them has become a priority. The majority of the Foundation's programs and projects revolve around the World Wide Web. However, we are committed to building the human "web" of partners, stakeholders and clients that is necessary to bring heritage to the mainstream.



Heritage Link will have both an electronic and print form and will provide timely information about all of the Foundation's activities. The historical, natural, cultural, scientific and technological heritage defines all of us as individuals, communities, provinces, territories, and nation. In a borderless world, the tangible aspects of who we are our stories, memories and traditions ground us and give us the sense of confidence to be able to meet the world. We look forward to initiating a dialogue with all of you. Your feedback, suggestions and, above all, support is important to us. Let the information-sharing begin!

Adriana A. Davies, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Colleen Klein Named Honorary Chief Patron

Colleen Klein, humanitarian and wife of the Hon. Ralph Klein, has agreed to become the Heritage Community Foundation's Chief Honorary Patron. Mrs. Klein is an avid volunteer, concentrating the majority of her efforts on issues that impact Alberta's children, families and Aboriginal communities as such, her goals are a wonderful fit with those of the Foundation.

When paying tribute to the work of the Foundation, specifically *The Making of Treaty 8 in Canada's Northwest* website, Mrs. Klein said "...we don't need history to tell us what happened. We need history to come alive to help us understand where we are today and to make the future possible." We are very proud to have Mrs. Klein's support and believe that by working together, the efforts of the Foundation will benefit all Albertans.

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Live! AlbertaSource.ca

A new and improved *AlbertaSource.ca* is live! With links to 13 heritage sites developed by the Heritage Community Foundation, it is your dynamic gateway to Alberta's rich heritage. With website design by DevStudios Inc., it's a great educational resource, presenting Alberta's historical, natural, cultural, scientific and technological heritage online. *AlbertaSource.ca* facilitates your search of media-rich content, providing facts, stories, images and fascinating things to do and places to go within the province. Also available are learning tools specifically designed for teachers and students that we call "edukits." These website-accompanying kits are built especially to help guide students' online learning experience with lesson plans, webquests and other teaching resources. The site is extremely popular already, with an average of 117 hits per day from countries all over the world, including Australia and the United States.



Eventually to become *The Alberta Online Encyclopedia* searchable by name, date, topic and theme be sure to keep your eye on this site. It is frequently updated, with links to each of the heritage-rich sites created and developed by the Heritage Community Foundation.

"In searching for information about our family's heritage, it was with great delight that I came upon the Heritage site discussing Fort Chipewan and Treaty 8. Thank you for making such a site available to assist in connecting individuals and families with their heritage."

—Krista and John
William Mackay Wilson

"As an elementary teacher of Social Studies, I can attest to the great value of this work for students. The kits and online resources will provide an incomparable contribution to the education of the children of this province."

—Dr. Donna Daniel,
Teacher

"By making the heritage of our province accessible online, this foundation has taken a formidable step in opening Alberta to the world. My many thanks for your hard work, and my best wishes in your ongoing projects."

—Alana De Long, M.L.A.
Calgary Bow
Constituency

Tech Talk

Audio and Video Streaming — Bringing Heritage to Life!

At the Heritage Community Foundation, we make use of cutting-edge technology to bring heritage to life through the World Wide Web. Over the past several years, the Internet has made huge advances in presenting media online. The two main types of multimedia are audio and video, and the formats they can be distributed in are numerous. One of the challenges that many web development companies face is deciding which distribution method is most appropriate for the project at hand. The Heritage Community Foundation has produced 11 sites to date and has met this challenge every step of the way. There are pros and cons to all formats, and in order to make the most suitable choice, always keep in mind who your audience is and what is best suited to their needs after all, they are the ones you are trying to impress!

Essentially, there are two options in presenting audio and video online to stream or not to stream! One of the most common options is to download audio and video files from the Net and then play them from your computer. Some of the most popular formats include MP3, avi, mpeg, Windows Media, QuickTime and RealAudio. Although these files can be created (or downloaded) without requiring any special servers, they will require a player. In most cases, the default player on your computer will launch automatically when the media file is opened, but certain media files do require that you have their player installed. For



example, if you wish to view a QuickTime movie, you will need to have the QuickTime player installed on your computer. Most players are available free of charge and can be downloaded easily, but it is recommended to update your players when new versions or patches become available. One of the biggest disadvantages to downloading media is that, on average, most web users shy away from things they have to download because they are afraid of accompanying viruses or files that might corrupt their hard drives. With nasty viruses like *nimda* out there, one can hardly blame users for mistrusting downloads!

The Web Development team at the Foundation generally chooses streaming media simply because it is a much faster alternative and does not require the user to download files. One of the most popular streaming applications is Real Player, which allows a user to play audio and video files while they stream through a Real Server. The options are limited when it comes to streaming media and you must have Real Player installed on your computer to view the audio or video clip. The basic version of Real Player is free to download but if you want more functionality to your player, you will have to pay for it!

3-2-1-Launch!

Web Launches



Alberta's Political History

On June 14 of this year, the Heritage Community Foundation officially launched its authoritative site on Alberta's political history at the Legislature Library. As a major project partner, the Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Assembly, cut the digital ribbon, which was followed by a captivating speech from the Hon. Lois Hole, Lieutenant Governor. *Alberta's Political History* is accessible through www.AlbertaSource.ca, and includes multimedia features such as a historical timeline, audio files as well as clickable Alberta constituency maps with results for all provincial elections since 1905!



The Making of Treaty 8 in Canada's Northwest

Not only was June 21 National Aboriginal Day, it was also the day that the Heritage Community Foundation officially launched its bilingual Virtual Museum of Canada website called *The Making of Treaty 8 in Canada's Northwest* (accessible through www.AlbertaSource.ca). The launch took place at Amiskwaciy Academy, Edmonton's Aboriginal high school, where Foundation staff demonstrated the site to students, media and project partners.

Another successful launch of the site took place at the Grande Prairie Regional College on July 4, hosted by project partners Drs. Scott McAlpine, Duff Crerar and Jaroslav Petryshyn, creators of *Lobstick Journal*, a Treaty 8 centenary publication. Aboriginal Elders and other members of the community and museums network were present for the northern launch of this amazing online research and learning tool.

We're Working On It!

Creating heritage websites is similar to eating potato chips or peanuts once you've tried one you keep going. With the range of possible topics to present, there are always new sites in development at the Heritage Community Foundation, scheduled for completion in the near future. The following sites will be available through www.AlbertaSource.ca in the upcoming weeks and months.

Albertans: Who Do They Think They Are?

The diversity of cultural communities calling Alberta "home" is remarkable. The *Albertans* website presents profiles of the communities, people, places and experiences that make up Alberta. As with other Foundation websites, *Albertans* features CKUA Radio Network's *Heritage Trails*. As well, video excerpts from the *Scattering of Seeds* series by White Pine Pictures bring the stories of Alberta's immigrants, "who staked their families and futures on a second chance in Canada." This is the Foundation's seventh collaborative effort with the *Canada's Digital Collections* Program of Industry Canada.

Methodist Missionaries in Alberta

Rundle, Steinhauer and McDougall are names synonymous with the early mission era in present-day Alberta. This website looks at the lives and work of these missionaries and many others in shaping early Alberta society within a context of their relationships with First Nations people and

Teaming Up With DevStudios, Inc.

DevStudios, Inc. is on the move. An innovative Edmonton company, DevStudios offers intensive, real-world information technology education to post-secondary students within a shortened timeframe. They also research and develop software products and provide consulting services to a wide range of clients.

The Foundation has partnered with DevStudios on a number of website development projects. DevStudios has provided the design and database functionality for the *CKUA Sound Archives*, *City of Edmonton Archives Online Catalogue* and the soon-to-be released *Alberta Heritage Alphabet* an online searchable database that provides key facts about different aspects of Alberta's heritage. Students at DevStudios worked on all three sites as class assignments, giving them the chance to work on real-life projects to help develop their multimedia skills.

Bob Vergidis, President and CEO, is a recognized leader in educating others on the implementation of database and e-commerce solutions, and is also a member of the Foundation's Patrons Council. We value DevStudios' partnership and look forward to more collaboration in the future!

the fur trade. It features profiles of the Methodist missionaries both of European and First Nations descent who worked in Alberta during the tumultuous 19th and early 20th century. As well, the site tells the histories of the forts and missions that the missionaries served at and built. Site partners include the United Church Historical Society, the Eleanor Luxton Historical Foundation, and the Folklife Program of the Provincial Museum of Alberta.

Celebrating Alberta's Italian Community

Working with the National Congress of Italian Canadians (Edmonton District), the Foundation is bringing the experience of Alberta's Italian Community to the World Wide Web. *Celebrating Alberta's Italian Community* will have significance for Albertans of Italian ancestry, and for all Canadians interested in ethnocultural, labour and immigration history. The website features extensive overviews, including regional histories, archival photographs from public and private collections, oral histories with early community pioneers, selected video bytes and articles from *Il Congresso*, the community's newspaper.

Women of Aspenland: Images from Central Alberta

The latest of the Foundation's collaborations with the Virtual Museum of Canada, *Women of Aspenland* presents the lives and experiences of women in the communities of south-central Alberta. "Aspenland" refers to the area that extends from north of Calgary towards Edmonton, vegetated by the aspen poplar tree. The stories of women who pioneered and helped build the communities and the province adds a wonderful regional chapter to the Alberta story. Southern Alberta, the Peace River Country and the Mountain Parks have developed distinct regional identities outside of Alberta's major urban areas, and *Women of Aspenland* will begin to provide this in the "big middle" of Alberta. The project is a collaboration with the Central Alberta Regional Museums Network (CARMN).

Great Alberta Law Cases

Alberta's legal heritage is full of important and landmark cases, dealing with women's rights, military conscription, political scandal, euthanasia and precedent-setting criminal cases. In 1992, the CKUA Radio Network and the Alberta Law Foundation co-produced and broadcast the *Great Alberta Law Cases* series, made up of 30-minute docudramas. Working again with the Alberta Law Foundation and CKUA Radio Network, these fantastic programs will become the *Great Alberta Law Case* website, presenting the original audio productions within a historical context and with additional content: text, photographs and documents related to each case. This project will make 10 of the 30-program series available, with the remaining programs anticipated over the following two years.

"I must commend the Heritage Community Foundation . . . for the valued service that you provide to Albertans. Especially in this new millennium, it is encouraging to know that our collective heritage as a province that will be preserved and presented to future generations."

—Alana De Long, M.L.A.
Calgary Bow
Constituency

"Presenting the people and story of Edmonton's vibrant heritage is an important but often neglected aspect of our shared history. The Heritage Community Foundation's initiative is a very important one. I support and anticipate the development of these resources with great enthusiasm!"

—Dr. Donna Daniel,
Teacher

"Thank you very much for writing this page on Peter Pond. I am doing an essay on Peter Pond and I needed information I have gone to a lot of sites on the internet and I have found only a couple of sites that had the information that I needed and this is one the most best sites I have found!"

—9 Year Old Visitor