



YOUR FOUNDATION NEWS

JUNE, JULY,
AUGUST
2021
ISSUE 27
Thelma Lysne

Greetings:

You will note the past few issues of the Foundation newsletter have been a variety of colors. These colors were geared toward a hope that one day there would be a light at the end of the tunnel and COVID. With the advent of summer and the arrival of several vaccines I have chosen the "color" white. My research in the meaning of color revealed that white was the most suitable choice for this summer. Some of the words to describe white are purity, cleanliness, calm, happiness, peace, purity, safety and serenity, all words that indicate we will soon be able to carry on with our lives, meeting with our Lodges and planning our social functions. Remembering that October is Foundation Month and time to start planning your Foundation Fund Raiser when there is a possibility of socializing once again.

Your Foundation in Canada has awarded several Oslo Summer School Bursaries. This quarter will highlight a little "applied for bursary" Oslo Summer School. It features an article by Thelma Fayle on her experience at the school in 2002.

I will endeavour to feature another article on a recipient of this bursary in the next newsletter.



SAVE

2021
SONS OF NORWAY
FOUNDATION IN CANADA
50 YEARS OLD



SAVE

My opening remarks this quarter is optimistic but may not be realistic unless we all pull our weight and get the vaccine, if we are able. I do realize that there may be some allergies related to the vaccine so we are going to have to allow for that dilemma.

Here are few statistics from the 2019 Lodge contributions. There were 23 Canadian Lodges, in 2019. Eleven (11) Lodges gave \$540.00 which averages to \$49.09 from the eleven Lodges. If all twenty-three Lodges gave at least \$50.00 the Foundation would realize \$1,150.00. It may not seem like a large amount but every little bit will help with the work the Foundation does for Lodges and the awarding of bursaries and grants.







The top four (4) Lodges in order of contributions are Hardanger 7-109, Eidsvold 7-53, North Star 7-63 and Solglyt 4-143.



SAVE

I asked several of the Foundation Directors on how they inspire Lodge members and friends to "SAVE THEIR STAMPS".

Some suggestions were:

-  Leave on the doorstep of Foundation Director or President.
-  Mail to Foundation Director or President.
-  Include a note requesting "save the stamp" and return to sender.
-  Ask neighbours and fellow workers to save stamps.
-  One Lodges has an assigned car that will do pick-up and deliver.
-  When mailing a letter draw a line around the stamp and write save.



SAVE

OSLO SUMMER SCHOOL

Eighteen years ago Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada sponsored me with a Bursary to go to the University of Oslo to study Peace Research.

When I heard that a Sons of Norway friend of my mother's had studied at the University of Oslo and had had a wonderful learning experience, I decided to take a leave of absence from my job as a systems analyst and research officer for the provincial ministry of finance. I applied for two graduate courses in Peace Research and Norwegian Literature – influenced largely by the fact that we were all grappling to understand the recent 9/11 tragedy. I chose Peace Research based on the Norwegian reputation for neutrality and their long history of peace building work. I wanted to understand the dynamics of international conflict and was thrilled to be accepted and looked forward to the International Summer Studies (ISS) program.



THELMA FAYLE

I gratefully received a generous scholarship from Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada. Their generosity was a measure of support that made me feel proud. To this day, almost 20 years later, I carry a picture in my wallet of my mother, dressed in her Bunad, handing me that scholarship.

That summer, I was honoured to be among 544 students from 93 nations who were registered in the wider summer studies program. I was assigned a roommate from Russia, a woman about my age, and we always found a lot of things to talk and laugh about at the end of a busy day full of classes.

The 27 people in my Peace Research class were from all over the world, had wonderful work experiences and insightful perspectives. As the mature student in the class, I was awed by the enthusiasm, abilities and potential I saw around me. They had the brightest set of eyes I have ever encountered.

Every day the class consisted of a three-hour lecture by a well-known specialist in a field followed by a discussion with my classmates. For example: a Phd. in Philosophy who was best known for his published work on the Ethics of War; or a United Nations worker who had been involved in post-conflict reconstruction; or a brilliant prof who had written several books on peace work and feminism. It was a productive agenda.

Outside of class, I witnessed dynamic diversity in the dormitory cafeteria. A typical day included breakfast with an elder German writer who came to study language so that he could interview and write about Norwegian musicians; lunch with a Portuguese woman who had a masters in international studies and aimed to participate in the Middle East peace process; and dinner with an Irish woman who was working on her Phd. and studying phantom limbs.

There were many highlights in both the Peace Research and the Norwegian Literature programs, but one particular favourite was being introduced to the Norwegian writer, Knut Hamsun. His book *Hunger*, published in 1890, is one of my favourites.

I loved looking at the world from a different perch. The Foundation in Canada introduced me to that opportunity and I will always be grateful.

I am reminded of the richness of the University of Oslo experience at the moment, as I have just been accepted to do a MFA in non-fiction writing at Dalhousie University. I will be 65 this year and wanted to begin my senior years with a fun study and an effort to improve my writing skills. My mother lived to 100 and if I am lucky enough to follow in her footsteps, I will get some good mileage from this new learning!

The thesis I am planning is related to the value of cross-cultural friendship – a life lesson that was reinforced in Norway!

It is with the deepest respect and appreciation that I view the opportunities offered by the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada.

Respectfully submitted by,

Thelma Fayle

PASS IT ON

Issues 26 and 27 of the Foundation Newsletter have featured the appreciation of recipients of bursaries and grants awarded by the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada. Issue 26 included a thank-you note from the grandmother of one of the recipients and I have had emails from Alexa Hang-Copeland's grandmother letting me know how she encourages her grandchildren to apply.

This is an indication that Lodge members are encouraging their children and grandchildren, so let's keep up the good work and remind your post-graduate students to get their Application Forms in to Gloria Benazic before August 31, 2021. Forms are found on the Foundation website www.sonfic.ca. Post graduate bursaries are open to all Canadians attending a Canadian institution.

Information and forms for Oslo Summer School are also available on the Canadian Foundation website www.sonfic.ca. The cut-off-date for this application is June 15th.

Included in this issue is an inspiring letter from a past recipient of three Foundation bursaries. I hope this letter will make you gratified that your donations to the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada has helped in securing our future.

Thelma Lysne, Editor



*All applications must
be submitted to:
Gloria Benazic
by August 31, 2021*

www.sonfic.ca

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Dear Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada Scholarship Committee,

A few years ago, I received scholarships from your organization and would like to send my appreciation and thank you again. This past April I completed my Bachelor of Science degree at Simon Fraser University. I majored in Biology with a focus on Cells, Molecules, and Physiology, as well as a Certificate in Genomics.

There was no commencement ceremony this year due to the pandemic, so I received my degree and certificate in the mail along with my cap and some other memorabilia. When commencement ceremonies resume again, I will be invited back to properly cross the stage and celebrate with all my fellow graduates.

Shortly after graduating, I got a job in my field at iProgen Biotech Inc. where I'm working with various cancer cell lines to find better treatments, as well as some COVID-19 research. Eventually, I would like to continue my education by pursuing a masters and possibly a PhD.

Thank you again for supporting me along this journey. It has made a huge difference.

Best of wishes to you all,

Brendan Morris-Reade

Brendan Morris-Reade



2021 BURSARY RECIPIENT



Alexa Hangs-Copeland

Dear Ms. Benazic,

I hope all is well for you in these uncertain and interesting times. First of all, I wanted to apologize for this letter not reaching you sooner. It was not until my Grandmother informed me the other day that my letter had not appeared in the foundation's newsletter alongside the other recipients that I felt I must contact you. Unfortunately, I believe I directed my previous letter to the wrong address. With that being said, I belatedly want to thank you for awarding me with the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada Bursary. I am very grateful and appreciative that you have chosen me to be the recipient of this award.

I am currently in my second year at McGill University, where I am taking business. My hopes for the next two years are to obtain a bachelor's of commerce with a major in marketing. By presenting me with this award, you are helping to bring me one step closer to achieving that goal. Your financial assistance will be of great help to me in paying for educational expenses, but it also will allow me to focus on the most important aspect of school, learning.

Sincerely,
Alexa Hangs-Copeland



SEPTEMBER 18TH

SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION IN CANADA

A.G.M.
2:00 P.M.

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

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