



# POSTILLION

Der Rundbrief des Saskatchewan German Councils  
The quarterly newsletter of the Saskatchewan German Council

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*Autumn 2021*

Featuring: Life in Northern Saskatchewan

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## IN DIESER AUSGABE IN THIS ISSUE

SABINE DOEBEL-ATCHISON, EDITOR

Derzeit färben sich die Bäume in den schönsten Farben. Ein Zeichen, dass sich das Jahr dem Ende zuneigt. Auch meine Zeit als Postillion Editor neigt sich dem Ende zu. Seit mehr als fünfzehn Jahren sind das Saskatchewan German Council und damit auch der Postillion ein wichtiger Teil meines Lebens. Allerdings wohne ich nun bereits seit vier Jahren in Ottawa und deshalb wird es nun Zeit den Postillion in andere Hände zu übergeben. Falls Sie Interesse haben oder jemanden kennen, der die Herausgabe des Postillions übernehmen möchte, dann schauen Sie sich die Stellenausschreibung auf Seite 23 an.

In dieser Ausgabe finden Sie ein Interview mit Miriam Körner, die im Norden Saskatchewan mit ihrem Mann und Schlittenhunden lebt. Sie hat diverse Bücher, die wir auch im Postillion vorstellen, verfasst. Einige von ihnen finden Sie auch in der SGC Bibliothek.

Ich wünsche Ihnen viel Freude beim Lesen und bleiben Sie gesund.

Currently, the trees are turning the most beautiful colours. A sign that the year is coming to an end. My time as Postillion Editor is also coming to an end. For more than fifteen years the Saskatchewan German Council and with it the Postillion, have been an important part of my life. However, I have been living in Ottawa for four years now and so it is time to pass the responsibility for the Postillion on to someone else. If you are interested or know someone who would like to take over as Postillion editor, please see the job posting on page 23.

In this issue you will find an interview with Miriam Körner, who lives in northern Saskatchewan with her husband and sled dogs. She has written various books, which we also feature in this issue. You can also find some of them in the SGC library.

I hope you enjoy reading and stay healthy.

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT GRÜSSE VOM PRÄSIDENTEN

MERV WEISS



help provided by the Canada Summer Job Program in the person of Jonathan Kruger, who was employed for eleven weeks as a Cultural Development Assistant. Member of Parliament of Canada Brad Redekopp dropped by the office on 29 June to see how beneficial the program was for SGC. We had a nice meeting, and I am certain that Mr. Redekopp, and his Constituency Manager Daniel Caswell were impressed by the range of activities conducted, and coordinated by SGC.

The big news of the summer is the development and launch of SGC's new website, developed by Rock & Bloom. Both Gabi and Franziska poured a lot of time into this project, and the great results are now evident. Be sure to check out the new website at [www.saskgermancouncil.org](http://www.saskgermancouncil.org).

It seems like a long time already since our virtual AGM last June. In English, we would say that a lot of water has flowed under the bridge since then. I am not sure how one would say that in German! The office has been busy, as always, and appreciated the

Besides attending two Zoom meetings with Rock & Bloom, I have also attended numerous other virtual events on behalf of SGC – ArtsVest Mentor and training sessions, Franziska's July



session "Germans from Russia, History, Food, Culture" and a Folkfest cultural evening. I also gave a presentation at a virtual conference of the American Historical Association of Germans from Russia.

On Sunday, 29 August, the Board of Directors met for a casual Summer Meeting at the Harbour Golf Club and Resort on Lake Diefenbaker in Elbow. This was our second such meeting whose main function is to reconnect with fellow directors and to hold a wide-open and wide-ranging discussion about our Saskatchewan German Council. Discussions included concern for our member groups and the stresses of a post-COVID environment. The Board wants to hear from all SGC member groups and learn about how they are planning to re-activate and re-energize their own members. Our Member Groups and their activities qualify SGC as a deserving recipient of SaskLotteries funding, as administered by SaskCulture. Every Board meeting reinforces for me the importance of our German Language Schools. The Board also recognizes the value of a good Communications Strategy to get our message out to the public.

Featured on the website is a new project which interests me very much – the collection of YOUR immigration stories. Please tell us about your experiences of leaving Germany and of choosing Saskatchewan as your new home. The website has a good outline which will help you do this. I look forward to reading every story!

I have been trying to collect statistics on the numbers of immigrants from Germany to Saskatchewan. So far, I have been unsuccessful. I hope to report more in the next Postillion. Here's wishing everyone a lovely Autumn season.

Der Sommer ist vorbei! Es scheint mir eine lange Zeit seit unserem AGM im Juni. Auf Englisch würden wir sagen: „Viel Wasser ist seither unter der Brücke hindurch geflossen“. Wie immer ist unser SGC-Büro mit vielen Dingen beschäftigt. Dank des Canada Summer Job Program arbeitete Jonathan Kruger elf Wochen in unserem Büro als Assistent für kulturelle Entwicklung. Saskatoon MP Brad Redekopp besuchte das Büro Ende Juni. Er wollte selbst sehen wie hilfreich das Programm für SGC war. Das Treffen verlief gut, und ich bin sicher, dass Herr Redekopp und sein Wahlkreismanager Daniel Caswell beeindruckt waren, über SGC und unsere Tätigkeiten und Programme zu erfahren.

Das SGC-Büro und der Vorstand freuen sich, den Start einer neuen Website bekannt geben zu können. Die Website wurde von Rock & Bloom in Saskatoon entwickelt. Sowohl Gabi als auch Franziska haben viel Zeit in dieses Projekt investiert, und die großartigen Ergebnisse sind nun sichtbar. Schauen Sie sich die neue Website unter [www.saskgermancouncil.org](http://www.saskgermancouncil.org) unbedingt an.

Als SGC Präsident, besuchte ich:

- Zwei Treffen mit Rock & Bloom
- ArtsVest Mentor (Berater) und Ausbildungs-Beratungen.
- Die Juli-Sitzung von Franziska, „Deutsche aus Russland, Geschichte, Essen, Kultur“.
- Einen Folkfest Kulturabend.
- Außerdem hielt ich einen Vortrag auf der virtuellen Konferenz der American Historical Association of Germans from Russia.

Am Sonntag, den 29. August, kam der Vorstand zu einem zwanglosen Sommertreffen im Harbour Golf Club and Resort am Lake Diefenbaker in Elbow zusammen. Das war jetzt unser zweite sTreffen dieser Art, das vor allem dazu diente, die Kontakte zu den anderen Vorstandsmitgliedern wiederherzustellen und eine offene und weitreichende Diskussion über den Saskatchewan German Council zu führen. Dabei ging es unter anderem um die Sorge um unsere Mitgliedsgruppen und die Belastungen in der Zeit nach COVID. Der Vorstand möchte von allen SGC-Mitgliedsgruppen hören und erfahren, wie sie planen, ihre eigenen Mitglieder erneut zu aktivieren und wieder in Schwung zu bringen. Unsere Mitgliedsgruppen und ihre Tätigkeiten sind der Grund dafür, dass SGC die Geldmittel von SaskCulture (oder genauer gesagt, SaskLotteries) bekommt. Jede Vorstandssitzung unterstreicht für mich die Bedeutung unserer deutschen Sprachschulen. Der Vorstand erkennt auch den Wert einer guten Kommunikationsstrategie an, damit die Leute in Saskatchewan unsere Identität besser verstehen können.

Die neue Website enthält eine neue Besonderheit, die mich sehr interessiert - die Sammlung von Einwanderungsgeschichten. Erzählen Sie uns, wie Sie nach Kanada gekommen sind, und warum nach Saskatchewan. Warum haben Sie Deutschland verlassen? Sie können auch über Ihre Eltern oder Großeltern schreiben. Auf der Website können Sie eine gute Übersicht finden, die Ihnen dabei helfen wird. Ich freue mich darauf, jeden Beitrag zu lesen.

Ich wünsche allen eine schöne Herbstzeit.



# Honorary Consul Column

Dr. Michael Oelck,

Honorary Consul for the Federal Republic of Germany in Saskatchewan

**Wenn einer eine Reise tut ... dann kann er was erzählen!**

Over the last two years, I wrote quite a few articles, here and in other places, and it was always my intention to avoid the subject of Corona viruses like COVID-19. First of all it is depressing, and then I had put virus subjects aside, since my education in (plant-) virology and secondly, the public discussion was not very relevant for me, because I felt I understand the subject and have done enough in order not to become infected and sick.

However, suddenly my self-confidence dropped when a few weeks ago, I started planning my recent trip to Germany. There was so much to think about! And this may interest some of you, and therefore, I am reporting on my recent travel experience to Germany in August 2021.

So I read the travel information on the German Consulate's website and on the very top there is a link to the official COVID-19 information by Auswärtiges Amt for travellers to Germany which is continuously updated. Since August 1, new rules appeared that everybody needs to have a vaccination or immunity proof, and that Germany does not require the expensive PCR test, but only the cheaper RAPD test. I phoned around and found the company NOBEL which did my RAPD test at the Saskatoon Airport for \$90, the PCR would have cost me \$270. The PCR is valid for 72 hours when arriving at a German airport, the RAPD test is valid only for 48 hours. Similar services are offered in Regina, Calgary or Winnipeg. My test was done on July 31, after making an appointment the same day in the morning. There is reserved parking at the airport for people who get tested, and I had to show ID, and I felt it was well organized. The test results were sent to me by e-mail. I am recommending to print out everything for the trip, because having part of the information on the smart phone and partly on paper is confusing when you stand in front of the officer who decides if you can fly or not. The next day, I arrived at the airport with my luggage, I had checked in online at home before, using only my ticket booking reference. While for several years, I always printed the boarding pass at home, nowadays, they have new check-in machines at the airport which print the boarding pass for you when you have your passport scanned. Then I dropped my luggage at the counter. Now came the heart pounding

questions by the Air Canada attendant: "Are you vaccinated, Sir?" "Yes, twice Astra Zeneca." "Please show me your vaccination proof". I had it in print form, and she accepted. "And your Immunity proof?" I showed her my RAPD test from the day before. She said, "All good Sir, I will book you through to Düsseldorf."

So it was all done! The vaccination proof is usually part of your electronic health record, but when I asked, the SaskHealth refused to give a QR-code containing the birth date and signature which Germany requires, so I needed to contact phsrecordline@saskatoonhealthregion.ca (306-655-4750), because the eHealth Saskatchewan record is not sufficient for Germany. The PHSrecordline sent me a fax to my nearest pharmacy with my vaccination record. They did not want to send the same information by e-mail. So with all that, I was off to Germany, and when I arrived in Frankfurt, customs let me through, passport control checked my passport by machine, I went to the connecting gate for Düsseldorf, and nobody asked me any questions. The principle seems to be to check passengers before they hit the flight, instead of after the fact.

I spent some good time in Germany and noticed that people in Germany behaved differently than in Saskatchewan. No store, no restaurant and no public office would let you in without a mask. Everybody follows this rule. The first day, I went on the bus, and did not think about this, the bus driver said, "Put on your mask!". I must have looked very embarrassed, and he gave me one for free. He said, "This is my service to you, not by the bus company. But next time, you bring your own mask". I thanked him instantly, and felt so obliged to him.

Four weeks later, I flew back to Canada via Zürich. I had filled out the ArriveCan website 72 hours before departure, which wanted a lot of information, much more than just vaccination and immunity tests. They even wrote back to me for some corrections the day before departure. Then they e-mailed me that I was good to fly. I had also done my COVID test in Dorsten, at a pharmacy. It was free to me because I have German health insurance, but it had a different name than in Saskatoon! No problem at the Düsseldorf airport, it was like a flight within the Schengen area, although Switzerland is not part of the Schengen

Agreement (which Angela Merkel initiated), but they still follow similar rules. At the Lufthansa counter, they printed all my boarding passes and nobody wanted to see anything other than my passport and the ticket reference.

At the Zürich Airport, I walked to the gate for departure to Toronto, and at the gate they asked me for my COVID-check-in stamp. "Oh, Sir! You have to go back to the COVID counter which is for international travellers to check immunity and vaccination proofs. So I went there. Long line-ups! I showed my Canadian vaccination print out, fine. I showed my test result from the pharmacy in Dorsten, rejected! "Sir you cannot fly, this is not a valid test". "What!? What is it?", I asked. "I do not know, but you cannot fly, because the test does not meet our guidelines in Switzerland. You cannot fly". I was stunned. "What do you want me to do now?" "There is a facility here at the airport, where they do PCR tests, but it will not be ready for departure, you will have to go down to the Suisse counter where they do the ticket services for Air Canada, and you have to buy a new ticket for the next available flight". "Oh, my god", I said, thinking about the ticket costs. I walked to the testing facility, and by ten minutes, they were about to close, and I would have stayed another day in Zürich. I had no appointment for the test, but they accepted me anyway, after I showed my tickets for Canada. I waited in line, made the test and five hours later, by seven in the evening; the e-mail arrived on my phone with my negative PCR test result indicating I was free of the virus. I went down to the Suisse counter, and she said, that the next flight would be full and she would see what she could do. She made phone calls and handed me the new boarding passes to Canada. "What is the cost", I asked. "For Aeroplan members, this is free. No additional cost for you. Your flight is tomorrow". So I stayed a night at the airport, had a nice supper at an Italian restaurant, and enjoyed the Suisse hospitality for good money.

The next day, I flew back to Toronto, went to the passport reading machines, showed all my credentials, Covid information and customs forms, waited in line with about 50 people before me, showed all documents, and the officer compared my documents with the ArriveCan information that he had on the screen, and then the officer said, "Thank you Sir, have a good flight to Saskatoon".



## EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT

### Virtual Folkfest Saskatoon

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director

Although nothing beats an in-person Folkfest experience, virtual Folkfest 2021 - Culture Connect was fun with strong German presence at the virtual events, among many other cultures. On August 17, 18 & 25, pavilion cultural mentors explored traditional cuisine, dance, music, celebrations, and more at "Behind the Scenes" virtual cultural workshops. Representing the German culture, Franziska Davies-Perret introduced the German cuisine with food facts, information about regional influences on gastronomy, and the introduction of many dishes of German-speaking countries.



Theresa Kliem gave a presentation about the German language, the areas where German is most widely spoken, number of German-speakers worldwide, and regional dialects of the language.

Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison provided some background information on Oktoberfest such as the history of the world's largest Volkfest, location, statistics, and global celebrations of Oktoberfest, including the fact that Canada, Kitchener-Waterloo, is home to the largest Oktoberfest outside of Germany.

For the Culture Connect live stream on August 20 & 21, 2021, the German Pavilion showcased events by some of our member groups such as German dancing with the Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein and instructions for making "Biergulasch" and "Bienenstich Cupcakes" by Kochlöffel & Nudelholz, German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio. The videos can be watched on: <https://saskatoonfolkfest.com/>

Folkfest continues to play an important part in the multicultural celebration of diversity and inclusivity. The SGC is thankful for this annual festival of different cultures within our society.

### German Culture Alive – A SaskScapes feature series

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director



Our latest podcasts are ready for you! In Episode 102, Waltraude Stehwien talks about her passion for the artform of puppetry, inspired by her father who was a visionary and a well-respected puppeteer in Germany. Her family survived the turmoil of WWII where often they had to hastily relocate, leaving many of her father's treasures behind. Her life's journey eventually brought Waltraude, her husband, and four children to Saskatchewan. Waltraude was groundbreaking in bringing the art form to life in Saskatchewan. Her second passion was a skill she also learned from her father. The art of scissor cutting (Scherenschnitte). Her work is often inspired by the landscape of our province.

This episode has a part 2 (Episode 103) featuring Barbara Stehwien (Waltraude's daughter) who shares the story of her father Fritz (Waltraude's husband) who was a prolific and successful painter.

Find the German Culture Alive – A SaskScapes feature series on our website:

<https://saskgermancouncil.org/celebrating-culture/podcast-saskscape-german-culture-alive/>



## Willkommen zu Hause, our shiny new website

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director



We are very excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website.

This new website will better tell our story of preserving, promoting, and celebrating German language, traditions, and culture for the people of Saskatchewan. It provides visitors an easy-to-navigate, fun, and engaging way to learn about the Saskatchewan German Council's members, programs, services, and events. The new website highlights our member groups in the member directory, the Music & Dance and Learning German Language page, as well as in the event and news section.

In celebrating German culture with the people of Saskatchewan, visit us at <https://saskgermancouncil.org/>

## Visit MP Redekopp

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director



On June 29, 2021, M.P. Brad Redekopp and his constituency manager Daniel Caswell visited the SGC for an office tour and to meet the summer student who was funded by the Government of Canada. Canada Summer Job funding is received through the Government of Canada with the location of the "proposed activities" of the funding application determining the constituency for which the application will be assessed.

SGC president Mervin Weiss, board director & Honorary Consul of Germany to Saskatchewan Dr. Michael Oelck, and Executive Director Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison welcomed the visitors and had an opportunity to introduce the Saskatchewan German Council with its

mission, mandate, member, programs & services. Showing the strong community impact that funding can make and creating awareness of the size and strength of the German community in Saskatchewan gave our visitors some food for thought.

An interesting discussion about immigration, economy and German Canadian relations finalized the visit of our guests. Thank you for coming!

## Board meeting in Elbow, part 2

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director



For the second year, the board of directors held a Mid-Summer Board meeting to gap the long break between the June and November board meetings. Just as last year, the meeting was held in Elbow, Saskatchewan. The beautiful environment at the Harbor Golf Club encourages creative thinking and creates a comfortable atmosphere. The morning was spent working through regular business and agenda items while the "think tank" spent most afternoon outside, discussing strategic goals in a relaxed environment.

## German Language Proficiency Tests

by Gabriele Waidelich-Harrison, SGC Executive Director

After many years in the making, the SGC is proud to announce its first two Goethe-Institut exam dates in Saskatoon. If you need to prove your German language skills for work, immigration, or school, take your A1 & A2 language proficiency exam right here.

### Exam Schedule

- A1 Certificate: Saturday, October 23 (written & oral exam)
- A2 Certificate: Saturday, October 30 (written & oral exam)

The Saskatchewan German Council is an accredited Goethe-Institut Examination Centre in Saskatchewan! The certified examiners at the Saskatoon centre will be able to test for German language proficiency level A1 & A2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Contact us for more information: [office@saskgermancouncil.org](mailto:office@saskgermancouncil.org) or 306.975.0845 or check our website <https://saskgermancouncil.org/language-services/goethe/>

## SGC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Historical Society of Germans From Russia,  
Regina

Austrian Canadian Edelweiss Club, Regina

Austrian Edelweiss Dance Association, Regina

Community Radio Society of Saskatoon Inc.

Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein

Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers

Concordia Brass Band

Das Schulhaus - Regina German Language School Inc.

Department of International Language, U of R

Estevan & District German Freundschaft Society

German Canadian Club Concordia, Saskatoon

German Canadian Society Harmonie, Regina

German Junior Folk Dancers, Saskatoon

German Language School Saskatoon Inc.

Hansel & Gretel Preschool Inc.

Imhoff Heritage Society, St. Walburg

Jagd- und Fischverein "Waidmann's Lust", Regina

Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie, Regina

Kochlöffel & Nudelholz: German-Canadian

Koch- und Backstudio

KulturGarten Saskatoon

Lloydminster German Heritage Society Inc.

Melville & District German Heritage Club

Mennonite Heritage Village, Swift Current

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Regina

Regina German Film Club

Saskatchewan Association of Teachers of German,  
Saskatoon

Saskatchewan German Culture Assistance Fund Inc.

Skat Club Saskatoon

Spiritwood German Canadian Club

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Regina

Village of Edenwold Cultural Committee

Volksliederchor Harmonie Inc., Regina

Zichydorf Village Association

# SGC & DIVERSITY

**We believe that being part of a vibrant multicultural society expands our horizons!**

The SGC strives to be an inclusive and diverse organization with a diversity strategy guiding the organization. As an ethno-cultural organization, the SGC plays an active role in building provincial multiculturalism. SGC focuses on keeping the ethno-cultural identity but also finding similarities with others and ways to invite and welcome others for two-way learning opportunities. For SGC, diversity means practicing interculturalism through cross-cultural dialogues for better understanding and respect of other cultures.

Diversity also means being diverse within programming and member groups with an emphasis on young people, and respecting the diversity and transition of German culture.

**What are SGC's diversity activities / SGC's highlights made in areas of inclusion & diversity:**

The SGC is offering assistance to newcomers, hosting and coordinate joint events with other cultural groups, creating cross-cultural learning opportunities, and providing training:

- Immigrant Settlement Service for newcomers from around the world
- Culture in the Kitchen: A Multicultural Cooking Series with many different cultures
- Participation in multicultural festivals
- Family Fun Day to celebrate Canadian Multiculturalism Day
- Multicultural Days at schools
- Intercultural Workshops
- History of Saskatchewan workshops (for newcomers)
- Brochure: Raising children with more than one language
- Inviting guests of other cultures to SGC events
- Youth programming
- WeAreSK#, Stories of Integration Project

**Highlights on progress regarding reconciliation:**

- Use of Land Acknowledgements
- Indigenous Awareness Workshops
- Postillion interviews with members of the Indigenous community
- Culture in the Kitchen: Germany meets Indigenous Saskatchewan
- Participation in Rock your Roots Walk for Reconciliation
- Professional development for staff and board members
- Creating awareness of treaties & Indigenous history (e.g. book German Settlements in Saskatchewan, newcomer history workshops)



## Call for Immigration Stories

### Tell us your story!

Stories are part of our identity; they keep alive our past and connect to the present and future. Stories connect us as people, teach us respect for heritage, and help us understand and preserve history.

Share your immigration story with us! Do you have a story to tell about your family's immigration to Canada & Saskatchewan? New immigrant or early pioneer – if it is important to you, it will be interesting for others.

Your story will be shared in the collection of immigration stories for people to read about the personal history of families and individuals who are connected to this province.

For more information or to ask FAQ, check out our website or contact us:

<https://saskgermancouncil.org/get-involved/tell-us-your-story/>

Email [office@saskgermancouncil.org](mailto:office@saskgermancouncil.org) or call 306.975.0845

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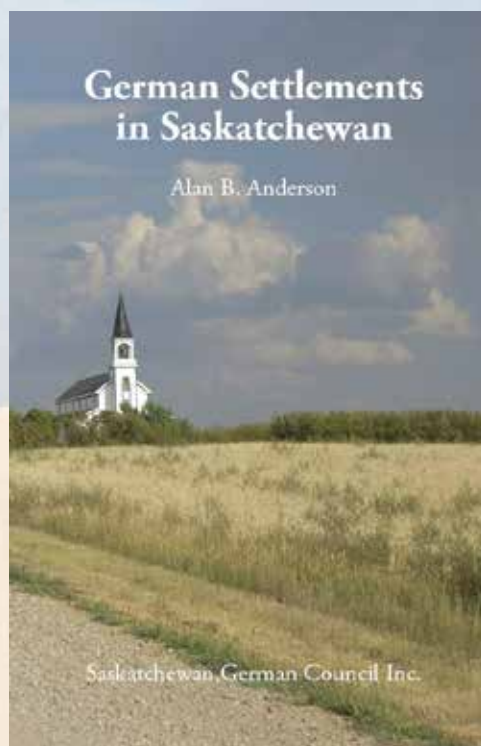
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### German Settlements in Saskatchewan by Dr. Alan B. Anderson

*3rd edition, 5.5 x 8.5"*

*122 pages + 10 photo pages*

*\$20.00 + shipping*



People of German ethnic origin comprise a very large part of the Saskatchewan population. This book describes the historical formation and contemporary duration of German settlements in Saskatchewan. As treaty lands were opened for settlement, numerous German settlements were developed by German Catholics and Protestants from South Russia (today Ukraine) and eastern Europe, Mennonites and Hutterites.

This book discusses changing attitudes toward German ethnic identity, trends in German language use, religious affiliations, the rich legacy of German folk traditions, the wide variety of organizations which preserve German cultural heritage, progressive urbanization and continuing immigration.



# Rolling Calendar

## Events



### **Jessica Richter and Waltraude Stehwien: Scissor Cuts/ Scherenschnitte**

October 1, 2021 to October 23, 2021 at the Shurniak Art Gallery

February 1, 2022 to March 23, 2022 at the Allie Griffin Art Gallery

### **Kochlöffel and Nudelholz: German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio**

October, "October Baking & Culture Box" available - free baking boxes delivered locally to your door. First come, first serve!

### **Kochlöffel and Nudelholz: German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio**

October, release of new cooking videos for the entire month! View the YouTube channel [here](#).



### **Mount Olive Lutheran Church - German Service**

Mount Olive Lutheran Church is happy to announce that their German Worship Services are resuming at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 2015 4th Ave N, Regina on the last Saturday of the month! If you have any questions, please contact Mount Olive church office at (306) 543-9744.

### **CFMR 90.5 Saskatoon Community Radio**

Join hosts for the German program "Deutsche Klangfabrik" - contemporary German music on a Sunday afternoon.

Listen live on Sundays from 1pm-3pm!

### **Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein**

The Concordia Alpenrose Dancers are starting up their dance practice in a new space this fall. We are looking to welcome new members; no dance experience is required. Contact the group!



### **Regina German Club**

The Regina German Club continues to provide a menu from Tuesday through Friday between 11:30am and 6:00pm. Meals will be available only as curb side pick up. Watch their social media for menu items and contact the club to place your orders.

## Fundraisers

### **Das Schulhaus – Regina German Language School Inc**

Das Schulhaus has signed up for a "Drop & Go" account at Sarcen, so now you can drop off your recycling at any one of the Sarcen locations across the province and the proceeds will go directly to Das Schulhaus. Click [here](#) for more information.



### **German Language School Saskatoon**

The German Language School has also signed up for a "Drop & Go" account at Sarcen! Find more information on their website.

### **Hansel and Gretel Preschool**

The Hansel and Gretel Preschool has started their fundraiser with Sarcen as well. More information can be found [here](#).

### **Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie**

Karnevalsgesellschaft Harmonie has their ongoing fundraiser at Sarcen. To donate your cans and bottles, please put in KGH for the label when you drop off your items.

# ERICA'S DIARY , PART 1

DR. PATRICIA (TRISH) SPINDEL

Introduction by Mervin Weiss

Erika Arlt was born in 1927 in the western border region of Czechoslovakia known then as Sudetenland. Czechoslovakia was a "new" country created after World War I when the former Austria-Hungarian Empire disintegrated. The Allied powers decided that the former Duchy of Bohemia, populated mainly by ethnic Germans, should be incorporated into the Czechoslovak Republic, forming its western border with Germany (Treaty of Versailles). The term "Sudetenland" then came into usage to refer to those border regions of Czechoslovakia containing mainly native German speakers, (about 3.1 million). The term derives from the Sudeten Mountains running along the northern Czech border.



When Adolf Hitler's territorial ambitions became obvious after 1936, many Sudeten Germans supported the German Chancellor and wanted him to take control of the Sudetenland. However, many Sudeten Germans also opposed what was by 1938 very obvious, (Anschluss of Austria in March 1938), especially members of the former Social Democratic Party, (effectively banned by Hitler in 1933). The Czech authorities were also understandably opposed to Germany annexing Sudetenland. But neither were they sympathetic to the socialist Sudeten Germans. Violent demonstrations began, and not just in Sudetenland.

Erika's father, Joseph Arlt, was a known and vocal Social Democrat. He began writing to Britain's Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain about his fears that Germany would invade the Sudetenland territory. Nevertheless, Europe's leading nations met in September 1938 and agreed that Germany could occupy the Sudetenland territory. The pact became known as the Munich Agreement, with Neville Chamberlain proclaiming "Peace in our Time". Sudetenland Germans opposed to Nazi rule had no choice but to flee. Extensive international cooperation saved them from the Nazi concentration camps. These German tradesmen, teachers, journalists and intellectuals abandoned their urban existence and began their lives anew as settler-farmers in the northwestern Saskatchewan communities around St. Walburg, Loon Lake and Goodsoil. About 300 Sudeten refugee families were resettled in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Surnames included Kaschte, Sedlacek, Schmoker, Wagner, Wolnick, Arlt, Leiter, Kotnick, Schoen and Lerch. The story of the Sudetenland Germans is much broader of course, and more can be learned from Rita Schilling's book, *Sudetens in Saskatchewan*, as well as in Andrew Amstatter's book, *Tomslake: History of the Sudeten Germans in Canada*.

Erika's diary gives the reader an inside look at the turmoils which lead to her family's flight from Europe and at the challenges of an unfamiliar agricultural way of life in Saskatchewan. Rather than publish the diary verbatim, Erika's daughter, Dr. Patricia Spindel, has chosen here to summarize the contents as a third person narrative.

Recently I found my mother Erika's diary. It was written in 1945 when she was 18 years old, but it describes her life in 1939 at age 11 which is when, as she put it, her childhood ended. She was born Austrian in Bodenbach, a town in what became known later as the Sudetenland, part of Czechoslovakia. It was annexed by Germany in 1939. Her father, a Bürgermeister (senior official) on the railroad, was a Social Democrat, which made him a target, especially in light of his support of the resistance against Nazi Germany.

She describes trouble starting in her town and her being forced to grow up in a hurry. She says: "so did a lot of other children thanks to Hitler and his followers [who] taught me the meaning of war." She describes street fights and people getting killed and her parents believing it better for her and her mother to move to a safer section of the country, especially since the invasion of the Sudetenland by Nazi Germany had begun. She describes a hurried exit from her beloved town and a "quick but hard goodbye with my father. It was the first time in my life that I had

to leave a member of our family and home. That made things worse. Of course I was old enough to understand that my father was staying behind to fight and defend our home. I also realized that I might never see him again." It was something she dared not think about — that and never seeing her much loved grandmother again. She wrote of their leaving: "There are always hopes and I think that's what kept us going."

Three hours later they arrived in Prague which was overcrowded with refugees, so they went on to Kralovice which was a very poor town. Three weeks later her father had been transferred to Prague so they went back, but he was transferred again to Kralupy, which was dirty, overcrowded and where it was hard to find accommodation. They found a dirty room on the third floor of a building with a leaky roof and lived on bread and black coffee. She describes the Czechs as not believing the Germans would invade, and because they regarded all Germans as the same, they suggested that she and her parents go back to the Sudetenland, not realizing it would mean their imprisonment or death.



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After a hard discussion it was decided that she and her mother would go back but her father would stay. They believed that Hitler would not hurt the women, but the Gestapo soon found out they were back and interrogated her and her mother separately, looking for information about the whereabouts of her father. They were going to hold them hostage until he was forced to come home so my mother lied and told them she would write to him and he would come home into their hands.

That bought enough time for them to escape back to Kralovice again with the help of her uncle who had been forced into the German army, but was later shot by the Gestapo for having helped them to escape. She described not being able to trust even old friends and neighbours because Hitler's dictatorship had scared them so much they were afraid to talk to their own relatives and close friends.

They decided to go on to Svetla to reunite with her sister and her fiancé. There they were cooped up in a refugee camp with a couple of hundred others waiting more than three months to leave. She describes living in a castle with big rooms but 20-30 people living in each room seeing things a 12 year old should not see. She also describes being isolated and stared at in the school she attended because she could not speak Czech. And she was targeted by what she described as "young wolves" who seemed intent on sexually assaulting her, but she fought them off.

One day after coming home from school she found her parents with their bags packed. They were heading back to Prague which was now rife with street fights and the Nazi spies were stabbing police officers. She said the English would not help, being unprepared for war, whereas Germany had been preparing for four years. The Russians did not want to take on the Germans at that point either so they had to flee.

Her description of leaving Prague for the last time was poignant:

"We made it and the train pulled out at 11:10 PM. I'll never forget that last look at the station and clock. I wanted to remember the exact date, March 15, 1939 and time when leaving my fatherland. I realized then that I would probably never see it again."

This was the exact date that the first German panzer divisions crossed into Czechoslovakia.

She describes the train as being overcrowded and them having to stand up. As it pulled into Moravia-Ostrava, they found it had already been invaded by the Germans. An Englishman saved them all when he said the train was full of Jews, because he knew the Germans wanted to be rid of them. The Germans did not search it and the train went on to Poland and then the Baltic Sea where the family boarded what she described as a boat that looked too small for an ocean passage. It was a rough seven day passage and she was sure the boat would capsize during a storm. All aboard were afraid.

The boat arrived in London and then the refugees went on to Scotland to a Holiday Camp just outside of Queensferry, where she described being treated very well. She said that country and its people were simply wonderful. She couldn't praise them enough for making her and her family feel so welcome and well taken care of.

When it was time to leave, no one really wanted them to go — neither the Scottish people nor their guests. She describes almost the whole village escorting them to the boat — the Andania.

# Life in Northern Saskatchewan

## An Interview with Miriam Körner

### Writer | Photographer | Visual Artist | Wilderness Guide

**Postillion:** You were born and raised in Germany, travelled extensively and eventually ended up in Northern Saskatchewan. What brought you to this province and so far north?

**Miriam Körner:** After finishing my university degree I left Germany to travel around the world – in particular the northern part of the hemisphere. I travelled with the Transsiberian Railway across Russia and eventually ended up in Canada. The opportunity arose to train sled dogs for the Canadian Challenge, a 250km dog race between Prince Albert and La Ronge. The first time I travelled on a frozen Lake in Northern Saskatchewan I couldn't imagine any other place in the world where I'd rather be.

**Postillion:** What made you stay?

**Miriam Körner:** A lost dog team and falling in love with the man who rescued my team! And then of course the dogs themselves. After my first winter here, I bought two dogs from the team I had trained, went back to Germany, sold my stuff and came back here to stay.

**Postillion:** What do you value most about living in Northern Saskatchewan?

**Miriam Körner:** The closeness to nature and the ability to live off the land – at least in theory! I live in a small cabin in the bush that my partner Quincy and I built ourselves. All things I couldn't do in Germany.

**Postillion:** Has living in Northern Saskatchewan changed the way you see the world? If so, in what way?

**Miriam Körner:** Yes, absolutely. I always had a longing for a deeper connection with the natural world and also feel grief about the loss of connection of our industrialized society to the natural world. Coming to Northern Saskatchewan I found that lots of people here understand our relationship to the natural world as reciprocal. We are part of nature and share this world with our non-human relations. And I am aware of that every day. When I go berry picking for example I think about the bears, foxes, mice, grouse and all the other animals that come to the same berry patch. I think about the bees without which there wouldn't be any berries and I try to express my respect and gratitude.

**Postillion:** You live in an Indigenous community – within the traditional lands of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. What impact has Indigenous culture had and still has on your life and the way you see things?

**Miriam Körner:** There is so much I didn't know when I came here – how to build a fire in the bush, how to fillet a fish, snare a rabbit, skin a beaver, tan a moose hide, make moccasins, build a dog sled, harvest edible plants; the list is endless. I think it's such a big part of being human and yet, I am learning all these things only now as an adult. The saddest thing is that the Europeans who came here with western capitalist worldviews of nature as a resource to be extracted tried to destroy that very culture, that understands



nature not only as sacred but also understands that we depend on an intact eco-system for our own survival. That only sank in when I was immersed in Indigenous culture up here. It makes me look very differently on the values of my own culture and I deal a lot with feelings of shame, guilt, sadness and anger when I see all the clear-cutting and mining extractions around me destroying natural habitats and violating Indigenous rights.

**Postillion:** You have incorporated many Indigenous stories, that you have been told, in your fiction. Which of the stories you have been told by Elders has most influenced you?

**Miriam Körner:** I have always wondered what Canada would have been like if Europeans had adapted to the customs of the people that so willingly shared their land with them. Where would we be today? So I wanted to know what life in the past was like. And these are the stories that became so essential to my novels. I think the stories that have influenced me the most are the ones that people shared with me out on the trail. I travelled extensively by dog team in Northern Saskatchewan, NWT and Nunavut. When people see a dog team out on the land, they often stop their skidoos and come to talk. Most often the stories start with "I used to have dogs, you know." Or: "My dad/uncle/grandfather used to have dogs." And then we talk about life in the past and I can almost picture it, because we're right there on that land, where the stories took place.

And then of course there are the non-fiction children's books I did together with Elders that tell the stories of their life when they were young – it's not pre-colonization, but they are still stories of a life that followed the natural cycle of the seasons.

**Postillion:** What do you want people to take away from the stories you tell?

**Miriam Körner:** If I can make people wonder about the very question that I am wondering about (what Canada would look like if Europeans had adapted to the customs of this land) then I would be very happy. Because then I believe people might start to think about how to honour our treaty relationship, and how to ensure that Indigenous rights are respected not just on paper, but in our day to day actions.

**Postillion:** Besides writing and illustrating, you also train sled dogs. What fascinates you about sled dog racing?

**Miriam Körner:** I love the travel with dogs in the bush and we've done a few extended winter trips. It's a beautiful way of being out in winter and travel is a lot more comfortable than by snowshoe. You can bring a tent, stove, saw and everything you need to survive in your sled. I have done a bit of racing, mainly in the Arctic where travel otherwise wouldn't be possible logistically. And that's what I loved about racing – that I was able to run from Churchill, Manitoba with Inuit mushers along the coast of Hudson Bay all the way to Arviat in Nunavut. It's such a harsh land, but the race gave us a safety network to venture out into polar bear country.

**Postillion:** How many dogs do you have?

**Miriam Körner:** We have had anywhere from 4 to 24 dogs. Currently, we have nine dogs.

**Postillion:** What is involved in training and racing sled dogs?

**Miriam Körner:** That's a question that would take very long to answer. In short: It's not a hobby. It's a life-style. It will take up all of your free time if you want to build a trusting relationship with your dogs and give the dogs the time they deserve.

**Postillion:** Reconciliation is an important topic in Canada. What does it mean to you personally?

**Miriam Körner:** On a personal level it's about building relationships;

listening to the people in my community and bringing my own actions in alignment with what I hear Indigenous people feel needs to happen for reconciliation not to be just an empty word. That takes a lot of inward looking and questioning in what ways I – consciously or unconsciously – hold the colonial system up.

**Postillion:** In your opinion, how can the dialog with Indigenous communities be improved?

**Miriam Körner:** When it boils down to it, colonization has always been about removing people from the land. I believe we're at a crossroad now. We cannot continue to ignore the impact we have on climate change and we can't continue going down the unsustainable path of resource extraction at the expense of Indigenous rights and their traditional lands. I believe in the leadership that Indigenous people are providing in protecting land for all future generations – no matter the cultural background. So I think the dialogue with Indigenous communities would improve drastically if we would understand Indigenous peoples' relation to land and accept their sovereignty over these lands. I imagine, figuring out a nation to nation relationship that doesn't put one nation's laws over another nation's laws would drastically improve the dialogue and we would all benefit from it.

**Postillion:** What can each and everyone of us learn and do to further reconciliation in Canada?

**Miriam Körner:** Canada is an Indigenous country, but many non-Indigenous people seem to know very little about the worldviews, history and culture of Indigenous peoples from their point of view. Seeking out writing or forums by Indigenous peoples is a good start, but in the end the real learning happens through lived experience. So going out and engaging with the Indigenous community and being open to relearning the history of this country and then asking for direction from people in that community what you could do to further reconciliation close to home, might be a good start.

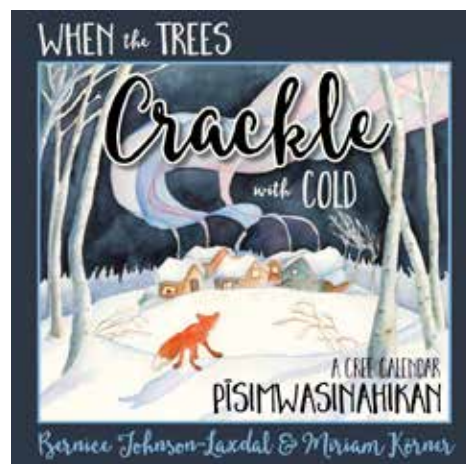
**Postillion:** Are there any new projects you are currently working on and that we can look forward to?

**Miriam Körner:** I just finished the translation of Qaqavii into German, which will be released as Ice Dogs in 2022. I'm working on a novel and two picture books. One of the picture books is a modern fairy tale of sorts that is inspired by my German childhood memories of Brother Grimm's fairy tales and my more recent understanding of western culture when seen through my experiences of living in Northern Saskatchewan.

## BOOKS BY MIRIAM KÖRNER

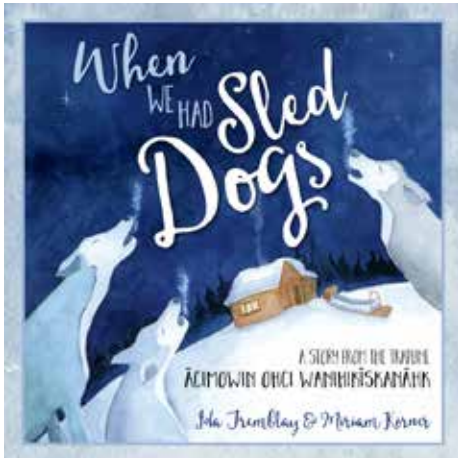
**When The Trees Crackle with Cold: A Cree Calendar:**  
pīsimwasinahikan with Bernice Johnson-Laxdal  
(YNWP)

A bear sleeping safely in her den, Kohkom telling a story by the fire, the trees crackling with cold—we are all connected to the seasons and the cycle of nature. The calming rhythm of the words echoes the rhythm of the land in this timeless picture book about the moon calendar of the northern Cree, and its warmly rendered watercolour illustrations bring Saskatchewan's north to life. When the Trees Crackle with Cold is written in English and the northern Plains Cree y-dialect, inviting Cree and non-Cree speakers alike to explore the traditional moon calendar.





**When We Had Sled Dogs: A Story from the Trapline** ācimowin ohci wanihikiskānāhk with Ida Tremblay (YNWP)



This picture book takes readers young and old on a journey into the past when dog teams were part of the traditional way of life in Northern Saskatchewan. Inspired by Elder Ida Tremblay's childhood memories, and told in English with Woodland Cree words and phrases, the story follows the seasonal cycle of trapline life.

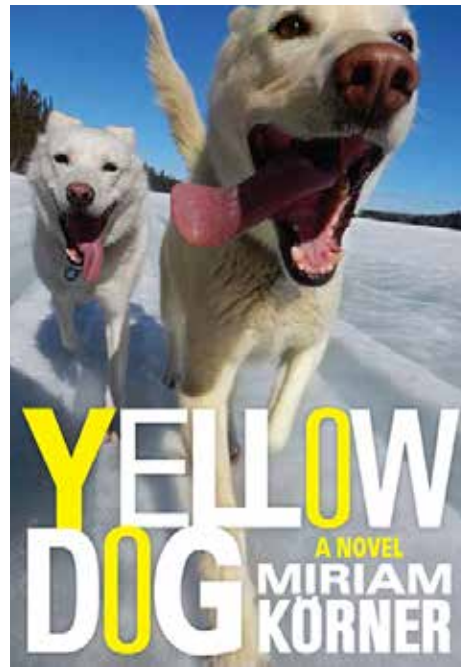
**Winter Dogs (Oetinger Verlag) Deutsche Übersetzung von Yellow Dog**



Es ist kalt und dunkel im Norden Kanadas, wo Jeremy lebt, und in den Straßen streunen Hunde. Als Jeremy einem der Hunde zu einem alten Mann folgt, erzählt dieser ihm von früher, von der Kultur ihrer Vorfahren, von den Hundeschlitten und der engen Bindung zwischen Mensch und Hunden. Fasziniert

beschließt Jeremy sein eigenes Schlittenteam aufzubauen. Eines Tages fahren er und sein Freund Justin auf den zugefrorenen See hinaus, doch dann zieht ein Sturm auf ...

**Yellow Dog (Red Deer Press)**



Jeremy lives in a small community where winters are long and stray dogs roam the streets. When peer pressure leads Jeremy into a bad prank, he is immediately struck with guilt — and that's when his life changes forever. Trying to make amends, Jeremy befriends Yellow Dog — and in the process meets a curious old man who introduces him to the adventures of dog sledding. Soon Jeremy is forming his own old-time dog team that includes Yellow Dog and in the process, discovers more about himself — and the old man — than he ever thought possible.

**Qaqavii (Red Deer Press)**

On the heels of Miriam Körner's critically acclaimed first novel, *Yellow Dog*, comes the highly anticipated young adult adventure — *Qaqavii* — set amongst the unforgettable land and people of the vast windswept North.

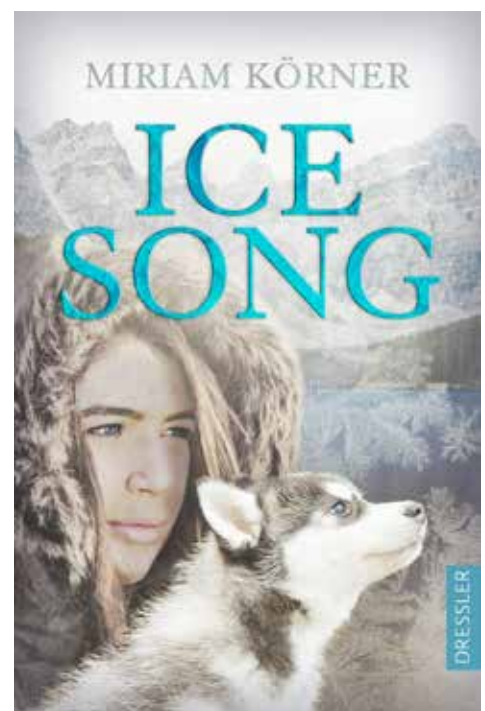
When 15-year-old Emmylou arrives in Churchill, Manitoba, all she can think about is getting out of town before she ends up on the wrong end of a polar bear dinner. But things are rarely what they seem in the North and Emmylou's outlook begins to change — fast. It all starts when she meets Barnabas, a young Inuk who is training sled dogs for the gruelling Arctic Quest. But her real Northern

adventure begins when she falls for a spirited yet unruly puppy by the name of Qaqavii who turns her entire world upside down.



**Ice Song (Dressler Verlag, forthcoming) – Deutsche Übersetzung von Qaqavii**

Als die 15-jährige Emmylou in Churchill, der Welthauptstadt der Eisbären, ankommt, will sie nur eines: wieder weg. Hier in der kanadischen Arktis ist es viel zu kalt, zu karg, zu weit ab von allem. Doch dann trifft sie Barnabas, einen jungen Inuk, der seine Schlittenhunde für den nervenaufreibenden Arctic Quest trainiert, ein Rennen, das Hund und Mensch alles abverlangt. Sie verliebt sich Hals über Kopf in den kleinen Welpen des Rudels. Und nicht nur der lässt ihr Herz schneller schlagen.



# News from Member Groups

The Saskatchewan German Council Inc. has 33 member groups throughout Saskatchewan. Those groups include cultural clubs, language schools, dance groups, choirs, genealogical groups, and many more. The following pages contain articles by SGC member groups.

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## HEADING INTO FALL

**Kochlöffel & Nudelholz: German-Canadian Koch- und Backstudio, Saskatoon** — *Franziska Davies-Perret*



Where has the year gone? It seemed like it was just January, and I was planning out my garden for the Spring, not thinking that a drought would hit the province as badly as it did. Needless to say, my garden wasn't as abundant this year as the last and also because my corgi decides to continuously snack on my raspberries and has taught herself how to dig for carrots... at least raspberries and carrots are healthy treats! Good news however, I was still able to harvest a few things for the recipe videos.

We had our June and July events with



Wanuskewin Heritage Park and the American Historical Society of German from Russia, respectively. Valerie won the gift basket for June and Connie was the winner for July – Congratulations! We hope you enjoyed your goodies!

August marked our 1-year anniversary of having the YouTube channel up and running – how time flies! With over 80 videos posted, it's been a busy year. Videos are planned until the end of the year, where we'll ask for some member feedback to see what our future holds and how



to proceed. At the mid/end of August, Kochlöffel also participated in Folkfest 2021 – Culture Connect at one of their virtual workshops and 2 of our videos were featured.

Until next time, Happy Cooking!

All recipes can be found on our YouTube channel!

*1. Beeren Torte/ Berry Torte. 2. Maggiekraut Paste/ Lovage Paste. 3. Senfgurken/ Mustard Pickles.*



## NEWS FROM HANSEL & GRETEL PRESCHOOL

Hansel & Gretel Preschool, Saskatoon — Ulrike Hecker



It feels good to be “back to school” after a relaxing summer break!

In August we invited individual preschool students from each class to come into the classroom. Having a pre-visit and meeting their teachers helped many of our little ones, (especially the three year olds) with a smooth transition into their first year of preschool.

On September 2nd we held an information night for parents. Families were provided with information regarding curriculum, teaching philosophy and upcoming preschool events.

Hansel & Gretel Preschool is located in a Public School. Following current health guidelines pre-schoolers are mandated to wear masks inside the building. In order to keep our preschoolers safe and allowing them to get lots of fresh air,



we have decided to extend the classroom to outdoor spaces like parks and other green spaces behind the school. Based on the feedback we are getting parents appreciate all our efforts to combine nature with learning and fun. It was quite touching to hear one little preschooler saying: “I had so much fun at preschool today that I think my head is going to explode”!

The main focus for the first few weeks will be connecting with our students and to ensure that they all settle into the routine.

We have already started to teach our students some German words and rhymes. Watching the leaves change colours is an excellent opportunity to introduce new vocabulary and learn about Fall. Counting in German happens throughout the day, e.g. when children are sorting pine cones, apples, leaves and geese



that are starting to migrate. Even teaching letters happens outside e.g., the letter “A” is made of 2 big sticks and 1 little stick.

Even though we are still in a pandemic, we are hopeful that this school year, we will be able to celebrate some of the German cultural events with families attending in person.

For now, we are looking forward to another year of FUN & LEARNING!

We still have a few spots left in our MWF and TTh class. For more info, please contact Uli Hecker @ (306) 281-4428, visit <http://hanselgretelpreschool.blogspot.ca> or Facebook.

*1. I found a fairy! 2. Learning about apples.  
3. Colours of leaves are changing!*

## NEWS FROM THE REGINA VOLKSLIEDERCHOR

Volkliedchor Harmonie, Regina — Alvin Knoll



Well, here we are already into the Fall season and what we had hoped would be a return to regular life has not happened. As we all know COVID-19 has stayed with us and gotten somewhat out of hand again.

Our choir did manage to get together on the evening of September 14 for a welcome back barbeque. We had a good turnout with about 30 people present including our Choir Director Blair and his wife Carol as well as some of our retired singers. We enjoyed an evening of visiting and



## NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

discussing our upcoming choir season. We had hoped to start Tuesday, September 21, but with COVID hospitalizations up it was decided to postpone our start up for the time being. Music selections and binders had been prepared by our music librarian, Julia Lacey and Director

Blair Mills in preparation for fall rehearsals at the German Club so we are ready to go when it is safe to do so. I am hopeful that by the time this fall Postillion is published we will be back practicing and getting ready to perform our Christmas concert.

Looking forward to singing, performing and visiting with all of you whom we've missed these past two years.

## NEWS FROM TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Regina — *Berbel Knoll*



We have returned to in person worship! Wonderful to be able to meet with our church community and church family face to face in our beautiful sanctuary again. However, we are fully cognisant of the fact that we may not be able to continue this and are prepared to go back to on line worship as COVID regulations dictate. In the meantime, we follow best practices for COVID precautions including masks during services. On August 29 we held a celebration worship followed by a coffee fellowship time

to commemorate the 115th Anniversary of our church. We were able to enjoy coffee and cupcakes in our new gathering space at the back of our sanctuary. 24 pews were removed by a small group of our members and sold or repurposed to create this new gathering space. We are still in the process of transitioning from our church hall into the main church building.

There have been some changes in worship times this fall. We now meet for English worship

and Sunday School Sundays at 10:00 am. This allows us to have a fellowship time following the service.

Our German congregation has decided to keep going and we will be gathering for German worship Sundays at 12:00 noon in the St. Paul's Chapel for the immediate future. This gives us time to share the fellowship hour between services. It is good to be able to continue to honour our Trinity heritage through German worship.

A new worship opportunity is being provided online with Pastor Sarah on Tuesday evenings at 7pm on the Trinity Facebook page.

Pastor Sarah and Intern Diane are hosting a book study via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7pm, starting October 6. For 7 weeks. The book, *Reclaiming the "L" Word*, explores what it means to be Lutheran. Participants need to register and more information can be found on Trinity's Facebook page.

## MEET DAS SCHULHAUS' NEW COORDINATOR

Das Schulhaus Regina German Language School Inc., Regina — *Dave Wentworth*



Guten Tag! Ich bin Dave Wentworth, der neue Koordinator im Schulhaus Regina.

As a "Child of the 80s" I can evoke my first memory of German. Sigourney Weaver, in the movie *Working Girl*, makes an overseas phone call and speaks German. The scene made me excited, and I remember thinking "I want to learn that language one day!"

I grew up in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. My love of languages began in French Immersion.

In high school, I did a German course, but the learning opportunities were limited. I amused myself with other languages when opportunities arose. I can remember signing out language courses on cassette from the library. In university, I continued to study foreign languages.

I earned a degree in international development at Dalhousie University. Then, I started a career in the travel industry, specializing in unconventional travel experiences. My passport has stamps from some seldom visited countries

## NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

such as Iran, Bhutan, Madagascar, and Senegal. I cycled across Japan. No matter how far off the beaten path I went, I always was able to find German speaking travellers.

A 2018 trip to Rügen Island piqued my interest to study German again. When I came to Saskatchewan in 2019, I began classes at Das Schulhaus. German class became a fun night out

and a great way to meet people in my new city. Now I get to serve the school as the coordinator, and share my passion for German and foreign language learning with the public.

As a coordinator I bring a background in business, communication, collaboration and networking. I was president of the board of directors for Canadian Parents for French Nova Scotia, and I

am currently on the City of Moose Jaw's Board of Revision. I reside in Moose Jaw with my partner and our two pugs and my interests include video editing, civic involvement, and eating cheese!

Partnerships with like minded organizations in the community are very important to me. Please reach out and introduce yourself! Auf wiedersehen.

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## CONCORDIA JUNIOR DANCERS NEWS

**Concordia Junior Alpenrose Dancers, Saskatoon** — *Brenda Booker*



Wow it's been a long time since we've been in touch with all of you. With restrictions lifted, we are back in action again and hope to see you at a performance soon.

Our first step back was to get everyone together and catch up on some of the events, that have transpired, in each others lives. Most dancers were able to return to dance with us again. Only a few exceptions, with some scheduling conflicts.

We started off by meeting for a lovely Sunday afternoon Wiener Roast at the Forestry Farm. What a great time we had getting reconnected. One thing that became quite apparent was the need to do quite a few costume alterations. Who knew, everyone grew??

We forge ahead in a new practice venue. Thanks to Augustana Lutheran Church for providing us a space that will suit our needs perfectly. We also have incorporated some new safety protocols,

as is the sign of the times we live in now.

Upon writing this we have just finished our first practice in 78 weeks, amazing job by all our dancers, who jumped right in, like they never missed a beat.

*1. Good food and great company. 2. Rocking the boat at the Forestry Farm. 3. First practice in 78 weeks. Definitely something to cheer about.*

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## UPDATE FROM THE GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL SASKATOON

**German Language School Saskatoon, Saskatoon** — *Kathleen Schroeder-Brass*

Der Schulstart / Back to School

Time just fly's by and whereas July seemed to allow for some slower work pace, August certainly geared into fast forward and now we all probably scramble trying to find the time to enjoy these wonderful last days of summer as much as we can.

Summer was busy all throughout. I got a good

number of requests for language classes already back in May and June, and with July coming to it's end more requests came in. Besides helping possible new students to get all their questions answered and planning which class to add them in, my focus was as well on getting in touch with our 2020/21 students/families. Therefore, I did send out a survey which proofed valuable once more to assist my planning and arrange class set

ups with my teaching team.

Unfortunately, we did have to say goodbye to 2 of our newer teachers, who left Saskatoon for new adventures of study and work. The work effort they have contributed these past years to our school was much appreciated and it will be hard to fill their spaces.

## NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

With less teachers I had no other choice as to rearrange some of our classrooms after talking to my teaching team. This certainly wasn't easy, but in the end, we were able to offer options to all former and new students. Our first classes started the week of Sep 13th with in person instructions, and our Adult Advanced Conversational and Intermediate Class as well as our High School Credit Class are off to a good start. Starting with Sep 20th, our Level 2 (Gr.3-6) and Level 3 (Gr.7/8)

classes will start in an online format. We have 2 more classes starting with in person instructions the first week of October, and our youngest ones in Level 1 (K-Gr.2) as well as our Adult Beginner class are looking forward to getting started soon.

We are thankful to be able to have some of our classes back in person. This option had former students return to their classroom as they opted out last year with the online instructions. We

can only hope that we can stay in our rental classrooms for the whole school year, as definitely the majority of our student body prefers that weekly get together and does learn the language this way the best way.

Passt alle gut auf euch auf!

germanschoolsaskatoon@gmail.com

## FALL IS IN THE AIR

**German-Canadian Society Harmonie, Regina** —Patrick Kossmann



As we move forward still trying to hold on to some of the summer's warmth work continues at the Regina German Club. Due to COVID restrictions we have found ourselves unable to fully open to the public, but still offer meals for take-out. From Tuesday to Friday Bryce works in the kitchen preparing Soups, Schnitzels, and Specials for the public's delight. Please go to our Facebook page to see what is on offer and give the club a call to place an order. We'll run it out to your car and see you on your way to a full belly and smiling face.

In addition to the daily specials, the kitchen does prepare a special meal every month. These meals

are offered again for takeout and due to their limited quantities, patrons should call in early to order. Oktoberfest planning had started again. Due to new rising numbers of COVID cases and new restrictions in Regina, the club has opted to cancel the in building celebration and instead will be offering special meals leading up to our October 2 celebration date.

The club has continued to run fund raising events online. Our most recent 50/50 raffle was open to anyone living in Saskatchewan. The draw brought in \$1800 and won a lucky patron \$900. We will be running similar prize raffles every few months so keep watching our website

and social media for details.

Many of the club's sub-groups have begun their practices again. If you are wanting to take part in some German singing, or dancing you can find people at the Regina German Club who share your interest. Look on our website for the various groups and who to contact for practice times and event.

Make sure you check out our website ([www.reginagermanclub.ca](http://www.reginagermanclub.ca)) for details regarding future activities happening at the club.

## SCHUHPLATTLER NEWS

**Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein, Saskatoon** — Heidi Armstrong

The Concordia Alpenrose Schuhplattler Verein is excited to be back to weekly practices. We have not had a practice since March 2020 and lots of changes have happened in that time. With the closure of the German Cultural Center, we

had to find a new practice space. Our dancers are excited to be in a new studio space. In September we welcomed 3 new dancers. We have taken a cautious approach and will be masking at practices and performances. If you

are interested in booking our group for an event, please contact us via messenger on our Facebook or Instagram pages.



### UPDATE FROM THE KULTURGATEN

**KulturGarten, Saskatoon** — *KulturGarten Executives*

**"Singing in the Park" - organized by Rosa Gebhardt.**

**KulturGarten lud ein zum sommerlichen Singkreis!**

Da wir uns durch die Covid-Pandemie lange nicht mehr gesehen oder getroffen hatten dachten wir, es wäre doch gut wenn diejenigen, die gerne mal wieder deutsche Volkslieder singen möchten sich an einem Sonntag Nachmittag für diesen Zweck treffen würden. Wir wählten dafür einen schattigen Platz im Heritage Rose Garden im Forestry Farm Park. Der Termin wurde kurzfristig angesagt, da wir uns weder bei starker Hitze noch bei strömendem Regen treffen wollten. Alles was zu bringen war: ein Gartenstuhl, gute Laune und eine Stimme. KulturGarten hat die entsprechenden Liederbücher zur Verfügung gestellt. Die Begeisterung war groß, als sich 11 Frauen und Männer einstellten. Das Wetter am Sonntag den 25. Juli war ideal. Wir bildeten einen schönen Kreis und sangen uns nahezu durch das ganze Liederbuch. Alle genossen den reichhaltigen Schatz des deutschen Liedguts. Wir erinnern, dass es bei den deutschen Volksliedern Lieder für jede Tageszeit gibt, es gibt Lieder für jede Jahreszeit, es gibt Lieder für nahezu jede Berufsgruppe, z.B. Jäger, Bauern, Müller, Schneider. Es gibt Lieder zum Wandern, zum Bergsteigen, zur Seefahrt, für Feld und Wald. Wir sangen auch Lieder in verschiedenen deutschen Dialekten, zum Beispiel "Auf der schwäb'sche Eisebahne" (schwäbisch) und "Hamborger Veermaster" (plattdeutsch). Dazu hatten wir zu jedem Dialekt auch einen 'Muttersprachler' dabei, was dem Ganzen eine noch schönere Note gab. Die Begeisterung bei allen Sängerinnen und Sängern war so gross, dass wir beschlossen, so einen Singkreis ganz sicher zu wiederholen. Dank des guten Wetters konnten wir am 12. September einen weiteren Singkreis in ebenfalls großer Runde genießen. Diesmal sogar mit „tierischer“ Unterstützung, denn es gesellten sich einige Vögel zu uns und zwitscherten in den Ästen über unseren Köpfen mit. Es wurde sogar vorgeschlagen sich doch jeden Sonntag zu treffen! Wie gut uns Singen und Gemeinschaft tat, konnten wir an diesen Nachmittagen hautnah erleben. Der bekannte Benediktinerpater Anselm Grün (OSB), Autor vieler Bücher, sagte: "Singen ist der Weg

zur Liebe einer inneren Quelle, es bringt ein Gefühl von Freude und Frohsinn, schafft eine Verbundenheit mit anderen und führt zu neuen Kreativitäten".



**bilingual  
submission**

**KulturGarten had invited to a Summer-Sing-Along!**

Due to the Covid-pandemic we haven't met or seen each other for a long time. Therefore, the KulturGarten Team initiated, for those interested in again singing our German Folksongs, to gather on a nice Sunday afternoon. We chose a shady place in the Heritage Rose Garden at the Forestry Farm Park. The actual day was announced on short notice because we neither wanted to meet in the heat nor in rain. All people had to bring was a lawn chair, good mood and their voice. KulturGarten supplied the appropriate songbooks. Our enthusiasm was huge, welcoming 11 women and men to the sing-along. The weather on Sunday July 25th was ideal. We were sitting in a large circle and sang almost all songs in the music book. Everybody enjoyed the comprehensive treasure of the German song repertoire. We remind, that in the German Folksong repertoire are songs for each time of day, songs for each season of the year, there are songs for almost every professional guild such as hunters, farmers, tailors, millers. There are songs for hiking, for mountain climbing, for the seafaring, for the land and forest. We also sang songs in different German dialects, like "Auf der schwäb'sche Eisebahne" (Swabian), "Hamborger Veermaster" (Low-German). This was so much better to have had mother-tongue speakers for each dialect present. All singers were full of excitement about this event, so we decided we will repeat that Sing-Along again. And thanks to good weather we were able to enjoy another Summer-Sing-Along with a large group, on Sunday September 12th. It was suggested to gather and repeat the singing every Sunday! We could feel from very close how important singing is for the well-being. Father Anselm Gruen, a monk with the benedictine fathers and a famous author and speaker in Germany used these words: "Singing is the path to love of an inner self, it brings a feeling of joy and cheerfulness, it creates a connectivity with others and leads to new creativities".

## NEWS FROM SGC MEMBER GROUPS

### GERMAN SERVICES AT MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Regina** — *Pastor Lucas Albrecht*

Three years ago, in September of 2018, we had our first German Service. The guest speaker was Rev. Curt Albrecht from Brazil (who has now already departed to be with Jesus.) and we had an attendance of 60 people!

From March 2020 to December 2020 we halted them due to the pandemic. Then in the first semester of 2021 we started to post our Online German Services on our Facebook page and

Youtube Channel. That was also made possible with a generous grant from the SCG Pandemic emergency fund in March of 2021, to which Mount Olive is extremely thankful.

For the Fall of 2021 we have good news. Our in-person German Services at Mount Olive resumed on September 2021, with the first in person Service being held on Saturday, September 25, 2:00PM. Pastor Lucas Albrecht prepares and

leads the Services, with the invaluable assistance of Mr. Rod Gellner and Mr. Edgar Manz.

Our plan is to resume holding a monthly German Service, every last Saturday of the Month at 2:00PM, always following the Provincial Health Guidelines which may be in effect.

Alle sind hier herzlich willkommen!

### NEWS FROM THE CONCORDIA BRASS BAND

**Concordia Brass Band, Saskatoon** — *Yvonne Kristoff*

Concordia Brass Band has been rehearsing new music as well as polishing many old favourites every Thursday evening for a couple of concerts that are coming up. We are so fortunate to have had 4 new members added to our group since we started up as things opened up. We had one concert cancelled because of a Covid outbreak. We have two more booked with one being a dance. It will be fun to play for a dance as we don't get that opportunity very often. The list of tunes for a dance is set up slightly different. The other booking is for a regular concert. Hopefully they can both go ahead. The pictures I have included are of the band rehearsing at St. Matthew church.



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## Job Posting: Postillion Editor

The Saskatchewan German Council is currently looking for an editor for the quarterly newsletter Postillion. The primary role of the editor will be to oversee the newsletter from planning stages to printed publication.

### Editorial Tasks

- Contact and remind SGC members, staff and board members regarding submissions and deadlines
- Communicate with the SGC Executive Director regarding topics/articles to be included
- Research and write content for the newsletter
- Choose photos and images for newsletter
- Generate advertising
- Proofread submitted articles in English and German
- Prepare the layout for each quarterly issue, within a template for the publication following SGC branding
- Communicate with the printer regarding the schedule
- Present the finished publication to the SGC Executive Director for approval, prior to submitting it to the printer
- Submit the publication to the printer within eleven (11) days of the submission deadline

### Qualifications:

#### *Knowledge, Skills and Abilities*

- Proficiency in the use of by Adobe InDesign software
- Ability to communicate in English and German
- Writing and editing experience
- Strong organizational skills
- Attention to detail

**Hours:** 30+ hours/issue

**Starting salary:** depending on qualifications, \$600 per issue

**How to apply:** Please send your résumé & cover letter to the SGC office, [gabi@saskgermancouncil.org](mailto:gabi@saskgermancouncil.org)

**Contact:** Gabriele Waidelich, Executive Director

**Deadline for applications:** October 31, 2021

**Start date:** November 2021

**Note:** The Saskatchewan German Council Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

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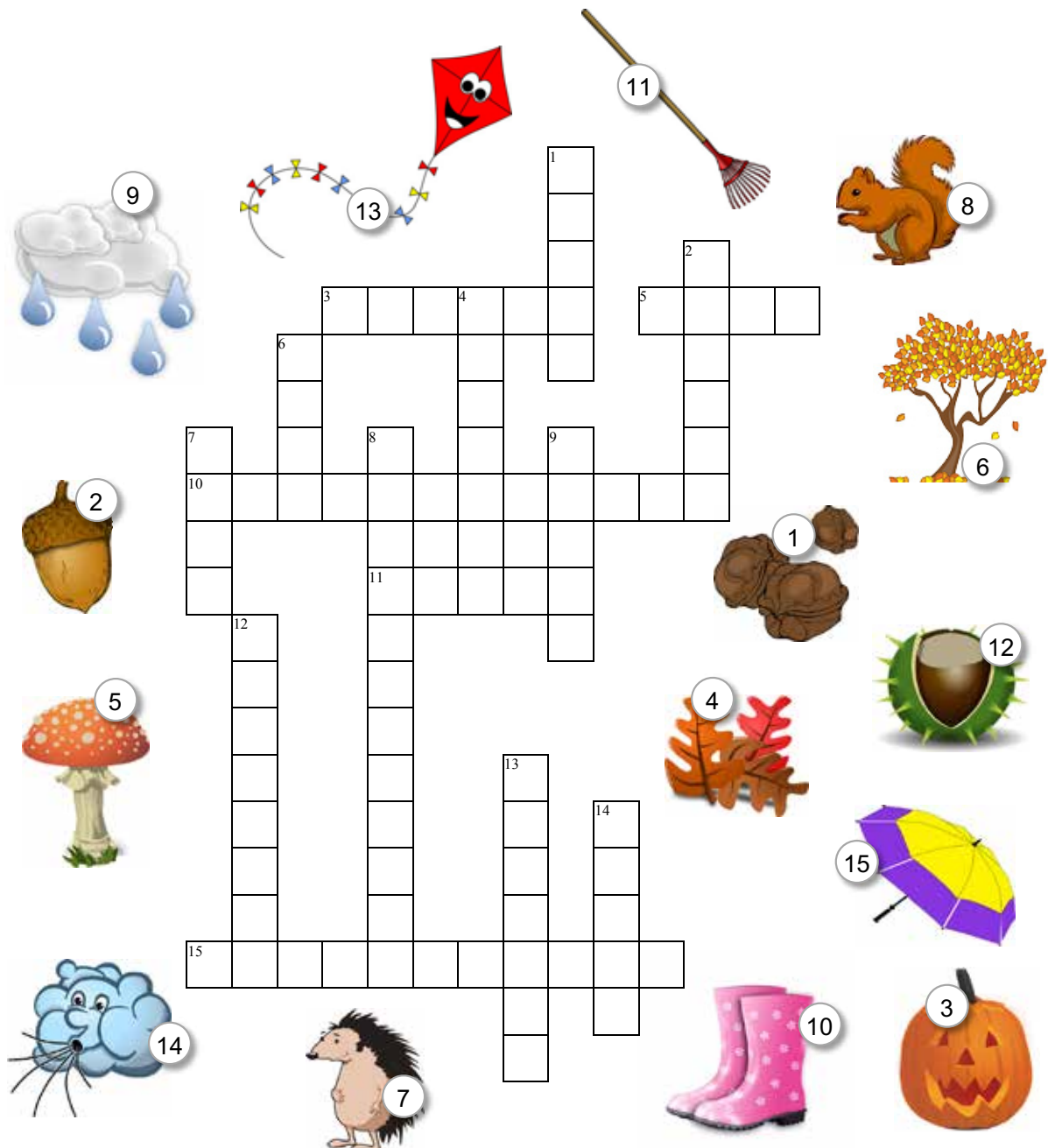


# KINDER- & JUGENDSEITEN

## Kreuzworträtsel

Wie lauten die Namen der Abbildungen? Schreibe die Namen in die Kästchen und löse das Kreuzworträtsel.

Thema: Herbst

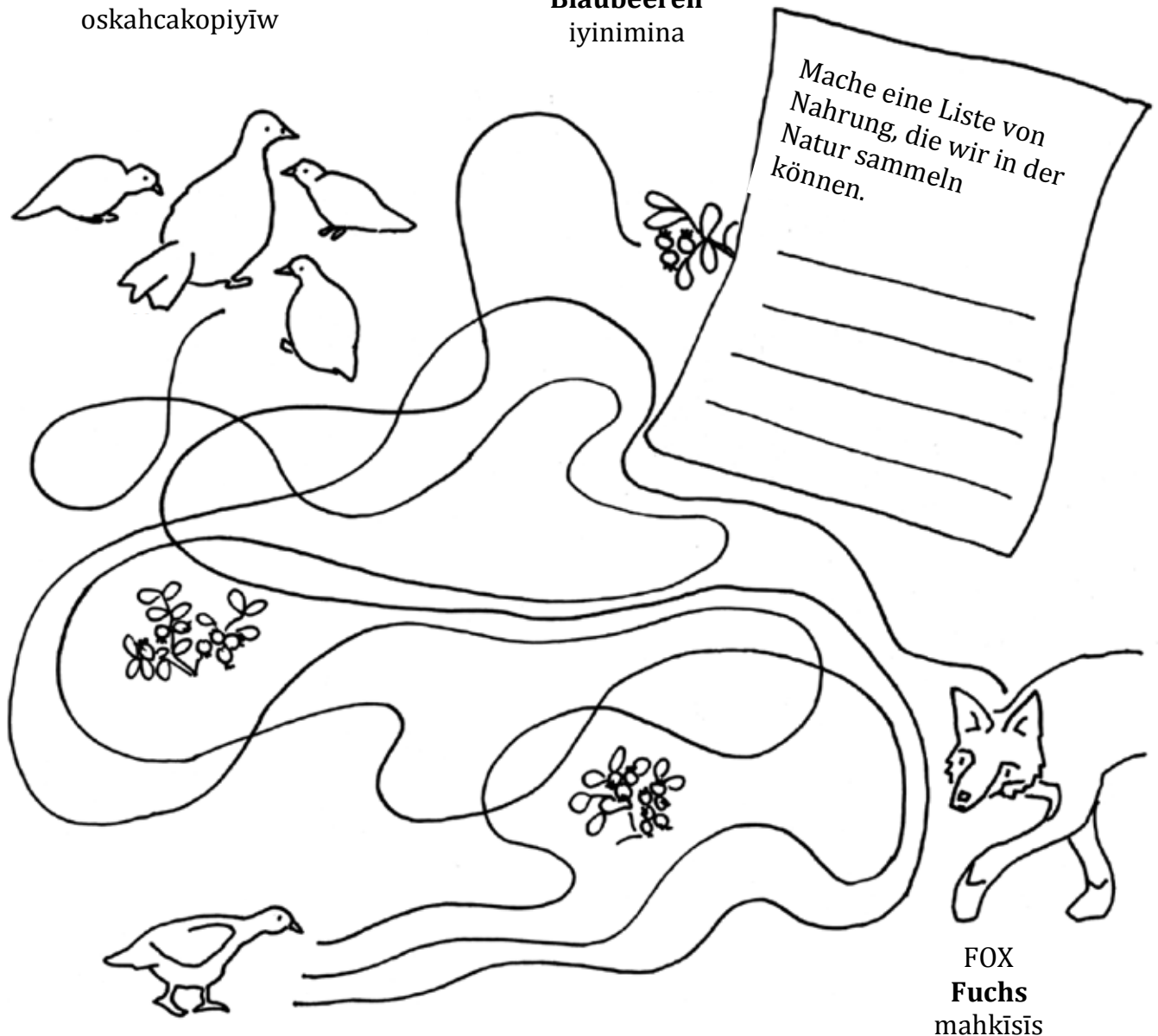


# Finde den Weg!

Das kleine Fichtenhuhn hat die Mutter verloren. Welcher Weg führt zu ihr?  
Passt auf, dass der Fuchs euch nicht erwischt!

SPRUCE GROUSE  
**Fichtenhuhn**  
oskahnakopiŷw

BLUEBERRIES  
**Blaubeeren**  
iyinimina



FOX  
**Fuchs**  
mahkīsīs

Diese Rätselseite ist adaptiert aus dem Buch *When the Trees Crackle with Cold: A Cree Seasons Activity Book* und illustriert von Miriam Körner. Weitere Bücher von Miriam:

*Yellow Dog* (Red Deer Press, English, ab 9 Jahre)

*Winter Dogs* (Oetinger, Deutsch, ab 9 Jahre)

*Qaqavii* (Red Deer Press, Englisch ab 12 Jahren)

*Ice Song* (Dressler, Deutsch, ab 12 Jahren)

*When We Had Sled Dogs* (YNWP, English und Cree, ab 3 Jahren)

# CULTURE in the KITCHEN

## Germany meets Indigenous Saskatchewan

### Bison Stew

by Vincent Ziffle

#### Ingredients:

2 lbs buffalo, cut into 1" cubes  
½ cup all-purpose flour  
¼ cup vegetable oil or lard  
8 medium russet potatoes (diced)  
4 stalks celery (diced)  
2 carrots (diced)  
1 small turnip (diced)  
1 medium onion (diced)  
3 cloves garlic (minced)  
2 cups water  
1 tsp (5 mL) all-purpose flour  
½ cup cold water  
salt and pepper (to taste)

#### Preparation:

Dredge meat in ½ cup of all-purpose flour.  
In a large saucepan, heat oil or lard over medium-high heat. Brown meat on all sides.

Add all vegetables, garlic and 2 cups water; bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 1 ½ hours or until all ingredients tender.

### Spätzle

by Stephanie Schaefer

#### Ingredients:

400 grams flour  
4 eggs  
125 ml water  
2 tbsp salt

#### Preparation:

Mix eggs, 1/2 of the water and 1 tbsp salt, beat well add flour gradually and beat really well until "bubbles" develop. Adding more water if necessary.

Let stand for 10 to 15 minutes. In a large pot bring water to a hard boil, add a tablespoon of salt.

Fill a Spätzle press or grater with the very sticky dough and press or grate it into the boiling salted water.

Leave the Spätzle in the water until they float to the top, scoop them out into a colander, rinse right away with cold water and set aside in a warm dish. Repeat until the dough is used up.

Serve with your favourite stew or gravy, grated cheese or fried bacon and onions.







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