

MEET THE BOARD



RUSSELL ROUNDPOINT is the newest board member, but a long-time *Quilt* supporter. He is father to three children and has six grandchildren. He has authored several delightful children's books that are told through the eyes of his grandson, Kaheriio. Russell loves reading, golf and fishing.

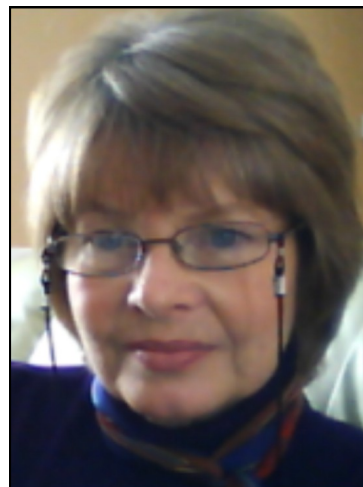
He is passionate about his Mohawk culture, while maintaining a broad vision of the world as a whole. As Manager of the Akwesasne Area Management Board and recent Executive Director of the Native North American Travelling College, he brings a wealth of experience and fresh perspectives.

Russell ardently believes "The *Quilt* is a national treasure and it deserves more support and exposure."

JANE RIETZE has twice held the position of treasurer on the board, for a total of ten years of service. Jane, is a retired Manager of Finance from the NAV Centre in Cornwall. She now lives in Ottawa, where she enjoys caring for her two granddaughters, gardening and travel.

Her interest in ancestry was triggered by the *Quilt*, as she wondered where her own family belonged. In September 2014, Jane and her husband Forrest drove the *Quilt* to the Manitoulin Island show. This was her first exploration of our Aboriginal culture and it initiated her search for aboriginal ancestors rumoured to be part of her ancestry.

Jane, who takes great pride and pleasure in her work, says "I love travelling to share the *Quilt* and meet people in this great country of ours."



Celebrate the 10th Anniversary with us at a

Fantasy Dessert AGM

Thursday May 28, 2015 at 7:00 pm

at the Nor'Wester & Loyalist Museum, Williamstown , Ontario

View the Quilt's trip to Malaysia with Malcolm Robertson

Taste gourmet desserts & toast the Quilt

Tickets \$10 : Call to purchase at 613-347-2381 or

Mail cheque in the return envelope provided

Spring 2015

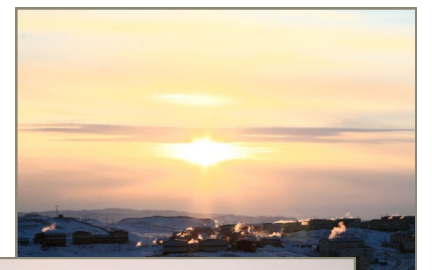
Quilt of Belonging Fibres du monde

Celebrating the Past, Looking Forward!

Anniversaries mark the milestones in life. They celebrate past achievements. We reminisce as we pull the best snapshots from our memory albums, moments stored like treasures in the mind. I have so many favourites— opening night at the Museum of Civilization, sharing hopes and dreams with Her Excellency, then Governor General Michaël Jean, landing on the frozen



sea ice in Nain in the late afternoon glow of the Arctic, watching Iroquois warriors from Detroit weep as they found themselves honoured in the *Quilt*. So many special memories! What are your cherished moments?



A decade in a life includes many experiences. There are always some tough times too. That's life! And so the *Quilt* journey similarly includes some highs and lows. Yet, when viewed as a whole, there can be no doubt we have been blessed beyond our wildest expectations; our dreams have been fulfilled beyond our greatest hopes.



On these occasions we also take stock and wonder what comes next? What will the next decade bring for the *Quilt* ? We realize that we do not know what waits around the corner. Our best laid plans often find another route. The road ahead is always a leap of faith.

One constant truth shines throughout. Your work, your support, and God's grace have made it all possible. We move forward with a grant to build a new website with current technology, updated research and on-line education. Still, your support is what maintains our daily operations and tour planning . Thank you for your part in this dream. Thank you for the joy and love you share with others. Thank you for the wonderful memories.

Esther Bryan

Esther Bryan
Executive Director

10 YEARS ON TOUR FOR THE QUILT!

Launched April 1st, 2005 at Canadian Museum of Civilization

Over 1,000 people from across Canada gathered expectantly in the Great Hall to celebrate the Quilt's début. The rich tapestry was finished. A new journey was beginning.



SNEAK PREVIEW

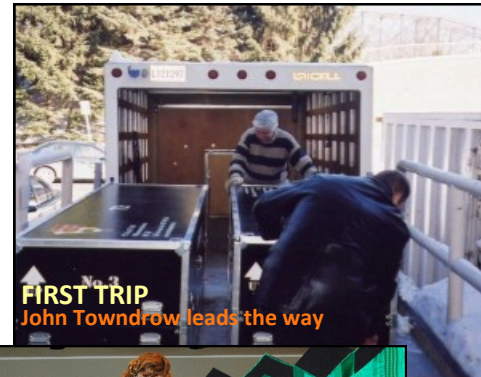
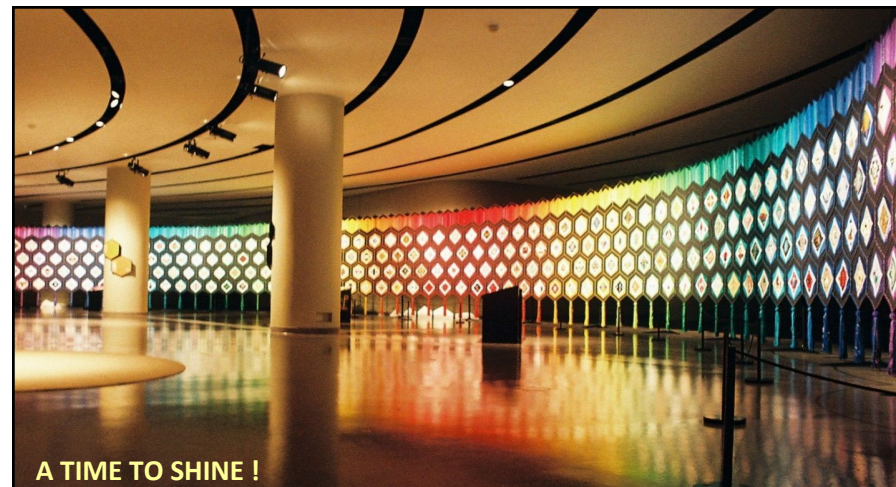


A NIGHT OF JOY

A NIGHT OF HOPE

A NIGHT OF MAGIC

We anxiously held our breath as we waited for the first responses to the finished Quilt. This ambitious dream had been pursued for 6 ½ years. We entered the room and there was silence—a long silence. And then..... loud applause exploded and filled the room!



Susan Towndrow, Carol White, Esther Bryan, top



NEW WEBSITE COMING

On the afternoon of April 8th, SD&G MPP Jim McDonell announced that *Quilt of Belonging* has been awarded an **Ontario Trillium Foundation** grant of \$56,500 over 12 months to create a dynamic new website with current technology, information and educational resources. As our site is a trusted source of cultural information for Canada, the new site will increase access to educational and cultural resources by creating an on-line hub which will feature updated cultural profiles for all Canadians.

The *Quilt's* educational resources will be put on-line, free-of-charge and will be designed to be interactive, fun and relevant for students. They will serve educators at all grade levels.

The education materials will be translated into French, Mohawk, Ojibwe, Oji-Cree and Inuktitut.



Photo by Greg Peerenboom/Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

Left to right back: Malcolm Robertson, *Board Chair*; Joanne High, *volunteer*
Front: Esther Bryan, *originator & Director*; Daphne Howells, *first research coordinator*
SD & G MPP Jim McDonell; Helja Thomson, *volunteer coordinator*

MPP Jim McDonell says "*Quilt of Belonging is a tangible testimony to Ontario's and Canada's diversity, openness and unity. Through its tours and educational material, the Quilt has brought together Canadians across generational, cultural and geographic divides. This Trillium grant will help the Quilt improve its on-line presence in order to deliver its bright message to more Canadians and have the best chance of having a meaningful impact. I extend my sincere congratulations to the Quilt of Belonging for this recognition of the outstanding work they continue to do in spreading a message of hope, community and tolerance. "*

Our partners in this project include:

The Native North American Travelling College
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
Centre Charles-Émile Claude
The Akwesasne Area Management Board

The Debajehmujig Creation Centre
Debajehmujig Storytellers
Centre Culturel de Cornwall
The Canadian Ethnocultural Council

