

# Welcome! Tervetuloa!



73rd Finnish Canadian Grand Festival  
Kanadansuomalaisten Suurjuhlat

# Finn Thunder

2012

THUNDER BAY - ONTARIO

July 27th-29th

## PROGRAM OHJELMA



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TUTUSTU • KOE • JUHLI  
ALL THINGS FINNISH  
KAIKKEA SUOMALAISTA

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We believe that communities across Ontario are rich in talent, creativity and drive, and our grants stimulate communities to build on these strengths.

We are proud to support the FinnThunder 2012 and celebrate Finnish heritage and culture.

*Go Nordic Walkers! Here's to claiming the Guinness World Record!*



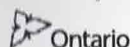
## Des communautés saines et dynamiques

Nous croyons que toutes les communautés de l'Ontario débordent de talent, de créativité et d'énergie, et que nos subventions encouragent les communautés à développer ces forces.

Nous sommes fiers d'appuyer Finn Thunder 2012 et de célébrer le patrimoine et la culture finlandaises.

*Allez les marcheurs nordiques! Vive la volonté de remporter un record mondial Guinness!*

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We're proud to play a part.

**tbaytel**





## Vain yhdessä me olemme voimkkaita

## Only together do we stand strong

Hyvät ystävät,

**M**inulla on suuri ilo ja kunnia kutsua teidät kaikki juhlimaan Kanadan Suomalaisen Suurjuhliä 73. kerran Thunder Bayn FinnThunder 2012 tapahtuman merkeissä. Kuten monet teistä tietävät, Thunder Bayn alueella asuu noin 13000 suomensukuista ihmistä, prosentuaalisesti kaupungin asukasmäärään verraten, suurin määrä Kanadassa. Näin ollen en voi kuvitella sopivampaa paikkaa juhliaksemme kulttuuriamme ja perinteitämme vuosien varrella tapaamiemme uusien ja vanhojen ystäviemme kanssa.



FinnThunder 2012 järjestelytoimikunta on ylittänyt kaikki odotukset juhlien järjestelyissä. Odotettavissa on hauskoja esityksiä, seminaareja ja luentoja, innostavia urheilutapahtumia ja paljon muuta. Omasta puolestani toivotan teidät ja perheenne tervetulleiksi nauttimaan ihanasta kulttuuristamme ja perinteistämme, niiden eri muodoissa: ruoka, tanssi, teatteri ja ennen kaikkea ystävät.

Kanadan Suomalaisen Kulttuuriliiton puolesta haluan tuoda kiitoksemme ja arvostuksemme Thunder Bayn Suurjuhlakomitealle, joka on työskennellyt ututterasti ja väsymättömästi FinnThunder 2012 tapahtuman onnistumiseksi. Suuri kiitos myös Thunder Bayn kaupungille ja sen fantastisille ihmisille. Kiitos tilaisuudesta vielä kerran järjestää Kanadan Suomalaisen Suurjuhlat Thunder Bayssa ja tuoda esille rakasta kulttuuriamme, sen henkeä ja elinvoimaa, sen menneisyyttä, nykypäivää ja tulevaisuutta.

Festivaaliterveisin,

Festival Greetings,

HANS MYRSKOG

Puheenjohtaja

Chair

Kanadan Suomalainen Kulttuuriliitto

Finnish Canadian Cultural Federation

KANADAN SUOMALAINEN  
KULTTUURILIITTO



FINNISH CANADIAN  
CULTURAL FEDERATION

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Dear friends,

**I**t is my pleasure to once again invite you to celebrate the 73rd annual Finnish Canadian Grand Festival in Thunder Bay, Ontario with FinnThunder 2012! As many of you may know, Thunder Bay is home to approximately 13,000 Finns and has the highest concentration of Finns per capita in Canada. As such, I can't think of a better place for us to gather, to join together and celebrate our culture, heritage and the many friendships we have made along the way.

The FinnThunder 2012 organizing Committee has exceeded in their efforts to bring you the best festival yet. It promises to be filled with exciting and joyful events, educational seminars and invigorating sporting events. I welcome you and your families to come and enjoy the wonderful traditions we know and love: our food, our dances and most importantly our people.

On behalf of the Finnish Canadian Cultural Federation, I am pleased to offer our gratitude and appreciation to this exceptional team of individuals who have worked diligently to make the Finnish Canadian Grand Festival happen in Thunder Bay once more. Special "Thank You" also to the City of Thunder Bay and its fantastic people - thank you for helping us in honouring the spirit of our wonderful culture - its past, present and future.



DISCOVER  
EXPERIENCE  
CELEBRATE  
ALL THINGS FINNISH

FinnThunder 2012 marks the 73rd Finnish Canadian Grand Festival since the event was started in Sudbury in 1940. This year is the 11th time that Thunder Bay and, prior to 1970, Port Arthur has hosted this celebration of Finnish culture.

A year and a half ago, a small group of individuals accepted the request to bring the Festival to our beautiful city on Lake Superior. This has been a hectic and demanding time, but thanks to the dedication of organizing committee members, we are pleased and proud to be able to provide our visitors a weekend of enjoyable experiences and fabulous festivities. Whether you have travelled long distances in order to make Thunder Bay and FinnThunder 2012 your summer destination, or have decided to be "Finn for a Weekend" in our own city, we wish to express our sincere thanks to you all for being a part of the Festival.

To our Festival participants, we want to convey our gratitude for helping us make FinnThunder 2012 a time to be remembered.

A thunderous welcome to all!

Tervetuloa,

*Ulla Ahokas*

Chair, Organizing Committee



#7 - 1740 Victoria Avenue East  
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 1C7  
Telephone: (807) 767-6945  
Email : info@finnthunder2012.com

www.finnthunder2012.com



*Ambassador of Finland*

*Ottawa*

Ottawa, July 5th, 2012

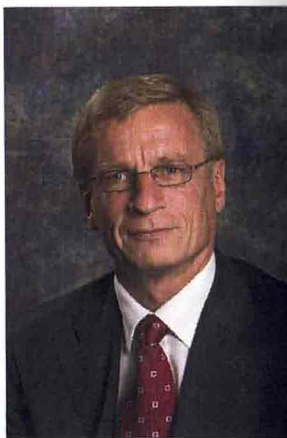
I wish to offer my warmest greetings to all of you, who have come here to Thunder Bay to celebrate the 73rd Finnish Canadian Grand Festival.

This festival has impressively long-standing traditions. From 1940 onwards, it has brought together Finnish-Canadians and friends of Finland from all around Canada and even the USA to celebrate their heritage and love for Finland. Here we remember the generations, who came before us and worked so hard to help not only the Finnish-Canadian community, but Canada itself to prosper. Here we pass on the traditions to new generations, form new bonds of friendship and rekindle old ones.

In these times of economic trouble, happy celebrations such as the Finnish Canadian Grand Festival are needed more than ever. Both Canada and Finland are fairing well, but in order to guarantee long-term prosperity, a good load of stamina and positive energy – or as we say in Finnish, *sisu* – is required from all of us. For this FinnThunder weekend, however, I suggest that you set austerity measures aside and enjoy the various sporting and cultural events, as well as each others' company to the fullest.

My best wishes to all the participants of the Finnish Canadian Grand Festival – have a great weekend and a lovely summer!

Risto Piipponen  
Ambassador of Finland



**Bruce Hyer**

Member of Parliament  
Thunder Bay - Superior North

## Welcome to FinnThunder 2012

**Tervetuloa!** A warm Thunder Bay Finnish welcome to everyone taking part in this year's **FinnThunder 2012**, and a big congratulations to the *Finnish Canadian Grand Festival* on their 73rd anniversary this year!

For over 100 years, the Finnish diaspora has helped build our communities and industry in Northwestern Ontario. Working co-operatively and for the common good, the Finnish contribution to the cultural life of the region looms large in our history. Finns and their descendants remain central to the cultural life of Thunder Bay today.

I hope you will partake in the entertainment, arts, market, sporting events, and music of FinnThunder 2012 this year. Have a great *Kanadansuomalaisten suurjuhlat!*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Hyer'.

Bruce Hyer, MP  
Thunder Bay-Superior North



As MPP for Thunder Bay-Superior North and a lifelong resident of Thunder Bay, I can enthusiastically say that one of the elements that makes this city and region great-- and unique-- is the contribution of our Finnish-Canadians. The program you are reading for **Finn Thunder 2012: The 73rd annual Finnish Canadian Grand Festival** is a pretty fine summary of what the Finns have created and accomplished in Canada, and this summer we have a special and appropriate focus on Northwestern Ontario.

We see the history-- the pioneers of the farms, forests, and mines, the trailblazers and road-builders, the fishers and sailors of Lake Superior. The organizers of unions and benevolent associations; the religious leaders, the political forces, the business innovators, the men and women of our military, all woven into the fabric of our city and the surrounding countryside.

The vastness and variety of Finnish heritage is expressed in the amazing line-up of cultural and community events available. Sports, games, dances and celebrations-- you are invited! World-class live music of every style, live performance from the traditional and folkloric to the avant garde, and food and festivities for all ages and tastes. Visual arts and crafts for appreciation, or for sale.

My thanks and heartfelt congratulations to the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers who have made Finn Thunder 2012 possible. I know my Finn friends always make the most of a Northern summer, and this one is shaping up to be unforgettable. I hope to see you at Finn Thunder 2012.

Michael Gravelle, MPP  
Thunder Bay-Superior North

Ontario Minister of Natural Resources



**Bill Mauro** MPP  
THUNDER BAY-ATIKOKAN

July 27-29, 2012

### A Time for Celebration!

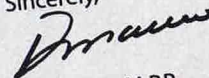
On behalf of the constituents I represent in the Thunder Bay-Atikokan riding, it gives me great pleasure to extend congratulations on the occasion of the 73rd annual Finnish Canadian Grand Festival.

Thunder Bay will be hosting FinnThunder 2012, inviting residents and visitors to join in this event -- an opportunity to experience and celebrate Finnish food, music, films and dance.

The efforts of your members and volunteers have contributed greatly to our diverse cultural community, by educating and increasing public awareness and appreciation of your traditions and heritage. Thank you.

I wish you continued success in your role as an integral part of Thunder Bay's multicultural society, and look forward to many more celebrations.

Sincerely,



Bill Mauro, M.P.P.  
Thunder Bay-Atikokan

**Bill Mauro** MPP  
THUNDER BAY-ATIKOKAN

Thunder Bay Constituency Office  
240 Syndicate Avenue South • 623-9237



### A Message from the Mayor

On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Thunder Bay, I extend a warm welcome to all for FinnThunder 2012, the 73rd annual Finnish Canadian Grand Festival. We are honoured to host this event and offer our northern hospitality to you.

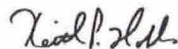
Thanks to our vibrant Finn community, Thunder Bay is a natural location to host this celebration of Finnish culture, heritage, food and music. We invite you to enjoy all that Thunder Bay has to offer including the newly renovated Finlandia Hall and historic Bay Street.

We also look forward to a new Guinness Book record being set for the group Nordic Walk.

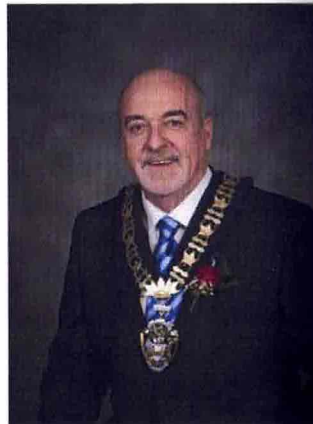
Congratulations and thank you to the many FinnThunder volunteers and sponsors for their hard work to host another wonderful event in our community. The City of Thunder Bay is pleased to support this event through our Event Development Grant Program.

Once again, welcome to Thunder Bay and best wishes for a fantastic event.

Yours sincerely,



Keith Hobbs, Mayor  
City of Thunder Bay



Haluan aluksi kiittää kaikkia, jotka ovat antaneet oman panoksensa siihen, että 2012 Finnish-Canadian Grand Festival-Finn Thunder toteutuu. Nämä tapaamiset ovat ensiarvoisen tärkeitä tilaisuuksia, joilla suomalaiset voivat pitää yhteyttä toisiinsa ja vaalia yhteisiä suomalaisia perinteitä.

Suomi-Seura on jatkanut herkeämätöntä työtään ulkosuomalaisten etujen ajamisessa. Erityisesti kirjeäänestystä on ajettu eteenpäin ja juuri nyt näyttää siltä, että asia olisi etenemässä oikeaan suuntaan oikeusministeriössä.

Tällä äänestysmenetelmällä saisimme aidosti vahvistettua ulkosuomalaisten todellisia vaikutusmahdollisuuksia suomalaisessa yhteiskunnassa.

Toinen tärkeä asia työllistämme on ollut Suomi-koulujen rahoitus. Niidenkin rahoitus on ollut voimakkaiden säästötoimien paineessa, mutta ulkosuomalaisparlamentin puhemieshistorian ja Suomi-seuran aktiivisella toiminnalla on päästy kohtuulliseen lopputulokseen. Työ tulee jatkumaan aktiivisena ja haluan samalla kutsua Kanadan ulkosuomalaiset ulkosuomalaisparlamentin kokoukseen Helsinkiin lokakuun 26.- 27. Avauspuhujana on Tasavallan Presidentti Sauli Niinistö.

Tavataan Thunderbayssa.

Ville Itälä



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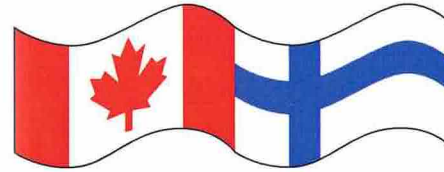
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**Welcome to all participants & visitors  
From: Hannu & Margie Uurainen**

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suomalaista  
miehisyyttä tihkuva  
MIESKUORO OTAVA  
johtajansa Anja  
Haaviston kera  
riemuitsee täysillä  
FINNTHUNDER 2012 –  
juhlallisuuksista



# Finn Thunder 2012

THUNDER BAY - ONTARIO

**July 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>**



On menneillä täällä juhlat niin suuret  
kaukana on nämä juhlien juuret.  
Toivomme kaikille juhlamieltä,  
ei poiketa tältä juhlatieltä,  
vaan juhlat kaikille juhliville  
ois' mukavat niitä muisteleville!

**Onnea Suurjuhlille!  
Thunder Bayn Aseveliyhdistys**

 **Confederation**  
COLLEGE

# Tervetuloa!! Welcome!!

Confederation College welcomes everyone  
to FinnThunder 2012.

**Good luck with the Nordic Walk!**

Visit us at [www.confederationc.on.ca](http://www.confederationc.on.ca)  [www.facebook.com/confederation](https://www.facebook.com/confederation)

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## Worship

**Saturday, July 28, 2012**

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Morning Devotion  
Hammarskjold, Cafeteria

**Sunday, July 29, 2012**

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. English Language Church Service  
Hilldale Lutheran Church, 321 Hilldale Rd

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Wreath Dedication, War Veterans  
Suomi Koti, 527 County Boulevard

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Finnish Language Church Service  
Hilldale Lutheran Church, 321 Hilldale Rd

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FINN THUNDER 2012**

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**TERVETULOA**

**WELCOME TO THUNDER BAY**

**CITY OF**  
**Thunder Bay**  
*Superior by Nature*



**Finlandia Association of Thunder Bay**  
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## Film Schedule

Friday, July 27, 2012

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Rubens of the North

Documentary

16 min

Finland Director: Erkki Maattanen

Kari Tykkylainen's video art is inspired by swamps in the village of Suria in Pudajarvi, local housewives and their back seam stockings. The award-winning carver now displays his art on YouTube. He has filmed thousands of internet videos which have got over ten million views.

Jänkä's Dream - Jänkä's Unelinen

Documentary

15 min

Finland Director: Erkki Maattanen

Urho " Jänkä" Blomberg started as a sailor in the end of 40's. Jänkä started his long journey and sailed to Australia and America. Now, after 65 years of travelling Jänkä lives in Thunder Bay and has found something he always hoped for. While at Finn Thunder, you may meet Jänkä, outside the Hoito playing Mexican Rancheros and Finnish folk tunes on his accordion. If not you will meet him in this wonderful short documentary about his life and adventures.

Salla Selling the Silence

Documentary

70 min

Finland Director: Markku Tuurna

Selling the silence witnesses the rise and fall of one family, side-by-side with the current changes in Lapland and asks, "What is the price of the wilderness?" It is a journey to the North, past and present. Sometimes surprising, sometimes sad, sometimes absurd in a black Finnish way.

Note: All films to be shown at Hammarskjöld.

Sala - Christmas all year round  
20 min

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Mountain Splendour

46 min

Finland Director: Albert Karvonen

Andrea Hansen

Strings across the sky

Documentary

38 min

Canada

Director: Pirkko Karvonen

'Strings Across the Sky' showcases both the career and the remarkable musical contribution of Andrea Hansen to Northern Canadian Communities. It is a moving tribute to Hansen's life-long love affair with music, and her dedication to revitalizing traditional fiddle music in the communities of Northern Canada.

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Films by Raimo Salo

Viimeinen Testamentti

(The Last Testament)

30 min

Finnish (with English subtitles)

Lokakuussa 2012 valmistuvan lottadokumentin.

Poltettu kylä (Burnt down Village)

60 min

Finnish (with English subtitles)

Lapland village Kuosku was burned three times between 1939 to 1945.

Ei kenenkään lapsi

(No body's child) Documentary

30 min ~ Finnish

Talvisodan sotaorvon tarina. Täysorpo

Pirkko Helenoro kertojana, ohjelma esitetty

toukokuussa 2011 Yle TV1:ssä, yhden

henkilön tunnedokumentti.



# Film Schedule

## Hiljainen kylätie

(A quiet Village road)

60 min

Finnish (trailer is subtitled in English)

Toivo Karki concert, including Karki's war-time music and lottadocumentary's trailer.

## Saturday, July 28, 2012

### 10:00 -12:00 p.m.

Letters From Karelia

Documentary

120 min

Director: Kelly Saxberg

Memorial screening in honour of Dr. Varpu Lindström who was the main researcher for the Gemini nominated documentary about Aate and Taimi Pitkanen and the fate of North American Finns who moved to the Soviet Union in the 1930's.

Mayme Sevander, like Aate Pitkanen was a Soviet spy during the second world war. The author of "They Took My Father" was interviewed by Varpu from her hospital bed in Petrosovodk in 2005. Mayme tirelessly sought the fate of those victims of Karelia Fever.

### 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Helsinki Ikuisesti (Helsinki Always)

Documentary

120 min

Director: Peter von Bagh

Helsinki Always is a montage film on the city of Helsinki by the award-winning Finnish film director and academic Peter von Bagh. The film draws a portrait of Helsinki and also acts as an essay on Finnish culture in a wider sense. It shows Helsinki as captured by leading Finnish feature film and documentary makers over a period of a hundred years. ki as captured by leading Finnish feature film and documentary makers over a period of a hundred years.

### 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Under The Red Star

Documentary

79 min

Director: Kelly Saxberg

The Finnish Labour Temple opened in March 1910, but this workers' hall was a temple of a different sort, one where political, rather than religious devotion, was practiced. Under the Red Star tells the story of union organizers, strong minded women, athletic children, actors and even poets. This film seamlessly integrates archival footage, photos and fictionalized scenes shot on 16 mm film to bring to life the lively and dramatic past of the early years of Finnish immigration to Canada.

# Film Schedule

## Sunday, July 29, 2012

### 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Lastuja (Splinters - A century of an Artistic Family)

Documentary (Finnish) 74 min

Director: Peter Von Bagh

The story of an artistic family Aho-Soldan, whose influence has been important in Finnish art throughout decades of the 20th century. The film is a collage of many multi-faceted personalities enriching the lives of generations: Author Juhani Aho, with him and after him painter Venny Soldan-Brofeldt, cinematographers Heikki Aho and Björn Soldan and photographer Claire Aho. Through their life's work we find a method of the documentary: words, paintings, photographs and moving images.

### 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Helsinki Napoli All Night Long Film  
(English)

105 min

Director: Mika Kaurismäki

Alex is Finlander married to an Italian who works as a taxi driver in Berlin. One night in his taxi come two men with a briefcase full of money. Unluckily for Alex, they are being chased by gangsters whose money was stolen. During the shooting, they get killed, and he must get rid of their bodies.

### 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The Interrogation Film (Finnish)

110 min

Director: Jorn Donner

Kerttu Nuorteva, a Finnish-born Soviet citizen and spy was dropped into Finland by parachute in February 1942. She operated undercover in Helsinki until September 7th when she was arrested after a mistake she had made.

The Interrogation is, as the title reveals, the story about her interrogations that were conducted by three consecutive men. At first, they got no results. Kerttu, whose true identity was slowly revealed, refused to believe when she was told about the cruelty of Stalin's killing machinery that also targeted Finns. Little by little, her defences began to crumble as the World War was irrevocably turning in favour of the Soviet Union. In spite of her cooperation, Kerttu was sentenced to death. She was, however, saved by the ending of the war. This is a film about Kerttu Nuorteva's difficult and mainly impossible choices.



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# Music Schedule

## Friday, July 27, 2012

10:00 – 10:45	Wayne Faulconer Hammar skjold #2	2:30 – 3:30	Toronton Pelimannit Finlandia Hall
10:30 – 11:15	Tomas and Erita Finlandia Hall	2:30 – 3:15	Olivia Korkola Hammar skjold #1
10:45 – 11:15	Matti and Kim Palonen Hammar skjold #2	2:30 – 3:15	Paula Sdao Hammar skjold #2
11:15 – 12:00	Raimo Salo Hammar skjold #2	3:15 – 3:45	Danny Johnson Hammar skjold #1
11:15 – 12:00	Tuuli Mustasydän Finlandia Hall	3:15 – 4:00	Veijo and Company Hammar skjold #2
12:00 – 1:00	Terhi Miikki – Tukkilakko Orchestra Sing-a-long, Finlandia Hall	3:30 – 4:00	Ari Lahdekorpi Finlandia Hall
1:00 – 2:00	OPENING CEREMONIES Finlandia Hall	3:45 – 4:15	Marita Jamsa Hammar skjold #1
2:00 – 2:30	Marc Meriläinen Finlandia Hall	4:00 – 5:00	The Soles Finlandia Hall
2:00 – 2:30	John Scaffeo Hammar skjold #1	4:00 – 4:30	Finn Duo Hammar skjold #2
2:00 – 2:30	Natasha and Sara Hammar skjold #2	4:15 – 5:00	Saana Ensemble, Sing-a-long Hammar skjold #1
2:00 – 3:00	Oras Ladies Choir Hilldale Lutheran Church	4:30 – 5:00	Hannele Kormanö Hammar skjold #2

## Saturday, July 28, 2012

10:00 – 10:30	Ari Lahdekorpi Hammar skjold #1	11:00 – 12:00	Päivi Salokari Hilldale Lutheran Church
10:00 – 11:00	Raimo Salo Hammar skjold #2	11:00 – 11:45	Pat Towell Hammar skjold #1
10:00 – 11:00	Kai Leinonen Hilldale Lutheran Church	11:45 – 12:15	John Scaffeo Hammar skjold #1
10:30 – 11:00	Hannele Kormanö Hammar skjold #1	11:45 – 12:30	Marc Meriläinen Hammar skjold #2
11:00 – 11:45	Terhi Miikki Hammar skjold #2	12:15 – 1:15	Toronton Pelimannit Hammar skjold #1

# Music Schedule

12:30 – 1:15	Marita Jamsa Hammar skjold #2	3:15 – 3:45	Hilla Lahtinen Hammar skjold #2
1:15 – 1:45	Matti & Kim Palonen Hammar skjold #1	3:15 – 3:45	Finn Duo Hammar skjold #1
1:15 – 2:00	Kiikurit Hammar skjold #2	3:45 – 4:30	Tuuli Mustasydän Hammar skjold #2
1:45 – 2:30	Olivia Korkola Hammar skjold #1	4:00 – 5:30	Tellervo Kahara Hilldale Lutheran Church
2:00 – 4:00	Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra Hilldale Lutheran Church	4:30 – 5:00	Saana Ensemble Hammar skjold #2
2:00 – 2:30	Paula Sdao Hammar skjold #2	5:30 – 7:00	Oras Ladies Choir Hilldale Lutheran Church
2:30 – 3:15	Risto Laitila Hammar skjold #1	7:00 – 9:00	Terhi Miikki and Company Hilldale Lutheran Church

## Sunday, July 29, 2012

10:00 – 10:45	Terhi Miikki Finlandia Hall	2:15 – 2:45	John Scaffeo Hammar skjold #1
10:45 – 11:30	Tuuli Mustasydän Finlandia Hall	2:30 – 3:15	Olivia Korkola Finlandia Hall
11:00 – 12:00	Wayne Faulconer Hammar skjold #1	2:45 – 3:45	Otava Male Choir & Hilldale Church Choir Hammar skjold #1
11:30 – 12:15	The Soles Finlandia Hall	3:15 – 3:45	Kim Erickson Finlandia Hall
12:00 – 12:30	Matti and Kim Palonen Hammar skjold #1	3:45 – 4:30	Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra Finlandia Hall
12:15 – 1:00	Danny Johnson Finlandia Hall	3:45 – 4:30	Risto Laitila Hammar skjold #1
12:30 – 1:15	Della Bitove Hammar skjold #1	4:30 – 5:00	Kiikurit Finlandia Hall
1:00 – 2:00	Toronton Pelimannit Finlandia Hall	5:00 – 6:00	CLOSING CEREMONIES Finlandia Hall
1:15 – 2:15	Raimo Salo Hammar skjold #1		
2:00 – 2:30	Ari Lahdekorpi Finlandia Hall		

# Lecture Schedule

Lectures held at Hammarskjöld High School

## Friday, July 27, 2012

- 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Doc Jerry  
Health Issues Facing Finns – Quiz/Game Show Format
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Elli Heikkilä  
Finns Abroad: The profile of emigrants, their destination countries and thoughts about returning to Finland
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Samira Samaro  
A Century of Finnish Canadian Letters
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Saku Pinta  
Education in Finnish Culture:  
The Case of the IWW Työväen Opisto
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Thunder Bay Finnish Canadian Historical Society  
Finnish sport in the Lakehead
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Niilo Saari  
Continuum Care
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Ty Kaipio  
Mannerheim as 'Righteous Gentile': Finland and the Holocaust
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Petteri Mökkönen  
Multi-media presentation about the Finnish Civil War (Finnish)
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Tomas and Erita  
Learn the Finnish and Argentinian Tangos
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. David Ratz  
Finnish Canadian Soldiers in the First World War

## Saturday, July 28, 2012

- 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Liisa Lahtinen  
Making Finnish Pulla
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Erik Jaakkola  
Finnish War Children
- 10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Tomas and Erita  
Learning the Finnish and Argentinian Tango
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. David Ratz  
Canada and the Reinterpretation of the  
Peace Treaty With Finland
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Doc Jerry  
Health Issues Facing Finns – Quiz/Game Show Format

# Lecture Schedule

- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pirkko Karvonen  
Finn Factor in North American Weaving
- 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Eeva Solomon Kontuvirta  
Learning to make the Traditional Finnish Himmeli (drop in)
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Elli Heikkilä  
Finns Abroad: The profile of emigrants, their destination countries and thoughts about returning to Finland
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Maija Paavilainen  
Cartoon Artist
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Liisa Lahtinen  
Making Finnish Pancakes
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Helena Halmari  
Maintaining Finnish as a Heritage Language
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Veli Niinimaa  
Conducting Family Genealogy
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Kathy Toivonen  
A Century of Sisu
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saku Pinta  
To My Son in Spain:  
Finnish Canadians and the Spanish Civil War
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Kyllikki Parkkari  
Finnish Poetry

## Sunday, July 29, 2012

- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Petteri Mökkönen  
Multi-media presentation about the Finnish Civil War (English)
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Helena Halmari  
Maintaining Finnish as a Heritage Language
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Elli Heikkilä  
Finns Abroad: The profile of emigrants, their destination countries and thoughts about returning to Finland
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pirkko Karvonen  
Finn Factor in North American Weaving
- 12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Tomas and Erita  
Learning the Finnish and Argentinian Tango
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Doc Jerry  
Health Issues Facing Finns – Quiz/Game Show Format



# Lecture Schedule

Lectures held at Hammarskjold High School

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Kyllikki Parkkari  
Finnish Poetry
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Niilo Saari  
Continuum Care
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Veli Niinimaa  
Conducting Family Genealogy
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Kathy Toivonen  
A Century of Sisu



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# Lecture Bios

**Petteri Mökkönen** was one of the last Finnish children born in Viipuri before it was occupied by the Soviet Union 65 years ago in June 1944. Since retiring from British Columbia dept. of Education, Petteri has worked closely with Finnish war veterans. This year it has been 94 years since the end of civil War in Finland and after spending considerable time in Finnish and Russian archives Petteri has produced a multi media presentation about Finnish Civil war.

**David Ratz** is a lecturer in Lakehead University's History Department and a Doctoral Candidate with the University of Oulu, writing a dissertation on "The Canadian Image of Finland 1924-1947: Canadian Government Perceptions and Foreign Policy" (working title). David specializes in Canadian military and Finnish history and has published many articles in these fields. Over and above his academic background he brings 29 years of experience with the Canadian Forces, Army Reserve or Militia. He holds the rank of Major, in the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment, was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration for 12 years good service and the 38 Canadian Brigade Group Commander's Commendation for his work establishing the Army reserve Co-op Education Programme with local high schools.

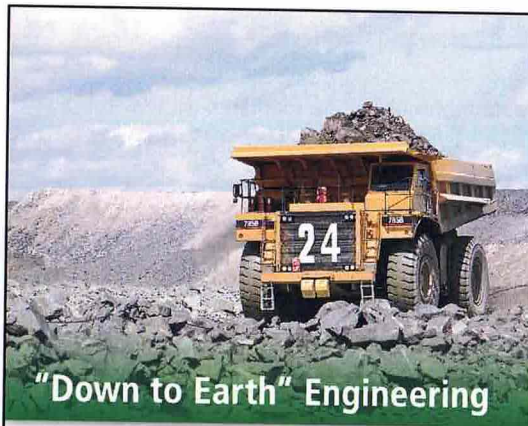
David Ratz will present two different lectures at Finn Thunder 2012. "Finnish Canadian Soldiers in the First World War" deals with a little known topic. Ratz's research concludes that the participation rate of Finnish Canadians in WWI was much higher than commonly thought. "Canada and the Reinterpretation of the Peace Treaty With Finland" examines the Finnish request made to Canada to have the 1948 Peace Treaty reinterpreted to allow the Finnish military to acquire modern weapons for defence. The request came in the wake of the famous "Note Crisis" of 1960-1961.

**Helena Halmari** is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Finnish Studies and a professor of linguistics and Chair of the Department of English at Sam Houston State University. She has published some forty articles on language contact and pragmatics and is the author of Government and Codewitching: Explaining American Finnish and editor of Persuasion across Genres: A Linguistic Approach (with Tuija Virtanen). She is currently working on a monograph that details language maintenance patterns of Finnish Americans.

Dr. Halmari will be presenting "Maintaining Finnish as a Heritage Language," which addresses the following questions: How do the varieties of heritage Finnish differ from the varieties of Finnish spoken in Finland? What are the biggest challenges for the acquisition and maintenance of Finnish outside Finland? Outside Finland, is it possible to pass the Finnish language to future generations? What can be done to facilitate the maintenance of heritage Finnish? Where in the United States and Canada is it possible to study Finnish as a heritage language?

Adjunct Professor, Ph.D. **Elli Heikkilä** is the Research Director of the Institute of Migration in Finland. There is a new book published by the Institute of Migration about Finns Abroad in which she is editor together with Saara Koikkalainen, from the University of Lapland, Finland.

Dr. Heikkilä is offering a lecture entitled "Finns Abroad: The profile of emigrants, their destination countries and thoughts about returning to Finland." The presentation gives the view of who are emigrating and from which regions in Finland to other countries. The analysis also includes information about the destination areas of the world, i.e. which countries and continents are most attractive for emigrants from Finland, and especially for Finnish citizens who have moved abroad in the 2000s. The emigrants are analyzed by demographic characteristics like age, gender, education, primary activity and economic sector.



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# Lecture Bios

European Social Fund -project conducted at the Institute of Migration and thus there is information about Finnish emigrants' thought about returning to Finland.

**Lt. Col. Dr. Ty Kaipio** is a Modern European historian, specializing in twentieth-century German history, particularly policy-making related to World War I and the Nazi era. His doctoral research, conducted in German and other European archives over three years, focused on the German war aims controversy raging at the time. Dr. Kaipio is a lecturer at Lakehead University and teaches, among other things, Finnish History and will present "Mannerheim as 'Righteous Gentile': Finland and the Holocaust" at Finn Thunder 2012.

**Dr. Saku Pinta** is a documentary filmmaker, sheet metal worker, occasional university lecturer, and independent scholar. His doctoral studies, focused on the intersections between anarchism and marxism, were completed at Loughborough University in 2011. He is a first-generation Finnish-Canadian and his current research deals with the history of the Finnish membership of the Industrial Workers of the World (c.1905-1975) in Canada and the United States. An essay on this topic – 'Educate, Organize, Emancipate: The Work People's College and the IWW' – is set to appear this year in *Anarchist Pedagogies: Collective Actions, Theories, and Critical Reflections on Education*.

Dr. Pinta will present Finn Thunder visitors with both a lecture and a screening and discussion of his latest documentary film. His lecture, "Education in Finnish Culture: The Case of the IWW Työväen Opisto," looks at the how, for over two and a half decades, the Työväen Opisto (Work Peoples' College; WPC) (1914-1941), based in Smithville, Minnesota, served as the educational institution of the Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W.) union, dedicated to the cause of revolutionary

industrial unionism. This paper provides an historical account of the WPC, the Finnish working-class communities that supported it, its students, curriculum, faculty and staff during its period as an I.W.W. school.

Dr. Pinta will also discuss and screen his film "To My Son in Spain: Finnish Canadians and the Spanish Civil War," which traces the participation of Finnish Canadians among the 1700 Canadian volunteers in the Spanish Civil War from 1936-1937. The film looks at the motivations of the recruits and their experiences in Spain. This documentary features the story of Jules Paivio, one of the last living Canadian volunteers of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion of the "International Brigades". When Jules left from his home near Port Arthur (Thunder Bay), Ontario, his father, a famous Finnish poet, wrote a lasting lament: "To My Son In Spain".

**Pirkko Karvonen** began her artistic career as a textile artist and has enjoyed a solid reputation as one of Alberta's most talented and prolific textile artists. Her award-winning works have been displayed in countries all over the world and are enjoyed in public, corporate, and private collections, including the permanent collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Pirkko was a teacher of weaving and consultant with Alberta Culture Visual Arts Branch for over 30 years. She is the founder of Strathcona County Weavers, Handweavers, Spinners and Dyers of Alberta, and Tablet Weavers International Studies & Techniques (TWIST). She is the president of Guild of Canadian Weavers. Pirkko teaches from her Studio at Amisk Lake, Alberta.

Pirkko will present "Finn Factor in North American Weaving," which explores Finnish weaving patterns, influences, and experts in North American weaving. A Handweaver's Pattern Book by Marquerite Davison gives credit to "Finnish Legation" and also to Myrtle Westola for "translating excerpts from books" that were printed in Finland. Who were these authors? Pirkko will share interesting facts about the possible Finnish influences to North American weaving. For example, did you know that

Atwater's husband was a mining engineer in towns that had great numbers of Finnish immigrants. At Cranbrook Art Academy we find Loja Saarinen (head of the weaving department) and Marianne Strengel. Did you know that Harriet Tidball had extensive correspondence with weavers in Finland? What about Eva Anttila who gave tapestry lectures in USA and Helmi Vuorelma whose yarns are used in weaving.

**Samira Saramo**, a Doctoral Candidate at York University and a sessional lecturer at Lakehead University, specializes in the social history of Finnish immigrants in North America in the early twentieth-century. Samira's dissertation explores the daily life of Finnish North Americans in 1930s Soviet Karelia, with the use of personal letters and memoir sources. Samira is an active member of the Thunder Bay Finlandia Association and has organized the lecture program for Finn Thunder 2012.

Samira's lecture, "A Century of Finnish Canadian Letters," looks at the daily lives and experiences of Finnish immigrants from the 1860s to the 1960s, as revealed through letters written in Canada to family and friends in Finland. The letters highlight the themes of employment, food, language integration, health, family support and charity, encounters with other cultures, and gradual Canadianization. Through the immigrants' own words, new aspects of the immigrant experience are made refreshingly clear.

Join **Eeva Solomon-Kontuvirta** in a drop-in workshop and learn to make the traditional Finnish Himmeli. This workshop is ideal is for people who have never made one before or need a refresher on how to make a basic Himmeli. Come learn a traditional art form that can open doors to an unlimited creative outlet and help you connect with your roots.

Children need to be with an adult responsible for them while using a needle and thread.

**Dr. Veli Niinimaa** lectured in Exercise Physiology at the University of Calgary and was subsequently appointed the Biathlon Chairman for the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics. He has served as President of the Calgary Finnish Club, Board Member of the Finnish-Canadian Cultural Federation, and the Alternate Deputy Speaker for the Finnish expatriate Parliament, Canada Region. Veli's publications include *North American Finn Pride: Suomi=Sauna+Sisu+Sibelius* and *North American Finn Facts: Suomi Source of Specific Subjects and Statistics*. A new work on his family geneology will be published in Finland this summer. Veli Niinimaa will share his extensive experience on conducting family geneology at Finn Thunder 2012.

**Kathy Toivonen**, artist/writer, and **Kim Manduca** BA, HBEEd., artist/photographer, have collaborated over the past three years to produce *A Century of Sisu 1910-2010: 100 years of Finnish tradition, culture and food in the Thunder Bay area*. The book is a photo journal with vignettes that demonstrates the lasting Finnish lifestyle in the Thunder Bay area. Kathy and Kim will share their experiences of writing the book and some of their most fascinating findings.

**Eric Jaakkola** is a producer, director, host, and editor for Finnish Talk and Variety Shows that are aired on Community Public Access TV Cable Stations in Minnesota and also on the web, [www.tiny.cc/finntalk](http://www.tiny.cc/finntalk)

Eric was one of 80,000 war children who were sent to Sweden during WWII. He will talk about the voyage to Sweden on a freighter teeming with children, then about life in Sweden, plus share memories sent by his Swedish "sister," Eva. He will also show a short video of Eva and himself at a reunion back in Kallinge, Sweden in 1999. The photo is with Eva when Eric was six years of age. She is the daughter of the Swedish family Eric stayed with for two years from 1944 to the fall





Time	Registration	Art Exhibit	Marketplace	Stage #1	Films	Cafeteria	CLUB	CLUB	Hilldale Lutheran Church Basement	Finlandia Club Main Hall	Tappola Sports Park Sauna
0800 - 0815											
0815 - 0830											
0830 - 0845											
0845 - 0900									English Service		
0900 - 0915	Registration Desk										
0915 - 0930											
0930 - 0945											
0945 - 1000											
1000 - 1015											
1015 - 1030											
1030 - 1045											
1045 - 1100				Wayne Faulconer							
1100 - 1115											
1115 - 1130											
1130 - 1145											
1145 - 1200											
1200 - 1215											
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2130 - 2200											
2200 - 2230											
2230 - 2300											
2300 - 2330											
2330 - 2400											
2400 - 0130											
0130 - 0100											

# Plays Bios

All plays Saturday July 28th  
Finlandia Hall

## Rengin Rakkaus (Finnish)

45 min  
Finlandia Hall ~ 11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Aihe on Suomesta jossa talon renkiä yritetään saada naimisiin. Rooleissa on Anita Aalto (emantä, renki), Eepu Aksela (naapurin leski), Kaija Mäkelä (sekä kilpakosija), Hilda Tiitto (tahtoo sotkea suunnitelmia isäntä) ja Veijo Holopainen. Kuiskaajana Eeva Holopainen. Huvinäytelmä jossa saa päästää ilon irti.

## The Old Woman and the Barefoot Maiden (Eng)

60 min  
Finlandia Hall ~ 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

The Old Woman and the Barefoot Maiden is a story-telling performance that takes the audience on a Finnish-inspired mythical journey through the spiral dance of the seasons. Written by three sisters, Taina Maki Chahal, Della Maki Bitove and Katja Maki, the performance started as an article for the Finnish-American newspaper New World Finn. Just like the seasons, the article spun round and round, producing a variety of presentations, up to its new metamorphosis here. Renee Terpstra, Meesha Reilly, and Lisa Macchione join the spiral dance to tell a magical story of the seasons, Finnish women, and the passage of time.

## Night Wings (English)

60 min  
Finlandia Hall ~ 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Night Wings in a story set in isolated Northern Ontario in 1938. The family is under great strain, not only does the father work out in the timber camps for weeks at a time but the two children - Alton and Taina have recently lost their beloved Finnish grandmother - Mummi. Taina, who has additional challenges due to the fact that she is blind, sorely misses her grandmother's storytelling and story quilts. Alton's response is become overly protective of his little sister Taina while their grandfather, Ukki, encourages Taina's independence. When Alton finds a wounded owl, he is determined to nurse the owl back to health all on his own. Taina discovers the owl and decides to take things into her own hands. A series of events unfold that forces Alton to reveal his secret and puts both the children at risk.

Closing Ceremonies  
Street Dance (7-11 p.m.)  
Closing Dance (8 p.m. - 12 a.m.)  
Art Lahdekorpi / Terhi Millikki  
Kenny Connection  
Doc Jerry  
Alex Madsen  
Kevin Element



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## Performer's Bios



Born in Parkano, Finland, **Ari Lahdekorpi** came to Canada as a child in the arms of his parents. Raised in the extreme weather of Northern Manitoba, Ari learned to play guitar at the age of 12 by

listening to records and the radio. Ari's first professional job as a musician was working for a Pentecostal faith healer at revival meetings in the north. It was there that he learned how to work in front of an audience and provide supporting textures to the music. Ari has toured Canada and parts of the USA and has worked with such musicians and groups as Brotherlove, Joey Gregorish, Rhonda Hart, Byron O'Donnel, and the jazz/fusion band, DEGA, Bobby Vinton, Frankie Laine, Howie Mandel, Pinetop Perkins, Bo Diddley, AC Reed, Melanie Doane, Denny Dougherty (Mamas & Papas), and Paul Shaffer (Latenight with David Letterman). Ari Lahdekorpi has written for Television, and Film, including the Gemini nominated NFB feature, Letters from Karelia.



**Danny Johnson** is a well-respected singer/songwriter and accomplished jazz pianist who has performed at many venues and festivals around the world. He has been the

featured soloist with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra on many occasions, and has opened for and toured with many acclaimed acts, including Bob Dylan, The Tragically Hip, Colin James, Michelle Wright, David Wilcox, Fred Eaglesmith, George Jones, Tommy Hunter, Valdy and Johnny Cash. He was invited to perform at a special concert for the Six String Nation Guitar Tour (a guitar made from various Canadian historical items) and will play a mainstage concert with his band at the Red Rock Folk Fest in August. Danny has performed with such legendary artists as Bo Diddley, The Temptations, Bob Newhart, Paul Shaffer, Hal Linden, Red Skelton, Bob Hope, Tom "Bones" Malone, Theresa Tova, Jack de Keyzer, Detroit Women, Long John Baldry, The Lamont Cranston Blues Band, Tony "Little Sun" Glover, Sherman Robertson, Studebaker John, and Paul James. His rock/ r&b band 21 Gun Fun has performed at hundreds of events over the past few years.

**Hannele Korman** has played piano for almost as long as she can remember. She played in numerous ensembles through high school and beyond, and has accompanied the English service at Hilldale Lutheran Church for many years. In her spare time, she enjoys playing Canadian and Finnish rock music, and continues to expand her musical experience by taking up the ukelele. Join Hannele as she performs traditional Finnish music on the piano.



**John Scaffeo** is an accomplished accordionist and has played at many different venues around Thunder Bay and the District over many years. Besides performing at weddings, banquets and other social functions, he has also played for the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, at Magnus Theatre, and with the Lakehead Choral Group in such renowned plays as "Edith Piaf" and "Fiddler on the Roof". In 2002, John was the only Canadian entry in the North American Accordion Association placing first, and was one of three finalists in the Canadian Roland Accordion competition in 2007.



Music is an essential part of the life of **Hilldale Lutheran Church**. Our active Finnish Church Choir is conducted by Mrs. Anja Haavisto.



**Male Choir Otava** recently celebrated its 60th anniversary. Mrs. Anja Haavisto has been conducting the virile singing for decades.



**Kim Erickson** is an accomplished vocalist/musician/composer from Thunder Bay. Her original music contains influences from singer-songwriter traditions, European classical music, jazz, northern

eastern European, Celtic and African traditional musics, as well as Indian classical music. As a singer/songwriter, Kim has performed her original work across Canada (at numerous Festivals including Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival, Summerfolk Festival, and Winnipeg Women's Cultural and Music Festival) and overseas in Holland. Kim is a performer and composer of soundscapes for theatre and is also a vocal soloist for orchestra (TBSO) and chamber music ensembles (Consortium Aurora Borealis, Kanteletar Chamber Choir). Her abundant discography includes a CD release of her songs, Away, in 2000, and appearances in The Hoito Project/Shebandowan Films, 2007. She received the 2008 CJ Arts and Heritage Award for Media and Performance Art.



**Marc Meriläinen** is half Finnish, half Ojibway and performs in both languages. He went on to achieve much success in both Canada and the United States with the NADJIWAN project.

Releasing 4 records from 1995 to 2008 Marc quickly generated great reviews and found his way onto many radio play lists on both sides of the border. In addition to releasing his own original music, Marc has composed scores for theatre and television and earned a Dora Award Nomination in 2009 for BEST ORIGINAL COMPOSITION. Marc is currently working on a new project exploring his Finnish roots sampling traditional Finnish folk instruments and modern beats. Marc performs solo along with his guitar,



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## Performer's Bios

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**Marita Jamsa** has loved to sing all of her life. Her earliest memories are singing in church pretending she could actually read the Finnish hymns, standing next to her father. She performed solos

as a shy little girl and grew to have the most love for singing in Finnish even though to this day she still does not speak or understand the language. Marita is known within the Finnish community as "Laulu Lintunen" and is slowly building a solo career within her church and community. She has performed in three Finn Fests with Pelimanni Orchestra as a guest soloist and continues to perform with them today.



**Matti and Kim Palonen** are a musical duo from Toronto. They blend stirring vocal harmonies with intimate guitar and flute arrangements. Both are members of multiple choirs, and study vocal technique with Dr. Nick Nanos. Matti also plays the bass with Toronton Pelimannit. Together, Matti and Kim have performed traditional Finnish folk and dance music at events and festivals, including FinnWest 2011 in Burnaby, BC.



**Natasha Fisher** (16) and **Sara Kanutski** (13) are young vocalists from Thunder Bay, Ontario. Natasha is of Finnish heritage. The duo have been heavily involved in music since

they were very young, performing at various venues including the City-Wide Ignite Youth Conference, the Superior Youth Festival, First Nations Day Events, and the Lakehead Music Festival. Natasha studies Voice at Prelude Music and composes original music on guitar and piano. Sara shares her passion for music with others and acts as a role model promoting others to live their dreams. Join these young ladies as they entertain you with their captivating vocals, accompanied by Sara's dad, Ron Kanutski.



Raised in a musical home in Thunder Bay, 18 year old **Olivia Korkola**, of Finnish decent, has been entertaining listeners since curiosity caused her to pick up her great-grandfather -

Otto Korkola's fiddle at a very young age. Intrigued by the instrument, her love affair with the violin began, and she started classical violin training at the age of 5 and fiddling at 7. Olivia is an accomplished musician, having won the title of Minnesota State Old-Time Fiddle Champion at age 15 and releasing her debut album, "Playing In Traffic" featuring Ashley Maclsaac, at the age of 16. In 2011, at 17, she was nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Award in the category of Young Performer of the Year. Don't miss Olivia Korkola as she tears up the stage at this year's Festival.

## Finn Pancakes

You will need:

- butter
- 2 eggs
- dash salt
- dash vanilla (to taste)
- 500ml milk (whole or 2%)
- 325ml flour
- 125ml sugar

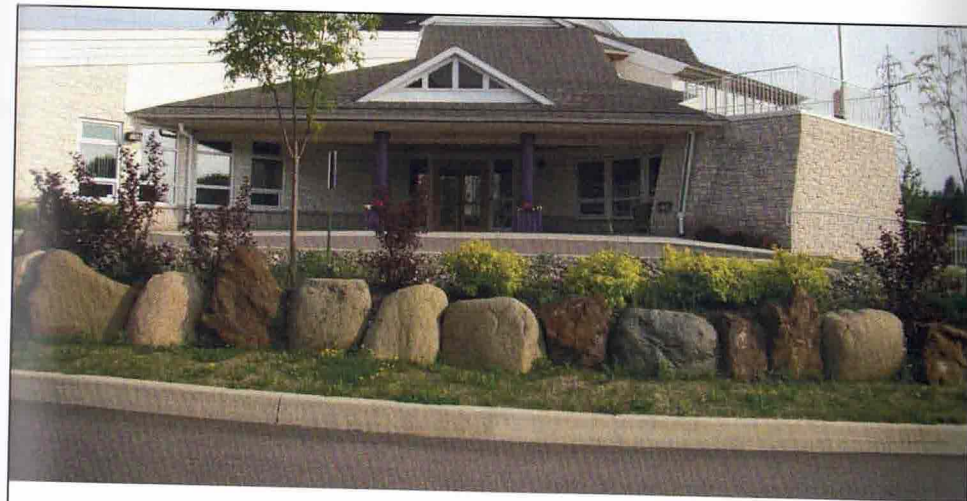
1. Beat eggs, add milk, vanilla, salt, sugar.
2. Mix.
3. Gradually add flour.
4. Consistency should be thin.
5. Heat pan to medium heat - melt butter.
6. Flip pancake when top appears dry and has an appearance of hollow bubbles.



**Best wishes and success to all participants at Finn Thunder.**

Dr. Raimo Pehkonen  
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## Performer's Bios



**The Oras Finnish Ladies Choir** was established as a mixed choir in 1946 and changed to a ladies' choir in 1970 - we are currently

celebrating our 41st year as a ladies choir! The songs are sung mainly in Finnish, with a strong focus on pieces by Finnish composers and Finnish poets. Presently, the choir has 20 - 25 members of varying ages. Under the direction of Erik Riekkö, the Oras Choir performs at Finnish cultural events & presents an annual Spring Concert. The Oras Choir is proud to continue singing & performing into the future. We are thankful for all the faithful singers & directors that have laid down a firm foundation for us. It is our hope to help to keep the Finnish culture alive for years to come.



**Paula Sdao (Arvo)** started playing the chromatic accordion at the young age of five on an accordion formerly belonging to Merja Ikkela,

Lasse Pihlajamaa's young prodigy and former Finnish, European and World accordion champion. She has played across Canada at various Finnish Canadian Festivals as a duet with her sister, vocalist Anja Arvo, on the annual Mother's Day Cystic Fibrosis Telethon and multicultural Folklore Festival, and at various talent competitions in Edmonton and Thunder Bay. She has also been a regular performer in the Finnish community of Thunder Bay,



**Raimo Salo**, guitarist and vocalist from Finland, is known as the "Tenor Lieutenant". Showing an aptitude for music at a young age, Raimo began singing as a child and took up the guitar in his teenage years. An extremely popular performer at Finnish Canadian Grand Festivals, join Raimo Salo as he interprets wartime rarities such as Toivo Kärki's compositions from the front line during the war. Experience for yourself Finnish war time music and the documentaries and films that are incorporated into his performances.



**Saana Ensemble** is a group of five Finnish women, originally from Finland who now reside in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, who perform traditional Finnish music in the Finnish language.

The group performs both a cappella and with instruments. Their repertoire ranges from hymns to folk music to contemporary and dance tunes, many with original arrangements. Saana Ensemble has performed at various Nordic events and festivals in Minnesota, Michigan, California, South Dakota and Canada. Saana Ensemble has released two CDs, in 2007 and in 2011.

both as a soloist and as part of the family's Finnish Folk Band, Arvon Yhtye. Join Paula to hear well-known Finnish and Italian compositions by Finnish Composer/Accordionist Lasse Pihlajamaa and Italian accordion virtuoso Pietro Frosini.



**TELLERVO (TELLIE) KÄHÄRÄ** is well-known in Thunder Bay as a High School Finnish and English teacher, a Vocal Instructor at Lakehead University Music Department,

and mezzo-soprano at LUMINA Concert Series. In addition to her many solo recitals, Tellie has performed the role of Maurya in *Riders to the Sea*, an opera by Ralph Vaughan Williams, as well as premiered *Prophecies of Isaiah*, composed for her by George Selbst, with Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra. Tellie continues to give solo recitals of Finnish and international music, and *Prophecies of Isaiah* concerts available on CD with English lyrics. Tellie's FinnThunder recital includes Finnish composers Jean Sibelius, Oskar Merikanto, Einojuhani Rautavaara and others. With Erik Riekkö, piano, and Keijo Uokkola, violin, she looks forward to sharing this amazing Finnish music at Hilldale Church on Saturday afternoon.



**Toronton Pelimannit** had their debut in June 2007 at the grand opening of the Finnish Heritage Museum in Fairport Harbor, Ohio.

The band grew out of the core ensemble that often accompanies the Toronto Finnish Male Choir. The band has performed at Finnfests in Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and Toronto and are often seen performing at Finnish events in Toronto. Its aim is to promote and perform traditional and contemporary folk music of all kinds, especially the "pelimanni" music of Finland. Toronton Pelimannit now comprise seven musicians who enjoy playing together and will share their love of folk music with anyone at the drop of a hat.

**Tuuli Mustasydän** is born and raised in Canada, of Asian heritage. She was a classical pianist in her youth and is a self-taught amateur vocalist, with experience singing in various choirs at the University of Alberta and at Finnish Society of Edmonton events. Please join her as she recounts the

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## Performer's Bios

story of finding and embracing her Finnish identity over the last ten years, accompanied by contemporary Finnish popular music arranged for voice and piano.



**Vickers Creek** is a Western Ontario bluegrass band with a flare for the dramatic. The band just sways to the beat while they pick through timeless melodies, singing tight harmonies the whole way through. Comprised of

local musicians, Vickers Creek features Kevin Element on mandolin and voice, Clay Breiland on guitar and voice, Anthony Bacon on banjo and voice, Martin Blanchet on bass and for this summer, Olivia Korkola on fiddle.



**Wayne Faulconer** is a performer in all aspects of his music – a world travelled northwestern Ontario artist. He is a singer, songwriter, guitarist,

composer and an irrepressible entertainer. An engaging guitar soloist, Wayne draws on the influences of Chet Atkins, The Ventures, The Shadows, Lenny Breau, Wes Montgomery, Jimmy Hendrix, Segovia and B.B. King. His latest solo instrumental guitar release, *Certified Guitar Player*, is an aurora borealis of musical colour. Wayne received a nomination by the Canadian Country Music Association for Outstanding Vocal Performance while a guitar player, vocalist and songwriter in the country band Wayne Faulconer and Stony Ridge. Wayne has performed as principal artist in the Can Pro award winning television show *Sounds Country* and as an actor and musician in several professional Canadian theatre productions. Fronting the group *The Blooz Berries*, he appeared at the Thunder Bay Blues Festival and received a standing ovation at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium for what newspaper reviewers called "a real Canadian blues sound".



**Finn Duo** is Kalervo and Eepu. Kalervo has played the drums for Pelimanni Orchestra and a variety of other local bands since the 1960's. Performing at local

dances, previous Suurjuhla dances and at Florida, Usa. More recently he has added an accordion and played at local dances. Kalervo also has played the harmonica for many years. Eepu has played mandolin with the Pelimanni Orchestra and performed at previous Suurjuhla dances and performances. He also has played both the harmonica and mandolin at local dances and at Florida. The duo has played together at local dances for the past ten years and practice weekly. The duo will perform a medley of traditional Finnish popular and folk music.



**Kai** started playing the violin at age 6, beginning with the Suzuki Violin Method for a number of years before

moving on to taking the Royal Conservatory of Music exams. Kai has just finished his second year at Lakehead University in the Honours Bachelor of Music program. Finnish music has always been an influence in Kai's life, largely from grandfather Pentti Junni who is a multi-instrumentalist and composer of Finnish folk music. Kai has performed numerous times at Finnish cultural events around Thunder Bay, playing music composed by Finnish composers including Sibelius and Madetoja, as well as other works.



**Päivi Marjaana Salokari** has been a singer-performer since early childhood. At age seven she began to study both piano and violin, but always loved singing the most. This interest led her into children's choirs,

youth choirs, the choir of the Sibelius High School and later the Saalem Church choir in Helsinki. During her ca. twenty years in Thunder Bay, Päivi has continued to share her beautiful voice and deep faith through her solo appearances in the Finnish churches. She is currently the choir leader of the local Saalem Church Senior Choir. In 2008 Päivi's solo CD, *Lähteellä*, was published and is distributed both in Finland and in Canada. Päivi has chosen a lovely program of both old and new contemporary sacred songs for her FinnThunder concert on Saturday morning at Hilldale Lutheran Church.



**Erik Johannes Riekkö** is a pianist and choral conductor from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. He studied piano performance at Lakehead University with Evgueni Tchougounov and Heather

Morrison, and has participated in choral workshops in both Canada and Finland. Erik is currently artistic director of Oras Choir in Thunder Bay, and works as an accompanist to vocalists and instrumentalists in the Thunder Bay area. He is also the music director at Hilldale Lutheran Church in Thunder Bay.



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## Performer's Bios

Erik will be accompanying Kai Leinonen, Marita Jamsa, Tellervo Kähärä, and directing the Oras Choir during FinnThunder 2012.



**Della Maki Bitove** is a singer-songwriter, actor and faerie doll maker. She is delighted to return to her hometown of

Thunder Bay from Toronto to bring her one woman show Echo of the Ancestors. In this enchanting performance Della weaves together ancient Finnish women's laments, spells and chants into a modern re-telling. She has performed in Canada, Ireland and the States. Della will also be performing with the drama troupe Northern Flikat in The Old Woman and The Barefoot Maiden, a Finnish mythical journey through the spiral dance of the seasons. Some of her faerie dolls will be on display at the FinnThunder Art Exhibit. Della is currently recording her second album of her original songs.



**Pat and Bill Towell** have been performing music for over 50 years. They played during the 60's and 70's regularly at the

Finlandia Club with a band called the Serenaders led by Pat's dad Eddie Hautanen. Eddie was a life member of the Pellimani Orchestra. Pat and Bill continue to play music at various venues in the city. Pat is the former Miss Lakehead and represented our city at the Miss Canada pageant. Pat and Bill volunteer with their music at many schools and at senior's homes.



**Quest** - This well-known, highly versatile group of musicians have honed their skills to become one of Thunder Bay's most

entertaining bands. They play 50's and 60's rock, traditional waltzes and polkas, country, blues, Oktoberfest-style, you name it, they very probably can play it. The group can vary

in the number of musicians performing depending on what your occasion calls for. Be prepared to get up and dance or just sit back and be entertained by these talented artists.



Not much can stand in the way of **Xander John Scott** and the stage. Performing and writing have always been where his true passion lies and any opportunity that comes his way is not taken

for granted. There is so much potential in everything and Xander is determined to prove it with songs that show the brighter side of the story. With a history that spans across many different genres, Xander has settled for the moment, on a brand of alternative pop music influenced by the honest harmonies of Said the Whale, the subtle inconsistencies of Mother Mother and the smooth textures of Tokyo Police Club. Xander has just begun to scratch the surface of the London music scene and can't wait to dig in even deeper. For the time being he will continue working on his first E.P. the honest harmonies of Said the Whale, the subtle inconsistencies of Mother Mother and the smooth textures of Tokyo Police Club. Xander has just begun to scratch the surface of the London music scene and can't wait to dig in even deeper. For the time being he will continue working on his first E.P.



**Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra** is a non profit corporation and proud to provide a welcoming environment for any

young or seasoned musician wishing to play in a large orchestral setting. Part of Pelimanni's mandate is to educate and increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the Finnish culture by performing in public places, educational institutions, festivals and by conducting accordion workshops. Finnish Folk music was traditionally presented using a violin and pump organ. It evolved into the use of accordion, violin, clarinet and bass. Kauko Ylinen, Pelimanni Music Director, with the help of several arrangers in Finland, has

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# Performer's Bios

taken the music a step further by creating arrangements for the much larger complement of instruments to make Pelimanni a one-of-a-kind Finnish-Canadian Folk Music Orchestra. 2012 marks the 26th year that Pelimanni has participated in Thunder Bay's Finnish activities and the Finnish-Canadian Grand Festivals.



**Tango Pohjan Tähden** is a tango quartet from Minneapolis, Minnesota that blends Argentine tango, American jazz, and Finnish folk music with classic Finnish tango to create a lush, original soundscape. TPT is lead by Finnish-American fiddler Sara Pajunen of the Finnish folk band Kaivama and features Finnish vocalist Elina Ruppert from the Finnish vocal ensemble Saana. American accordionist Bob Barnes brings Argentine tango flavor from his tango band Mandrágora Tango. Norwegian-American

jazz bassist Peter Susag lays down the foundation on which TPT creates their magic. Join Tango Pohjan Tähden as they take you through an evening of dancing and music. (Saturday, July 28).



In 2002, Ken Jacobson formed **Kenny Connection**, a group of musical friends, to play in a variety of Thunder Bay venues. The group is typically five pieces with Ken Jacobson (Violin/Vocal), George Borden (Accordion/Vocal), and Ray Lopenon (Bass) forming the core with a guitarist and drummer. For the FCGF "Traditional Closing Dance" on Sunday, July 29th, Veijo Holopainen will join them to sing and play guitar and Bruce Hole will be on the drums. The group's style is Finnish dance music and members have played in a variety of other groups, including Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra and the Internationals.

**FinnThunder2012 Nordic Walk for Guinness proudly supports the National Development Centre Thunder Bay**



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Front Row (L-R)  
Erin Tribe, Alannah MacLean, Andrea Lee, Dudley Coulter, Andy Shields, Chris Hamilton

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# FinnThunder 2012

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f FinnThunder-2012 Register Online: [www.finnthunder2012.com](http://www.finnthunder2012.com)



# Performer's Bios



**Tomas and Erita**, Argentinean Tango dancers from Oulu, Finland, will be coming to the festival this summer. Tomas and Erita have been dancing Argentinean tangos since 1996 and also love to dance Finnish Tango. They visit Buenos Aires annually and go to various dance studios to brush up on their dancing skills. They have performed in Finland and abroad and we are happy to have them come here to Thunder Bay to perform at our festival. They will also be teaching workshops at FinnThunder on Finnish and Argentinean Tango.



**Risto Laitila (a.k.a. Doc Jerry)** was born in August, 1960 in Oulu, Finland. Doc Jerry was licensed as a Medical Doctor in Finland more than 25 years ago and has been practicing ever

since. It wasn't until fairly recently, though, that Doc Jerry decided to explore other avenues to express himself and took up playing guitar and singing. A self-taught musician, Doc Jerry's group specializes in playing the Blues and Doc Jerry has even written some of his own original music. Together with his band members, Doc Jerry put up a record label, Periferia Sound, and released DocJerry's CD "Life Bucket". Come and hear Doc Jerry's North American debut for yourself!



The Finnish folk dance group **Kiikurit** was founded in the fall of 1970 by Martti Vanhapelto. He and his family had arrived here in

June of that year from Kuopio, Finland. He continued to promote and instruct until his retirement in 1994, at which time his son, Mika, assumed the mantle of director. Throughout the years, the group has performed across Canada, the US and even on a trip "down under" to Australia in 1986. On three separate occasions, they returned to Martti's homeland in Finland. After a two-year hiatus, the group reformed in 2002 with Harri Kurtti directing to continue to entertain and promote Finnish culture and folkdance traditions



**Terhi Miikki-Broersma** earned a Master's in Music at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland in 1993.

She has been as a church musician since she was 14 and after graduating in 1993 she worked for 10 years full-time as a cantor-organist in a Lutheran Church in Kotka, Finland, and 8 months in Benalmadena, Spain before moving to the United States. Now she lives in Lynden, WA, where she is currently a homemaker and mother of two boys. She has directed various choruses, and is currently the director of the Emmaus Lutheran Church Choir in Vancouver, BC. She was named Performer of Year 2009 by the Finlandia Foundation National and she travels regularly around the States to Finnish/Scandinavian community celebrations.

Chamber music has always been close to Terhi's heart. She has strong passion and skills in the area of offering piano accompaniments for instrumental or vocal groups.

Not only piano, she plays cembalo and pipe organ as well as bassoon. She is a member of the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra. Accordion is her instrument when people want to dance and sing!

She loves to organize music happenings and concerts. In Finland she started a music festival called Kymijoen Lohisoitto in Kotka which is a 15 year old music festival.

And now she is the executive director of the "Claire de Lune", Lynden Music Festival..



In conjunction with FinnThunder 2012

**Saturday, July 28, 2012 ~ 2:00pm**

**Hilldale Lutheran Church**

321 Hilldale Rd., Thunder Bay, ON

Tickets \$10.00 at door

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# Dance Schedule

**Friday, July 27, 2012** Finlandia Hall, 314 Bay Street  
 9 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.  
 Traditional Finnish Folk music and dancing. Tangos, waltzes, polkas, etc.  
 Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra  
 (9 – 11 p.m.)  
 Quest (11 p.m. – 1 a.m.)

**Saturday, July 28, 2012** Finlandia Hall, 314 Bay Street  
 9 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.  
 Alternative rock band from Toronto,  
 Ontario ~ The Soles

**Saturday, July 28, 2012** Moose Hall, 434 Fort William Road  
 9 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.  
 Traditional Finnish Folk music and dancing. Finnish band from  
 Minneapolis, MN. ~ Tango Pohjan  
 Tähden

**Sunday, July 29, 2012** Finlandia Hall, 314 Bay Street  
 7 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.  
**Inside the hall:**  
 Traditional Finnish Folk  
 music and dancing.  
 Ari Lahdekorpi / Terhi Miikki  
 Kenny Connection  
**Street dance:**  
 Alternative, rock and pop music.  
 Doc Jerry (from Finland)  
 Xander John Scott  
 Vickers Creek



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**FRIDAY, JULY 27th**  
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 9pm - 1am  
 Tickets \$10 at the Door  
 Age of Majority Required

**Featuring...**  
 The SOLES

**SATURDAY  
 JULY 28th**  
 Finlandia Hall 314 Bay Street  
 9pm - 1am  
 Tickets \$10 at the Door  
 Age of Majority Required

**Featuring...**  
 Tango Pohjan  
 Tähden

**SATURDAY  
 JULY 28th**  
 The Moose Hall  
 434 Fort William Road  
 9pm - 1am  
 Tickets \$10  
 at the Door  
 Age of Majority Required

**Featuring... Doc Jerry  
 Ari Lahdekorpi/Terhi Miikki  
 Xander John Scott  
 & Vickers Creek**

**SUNDAY, JULY 29th**  
 Finlandia Hall  
 & Street Dance  
 314 Bay Street  
 7pm-12am • Tickets \$10  
 Age of Majority Required where alcohol served  
 All Ages Welcome!

[www.finnthunder2012.com](http://www.finnthunder2012.com) FinnThunder-2012

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# Children's Activities

**Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**

**North McIntyre Recreation Centre**

2051 Government Road (adjacent to Tapiola Sports Park)



9:00 - 12:00

**Breakfast with Joulupukki**

Write a letter to Joulupukki in Korvatunturi, Santa's workshop in Northern Finland  
Pancake Breakfast \$5, children under 3 Free

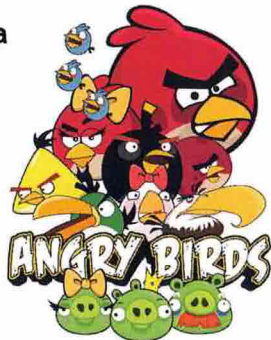
12:00 - 1:00

**Concert with Sara & Natasha**  
at Tapiola Sports Park

1:00 - 4:00

**Angry Birds Competition**

8 yrs & under  
9-13 yrs  
14-17 yrs



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## Sporting Day Schedule

### Children's Events: Tapiola Sports Park

One time \$5 registration gives you access to all Sporting Events at Tapiola

North McIntyre rec Centre: Free

**All day ~ 9:00 - 5:00 pm**  
Bouncy Castle

Rock climbing Wall

Gulliver's Maze

**10:00 – 2:00 pm**  
Soccer Camp with  
United Soccer Club

BMX Time trials

**12:00 noon**  
Ball Hockey games  
(event will be held at  
McIntyre's rink)

**1:00 pm**  
Running Races  
for all ages

**2:00 pm**  
XCcountry skiing on  
Grass. Bring your own  
skis

Nordic Walk Races

### Adults Events: Tapiola Sports Park

Sauna will be hot all Day free to use for any participants.

**12:00-5:00 pm**  
Finn Lunch to be served at the  
McIntyre Rec Centre

**1:00-2:00 pm**  
1500M Running Races

**2:00-3:00 pm**  
Boot Toss

**3:00 pm**  
Wife Carrying Contest  
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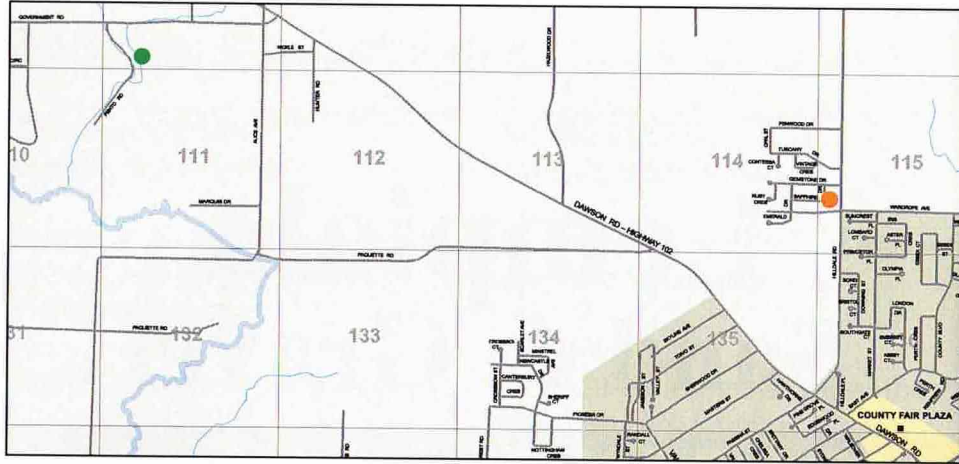
# FinnThunder 2012 Committee



Seated (L to R): Mervi Haapanen (Decorations), Kaija Maki (Marketplace), Mary Anne Schmidt (Treasurer), Ulla Ahokas (Chair), Paula Sdao (Secretary, Entertainment, Sponsorship), Sari Jamsa-Babcock (Nordic Walk, Sports), Laura Jamsa (Graphic Designer).

Standing (L to R): Lorraine Comeau (Entertainment), Katja Maki, Adair Conlon, Leena McCartney (Bowling), Timo Miettinen (Webmaster), Jussi Kuokkanen (SISU), Liisa Luoma, Ahti Tolvanen (Entertainment), Outi Reid (Golf), Kari Jamsa (Nordic Walk, Sports), Katja Maki (Art).

Missing: Liisa Lahtinen, Rev. Jari Lahtinen (Church Events), Kauko Ylinen, Liisa Leskowski, Eija Pyykkonen.



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- Hilldale Lutheran Church



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A1 Sewage  
David Munro  
Dawson Court Residents  
European Meats  
Finnish Book Store  
Fresh Air Experience  
Italian Cultural Centre  
Janzen's Pharmacy  
Lahti Construction  
Marlin Travel  
Meyers Norris Penney  
Prince Arthur Hotel  
Profor Engineering  
Rainbow Printing  
Superior Credit Union  
The Fish Shop  
Toronto Osuuspankki

## Friends of FinnThunder

AON  
Thunder Bay Asevelikerho  
Colosimo's Music Store  
Confederation College  
Dorothy Desroches  
Future Shop  
Graph-X by Deb  
Jaana Penna – Inn Style  
Janzens Pharmacy  
J.K. Auto Repairs  
John Majanlahti  
Kari Miller, RMT  
Lakehead University  
Leo H. Design  
Ladies and Men of Kalevala  
Marostica Motors  
Nucci's Bake a Deli  
Paulusma Greenhouse  
Peter Pasanen  
Prince Arthur Hotel  
Rollin Thunder  
Rose Valley Lodge & Restaurant  
SASI Spring Water  
Superior Coatings  
Take a Hike  
Tekno Plastics  
The Cutting Room  
Unitized Mfg.  
Vanderwees Greenhouses  
Walmart  
Wilderness Supply



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