

**T**he Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society meets monthly between September and May to hear and to discuss individual papers about personalities, places, and events integral to the history of Nova Scotia.

For more information about the Society, including a list of publications available, visit our website at:

**RNSHS.CA**

## The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society



Schedule of Meetings  
Fall 2016

**S**ince the establishment of the Society in 1878, 46 volumes of the Society's *Collections* have been published. In 1998, the Society began publication of the *Journal* of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society, a successor to both the *Collections* and the *Nova Scotia Historical Review*. It is published annually, and Society members receive a copy as well as notification of the Society's lecture series and general meetings.

### Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society Publications Price List

	Members	Non-Members
Current Issue of <i>Journal</i>	Free	\$30 Canada \$35 USA \$40 International \$20 Student
Back issues of <i>Journal</i> (plus postage)	\$15	\$20
Back issues of <i>Collections</i> (limited availability)		\$5 each

**T**o join the Society, or to order any publications, send a cheque or money order with this slip to:

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2622  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P7

You can also join on-line by visiting our website: [RNSHS.CA](http://RNSHS.CA)

Membership:  
\$30.00 Canada  
\$35.00 U.S.A.  
\$40.00 International  
\$20.00 Student

Application Form

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Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3P7

# THE ROYAL NOVA SCOTIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lectures are held at 7:30 pm. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Nova Scotia Archives, 6016 University Avenue (at the corner of Robie Street). Society lectures are open to the public and are completely free, except for the RNSHS's annual banquet lecture. Please check our website, RNSHS.ca for details, as well as biographical information on all presenters. Please note that the December lecture is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

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| <b>September 21, 2016</b><br>7:30 pm | <b><i>"The Private Life of Jessie MacCallum,<br/>Diarist of Windsor &amp; St. George, 1901-1910"</i></b><br><br>Phyllis R Blakeley Memorial Lecture<br><br>Julian Gwyn      | There is a growing interest among historians in diaries especially for the light they shine on the private lives of women. Largely written by those of middle class families, there is always excitement when another diary comes to light, especially by a young person. Such is the case of Jessie MacCallum (1885-1956). The diary of her early life in Windsor, Nova Scotia, and St. George, New Brunswick, covers the first decade of the last century beginning on January 1st 1901. Though she continued for the rest of her life to keep a diary, most were wantonly destroyed after her death by one of her daughters-in-law, who thought them too depressing. Yet what has survived (1901-08, 1910) deserves, a century later, to see the light of day.                                                                                             |
| <b>October 19, 2016</b><br>7:30 pm   | <b><i>"The Halifax Relief Commission and the<br/>Politics of the Canadian Home Front during<br/>the First World War"</i></b><br><br>Barry Cahill                            | The 6 December 1917 explosion of a munitions vessel in the Narrows of Halifax Harbour killed or fatally wounded nearly 2000 persons and injured many more. The catastrophic Halifax disaster was the most significant event affecting Canada's home front during the Great War. Among its lesser-known aspects is the role played by Canada's Union government, which assumed complete authority over recovery. It did this through the Halifax Relief Commission (1918-1976), established in January 1918 by Order in Council. This lecture examines the political aspects of the process that led to the establishment of the commission, taking place as it did during the bitterest federal election campaign in Canada's history—the conscription election of 1917.                                                                                      |
| <b>November 16, 2016</b><br>7:30 pm  | <b><i>"Mi'kmaw Politicism and the Origins of the<br/>Micmac Community Development Program,<br/>1900-1957"</i></b><br><br>Martha Walls<br><br>Mount Saint Vincent University | Between 1957 and 1970, the Extension Department of St. Francis Xavier operated the Micmac Community Development Program (MCDP), intended to build financial and political independence in Mi'kmaw communities in northeastern Nova Scotia. Implicit in the work of MCDP was an assumption that the program would teach the Mi'kmaq political skills with which they would be better able to contest state interferences. This paper challenges this assumption as it explores how, in the decades preceding the MCDP, deeply-rooted and effective Mi'kmaw political mechanisms challenged the most egregious of colonial impositions. The MCDP was no catalyst to Mi'kmaw political action; instead it tapped into an existing and effective Mi'kmaw political network.                                                                                       |
| <b>December 14, 2016</b><br>7:30 pm  | <b><i>"The 1921 Aerial Survey of Halifax"</i></b><br><br>Dirk Werle<br><br>ÆRDE Environmental Research                                                                      | This illustrated talk presents the history, development, and results of aerial photography in Canada immediately after the First World War. The collections of early aerial photography in Canada and elsewhere, as well as the institutional and practical circumstances and arrangements of their creation, represent an important part of our heritage. An episode of one of the first urban surveys, carried out over Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1921, is highlighted. Using the air photos and a digitally re-assembled mosaic of that collection as a guide, a variety of features unique to the post-war urban landscape of the Halifax peninsula are analysed and compared with records of past and current land use. The air photo ensemble is placed into the historical context with thematic maps, recent air photos, and modern satellite imagery. |