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New CAM President Dr Richard Benjamin with ICOM President Suay Aksoy at a reception at Bell Studio, Calgary, Canada

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is a pleasure and honour to introduce myself to CAM members as the new President. I would also like to thank Rooksana for all her dedicated work as President. I have been Head of the International Slavery Museum, part of National Museums Liverpool, since 2006. I am also Co-Director of the Centre for the Study of International Slavery, a partnership with the University of Liverpool. Regardless of the successes we have had as a museum, four million visitors since we opened in 2007, diverse and highly rated exhibitions, a much-admired schools programme, what makes my time here a useful training ground as President is that I can work well under pressure and have as we say in the UK, broad shoulders.

I am not easily fazed by a situation and used to getting the most out of the resources I have at my disposal. These are difficult times for the museum and heritage sector globally, and even though there are differences in the way museums work, we still share each other's pain when it comes to dwindling resources. It is most definitely not all gloom and doom though.

Calgary was reinvigorating. There was such an interesting range of speakers sharing their research and projects in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. And as someone pointed out the presenters were all joined by a common thread, they are active and want to make a difference. We should not underestimate the power of this, as making our museums vessels for debate and platforms for challenging social justice issues could well be the model for museum sustainability.

I am confident that CAM can both grow its membership and further develop its uniqueness. I look forward to being part of that success by working closely with the CAM Executive and its members.
Best regards,
Richard

UPCOMING CAM EVENTS

MIGRATION:CITIES *I* (IM)MIGRATION AND ARRIVAL CITIES Workshop
Mexico City, October 28, 2017
In collaboration with ICOM CAMOC, ICOM ICR and ICOM Mexico

CAM is continuing to collaborate on the Migration:Cities project and is looking forward to the upcoming workshop in Mexico City. The programme and registration information is available on the CAMOC website.
http://network.icom.museum/camoc/projectsworkshops/workshops/L/8/

MIGRATION: CITIES

(IM)MIGRATION AND ARRIVAL CITIES

We're particularly interested in learning about any migration-related projects in Commonwealth countries that can be included in the project. We will be launching a project website in Mexico and would like to include case studies and best practices from as many countries as possible throughout the Commonwealth. How is migration impacting your cities? How are museums engaging with migrants and migration support agencies on exhibitions and programmes? We'd like to hear from you.

RECENT EVENTS

CAM Triennial General Assembly
June 19-23, 2017
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Study Tour of Indigenous Heritage Sites in Southern Alberta
Indigenous Heritage Roundtable
Heritage and Nation Building Symposium

More than 125 participants from 15 countries participated in CAM's Triennial General Assembly in Calgary in June. We enjoyed a very rich and full programme with three distinct events, through which we developed networks and learned about the work colleagues are doing throughout the Commonwealth.

Study Tour Participants at Okotoks Erratic

Study Tour of Indigenous Heritage Sites in Southern Alberta, June 19-20

Participants visited five Indigenous heritage sites that have deep meaning to Blackfoot and Tsuut'ina people. Blair First Rider, Kainai Ceremonialist and Aboriginal Consultation Adviser, Alberta Culture and Tourism, and Jack Brink, Curator of Archaeology at the Royal Alberta Museum provided insight into all locations complementing the information provided by site-specific guides and elders.

Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park

The first stop was Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park where we were greeted by staff and Elder Brian Little Chief who spoke about traditional culture. We had a tour of the exhibition galleries which tell the history of the Blackfoot nation and the legacy of the Indian Act and the residential school system. Our next stop was Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park/Áísínai'pi National Historic Site which has the largest concentration of petroglyphs and pictographs in the North American Great plains. We were led through the rock formations and taught the history of the site by Elder Peter Standing Alone and Site Manager Aaron Domes. Through the pictographs we learned about Blackfoot culture and the community's relationship to the site. After a barbeque in the park, we ended the day with a reception and tour at the Galt Museum and Archives in Lethbridge.

The next day we visited Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, a UNESCO World Heritage Site traditionally used for hunting Bison. We toured the exhibitions and walked out to see the view from the top of the cliff. Then we went to the Okotoks Erratic where First Rider gave a tobacco offering and shared stories of Napi, the trickster creator, and Brink pointed out various pictographs on the rock's surface. Our final stop was the Tsuut'ina Museum which is under

redevelopment. Jeannette Starlight and Elders Gloria Wilder and Bernice Starlight shared their experience with the museum and challenges facing the community, an inspiring story of dedication to maintaining Indigenous language, history and culture.

"From the chance to see up close and personal some of the most important Blackfoot sacred sites in Canada with gracious, enlightening and often humorous commentary from invited Elders, to walking with survivors of the barbaric Residential School system and seeing first-hand how it still affects countless lives today, to viewing behind the scenes the treasures Glenbow holds and continues to return to their communities, to meeting like-minded people from across the globe – there really were too many highlights to mention in this jam-packed event of the year!"

- Lisa Graves, Curator of World Cultures, Museum of Bristol, UK

Indigenous Heritage Roundtable, Fort Calgary, June 21

Reconciliation Walk participants led by Troy Patenaude

Participants joined members of the public in the Calgary Walk for Reconciliation, from downtown to Fort Calgary, followed by a very poignant service dedicated to former residential school students and survivors. Director, Barbados Museum and Historical Society Alissandra Cummins and Curator of the Haida Gwaii Museum *Jisgang* Nika Collison set the stage with presentations about the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

John Moses recounted his father's experience at the residential school in Brantford, as a witness to the 'Truth' of the residential school system. Speakers of various national organisations addressed 'Reconciliation' in the heritage sector in terms of their responses to specific Calls to Action.

A session on best practices in the relationship between museums and heritage organizations highlighted a number of case studies of institutions and programmes which have taken the principles of the UNDRIP and the TRC to heart. Finally, participants worked in small groups to discuss institutional relationships with Indigenous peoples and develop recommendations which will be circulated.

Heritage and Nation Building Symposium, June 22-23

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi giving opening remarks

The opening ceremony at Glenbow featured indigenous blessings and traditional songs as well as welcome remarks from Director Donna Livingstone, Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo representing Athabasca University, and CAM President Rooksana Omar, as well as Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi, who underlined the importance of museums in today's world. ICOM President Suay Aksoy provided a global perspective on this year's ICOM theme of contested histories. Head of the International Museum of Slavery and incoming CAM President Dr Richard Benjamin spoke about the role of museums as activist organisations.

In recognition of the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation, the symposium focused on national identities and values. Dr Karine Duhamel and Jonathan Lainey discussed the integration of indigenous perspectives in the national narratives at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the Canadian Museum of History's new Canada History Hall. Alexandra Marsden shared a shift in Australian museums which allows for more inclusive approaches. Suhaili Osman discussed the role of community museums in incorporating ethnically diverse perspectives in Singapore. David Mbuthia pointed out ways in which heritage and history are used to divide and rally Kenyans. New Zealander Ken Hall shared his research

Members of the panel on human rights and museums

on Valentine and Sons postcards, images which helped cement a Canadian identity.

Elizabeth Herbert described the influential power of heritage through a case study of the Albert Museum in Jaipur. Mrinalini Venkateswaran examined the partition of museum and archival collections prior to and since the 1947 partition of Punjab. Dr Asma Ibrahim discussed the impact of partition on the people of India and Pakistan, particularly in terms of identity, and how this issue is being addressed by heritage projects.

Joanne Schmidt provided insight into the way Glenbow has become an 'engagement zone' for Indigenous peoples and youth through the acceptance of Article 31 of the UNDRIP. Nika Collison and Scott Marsden shared ways through which the Haida Gwaii Museum has successfully incorporated Indigenous, settler and artists' voices as an act of reconciliation. Troy Patenaude and Barbara Hilden presented an exhibition curated by Patenaude to address ways that settler and Indigenous people understand art. Dr Shahid Vawda described the challenges in developing national identity in post-apartheid South Africa, despite an internationally acclaimed human rights-based constitution.

Partners in the CAM Human Remains Management project described the current status of human remains management in their respective countries, and plans for the collaborative project. Dr Jeremy Silvester reported on the Herero genocide in Namibia and the importance of repatriation. Dr Wendy Black laid out the situation in South African collections and Winani Kgwatalala outlined the situation in Botswana which has been slower to engage in the issue. Rooksana Omar discussed human remains repatriation from the perspective of the ICOM code of ethics, and how it can be used as a starting point for institutions.

Meaghan Patterson shared the Alberta Museums Association's approach to sustainability and gave a few examples of projects addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the province. Aaron Maluwa of Malawi gave a very compelling presentation about how the National Museum of Malawi has developed programs to increase awareness of the cultural implications of HIV/AIDs and how it addresses the SDGs. Sherilyne Jones from Belize described Houses of Culture as a bridge between a hesitant public and heritage institutions, which are not familiar to Belizeans.

Finally, we heard about unique situations in two countries where museums are dealing with issues of diaspora and the celebration of transient cultural identities. Dr Jane Legget shared the importance of the Waipu Museum in celebrating Scottish immigrants who developed the community and offered it as a case study of what can work when the community takes ownership of a museum. Alissandra Cummins explained how Caribbean museums have made little effort to reclaim their past communities and draw them into the national narrative. She suggested that various projects, however, such as Barbados Beyond Boundaries are trying to change that**.**

"For me it was a lifetime chance to visit all those sites and then discuss the issues of indigenous people. This was the first time that we could talk to them and discuss their problems and issues. The story of Residential Schools and their survivors directly from the people who went through the experience…HERITAGE IS HUMAN RIGHTS, this is the motto we learnt."

- Dr. Asma Ibrahim, Director, State Bank Museum, Pakistan

ACKNOWLEGMENTS

CAM is very grateful for the support of funders, sponsors and donors including the Community Initiatives Program and Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, Alberta Culture and Tourism; Athabasca University; Delta Hotels; Glenbow; Fort Calgary; Canadian Museum of History; Studio Bell; Department of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada; Canadian Commission for UNESCO; KnowHistory; Human Rights Education and Multiculturalism Fund and for our hosts and collaborators the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee; Aspen Foundation; Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary; the Alex Homebase; Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump; Writing-on-Stone/Áísínai'pi; and the Galt Museum and Archives.

Cowrie Circle Inductees
Membership in the Cowrie Circle, CAM's highest honour, is given to pay tribute to the growth and development of museums in the Commonwealth. Introduced in 1998, at the 2017 Triennial General Assembly in Calgary Alissandra Cummins, Martin Segger and Timothy Mason were inducted into the Cowrie Circle. See their complete citations on the CAM website.

Alissandra Cummins is the Director of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society. She earned a BA in Art History from the University of East Anglia and an MA in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester.

Alissandra has participated in reviews of the Distance Learning Program, supervised CAM interns, and co-chaired the CAM symposium *Curatorship: Indigenous Perspectives in Post-Colonial Societies,* a planning program on *Children and Museums in the Caribbean* which was continued with the assistance of the Bahamas in 2007, as well as CAM's 1999 symposium in Barbados on *Museums, Peace, Democracy and Governance* and a 2015 workshop on *Museum Education.*

Alissandra was a Founder of the Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC) in 1989. She served as Advisory Committee Chair for the International Council of Museums (ICOM) for six years and subsequently President from 2004-2010. She has represented Barbados at UNESCO since 1999. She was Chair of the International Advisory Committee of UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme from 2007-2009 and Chairperson of the UNESCO Executive Board from 2011-2013.

Martin Segger has had a distinguished career as a museologist, art historian and politician. He holds a BA in English Literature, a Diploma in Education from the University of Victoria, and a Master of Philosophy in Renaissance Cultural Studies from the Warburg Institute at the University of London.

In 1979 Martin was appointed Director of the University Art Collections and Galleries at the University of Victoria. He founded the university's Cultural Resource Management Program and is currently a Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Global Studies and an adjunct professor in the Department of Art History and Visual Studies.

Martin was an active member of ICOM ICTOP (Training of Personnel), a board member for 10 years, and Chairman from 1995-1998. Martin sponsored the 1994 symposium *Curatorship: Indigenous Perspectives in Post-Colonial Societies*, served on CAM's Executive Council, became Vice-President in 2003, and was President from 2005-2011. A constant advocate of CAM and its goals, Martin promoted the organisation at every opportunity, expanded the role of CAM across the Commonwealth, established the CAM website and revived the *CAM Bulletin*.

Timothy Mason has devoted his intellect, skills and knowledge to a broad scope of arts and

culture, heritage and memory institutions in the UK and across the globe. He received an MA in Modern History from Oxford. He became the Director of the Scottish Arts Council in 1980, from 1991-1995 was Chief Executive of the London Arts Board, and from 1995-2000 was the Director of the Museums and Galleries Commission, a non-departmental public body (1981-2000).

In 1999 Tim joined CAM and attended *Museums, Peace, Democracy and Governance* in Barbados. He served on Council from 2003-2014, responsible for communications and collaboration with the Commonwealth Foundation and other Commonwealth Organisations, and often represented CAM at ICOM's annual Advisory Council meetings. He also represented CAM in a collaboration with the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies to consult with a wide range of cultural and heritage groups in Zimbabwe and mobilise plans for this sector when Zimbabwe might return to the Commonwealth.

HUMAN REMAINS MANAGEMENT

Representatives from the Iziko Museums of South Africa/ ETHCOM (ICOM Standing Committee on Museum Ethics), Museums Association of Namibia/ICOM ICME (International Committee for Museums of Ethnology), the National Museum of Botswana, as well as CAM's Secretary-General and Internship Program Advisor met in Calgary to further outline the program for 2017-2018. Our intention is to initiate consultation in Namibia's San community regarding what, when, where, and how to repatriate remains from Iziko Museums to Namibia, as well as to develop a travelling exhibition and website.

CAM INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

CAM is very excited to have received funding from the Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage for an intern to work at the Museums Association of Namibia on the Human Remains Management Project. The programme is administered by the Canadian Museums Association. We expect the intern to start in October.

CAM Intern Excels at Iziko

By Dr Wendy Black, Curator: Archaeology, Iziko Museums of South Africa

Iziko Museums of South Africa is excited to have begun a process of repatriation of human remains. There is an urgent need to repatriate unethically recovered human remains acquired in the 1850s-1930s in the name of racially-motivated pseudoscience. Iziko was grateful to host a CAM intern for six months to help facilitate talks with stakeholders at a national workshop. This daunting task was undertaken with aplomb by Keely McCavitt who, with her South African counterpart, Jurika Estherhuizen, an intern from our Department of Arts and Culture based in Pretoria, joined the Archaeology Unit of Iziko in Cape Town in October 2016.

L-R Keely McCavitt, Dr. Wendy Black, Jurika Esterhuizen

Keely's merger into our small group and the South African lifestyle was entertaining at times, particularly her attempts at learning Afrikaans (graciously taught by Jurika), her delight in discovering one of our food delicacies, *biltong* (dried and spiced meat), and her astonishment at the sweltering mid-Summer temperatures. Jurika and Keely were introduced to quirks that most Capetonian's view as normal – we love our mountain more than anything, good food must be enjoyed with a view, and (apparently) we drive like hooligans.

The interns settled into a very busy and time-constrained schedule. They had a lot to learn about human remains practices across southern Africa and, based on that research, organised a successful workshop February 13-14 which encouraged cross-institutional and cross-cultural collaboration, opening the door to conversations about repatriation, human remains collections management strategies, and the unique challenges faced by various groups and institutions. Most importantly, a voice was given to those affected communities who passionately presented their concerns and needs. For many, this was first time they had had this opportunity.

Iziko is proud of the success of this project and its culminating workshop. The CAM project set the foundation of on-going community engagement and discussion, and improved local and international institutional relations. The success of this project thus far would not have been possible without the

enthusiasm, vision and poise of Keely and Jurika. The team was exceptional. Keely adeptly applied her invaluable knowledge, outstanding writing skills and diplomacy with ease and Jurika's logistical planning and proficiency was ideal. Iziko sends a heartfelt thank you to them for their dedication and help. *Baie Dankie!* (thank you…in Afrikaans)

CAM DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMME

Congratulations to Curators Louise Roderick and Bongekile Zondi of the Himeville Museum in South Africa who recently completed the Distance Learning Programme. Caribbean students are now working on the third module in the program. If you or your staff need training in basic museum studies, please review the information on our website and contact the Secretariat for more information or to register http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/programs/distance_learning.html.

CAM PUBLICATIONS

Download your copy of CAM's newest publication *Access in Museums in South Asia* from our website http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/publications/access-museums-south-asia.html.

COMMONWEALTH NEWS

Former CAM board member Mrinalini Venkateswaran and our London representative Jessica Litwin of the National Portrait Gallery represented CAM at a meeting of Commonwealth Accredited Organisations held at Marlborough House in London, May 11, 2017. The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, briefed participants on recent events including partnerships and gender issues. The new Strategic Plan for the Commonwealth is due in July; it will be essentially the same as the current plan, updated and reflecting a smaller organisational structure due to budget cuts. It is not yet clear how CAM will be able to contribute to the Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (CCEM 20) in Fiji next February or the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London next April; CHOGM planning has been delayed due to the UK General elections held in June. The CAM board has initiated discussion about the value of our continued affiliation with the Commonwealth, given that we no longer receive funding from the Commonwealth and that the Commonwealth is not engaging with Commonwealth Organisations as effectively as it did in the past. As we begin our own strategic planning process for the 2018-2023 period, these are important questions for the new board to consider.

ICOM NEWS

Advisory Council Meeting, Paris June 7-9 2017

Outgoing CAM President and CEO Iziko Museums of South Africa Rooksana Omar attended ICOM's annual Advisory Committee meeting as CAM's outgoing president. ICOM President Suay Aksoy welcomed delegates stating that she was proud to be part of an organisation that engages in discussions about the role and value of museums at different fora.

Highlights included *Rethinking Difficult History,* a keynote address by Dr Christopher Whitehead who warned museum staff not to be sensationalist and stated that museums must differentiate between inequality and injustice and be sensitive to the fact that the source of pride to one group might be a source of shame for others. Most importantly he said, we need to understand why we should deal with difficult history and adopt different strategies and techniques for engaging with our visitors and communities.

Omar presented CAM's accomplishments of the past year and various ICOM Standing Committees of ICOM raised issues relating to ethics, disaster risk management, museum definition, new membership database, publications and communications and international workshops. There were three important workshops related to the UNESCO recommendation on museums, the new database and museum definition. Omar participated in the museum definition workshop which addressed questions about the role of museums and trends in different countries, how museums should change and adapt our principles, values and working methods.

CAM MEMBERS

RENEW YOUR CAM MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN NOW!

CAM values your ongoing support. If you have not yet done so, please renew your 2017 membership as soon as possible. New members are always welcome. Members receive the *CAM Bulletin*, may participate in the distance learning programme, host an intern at your museum, receive a registration discount, and are

eligible for travel bursaries for CAM events. CAM members have a voice – and votes – at ICOM and contribute to Commonwealth deliberations. Payment is accepted by PayPal, electronic bank transfer or bank draft. Please complete the membership form: http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/about/membership_info.html.

Welcome New Members

Odessa Harris and David Bispat, National Trust of Guyana; Rachel Seupersad, Superintendent, Culture, City of Calgary, Canada; Katherine Kerr, Public Art Consultant, Edmonton, Canada; Aimee Benoit, Curator, Galt Museum & Archives, Lethbridge, Alberta; Mary Jane Johnson, Heritage Manager, Kluane First Nations, Yukon, Alberta; Benjamin Marais, Iziko Museums of South Africa

CAM Executive Council 2017-2020

Executive

L-R: Ken Hall, Jeremy Silvester, Dr Richard Benjamin, David Mbuthia, Dr Asma Ibrahim, Catherine C Cole, Keely McCavitt, Wesley A. Wenhardt, Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo, Mrinalini Venkateswaran, Dr Nicholas Watts

President: Dr Richard Benjamin, Head, International Slavery Museum, National Museums Liverpool, UK
Vice-President: Nirvana S. Persaud, Executive Officer, National Trust of Guyana
Treasurer: Dr Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo, Assistant Professor and Director of the Heritage Resources Management Program, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada
Past-President: Rooksana Omar, Chief Executive Officer, Iziko Museums of South Africa, Cape Town

Members

Poulomi Das, Consultant for Museums & Heritage Spaces/ Project Coordinator, Sister Nivedita Museum & Knowledge Centre, Kolkata, India
Rachel Erickson, Manager of Museum Programs, Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg, Canada
Ken Hall, Curator, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, New Zealand
Dr Asma Ibrahim, Director, Monetary Museum of the Central Bank of Pakistan, Karachi
David Mbuthia, Keeper, Antiquities Sites and Monuments, Central and Western Regions, National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi
Dr Jeremy Silvester, Project Development Manager, Museums Association of Namibia, Windhoek
Wesley A. Wenhardt, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Seaport Maritime Museum, Tacoma, Washington/Vancouver, BC

CAM would like to express our deep appreciation to outgoing board members for their service to the association: Amareswar Galla (India), Martin Segger (Canada), Lumepa Apelu Hald (Samoa), Claude Faubert (Canada), Kim Outten Stubbs (The Bahamas). Huism Tan (Singapore) and Mrinalini Venkateswaran (UK/India).

Advisors

Museum Education: Dr Craig Barclay, Head of Museums, Durham University
Internship Program: Keely McCavitt, Canada
Distance Learning Program: Mrinalini Venkateswaran, Consultant, Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, Jaipur, India/PhD Candidate in History, University of Cambridge, UK.
Special Projects: Dr Nicholas Watts FRSA, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London, UK

Brief biographies of board members will run in the upcoming Sept/Oct *CAM Bulletin*

CAM is an Affiliated Organisation of ICOM and an Accredited Commonwealth Organisation.

Join the CAM listserve by going to:

https://lists.uvic.ca/mailman/listinfo/cam-l
We're also on Facebook and Linked-In!

Contribute to the next *CAM Bulletin*!

Send news of people and events, or a 300 word profile of your institution by August 15 to CatherineC.Cole@telus.net.