

*QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIGON, FRIGONE, FREGO, FREGOE, FREGON, FREGONE FAMILIES* 

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# THE FRIGONS

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# **WINTER 2004**

#### TO BETTER KNOW ONE ANOTHER Véronique Frigon at the World Social Forum of Porto Alegre I - Our cousin

Pierre Frigon (4)

In June 2002, Georges E. Frigon (93) put us on the trail of a militant who works on the international scene, Véronique Frigon. We contacted her and she graciously accepted to share her experiences with us. This information permitted us to get acquainted with this cousin from Lac-St-Jean and her social commitment.

# <u>First of all,</u> what is the World Social Forum?

While the strongest economic powers of the planet meet during the World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland at the beginning of each year, the World Social Forum is the counter-summit of this international meeting that is highly protected and out of sight for the ordinary citizen. On the agenda at Davos: capital versus free-trade. On the agenda at Porto Alegre: the consequences of decisions that are strictly centred on the free-market economy.



Since 2001, the World Social Forum has been an open one intended to deepen the democratic debate of ideas. the formulation of propositions, the exchange of experiences, and the articulation of

effective actions between the associations and movements of civil society that are opposed to neoliberalism, to the domination of the world by capital and all forms of imperialism. They are committed to the construction of a world-wide society centred on the human being.

Véronique Frigon, an education agent at the International Solidarity Centre of Saguenay-Lac-



Saint-Jean (CSI), (www.centreso.saglac.org), is one of the 27 young Quebec leaders that were selected

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## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### Gérald Frigon (116)

The current issue of our newsletter introduces us to two people who have fought for liberty: Véronique Frigon and Télesphore Frigon.

Véronique is a militant for social justice and liberty facing up to the power of capital and controlled

information. Her objective is to bring about a society centred on man. Télesphore was a soldier during the First World War, a time when power suffered little from anti-establishment activity and when individual liberties had little value. The Newsletter also appeals for a new column, to make known our grandchildren, the twelfth and thirteenth generation descendants of François and Marie-Claude "*The Garden of Marie-Claude and François - Our descendants*".

In 2004, our annual assembly will take place in Gatineau (Hull), Saturday, August 21st. The theme will be: a tribute to the founders of our Association.

During this holiday season we wish you human warmth and good will, and for the New Year, joie de vivre and sincere friendship of those who are dear to you!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIGON FAMILIES INC. (2003 - 2004)

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*Revision:* authors of manuscripts are free to accept or reject the corrections, remarks or suggestions proposed to them by the revisers.

# **TO BETTER KNOW ONE ANOTHER** Véronique Frigon at the World Social Forum of Porto Alegre

#### (Continued from page 129)

by the *Office Québec-Amériques pour la Jeunesse* (*OQAJ*) to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, January 23 to 28, 2003.

The delegation consisted of 27 youths actively committed to 22 Québec organisations representing the different sectors of civil society and related to the themes that were discussed at the World Social Forum (WSF). These themes were: democratic and durable development, human rights and political power, diversity and equality, the media, culture and counter-hegemony, militarization and peace.



Véronique Frigon was the only representative from the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean region at the WSF where more than 4960 organisations hailing from 121 countries were registered. Over 100,000 people attended the third edition of this important rendezvous whose theme was «Another world is possible». This was Véronique Frigon's second participation.

# Who is this extraordinary cousin?

Véronique's commitment began in 1998 while participating in an initiation to international cooperation training course in Nouna, a small village in Burkina Faso.

"It's as if I suddenly became aware of my lack of knowledge and my ignorance, social as well as political. When I returned home, I was shocked as I looked out upon this vast expanse of water (Lake Saint Jean) and realized that I knew more about my little African village than I did about my native land!"



she exclaimed during a telephone interview.

"That's when I became conscious of the opportunity that was offered to me to become a bridge between the North and the South and to restore the dignity of the true actors in development whom we more often than not look upon as poor Third-World peasants. The reality is that they are poor in extremely rich countries where large multinational companies drain out natural resources until there are no more. As I see it, this is the distinction that I must help people to understand, that I must denounce far and wide, after having lived with these people who are duped on a daily basis".

Since then, she has been militating for social justice, equality among peoples, the fair distribution of wealth, freedom of speech, and especially in the battle

against disinformation.

"The challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be to develop a 5<sup>th</sup> power. You remember that the 4<sup>th</sup> power was that of the people in its capacity to exchange and transmit information through the media. But today the power of the media has changed and the concentration of information through private networks deprives us of critique and even of analysis. The democratization of information will inevitably pass through a new kind of medium, through an alternative press that will give a true picture of the issues at stake. People are questioning more and more and want to understand. We are living in a time of openness to the world, aren't we? Therefore, why is information so poor and always aimed at exercising an

hegemony on the peoples of the earth? I am not an "anti-mondialiste", against the movement of openness to the world as the mass-media often state, I am FOR the world-wide democratization of information, FOR world-wide solidarity, FOR world-wide basic human rights, FOR world-wide responsibility of (Continued on page 134)

<sup>1-</sup> Information taken from a press release of the Centre de solidarité internationale du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Alma, January 14, 2003

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## **OUR HEROES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR** (1914-1918)

#### III - Télesphore Frigon, soldier

Georges E. Frigon (93)

We have the enlistment papers of our cousins who participated in the "Great War". From this collection of documents we selected those of Télesphore Frigon.

"In the summer of 1914 there were hardly any French-speaking people in the Canadian Army. That is why, in September, after Canada entered the war, members of the French-Canadian elite agreed to finance the organisation of a francophone unit to fight in Europe. On October 15, 1914, the government of Robert Laid Borden authorized the formation of this unit, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion." "This infantry unit became, in 1921, the Royal  $22^{nd}$ 

R e g i m e n t whos e headquarters are situated at the Citadel in Quebec City. These soldiers, members of one of the rare francophone units of the Canadian Army, fought brilliantly in both World Wars and in Korea."



<b>GENEALOGICAL SKETCH</b> (Télesphore Frigon)			
François and Marie-Claude Chamois			
Jean-François and Gertrude Perrot			
Antoine Pierre and MAnne Trottier			
<b>Pierre-Antoine</b> and <i>Josephte Massicot</i>			
Olivier and Josephte Trottier			
<b>Olivier</b> and <i>Virginie Vézina</i>			
Télesphore Frigon			

g.e.f.(93), October 18, 2003

In 1914, all the official forms were in English, for the arrival of Frenchspeaking personnel in the Canadian Army was new. This probably explains certain errors in the data collected on the forms.

A copy of Télesphore's original enlistment document follows (next page), along with a few explanatory remarks.



## Analysis of Télesphore Frigon's enlistment document

- 1. Télesphore enlisted in the Canadian army on October 24, 1914. This was at the beginning of the First World War (1914-1918).
- 2. The date and place of his birth do not correspond with the records of Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade and St-Prosper. His military file states that he was born on May 30, 1870, in Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade. He was actually born in St-Prosper on August 31, 1871, the son of Olivier Frigon and Virginie Vézina, and was living in Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade at the time of his enlistment. His family settled in Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade, where his father Olivier died on July 15, 1920.
- 3. Since English was the language used by the army, this kind of error was frequent.
- 4. There is no mention of the birth of a Télesphore Frigon in Ste-Anne's records.

The enlistment papers of the soldier Télesphore Frigon

Fishe d'enrôlement militaire de Télesphore Frigo fils de Olivier Frigon et Virginie Vézina de Ste-Anne de la Pérado ATTESTATION PAPER Folio. CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION. 1. What is your name?.. span det. 2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born ?.. 8. What is the name of your next-of-kin? Hat Kat 4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? .... 5. What is the date of your birth ?... 6. What is your Trade or Calling ?. 7. Are you married ?..... 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or revaccinated? 9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia ?.... 10. Have you ever served in any Military Force?.. If so, state perilculars of former Service 11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? ... 12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SHAS EXPEDITIONARY FOROE? Signature of Man) (Signature of Witness). DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION. discharged. ....(Signature of Recruit) Fre acced (Signature of Witness) Date 1014. OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION. I, The Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person. Crown and Dignity, against all enemics, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God. e.c. 4 2 .(Signature of Recruit) (Signature of Witness) 1914. Date. CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE. The Recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above The neurons successment was causoned by me that if he made any questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act. The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken are that he understands each question, and that his a duly entered as replicate, and the said Recruit has made and more the question has been hat his a duly entered as to, and the said Recruit has made and or Cathor taken the oath dee he 1014. before me, at this (Signature of Justice) I certify that the above is a true copy of med Recruit. abov (Approving Officer) 200 ML-8-14. H.Q. 1774-1-13.

The next and last chapter of this series will be about our cousins who were honoured for their military service in the Great War...

# TO BETTER KNOW ONE ANOTHER Véronique Frigon at the World Social Forum of Porto Alegre

individuals, but AGAINST the neo-liberal world-wide project being presently orchestrated in secret, far

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<b>GENEALOGICAL SKETCH</b> (Véronique Frigon)			
François and Marie-Claude Chamois			
Jean-François and Gertrude Perrot			
Antoine Pierre and MAnne Trottier			
Pierre-Antoine and Josephte Massicot Louis Augustin and Marie Lefebvre			
Antoine Frigon and Marie-Anne Frigon			
Joseph Souleine and Henriette Cloutier			
Ernest and Léocadie Cloutier			
Alphée and Octavie Déry			
Irénée and Julienne Dumont			
Michel and Claudine Lemelin			
Véronique Frigon g.e.f.(93), november 6, 2003			

from the eyes, the consciences and hearts of all."



Photo taken during the Tam Tam Macadam Multicultural Festival during the summer of 2003. This event that takes place in Alma every two years is organized by the Centre de solidarité internationale du Saguenay-Lac-Saint- Jean. The "tattoo" on her cheek refers to OXFAM's "Fair trade" campaign.

In the next newsletter, we will read excerpts from communiqués written while Véronique was participating in the World Social Forum in Brazil in January 2003.

AN INVITATION TO GRANDPARENTS ... AND PARENTS...



From now on, a special space in the newsletter will be reserved for our offspring...our precious little ones of whom we are so proud! Send us the photos of your grandchildren or your children and savour the pleasure of seeing their refreshing little faces in the newsletter.



Your photos will be printed in the next bulletin under the heading "The Garden of Marie-Claude and François...our descendants".

Let the members of the Association share the joys of your expanding family. Who knows, one of these little darlings may someday become a celebrity!

Cécile Brunelle who is in charge of this column, will make the procedure simple and easy for you. Get in touch with her; she will be happy to give you all the details. Cécile can be reached by telephone: (819) 379-4578

or by e-mail: cbrunelle@igt.net



THE GARDEN OF MARIE-CLAUDE AND FRANÇOIS

Our descendants -





Born on April 9, 2003, daughter of Martin Duquette and Sonia Beaulieu.

*Léanne* is linked to the Frigon family through her paternal grandmother, Monique Frigon (18).



Born on June 9, 2003, daughter of Martin Richard and Annie Duquette.

*Thalyna* is linked to the Frigon family through her maternal grandmother, Monique Frigon (18).





Born on July 23, 1997, son of Jacques Duquette and Nathalie Larivée.

*Maxime* is linked to the Frigon family through his paternal grandmother Monique Frigon (18).



Born on July 13, 2000. daughter of Michael Holmes and Frédérique de Launière.

*Alice* is linked to the Frigon family through her great-grandmother Gabrielle Frigon Gagnon (98) Born on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002, son of Alain Thériault and Marie-Josée Frigon.

*Isaac* is linked to the Frigon family through his mother Marie-Josée, daughter of Gérald Frigon (116).



Born on April 8, 2003. son of Michael Holmes and Frédérique de Launière.

*Samuel* is linked to the Frigon family through his great-grandmother Gabrielle Frigon Gagnon (98)



Born on November 5, 1996, son of Jean-François Charette and Myriam Gagnon.

Pierre-Alexandre is linked to the Frigon family through his great-grandmother Gabrielle Frigon Gagnon (98)

# AN APPEAL TO ONE AND ALL Digitization of the 1994 – 1999 Newsletters

The newsletter team needs help for digitizing the1994-1999 Newsletters for the Quinquennial Collection.

This album of the Newsletters of the first five years of the Association was published to commemorate the founding of the Association of Frigon Families in 1994. It testifies to the remarkable collaboration of the team of that time formed by Raymond Frigon (1) who was President of the Association and Editor of the Newsletter.

The digitization process consists in scanning each page of the French and English versions of the Newsletter. Each version has approximately 190 pages. The digitized pages will be collated to produce the 1994-1999 Quinquennial Collection which will have an interactive index for ease of consultation.



If you have the necessary equipment and are interested in this project, even on a part-time basis, please contact me: Jean-René Frigon (11) by e-mail: *jrf@cgocable.ca*; by mail : 5400 De Marseille, Trois-Rivières-Ouest, QC G8Y 3Z5; or by telephone: (819) 379-4578



## FAMILY NEWS Georges E. Frigon (93)

OUR DEARLY DEPARTED

Sincere condolences to our members, cousins and families who have lost a loved one

- Justin Frigon passed away in Shawinigan-Sud, QC on May 31, 2003, at the age of 74 years and 6 months. He was the husband of Cécile Ayotte of Lac-à-la Tortue.
- Yvette Frigon, aged 77, passed away in Montreal on October 19, 2003. She was the wife of Armand Cournoyer of Montreal.
- René Villemure, husband of Marie Héroux, passed away in Trois-Rivières, QC on October 23, 2003 at the age of 55. He was the son of the late Simone Frigon and the late Fernand Villemure.
- Louise Provencher, aged 45, wife of Georges Frigon Jr of Trois-Rivières-Ouest, passed away on November 2, 2003 in Trois-Rivières, QC.
  - Jeanne Frigon, aged 91, passed away in St-Augustin-de-Desmaures, QC on November 7, 2003. She was the wife of the late Almas Tremblay.
  - Maurice Frigon passed away in Normandin, QC on November 17, 2003 at the age of 76 years and 2 months. He was the husband of Noëlla Chabot, formerly of Albanel.
  - Benoît Frigon, from Cap-de-la-Madeleine, husband of Marguerite Lincourt and father of René Frigon (75), passed away on November 25, 2003 in Trois-Rivières, QC at the age of 87.