



Reading Town Gatineau **A celebration of reading our history and culture.**

April 24, 2017, Gatineau - The National Reading Campaign (NRC) is proud to announce additional programming for **Reading Town Gatineau 2017**. From May 6 through 13 we will be celebrating reading in all its forms as part of the Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation, in collaboration with Gatineau 2017, TD Bank and Canada Council for the Arts, our great partners. The NRC honours our commitments to our supporting organizations to deliver multilingual and multicultural programs. This year in Gatineau will be presenting in French, English, Anishinabeg and non-verbal languages.

Our English programming kicks off on May 9 with "Reading the River", a river talk and demonstration of expert canoeing by **Becky Mason**, the first lady of canoeing in Canada.

Then on May 12th and 13th we will present a variety program including the **Youth Drummers of Kitigan Zibi**, readings from local authors, a presentation from Anishinabeg artist extraordinaire **Jay Odjick**, the amazing youth group **Fiddleheads**, an evening with **Phil Jenkins** local author and cultural champion, a mini-film festival, a history of the Gatineau Park and many other elements for enjoyment by all ages culminating in a concert by singer-songwriter and photographer **Douglas MacArthur**. This two-day event is presented in partnership with the **Mill Road Community Space** in Chelsea. Admission is free expect the final concert, and we will accept donations to send 150 books to libraries on indigenous reserves across Canada to commemorate Canada 150 and at least 14,000 years of earlier human history on Turtle Island.

We will be awarding a complete set of **Governor General's Literary Award** winning books during the course of the festival.

We want to thank our major sponsors, **Gatineau 2017**, **la Ville de Gatineau**, **Tourisme Outaouais**, **TD Bank** and the **Canada Council for the Arts** for their support.

Please check our web site at nationalreadingcampaign.ca for details and updates on the Anglophone programming and campagnepourlalecture.ca for the extensive francophone program.

Media Contact:

Sandy Crawley

sandy@nationalreadingcampaign.ca

416-949-9947