

## **Clara Dugas Lands in Orillia**

The theme for this year's Canadian Storytelling Night is What on Earth? And we at Storytelling Orillia are pleased to say the answer is – Clara Dugas is landing here!

On a road trip from Halifax, Clara will be the guest teller for Canadian Storytelling Night-Soirée nationale du conte in Orillia. She will also lead an afternoon workshop here the next day.

Clara will present "Willful Woman," the story of her Acadian grandmother as part of SO... 's event "What on Earth? Stories Rooted in Land" on Saturday, November 5, at the Orillia Museum of Art and History, 7 p.m.

SO... believes in story conversations, so the concert will include a chance for members of the audience to respond to stories from Clara and other local tellers who are close to the land, and there will be time for an open mic.

Clara's workshop "Recall, Remember, Write, Tell" will be held the following day, Sunday, November 6, 1:30-3:30 p.m., also at the museum. For anyone who missed Clara's workshop at the SC-CC conference this year, this workshop will go over some of the same ground.

Clara promises lots of encouragement and activities to help you recall memorable events in your life. The workshop, limited to 12 participants, could lead to writing memoirs and/or to telling the stories.

After 35 years of teaching, Clara now travels the country and is invited abroad as a bilingual, Acadian storyteller. Childhood memories of rural Nova Scotia enrich Clara's stories, which are always authentic and often packed with humour. In 2007 Clara wrote a teacher's guide for storytelling in the French schools of Nova Scotia.

Tickets for the evening concert are \$10 and for the workshop \$20. The combined price for both is \$25. Tickets are available by phone or online from the Orillia Museum of Art and History, 705-326-2159 or [orilliamuseum.org](http://orilliamuseum.org).

SO... is grateful for support received from Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada and the Canada Council, and is pleased to welcome Clara and any other storytellers who would like to come to visit.

For more information, please contact Susan Charters, [suecharters@gmail.com](mailto:suecharters@gmail.com), [storytelling.orillia@gmail.com](mailto:storytelling.orillia@gmail.com), or see <https://www.facebook.com/storytelling.orillia>.

### **What on Earth? Stories Rooted in Land**

A concert of stories for Canadian Storytelling Night ([www.storytellingnight-soireeduconte.ca](http://www.storytellingnight-soireeduconte.ca))

Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Orillia Museum of Art and History

\$10

Invited and local tellers, featuring guest Clara Dugas from Halifax, will tell about our relationship to land, from local elder Mark Douglas who will speak from his people's history in the area, to Clara, who will speak about a Willful Woman, her Acadian grandmother. A local conservancy teller is invited, and Mehreen Shahid, of the Orillia Packet and Times, will tell a story grounded in her two homelands, Canada and Pakistan.

The audience will be asked to respond with stories and and time for an open mic will be provided. Ruth Watt will be the MC, and Michael Martyn will be bring music.

### **Recall, Remember, Write, Tell**

A workshop, the day after Canadian Storytelling Night

Nov. 6, 1:30- p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Orillia Museum of Art and History

\$20

Offering lots of encouragement, Clara will do activities to help you recall memorable events in your life. This workshop could lead to writing memoirs and/or to telling the stories.

After teaching for 35 years, Clara now fills her time as a bilingual storyteller. Her years of teaching and childhood memories in rural Nova Scotia enrich her stories, always authentic and often packed with humour. In 2007 Clara wrote a teacher's guide for storytelling in the French schools of Nova Scotia.

### **Nov. 5 evening concert and Nov. 6 afternoon workshop**

Combined price

\$25