



Canadian Storytelling Day 2022

Saturday, November 5th, 2022

This year, we are entering our second decade of Canadian Storytelling Day, which will be “officially” observed on **Saturday, November 5th, 2022**. Of course, the event can be celebrated on any day of the week on either side of Nov 5, as is convenient for your guild or group.

Canadian Storytelling Day originated in 2012, under the guidance of Susan Charters and the Orillia Storytellers Guild, to present a Canadian complement to World Storytelling Day. In consultation with an Elder from Rama First Nation, the planners chose a day in early November, just after the full moon, at a time when many Indigenous communities have moved to their winter camps. This was the time for telling traditional stories.

Over the years, themes for Canadian Storytelling Day have included Air, Water, Fire, Earth, Animals, and Tall Tales (Humour). These Indigenous-inspired themes have provided opportunities to tell stories from our own traditions that also share these ideas and elements. This year, we have chosen a theme from the Anishnabe/Algonquin tradition, the Grandfather Teachings of Wisdom, Love, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Humility and Truth. These teachings are taught to children through storytelling and reinforced throughout their lives by these set examples of stories taught to them by their Elders.

Over the next few years, we will explore all seven Teachings, one at a time, and so **this year’s theme is “Grandfather Teachings – Humility.”** In the eighth year, there will be a final theme of Unity because although each quality is important, it takes all to form a well-rounded person.

In non-Indigenous traditions, there are many examples of the qualities that form a good character – the Seven Virtues of Christianity, the Four Paths of Vedantic Yoga, the Chivalric or Knightly Virtues, and Benjamin Franklin’s Thirteen Virtues of Success. Many of them parallel and overlap with the Grandfather Teachings; there is a myriad of stories to illustrate them.

The CSD Committee and Indigenous Advisory Committee of SC-CC are working together to invite an Elder to share the meaning and importance of the Teachings in a Zoom webinar to be aired at a date nearer to Canadian Storytelling Day. Also, watch for interviews on Facebook in the coming weeks with members of the SC-CC Indigenous Advisory Committee about this year's Grandfather Teaching.



[Betty Bennett](#)

Chair

Canadian Storytelling Day 2022 Committee

