

LETTER FROM IN FOCUS



Victoria Day. May 24th. The May long weekend. Two-four. No matter what you call it, the May holiday weekend is a great excuse to get outside and celebrate the unofficial start of summer in Canada. But do you know why we celebrate Victoria Day? I did a little research and dug up some fun facts about the lady behind the first long weekend of summer.

As I'm sure you know, Victoria Day marks the May 24 birthday of Queen Victoria, Britain's longest-reigning monarch, who inherited the throne in 1837 and remained there until her death in 1901. But did you know that after Queen Victoria's death, Canadians continued to celebrate the reigning monarch's birthday on May 24 no matter when he or she was actually born? Queen Elizabeth II, for example, was actually born on April 21 but Canadians celebrate her birthday on Victoria Day.

Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert, had nine children who all married into royal and noble European families, which earned her the nickname "the grandmother of Europe."

Queen Victoria's German-born mother oversaw the queen's education. As a result, her first language was German. She learned to speak English and French when she was three years old and later learned Hindi after becoming the Empress of India.

Most remarkably, Queen Victoria survived seven assassination attempts.

So as you kick back this May long weekend, spare a thought for Queen Victoria because without her, we wouldn't have a holiday until Canada Day.

Happy May!

Andrea Lefebvre

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Georgetown Little Theatre Youth Company
presents

The Man Who Came to Dinner



Radio personality Sheridan Whiteside (Grant Bradshaw) cracks up his hosts June (Mikayla Eastman) and Richard Stanley (Matthew Jay).



RIGHT:
Mrs. McCutcheon (Jill Pike) overwhelms Sheridan Whiteside with her generosity.



Radio star Sheridan Whiteside mugs for Richard Stanley's camera.

The Georgetown Little Theatre Youth Company is proud to present Kaufman and Hart's uproarious comedy *The Man Who Came To Dinner*. When world-famous New York City radio personality – and insufferable pain – Sheridan Whiteside ends up convalescing in the home of Ernest and Daisy Stanley in Mesalia, Ohio, the Stanleys' neat and orderly lives are turned upside down. No one escapes the witty wrath of Whiteside, from his nurse to his famous Hollywood friends. Penguins, mummy cases and murderers abound in this comedy from the Pulitzer Prize winning duo. Performances run at 7:30 p.m. on May 4-7, with 2 p.m. performances on May 1 and May 7. All performances are at The GLT Studio (33 Stewarttown Road). For tickets, call 905-877-3422.

Photos by Andrea Lefebvre

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