

# EDEN MILLS WRITERS' FESTIVAL A BOOKWORM'S PARADISE

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In its 31st year, the Eden Mills Writer's Festival brings together some of Canada's most-respected authors, along with many of the country's up-and-coming writers.

The festival was founded in 1989 by Leon Rook, a Governor General Award-winning author living in

Eden Mills. Rook held the launch of his 1989 release on the steps of the village's general store, inviting several colleagues to read at the gathering as well.

About 300 attended the small, informal festival.

Today, about 1,500 attendees are anticipated annually.

From the steps of the general store, the festival has expanded across the

village, to six different sites.

"Readings are hosted in people's backyards, but these aren't typical suburban backyards," Nicola Dufficy, artistic director of the festival, said. "They'll get to enjoy the charm of the village, it's a unique setting."

With all but one of the venues outdoors, Dufficy said attendees should come

prepared for all weather.

Traditionally, the festival has given authors opportunities to read from their books, but this year, the festival is rolling out a variety of formats, ranging from interviews and panel discussions, to conversations and readings.

"We've themed the sessions because we realize some people will come to a festival because they recognize a name," Dufficy said, "but we also recognized audiences will come to a session because they connect with an idea or a theme."

This year's festival pairs recognizable names with debut authors.

Lynn Coady, Terry Falis, and Emma Donoghue, are among the writers presenting at the festival.

"In our children's area,



Dan Harasymchuk photo

About 1,500 readers attend the annual Eden Mills Writers' Festival each year to hear readings from their favourite authors and to discover new ones.

we're hosting award-winning author, Mary Louise Gay," Dufficy said.

Gay is the author of the Stella and Sam series that has been translated into more than 15 languages. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of Stella, the festival will hold a birthday party for Stella on Sunday.

More than 60 authors will be presenting over the course of the weekend, with writing workshops held in Guelph on Saturday.

The Eden Mills Writers' Festival runs from Sept. 6 to Sept. 8, with tickets available online at eden-millswritersfestival.ca.



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## NEWS

### GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL'S WALK OR RUN TO RAISE MONEY FOR NEW BEDS

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The Georgetown Hospital is hosting the annual Walk or Run to purchase new hospital equipment.

The run takes place on Sept. 29, at the Gellert Community Centre (10241 Eighth Line).

Participants can take part in either a three-kilo-

metre walk-only route or a five-kilometre walk or run route. Leashed pets are welcome on the three-kilometre route.

This year's event is raising funds for six new patient beds, including one special wound surface bed. The new beds have upgraded technology, including integrated bed alarms that reduce the possibility

of patient falls. The wound surface "skin bed" will reduce patient pressure injuries.

The fundraising goal for the event will cover the approximate cost of the new beds, which is \$55,000. There is no registration fee, but participants are encouraged to meet the minimum fundraising goal of \$35.

More information about the annual Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital is available at Georgetown-HospitalFoundation.ca.

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