

# Talk Leafs with centennial book co-author

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Are the Toronto Maple Leafs a cultural icon?

You can discover the answer to that and more on Canada's most renowned hockey team with *The Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Club*, the official centennial publication, authored by Stouffville's Jason Wilson and prolific hockey writer Kevin Shea.

"It's sort of a dream book for anyone who's a hockey writer in the country," Wilson said, who in addition to being the lead of his Juno-award nominated band is adjunct-professor of history at the University of Guelph. "Kevin Shea is a very reputable and famous hockey writer in Canada and he brought me on to flesh out the cultural history of the team."

"It's an honour," Wilson added.

Shea also sits on the Toronto Maple Leaf Historical Committee and has authored several books in



Submitted photo

**'The Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Club' is co-authored by Jason Wilson and Kevin Shea. Wilson will give a talk about his book on Sunday, Dec. 3 at St. James Presbyterian Church.**

addition to being the editor of publications and online features for the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Wilson is hosting a talk on his book at the St. James Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Dec. 11. The event is free to attend and visitors can purchase a signed copy of the book.

After a question and

answer session, members of Wilson's band, The Perennials, will also perform some songs "that reflect the theme of the evening," Wilson said.

The book doesn't just cover a history of the team with goals, assists, Stanley Cup wins, Wilson explained. It explores the relationship between Toronto's development concurrently with that of the team and how early broadcasts of Leafs games greatly contributed to their popularity from coast to coast.

"It was important to bring out the cultural nuances of the team and not just their record on the ice," Wilson said.

The book was published Oct. 18, 2016 and covers the 100-year history of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Brendan Shanahan provides a foreword. St. James Presbyterian Church is on 6432 Main St. The event runs from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 905-640-3151.

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