



Spring 2017

QUILT CELEBRATES CANADA'S BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CANADA! The words sound a little strange at first. Maybe it's because I am not sure who to say them to, or it's because of the scope of it—a country is so much bigger than an individual and our country is enormous! Yet in many ways it is not so different from celebrating the birthday of a friend or family member. We get together, have parties, presents, cakes and candles, fireworks, and make nice speeches. In reality, we celebrate birthdays for those people and times that we are thankful for. And I am so thankful for Canada.

Canada was not my birthplace, nor have I been a Canadian for that long. So for me and many other “newcomers”, Canada's birthday is a time to express how thankful we are for the privilege of belonging in Canada. But whether new or long-time citizens, we can all treasure the freedom, the values, the kindness and compassion found in abundance in our nation. We are blessed with the beauty and sheer immensity of our land and by the rich diversity of its peoples; we are grateful for those who sacrificed so much to build Canada, to make it a country we can be proud of.

Quilt of Belonging is our collective gift to Canada—a tribute to all its peoples who together have woven the nation's fabric, a vision of the way our country and the world can live in peace. It is therefore not so surprising that we have been asked to take part in this year's birthday celebrations. The theme is “Canada welcomes the world” and that is what the Quilt volunteers have done. More than 1 million visitors will see the Quilt this summer. Did you know that our new website had almost 9,000 visits in the first month alone from 163 countries? And we have been contacted by a number of schools who are making their own “Quilt of Belonging” as their special project for 2017.

Thank you to each one of you for reaching out to others, and sharing your gifts, time and talents to make this amazing gift. Thanks for your dedication and sacrifice and patience to see the dream through to completion. Most of all, thank you for giving me, your fellow man, our nation of Canada and the world what God calls “the greatest gift of all”- the gift of love!

Wishing you a great Canada 150th Birthday year,



CANADA 150
1867-2017

QUILT TOUR 2017

CANADA

Ottawa 2017

"Ottawa Welcomes the World"

OTTAWA CITY HALL

welcomes

Quilt of Belonging
Fibres du monde

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

CANADA 150

JUNE 23 – JULY 5

9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Plans are underway for a fall exhibit of the Quilt in **Edmonton, Alberta**. We will post the dates and details on our website as soon they are finalized.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE OPENING

JULY 10, 5:00 - 9:00 pm

The Cotton Factory is Hamilton's creative arts centre. This former cotton mill from 1900 has been transformed into a great creative industries complex, with space for galleries, workshops, new office space for creative professionals, and studios for artists.

There will be 5 weeks of daily programming at the Peace by Piece: Stitching Together Canadian Stories exhibition from museum and art demonstrations to yoga classes and artisan workshops. Thursdays will be featuring a talk and performance piece, Fridays will have interactive activities and folk music and Saturday nights will showcase the Regions' well know musicians.



The Quilt will be the feature exhibit in the **Arts, Crafts & Hobbies Pavilion**

10:00 am to 10:00 pm every day except Labour Day, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

The Arts, Crafts and Hobbies Pavillion is in the Queen Elizabeth building located at western portion of the CNE. It features Canadian arts & crafts, displays, vendors, and special demonstrations and events.

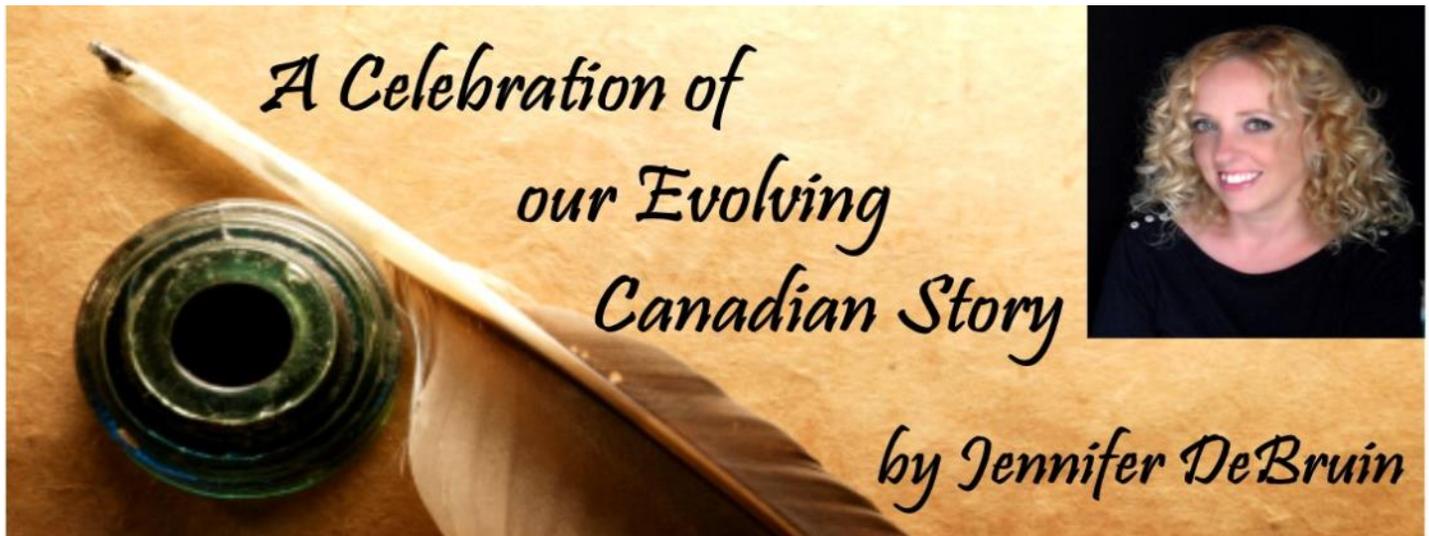
The Canadian Exhibition has long been the first place many new immigrants to Canada visit, for there they find a warm welcome for everyone. To go to the Ex visitors can take the subway, or street car or bus, ride a bike, drive or walk.

SPECIAL GUEST FOR AGM 2017

JOIN US! May 11, 7:00 pm

at the **Glengarry Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum, Williamstown, Ontario**

There will be a very brief AGM, a fascinating presentation by historian and author Jennifer Le Bruin. This will be followed by refreshments.



Our Canadian story is complex and ever-changing. For some, Canada has been home for generations, for others, their story here is just beginning. As with all compelling stories, there are plot twists and turns, tragedies and triumphs, heroes and heroines — these are the foundation of our Canadian story. Let's explore our unique and evolving journey together—past and present.

COMING IN JUNE!

FIFTH EDITION of the English Quilt of Belonging book

This new printing arrives just in time for the Quilt's Canada 150 Tour. To mark the occasion it will feature a new forward written by our longtime supporters, the CEC (Canadian Ethnocultural Council).

Order your copy online at www.quiltofbelonging.ca, or Call 613-347-2381 or write to info@quiltofbelonging.ca

