

Many fine opportunities to replenish soul and spirit **Le Salon du livre du Grand Sudbury unveils a hybrid season of literary activities**

Greater Sudbury, Ontario, October 23, 2020 – Great books and fascinating guests make for stimulating encounters in a full year of programming for 2020-2021 unveiled today by the Salon du livre du Grand Sudbury.

A wide array of outreach activities were announced, including a reading marathon, book clubs for adults and children, DIY workshops, a cross-Canada writer's residency and a creative writing project for aspiring authors.

In total, the program includes more than twenty events, providing Greater Sudbury with a literary milieu that promotes reading and creates a virtual family of readers who share their love of literature and books.

In September, the Salon kicked off this year's season with African folk tales told by Chantale Serresse and Tibila Sandiwidi as part of the "Shack à patates" cabaret event produced by Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario in collaboration with Carrefour francophone and the Salon du livre.

To mark the official launch of its season, le Salon du livre is proud to screen the documentary ***Vocalités vivantes*** with English subtitles at Sudbury Indie Cinema and the film's director, David B. Ricard, will address the audience. Please visit the Indie Cinema website to learn the viewing dates in late October and reserve tickets.

In November, the Salon du livre presents a short series of **literary discussions** for general audiences in collaboration with Wordstock Sudbury. Under the "French Kiss" banner (for events requiring only minimal knowledge of French), the acclaimed and amusing Ojibway author Drew Hayden Taylor will take part in a bilingual discussion of his novel *Motorcycles and Sweetgrass*. Hosted by Michel Laforge, the discussion will draw parallels with Drew's novel *Le baiser de Nanabush* published by Prise de parole.

The social worker, commentator, poet and novelist David Goudreau will join us in November to discuss the impact of isolation on mental health and well-being. This discussion will be hosted by Daniel Aubin in collaboration with the Centre de santé communautaire du Grand Sudbury.

For everyone who loves to read, the Salon's **reading club for general audiences** is back again this fall. Through a series of informal virtual gatherings, audiences will be invited to read suggested works and take part in stimulating discussions.

A **writers' residence** for authors from across Canada will include a Sudbury-based component. This activity is sponsored by Le Salon du livre du Grand Sudbury and produced in collaboration with the Regroupement des éditeurs franco-canadiens and other book fairs held outside of Quebec.

A **writing project for aspiring authors from newcomer communities** will be offered in Sudbury. We hope to launch this project in the spring in order to be ready to take part in the African-Canadian book fair event to be held in Ottawa in the fall of 2021.

A series of DIY workshops will offer relaxing virtual gatherings to general audiences, with opportunities to socialize at a distance and enjoy privileged access to authors from the comfort of home. Details will be announced in the spring.

Two **young readers' clubs**, "Livromagie" (ages 6 to 8) and "Livromanie" (ages 9 to 11), aim to foster the love of reading and discovering authors through games, develop literary culture and provide enriching experiences based on books. These clubs provide flexible, play-based mediation activities with turn-key solutions for online activities, along with books delivered to participants' homes free of charge! This series is made possible by a special partnership with Communication-Jeunesse, a leader in promoting French-Canadian and Quebec authors to young readers. Starting today, parents can register their children at no cost through the Salon du livre's website.

Building on the success of its earlier editions, the 4th edition of the Salon du livre's **reading marathon** will be held from March 1 to April 30, 2021. Over a five-week period, participants will be invited to tally up their reading minutes to beat the record of 676,923 minutes set by the third edition. Authors from across French-speaking Canada will take part in virtual gatherings and workshops in school as part of the marathon's programming. More exciting details about the reading marathon's programming will be announced prior to the event.

To find out the dates and locations for the various events in each programming category, please visit our website at www.lesalondulivre.ca and our Facebook page [@salondulivredugrandsudbury](https://www.facebook.com/salondulivredugrandsudbury). (Some events require registration or reserved tickets.)

Founded in 2004, LE SALON du livre du Grand Sudbury is a not-for-profit organization devoted to promoting culture, reading, literacy and the works of French-speaking authors and supporting artistic excellence.

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For further information:

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Community Partners: Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel-Ontario, Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario, Le Voyageur / Le Loup 98,9 FM La Voix du Nord, ICI Nord de l'Ontario, Les Éditions Prise de parole, La Slague and le Carrefour francophone de Sudbury, Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario, Université Laurentienne, Wordstock Sudbury Literary Festival, Le Centre franco-ontarien de folklore, Regroupement des organismes culturels de Sudbury (ROCS) and la Place des Arts, Regroupement des éditeurs franco-canadiens, Association des auteures et des auteurs de l'Ontario français, le Salon du livre afro-canadien, Communication-Jeunesse.

Le Salon du livre extends special thanks to its board members and volunteers.