

Cape Breton Regional Library Storyteller-in-Residence Guidelines

Introduction

Cape Breton Island enjoys a rich storytelling heritage. Some of our stories have been reflected in print, however, a great deal of knowledge is still transmitted verbally through stories passed from generation to generation. The Cape Breton Regional Library is very much aware of the importance of stories to the Island community and to residents of all generations. In recognition of the importance of this rich oral tradition, the Cape Breton Regional Library Board has run a Storyteller-in-Residence program for the past 8 years. Through the appointment of a Storyteller-in-Residence the Library promotes and encourages the oral storytelling tradition throughout this region.

Criteria for Application

The Storyteller-in-Residence must be a resident of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) or Victoria County during the tenure.

The Storyteller-in-Residence must have knowledge and experience in a storytelling tradition. The Storyteller may choose to convey the story through the use of music or drama. An interest, appreciation and understanding of local heritage and cultural diversity is important.

The Storyteller-in-Residence must be a highly effective communicator and possess public engagement skills.

The Storyteller-in-Residence must be willing to submit their names for a Criminal Records and Child Abuse Registry Check.

Terms

The term for the Storyteller-in-Residence shall be two years.

Expectations

The Storyteller-in-Residence is expected to:

- lead/be present at a minimum of four Library events per year (within Cape Breton or Victoria Counties)
- host workshops or storytelling circles through which people are invited to come together to share their stories
- participate at events held outside the Library upon request
- permit the Library to broadcast or publish original compositions prepared for the Storyteller-in-Residence events (with credit to the Storyteller)
- tell stories that are suitable for a general audience and which reflect the Library's respect for communities and for diversity. Where there is any doubt about

suitability, the Storyteller-in-Residence shall confer in advance with the Regional Librarian and/or the Storyteller-in-Residence committee members.

- adhere to Copyright legislation
- adhere to Library policies and procedures
- agree to allow photographs/videos to be taken and used for publicity purposes
- sign an agreement with the Library reflecting the expectations described herein
- take part in the annual Isle of Story Festival.

Remuneration

The Storyteller-in-Residence will receive an honorarium of \$1500 per annum plus mileage at the provincial mileage rate for travel within CBRM and Victoria County, to a maximum of \$125.00 per trip.

Selection Process

The call for applications / nominations will be issued by the Library at appropriate intervals.

A Storyteller-in-Residence Committee will be responsible for reviewing the applications, interviewing and recommending the candidate. This committee shall have Library staff (3), Board Representation (or a designate recommended by the Board) and community representation (1). The Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of once per year to review and make recommendations for the program, and to provide a consultative platform for the incumbent Storyteller. Community membership of the Advisory Committee is for a term of two years, and can be renewed to a maximum of three consecutive terms.

Application forms will be made available throughout CBRM and Victoria County, and through the Library's website. To be considered, forms must be submitted by the deadline indicated. Community residents are encouraged to share this application with storytellers they know. The Storyteller-in-Residence Committee may also solicit nominations from or of individuals who may be suitable candidates. A Storyteller-in-Residence may reapply for a further term of two years.

The recommendation by the Storyteller-in-Residence Committee will be brought to the Cape Breton Regional Library Board for ratification.

The consideration of nominees will be in confidential session.