



Friday, June 3, 2015
News Release

Announcing lineup for 13th annual Festival du Loup

TINY, ON: From July 14 to 17, Lafontaine will host the 13th edition of the Festival du Loup – an annual celebration of local francophone culture.

For the reasonable price of a \$40 pass (\$20 for people 17 and under), participants get access to a whole lotta fun and a generous dose of local colour. At this truly unique festival, everything happens en français : live music, activities for children, traditional storytelling, and much more.

The four-day event takes place in and around Lafontaine Park, on the 16th concession of Tiny Township. It is almost entirely staffed by local, French-speaking volunteers.

The festival's crowning event is Saturday evening's Grand Hurlement (or Great Howling). It features a howling contest and live music that always gets people on their feet and dancing. This year's main act is Québec's Le Bal à l'huile, specializing toe-tapping, traditional-style, French-Canadian tunes.

Families will want to check out Lafontaine's first ever tractor parade – starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday up Lafontaine Road. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. that day, Lafontaine Park will feature live music, talented artisans, games for kids, a wolf-themed silent art auction, local food, a licensed bar, and performances by an innovative comedic dance troupe. Festival-goers can then fuel up for the Grand Hurlement with a delicious supper prepared by caterer Larry Lalonde.

Thursday's storytelling will include tales spun by professional Alexis Roy, as well as the story of Lafontaine's historic "strong man," Réal Maurice, as told by locals. Friday night will offer a night of laid-back live music by talented Franco-Ontarians from further up our province. Sunday will feature a folk mass at Église Ste-Croix.

Le Festival du loup was originally created by to help bring local history to life – including that of Lafontaine's beautiful church. The festival was named after a legendary wolf that brought francophone parishioners together; first in fear as it destroyed local flocks of sheep, then in celebration when it was shot dead.

Tickets are available at www.festivalduloup.ca as well as at the Midland Cultural Centre, Elegant Gourmet, and La Clé. If you speak French, you can also volunteer.

La Meute Culturelle promotes and animates north Simcoe's francophone heritage and culture. With participation from local residents, as well as visitors from across the region and province, its projects are being increasingly recognized as key heritage and tourism features.

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