

## **MP Andrew Leslie to help kick off special series of staged readings at local libraries**

Rag & Bone Puppet Theatre is coming to a library near you with free family events!

MP Andrew Leslie will be at the Blackburn Hamlet branch of the Ottawa Public Library on Thursday, July 6 at 10:30. Mr. Leslie and Pamela Sweet, a member of the OPL Board of Trustees, will be guest readers for Rag & Bone's Snippets of Canada 150.

Snippets of Canada 150 will be a series of readings and workshops, 24 events at 19 local libraries. Rag & Bone Puppet Theatre will invite special guests to read children's books while John, Kathy and Russell animate the stories with snippets of puppetry, masks, music and drama. The selection of books will celebrate Canada - highlighting our history, animals, and people, including First Nations and newcomers, and the event will welcome lots of audience participation.

More than 17 different guests include OPL Trustees, staff and volunteers, as well as professional artists John Koensgen, Kate Smith, David daCosta and Brittany Johnston.

### **Time and Dates**

July 4 to July 19 at 10:30 and 2:00. For more information and the complete schedule, visit [ragandbone.ca](http://ragandbone.ca), the [bibliooottawalibrary.ca](http://bibliooottawalibrary.ca) or [neighbourhoodarts150.wordpress.com](http://neighbourhoodarts150.wordpress.com)

Snippets of Canada 150 is part of **AOE Arts Council's NEIGHBOURHOOD ARTS 150**, Celebrating Ottawa's Communities, an official Canada 150 and Ontario 150 community-engaged arts Project.

**Rag & Bone Puppet Theatre** has toured across Canada and the U.S. since 1978. Founders John Nolan and Kathy MacLellan are joined by musician Russell Levia in productions of exceptional creativity and value for young audiences. Over 40 performances annually in local public venues give area families an opportunity to feel inspired, creative and to spend quality time together.

### **Neighbourhood Arts 150**

is bringing twelve of Ottawa's most inspiring professional artists and arts groups together with neighbourhoods from all corners of Ottawa to celebrate their communities and express what it means to be Canadian. Ottawans can participate in free arts experiences, from April to October in over 20 communities outside the downtown core. Local youth, seniors, families, newcomers, BIAs, community associations and more are taking part in artist-led activities including dance, theatre, art installations, sculptures, storytelling, puppetry, murals and more in non-traditional venues.

Neighbourhood Arts 150 is supported by Funders: Government of Canada, Ontario 150; and Partners: Ottawa 2017, Community Foundation of Ottawa, Metroland Media, Trinity Development Foundation, the Danbe Foundation and Jewel 98.5 FM, and many community partners.

All are invited to share their Neighbourhood Arts 150 experiences by following and sharing on Facebook Twitter and Instagram: @150ArtsOttawa #150ArtsOttawa. Read artist blog posts, see project descriptions and community partners, and plan your arts experiences using the interactive calendar at [www.150ArtsOttawa.ca](http://www.150ArtsOttawa.ca)

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