



Edition #1 Fall-Winter 2024

UNDER the BOARD LIGHT



At Café Heritage, we deeply value and appreciate the 150 volunteers who generously give their time and talents to support our mission.

Their dedication and hard work are the heart and soul of our organization, making a significant impact on our community.

We are thrilled to honour **President Eric Lachance**, **Anne Bissonnette** and **Mélanie Arsenault** from our board, and **Colette Blais Lalonde**, **Linda Robillard**, and **Roxanne Blais**, to our esteemed Corps d'Élite Volunteer Recognition program, honoring those who have dedicated ten years of service. Their commitment exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism, and we are grateful for their continued support and contributions.

We are delighted to welcome **Jacques** and **Ana Castonguay** to our board as new directors. They both bring a wealth of experience and dedication, and we are confident that their contributions will greatly enhance our efforts and impact. Welcome aboard, **Jacques** and **Ana**!



If you know of family or friends who would like to become a member of the Café Heritage Family, have them call **705-983-4297** or email Gary at garyjm@sympatico.ca.



LIGHTS ON (November 11 to December 5)

We are pleased to announce that once again we will be partnering with the Azilda Community Action Network and Belanger Salach Architects in bringing you our annual Home Decoration Contest. The competition is open to Rayside and Balfour residents, offers you the chance to win great prize money: 1st-\$1,000, 2nd - \$500 and, 3rd-\$250 finishers. [Register here](#) to take part in this festive event.



TREE OF HOPE (November 28, 2024 - 6:00pm)

The Dog House (formerly Desjardins) will be the centre of attraction for our annual tree lighting event. Our Café Heritage Carolers and Santa will be on site to welcome you. Order a [memorial bulb](#) and/or a [Christmas wreath](#) in memory of your loved one.

Thanks to [Johnny's Transportation](#) for their continued support to this wonderful happening.

LE RÉVEILLON (December 14, 2024 - 6:00pm)

Join us for an incredible traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings: turkey, "tourtières", ragoût, potatoes, salads, multiple desserts all wrapped up with an amazing 90-minute concert featuring your favourite Franco-Ontarian, Métis, and Acadian music and dance.

Buy your [tickets](#) and join us in the celebration of our French traditions.



17 NIGHTS of INCREDIBLE DISPLAYS awaits our visitors.

Building on our success over the past two years, Café Heritage is ready to amaze you once again with bringing our favourite Christmas Carols to life.

On December 13, join friends and family for the official launch at 6pm, Whitewater Park in Azilda. We will be open thereafter, from 6pm to 9pm, on December 14 till January 1, 2025.

Read more about this ongoing event [here](#). You will not be disappointed.

KINDLY SHARE OUR VISION...

Join us in preserving the legacy of Roland (Rolly) Dutrisac by celebrating Indigenous and pioneer traditions through engaging and inclusive winter games. What a great way to foster community spirit and deepen cultural appreciation!

Building on our 2023 and 2024 games, we are hoping to grow from 14 teams to 24 in 2025.



The games will take place at Whitewater Park in Azilda, on February 22, followed by a great meal, awards ceremony and a "kitchen house" party that will have you singing along and tapping your feet to great entertainment. [Register your team](#) to take part in these traditional games and/or buy a [ticket](#) for the « kitchen house » party!



CHUCK LABELLE currently living in the former town of Rayside Balfour, is a talented Franco-Canadian singer-songwriter and guitarist from Mattawa, Ontario.

Chuck has and continues to be the inspiration and an **Honorary Chairperson** for Café Heritage’s Festival Noël.

Albums: Chuck has recorded 8 French albums and is currently working on his second English album titled "If I Could Be Young Again", set to be released in 2024.

Notable Achievements: Both his first album, "Chuck", and his second album, "Un cadeau de Noël", achieved Gold status. His 1999 single, "Le Cowboy", was No. 1 on the European country music charts. Receiving numerous awards in addition to be honored as the **2016 Café Corps d’Élite Award** as a professional artist from Rayside-Balfour, he received, in 2015, the **Prix Hommage** award from the **Association des professionnels de la chanson et de la musique** for his contributions to the music industry.

To read more about Café Heritage’s icon, click [here](#).



We are indebted to our funders and sponsors who have and continue to provide funding and guidance in producing our programs and services.

We also take great pride in offering many free services to our thousands of patrons, of note, who attend our summer concerts as well as Côté Park Party, part of our Rayside-Balfour Days Festival.

Café Heritage collaborates with over 40 funders and sponsors. While we might not have the space to promote all of them at once, we aim to highlight more of our supporters in upcoming newsletters.



CANADIAN HERITAGE has been a true partner in that they have, and continue to provide funding support for our annual Rayside-Balfour Heritage Days Festival as well as Festival Noel. Thanks go out to our political partners who recognize the value of the work done by Café Heritage.

DESJARDINS has been with us since we started in 2010. They are annual sponsors for our RendezVOUS Whitewater Program as well as a major contributor to Festival Noël.



We sincerely appreciate their support and look forward to a major investment in making our summer concerts shine. “Stay Tuned”.



BELANGER CONSTRUCTION, FOREST RIDGE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB, and BELMAR BUILDERS make our Rayside-Balfour Heritage Days Festival and Festival Noël possible.



Recognized as a major sponsor, Ron, family, and staff are truly committed to our goal of building a healthy and vibrant community.

Support our local businesses that give back to our community!

BRING YOUR ORGANIZATION TO OUR STAGE

We can customize and create opportunities to help in raising awareness for your value in being recognized as a community champion of arts, culture and heritage.



Kindly call Gary at (705) 918-1534 or email at garyjm@sympatico.ca to explore how we can help.



Café Heritage

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