

February 5, 2009

## Free events at Lit City – Toronto Stories, Toronto Settings – March to May 2009

A three-month citywide celebration of literary Toronto, Lit City – Toronto Stories, Toronto Settings – March to May 2009, commemorates writers who find inspiration in Toronto and use the city as a setting in their work. Author readings, literary walking tours, book launches, panel discussions, exhibits and more connect Toronto authors with architecture, books with buildings and pages with places. Lit City kicks off on the official 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City of Toronto, March 6 - 8 [www.toronto.ca/175](http://www.toronto.ca/175) and culminates with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Doors Open Toronto, May 23 and 24.

The celebration begins at the City Hall library on Friday March 6 with *A City of Writers for 175 Years*, noon to 2 p.m. Dub-diva Lillian Allen and others deliver a gift to Toronto – a poem commissioned by Diaspora Dialogues. Readings by Toronto Book Awards 2008 winner Glen Downie, Toronto's Poet Laureate Pier Giorgio di Cicco and many more. At 7 p.m. author Don Cullen takes us back to the iconic 1960s coffee house and poetry den, for *The Bohemian Embassy Revival*. The line-up includes Rosemary Sullivan reading Gwendolyn MacEwen, Greg Gatenby reading Raymond Souster and musical performances.

The exhibit *Lit City: Toronto through the Eyes of Authors and Artists* opens March 7 (reception 1 to 3 p.m.) at the Market Gallery. The words of Toronto authors Margaret Atwood, Antanas Sileika and others meet the works of Toronto artists Aba Bayefsky, Doris McCarthy and more.

Join author Michael Ondaatje and Toronto Mayor David Miller for the unveiling of the inaugural Project Bookmark Canada plaque, Thursday, April 23, 11 a.m., Bloor Viaduct (west end). Details at [www.projectbookmarkcanada.ca](http://www.projectbookmarkcanada.ca).

April is Keep Toronto Reading 2009 month at the Toronto Public Library. Lit City highlights include Cynthia Dale and Shyam Selvadurai reading from their favourite Toronto books. On the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Doors Open Toronto, May 23 and 24, books meet buildings at venues hosting site-specific author events, exhibits and literary walking tours celebrating books set in Toronto.

Find out about more Lit City events at [www.toronto.ca/litcity](http://www.toronto.ca/litcity). Lit City is produced by the City of Toronto, in partnership with the Toronto Public Library.

Toronto is Canada's largest city and sixth largest government, and home to a diverse population of about 2.6 million people. It is the economic engine of Canada and one of the greenest and most creative cities in North America. In the past three years, Toronto has won numerous awards for quality, innovation and efficiency in delivering public services. Toronto's government is dedicated to prosperity, opportunity and liveability for all its residents.

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