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DON'T FORGET, THE NEWSLETTER IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON OUR [WEBSITE](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER?

English Matters:

- ☺ Joined Mrs. K at a make-your-own wine shop!
- ☺ Enjoyed the escarpment and had tea in the Hamlet of Belfountain. Wow!
- ☺ The Santa Train brought candy to everyone!
- ☺ Attended an okonomiyaki party to say 'Bon Voyage' to departing students



Let us know how [ENGLISH](#) matters [can help you!](#)

English Matters posts Canadian information regularly on Facebook. "Friend" us today!

[CLICK HERE](#)

March Break Activities

Plan **NOW** for March Break!

Click for activity ideas:

- ✳ [Richmond Hill](#)
- ✳ [Toronto](#)

Happy New Year!

2017 is Canada's 150th Birthday!

We're throwing a party all year!

Stay tuned to this website for more information:

<http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1468854891549>

IMPORTANT DATES JANUARY & FEBRUARY

January 1: New Year's Day (Schools, Government Offices and most businesses are closed) Make a resolution for 2017

February 2: Groundhog Day - watch Wiarton Willie. Folklore says, if he sees his shadow, there are 6 more weeks of winter!

February 14: Valentine's Day - show your sweetheart you care – get flowers, a small gift (diamonds?) & go for a romantic dinner!

February 15: Flag Day – Fly the Maple Leaf!

February 20: Family Day (Schools, Government Offices and most businesses are closed) Spend time with your family!

That "Rings a Bell" Quiz

Think back to the last issue for answers

1. What does it mean when we say that puffins "waddle"?
2. What is the Canadian holiday on Dec. 26th?
3. What happens if you stand under mistletoe?

(Answers on page 2)

Things To Do:

New Year's Festival 2017

ふれてみよう 日本のお正月
Sun. Jan. 22, 2016 11:00 – 3:00

[Click for Prices & Details](#)

2017 CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL AUTOSHOW

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
Feb 17 - 26, 2017 [Click Here!](#)



Evergreen Brickworks

Weekends: 11am-6pm
Market
Crafts
Kids Garden
Family Activities
[Click Here for More](#)

Ottawa's Winterlude!

Bring Your Skates!
Feb 3 – 20, 2017



Rogers Centre \$20 - \$65
Jan 28 & 29

Monster Jam!



Canada is 150 Years Old!



The word, 'Confederation' is used in Canada's birthday celebrations. 'Confederation' describes the formation of a political unit formed from groups or people that were independent. The word describes the moment when the first 4 provinces joined together to form Canada. They were Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

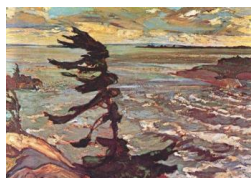
Robert Harris painted the scene but it was destroyed when Canada's Parliament Building burned in 1916. See Harris' original sketch here:

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/robert-harris/>

DID YOU KNOW...?

Level 1 (Beginner)

In 1920, seven Canadian artists decided to show their paintings together. They called themselves The Group of Seven.



Level 2 (Intermediate)

Many of the Group of Seven's works are on display at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) or at the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg, (near Canada's Wonderland).

[Click the painting for more info](#)

Level 3 (Advanced)

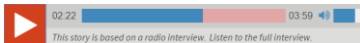
The Group of Seven committed to capturing the unique landscapes of Canada in their paintings. They used a style that broke away from traditional European styles. In the beginning, most of the group were quite poor, but as they became better renowned, their wealth grew. In Nov 2016, a Group of Seven painting by Lawren Harris sold for 11.2 million dollars escalating international interest in Canadian art.

MORE THINGS TO DO:

Canadian Chef Marc Miron Traces Habitant Pea Soup 400 years ago to Samuel de Champlain

Learn the history of this quintessentially Canadian recipe by clicking & listening here:

Click!



Here are the basic ingredients:

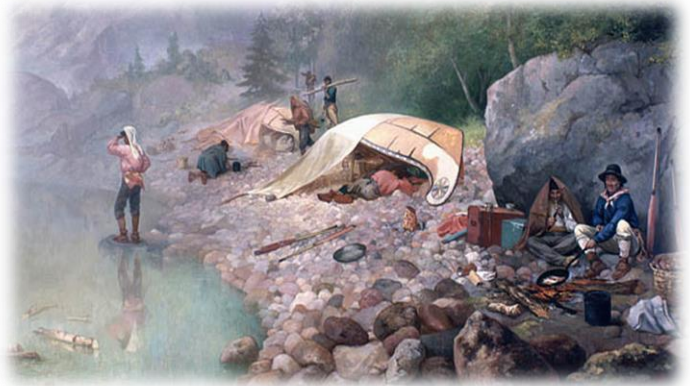
- 2 cups dried yellow peas
- 2 quarts cold water
- 2 onions chopped
- 1 stalk celery, chopped
- 1 carrot chopped
- 1 ham bone
- 1 bay leaf
- salt and pepper
- 1 pinch thyme

See Chef Marc Miron's complete recipe by clicking [here](#)

CANADIAN HISTORY & CULTURE CORNER

Frances Anne Hopkins (2 February, 1838 – 5 March, 1919)

This is the artwork of Frances Anne Hopkins. Ms. Hopkins was born in England. Her father was an Admiral so her family was upper middle class. She came to Canada at 20 years old. She married a Hudson's Bay Company official whose job was to travel and check the outposts for the company. Ms. Hopkins travelled along the fur trade routes of the Great Lakes and to Temiskaming on the Ottawa River with him and the voyageurs by canoe. It was unusual for a woman to do this. Her paintings reveal important and rare aspects of 19th century Canadian life. They are lively and she was intimately skilled at depicting the challenging skills needed to navigate a canoe. Ms. Hopkins' paintings are familiar and beloved to most Canadians



Voyageurs at Dawn 1871

for the historical accuracy she portrays so meticulously. She felt an affinity to the Mohawks, and the wheel symbol you can see on the prow of the canoe expresses this.

There are many historical details of the life of the voyageurs including the equipment shown, the upturned canoe used for shelter and the fish being cooked for breakfast. There are small observant details such as the moss on the rocks, the reflection of the voyageur who is searching the horizon and the bark on the birch log floating near the shore. Her paintings give the impression that if we take a step towards the painting we can be part of the scene.

Find more of Frances Anne Hopkins paintings by [clicking here](#)

What is a 'Habitant'?

In the early 1600's, the French King sent Samuel de Champlain to sail to Canada. Then, he sent farmers or 'serfs' to Quebec as settlers to work in bondage under the rule of a *Gouverneur*. Later, men called 'habitants' settled in Quebec. Habitants were free to own land and join the fur trade. Over time, they were in stories, paintings and even tourism. Now, they are a deep part of the culture and folklore of Quebec.

Answers to Quiz

1. Walk
2. Boxing Day – a day to donate money into the 'poor box' at Church
3. You will be kissed!


Nostalgic News

Click [here](#) to see info about:

- Valentine's Day
- Family Day
- Groundhog Day

Click [here](#) to see where to:

- skate and sled (page 3)



**At Boralia restaurant,
you can eat the history of
Canadian cuisine.**

**There are traditional Aboriginal dishes
and recipes from early settlers and
immigrants of the 18th & 19th centuries.**

59 Ossington Ave

Click the Caribou
for the website

"Take a trip back in time at this Ossington restaurant where historic recipes of native peoples and Canada's early settlers get revamped for modern palettes."

Boralia: A history lesson in Canadiana that tastes unforgettably good. *THE GLOBE AND MAIL NEWSPAPER*