



Press Release

Visiting Scottish storytellers and tradition bearers

March 8, 2019 – For Immediate Release

Storytellers Circle of Halifax is pleased to announce that Jess Smith and Séoras Macpherson, two of Scotland's most respected elders, will be visiting Halifax at the end of March after appearing at the 2019 Toronto Storytelling Festival.

Both storytellers will be featured at a ceilidh at St. George's Round Church Hall on Maitland Street on Mar 28th at 7:00 pm and will be participating in a Helen Creighton Folklore Society special "What the Folk" open mic evening, Mar 29, 7:00 pm at the Local Council of Women House, 989 Young Ave, Halifax, as well as visiting the South Shore Waldorf school in Blockhouse on April 1.

[Jess Smith](#) is a Scottish Traveller who spent 12 of her early years travelling around the countryside in a single-decker bus with her parents and seven siblings. She lives in picturesque Glen Lednock where Pictish warriors once forged their swords. A strong desire to research her diverse culture and led to six published books. Smith continues to travel wherever the wind blows to share her story and the tales of her culture. She is deeply committed to the respect and preservation of the Scottish Traveller culture. She ran a long and successful campaign to have a site in Argyll known as "The Tinker's Heart," sacred to Travellers, protected as a national monument. Jess and her husband David recorded Travellers sharing their



stories in an award-winning film called “[A Sense Of Identity](#)”. Smith will be giving a presentation about this project at the Central Library on Thursday, March 28 at 10 AM. This will also include stories of Smith’s early years living a way of life that has all but disappeared in modern Scotland. The session is free, but as space is limited, registration is required through Eventbrite:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2393135117586232>



[Séoras Macpherson](#) is a Seannachaidh, a tradition bearer from the Isle of Skye in Scotland. At the age of three on his Grandfather’s knee, he began learning the traditional stories that had been passed down through generations of his family from Skye and Argyll. These include stories of the epic heroes Fionn and Cuchullin, the legendary queen Sgiath, known as the greatest of all warriors, as well as tales of fairies, water horses and the seal people. Séoras has lectured internationally on Druidical spirituality, published four books, and appeared in several films.

Time for media interviews can be made available.

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