

Oral History Workshop

On Tuesday, June 12, from 8:30 AM through to 1:00 PM, the Portland District and Area Heritage Society will be hosting a workshop on Collecting Oral Histories.

We would like to have these skills available to the Historical Society, in order to capture some of the rich but undocumented history that is held in the minds of our senior residents here in South Frontenac Township.

Laura Murray, Professor of English at Queen's University, has led Oral History collection for several projects (see the Swamp Ward and Inner Harbour History Project at <http://www.swampwardhistory.com>). In the course of these projects, she has analyzed and documented the skills required and has created a workshop to share these skills with others.

Learning Objectives: This introductory workshop will help attendees

- Understand the difference between oral history interviews and news or journalism interviews, and between oral history research and archival history research;
- Think broadly about the range of people you might want to interview and how to approach potential participants;
- Set up a good interview environment in terms of audio, comfort, time;
- Prepare for an interview, and be able to adjust on the spot to what emerges;
- Understand the importance of informed consent so your interview can be used in future;
- Decide what kind of recording equipment is most suited to you and your project;
- Plan and conduct an interview;
- Draw out the information from the subject.

This workshop will be down-to-earth and practical, covering the process, tactics, and mechanics of interviewing.

There will be opportunities for questions and answers, as well as hands-on practice.

Intended Audience: This workshop is intended for people who are interested in interviewing people to collect oral histories.

Space is limited, so if you will be unable in the next few years to help with this collection, please leave your space for someone else.

Coffee, other drinks, and snacks will be provided.

Summary:

Date: Tuesday, June 12

Time: 8:30 AM through to 1:00 PM

**Location: Sydenham Library Community Meeting Room.
4412 Wheatley Street
Sydenham, ON
K0H 2T0**

<https://goo.gl/maps/Q4AvC9H5pkE2>

Cost: Free to attendees who confirm in advance.

**RSVP to: John McDougall
613-374-2516
john.mcdougall@xplornet.ca**

Please RSVP by Friday, June 8.

If you have already confirmed your attendance with Alan Boyce, then you do not need to RSVP a second time.