



Clare ★ 250

A Remarkable Year of Commemoration at the Municipality of Clare

In 2018, the Municipality of Clare celebrated the 250th anniversary of its founding. With funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Department of Acadian Affairs, the Clare 250 Ad Hoc Committee organized and took part in a variety of activities and events throughout the year. The Committee also prepared a list of 250 activities to do in Clare, which was published in the Clare Activity Guide and shared on its website and on social media through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

KEY CLARE 250 ACTIVITIES IN 2018



January 19, 2018 Official launch and performance of Solomon Maillet's journey to Clare

During the Council meeting for the Municipality of Clare and to kickstart Clare 250, Anne LeBlanc, Patrick Duffy and Maryse Wagner performed a skit about the arrival of Solomon Maillet and his journey to Clare. About fifteen spectators took in the performance in the Council Chambers of the Municipality of Clare. A recording of the performance was then broadcast online, which was well received by the community.

January to December 2018

The 150 +100 femmes inspirantes de la Baie Sainte-Marie (Clare) N.-É. project

In 2017, to mark Canada's 150th anniversary, *l'Association Madeleine LeBlanc* celebrated 150 inspiring women from the Clare area. In 2018, to commemorate Clare's 250th anniversary, the association continued its project with writeups of 100 more inspiring women who made an impact in the region. These tributes were so popular that the association compiled them in a book, published in April 2019.



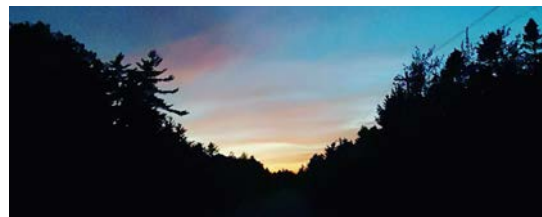
Spring 2018 The Côte à Côte project

In the spring of 2018, under the coordination of Vickie Porter and Valérie Nadon, the grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 students from Clare's four elementary schools wrote and recorded six songs commemorating the closing of the Saint-Albert and Jean-Marie-Gay elementary schools. This project was a partnership between *la Société acadienne de Clare* and Clare 250.

June to September 2018

Traditional night hikes with Paul Lalonde

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the Acadians in Clare and as part of the Clare 250 celebrations, the *Nuit Stella* night hikes were free for residents and visitors to the region in 2018. A total of 136 people took part throughout the summer.



June 12, 2018 Launch of the exhibit "Aperçus de la vie à la Baie Sainte-Marie"

Approximately fifty guests attended the launch of the exhibit "Aperçus de la vie à la Baie Sainte-Marie" at Rendez-vous de la Baie. The exhibit was a reinterpretation of a virtual album that was part of the Community Albums project by the Council of Nova Scotia Archives and Nova Scotia Archives. Its goal was to tell the stories of Nova Scotia communities from as far back as 1867 and to promote the province's archival heritage.



June 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, 2018
Clare dans un soir 2

Back for a second round, the members of the musical group Cy prepared a new musical comedy based on some of Clare's pivotal moments. The performances took place at the Richelieu, where a total of 700 people took part. Due to the play's popularity, two additional shows were added.



July 5, 2018
Official opening of the Cape Saint Mary Lighthouse Park
 Members of the public were invited to attend the official opening of the Cape Saint Mary Lighthouse Park and the unveiling of the monument commemorating those residents of the Municipality of Clare who were lost at sea. The monument, entitled "Coming Home," was sculpted by local artist Marc Graff.



June 27, 2018
Clare 250 commemorative quilt

Members of *la Guilde Acadienne de Clare* designed a dazzling quilt using the colours of the Acadian flag to commemorate Clare's 250th anniversary. The quilt was unveiled during a meeting of the guild on June 27 and was then proudly displayed as the focal point of the Quilt Expo at Église Sacré-Cœur in Saulnierville in July.



July 28, 2018
Opening concert for the Festival acadien de Clare
 Clare 250 was a sponsor of the opening concert for the 63rd edition of the *Festival acadien de Clare*. The concert, at Université Sainte-Anne, paid tribute to the musicians and music from Clare. More than 25 artists from the region performed.



July 1, 2018
Canada Day and Clare 250 celebration

Guests were treated to a sunny day at Smugglers Cove Provincial Park in Meteghan. There were activities for participants of all ages, including a performance by the group *Pieds à Terre*, children's activities, bouncy castles and a barbecue. In all, 700 people attended the celebration. The day ended with a fireworks display behind the Villa Acadienne in Meteghan.



August 1 to 17, 2018
Collection Communautaire du 250^e
 The exhibit, which was held at Église Sainte-Marie, consisted of a collection of objects from then and now that depict life in Clare. The objects were donated by community members for the duration of the exhibit.



August 2, 2018
Wine and cheese evening

Two hundred people took part in the *Festival acadien de Clare's* wine and cheese evening, which honoured the business community. Held in partnership with *la Chambre de commerce de Clare*, the evening also served as the official launch of Clare 250 wines by Petite Rivière Vineyards. The Municipality commissioned a work of art for each label: the watercolour "*Pêcheurs de coques*" by Denise Comeau for the white wine and the watercolour "*Boués*" by Diane Nadon for the red wine.

August 15, 2018
National Acadian Day picnic

To celebrate Acadian Day on August 15, a mass was held at Église Saint-Bernard, followed by a chicken barbeque in the church basement. It was a lovely day despite the rain, with games for people young and old as well as music and square dancing. In all, 300 people attended.



September 5, 2018
Commemoration of the arrival of Joseph Dugas and family in Clare

During the Council in Committee meeting at the office of the Municipality, Anne LeBlanc presented a play honouring the arrival of Joseph Dugas and his family in Clare. Approximately 50 spectators attended.

September 22-23, 2018
Mini Fondo and Gran Fondo Baie Sainte-Marie

For the fourth edition of the Gran Fondo—and for the Mini Fondo's first edition—Clare 250 covered half the cost of the participation medals. The Clare 250 logo was displayed on one side of each medal. In all, close to 1,000 cyclists took part in the Gran Fondo and 95 young riders participated in the Mini Fondo.



October 3 to December 3, 2018
Art workshop with le Conseil des Arts de la Baie

With funding from Clare 250, le Conseil des Arts de la Baie held 10 art workshops on Wednesday nights at la Manivelle in the basement of the Lisa T. Café at Université Sainte-Anne. For a minimal fee, participants could learn such art forms as felting, crochet, jewellery making, print making and sea glass art. There was also a workshop on putting together an exhibit.

October 12, 2018
Célébrons Clare 250 concert

Musicians Kenneth Saulnier and Pieds à Terre performed at the Château at Université Sainte-Anne to celebrate Clare's 250th anniversary. A crowd of 200 people brought their good vibes and their dancing shoes to the event.





October 13, 2018

Reinstallation of the Saulnierville Station sign

Approximately 80 people came to the site of the former Saulnierville Station to celebrate the reinstallation of the repaired sign for Saulnierville Station, which pays tribute to the song that made it famous. Special guests musician Kenneth Saulnier and singer-songwriter Denis Comeau were there for the event.



October 13, 2018

Clare 250 pumpkin patch

A group of 15 people young and old designed some unique scarecrows at the Clare Veterans Centre. These autumnal creations were the main attraction at the pumpkin patch that sprouted up next to the Veterans Centre for a few weeks in October. Most of the materials were provided by Clare Recreation and Clare 250.



October 15, 2018

Le parler de la Baie : 250 ans d'histoire

With the support of Clare 250, *le Centre acadien de l'Université Sainte-Anne* and *la Société acadienne de Clare* welcomed 130 people to salle Marc-Lescarbot. Anne LeBlanc gave a theatrical presentation and Yves Cormier, author of *Le dictionnaire du français acadien*, gave a presentation about words specific to *la Baie Sainte-Marie*.



November 28, 2018

La Chambre de commerce de Clare's Wall of Fame

La Chambre de commerce de Clare partnered with Clare 250 and Université Sainte-Anne for the Wall of Fame project, which celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit that has existed in Clare since its founding and that still resonates today through its many businesses. The inaugural evening honoured Bernardin J. Comeau, Augustin and Elizabeth Theriault, as well as Mary-Margaret Deveau.



December 15, 2018

RBC Skate with Santa

Santa Claus paid a visit to the arena at Université Sainte-Anne one Saturday afternoon, but he wasn't the only one spreading Christmas cheer! Members of Clare Recreation handed out 100 Clare 250 tuques to participants of all ages.

The Municipality of Clare wishes to thank the members of the Clare 250 Ad Hoc committee for their excellent work throughout 2018. Thanks also to the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Department of Acadian Affairs, as well as the region's partner organizations, for their support. And many thanks to the residents of Clare who took part in the activities. Thanks to your participation, the Clare 250 project was a great success!

CLARE 250 AD HOC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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