



## Call for Papers

### “The Spirit of Canada” a Proud Canadian Literary Heritage Celebration

October 20 to 22, 2017

Leaskdale, Ontario

The Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario (LMMSO), located in Uxbridge Township, Region of Durham, is hosting a three-day celebration to mark Canada’s 150th Birthday. We are looking for keynote speakers and plenary session speakers. (25 to 40 minutes per presentation) LMMSO invites abstracts (200-250 words) for presentations with a historical, cultural, and/or literary interest that focus on Montgomery’s works and the growth of a Canadian literary identity.

Among the societal changes that took place in Canada during the lifetime of L.M. Montgomery was an emerging sense of national identity. These changes had their beginning in the years immediately after confederation took place in 1867. At that time, Canadian “patriotism” was marked by a strong loyalty to Great Britain, the “Mother Country,” and to Queen Victoria. The ensuing decades would see Canada become of age, partly through its participation in conflicts in distant lands as an ally of Britain, such as the Boer War which took place when Montgomery was in her mid-twenties. “O *Canada*” became popular as a national anthem in the early twentieth century. The Great War (1914-1918) created an enormous change in how Canada and Canadians saw themselves and, as we know, was a source of great anguish for this famous author and affected her deeply. The national patriotism that resulted, was reflected by Montgomery in her writing.

We are looking for papers that utilize Montgomery’s novels, journals and letters to expand on the idea of patriotism and national identity. This can take the form of Montgomery’s own views and those she imputes to her literary characters. It can also include Montgomery’s own efforts to create a strong Canadian literary identity.

Due: April 15, 2017

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