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?Savour Shelburne? this weekend for Culture Days

By Marni Walsh

Hundreds of Canadian towns will be celebrating arts and culture across the country this weekend with free hands-on activities and grassroots entertainment.

Although, it is the seventh season for the national event, Shelburne will participate for the first time from Friday, September 30 to Saturday, October 1, with local organizers working hard to bring a wide range of events to the community in celebration of area artists, creators, food and beverage entrepreneurs and performers.

One of those organizers, Sharon Grant, brought the idea to the Shelburne Business Improvement Association (BIA) after hearing about the event at an Economic Committee meeting, where she is a sitting member.

Grant says the BIA and Shelburne Council approved funding, and the idea gave way to the creation of "Savour Shelburne" to celebrate Shelburne's culture in food, drink and art.

Savour Shelburne takes place this Friday between 5 and 9 p.m. when many stores in Shelburne are closed.

?We'd like to showcase our town and its culture on a Friday night when usually there is ?nothing to do' in Shelburne,? says Sharon Grant.

The public is invited to check the event schedule available around town and go from event to event during the four hour period on Friday night.

Food, drink or art providers are matched up with merchants in Shelburne so you can enjoy the event, as well as browse the store where the event is located. There is a full list of events planned for Saturday as well.

?The merchants and the stores are very excited and looking forward to hosting the public,? says Sharon.

On Friday night, there will be beer and cider tasting, samples of gelato ice cream, demos of how to make perogies and butter tarts, instructions on how to make "mocktails" with sampling, flower arranging, open mic, painting in the park, an artist demonstrating his technique and much more for families to enjoy free of charge.

Sohayla Smith founder of Troupe-Adore is part of a small Shelburne Culture Days committee. She says her group is ?very excited to be a part of it, and hopes that the citizens of Shelburne really take advantage of the experiences and hands-on opportunities that Shelburne Culture Days Weekend presents.?

On Friday evening, young people with an interest in the Canadian music industry will have a chance to meet David Record of Metal Works Studios, an award winning, international touring, Canadian Hip Hop artist who filmed a commercial with Drake for the MTV Video Music Awards.

David will be making a presentation at Carmie's Kitchen at 124 Main Street between 5 and 9 p.m.

Friday, September 30 from 5 ? 9 PM

Gelato Ice Cream, 124 Main Street East at Carmie's Kitchen
Easy Appetizers & Quilting, 147 Main Street West at Cobwebs & Caviar
Open Mic in Jack Downing Park with Troupe-Adore
Art with J. Robert Allen, 137 Main Street West at Manaax Plumbing
Perogies & Butter Tarts, 120 Main Street East at Jelly Café
Literacy Living & Learning, 201 Owen Sound Street at Shelburne Public Library
Mocktails, 104 Main Street East at Canadian Bath Bombs
Beer & Cider Tasting, 702 Main Street East, Brick Brewing at the LCBO
Flower Arranging, 713 Industrial Road at French's Flowers
Cultural Healing, 155 Main St. W., Suite 102 at Being in Balance

Saturday, October 1

10 AM to 11AM: **Art Meditation** 116 Main Street East at Breathe Natural/Soaring Heart

10 AM to 3 PM: Scarf Art 128 Main Street East at Carravaggio IDA Drug Store

11 AM to 2 PM: Painting in the Park, Jack Downing Park with Troupe-Adore

For information on this weekend's Culture Days events, go to culturedays.ca where you can see what is planned Canada-wide, and search for activities at Shelburne. Families can also find information at www.facebook.com/ShelburneCultureDaysWeekend.