

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Canadian Initiative Brings Students and Seniors Together to Preserve a Lifetime of Stories

Stories Across Generations® launches a pilot program that connects high school students with seniors to record, preserve, and celebrate personal life stories.

MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK – June 2026 — A new Canadian initiative invites students and seniors to sit down together, share experiences, and preserve the stories that have helped shape communities across the country.

Stories Across Generations®, created by New Brunswick author and community leader **Tony Hebert**, is an innovative intergenerational storytelling program that pairs students with seniors to capture memories, life lessons, and personal histories before they are lost to time.

Built on the success of the free One Memory at a Time® senior storytelling program, now used in communities across Canada, Stories Across Generations creates meaningful connections between youth and older adults while helping seniors preserve their memories for future generations.

The program combines guided storytelling, active listening, and modern technology to help students record conversations with seniors, organize their memories, and transform them into written stories to share with family members and future generations.

"Every senior carries a library of stories," said Tony Hebert, creator of Stories Across Generations. "The challenge is that too often those stories are never recorded. This program gives young people the opportunity to become listeners, writers, and preservers of history while helping seniors know that their lives and experiences matter."

Through the program, students read guided memory stories and prompts designed specifically for older adults. Seniors are encouraged to share memories of childhood, family life, school days, work experiences, traditions, faith, community events, and lessons learned throughout their lives.

Students then use simple recording tools and software-assisted transcription to help transform these conversations into written stories, memoirs, legacy documents, or family keepsakes.

Benefits for Seniors

Stories Across Generations helps seniors:

- Share memories in a safe and supportive environment
- Preserve personal and family history
- Leave a legacy for future generations
- Strengthen social connections
- Reinforce identity and dignity

Benefits for Students

Students gain valuable experience in:

- Active listening and communication
- Community engagement
- Volunteer service
- Interviewing and storytelling
- Writing and editing
- Understanding the lived experiences of older generations

Addressing Two Important Challenges

The program responds to two growing concerns facing Canadian communities:

1. Increasing social isolation among older adults.
2. The loss of personal and community history as generations become more disconnected.

By bringing students and seniors together around conversation and storytelling, Stories Across Generations creates opportunities for meaningful relationships while preserving memories that might otherwise disappear.

Pilot Program Now Seeking Partners

Stories Across Generations is currently seeking pilot partners among:

- High schools
- School districts
- Retirement communities
- Long-term care homes
- Community organizations
- Volunteer groups
- Intergenerational programs

Participating organizations will receive free access to student training guides, the memory program workbook "One Memory at a Time", student resources, implementation support, evaluation materials, and storytelling tools designed to ensure a positive experience for both students and seniors.

About Stories Across Generations©

Stories Across Generations© is an intergenerational storytelling initiative developed by Tony Hebert and the Foundation for a Better Future. The program helps students and seniors work together to preserve personal histories, strengthen community connections, and celebrate the stories that make every life unique. The initiative is an extension of **One Memory at a Time©**, a free storytelling and memory-support program currently being used by senior organizations and communities across Canada. It is available in both French and English.

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Tagline: "Every senior has a story. Every student can help preserve it."

Media Headline Option: Students and Seniors Team Up to Preserve Canada's Living History

