

Fair Trade Fair dishes up variety package

By Trevor Greenway

How many forks can fit in a large stainless steel salad bowl? You'll have your chance to guess at this year's Fair Trade Fair, which on May 15 is marking its third such event since La Peche was designated a fair-trade municipality in 2007.

Over the past year, the Fair Trade Town Committee has been collecting unused and unwanted dishes for a dish-lending library, where residents could borrow up to 1,000 pieces of dinnerware for big community events.

"We are hoping to hit the 1,000-mark," said committee member Anne Winship, who said the library is still looking for dishes.



Clockwise from left: La Peche Mayor Robert Bussiere, Anne Winship, Alise Marlane, Jay Sinha, Angus Winship and Lynne Berthiaume pose in front of La Peche's fair trade sign last spring. Low Down file photo

The guessing contest will officially launch the dish-lending library and is just one of many events taking place in front of Solstice Books and Music on Riverside Dr. in Wakefield.

This year's Fair trade agenda will feature music, music and more music.

"We want to make music always a part of it," said Winship. "We really want to support local musicians."

The music lineup includes Claude Lachaine (Cajun and blues), Nathan Curry (Celtic folk music) and Jan and Jon Purcell (Bluegrass and country). Later in the afternoon, audiences will enjoy a trip around the globe, when DJ BeatScience spins world beats in the afternoon. Be-

fore the music starts, children's can enjoy a story-time session with Johanna Nousiainen, from 10-11 a.m. To end the day, Theatre Wakefield will put on a sketch called "A Lesson in Fine Dining." Fair Trade Fair organizer Alise Marlane isn't exactly sure what it involves, but she has her suspicions that it will be a Julia Childs cooking-show spinoff, featuring Scott Hebert-Daly and Lara McIver.

"They will be doing some cooking with some fair-trade goods," said Marlane. "It's going to be really funny."

The theme of this year's Fair Trade Fair is "Wellness of the Community," and will focus on sustainable, local food as well as healthy living. During the

fair, Grade 6 students from the Wakefield Elementary School will be play host to its last big fundraiser, a bake sale, to help pay for this year's graduation ceremonies.

The fair will feature kiosks from local vendors, including Bean Fair Coffee, Burro Borracho, Life Without Plastic, La Foret, JD's Patties, and more. New this year are Jolica, a Canadian-based company offering fair-trade jewelry, and Michelle Oser, who will be showcasing her recycled teak wood sculptures. A Fair Trade three-year anniversary celebration is set for sometime in the fall.

The Fair Trade Fair begins at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.fairtradevillage.ca.