

Contra Fest 2015 Schedule 27 September - 3 October



(23 September 2015 version)

EVENT	DETAILS
Sunday, 27 September 2015	Afternoon & Evening at First Baptist Church
562 Ketch Harbour Road, Portuguese Cove: 9:30-11:00 Meet, Greet and Music Seats reserved for first 40 Gold Supporter buyers.	Welcome our American guests and kick off the festival at a beautiful home in Portuguese Cove: Introductions, mini concert, mingle over lunch. (Attendance by invitation to Gold Supporters.)
11:15-1:15 Callers Teaching and Transitions	Workshop at Portuguese Cove for callers on teaching and understanding transitions from call to call.
First Baptist Church, 1300 Oxford Street, Halifax: 2:30-5:00 Contra Roots and Relatives	Workshop for dancers on traditional squares, classic contras, and some circle dances.
3:00-5:00 Musicians - Medleys	Workshop for musicians on medley creation and smooth transitions between tunes.
5:30-7:00 Potluck Supper	All welcome! Bring a dish to share and please list ingredients to inform those with food sensitivities.
7:30-8:00 New Dancer Intro	We encourage new contra dancers to arrive early in order to learn some basic contra calls and concepts.
8:00-10:30 Contras and Cousins Dance A variety-filled evening with selections from the wider world of contra-related dances.	Explore contra's place within the broader folk dance scene: you will learn classic contras, and sample related dance forms such as traditional squares, mixers, round waltzes, and even a polka or two!
Monday, 28 September 2015	Afternoon and Evening in Hatchet Lake
Dartmouth High School, 95 Victoria Road 10-11:10 Workshop for Music Students	Workshop on playing contra music for Dartmouth High School music students.
Prospect Road Community Centre 2141 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake:	
4:00-5:00 Guided Hike: (Meet at centre) High Head Trail in Prospect to coast, Or drive down to picturesque Prospect Enjoy the spectacular coast southwest of Halifax.	<u>Meet at 3:45 at the Prospect Road Community</u> <u>Centre</u> to take part in a beautiful local hike. High Head is a rugged coastal hike about 12 km beyond the Community Centre. Wear sturdy, grippy footwear, and dress warmly for coast. *
5:30-6:30 Prospect Road Community Centre Supper (Seafood or Vege Chili) (Centre is 10 km on Rte 333 from Exit 2 off Rte 103)	Join us for a locally prepared, affordable, community supper. Choice of vegetarian chili (\$8) or seafood chowder (\$12).
6:30-8:00 Family-friendly Community Dance (with open band)	A fun-focused and family-friendly community dance. Share the joy in simple circle and contra dances. Musicians welcome to play along with the staff.
8:00-9:00 Workshops for Musicians and Callers School and Community Dances	Learn about appropriate music and dances for family- friendly community dances

Tuesday, 29 September 2015	Evening Community Dance
Sacred Heart Upper Elementary Students	Sacred Heart School is a coeducational independent
5820 Spring Garden Road, Halifax: 10:30-11:45 Contras at Sacred Heart	Catholic day school. Two contra dancing sessions for the Upper Elementary Students (boys and girls).
Le Marchant Elementary School	the opper Etementary students (boys and girts).
6141 Watt Street, Halifax:	Le Marchant St. Thomas Elementary is a central
1:00-3:00 Contras at Le Marchant	Halifax public school with some French immersion classes. Two 1 hour sessions for Grade 3-4 students.
All Nations Christian Reformed Church,	
2535 Robie Street, Halifax:	Workshop for callers on stage presence and
3-5:00 Callers Stage and Microphone	microphone craft. Also practice for Friday evening.
5:00-6:15 Organizers Supper	Discussion about CDSS support for dance groups
Dartmouth High School, 95 Victoria Road:	Join us at Dartmouth High for a fun-filled community
7:30-10 Dartmouth High Contra Dance	dance all proceeds go towards the school's Fine Arts programs.
Fund Raiser (Gym floor shoes required.)	(Contra Fest package-holders enter for free.)
Wednesday, 30 September 2015	Wolfville Day
Wolfville Elementary, 19 Acadia Street	Introduction to contras for the grade 7 and 8 students
1-2:40 Contras at Wolfville Elementary	at Wolfville Elementary School (1:05-1:50, 1:50-2:35)
Wolfville Lions Club Hall, 36 Elm Avenue:	Workshop for musicians on good contra dance tunes,
3:30-5:30 Musicians Tunes and Use	creating medleys and contra dance structure.
3:30-5:30 CallersCalling for New Dancers	Workshop for callers on calling for new dancers teaching and appropriate choreography.
Wolfville Farmers' Market, 24 Elm Avenue:	All are welcome to a \$12 community supper at the
5:30-7:00 Farmers' Market Supper	market before the dance. Here is a chance to check out the local food and artisan crafts.
7:30-8:00 New Dancer Intro	We encourage new contra dancers to arrive early in order to learn some basic contra calls and concepts.
8:00-10:30 Valley Harvest Contra Dance	Contras are spreading into the Annapolis Valley as
Join us in the beautiful Annapolis Valley for a Contra	evidenced by an enthusiastic new group in Wolfville.
Dance at the Wolfville Farmers' Market.	Come 'Share the Joy' at our open band contra dance.
Thursday, 1 October 2015	Afternoon & Evening at All Nations Church
Shambhala School	a transfer a transfer a transfer a
5450 Russell Street, Halifax:	Shambhala is a non-denominational private school
11-12:30 Contras at Shambhala School	with creative curriculum, integrating academics and art. Contra dancing for grades 3 - 8.
All Nations Christian Reformed Church	
2535 Robie Street, Halifax:	Workshop for callers on selecting and using various
2-4 Callers and Musicians work together	music styles. Also discussing other aspects of working with musicians. Joint session for callers and
4:00-5:00 Jam Session	musicians. Followed by a short Jam Session.
5:30-6:30 Communal Supper	Casual question and discussion time.
7:30-8:00 New Dancer Intro	We encourage new contra dancers to arrive early in order to learn some basic contra calls and concepts.
8:00-10:30 "MUC-ky Dance"	Contemporary dances 'zesty' choreo maximizing
MUC = Modern Urban Contra a high energy evening	activity level and swings, alternative music dances
of contemporary dances, and some electronic music!	flowing to electronic dance beats.

Friday, 2 October 2015	All events at All Nations Church
All Nations Christian Reformed Church 2535 Robie Street, Halifax: 10-12 Callers More Advanced Figures	Workshop for callers on understanding and managing degrees of choreographic difficulty. The discussion will assume some calling experience, but all callers are welcome to attend.
2:00-4:00 Callers and Musicians Practice New Skills for evening dance	Practice session for Friday evening callers with staff and local musicians.
2:00-4:00 Alternate workshop for calling at weddings and social gatherings.	Ideas and practice time for those interested in calling for friends and family and other social events.
5:00 Restaurant Supper by reservation	Limited space. For reservations contact Kat at (902) 880-1318 or through halifaxcontradances@gmail.com
7:30-10:30 Dress Up and Dance Party We encourage everyone to dress 'creatively' for this multi-caller event. Wear whatever fashion you like full-on costume, a fancy outfit, or a colourful shirt!	This dance will feature callers who have been learning from our American guests as well as a sampling of Irish, Scottish, Cape Breton and Square dances lead by local callers.
Saturday, 3 October 2015	All events at St. Andrew's United Church
St. Andrew's United Church 6036 Coburg Road, Halifax: 10:00-12:00 Contra Styling Workshop	Workshop for dancers on styling, leading and following, giving weight, transitions, and injury-free dancing.
10:00-12:00 Musicians Components	Workshop for musicians that will explore the components of good contra dance music.
2:00-4:00 More Challenging Contras 2:00-4:00 Quirky Moves and Odd Forms	Workshop for dancers focusing on exploring some more challenging or quirky choreography. Two rooms in action to accommodate various experience levels.
5:30-7:00 Potluck Supper	All welcome! Bring a dish to share and please list ingredients to inform those with food sensitivities.
7:30-8:00 New Dancer Intro	We encourage new contra dancers to arrive early in order to learn some basic contra calls and concepts.
8:00-10:30 Grand Finale Contra Dance With Open Band - all musicians welcome A huge community dance celebration to wrap up our Centennial Tour Contra Fest!	This is our final evening to enjoy the talent and passion of our visiting CDSS staff. Whoop it up! Open Band: local musicians welcome to play along with our visiting guest musicians.

Notes for Dancers:

- Wear comfortable clothing, layers are best.
- Wear comfortable shoes that stay on and allow some sliding along the floor.
- Bring a bottle of water.
- No experience necessary, no need to come with a partner.
- All Dances will be taught by our visiting American Contra Callers with local team support.

Legend: Events for everyone Events for callers and musicians Events for students at local schools

* Hikers will meet at the Prospect Road Community Centre at 3:45 pm to drive to the hike location together. Directions if needed: From the Community Centre follow NS-333 about 6 km and then turn left turn onto Prospect Bay Road. After 4.4 km, turn right on Seligs Road, then left on Jamils Road and right on Hages Lane. Follow it to the end and park there. There is an ocean view from the parking lot. The trail continues ahead through the woods. It takes just a few minutes to reach a spectacular viewing area. There is a linear trail along the coast to the left going about 4 km to Indian Point Road in Prospect. Wear appropriate hiking shoes.