

# Between Friends



It's both uncanny and appropriate, as I write my column for this Canada Day issue, that I'm sitting by my hotel window overlooking the harbour in Charlottetown, where the first steps were taken toward Confederation in 1864. (High school exam questions about the historic Charlottetown Conference still buzz in my head!)

My time here in Prince Edward Island has reminded me how much I love this country and how grateful I am to call Canada home. And, as with every visit here, I realize that the people are at the root of that love.

The last time I was here, I got to spend a morning on the water with lobster fisherman Mark Jenkins, who runs Top Notch Charters. I got more out of that trip than a lobster lunch: I got a lesson in local history and a newfound respect for a profession that is an important part of our East Coast heritage. Mark, a fourth-generation fisherman, has been on the water since he was 12 years old. His grandfather was a fisherman and farmer; his brothers, Cody and Scott, are lobstermen; his sisters, Robin and Gayle, are married to fishermen; and his mom and dad, Bonnie and Craig, still fish. Being out on the water with Mark and Cody, hearing their stories and witnessing their passion and love for what they do

reinforced my respect for Canadians who continue to honour their roots.

In this issue you'll get a true taste of Canada. You'll meet some of our athletes heading to London to represent Canada in the 2012 Summer Olympics. As part of our Cross-Canada Cooks series, you'll experience a taste of the Northwest Territories. We've also created a make-ahead Canada Day menu that will make your festive entertaining a breeze. If you're planning on travelling the country this summer, you won't want to miss Doug O'Neill's budget travel feature, jam-packed with great information to help you plan your best vacation ever – without emptying your pocketbook. And check out his Travel Talk posts on The Life Blog for additional summer holiday tips, whether you're wine tasting in Welland, Ont., or sampling perogies in Winnipeg.

Wherever you are this Canada Day, make a point of mixing good food with good friends and family – the essential Canadian ingredients!

Happy Canada Day.

– Susan Antonacci  
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## My favourite thing THIS MONTH



If you love summer entertaining as much as I do, you'll be pleased to hear that our second edition of *Canadian Living: The Barbecue Collection* (Transcontinental, \$32.95) is available in stores now!



## ALL IN THE FAMILY

Cody, Craig, Mark and Scott Jenkins' kin have been fishing off the coast of Prince Edward Island for four generations.

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