**NB journalist launching new book on province’s oldest town**

*Nathan DeLong’s debut book is the most recent version of the Woodstock area’s rich history*

**WOODSTOCK, NB –** Woodstock-born journalist and historian Nathan DeLong will launch his first book, *Woodstock: New Brunswick’s Oldest Town Through the Years*, on Thursday, October 7, at 7 p.m. at the historic Hon. Charles Connell House, pending COVID-19 protocols.

 The book is the newest version of the history of Woodstock and the surrounding areas. This 246-page, self-published volume highlights how the town came to be and how the past has influenced the present day, starting with an Indigenous village at Fort Meductic and leading up to the Wolastoqiyik peoples’ contact with Loyalist settlers following the United States Revolutionary War, the birth of Carleton County, the town’s 1856 incorporation, and a few large fires that nearly halted the town’s growth in its tracks.

 Nathan DeLong’s interest in local history began in 2007 with a school project on Woodstock. His curiosity was influenced by anecdotes from his grandparents, relatives, and friends sharing their lived experiences from days gone by.

DeLong, a 2013 Woodstock High School graduate who now lives in Miramichi, wanted to write a book on his hometown when he was a teenager. He began working on it in 2016 while attending St. Thomas University to study journalism.

 “While researching for this book, I was surprised by the lack of recent editions published on the Woodstock area’s history, although the community has a rich history and prides itself on its heritage as New Brunswick’s oldest incorporated town,” DeLong said. “Several other communities have had recent versions of their history published, but many previous works on Woodstock are long out of print and are not as wide-reaching as my book.”

 DeLong’s book is topically organized around multiple themes and provides a chronological description of the town’s early years, the post-war era, and the present day. It includes essays on both widely known and rarely discussed stories, while also incorporating vintage and recent photographs.

 “The publication of *Woodstock: New Brunswick’s Oldest Town Through the Years* is indeed timely,” said Woodstock Mayor Arthur Slipp, who wrote the book’s foreword. “Mr. DeLong is a passionate advocate for promoting local history, and his commitment to this project ensures that a new generation of readers will understand why local history in general, and the story of Woodstock in particular, are important.”

 The book is available for purchase on Amazon and by contacting the author directly. An e-book is being developed, and the author is working to arrange distribution at various retailers.

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**BOOK DESCRIPTION**

From a prominent Indigenous village to a railway hub, and from a riot to a park on an island, Woodstock has a rich history. While many aspects of New Brunswick's oldest incorporated town are well known, others are rarely discussed, and previous publications capturing these stories have long gone out of print.

Nathan DeLong's debut book, *Woodstock: New Brunswick's Oldest Town Through the Years*, takes a detailed, comprehensive look at days gone by and how the town's past has shaped its present.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

​Nathan DeLong is a journalist and historian who was born and raised in Woodstock but now lives in Miramichi. A 2013 Woodstock High School graduate, Nathan has been a published writer since he was fourteen. His bylines have appeared in every Brunswick News publication.

 Nathan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Thomas University in 2017, with a double-major in journalism and communications and public policy.