

COME TO *MAKING WAVES* FOR A WONDERFUL WEEKEND OF MARITIME MUSIC!

Canadian Unitarian Council National Conference
Halifax NS

May 15 – 17, 2020



From Molly Hurd and Glenda Butt

Co-chairs, Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax Host Committee

One big reason people come to Nova Scotia is to experience the unique and distinctive music of this region of Canada. It comes from the Scottish and Irish settlers who came to Nova Scotia as early as the 1600's, bringing their Celtic music and instruments with them and it continues to thrive today—everything from lively tunes for dancing to expressive love songs and plaintive songs of loss. Plus, there is a long tradition of sea shanties, or songs of the sea. We are looking forward to sharing our Maritime music with you.

A highlight of the *Making Waves* weekend will be the big music party on Saturday night. Some call it a ceilidh (Celtic word, pronounced kay-lee, meaning a rollicking good time) and some call it a kitchen party because traditionally the kitchen was the warmest and largest room in the house, and that was where people gathered for music. Whatever you call it, it will be a great time and you will hear lots of stirring Maritime music.

We are fortunate to have one of the best known musical couples in Halifax leading the music for *Making Waves*. Vanessa is famous for producing beautiful music with her “open to all” choirs, and people rave about her as a choir director. For testimonials on the You Gotta Sing! program that she created, go to

vanessapapillon.ca. If you want a joyous music experience culminating in the beautiful and spiritual Sunday morning service, the choir is for you.



John is a well-known and popular singer, musician, teacher, and minister of music and dramatic arts who is coordinating the Saturday night party and the music for Sunday morning. For more on John's background, go to [linkedin.com/in/johnlindsay-botten](https://www.linkedin.com/in/johnlindsay-botten). These two talented musicians will make the *Making Waves* music terrific.

***Making Waves* will even have its own newly composed theme song.** John is using his composition background and is working with UUCH members to create a song just for the conference. We can't wait to hear it!



No conference is complete without a ukulele event, and Halifax is a hotbed of ukulele music. The explosion of ukulele playing in Halifax dates back to the 1960's and was led by [Chalmers Doane](#) who received the [Order of Canada](#) for his ground breaking work teaching music and ukulele. Our ukulele-loving minister, Rev. Norm Horofker, has lined up Doane for a guest appearance during the workshop which will be led by noted local teacher, [Brian LaPlante](#). Chalmers has said, "It would be a better world if everyone played the ukulele." This simple but versatile instrument can be part of marketing the image of Unitarian Universalists while stimulating our Religious Exploration programs for children of all ages. This workshop is open to all - for people who have never picked up a uke as well as experienced players looking to have some fun. Bring your own uke or use one provided at the workshop. Ukes will also be for sale at a special price. Don't miss this unique UU ukulele event!

Additional music during the weekend will be provided by UUCH's very own Afterchoir, a group of talented musicians who have been performing together for years. They are good!



Music is always a big part of any gathering in Nova Scotia, and we think that our lineup of Maritime music will help make *Making Waves* memorable for you.

If you have questions about the music for the conference or need information on Halifax, or want a copy of the vacation planning bulletin that we sent out recently, please send an email to MakingWavesHalifax2020@gmail.com.

Registration for *Making Waves* opens on February 1, 2020.
Questions about the conference in general? Email conference@cuc.ca.

See you May 15–17 here in Halifax. We at UUCH are thrilled to be hosting our fellow UUs from across Canada and sharing a wonderful weekend of music with you!

