

# An update from... Folk Roots Radio

**folkrootsradio.com**

"we're all about the music... and the people who make it"



May 2021

Greetings, music lovers!

Welcome to another *Folk Roots Radio* newsletter.

That greeting, by the way, is one I've always wanted to use and comes from the late great BBC Radio 1 DJ [Alan "Fluff" Freeman](#).

It's a bit over a month since the last one, so I guess it's comfortable to say - don't worry, we won't be burdening your inbox too often.

I hope you are all still doing fine during these strange, and let's be honest, *starting to get a bit trying* times. The good news is that, at least where we are, the vaccines are starting to roll out so hopefully it won't be too long before we are able to resume some sort of normal life. I'm just hoping it's a better normal than the one we currently have. I'd vote for one with loads of outdoor music, though sadly it looks like most, if not all, of the summer festivals in Canada won't be happening this year.

Still, there is next year to look forward to. One thing about being forced to stay home for a year, is that when we are eventually able to get out and do things again, we're all going to have a pretty good idea of what we'd like to be doing.

So let's get to our big news! *And this is exciting... drum roll please...*

After several months of planning and a bit of time spent adjusting to some new technology, we're now making our interviews available live online as I record them - which means it's now just like the good old days of live radio at [CFRU](#) in Guelph, except now I can fit a whole lot more people in the studio than I could back then.

I've been recording most of my interviews by video call for a couple of years now, so this just seems like a natural progression. There have been many times over the last year when I've thought... *"Wow! This is such an insightful conversation. Wouldn't it be great if people could listen in as it's actually happening?"*

Well, now you can - and if the artist is willing, and it fits with our scheduling we can go live on YouTube, Facebook and our website. To date we've taped livestreams interviews with Windsor ON's [Karen Morand](#), Stratford ON's [Barry James Payne \(String Bone\)](#), [Hillside Festival Girls & Guitars Songwriting Course](#), emerging Irish singer-songwriter [Colm Gavin](#), singer/composer and song-collector [Moirá Smiley](#), Regina SK's [Jeffrey Straker](#), Canadian pop-rock powerhouse [Sarah Smith](#) and another up and coming Windsor ON singer-songwriter [Brendan Scott Friel](#).

If you miss the livestream, you can check out the interview later on YouTube and the website, and, of course, on our syndicated radio stations and on demand services.

Which reminds me, I'd love it if you signed up for [our YouTube channel](#). That way you'll be notified of all our upcoming interviews. You can do that [HERE](#).

So that's it. That's all I have time for in this newsletter. Thanks to all the artists who share their music with me, and a special thank you to you for listening. I have lots of great music and interviews to bring you on future episodes.

*And please remember... If you enjoy the music we play on Folk Roots Radio and want to support the artists – many of whom aren't able to play live at the moment because of the Covid-19 pandemic, don't just stream their music - that earns them much less than a penny per play. Instead, buy their music - and really make a difference to their income. They'll love you for it!*

Stay safe and well everyone!

Jan Hall

*Folk Roots Radio is a labour of love - a full time hobby. If you like what we do, please spread the word.*