“Love while you can.”

Aislinn Hunter

upon accepting the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize at the BC Book Prizes coincidental with a feature review of her winning novel in The New York Times

see page 22

Amor De Cosmos

Weakness & strength in a B.C. premier.

P.17
The Carefree Garden
Letting Nature Play Her Part
Bill Terry
Why do we garden, and to what end? In this collection of personal stories, thoughts, and ideas, Bill Terry discovers that he must work with Mother Nature rather than against her in order to achieve the “perfect” garden.

Do You Think This Is Strange?
Aurie Dolly Drake
Freddie is seventeen, artistic, and struggling through his senior year of high school. But when his ex-girlfriend reappears, their complicated friendship unearths a family secret long buried, and Freddie’s life begins to unravel.

This Godforsaken Place
Cindy Scott
Abigail Peacock is the quintessential pioneer woman in 1865 Ontario. She cares for her ailing father, teaches at the schoolhouse, and will likely marry the attentive shopkeeper. Then she buys a rifle, and everything changes.

High Rider
Bill Gallaher
John Ware was born into an inauspicious life. A South Carolina slave by birth, no one would have believed he’d become one of Southern Alberta’s most successful independent ranchers. This is the story of his life.

Camping with Kids in the West
BC and Alberta’s Best Family Campgrounds
Jayne Seagrave
Bestselling travel author Jayne Seagrave is back with a new guide on the fine art of family camping. Includes tips, reviews, and practical ideas for engaging young campers of all ages.

Secret Beaches of Southern Vancouver Island
Quotations by Helen T. Dembrowich
Local kayaker Theo Dembrowich shares his insider’s knowledge of Vancouver Island’s detailed descriptions of the area’s most secluded and little-known shorefront gems.

Lost Bonanzas of Western Canada
Volume 1 and 2
Garnett Baggs, ed.
Modern-day gold hunters will welcome insights provided by this classic study of famous unsolved cases of missing treasure from 80 and Alberta’s pioneer days.

Saving Farmland
The Fight for Real Food
Nathalie Chambers, with Robin Alys Roberts and Sophie Wooning
Teeming with fascinating history, personal stories, and illuminating facts, Saving Farmland passionately encourages British Columbians to engage with local farming and sustainable land development.

Active Vancouver
A Year-round Guide to Outdoor Recreation in the City’s Natural Environment
Roy Jantzen
Complete with colour photographs and maps, Active Vancouver is the ultimate year-round resource for both exciting and family-friendly outdoor recreation in and around Vancouver.

Tod Inlet
A Healing Place
Gwen Curry
Bursting with colour photos and the author’s sensitive prose relating to the Island’s natural, cultural, and First Nations history, Tod Inlet captures the spirit of one of Vancouver Island’s best kept secrets.

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Bring back the tar ‘n’ feathers

Surely Andrew MacLeod’s muckraking facts about poverty are in bad taste.

Everybody wants to read about poverty. So let’s ignore this article. Ever since slave owners in the United States wrote a constitution that declared all men are equal, Americans have been delusional about themselves. And British Columbia is a bit like the U.S. We comfortably and routinely believe in our superiority. This unites us; it makes us strong.

Hey, self-satisfaction is a good thing. For years our license plates boasted Beautiful British Columbia and our previous premier, before he escaped to a safe job in England, confidently boasted B.C. was the best place on the planet.

Now party pooper Andrew MacLeod has come along with A Better Place on Earth (Harbour $22.95) that examines the ugly truth about wealth and poverty in B.C.

We think British Columbians should be free to remain safely inside our blissfully self-satisfied cocoons of ignorance and superior physical fitness. We think everyone should be free to indifferently toss around the term world class.

Writing about widening inequality for The Tyee site is fine. Mr. MacLeod can fretter away his time, he likes on the internet. But putting his research into an actual book titled Among the Haves and Have Nots in Super Unequal British Columbia, well, that’s going too far. In Hong Kong, surely they would do SOMETHING to gag Mr. MacLeod.

Didn’t most of our B.C. publishers wisely and quietly stop producing critical books with political content years ago? A Better Place on Earth amounts to a backward step. We believe even poor people in B.C. would badly off they are compared to people in other provinces. We should just continue to accentuate the positives like life expectancy. (If B.C. was a country we would be among the top ten in the world.) Everybody wants to live here, right? That’s all we really need to know.

So who does this Andrew MacLeod person think he is spreading these malicious truths. Every year we are certain the Vancouver Canucks are going to win the Stanley Cup. That’s how we go about our lives here. Delusion is a good thing. That’s why we are pretty sure you do not want to pick up BC BookWorld and learn B.C.

Between 1981 and 2012, B.C. populated the highest drop in Canada in the percentage of workers who were members of unions, dropping from 43 percent of the workforce to 30 percent. In 2012, the bottom half of the B.C. populace, about 2.25 million people, held only 3.1 percent of the wealth (the poorest ten percent actually owed more than they owned), while the top 10 percent, some 450,000 people, held 56.2 percent of the wealth, a greater concentration than anywhere else in Canada.

Real estate in British Columbia — particularly in Vancouver — has been identified as the main factor in generating the most severe economic divide between rich and poor in the country.

Mr. MacLeod is particularly critical about the cutbacks to welfare rates made by the Liberals since they came to power. We are told the number of children living in poverty in B.C. increased by more than 50,000 from 2010 to 2012.

Such muckraking with facts and figures is thoroughly out of synch with the times. Is it really in the public interest for citizens to know Jim Pattison’s net worth in 2013 has been estimated at more than $7 billion?

Bring back the tar ‘n’ feathers, we say.

No politics, please, we’re the new British Columbians.
NEW BOOKS FROM
Douglas & McIntyre

The Urban Homesteading Cookbook
Forge, Farm, Ferment and Feast for a Better World

Armed with a Ph.D. in conservation biology, Michelle Catherine Nelson invites urbanites to contribute to a sustainable future with the fabulous, sometimes radical recipes in this cookbook.

Cooking / Gardening • Available in April • $26.95 • Paperback
6” x 9” • 266 pp • 100 colour photos
978-1-77162-080-9

Ted Harrison Collected

With an introduction by acclaimed author and historian Robert Budro, here is a collection of work from one of Canada’s most iconic artists.

Art • Available in April • $10.95 • Paperback
7” x 8” • 144 pp • 90 colour paintings
978-1-77162-072-7

Me Artsy

Drew Hayden Taylor is back with a new collection in his highly successful anthology series, this time collecting essays from some of Canada’s favourite First Nations artists.

First Nations • Available in April • $22.95
Paperback • 5½” x 8½” • 236 pp • raw photos
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Chicken in the Mango Tree

Food and Life in a Thai-Khmer Village

Jeffrey Alford, who has previously co-authored multiple award-winning international cookbooks, provides thoughtful culinary narrative, including authentic recipes and stories from a small village in rural Thailand.

Cooking / Travel • Available in March • $16.95 • Paperback
7½” x 9½” • 220 pp • 50 colour photos
978-1-77162-066-4

All-Day Breakfast

This novel from Commonwealth Writers’ Prize finalist Adam Lewis Schroeder combines humour, horror and zombie action in a story about a substitute teacher desperate to find a cure for his “undead” condition.

Fiction • Available in March • $22.95 • Paperback
6” x 9” • 304 pp
978-1-77162-064-2

Craft Beer Revolution

The Insider’s Guide to B.C. Breweries

2nd Edition

Joe Wiebe has expanded and updated his bestselling guide, reflecting the extreme spike of interest in the craft beer movement since the first edition was published in 2013.

Cooking / Beverages • Available in March • $19.95
Paperback • 5” x 8½” • 372 pp
978-1-77162-062-8

Historical Atlas of Canada

Canada’s History Illustrated with Original Maps

A collection of full-colour historical maps gathered from libraries and archives around the world by geographer Derek Hayes.

History / Atlas • Available in April • $34.95
Paperback • 10” x 13” • 272 pp
160+ colour illustrations
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One Story, One Song

New in Paperback

Bestselling and award-winning author Richard Wagamese’s collection of true stories that explore the strength of narrative and its ability to change our lives is being released in trade paper for the first time.

First Nations / Memoir • Available in April • $19.95
Paperback • 5½” x 8½” • 216 pp
978-1-77162-080-2

Available in bookstores this spring | www.douglas-mcintyre.com | facebook.com/DMPublishers | twitter: @DMPublishers

Douglas & McIntyre has a New Distributor! University of Toronto Press (UTP) is the new Canadian distributor for D&M, effective May 1, 2015.

→ UTP is currently accepting orders and returns for Douglas & McIntyre titles. HarperCollins Canada will accept returns for credit only until July 29, 2015.

→ Sales representation for D&M (Ampersand Inc. for western Canada, Horndale Group Inc. for eastern Canada) remains unchanged.

Please see your sales rep for more information.
A is for Ayer
Paula Ayer rebelled against her Canadian sausage-making family at age 15 by going vegan. Her husband, raised by Hindu vegetarians, rebelled by eating meat. Family dinners were interesting, to say the least. Now Ayer’s first picture book, *Foodprints: The Story of What We Eat* (Annick $26.95), for ages 12 and up, provides concise information about our foods and production. Topics include history, science, marketing, and economics, as well as tips regarding nutrition. Ayer, a Vancouverite, has worked as an editor, translator, researcher and art director.

* 978-1-55451-719-0

B is for Bremner
With its 115-kilometre-long coastline, Cape Scott Provincial Park at the northernmost end of Vancouver Island contains the recently completed North Coast Trail. Thousands of people now annually make the trek as outlined in *Cape Scott and the North Coast Trail* (Harbour $26.95), the first comprehensive guidebook of the trail. It offers maps, photographs, trail details and history. Bremner first visited the area in 1998.

* 978-1-55420-102-0

C is for Carter
Grant Hayter-Menzies’ admiring portrait of former U.S. president Jimmy Carter’s mother, Lillian Carter: *A Compassionate Life* (McFarland & Co. $35), recalls how Lillian cared for black families in the rural south as a young nurse and later served as a 68-year-old Peace Corps volunteer in 1960s India. Always a fearless supporter of human rights, she was dubbed “First Mother of the world” by the American press. It’s a follow-up to Hayter-Menzies’ biography of Kansas-born Franklin Roosevelt’s White House, as described in *Shadow Woman: The Extraordinary Career of Pauline Benton* (McGill-Queens $29.95).

* 9780778649719; 9780778649702

D is for Doucette
A healthier work environment increases employee morale. The goal of *Jill Doucette’s Greening Your Office: Strategies That Work* (Self-Counsel $12.95) is to help people implement affordable strategies to reduce an office’s carbon footprint. Doucette’s other book, *Greening Your Community: The Environmentally Friendly Way* (Self-Counsel $12.95), provides environmentally-friendly ideas to increase community ties and improve your neighbourhood.

* 9781770402232

E is for Edge
Nearly all major North American cities still support at least one major daily newspaper. It’s one of the many reasons why Marc Edge felt compelled to write *Greatly Exaggerated: The Myth of the Death of Newspapers* (New Star $21). Countering much of the hype from the high-tech industry, Edge reveals how and why the newspaper business is still healthy and profitable. Marc Edge earlier published *Pacific Press: The Unauthorized Story of Vancouver’s Newspaper Monopoly* (New Star 2001).

* 978-1-55420-102-0

F is for Friesen
Patrick Friesen’s second novel, *Shadow* (New Star $21), explores how taking it to America, where the male-dominated art, she eventually performed at Franklin Roosevelt’s White House, as described in *Shadow Woman: The Extraordinary Career of Pauline Benton* (McGill-Queens $29.95).

* 9780778649719; 9780778649702

G is for Gainor
As a Space Race geek from way back, as well as the author of four books on aviation, Chris Gainor had a special reason to go to Baltimore and Washington this spring to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Hubble space telescope’s launch on April 24, 1990. The Victoria-based journalist has been drafted onto a team, hired by NASA, to write the authoritative, post-launch history of the Hubble space telescope. “I wanted to be an astronaut more than I wanted to play in the NHL,” says Gainor.

* 978-1-55420-102-0

H is for Hammond
Kristie Hammond is the mother of five children, one of whom is an amputee. In her new fictional novel for young adults, *The Moment* (Sono Nis $9.95), James, a teenager in Kamloops, loses an important hockey game and then loses his lower leg that same night due to a tragic accident. As he struggles to overcome his anger and bitterness at having to accept a new life that will possibly make him an object of pity with his prosthetic leg, James finds friendship in places he never expected. It takes a return to the ice and a secret friend to get him back into the game of hockey and the game of life.

* 978-1-55436-235-7
Don McLellan

NEW from the Royal BC Museum

BY FAR THE BEST PUBLICITY CANADIAN ART EVER RECEIVED.

THE AMAZING STORY OF THE LARGEST PUBLIC "GOLDEN" ART EXPERIENCE

- The silkscreens made during the war were
- still hanging in schools, libraries, and doctors’ offices throughout Canada and its vast homeland. Shaping Canadians’ ideas about art — and their vast homeland — the silkscreens were based on
- the work of
- Tom Thomson, Lawren Harris, A.Y. Jackson, and
- other Group of Seven painters. A new way of examining BC's gold-rush
- and heritage professionals, each offering a fresh perspective on the
- amazing story of the prints, with full-colour reproductions of
- their remarkable story of the prints, with
- and contributions from several art
-
- how and why they were acquired.

New Perspectives on the Gold Rush
Edited by Kathryn Bridge

Ten insightful essays by historians, curators and heritage professionals, each offering a new way of examining BC's gold-rush years or exploring the legacies of those who remained in BC after the gold rush.

$24.95 paperback, 192 pp., 9 x 12" History / colour and bw photographs

Treasures of the Royal British Columbia Museum and Archives
Compiled by Jack Lohman

Lavish photographs of the provincial museum’s treasured objects and exhibitions highlight five essays reflecting on the museum’s history, culture / colour photographs
$39.95 hardcover, 144 pp., 9 x 11"
ISBN 978-0-7726-6830-1

The agenda for the 39th Island Mountain School of the Arts, July 4-7,
is for Island

The agenda for the 39th Island Mountain School of the Arts, near Barkerville, is as strong as ever. Literary sessions feature
Karen Connolly (July 4-7), Michael Kluckner (Aug. 17-20) and Richard Wright (Sept. 11-13). There’s also a gallery exhibit (Aug. 29-Sept. 25) re-introducing

Robert Keziere’s compelling photos from The Days of August (DieM 1992), the ground-breaking book by Jean E. Speare. The tribute to the life of
Mary Augusta Tappage, born in Soda Creek in 1888, ranks as the first in-depth, literary memoir of an individual First Nations woman in B.C. Visit
www.imarts.com for more info.

Don McLellan

NEW from the Royal BC Museum

Aliens Among Us
Invasive Animals & Plants in British Columbia
Alex Van Tol / Illustrated by Mike Deas

This informative book will help the next generation of responsible environmentalists identify unwanted aliens in BC and stop their invasion. More than 50 species covered, from the Black Rat to Giant Hogweed.

$19.95 paperback, 128 pp., 7.5 x 9"
Ages 8-12 / colour photographs & drawings
ISBN 978-0-7726-6853-0

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www.readleaf.ca

J is for Jarnail

Jarnail Singh of Surrey is an artist, illustrator, photographer and art journalist who immigrated to Canada in 2000. His art frequently maintains the tradition of portraying Sikh Gurus and historical events and also provides a framework for the interpretation of Sikh history. Now he has provided illustrations for Ajmer Rode's text in The Journey With Endless Eye: Stories of the Komagata Maru incident (Ekstasis $34.95). 978-1-77171-078-7

K is for Kirton

Meta/ice/landic poet Jónína Kirton co-ordinated the first National Indigenous Writers Conference in Vancouver in 2013. Her page as bone—ink as blood (Talonbooks $16.95) is a memoir in verse exploring family secrets and retrieved memories. “What our minds have forgotten or locked away,” she has written, “the body never forgets.” Kirton is a graduate of Simon Fraser’s Writer’s Studio (2007) and attended the Emerging Aboriginal Writer’s Residency at the Banff Centre (2008).

L is for Laurence

Susan Point’s sculpture ‘Cedar Connection’ and Bill Reid’s stunning bronze sculpture ‘The Spirit of Haida Gwaii’ are just two of the art pieces described by Robin Laurence in A Sense of Place: Art at Vancouver International Airport (Figure 1 $24.95). This illustrated overview by long-time Georgia Straight visual arts critic and curator Robin Laurence examines the commissioning of the pieces that comprise the YVR’s extensive gallery.

Lgdistribution.com 1-800-665-3302.
Their environment. Jesse Vernon Trail’s first book, Quiver Trees, Phantom Orchids and Rock Splitters (ECW Press $24.95), highlights the world’s most unusual plants for a general audience of plant and nature enthusiasts. “Gardening will never go out of fashion,” Trail told the Vernon Morning Star newspaper. “People will always buy plants even when they don’t have very much money. There is something in the greenery and beauty of plants that gives us a feeling of comfort and joy.”

At the age of 19, Petar Rikić of Croatia decided to travel around the world by motorcycle. Composed from the road on a laptop, his published journals entitled Around the World (Rocky Mountain Books $25) contain dozens of photos and personal reflections from a variety of exotic locations, including a detailed account of his trip through Vancouver, Prince George, Whitehorse, Dawson City and Inuvik.

No other generation has accrued the same wealth and power as B.C. families. How will their children face the challenges of buying a home, and investing and saving money? How can parents help their children financially and still protect themselves and their assets? Derrick Penner’s Bank of Mom and Dad (Self-Counsel Press $14.95) offers advice to parents who are looking to assist their children financially without sacrificing their own security. Penner is a business reporter with The Vancouver Sun where he writes about personal finance, banking and wealth management.

A dwarf mistletoe can shoot its seeds up to 50 feet away. The Arctic heather plant can create subtropical conditions within its leaves. Often exposed to bitter cold, relentless winds, intense heat, drought, fire, pollution and other adverse conditions, such plants demonstrate remarkable strategies for surviving.
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SFU CONTINUING STUDIES

Top-Grade Arabica Coffees Roasted In The Shop.

Customer Katrin Horowitz just dropped off a copy of her new novel The Best Soldier’s Wife (Quadra Books).
Lillian M. Varcoe was the first woman to fly across Canada, coast to coast, and the first person to do it in a floatplane. Darwin Marsh, the hero of Lillian M. Varcoe’s first novel, *Headwinds: Seeing a Murder Forgotten* (Amazon $7.99), is a veteran floatplane pilot who lands an easy job flying Hollywood North movie types—a swell change from flying into northern logging camps and fishing resorts. Trouble is, cold-case cops are accusing him and his grandfather of complicity in a murder. As far as Marsh can recall, he was vacationing with his grandparents on a Gulf Island when the murder happened. He must revisit childhood memories of a summer spent “in a rancorous community of draft dodgers and volatile losers” in order to clear his name.

**T is for Teuwen**

Thomas Teuwen spent 25 years in the manufacturing, mining, energy and technology sectors in Nova Scotia before he came west to Sidney, B.C. in 2000 and became a vegetarian, went car-free and began a new adventure building *The Biggest Little House in Sidney*. His ‘eco-building’ project soon morphed into a lifestyle project in which he was dedicated to reducing his carbon footprint. With Laura Lynn Parker, he has subsequently written a guide to conserving energy and reducing waste, *Greening Your Home* (Self-Counsel $12.95). This is frequently written a guide to conserving energy and reducing waste, *Greening Your Home* (Self-Counsel $12.95).

**U is for Uegaki**

Hans Tammemagi, a central figure in Plato’s *Symposium*, was frequently moved to tears by the revelations of philosophical dialogue. In her confounding collection of essays in support of “lyric philosophy” contained in *Alkibidaiades’s Love: Essays in Philosophy* (McCill-Queens $34.95), Jan Zwicky seeks to re-invigorate modern philosophical discussion through the prism of music and metaphor. “What I wish to call to our collective attention is the consequence of requiring analytic structure for any claim or view that aspired to philosophic status.”

**V is for Varcoe**

Although Hans Tammemagi of Pender Island says he was flattered to see coverage of his book *Winning Proposals* (Self-Counsel $16.95) in the spring issue of *BC Bookworld*, he was less than impressed to see an accompanying photo of someone else—Tony Ardizzone—who recently published a novel partially set in Tofino. The accomplished freelance photographer and writer Hans Tammemagi looks a lot more like above… 978-1-75960-060-3

An admirer of the writing of Ivan E. Coyote and Jack Whyte, Lin Weich of Quesnel is a retired teacher whose first self-published thriller, *Strength of an Eagle*, was inspired by the disappearances of women along the ‘Highway of Tears’ and the drug smuggling of Karl Thorenson, the son of Mary and her sister Sara struggle with the consequence of re-surfacing. Each story is followed by a recipe for a traditional Chinese dish. With an introduction by Jane Yolen, it was illustrated by Shaoli Wang. Born in China, Shaoli Wang graduated from the Department of Fine Arts of Qingdao Normal College, specializing in children’s book illustration. She immigrated in 1995 and now lives in Coquitlam. 978-1-96550-68-5

**W is for Weich**

Chinese Fairy Tale Feasts: A Literary Cookbook (Tradewind $24.95), with text by Paul Yee and recipes by Judy Chan, has won the 2015 Gourmand Award for best Canadian cookbook. Paul Yee has provided original stories as well as his interpretations of Chinese folklore. Each story is followed by a recipe for a traditional Chinese dish. With an introduction by Jane Yolen, it was illustrated by Shaoli Wang. Born in China, Shaoli Wang graduated from the Department of Fine Arts of Qingdao Normal College, specializing in children’s book illustration. She immigrated in 1995 and now lives in Coquitlam.

**X is for Correction**

Paul Yee has provided original stories as well as his interpretations of Chinese folklore. Each story is followed by a recipe for a traditional Chinese dish. With an introduction by Jane Yolen, it was illustrated by Shaoli Wang. Born in China, Shaoli Wang graduated from the Department of Fine Arts of Qingdao Normal College, specializing in children’s book illustration. She immigrated in 1995 and now lives in Coquitlam. 978-1-96550-68-5

**Y is for Yee**

Jan Zwicky is a co-winner of the 2015 P.K. Page Founders’ Award for Poetry from the *Malahat Review* 978-0-7735-4644-2
Top 3 reasons to read to your kids

1. Reading helps build a child’s imagination.
2. Reading helps children learn about their world.
3. Reading with your children strengthens your bond with them.

— courtesy of the Child Development Institute

Did you know...

BC poets Susan Musgrave & Lorna Crozier have written books for babies?

From Orca’s board book collection

Did you know...

Richard Van Camp’s board book, *Little You*, was given to all BC babies born in 2013?

And many more!

Orca is proud to partner with 1000x5 Children’s Book Recycling Project

A child who hears 1000 books by age 5 is more likely to enjoy and succeed in learning.

The 1000x5 project distributes donated picturebooks to agencies that work with families in need so that every child can grow a home library.

For more information, email eileeneby@shaw.ca

ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS
Illustrated plaques are being added to Vancouver’s streets—on lamp posts—to publicize the richness of Vancouver as a literary city. These sites will also appear on The Literary Map of B.C.

“It was just an idea to propagate awareness,” he says. “Now we have the real things. This project makes me think of some lines at the end of a satirical poem that Earle Birney wrote here in 1947: ‘no Whitman wanted it’s by our lack of ghosts we’re haunted.’”

The new plaques affirm that both Vancouver and British Columbia have become literary hotbeds. There are more than ten thousand B.C. authors included in the ABCBookWorld public reference site hosted by Simon Fraser University Library. “Vancouver is blessed to have such a vibrant and dedicated public library system to support our curiosity and love of knowledge,” says Yosef Wosk. “VPL’s new Literary Landmark initiative extends the definition of a library: It is not just a building but also the authors, the publishers, the readers, the very streets of our city. The public library embraces these many writers’ homes as well as hideaways, apartments, parks and retreats that nurtured creativity. Ultimately, each of us is a library as is the city itself.”

Daphne Marlatt has a plaque near the Burrard Bridge. “This project sets words from our city’s literature into concrete features of the city itself,” says Marlatt. “This delights me because my words want to dig their way deep into the history and terrain of this ever-changing place. We are shaped by the place we live in as much as it is shaped by us.”

B.C. BookWorld will proceed, likely in conjunction with VPL and other libraries, to make a Literary Map of B.C. The first stage will be designating 100 literary sites around the province. Meanwhile plaques for several dozen authors can be found all over the city—from the Metro Theatre in south Vancouver to the PNE in east Vancouver to the street where Margaret Atwood lived when she was teaching at UBC—with ten more to be added next year. The proliferation of “Lamp Post Lit” can be discovered at vpl.ca/literary-landmarks.

**A PUBLIC INVITATION**

**BC BookWorld** will soon be making a Literary Map of B.C.

If anyone has a suggestion or a photo for a place that ought to be designated as a Literary Landmark in B.C., let us know. You can send your photo—and your reasons for designating the site—to bookworld@telus.net.
One of the first pieces of Coast Salish art to be installed in Stanley Park is a 14-foot (4.2 metre) bronze-cast cedar sculpture, the subject of Suzanne Fournier’s *Shore to Shore: The Art of Ts’uts’umutl Luke Marston* (Harbour $26.95).

“Along with Susan Point’s house portals and the Squamish Albert Yelton Pole,” says Fournier, “Shore to Shore establishes the rightful place of the Coast Salish in Stanley Park, at a site which 9.5 million people visit each year, but one which has until recently displayed only northern-style totem poles.”

In her new book, Suzanne Fournier profiles First Nations artist, Luke Marston, who created the sculpture, and describes his journey to Portugal to research the work.

The title of the Brockton Point sculpture, *Shore to Shore*, references Marston’s great-great-grandfather, Portuguese Joe Silvey, who sailed from the Azores Islands of Portugal to the West Coast of Canada in the mid-1800s.

Silvey and his mixed race family lived at Brockton Point, where the Coast Salish had lived for millennia.

The carving equally commemorates Silvey’s two First Nations wives, therefore paying tribute to the largely unwritten history of mixed-culture families in Coastal B.C.

Silvey’s first wife, Khaltinaht, was a Musqueam and Squamish noblewoman who died tragically early of TB. Silvey’s second wife, Kwatselmat (Lucy), was a Sechelt First Nation matriarch who was Marston’s great-great-grandmother.

Lucy raised eleven children to adulthood and her second eldest child, Elizabeth, was the first registered birth of the child of white/aboriginal parents. The sculpture rests on a 2.5-foot-high base of black-and-white Portuguese mosaic stone. It also includes images of seine nets, whaling harpoons and Pacific coast salmon.

According to Fournier, the three First Nations who claim the park as unceded Coast Salish territory [Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh] were consulted closely throughout the project.

A celebratory feast at the Musqueam Cultural Centre followed the formal April unveiling.

The (approximately) $1 million project had to be funded by the community. It received one federal Legacies grant, which had to be matched. The Portuguese-Canadian community raised more than $300,000, and finally, just months from the unveiling date, Vancouver City Council, Parks Board and the three First Nations contributed some financial support.

Five of Suzanne Fournier’s forty years of writing about First Nations topics were spent recording the creation of Marston’s Stanley Park monument.

For *Shore to Shore*, Fournier accompanied Marston to his ancestors’ village on the Azores where Portuguese Joe Silvey was raised to be a whaler.


“History is usually written by the winners,” Jean Barman wrote in 2003. “Their lives comprise the archival collections, and historically these have been white men enjoying political and economic privilege. So long as we rely on the materials at hand, we keep telling the same old stories.” 978-1-55017-670-4
New from The New York Times and Globe and Mail bestseller

CHEVY STEVENS

COMING THIS JULY

The night the three Campbell sisters ran away, everything changed, including their names. Find out what happened to THOSE GIRLS on July 7.

THOSE GIRLS IS THIS SUMMER’S Blockbuster Thriller.

distributed in Canada by RAINCOAST BOOKS

CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN LITERATURE WITH A DISTINCTLY URBAN TWIST

FALL 2015

10 Women (stories) by George Bowering

10 Women is a collection of ten new stories from one of Canada’s preeminent writers. Each of these stories offers us a portrait of a woman with whom the author may or may not have had either an intimate and/or a meaningful relationship. You can’t really tell for sure. Depending on your proclivities, some of them might even seem pretty hot.

192 pages  |  $20 can/usa  |  978-1-77214-031-6  |  September  |  Fiction/Stories

M Is Dead: a collaborative novel by Michael V. Smith, Madeline Sonik, Annette Lapointe, Brian Kaufman, and Mary Ann

M Is Dead is a collaborative novel written by five writers about a FTM (female to male) transsexual performance artist known only as “M”. M Is Dead explores issues of gender identity, loss, the notion of friendship, and the idea of “self.” Through the five narrative threads we come to know M in all his layered complexity.

160 pages  |  $20 can/usa  |  978-1-77214-030-9  |  November  |  Novel

Traversing Leonard by Craig Savel

Paul is a young physics professor at a major university in New York state. He is drawn to Leonard Zavitsky, a once promising but now washed up and very annoying ex-professor who has some wild theories about quantum time travel. Everyone laughs – including Paul – until Paul realizes that Zavitsky just might be onto something.

96 pages  |  $16 can / $14 usa  |  978-1-77214-033-0  |  July  |  Novel

Vancouver Vanishes

Essays by Caroline Adderson, Eve Lazarus, Kerry Gold, John Atkin, and Elise Partridge with Photographs by Tracey Ayton and Caroline Adderson

Foreword by Michael Kluckner

Based on the popular Facebook Page, Vancouver Vanishes is a collection of essays and photographs that together are a lament for, and celebration of, the vanishing character homes and apartments in the city. Since 2005, nearly 9,000 demo permits for residential buildings have been issued in Vancouver. The story of our city is diminished every time one of these buildings disappears.

224 pages  |  $25 can/usa  |  978-1-77214-034-7  |  November  |  Non-fiction

51 Lunch Poems & The Stories Behind Them by Wayde Compton & Renée Sarojini Saklikar, eds.

51 Lunch Poems is a diverse collection of poetry and short essays about the poems by the poets themselves. The poems range from the lyric to the experimental and celebrate SFU’s Lunch Poems project, a vibrant exchange of poetic ideas held the third Wednesday of every month at SFU’s Harbour Centre Campus.

160 pages  |  $18 can/usa  |  978-1-77214-032-3  |  August  |  Poetry

I n 1990, Anvil Press was nothing more than a dream. A small, one-room office for $350 a month, a couple of desks, two PC home computers, a light table, waxer, coffee maker, sign for the door, and suddenly we were (sort of) legit. Flyers were made, calls went out, manuscripts slowly began rolling in. Much reading ensued, potential acquisitions were argued over. Sketches, photographs, and cover mock-ups began to appear on the wall above the art area; books were designed. It was all DIY—fuelled by pots of coffee, day-old baked goods, cigarettes, whisky. When the first boxes of books rolled in, we were hooked. Still are.

Now in our 25th year of publishing, Anvil has firmly established itself as an award-winning publisher of contemporary Canadian literature known for its quality books and unconventional literary work.

Over the past two and a half decades we have sur- vived bad plumbing, rent hikes, eviction, bankrupt distributors, the decimation of indie bookstores, big box retailers, rising paper costs, soaring postal rates, and numerous pronouncements on the “death of the book.” And through it all there have always been people who have wanted to buy, hold, and read our books.

We thank all of you for your support over the years and hope you enjoy this season’s offerings!

info@anvilpress.com
www.anvilpress.com

 Distributed in Canada by

14 BC BOOKWORLD SUMMER 2015
Lasqueti's Bronwyn Preece has edited the second B.C. book about childbirth.

According to statistics, Canada, approximately 380,000 Canadian women gave birth in 2011 and only 1.6 percent did so outside of a hospital. B.C. varies considerably from the national average. In B.C., midwives deliver about 5,500 infants each year. That's about 14 percent of the babies born in the province. Approximately one-third of the babies delivered by midwives in B.C. are born at home. 

Mona Fertig edited A Labour of Love (Polestar) in 1986. Now Bronwyn Preece has compiled homebirth stories for In the Spirit of Homebirth: Modern Women, An Ancient Choice (Seven Stories $18.95). The stories reflect a diversity of people and places, throughout B.C. from the Haida Gwaii to the Kootenays, Vancouver to Prince George; and a variety of socio-economic, ethnic, cultural and educational backgrounds: highlighting homebirth as being anything but niche. These illustrated memoirs, all by mothers, fathers, midwives, doulas…

The rise of the NDP provincial government, under Dave Barrett, was encouraged by the likes of Ellen Woodsworth, Rosemary Brown, and the Vancouver Status of Women, were at the forefront of change in the wake of counter-culturalism that arose in the Sixties. The ongoing activism of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, the country's oldest organization of its kind, has also proven fundamental to progress in terms of civil rights (and it continues to lead the country in this regard, witness the fight for so-called Right to Die legislation).

The case histories that Clément has recounted show how British Columbia—the province that gave the world Greenpeace and Terry Fox—was once at the forefront of idealism in Canada. Or, conversely, they reveal the extent to which present-day B.C. society has become comparatively conservative, powered by monetary values. Clément’s most recent project includes an historical review of Canadian human rights laws and their evolution to the present. His website www.HistoryOfRights.com details a timeline of Canadian human rights, including law and state policy and key events and figures in history. His previous book is Canada's Rights Revolution: Social Movements and Social Change, 1937-82 (UBC Press, 2008).

Canada Post issued a stamp in 2009 that showed Rosemary Brown in front of the B.C. Legislative Building.

Civil rights in B.C.

Equality Deferred reveals the extent to which B.C. broke new ground for the rest of the country in the 1970s and 1980s.

Whether it was feminists protesting the annual sexploitation Lady Godiva ride promoted by the UBC engineers or stewardsesses challenging the right of airlines to dismiss them when they married or became pregnant, the women of B.C. were encouraged by the likes of Rosemary Brown, Shelagh Day, Kathleen Ruff, Ellen Woodsworth and the Vancouver Status of Women, were at the forefront of change in the wake of counter-culturalism that arose in the Sixties.

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Bronwyn Preece lives “off the grid” in a land cooperative in the Gulf Islands of B.C. She completed her BFA in Theatre at UVic in 1986. Now Bronwyn Preece’s “manifesta” does not seek to counsel homebirth as the correct birth process: redefining in the process celebratory endorsements of the homebirth stories for First Nations parents.

Feminists protested the senior campus shenanigans of UBC engineers when they co-opted Lady Godiva’s 11th century tax revolt ride.

Off-the-Grid Kid: 978-1-936172-84-9
In the Spirit of Homebirth: 9781609805791

Salt Spring Islander Reena Singh (l/r) shares her ‘blessing-way’ ceremony with friend Sarah Martz.
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S

The De Cosmos Enigma
By Gordon Hawkins
(Ronsdale $17.95)

S

Like many consummate politicians, Amor De Cosmos discovered that operating in the public arena masked his failures in personal relationships.

HAWKINS' \n
Published in 1879, this political cartoon depicts Amor De Cosmos telling a Chinese immigrant to leave B.C. because he refuses to assimilate. "You won't drink whiskey, and talk politics and vote like us," he says.

While De Cosmos can be credited with ensuring B.C. joined Confederation, he was not above the prevailing racism of his times.

JOAN GIVNER

Cosmos was always his hatred of unearned privi-
lege and his scorn for "four parvenu aristocracy" who "might take a mushroom for a coat of arms." Not surprisingly, his arch enemy was Governor James Douglas and his co-horts. De Cosmos accused Douglas' cronies of "toadyism, consanguinity, and incom-
petency." As a biographer, Hawkins is particularly good
in this relationship, seeing Douglas, a man of mixed
race, staring exactly like De
Cosmos to maintain a digni-

...
Arctic Ambitions: Captain Cook and the Northwest Passage
Captained by James Barnett
and David Nicandri
(Anthem $59.95)

Captain James Cook was a Yorkshire
man who rose from humble
agricultural origins to work in
the merchant navy. He rose in
the officer ranks of the British
Royal Navy during the Seven
Years’ War (1756-63).

Following military service, Cook undertook surveying
work in Newfoundland and
Quebec, as masterfully out-
lined by Australian history
professor John Gascoigne.

Arctic Ambitions offers
wide-ranging essays on
preparations for Cook’s third
voyage, the prevailing views of
the Spanish, Norwegians and
Russians, the advances in
the use of astronomy and survey-
ing equipment on land and
sea, and the analysis of sea ice
and of trading customs.

A prologue by Nicholas
Thomas, professor of anthro-
pology at the University of
Cambridge, deals effectively
with how Cook's two earlier
South Pacific explorations and
his subsequent murder by
stabbing at Kealakekua Bay
in Hawaii in 1778—after he’d
sailed north—have tended
to overshadow Cook's third
North Pacific Voyage.

Arctic Ambitions cumulatively
succeeds in bringing Cook's
personality to the fore.

Cook is presented as a re-
markable mapmaker, naviga-
tor, explorer and captain who
grew so vexed with the civilian
and often well-connected
botanists and other gentlemen
gardener/philosophers who
were embedded on his ships
that he refused to have any
such him on his third and
final voyage.

Instead, Cook appointed
other people under his com-
mand to try their hand at sci-
entific collecting instead. They
were all sent out with the Carl
Linnæus classification mantras
ringing in their ears: Animal,
Vegetable and Mineral.

Cook’s expeditions were also required to
make observations about People: their
numbers, customs and friendships (or
lack thereof). Cook himself was very
interested in customs. We learn he
once appalled his
fellow officers by stripping to
the waist and letting his hair
hang loosely to better fit in dur-
ing a tribal ceremony in Tonga.

A TRIPFUL CHAPTER, A NEW LOOK AT
Cook: Reflections on Sand,
Ice, and His Diligent Voyage
TO the Arctic Ocean, by
David L. Nicandri, co-editor of this
book and retired director of
the Washington State His-
torical Society, offers a lively
account of the frustrations
Cook endured in his attempt
to tackle the western route
beyond the Bering Sea.

Cook’s Arctic ambitions
came to an icy, grinding halt
because he relied on a fanci-
ful map which all sorts of
important people had naïvely
approved.

Imagine trying to find a
Northwest Passage when Alas-
ka is whimsically depicted as
an island!

Then imagine sailing two
dilapidated wooden ships north
in late August and en-
countering pack ice as high
as houses, blocking the way.

Prior to getting as far as Prince
William Sound, Cook sailed
into Friendly Cove on Nootka
Sound for repairs and to rest his crew
during the month of April, 1778. Also
on board were mid-
shipman George
Vancouver and a
young master, Wil-
liam Bligh.

Richard Inglis
former head of anthropology
at the Royal BC Museum in
Victoria, has contributed the
chapter “Focus: National Interests and
International Cooperation.”

The many contributions to
the book by the ship’s artist
John Webber are especially
strong in his depictions of
the Nootka encounter. Richard
Inglis offers valuable critical
insight not only to aesthetic
deletions and embellishments
applied after the original
sketches (in the form of exotic
engravings and paintings), but
also to the four editorial stages
a ship’s log would typically
take before being published
as the factual account of a
voyage. The edited accounts
sold very well indeed; the more
lsard, the better.

Robin Inglis and Gudrun
Bucher conclude the anthol-
ogy with a contemporary view
of the far north in ‘The Arctic in
Focus: National Interests and
International Cooperation.’

Given that Canada and
other circumpolar countries
are putting forth their claims
to the untapped resources
of the Arctic, and given the
relentless fall-out of environ-
mental pollution and the pace
of climate change in the true
North, this timely book affords
a well-grounded cultural,
historical and political under-
pinning for what southerners
need to know.

Whether you are a Captain
Cook fan or a Captain Cook de-
bunker, an activist concerned
with colonialism or—like me—
someone fascinated by All
Things Arctic, Arctic Ambitions
will get you dreaming of some-
time travelling by boat through
the Northwest Passage.
LETTERS TO MY GRANDCHILDREN
Wisdom and inspiration from one of the most important thinkers on the planet
David Suzuki
978-1-77164-088-6
HC • $27.95

“Finally, each of you might think about your life, what you hope to do with it, what your goals are, or what your vision of the future might be, and then what you might be proudest of when you become an elder like me. I can tell you, you are my legacy, for which I am most proud and happy.”
DAVID SUZUKI
LEADING A CLIMATE-SAFE LIFE

“My idea of ‘goodness’ has to do with belonging in a small yet reciprocal way to something huge and beautiful beyond my understanding.” — CARRIE SAXIFRAGE

The Big Swim: Coming Ashore in a World Adrift by Carrie Saxifrage

The 500 million people who constitute the world’s wealthiest 8 percent, with an income of more than $40,000 per year, emit 50 percent of the carbon into the atmosphere.

That is the new frontier.

It wasn’t enough for Saxifrage to serve on the triple crown of tree hugger commu-
nity boards (on Cortes Island): the Linnea Farm Society, the Hollyhock Lifelong Learning Centre and the Cortes Ecol-
omy Society. She had to find redemption, to be good.

To fortify their resolve to work in tune with nature, Saxifrage and her husband legally changed their surname to Saxifrage, after the tiny white flowers that burst from stone crevices in high meadows.

High profile environmen-
talist Tzeporah Berman has generously endorsed The Big Swim as “Eat, Pray, Love for the climate era.” That’s a bit much because Saxifrage comes across more as a know-
it-all than a searcher. But her stories are galvanizing, well-edited, memorable and provocative.

Here David R. Conn offers his impressions after meeting Saxifrage at a book launch.

BY DAVID R. CONN

After her title piece describes swimming seven km across chilly Sutil Channel from land to Quadra Island, Carrie Saxifrage describes her experiences with homesteading, gardening, wilderness travel, being present at the end of her mother’s life, a trip to Kitimat for Northern Gateway pipeline hearings and the local politics of logging on Cortes.

Her persona is practical yet sensitive, with eccentric tendencies. She jokes fun at herself. Some pieces feature deadpan comedy, while others balance tragedy, lyricism and small absurdities in everyday experiences. Whatever its genre, The Big Swim is a self-assured first book.

Carrie and husband Barry avoid flying, choosing to make long-distance bus journeys instead. “Carrie doesn’t assail us with the facts,” said Tze-
porah Berman at the Vancouver book launch, “we live it with her.”

Growing up in southern California, Saxifrage worked as a nurse and then an envi-
ronmental lawyer. She kept a journal from an early age.

Saxifrage at a book launch.

The Big Swim began to be a book when Saxifrage took a writing course at nearby Hollyhock. Urged on by a friend, she recounted her “self-imposed marathon,” — her long distance swim from Cortes to Quadra — and submitted her essay to CBC Radio. It became an episode in the ‘Living Out Loud’ series. A podcast is archived on the CBC website.

After fifteen years on Cortes Island, Saxifrage’s family move to Vancouver so their son can attend an urban high school. Accepted into the SFU ‘Living Out Loud’ series, Saxifrage benefited from mentoring by Brian Payton and remains part of a group of alumni, The Nonfictionists, that meets every month.

In March, Carrie Saxifrage went on her first national book tour — by bus. 978-0-86571-798-5

David R. Conn is a Vancouver-based freelance researcher, writer and editor.

The Big Swim recounts how, on a daily basis, Carrie Saxifrage is trying to find ways “to live with the wound of climate change.”
WAYSON CHOY
Wayson Choy was the first Chinese Canadian to enrol in a creative writing class at UBC where he began writing a short story that would be turned into his best-known novel some 30 years later. This novel, The Jade Peony (1995), is an inter-generational saga about an immigrant family during the Depression. It was selected as the co-winner of the 1996 Trillium Prize; it won the City of Vancouver Book Award and it spent 26 weeks on the Globe & Mail’s Best Seller List. The Jade Peony was followed by Paper Shadows: A Memoir of a Past Lost and Found (1999), which won the Edna Staebler Creative Non-Fiction Award and was shortlisted for a Governor General’s Award, the Charles Taylor Prize and the Drainie-Taylor Biography Prize. The award will be presented at the Vancouver Public Library, in conjunction with the mayor’s office of Vancouver, on June 11th, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFO: abcbookworld.com

SHELLEY WRIGHT
Shelley Wright has won the Ryga Award for Our Ice Is Vanishing / Sikuvut Nungulitqut: A History of Inuit, Newcomers, and Climate Change (McGill-Queens). The award will be presented at the Vancouver Public Library, in conjunction with the Mayor’s Office of Vancouver, on June 11th, 2015. Finalists: Unmanned: Drone Warfare and Global Security (Pluto Press/Between the Lines) by Ann Rogers and John Hill; Meltdown in Tibet: China’s Reckless Destruction of Ecosystems from the Highlands of Tibet to the Deltas of Asia (Raincoast) by Michael Buckley.

Since 1994, Pacific BookWorld News Society, Writers Trust of Canada, Yosef Wosk and the Vancouver Public Library have co-sponsored the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award and the Writers Walk at 350 West Georgia Street in Vancouver.

JEAN BARMAN
Jean Barman has won the Stuart-Stubbs Prize for French Canadians, Fur, and Indigenous Women in the Making of the Pacific Northwest (UBC Press). Finalists were Nancy J. Turner for Ancient Pathways, Ancestral Knowledge: Ethnohistory and the Ecological Wisdom of Indigenous Peoples of Northwestern North America (McGill-Queen’s) as well as Richard Beamish and Gordon Macfarlane, eds., for The Sea Among Us: the Amazing Strait of Georgia (Harbour). The award ceremony was hosted by UBC Library (Ingrid Parent, chief librarian) on June 9th, co-sponsored by Pacific BookWorld News Society.

FOR FURTHER INFO: bcbookawards.ca

JEAN WILSON
The Campbell Award for a significant contribution to the book publishing industry in B.C. will be presented by the Association of Book Publishers of B.C. to former publisher/editor Jean Wilson, who has worked in the publishing industry since 1968. Wilson began working at UBC Press in 1988. In addition to her formidable editorial contributions, she has also given back to the community through the Editors’ Association of Canada, the Association of Canadian Publishers and the ABPBC.

The ABPBC Awards Dinner for the Douglas and Campbell Awards will be held September 17, 2015.
Aislinn Hunter

To the Poplars

(Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize winner)

Cecily Nicholson

BOOK PRIZES

Female nominees dominated 31st gala, hosted by Bill Richardson in Vancouver

Cecily Nicholson

From The Poplars

978-0-88922-856-6    $16.95    Poetry   104 pp    talonbooks.com

(Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize winner)

To the Poplars

(Harbour)

Female nominees dominated 31st gala, hosted by Bill Richardson in Vancouver

Aislinn Hunter

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To the Poplars

(Harbour)

Female nominees dominated 31st gala, hosted by Bill Richardson in Vancouver

Aislinn Hunter

From The Poplars

978-0-88922-856-6    $16.95    Poetry   104 pp    talonbooks.com

(Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize winner)

To the Poplars

(Harbour)
HERSELF A RABBLE-ROUSER OF the first degree, Dorothy Livesay would have been delighted to know Cecily Nicholson took home the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize for From the Poplars (Talonbooks), a book that examines the little-known history of Poplar Island in New Westminster.

Located at the east end of the North Arm of the Fraser River, unpopulated Poplar Island was a part of three reserves relegated to the New Westminster Indian Band in 1879 by the federal government. After the 27 acres of reserve land became a smallpox quarantine area for Qayqayt First Nations, reducing their numbers from about 400 to 100, the remaining Qayqayt mostly joined the Musqueam Band, making it much easier for the B.C. government to enable the New Westminster Construction and Engineering Company to build a large shipyard on the island in 1916.

By 1936, only fisheries warden William Albert Bowcott and his family lived on the island. In 1945, the city of New Westminster allowed the island to be used by forestry giant Rayonier Canada. In 1995, the provincial government declared Poplar a part of its “nature legacy” program.

Cecily Nicholson’s book is partially inspired by the efforts of the revived Qayqayt First Nation to regain control of the island. They assert they are the only chartered First Nations government in Canada without any land base.

THE BC BOOK PRIZES WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1985 to celebrate the achievements of British Columbia writers and publishers. The prizes are administered and awarded by a non-profit society that represents all facets of the publishing and writing community.

Harbour Publishing had six nominations; HarperCollins from Ontario had four; Caitlin Press of Halfmoon Bay and Kids Can of Ontario had three each. Double nominees were Caroline Adderson for adult fiction and illustrated children’s literature; scientists Richard Beamish and Gordon McFarlane for Haig-Brown and Booksellers’ Choice; and Toronto illustrator Qin Leng twice in the same category for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children’s Literature Prize.

For more info: www.bcbookprizes.ca
Wayson Choy was born in 
Vancouver in 1939. His mother was a 
meat-cutter. He was 
told his father was a 
cook aboard CPR ships.

Dreaming of being a cowboy, Choy 
was raised in various households in 
Chinatown and later became the first 
Chinese Canadian to enrol in a creative 
writing class at UBC.

Now he has become the first non-
B.C. resident to win the $5,000 George
Chinese roots.

Four years after a combined asth-
ma-heart attack in 2001, when Wayson 
Choy was kept alive by machines and 
the loving kindness of friends, his heart 
neared failure again. His subsequent 
memoir of his two near-death experi-
cences is Not Yet: A Memoir of Living and 
Almost Dying (2009).

In 2002, The Jade Peony was select-
ed by the Vancouver Public Library for 
its annual One Book, One Vancouver 
province-wide book club project. A symp-
posium on Wayson Choy and his work 
was held in Toronto in May of 2003. 
A video biography of Choy has been 
produced by his Humber College col-
league Michael Glassbourg, entitled 
Wayson Choy: Unfolding the Butterfly.

“Let the world know that Wayson Choy, 
and all the others see that, it is not literature. A 
side of the monster. Until we can make 
others understand that any of us 
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Wayson Choy: Unfolding the Butterfly.
Jean Barman continues her winning ways with a francophone history.

“My only twice during the course of the trip,” Barman writes, “…did Mackenzie acknowledge all or any of the men by name.”

Similarly, according to Barman, only one of the nineteen men who did the grunt work for Simon Fraser on his expedition can be identified with any certainty: Jean Baptiste Boucher. This francophone became the earliest ‘not wholly indigenous person’ known to engage in family life in the Pacific Northwest.

Over half of the 1,240 French Canadians who reached the Pacific Northwest as fur trade employees prior to 1858 opted to stay on the western side of the Rockies.

The largely unsung work of these men—often in league with Scots—ensured that, when the region was divided in 1846, the northern half would go to Britain, giving Canada its Pacific shoreline.

The better-known Jules Maurice Quesnel was a francophone officer on Fraser’s journey who stayed in the Pacific Northwest until 1811. The town of Quesnel now bears his name, but his case is an anomaly.

Barman’s unprecedented overview greatly benefited by the spadework of fur trade historian Bruce McIntyre Warthen. Barman acknowledges his meticulous primary research that resulted in the publication of his three-volume Lives Lived West of the Divide: A Biographical Dictionary of Fur Traders Working West of the Rockies, 1793-1858.

As well, Barman was greatly assisted by Nicole St-Onge who made available her Voyager Contracts Database, which contains 36,000 individual fur trading contracts signed before notaries, principally in Montreal, between 1714 and 1830.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
FOR THE 2015 STUART LIBRARIAN STUBBS PRIZE

The Chinese Canadian Historical Society of B.C. (CCHS) also recently honoured Dr. Jean Barman for her outstanding work behind the scenes to encourage ethnohistorical based histories in B.C.
George Ryga Award for Social Awareness goes to an unprecedented view of the Arctic

The Nunavummiut get their say

BY BEVERLY CRAMP

June 11, Shelley Wright received the $2,000 George Ryga Award for Social Awareness at Vancouver Public Library.

Her ground-breaking Our Ice Is Vanishing / Sikuvut Nunguliqtuq: A History of Inuit, Newcomers and Climate Change (McGill-Queens $39.95) reveals how the Nunavummiut 9the people of Nunavut have become the witnesses for climate change.

Wright lived and travelled in the Arctic for more than ten years as the Northern Director of the Akitsiraq Law School based in Iqaluit. Now a professor of Aboriginal Studies at Langara College, she has combined scientific and legal information, along with political and individual perspectives, to elucidate how serious are the effects of climate change in the Arctic.

"The rapidity of the melting of summer ice in the Arctic over the past five years is unprecedented," she writes, "both since satellite records began to be kept in 1979 and in the much longer oral history of Indigenous peoples.

"An ice-free summer in the Arctic was not predicted to occur until the middle or end of this century. Now, according to some predictions, it may occur by the end of this decade."

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"It is not just the vanishing ice that is creating havoc in the Arctic. "Inuit sometimes ask what European Canadians are doing on their land in the first place," Wright writes.

"By what right does any non-Inuit nation claim sovereignty over the land or sea of the Arctic?"

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"One thing is clear: as global temperatures rise, Arctic temperatures rise faster. We may well have pushed polar ecosystems into a 'positive feedback loop' that could be unstoppable."

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"Wright quotes Inuit elders such as Corne-lius Nutaraq to explain the impact of global warming.

"When I was a child, there would be snow all the way up. You could go all the way to the top by dogteam. You could also go upwards from the point. You could build igluit anywhere it sloped downwards. There is not that much snow anymore."
ASD BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?

Most of Darren Groth’s research was not about ASD but about earthquakes, Ogopogo and Jackie Chan.

Are You Seeing Me? by Darren Groth ($19.95)

Win don’t always know everything about one another, especially when they’re not the same sex.

“What is it about sea monsters?” nineteen-year-old Justine Ritcher asks Perry, her brother. “Why are you into them so much?”

The twins are in the Okanagan, about to fulfill one of Perry’s dreams—one on the lookout for Ogopogo.

Perry’s two-fold answer is slow in coming. The first reason is because sea monsters are excellent at hiding. They’ve survived for thousands of years without being caught. The second reason is because sea monsters have learned to survive in a difficult and changing world.

Any reader who has been paying attention will realize that high functioning, autistic Perry is describing himself.

As a child born with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), unlike his sister, Perry is subject to ‘inappropriate behaviours’ and he has problems mixing with people.

To further complicate matters, for over a year, since their father’s death, Justine has been his sole caregiver. Their mother left them when they were four.

That’s the set-up for Darren Groth’s engrossing and heartfelt Are You Seeing Me?.

Thanks to their father’s life insurance policy, the twins have made their first plane trip from their Australian home to meet up with their mother, now living in Vancouver. The mother and her other daughter have nervously awaited the visit. Perry is unaware of the tension. He mostly wants to see Ogopogo.

Perry is also passionate about Jackie Chan movies and earthquakes. He is rarely without his seismographic monitoring equipment: a portable seismograph, notebook, and seismometer that come out whenever he feels uneasy. Perry is uneasy often. Like when they’re going through Canada Customs. Justine has learned how to cope with her brother’s volatility. But she is not dealing so well with a very new problem: Perry says he wants to leave her and go into independent specialized housing.

Their father had started researching a care facility for Perry before his death. Justine is perplexed: is her brother doing this for himself or for her?

The only hint that this enjoyable and engaging novel is written for young adults comes towards the end. Plot, plausibility, dialogue...not so much. While ‘Saint’ Justine is sometimes too good to be true, her twin brother is an intriguing, wise, and ultimately lovable character.

“He was a joy to write,” says Groth, “much easier than his ‘normal’ sister. There’s a certain fictional freedom that comes with exploring the mind of a unique person. I wanted to produce an authentic voice for the story and be honest to the characters and their circumstances.”

Groth says the original manuscript took about a year to write. Most of the research he had to do was not about Autism Spectrum Disorder but about earthquakes, Ogopogo and Jackie Chan.

“Following the publication of my previous novel, Kindling,” he says, “I started playing with the ideas that would become Are You Seeing Me? It all hung around in my head for a couple of months before I started to put words on the page.”

A former special education teacher and the father of a son with ASD, Groth had previously taught several children with ASD. “It was a real life-shaping experience,” he says, “and, as Fate would have it, quite a useful preparation for being a parent.”

Groth’s own twins are now 14. On his website [Darren-groth.com] Groth smiles with a sign that reads: “We need DiverseBooks because disability is too often portrayed in fiction as ‘other’ rather than ‘another.’ ”

In an interview with BC BookWorld, Groth articulated the underlying message of Are You Seeing Me? :

“Don’t subscribe to the whole ‘perception is reality’ myth. For people like my son... Perry... the distance between assumption and truth can be huge, so avoid snap judgments and instant opinion. If you can pause, wait, pay attention—you might notice a reason or hear an explanation. And you’ll be a better person for it, guaranteed.”

Originally from Brisbane, Australia, Darren Groth moved to Vancouver in 2007 with his Canadian wife and their then five-year-old twins. Are You Seeing Me? has also been published by Random House Australia.

Cherie Theissen reviews fiction from her home on Pender Island

KIDLIT PRIZES

Christie Harris Illustrated Children’s Literature Prize

A bit of a misunderstanding when it comes to the BC Book Prizes, First Nations illustrator Julie Flett took home her second Christie Harris Illustrated Children’s Literature Prize for Dolphin SOS (Tradewind), co-written by poet and civil rights activist Roy Miki and his wife Slavia Miki.

Based on true events, Dolphin SOS recounts the story of three dolphins trapped in an ice-covered cove off the coast of Newfoundland. After the government fails to provide assistance, boys take matters into their own hands in order to save the distressed dolphins.

Flett previously provided illustrations for Earl Emerson’s children’s story, The Moonsins (Thetys, 2004), which was nominated for the Harris Prize in 2004, and she won her first Harris Prize in 2011 for her picture book, Ooiks See Clearly At Night: A Michif Alphabet (Simply Read, 2010).

Sheila A. Egoff Children’s Literature Prize

Maggie de Vries didn’t finish paying homage to her sister Sarah before Hastings on April 14, 1998 in Vancouver. On August 6, 2002, Vancouver police met with de Vries and gave her the news that a sample of Sarah’s DNA (from a tooth) was found by police on the Port Coquitlam property of Robert Pickton, the convicted serial killer of Vancouver prostitutes.

After hope was replaced by grim certainty, de Vries kept searching for the answers as to how and why her sister had disappeared, leading her to write Missing Sarah: A Vancouver Woman Re- members Her Vanished Sister (Penguin, 2003), a rules, plausibility, dialogue...not so much. While ‘Saint’ Justine is sometimes too good to be true, her twin brother is an intriguing, wise, and ultimately lovable character.

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DISTRIBUTION CHANGES

Effective on the dates listed below, the following publishers and their respective client publishers will move distribution from HarperCollins Canada (HCC) to University of Toronto Press Distribution (UTP). Orders will be consolidated with other UTP client publishers and billed by UTP Distribution.

May 1, 2015: UTP starts shipping orders. All new orders should be submitted to UTP.
July 29, 2015: Last day to return books to HCC for credit.

The following ISBN prefixes are affected:
LifeTree Media: 978-1-928055, 978-0-9936530
Me to We Books: 978-0-9784375, 978-1-927435, 978-1-55365

Greystone’s sales representation continues unchanged: Hornblower Books in Eastern Canada and the Heritage Group Distribution reps in Western Canada and the Territories.

Questions: Call 604.875.1550 or email info@greystonebooks.com

Douglas & McIntyre

May 1, 2015: UTP starts shipping orders. All new orders should be submitted to UTP.
July 29, 2015: Last day to return books to HCC for credit.


Douglas & McIntyre’s sales representation continues unchanged: Ampersand Inc. in Western Canada and the Territories, and Hornblower Books in Eastern Canada.

Questions: Call 604.883.2730 or email info@douglas-mcintyre.com

New Society Publishers

May 1, 2015: UTP starts shipping orders. All new orders should be submitted to UTP.
July 29, 2015: Last day to return books to HCC for credit.


New Society Publishers sales representation remains unchanged: Ampersand Inc. nationwide.

Questions: Call 250.247.9737 or email info@newsociety.com

Anansi

June 19, 2015: Last day orders will be accepted at HCC.
June 26, 2015: Last day orders will ship from HCC. Remaining unshipped backorders for active and forthcoming titles will be transferred to UTP.
July 2, 2015: UTP starts shipping orders. All new orders should be submitted to UTP.
September 25, 2015: Last day to return books to HCC for credit.

The following ISBN prefixes are affected:
Anansi: 978-088784, 978-177089, 978-14870
Groundwood: 978-088899, 978-155498

House of Anansi’s sales representation continues unchanged: Michael Reynolds and Associates in BC and Alberta; Lisa Pearce in Manitoba and Saskatchewan; Martin and Associates in Ontario and Quebec; and Ali Hewitt in Atlantic Canada.

Questions: Call 416.363.4343 or email customerservice@houseofanansi.com
**PONY TALES**

“Nothing can replace desire in riding, in writing, in life.” — Julie White

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**The Lost Diary**

*By Julie White (Sono Nis $9.95)*

I Ts a Horse Race, of Sorts. Nikki Tate of Saanich set the pace. Between 1997 and 2002, she published seven novels in her Stakemates series, aimed at teenage girls who want to read about girls and horses.

Now equestrian-minded Julie White of Armstrong is catching up fast. She has just released her fourth girl-meets-horse novel for slightly younger readers, aged 8-12.

White first wrote about horses as a girl in Vancouver after her parents told her she couldn’t keep a pony in their back yard.

Now she lives on a horse farm in Armstrong, raising thoroughbreds for racing and jumping, with her husband Robert, a former jockey.

The appeal of White’s writing is largely derived from her sophisticated knowledge of riding. On almost every page it’s abundantly clear she really knows horses. The personali- ties of the horses make them into dual protagonists with the two-legged heroines who take tumbles.

In Julie White’s first book *The Secret Pony* (Sono Nis 2004), young Kirsty empties her piggy bank to buy Lance- lot—a skinny, half-trained pony—and makes herself useful at the pony farm to pay for his board and to earn rid- ing lessons. Only problem is Kirsty doesn’t tell her parents. When a riding accident puts Kirsty in the hospital, Kirsty is told Lancelet must go.

As a follow-up, White fashion- ed another horse-driven tale of divided loyalties and complicated friendships, *High Fences* (Sono Nis 2007). After Fay agrees to sell her beloved horse Robin to help save the family farm, Fay refuses to tell its new owner, the pretty and pampered Nicole, the secret to making Robin jump. *Under the Wire* (Sono Nis 2013) and *Riding through Fire* (Sono Nis 2013) came next. Now White has continued her Hillcraft Farm series with *The Lost Diary*, an audacious leap back in time to 1905.

While she is recovering from a riding accident, Faye finds an old diary at a craft sale. It once belonged to a promising show jumper, Mary Ingles, similar in age. To take her mind off the trauma of her accident, Faye—and the reader—enter the world of the diary.

Soon we’re ensnared in the struggles of a 14-year-old girl who loves to fearlessly jump fences bareback on her splendid palomino mare, Colleen. Mary’s Dad, the head wrangler at White Valley Ranch in the B.C. Interior, trained the wild horse and gave it to her as compensation for not having a Mum.

Colleen and Mary are inseparable. The willingness to show off Colleen’s remarkable jumping prowess leads to an unexpected challenge. The new ranch manager and his wife, both of whom are experi- enced in competitive jumping, decide Colleen should com- pete with them at the PNE in Vancouver.

Mary is perplexed. It’s her horse, nobody else’s. And she has never been to the big city. But she doesn’t dismiss them. He thinks it could be good for her. “I’m going to have to do this. I sure don’t want to lose,” she wrote in the diary. “Just thinking about it makes my stomach hurt. But I know Dad wants me to and I’m not going to let him down.”

She out-jumps Mr. Zolin- ski, the new ranch manager, at the PNE. It’s a thrilling triumph. And Colleen are perfect, the only pair not to miss a single jump. Nobody can ride Colleen like Mary. She wins against experienced riders twice her age in the first jumping competition that she and her high-spirited horse have ever entered.

The trouble starts when the ranch manager’s wife surmis- es there must be some thor- oughbred in Colleen. Where did her father really get the horse? When the new owner of the ranch starts asking the same question, Mary’s father is forced to give back Colleen to the ranch owner.

It gets worse when the new ranch owner wants the new ranch manager to ride Col- len at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. Other powerful people want Colleen to be made available to the Canadian Olympic squad.

Everyone knows Colleen trusts Mary more than any other rider. But even if Mary still believes her horse isn’t worth as much as the other riders, she couldn’t enter the Olympics with Colleen. She would have to be eighteen, for one thing. Colleen is only 13, but in the early 1951, powers that decided high-risk horse jumping at the Olympics was too dangerous for women.

Mary and her brother ac- company Colleen to the CNE where there’s an exciting fi- nale. But it’s White’s surprise ending of Faye’s contemporary horse story with the life of Mary Ingles that makes *The Lost Diary* particularly satisfying and memorable.

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**Dog Tales**

*By Glen Lovett and Jenna Waldron*

In Between Shadows (Coteau $8.95), the eleventh book for youth by Kathleen Cook Waldron of 100 Mile House, 12-year-old Ari has just inherited his grandfather’s log cabin, but Ari’s family wants to sell the property to developers. The family is having financial problems (the eleventh book for youth aimed at teenage girls who want to read about girls and horses.)

**CABIN SAVING**

**ROCK VS RAP**

**DYSLEXIA**

Jenny Watson’s first juvenile nov- el, Prove It (Sono Nis $9.95) is about a dyslexic eleven-year-old named Josh who lives living at the marina on Dad’s cruising yacht for the summer. At first, when a mean classmate, Brittany, bets Josh he can’t beat her in an upcoming boat race, Josh isn’t too worried because he expects his older brother will win the race. But when Matt has his first Husky (Ruby), Nickelodeon and Atomic Warner Brothers, Hanna Barbera, film companies including Disney TV, prove it. The trouble starts when the new owner of the ranch starts asking the same question, Mary’s father is forced to give back Colleen to the ranch owner.

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978-1-55039-234-0

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Julie White with Keno, age 25: “We took a gamble and bought him at our local livestock auction. He’s pretty much retired to pasture after a long and useful career that spanned the horse show ring to the racetrack, where he ponied our racehorses to the starting gate.”

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Our Ice Is Vanishing / Sikuvut Nunguliqtuq
A History of Inuit, Newcomers, and Climate Change
SHELLEY WRIGHT

Winner
The George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature

“… authoritative and entertaining, original, exhaustively researched, and informed by personal experience. Wright spent years living in the Arctic and it shows. She has written a wonderful book.”
– Ken McGoogan, author of 50 Canadians Who Changed the World

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– London Observer

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PAUL DELANY

“Paul Delany has produced a fascinating study of Rupert Brooke.”
– BC BookWorld

“The central achievement of this book looms most largely in its cultural iconoclasm … likely to become the definitive biography of Rupert Brooke.”
– David Williams, University of Manitoba

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N
ISSCHOLIA
Animals and Plants in British Columbia by Alex Van Tol (BCM $19.95)

Along with the cute Eastern Grey Squirrel and ubiquitous Himalayan Blackberry, Alex Van Tol has outlined more than 50 animals and plants for Aliens Among Us: Invasive Animals and Plants in British Columbia.

Not all invasives are unwelcome. We use English Holly at Christmas; English Ivy twines its way through gardens and up the sides of stately old homes; some people enjoy the trilling of Starlings; the Drumming Katydid goes about its business; some people enjoy the spreading algae. Evolving. But many alien invasives are pushing native species out.

The American Bullfrog was imported by the thousands in the late 1940s for the restaurant industry. When the market for frogs’ legs proved to have no legs whatsoever, they were released into the wild. Now our freshwater lakes are festooned with these big burpers—which can sometimes grow as large as a dinner plate—as they chow down on everything from mice and birds to hatching turtles and even our own native frogs. They lay up to 20,000 eggs at a time.

Scotch Broom smells so pretty in spring, but its yellow blooms are dastardly to eradicate. Not long after Captain Walter Colquhoun Grant arrived at Fort Victoria in 1849, Grant gave his neighbour John Muir three bushes of Scotch broom that had come from the Sandwich Islands. These fast-spreading plants were a gift to Grant from the British Consul in Honolulu, who in turn had bought them in Tasmania. That,” Muir said later, “may explain why they proliferated in the devilish way they did.”

Purple Loosestrife was first planted in a Port Alberni garden in 1916. It has subsequently elbowed its way across stream banks, ditches and marine estuaries, setting down its greedy roots in pretty much any wetland habitat where the sun shines. Gorse and English Ivy are also alien plants.

The Brown Bullhead Catfish made its way into the wilds of B.C. when a Vancouver Island restauranteur decided he no longer wished to have the foot-long fishes in his aquarium and instead elected to throw them—from a train window, no less—into Elk Lake. As the spines on its dorsal and pectoral fins are too sharp for the herons and Cormorants to bother with, there’s not a lot of predation pressure on this particular species.

The voracious Green Crab first landed on the New England coast in the late 1800s. It immediately set to work raining the clam, scallop and soft-shell crab industries there. Ballast water carried it to San Francisco in 1989, and it was first spotted in B.C. in 1998. Pond of snails, mussels and clams, the Green Crab also isn’t afraid of taking down a lunch that’s the same size as itself. It can even eat a juvenile Dungeness Crab.

**SCIENCE AND MOTHER NATURE**

Don’t have an immigration policy. So what is really native to B.C.? Who decides? Grizzly Bears arrived from the east across the Rockies. Where’s the Sockeye come from? Is Western Red Cedar really western?

It’s a tricky business, determining which plants and animals “belong” and which don’t. We tend to see invasive species as evil things to be stopped, rather than as representatives of a necessary and expected evolutionary trajectory. There’s a strong counter argument to be made that the inexorable forward march of invasive species is just evidence of Earth doing her thing. Evolving. Which is not to say you should go planting Carpet Burweed in Stanley Park. Don’t dump your pet goldfish into lakes or ponds. Don’t buy exotic turtles at the pet store. Don’t feed the raccoons. And please wash the felt soles in your waders before you change rivers so you don’t spread algae.

For more tips on how to slow the spread of aliens into British Columbia, visit the Royal BC Museum or check out Van Tol’s sometimes humorous, sometimes sobering, always enlightening compendium.

**ALEX VAN TOL’S OTHER NEW BOOK**

Chick: Lister (Orca $9.95) for ages 10-14. A self-described ‘recreational list maker,’ she has written a novel about an over-anxious teen named Chick who feels burdened by his father’s overbearing and impossible expectations. Chick copes by making lists, lots and lots of lists. It helps a lot to have a budding romance with Audrey on his debating team, but her advice to simply confront his father is hard to take.

Van Tol’s biography of the actor who played Gale in The Hunger Games, Liam Hemsworth (Crabtree $8.95), is another installment in the Superstars series that traces the careers of celebrities from their first breakthroughs and challenges to their current superstardom.

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**BREEDERS DIGEST**

**FROM ALGAE TO ZEBRA MUSSELS**

**Aliens Among Us: Invasive Animals and Plants in British Columbia by Alex Van Tol**

**Alex Van Tol identifies invasive species beyond humans.**

Northern Snakehead, Dalmatian Toadflax, Red-eared Slider and Giant Hogweed are not characters from Game of Thrones, but they are aliens who have entered B.C. unbeknownst to CSIS.

Along with the cute Eastern Grey Squirrel and ubiquitous Himalayan Blackberry, Alex Van Tol has outlined more than 50 animals and plants for Aliens Among Us: Invasive Animals and Plants in British Columbia.

Not all invasives are unwelcome. We use English Holly at Christmas; English Ivy twines its way through gardens and up the sides of stately old homes; some people enjoy the trilling of Starlings; the Drumming Katydid goes about its business; some people enjoy the spreading algae. Evolving. But many alien invasives are pushing native species out.

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Scotch Broom smells so pretty in spring, but its yellow blooms are dastardly to eradicate. Not long after Captain Walter Colquhoun Grant arrived at Fort Victoria in 1849, Grant gave his neighbour John Muir three bushes of Scotch broom that had come from the Sandwich Islands. These fast-spreading plants were a gift to Grant from the British Consul in Honolulu, who in turn had bought them in Tasmania. That,” Muir said later, “may explain why they proliferated in the devilish way they did.”

Purple Loosestrife was first planted in a Port Alberni garden in 1916. It has subsequently elbowed its way across stream banks, ditches and marine estuaries, setting down its greedy roots in pretty much any wetland habitat where the sun shines. Gorse and English Ivy are also alien plants.

The Brown Bullhead Catfish made its way into the wilds of B.C. when a Vancouver Island restauranteur decided he no longer wished to have the foot-long fishes in his aquarium and instead elected to throw them—from a train window, no less—into Elk Lake. As the spines on its dorsal and pectoral fins are too sharp for the herons and Cormorants to bother with, there’s not a lot of predation pressure on this particular species.

The voracious Green Crab first landed on the New England coast in the late 1800s. It immediately set to work raining the clam, scallop and soft-shell crab industries there. Ballast water carried it to San Francisco in 1989, and it was first spotted in B.C. in 1998. Pond of snails, mussels and clams, the Green Crab also isn’t afraid of taking down a lunch that’s the same size as itself. It can even eat a juvenile Dungeness Crab.

**SCIENCE AND MOTHER NATURE**

Don’t have an immigration policy. So what is really native to B.C.? Who decides? Grizzly Bears arrived from the east across the Rockies. Where’s the Sockeye come from? Is Western Red Cedar really western?

It’s a tricky business, determining which plants and animals “belong” and which don’t. We tend to see invasive species as evil things to be stopped, rather than as representatives of a necessary and expected evolutionary trajectory. There’s a strong counter argument to be made that the inexorable forward march of invasive species is just evidence of Earth doing her thing. Evolving. Which is not to say you should go planting Carpet Burweed in Stanley Park. Don’t dump your pet goldfish into lakes or ponds. Don’t buy exotic turtles at the pet store. Don’t feed the raccoons. And please wash the felt soles in your waders before you change rivers so you don’t spread algae.

For more tips on how to slow the spread of aliens into British Columbia, visit the Royal BC Museum or check out Van Tol’s sometimes humorous, sometimes sobering, always enlightening compendium.

**ALEX VAN TOL’S OTHER NEW BOOK**

Chick: Lister (Orca $9.95) for ages 10-14. A self-described ‘recreational list maker,’ she has written a novel about an over-anxious teen named Chick who feels burdened by his father’s overbearing and impossible expectations. Chick copes by making lists, lots and lots of lists. It helps a lot to have a budding romance with Audrey on his debating team, but her advice to simply confront his father is hard to take.

Van Tol’s biography of the actor who played Gale in The Hunger Games, Liam Hemsworth (Crabtree $8.95), is another installment in the Superstars series that traces the careers of celebrities from their first breakthroughs and challenges to their current superstardom.

**DANCE MOVES OF THE NEAR FUTURE**

Tim Conley’s prose whipsaws between carefully observed realism and batshit insanity to create surreal, compact worlds. These 24 stories are unpredictable — even volatile — but they all share a wicked sense of humour and a piercing eye for human (and inhuman) failibility.

**AROUND THE WORLD ON MINIMUM WAGE**

A hilarious, philosophical travel memoir about the author’s ill-fated attempt to conquer Everest (and an esoteric sexual deviancy), featuring numerous illustrations.

“To understand this culture, we need writers with a genuine sense of humour, such as Struthers.” — National Post

**SALT CHUCK STORIES FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND’S WEST COAST**

During the early 1980s, Eleanor Hancock interviewed 120 people about the pioneers at Nootka Sound, Zeballos and Kyuquot, publishing several articles about old-timers in the Times-Colonist, the Journal of the BC Historical Federation, the Seniors Review and the Bank of British Columbia’s Pioneer News.

Now her *Salt Chuck Stories from Vancouver Island’s West Coast* recalls big-time counterfeiters near Yuquot in 1911, Rebecca McPhee and the first Red Cross Hospital at Kyuquot and the highballing Gibson Brothers who logged airplane spruce at Zeballos back in the days when a house of prostitution openly operated between the town and the mines. Also included are the Perry Brothers of Nootka Sound, carpenter Alder Bloom, Swiss trapper and prospector Andy Morod of Nootka Sound and Eva Benjamin of Zeballos, and many more.

Born in Viking, Alberta in 1942, Eleanor Hancock grew up in Zeballos from age three onwards. Her family mainly ran the Zeballos general store after her grandfather Seth Witton purchased it in 1939. She later settled in Kamloops where she became interested in researching Canada’s last significant gold boom that occurred in Zeballos in 1938.
Arts Club turns 50

Spearheaded by Yvonne Firkens and Otto Lowy, the Arts Club was founded in 1958 as a private club for artists, musicians, actors and writers (including novelist Jane Rule). The first homegrown box office success was Sherman Snukal’s ‘Talking Dirty in 1981-82.

On the second floor of a converted gospel hall at 1181 Seymour Street, the Arts Club first produced Moss Hart’s ‘Light Up the Sky’ in 1964 (the same year Jane Rule’s ‘Desert’ was published in England).

The 650-seat Granville Island main stage was added in 1978; the 225-seat Arts Club Revue Theatre nearby opened in 1983; the refurbished Stanley Theater at 12th and Granville re-opened as an Arts Club venue in 1998 after being closed since 1991. The original Seymour building was demolished in the 1990s.

Rachel Ditor became literary manager and dramaturge at the Arts Club Theatre in 2001 having first worked in play development in 1992 at Playwrights’ Workshop in Montreal.

She has since published articles on new-play dramaturgy, taught dramaturgy at UBC and directed many plays for the Arts Club Theatre. Also a director of the Canadian Women and Words Foundation, she has edited a collection of six plays developed and produced by the Arts Club for The Arts Club Anthology (Playwrights Canada $24.95) to mark the 50th anniversary of the largest theatre company in Western Canada.

Anita Majumdar

Long before Anita Majumdar became a film starlet, she broke into the theatre scene with her one-woman play ‘Fish Eyes’, in 2005.

This autobiographical play about Meena, a classically trained Indian dancer who dreams of getting out of Port Moody, has now been published, along with two more of her plays, in a collection called ‘Fish Eyes’ (Playwrights Canada $22.95).

Performing all three roles in ‘Fish Eyes’, on stage, got Majumdar noticed by a Toronto producer. Shortly after, she was cast in the CBC television film ‘Murder Unveiled’. Her portrayal of a Canadian Sikh beautician who is murdered by her family for secretly marrying a poor Indian rickshaw driver earned her a Best Actress Award at the 2005 Asian Festival of First Films.

Majumdar has since played the character of Emerald in Canadian director Deepa Mehta’s adaptation of Salman Rushdie’s ‘Midnight’s Children’.

Majumdar grew up in Port Moody, where she did not speak English until the age of six. As the daughter of Hindu Bengali immigrants, she trained in classical dance including Bharata Natyam, Kathak and Odissi.

She earned degrees in English, Theatre and South Asian Languages at UBC prior to graduating from the National Theatre School in 2004. Most recently she has penned a Bollywood-inspired musical, ‘Same Same but Different’, about an affliction she calls ‘shadism’ — the desire of a person of colour to have fair skin.

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—THE GUARDIAN
**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**

Using modern forensics to solve an old mystery

Debra Komar's second historical novel investigates the shooting death of Hudson's Bay Company employee John McLoughlin Jr. the night of April 21, 1842. As the chief trader at remote Fort Stikine along the Stikine River in present-day southern British Columbia, McLoughlin Jr. was known for his violent rampages. The HBC's governor George Simpson accepted the fort's employees' version of events—that his commander was drunk and abusive, and the killing had occurred in self-defence. It was a difficult decision because McLoughlin was the illegitimate son of the venerable John McLoughlin who managed HBC affairs in the Columbia district.

In her novel The Bastard of Fort Stikine: The Hudson's Bay Company and the Murder of John McLoughlin, Jr. (Gusse Lane $19.95), Komar retells history, mostly assuming the worst in terms of interpreting the morals and behaviour of the fur traders, in her efforts to reconstruct the crime scene and solve the mystery of the death using archival research and modern forensic science. Debra Komar has worked as a forensic anthropologist and has a daughter. Here she comments on how and where her novel deviates from the known truth.

Daniel Boone lived until 1820. This novel ends in 1778 on the eve of a siege of Boonesborough, one of the first American settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains. On-line, the Kelowna-based Hawley says readers want to know more about Rebecca, Boone's wife, and Jemima, the second of their four daughters and also a major character. A sequel is in the works.

**REVIEW**

**ALL TRUE NOT A LIE IN IT**
by Alix Hawley

Knopf $29.95

**BY KEVEN DREWS**

Daniel Boone is one of the most storied frontiersmen in United States' history, but I didn't know much about him prior to Alix Hawley's All True Not A Lie In It (Knopf $29.95). And neither did Hawley.

She says in her author's note that she once saw an image of him when she was nine-years-old in a National Geographic article. That was about it. Much later she saw a painting of him and she was hooked. She couldn't stop thinking about the man she now describes as "a slippery character, a peculiar mix of the familiar and forgotten."

All True Not A Lie In It is about finding Daniel Boone within the myth-making traditions of fiction, moving some of the dates of Boone's chronology, and making guesses. "His story is about trying to find paradise," says Hawley, "and about what happened when he brought about its ruin."

Along the frontier road to ruin, there's enough sex, adventure, love, betrayal, infidelity, war, violence and money to keep most readers captivated. The opening sentence, "Your sister is a whore," is an accusation that repeated three times during a young Boone's fights with some boys, including William Hill, a supporting character who will appear, disappear and re-appear throughout the novel.

Over the next 85 pages, Boone moves between Pennsylvania, Virginia and Carolina. He grows into a young man, accompanies his brother, Israel, on a hunting trip, stands by his family as it is disowned and then driven out of the Quaker community, watches his sister-in-law and brother die from disease, and visits a Philadelphia brothel where he loses his virginity to a woman named Maria who claims to have "lost her virtue at the top of a volcano in Italy." Boone joins the army, runs away from a battle, marries and has a daughter. Here the real, westward-ho adventure begins and continues for the next 285 pages. Boone pushes into Kentucky and is captured twice by native Americans—and the rest we'll leave undisclosed.

I was drawn into the story. I couldn't help but feel a sense of connection to its characters, possibly because of what has happened in B.C. between First Nations and the colonial invaders—and what continues to happen today. Much of Hawley's novel deals with the clash of European and aboriginal civilizations in the U.S., a clash that cost the Indians (as they're called) dearly. This clash continues to play out in B.C. The Tsilhqot'in in the Cariboo won a landmark land-claims decision in the Supreme Court of Canada a year ago, and recently the public learned of the chaos within the B.C. Treaty Commission, the organization that was created to guide current talks.

In a Supreme Court of Canada ruling in June of 2014, the Tsilhqot'in won title to 1,750 square kilometres of territory land near Williams Lake. That's repeated three times over the next 285 pages. Boone pushes westward-ho has resonance, even though the action occurs south of the 49th parallel.

Unfortunately, I couldn't dismiss a nagging question that kept rising in my mind: Where does the myth end and fiction begin in this novel? Perhaps, it's not so much a criticism of Hawley and her story but of the sub-genre of historical fiction.

What I now know about Daniel Boone, I know from this novel. I now question just how much of what is "all true" and "not a lie" is a lie. I'd have to read much more about Boone in order to determine how much of Hawley's version is fictional.

Hawley has sparked my curiosity, but perhaps she could have included some information about her research as to how and where her novel deviates from the known truth.

Daniel Boone lived until 1820. This novel ends in 1778 on the eve of a siege of Boonesborough, one of the first American settlements west of the Appalachians. On-line, the Kelowna-based Hawley says readers want to know more about Rebecca, Boone's wife, and Jemima, the second of their four daughters and also a major character. A sequel is in the works.

**THE LEGACY OF THE FRONTIER EPOCH**

Still with us, Hawley's depiction of Boone's efforts to lead European culture westward-ho has resonance, even though the action occurs south of the 49th parallel. And yet, the frontier story is about trying to find paradise.

Perhaps, it's not so much a criticism of Hawley and her story, but of the sub-genre of historical fiction. What I now know about Daniel Boone, I know from this novel. I now question just how much of what is "all true" and "not a lie" is a lie.

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**FROG The West Was Ruined**

There's enough sex, adventure, love, betrayal, infidelity, war, violence and money to keep most readers captivated.

**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**

Using modern forensics to solve an old mystery

Debra Komar's second historical novel investigates the shooting death of Hudson's Bay Company employee John McLoughlin Jr. just after midnight on April 21, 1842.

As the chief trader at remote Fort Stikine on the Stikine River in present-day southern British Columbia, McLoughlin Jr. was known for his violent rampages. The HBC's governor George Simpson accepted the fort's employees' version of events—that his commander was drunk and abusive, and the killing had occurred in self-defence. It was a difficult decision because McLoughlin was the illegitimate son of the venerable John McLoughlin who managed HBC affairs in the Columbia district.

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NO SAINT PETER

Alleged murderer Peter Pond was notorious, but he should be better known for leading Alexander Mackenzie to his discoveries.

Marie-Josephie who pressed charges against the two men. Historians disagree whether Pond ever stood trial.

When the North West Company was reorganized in 1783, Pond refused to take a share and returned for his third winter at the Athabaska Post. In 1784, he returned to Grand Portage and Montreal and began drawing maps of the northwest. One year later, he joined the prestigious Beaver Club and even presented his map and a memorandum to the U.S. Congress.

A former North West Company trader named John Ross was the second alleged murder victim of Pond. Ross had been dropped when the company re-organized in 1783. He joined another firm connected with Alexander Mackenzie: Gregory, MacLeod and Company. “His job was to draw off his rival’s traffic,” and “brazenly, he set up a post under Pond’s nose,” writes Gough.

Competition escalated to a point in 1786 and 1787 that a scuffle with Pond’s men broke out, and Ross was shot. News of the murder reached Grand Portage by the summer of 1787, and then travelled east to Montreal. So significant was Ross’ death, says Gough, that the North West Company and Gregory, MacLeod and Company united. The incident led to Pond’s withdrawal or forced retirement from the fur trade in 1790 at the age of 50.

Alexander Mackenzie once provided this description of Peter Pond:

“Pond stalked into the hall, a pack of dogs at his heels. The grey-haired giant had not shaved in weeks, his buckskins were stained, and he was badly in need of a bath.

But his natural dignity was overwhelming. He ate a large venison steak, a platter of bear-bacon, and a moose liver. He insisted his dogs be given fresh meat, too.”

History books tend to skip over the fact that it was Pond who disclosed to the world the general features of the river system that would one day bear Alexander Mackenzie’s name. As Gough puts it, it was Peter Pond who “sprang open the secrets” of the northwest.

“His greatest gift, however, was to the ungrateful and selfish Alexander Mackenzie. His followers knew the young Scot with the possibilities of discovery in the north and the lure of glory that led him to follow the great river to its mouth in 1789 and onward to the Pacific in 1793.”

In 1789, Pond had presented his findings to the governor of Quebec, findings that became the subject of talks in London the next year. A map of his discoveries was first published in Gentleman’s Magazine, a London periodical.

Pond started writing a memoir in 1793 and he died in the town of his birth in 1807.

ABOUT TWO CENTURIES LATER

Barry Gough began the difficult task of piecing together Pond’s story when the editors of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography handed him a file and asked him to “take a fresh look at Pond.”

Harold Innis had written a “pioneering biography” called Peter Pond: Fur Trader and Adventurer in 1930 and Gough had access to Pond’s 36-sheet memoir but the trader’s early letters on Great Slave Lake had disappeared and the records of the North West Company and its rivals are “furtive and fragmentary.”

Much of his research focused on The English River Book, a surviving journal of the North West Company kept during Pond’s last years at the Athabasca, and edited by Barry Duckworth, as well as maps that Pond drew.

“Pond’s story has been edited and published too often,” writes Gough. “It is reassuring to see that Barry Gough has declined the seduction of engaging in creative non-fiction to flush out the details, “save where I have speculated on Pond’s appearance.”

Pond is mentioned only a few times in chapter 3, “Wilderness Tangles: Robert Rogers, Jonathan Carver, and the Northwest Passage,” and a few more maps or illustrations could have eased the way for people who aren’t scholars. But these are minor points when considering Gough’s purpose.

Much of Gough’s research focuses on what he sets out to do, and he does it in a way that merits our curiosity and time. We know Pond joined him there in 1781. Somebody shot Waden in early March of 1782 and he was buried the following morning, in frozen ground.

“An absence of details,” clouds the shooting, according to Gough, who believes Waden was shot by either his clerk, Toussaint Lescure, or Pond. Word of the killing travelled east to Waden’s widow,
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“A reimagining of ourselves in terms of ecology, sustainability, harmony with natural systems.”
**Leonard McCann**

(1927-2015)

**The Vancouver Maritime Museum Archives**

Leone McCann, curator emeritus of the museum, was born on February 3, 1927, in Shanghai where his father’s family had lived since the 1860s. INTERUATED in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp at Santo Tomas, Philippines, from 1941 to 1945, he came to Victoria with his mother after the war. He joined the Vancouver Maritime Museum as an assistant curator in 1968.

McCann wrote the introduction to Gerald Rushbrooke’s _The Whistle: An Illustrated History of the Union Steamship Company (D&M, 1980) and published his own book that same year on the steamship _The Beaver_, having organized a cross-Canada exhibit entitled _The Honourable Company’s Beaver_. In addition, McCann provided the foreword to _W. K. Lamb’s Empress to the Orient (Vancouver Maritime Museum, 1991)._

McCann was the first link in the project that culminated in the acquisition of Captain George Vancouver’s “Arnold 176” chronometer from his voyage to the West Coast as well as material pertaining to a re-issue of _W. K. Lamb’s Empress to the Orient (Vancouver Maritime Museum, 1991)._ In 1964, despite ill health, he was able to attend a reception at the Vancouver Maritime Museum in order to receive the SS Beaver Medal for outstanding contributions to British Columbia’s Maritime Heritage. Leonard McCann passed away at the Vancouver General Hospital at Burnaby Hospital on March 27, 2015.

**Peter Culley**

(1958-2015)

**Peter Culley lived in South Wellington**, near Nanaaimo, since 1972. His lyrical poems in _Hammondsworth_ (New Star, 2003), re-imagined his hometown of Nanaaimo and took his odd title from the fiction-ized port on Vancouver Island that was visited by George Vancouver in 1792 expedition.

A dense and fiercely intelligent work... all in a lyrical and stirring tone.”

Paid work continued to the West Coast as well as mate- rial pertaining to a re-issue of _W. K. Lamb’s Empress to the Orient (Vancouver Maritime Museum, 1991)._ In 1964, despite ill health, he was able to attend a reception at the Vancouver Maritime Museum in order to receive the SS Beaver Medal for outstanding contributions to Brit- ish Columbia’s Maritime Heritage. Leonard McCann passed away at the Vancouver General Hospital at Burnaby Hospital on March 27, 2015.

**Mary Billy**

(1936-2015)

Grass Roots Feminist MARY E. BILLY OF Squamish was the editor of Happiness magazine from 1989-1995, a quarterly publication that provided a lively forum for a broad range of writers, until it ceased publication in 1995. She had attended West Coast Women & Words Writing School and Retreat at UBC in 1988, during which she dis- covered herself as a writer.

Influenced by Margaret Laurence and the poetry of _A Purdy_, Mary Billy self-published _She is Carved in Stone_ (2009), _Under My Blue Hat (Herwspectives, 2001); In The Turning: Summer’s Journal of a Sou’wester in the Women’s Movement (Herspectives, 1986) and _Over The Falls_ (Herwspectives, 1986)..

In 1998 Mary Billy was one of 20 women from around the world to be awarded the International Helen prize, named after Dr. Helen Caldicott, who honours “ordinary women for their many heroic, significant, but of- ten unrecognized contributions to the quality of life on our planet.”

Mary Billy was honoured for mentoring young women and for keeping _The Femicide List_, a list of the names and incidents of women and girls murdered by men in Canada, until 2000. When she re- tired in Squamish, she kept her- self busy making dishcloths for _The Stephen’s Foundation on HIV/AIDS in Africa and contribut- ing to The Defiant Women’s Sup- port Fund_.

Mary Billy died on April 12, 2015.
Born and raised in the United Arab Emirates, where his family spoke English, debut poet Raoul Fernandes attended a Catholic school where he earned the nickname Dreamer.

Reluctant to play the race card, Raoul Fernandes provides scanty information about his youth in Dubai. “My childhood was not that strange,” he says. “Riding bikes, camping, being bored at school, being nervous around girls, Archie comics, Super Mario brothers, kicking a ball around on a street.”

“Maybe some things could have influenced me,” he concedes. “The sparseness of the desert landscape, the tension between the many groups of people there. The museum charting the evenings. It was hot, it rained only a few times a year. But it was not exotic.”

In those days Dubai didn’t have the world’s tallest building and the world’s second-most expensive hotel rooms (after Geneva). It was still a small, sandy city with far more immigrants than local Arabs, and that’s still the case. Fernandes lived minutes away from the open desert. There were stretches of people-less beaches.

Fernandes’ parents—both from India—had met and married in Dubai, so there were occasional trips to India to see grandparents and other relatives who lived within a large community of Catholics of Portuguese ancestry—hence the surname Fernandes. His father’s family was from a suburb called Bandra, in West Mumbai.

“Most of the kids we played with were on the street in UAE,” he recalls, “were from many different parts of the world. We were influenced by western TV, music, and movies, so we saw North America as an exciting free place.”

He kept writing. Sixteen years after he dropped out of college, Fernandes had his first child, Fernandes had his first child, which was to be invested in and practicing a discipline that meant so much to me.”

The Fernandes family emigrated from Dubai to Taawaswine in 1993. “The relative open-mindedness of the western world was appealing to my parents, too. The kind of freedom of thought and agency here is easy to take for granted, but for a person coming from that part of the world, you notice it within days. You feel like you can breathe deeper.”

“I was happy, or as happy as an awkward 14-year-old could be. I remember music being a big deal in what we were seeing and doing; bands like Nirvana, Pearl Jam, REM. I wasn’t reading poetry at all. I was filling up notebooks with what I thought poetry was. Angry, melodramatic stuff.”

Fernandes dropped out of college, worked at a Dairy Queen and filled more notebooks. He found work as a janitor. “Of course, the main reason for moving to Canada was that my parents wanted a better education and prospects for us, their children,” he says. “When I think about this, I can’t help feel bad about the disappointment they must have felt, after all they had done, to see me drop out of college and decide that poetry and the arts was the only thing I cared about.”

He kept writing. Sixteen years after arriving in Canada, he was accepted into the SFU Writer’s Studio, in 2009, with Rachel Rose as his SFU poetry mentor. “I didn’t realize how hungry I was for an educational environment,” he says, “and what a deep pleasure it was to be invested in and practicing a discipline that meant so much to me.”

Shortlisted for the Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers a year later, not long after he got married and had his first child, Fernandes had his manuscript accepted by the second publishing house he sent it to. Transmitter and Receiver (Nightwood $18.95) is not easy to define. There’s a poem about a tulp vending machine. A poem about kids getting high on a roof. A call-centre poem. A janitor poem. A poem about building a flying machine with old wallmams. Poems from the point of view of a sad ATM machine. Poems about trying and failing to connect. Love poems. Trust poems.

“/When people ask what I write about/”

they say. “I don’t have a simple explanation. I could say I write poems that struggle with what it means to be a human being right now.” They’re too flat and too vague at the same time. And who writes poems that aren’t about that?

“I often start with an image, a line. Something resonant, something that makes me curious. I’ll move around it, seeing if I can build a world for it. The problem I often face is that, if there’s a central image, the other things form too tight an orbit around it. It becomes too flat, too rational.

“I love poems that light up my head in new ways, so I attempt to do that with my own. Some lines turn into poems, most go nowhere. I try new moves, I improve on old moves, I learn a bit, forget what I’ve learned. I try to get strange and honest. If a poem seems to have a heart, a spine, a central nervous system, that’s great. I’ll keep it.”

Section one of Transmitter and Receiver is playful, about writing and communication. Section two has Weird Suburbia poems. Section three has home poems, domestic poems, love poems. “I am trying to figure out my relationship with the outside world, work, strangers, concerns about the environment,” he says. “Paradoxically, this is what I love and having a child can force one to reckon with.”

These days Raoul Fernandes works as a maintenance worker. “/I do most of my writing in coffee shops while my son naps,” he says. “I never have gone back to Dubai.”
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POETRY

Yarrow grows poets

Leonard N. Neufeldt reflects on his roots.

IT’S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND ANY TOWN OR CITY IN B.C. THAT DOESN’T HAVE AT LEAST AN AUTHOR OR TWO.

Take Yarrow, at the foot of Vedder Mountain, twelve kilometres southwest of Chilliwack.

The Dutch-Russian Mennonite hamlet of Yarrow is the birthplace and home of Leonard N. Neufeldt who has become a widely published poet and was a professor of American Studies at Purdue in 1978.

Two previous books edited by Neufeldt have recalled Yarrow’s origins and his poetic recreation of life in Yarrow, Russbergfying (2003), has recalled how refugees from the Soviet Union came to the Fraser Valley to grow fruit and serve God.

Neufeldt’s grandfather and father were both placed under arrest by Bolshevik agents for transport to the Gulag but they escaped to Canada via Spain, Cuba and Mexico.

They eventually found sanctuary in Yarrow soon after a thriving Mennonite community was established there in 1928 when 86 settlers arrived from Europe.

“The 1950s witnessed a modest but gradual decline in the Mennonite population, the 1960s a precipitous one,” Neufeldt says. *-

Leonard Neufeldt graduated summa cum laude from Waterloo Lutheran University (Wilfred Laurier) and received his MA and Ph.D in the USA. He and his wife have since spent most of their professional years in America and abroad, notably in Europe and Turkey.

“Rootless lives may be as endemic to the Canadian and American West as root-bound ones,” Neufeldt laments, “but in a world of change, there is little defence for either condition.”

Now his seventh book of poetry, Painting Over Sketches of Anatolia (Signature $14.95) offers reflections on both Turkey and coastal B.C. as he considers, “wars, revolutions, the Holocaust, obsolete belief systems, Alzheimer’s and ever-present potentialities of the autistic as well as the illusory in the spoken or written word.”

Yarrow is also home to Barbara Nickel, a widely-published poet and novelist who is married to her physician/poet husband Robert Martens, who grew up in Yarrow. Other Yarrow poets include Yarrow-born Larry Nightingale and Elmer Wiens. 078-1-927426-55-4

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