

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • March 6, 2008 • Vancouver

EMBARGOED RELEASE: NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL MARCH 6



BC Book Prizes 2007 Shortlists Announced

Vancouver, BC – The West Coast Book Prize Society is pleased to announce the names of the finalists vying for recognition in seven categories at the 24th Annual BC Book Prizes.

Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize awarded to the author of the best work of fiction:

Supported by Friesens, Transcontinental and Webcom

- David Chariandy, *Soucouyant* (Arsenal Pulp Press)
- Heather Burt, *Adam's Peak* (The Dundurn Group)
- Shaena Lambert, *Radiance* (Random House Canada)
- Claire Mulligan, *The Reckoning of Boston Jim* (Brindle & Glass Publishing)
- Mary Novik, *Conceit* (Doubleday Canada)

Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize awarded to the author of the best work of poetry:

Supported by the BC Teachers' Federation

- George McWhirter, *The Incorrection* (Oolichan Books)
- Christopher Patton, *Ox* (Véhicule Press)
- Arleen Paré, *Paper Trail* (NeWest Press)
- Gillian Wigmore, *Soft Geography* (Caitlin Press)
- Rita Wong, *Forage* (Nightwood Editions)

Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize awarded to the author of the best original non-fiction literary work:

Supported by Abebooks and Editors' Association of Canada BC Branch

- Theresa Kishkan, *Phantom Limb* (Thistledown Press)
- Robert Bringhurst, *Everywhere Being is Dancing* (Gaspereau Press)
- Patricia Roy, *The Triumph of Citizenship: The Japanese and Chinese in Canada, 1941-67* (UBC Press)
- J.B. MacKinnon and Alisa Smith, *The 100-Mile Diet: A Year of Local Eating* (Random House Canada)
- Don Gayton, *Interwoven Wild: An Ecologist Loose in the Garden* (Thistledown Press)

Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize to recognize the author(s) of the book that contributes most to the enjoyment and understanding of British Columbia:

Supported by BC 150

- Tim Bowling, *The Lost Coast: Salmon, Memory and the Death of Wild Culture* (Nightwood Editions)
- Chris Harris, *Spirit in the Grass: The Cariboo-Chilcotin's Forgotten Landscape* (Country Light Publishing)
- Barry Gough, *Fortune's a River: The Collision of Empires in the Pacific Northwest* (Harbour Publishing)
- J.B. MacKinnon and Alisa Smith, *The 100-Mile Diet: A Year of Local Eating* (Random House Canada)
- Ian McAllister, *The Last Wild Wolves: Ghosts of the Rain Forest* (Greystone Books)

Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize awarded to the best non-illustrated book written for children:

Supported by the BC Library Association

- Gayle Friesen, *For Now* (Kids Can Press)
- Polly Horvath, *The Corps of the Bare-Boned Plane* (Groundwood Books)
- David Jones, *Baboon: A Novel* (Annick Press)
- Meg Tilly, *Porcupine* (Tundra Books)
- John Wilson, *The Alchemist's Dream* (Key Porter Books)

Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize presented to the best illustrated book written for children:

Supported by Kate Walker and Company

- Lisa Cinar (author/illustrator), *The Day it All Blew Away* (Simply Read Books)
- Nan Gregory (author), Luc Melanson (illustrator), *Pink* (Groundwood Books)
- Robert Heidbreder (author), Kady McDonald Denton (illustrator), *A Sea-Wishing Day* (Kids Can Press)
- Ron Smith (author), Ruth Campbell (illustrator), *Elf the Eagle* (Oolichan Books)
- Kari-Lynn Winters (author), Ben Hodson (illustrator), *Jeffrey and Sloth* (Orca Book Publishers)

BC Booksellers' Choice Award in Honour of Bill Duthie presented to the originating publisher and author(s) of the best book in terms of public appeal, initiative, design, production and content:

Supported by BC Booksellers' Association and Duthie Books

- Grant Arnold, Michael Turner, Vancouver Art Gallery and Douglas & McIntyre, *Fred Herzog: Vancouver Photographs*
- Ishmael Beah and Douglas & McIntyre, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*
- Chris Harris and Country Light Publishing, *Spirit in the Grass: The Cariboo-Chilcotin's Forgotten Landscape*
- Ian McAllister and Greystone Books, *The Last Wild Wolves: Ghosts of the Rain Forest*
- Mike McCardell and Harbour Publishing, *The Blue Flames that Keep Us Warm: Mike McCardell's Favourite Stories*

These nominees — who collectively will receive \$14,000 in cash prizes — will be celebrated at a free event, the **BC Book Prize Soiree**, on April 19 at the Metropolitan Hotel. This party (from 7–9 pm) will also mark the beginning of BC Book and Magazine Week which takes place April 19–26, 2008.

Also on **April 19**, the recipient of the **2008 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence** will be announced. This award was established in 2003 by the Honourable Iona Campagnolo to recognize British Columbia writers who have contributed to the development of literary excellence in the province. In 2007, the fourth annual award was presented to Patrick Lane.

The winners in the seven categories listed above will be announced at the **Lieutenant Governor's BC Book Prizes Gala** on **Saturday, April 26, 2008** at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel in Vancouver. The event will be hosted by broadcaster Fanny Kiefer. British Columbia's new Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Steven L. Point, OBC, will be in attendance.

A selection of the shortlisted authors (to be announced in the coming weeks) will be part of **BC Book Prizes On Tour** presented by Rio Tinto Alcan (a BC 150 event). This author reading tour will take finalists to schools, bookstores and public libraries in 25 communities throughout BC. For more information call 604.687.2405 or visit www.bcbookprizes.ca

BC BOOK PRIZES 2007 SHORTLISTS ANNOUNCED

March 6, 2008

Details at www.bcbookprizes.ca

BC BOOK PRIZE SOIREE

Saturday, April 19, 2008

Metropolitan Hotel

7-9pm FREE

BC BOOK PRIZES *ON TOUR*

April 13-24, 2008

FREE public events in 25 BC communities

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S BC BOOK PRIZE GALA

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Fairmont Waterfront Hotel

5-9:30pm Tickets \$65 avail online starting March 13.

-30-

Media Contact: Karen Green, Rebus Creative: 604.687.2405, ext. 21, karen@rebuscreative.com

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our many sponsors and supporters: Abebooks | Bank of Montreal | BC 150 | BC Booksellers' Association | BC Gaming Commission | BC Library Association | BC Teachers' Federation | Canada Council for the Arts | Chapters Indigo | Coast Hotels | Duthie Books | Editors' Association of Canada BC Branch | Friesens | Government House Foundation | Government of British Columbia | Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program | Hamber Foundation | Hawkair | Kate Walker and Company | National Car Rental | Petro-Canada | Qualitime Printing | Rio Tinto Alcan | Telus | TyeeBooks.ca | Tourism Vancouver | Transcontinental Printing | UBC Okanagan | Vancouver Kidsbooks | The Vancouver Sun | Webcom | Weyerhaeuser