

SASKATCHEWAN WRITERS' GUILD

# 2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

#### SWG Mandate

The Saskatchewan Writers' Guild is a not-for-profit membership-driven organization that strives to sustain and enhance an environment in Saskatchewan where writers and all forms of writing flourish; to promote the well-being of all writers; and, to advocate on their behalf.

#### Vision

As an advocate for the art and craft of writing, the vision of the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild is to continually support and promote all writers and their vital contributions to a healthy and vibrant society.

#### Mission

Support writers by raising public awareness of the value of the work of Saskatchewan writers; to advocate on behalf of writers and work to improve their economic status; to foster a sense of community among writers; to promote excellence in writing; and, to support and facilitate public access to and participation in writing.

1	President's Report
2	Executive Director's Report
4	Programs & Events
8	Indigenous Programs
9	Writing Festivals
10	Community-Partnered Events
12	Awards
13	Poets Laureate
14	Annual Conference and AGM
15	Publications
18	Audit Committee Report
19	Financial Statements
23	Volunteers, Supporters and Funders

The SWG serves a membership spanning the entire province of Saskatchewan in Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 which encompasses the unceded territories of the nêhiyawak (cree), Anihşināpēk (Saulteaux), Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, and Dené nations and the Homeland of the Métis Nation.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## ASHLEY MARTIN



We have all adapted to a new normal\* during the past year and a half, and this includes the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild staff. Working the entirety of the past fiscal year during the Covid-19 pandemic, they zoomed along through their day-to-day, whether working remotely or masking up in the office, and have kept this organization running for all of our benefit. Through screens, they have opened us up to experiencing some wonderful moments. Remember in February when Lorna Crozier spoke so openly about the love of her life? (Did she shed tears, or was it just me?) Remember at Talking Fresh, when Souvankham Thammavongsa read aloud the words on her PowerPoint, black text on white slides, anticipation building and building in a wonder of "where is this going?" Remember when Jeanette Lyles made us laugh as, during her *apart* anthology reading, she described a dream of social distancing\*\*: To an ex, "'Oh believe me,' I told him, 'I'll stay / Six feet from you. Six feet and four provinces.'"

I was named president of this great organization in fall 2020, at the SWG's first live-streamed annual general meeting. Our new board members were likewise elected on Zoom. The months since have followed that trend. Instead of getting together for meetings in Regina or Saskatoon, or congregating in lovely Moose Jaw at the Festival of Words, we have met on Zoom. We are nearly a year together as I write this, and I have yet to

meet half of our new board face-to-face. While the pandemic has meant physical isolation, it has also meant connection. At the SWG, programming has gone on, whether through events and mentorships, poets laureate reaching their audiences virtually, and awards being celebrated online. With usual money-making events curtailed because of Covid-19, we did our first online 50/50 lottery. *New Grain* editor Mari-Lou Rowley has brought passion to our flagship publication. In the most ambitious project of the year, the SWG published an anthology: *apart* is a beautiful volume and a testament to this very unusual time in our lives, as writers from across Canada reflect on life during a pandemic.

Despite our worlds shrinking to our homes and bubbles, this year has meant growth. More than 600 people are now members of the SWG, including our youngest member ever, a three-year-old storyteller from the Watrous area. Our finances are strong. We have had generous community support, including a donation from Doris Hillis, which will fund a new scholarship to support emerging writers who are Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Colour. A highlight of the SWG board's work has been our discussions around growing the SWG Foundation, an organization designed to further support our writing community through long-term planning for bursaries and legacy projects. I am excited to see this work continue in the coming years.

To our board of directors — David Schleich, Dirck de Lint, Heather Winter, Jack Walton, and Margot Johnson — thank you for your dedication and hard work in playing an important role. At our board orientation last fall, Jack told us, "We are the protectors of this fantastic old organization." I find those words as poignant today as when I jotted them down last November, and I believe this message extends beyond the board and staff of the SWG. As members, we are all the protectors of this organization. And as we move forward into a new year — one that hopefully allows us to physically get together, safely, more often — I encourage all of you to get involved. The SWG is YOUR organization. Let the board and staff know what you'd like to see. Better yet, volunteer and join the team.

Thank you for reading, and thank you for allowing me to serve as your president.

Sincerely,

Ashley Martin  
President

\* Along with "pivot," "uncertain times" and "jab," "new normal" is on my list of most hated pandemic vocabulary. I do see why it's necessary, though: "Strange standard," "abnormal average," "weird workaday" — none of these quite convey the reality of "new normal."

\*\* "Social distancing" is another bothersome term. It should have been "physical distancing" all along, but because we got used to the former, the latter is just awkward.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TRACY HAMON

In the words of Sophia from the Golden Girls, “Picture it: Saskatchewan 2020-2021.” The year felt like a spaghetti western—Covid the bad stood 12 feet from us, shooting at our feet. Dance, it said. Dance! The law caught up with us, but Covid stole off. The judges (we only saw them from the waist up) sentenced us: six months to a year. Then they changed their minds and sentenced us again: a year or two, or maybe five. Locked down in my home office, I heard the whelp of the wind, its parched voice telling the SWG to dance, DANCE! And, so we did. We waltzed and wiggled, tangoed and trotted, jumped, jived, and jangoed our way into an amazing year of online programming and services.



From the corners of my computer screen, the SWG Board of Directors once again served the SWG with optimism and commitment. Living rooms, spare rooms, and even ethereal rooms proved to be good space to govern the organization towards meeting our 20-21 strategic objectives. The magnificent seven guided us as we increased membership and diversity, helping to grow our members to over 600 and steered us in cultivating new partnerships and funding. We are grateful for their diligent stewardship!

Once again in 2020-2021, we were down a fistful of dollars in our self-generated revenues from workshops, retreats, and other programs. We continued to be steadily supported with our Annual Global funding from Sask Lotteries (in partnership with SaskCulture), and operating funding from the City of Regina and Canada Council. We thank them profusely for their steadfast support. While we were overbudget in programming, we managed to have a slight surplus, mostly due to low operational costs.

With the outlaw known as Covid loose in our community, we pumped our programming dollars into online

workshops, lectures, talks, and built new programs for the internet. We increased our mentorships, Virtual Writers-in-Residence, and created a new lecture series. Our online programming included a plethora of events and professional development easily accessed through our SWG Zoom. In the past year, our programming team was creative, nimble, and insightful with their energetic efforts. The team of Yolanda Hansen, Cat Abenstein, Debbie Sunchild-Petersen, Tea Gerbeza, and interns Jessica Leeper and Tanisha Khan tamed the lockdown with their professionalism and imaginative programming. Thank you to the programming staff for keeping SWG members writing and developing their skills—a tip of the cowboy hat to them.

Our publications continued to be programs that were easily managed and expanded during Covid. We said goodbye to *Grain* Editor Nicole Haldoupis and Associate Editors Lisa Bird-Wilson and Alasdair Rees. We thank them for their hard work and editorial successes and wish them luck in their new journeys. We're excited to welcome new Editor, Mari-Lou Rowley, and her Associate Editors Brenda Schmidt and Kate

O’Gorman. We look forward to their vision for *Grain* as it unfolds over the next few years.

Along with our steadfast magazine *Freelance*, we also produced our illustrious magazines *Windsript* and *spring*. Thank you to the editors of our magazines and SWG Publications Coordinator (and *Freelance* editor) Shirley Fehr for her usual dazzling skills and ingenious design work.

This past fiscal year, we also dove into deep publishing waters by hiring two prominent SWG writers, Dave Margoshes and Courtney Bates-Hardy, to edit an anthology of Covid writing by SWG members. The anthology *apart* was well received and continues to make waves. We hope you catch one or both of the upcoming fall launches.

As for the administrative staff, although there were few people in the office, Andrea MacLeod tended the office diligently and kept the home of the SWG steady. She worked tirelessly to keep the SWG thriving by managing the office administration, memberships, and our website. Our talented accountant Jacqueline Fry elegantly wrestled all

things numbered. She delivered us at the end of the year in healthy shape and with a positive balance. Thank you to the SWG administrative staff for blazing their saddles for the SWG!

Despite the good, the bad, and the ugly of Covid, the SWG continued to be a writing frontier where diversity, equity, and opportunity rose up in the west. Even though the pandemic seemed determined to set our sun, we rose up again and again. In true western style, our line by line dance just kept going—every now and then the cards showed aces and we held our hands high!

Tracy Hamon  
Executive Director

“We waltzed and wiggled, tangoed and trotted, jumped, jived, and jangoed our way into an amazing year of online programming and services.”



# PROGRAMS and EVENTS

## Book Bytes - Summer Reading Series

Book Bytes provides a digital alternative to our regular summer reading series and brings audiences readings by an eclectic mix of Saskatchewan authors and storytellers over the lunch hour. The authors come from a variety of genres including poetry and prose and grapple with a variety of topics both humorous and serious, poignant and inspiring. In 2021, the events were themed and this grouping of genre created a dynamic between readers that wouldn't be possible in a mixed reading pool. At times, pieces spoke to each other during the event.



### August 2020 readers and hosts included:

- Glenda Goertzen, Carol Rose GoldenEagle, and Helen Toews - Peggy Worrell, host.
- Tea Gerbeza, Iryn Tushabe, and Lynda Monahan - Rachel Laverdiere, host.
- Sarah C. Owens, Marie Powell, and Melaney Bossaer - Brenda Baker, host.

### July 2021 readers and hosts included:

- Helen Chang, Kathie Cram, and Jessica Williams - Colli Christante, host.
- Janice Colven, Sarah Miller, and Jennifer S. Wallace - James Skelton, host.
- Elena Bentley, Marie V. Lermiaux, and Raye Hendrickson - Brooklyn Rawlyk, host.
- Ian Canon, Amanda Dawson, and Brandon Fick - Jay Semko, host.

# 1410

Total Book Bytes viewers in  
August 2020 and July 2021

## Manuscript Evaluation Service

This program assists writers at all levels of development with professional evaluations of completed manuscripts. Twenty-nine writers submitted manuscripts to the program in the genres of fiction (including children's fiction), nonfiction and poetry.

## Writers' Groups

In 2020-2021, the SWG funded 16 writers' groups, who rose to the challenge of meeting, developing their craft of writing and critiquing each other's work during a year of socially distanced or virtual meeting.

**16** Writing Groups  
received funding  
from the SWG



# PROGRAMS and EVENTS

## Author Readings Program

This well-established SWG program adapted to Covid-19 restrictions on public gatherings and approved online readings for the first time. We saw 67 schools, libraries, and community groups host readings by 31 Saskatchewan authors between August 2020 to July 2021. In this fiscal year, there have been 81 approved readings with nearly 5,500 attendees! (77 of these readings were online).

**5500**

People listened to an author reading between August and July

## Author Readings Program Contest

To encourage applications, the SWG offered our Author Readings Program Contest. For every approved reading through the Program between August 15, 2020 and January 1, 2021, host organizations received their reading free and were entered to win one of 10 prizes of 10 free books by a Saskatchewan author.

Forty-seven schools, libraries and community organizations took advantage of this promotion.

The winners were:

- Sunningdale School
- Dr. Brass School
- Wheatland Regional Library
- Moose Jaw Public Library
- Aberdeen Composite School
- Hafford Library
- Aberdeen Composite School
- Dundonald School
- Briercrest Public Library
- Ecole White City School

## Well-Versed: A Lecture Series

The SWG hosted three virtual lectures between February and June featuring well-established Canadian writers.

- Gil Adamson spoke about *Horse Tack, Barbed Wire, and Vintage Photographs: The Delights of Research in a Literary Western*, followed by a conversation with host Marina Endicott.

- Tomson Highway lectured on *Comparing Mythologies* and spoke with host Jesse Archibald-Barber.

- Lorna Crozier presented *Running-Writing for (Your) Life* and chatted with host Elizabeth Philips.

**941** People participated in the live or recorded Well-Versed events.



BRANDON FICK

# PROGRAMS and EVENTS

## Virtual Writer-in-Residence

Neil Aitken (Sept-Nov 2020) and Alice Kuipers (Feb-Apr 2021) were the SWG's Virtual Writers-in-Residence for 2020-21. This program gives SWG members living outside Regina and Saskatoon access to a professional Writer-in-Residence through Zoom.

**18** Participants met with the Virtual Writers-in-Residence over a combined 48 meetings



## Mentorship Program

Five pairs of apprentices and mentors were matched in the 2021 Mentorship Program to work together between January and June.

### Participants included:

- Kathie Cram (Saskatoon), mentored by Tara Gereaux (Regina)
- Donna Gartshore (Regina), mentored by Katherine Lawrence (Saskatoon)
- Madonna Hamel (Val Marie), mentored by Dave Margoshes (Saskatoon)
- Carla Harris (Regina), mentored by Barbara Klar (Eastend)
- Jacqueline Heit (Saskatoon), mentored by Edward Willett (Regina)

The Apprentice Reading was hosted June 3 via Zoom, by former apprentice Tricia Friesen-Reed. All of the apprentices shared excerpts from their writing completed during the program.

**5** Pairs of mentors and apprentices were matched

## First Draft: Conversations on Writing

*First Draft: Conversations on Writing* is an online talk series that dives into themes that affect our writing lives. Events occurred on the first Tuesday of each month via Zoom.

### Presenters included:

- Leah Dorion *Representation of Fall in Creative Writing* - interviewed by Gloria Mehlmann.
- Beverley Brenna *Memory and Time* - interviewed by D.M. Ditson.
- Adam Pottle *Violence and Empathy* - interviewed by J.C. Paulson.
- Michael Afenfia *Tenacity* - interviewed by Marie Galoppe.
- Brandon Wint *Reimagining* - interviewed by Brad Morden.
- Candace Savage *Grief* - interviewed by Dianne Young.
- Arthur Slade *Grit* - interviewed by Brenda Niskala.
- Alasdair Rees *Energy in Poetry* - interviewed by Neil Aitken.

# PROGRAMS and EVENTS

## Retreats

The SWG hosted a Facilitated Retreat from November 12-15, 2020 at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster. Writer-in-Residence Dave Margoshes worked with three emerging writers.

Due to Covid restrictions, the Winter Writers' Retreat (February 5-26, 2021) was cancelled. The Summer Writers' Retreat was hosted July 16-30, 2021 with 12 writers and on-site retreat coordinator Judy McCrosky.

The SWG hosted its first-ever Virtual Facilitated Retreat from June 10-13, 2021 online via Zoom, structured with flexibility and accessibility in mind. With the goal of developing one's writing, fostering community online, and helping to associate the home space as fruitful writing spaces (in a time when we do everything at home), nine emerging writers worked with Writer-in-Residence Kelley Jo Burke through group work, one-on-one consultation sessions, and focused independent writing time.

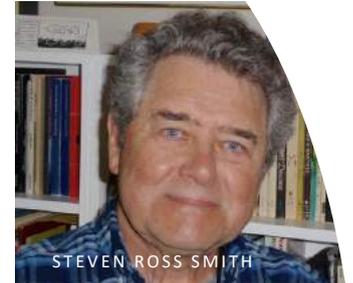
**12** People attended the on-site Summer Writers' Retreat in July 2021

## Professional Development Workshops

The SWG continues to focus on diversity and inclusivity by offering professional development workshops on a wide range of writing topics and genres, with diverse facilitators. Workshop partners included the Vertigo Series, the Cathedral Village Arts Festival, the Regina Public Library, and the Saskatoon Public Library.

### Presenters included:

- Gerald Hill *Starting from Scratch: Building a Suite of Poems*
- Katherine Koller *Conversation to Dialogue*
- Danica Lorer *Roots of the Story: Digging into Memory and Imagination*
- Anne Lazaruko *Perfecting the Pitch*
- Marie Powell *Living History: A Research Workshop for Writers*
- Steven Ross Smith *Sussing Poetry*
- Rachel Laverdiere *Flash Creative Nonfiction – From Draft to Publication*
- Judy McCrosky *Conflict and Tension*
- Beverley Brenna *Great Beginnings, Middles, and Ends: Writing Picture Books for Children*
- Deana Driver *Writing Your Passions*
- J.C. Paulson *Building a Mystery*
- Alice Kuipers *Writing for Young Readers*
- Toby Welch *Writing for Magazines*
- Michael Kenyon *Editing Prose – The Text Between Us*
- Sarah Ens *Tuning into the Poem: An Editing Webinar*
- Nisha Patel *Writing Your Life: Adding Your Personal Touch*
- David Gane *Writing the Heart of the Screenplay*
- Tonia Laird *Dynamic Duo: Writing, Drawing and Collaboration for Comic Books*



STEVEN ROSS SMITH



NISHA PATEL



BEVERLEY BRENNNA

# INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS

## Creative Writing Workshops

The SWG partnered with the Saskatoon Public Library for two Creative Writing Workshops:

- *Healing in Creative Writing* - Bevann Fox
- *Spring Moons* - Leah Marie Dorion

## Indigenous Storytelling Month Events

This year's Indigenous Storytelling Series (Feb 3-24) featured weekly online events, with the following writers and storytellers:

- Randy Morin - Cooper Skjeie, host
- Kevin Wesaquate - Cooper Skjeie, host
- Tara Gereaux - Cooper Skjeie, host
- Cooper Skjeie - Tara Gereaux, host

These events were funded by the Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples.

135

Viewers participated in Indigenous Storytelling Month

## Indigenous Mentorship Program

Two pairs of apprentices and mentors were matched in the 2021 Indigenous Mentorship Program to work together between January and June.

### Participants included:

- Jenelle McArthur, mentored by Carol GoldenEagle
- Heather O'Watch, mentored by Mika Lafond

The Apprentice Reading was hosted via Zoom on June 8 by former apprentice Joely BigEagle-Kequahtoway.

## National Indigenous History Month Events

*Resiliency and Blood Memory*, with Tala Tootoosis from Sturgeon Lake First Nation in Treaty 6 Territory, and is a poet and spoken word performer who has been published in the book *blood memory* with the Indigenous Poets' Society. The event was hosted by Bevann Fox.

*Stories from Ribbons* with presenter Melissa Worme, storyteller, actress, singer, fancy shawl dancer, seamstress, and beader. Melissa sewed a ribbon skirt and spoke of the traditional and cultural values and protocols surrounding the ribbon skirt. Hosted by Joely BigEagle-Kequahtoway.

## Events with Indigenous Writers

*Conversation with Jessica Johns*, winner of the 2020 Writers' Trust Journey Prize and silver at the 2020 National Magazine Awards. She discussed her writing with Lisa Bird-Wilson and read from her award-winning short story *Bad Cree*.

*Miyo Manito Kisikaw - a Christmas Story* pre-recorded by storyteller, actor, writer, director, dancer, musician and playwright Curtis Peeteetuce.

*Let's Chat* was a conversation between friends and well-established authors Maria Campbell, a writer, filmmaker and playwright and Louise Bernice Halfe, author, poet, Social Worker and Elder. Hosted by Carol GoldenEagle.

*Reflections through Poetry* featured Mika Lafond, a teacher, graduate of the MFA Program at the USask and SWG Indigenous Mentorship Program Mentor. She spoke with host Jessica Johns about her poetry.

*Creating Learning Resources for Children through Stories* was a conversation with Wilfred Burton, a writer, volunteer, and retired teacher who loves fiddle music and dance. Host Randy Morin led a discussion about Wilfred's children's books and writing.

# WRITING FESTIVALS

## Writing North 2021

From January 20-23, the SWG and the University of Saskatchewan's MFA Program hosted our virtual *Writing North 11: Sheltering in Place, Dwelling in Words*.

### Presenters included:

- Anne Michaels - Keynote lecture
- Barbara Langhorst and Lisa Moore - Interactive workshops
- Sarah Ens, Meaghan Hackinen, Nicole Haldoupis, Shannon McConnell, and Allie McFarland - Writing North Book Club panel featuring USask MFA alumna
- Katherine Lawrence (poetry) and Sarah Ens (prose) - Virtual Writers-in-Residence who met with eight writers during the festival.

1044

People viewed Writing North

## Talking Fresh 2021

Our virtual Talking Fresh 2021 festival was held March 2-7 with the theme of *Reimagine*. The SWG took the opportunity to reimagine our festival programming to include 19 writers from across Canada.

### Presenters included:

- Brandon Wint and Brad Morden - *First Draft: Conversation on Writing*
- Paul Coccia, Natasha Deen, Melanie Florence - *Our New Heroes: Diversity in Canadian Young Adult Fiction* - Panel discussion hosted by Jacqueline Guest
- Souvankham Thammavongsa - *On Winning* - Keynote Address
- Arthur Milner, Colleen Murphy - *All the World's a Stage - A Conversation with Playwrights* hosted by Mary Blackstone
- Saleema Nawaz - *Fiction from Start to Finish* - Workshop
- Bevann Fox, Michelle Good - *Voices to be Heard* - Conversation hosted by Julianna McLean
- Ann Hui - *The Case for Empathy: Writing Nonfiction* - Workshop
- Caroline Adderson, Alix Hawley - *Reimagining History - A Conversation with Canadian historical fiction writers* hosted by Marina Endicott
- Jillian Christmas - *Unearthing Poetry* - Workshop
- Tea Gerbeza - *From the Petals* - Crafting Workshop

1223

People viewed Talking Fresh



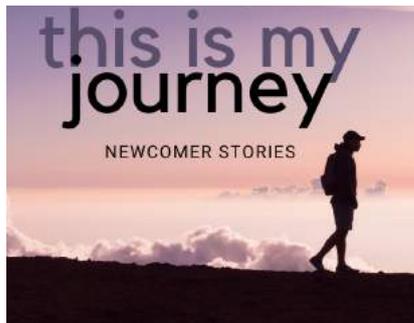
# COMMUNITY-PARTNERED EVENTS

## Saskatoon Open Door Society This is my Journey: Newcomer Stories

In partnership with the Saskatoon Open Door Society, the SWG offered newcomers to Canada in Saskatoon two creative writing opportunities to share their stories and experiences through the art of creative writing.

Danica Lorer facilitated two online workshop series, including a 3-hour series in January and February with 10 participants, and a 4.5-hour series in May and June with 9 participants.

Both groups used different storytelling methods to generate stories inspired by their experiences.



## Regina Open Door Society Opening Doors Through Stories

A group of newcomers to Canada met every Saturday in November online through the Regina Open Door Society (RODS) to work with author Gail Bowen to develop creative writing and expand their English literacy skills.

*Opening Doors Through Stories: Remembering*, the third chapbook in the Opening Doors Through Stories series, is a collection of stories and poems reflective of participants' personal experiences and perspectives and is a testament to the resiliency of the human spirit.

*The Opening Doors Through Stories: Becoming* launch was originally delayed due to Covid-19 and held online in November. *Opening Doors Through Stories: Remembering* launched in an online celebration in June. Both events were hosted by Iryn Tushabe. 2020-2021 Chapbook contributors are Bhoomika Dongol, Peter Odion Omoijiade, Shuchen Hu, and Mehwishan Joohi.

## Regina Public Library Writes of Spring

In partnership with the Regina Public Library for *Writes of Spring*, a month-long celebration of writers and readers, the SWG offered four genre-specific online writing workshops.

### Presenters included:

- Deana Driver *Writing Your Passions*
- J.C. Paulson *Building a Mystery*
- Alice Kuipers *Writing for Young Readers*
- Toby Welch *Writing for Magazines*

## Cathedral Village Arts Festival

The SWG was pleased to be a part of the CVAF's hybrid festival that saw artists and organizations adapt their offerings in a time of Covid.

The SWG hosted a virtual Windscrip launch with readings by the magazine contributors, hosted by Managing and Poetry Editor, Taidgh Lynch, and Prose Editor, Elena Bentley, and co-organized a webinar with The Vertigo Series entitled *Writing Your Life: Adding Your Personal Touch*, facilitated by Edmonton Poet Laureate, Nisha Patel. Both events were offered in May through Zoom, with additional streaming through Facebook Live for the workshop.

# COMMUNITY-PARTNERED EVENTS

## Global Gathering Place Weaving Words

In partnership with The Global Gathering Place (GGP), the SWG offered newcomers to Canada in Saskatoon two creative writing opportunities to develop their storytelling and writing skills.

Danica Lorer facilitated two online workshop series including an 8-hour series in November and December with 13 participants, and a 12-hour series in February and March with 10 participants.

Both groups explored memory and imagination through creative writing, published their work in a chapbook designed by the Global Gathering Place and read their work in a final performance.

**23** Participants at the  
Global Gathering  
Place Workshops.

## Saskatoon Pride – Still Here, Still Queer, Still Writing: A Pride Writing Contest

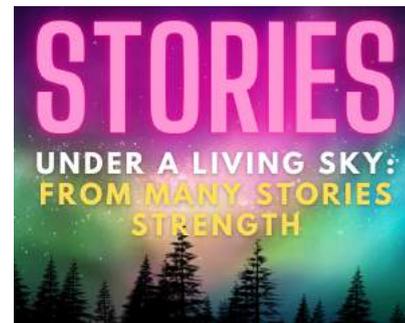
In partnership with Saskatoon Pride and the Saskatoon Public Library, the SWG presented a writing contest open to 2SLGBTQ+ Saskatchewan residents, aged 16 and older, around Saskatoon Pride's annual theme: Still Here, Still Queer, in four categories. Ky Lapointe and Belinda Betker judged the event and considered the overall quality of the writing and the contest theme in their selections.

### The winners are:

- Arden Poppel for "Restoration" (Youth Prose)
- Lorelei McEwen for "In Between" (Youth Poetry)
- Natasha King for "Where do I come from – two ways to answer" (Adult Prose)
- Donald B. Campbell for "PastPresentFuture" (Adult Poetry)

## Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan Stories Under a Living Sky

The SWG partnered with the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) to host *Stories Under a Living Sky: From Many Stories Strength*, a live online performance and conversation by artists representing diverse cultural backgrounds in Saskatchewan in June. Artists Janelle "ecoaborijanelle" Pewapsonias, Ahmad Majid, Saskatchewan Youth Poet Laureate Peace Akintade, and host Kris Alvarez connected over personal and collective stories in this intimate event.



# AWARDS

## City of Regina Writing Award

Judges Chelene Knight and Sean Michaels selected Joel Zimmerly as the winner of the 2021 City of Regina Writing Award for his submission *The Party*. Runners-up are Neil Aitken and Martha Ottenbreit. The winners were celebrated in an online awards show on May 26.



The SWG is grateful to the City of Regina for their continued sponsorship of this \$4,500 award and reception.

## Documentary - 40 Years of Writing: A Conversation with Past City of Regina Writing Award Winners

To mark the 40th anniversary of partnership between the City of Regina and the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild (SWG) in granting the City of Regina Writing Award, the SWG commissioned a mini-documentary to honour the history of the award, the City's support for the writing community and the achievements of past winners.

Featured in the documentary are Kelley Jo Burke, Judith Krause, Trevor Herriot, Tara Gereaux, and Chelsea Coupal. Thank you to the City of Regina for your continued support and to our production team: Tracy Hamon, interviewer; Cat Abenstein, Producer; and Shoot with Scrapes Videography.



Scan this QR code to view the video or visit the SWG YouTube page.

## The Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award For Literary Excellence

Louise B. Halfe – *Sky Dancer* was the winner of the 2020 Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence. The announcement of her win, as well as a professionally created video featuring Louise reading from her body of work, was released virtually on September 16. A small private luncheon with the Kloppenburgs celebrated Louise's win. The SWG is deeply appreciative of Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg's continued support for this award.



Scan this QR code to view the video or visit the SWG YouTube page.

## John V. Hicks Long Manuscript Award in Nonfiction

The John V. Hicks Awards in nonfiction were celebrated virtually October 22 during the Annual Conference. The first-place winner was Judith Wright for *How We Want to be Remembered*, second place was Michael Trussler for *The Sunday Book* and third place was Jennifer S. Wallace for *Miss G and Me: A Daughter's Memoir*.

Winners were awarded \$1,000, \$650, and \$350 respectively. Selections were made by jurors Don Gillmor and Alexandra Shimo.

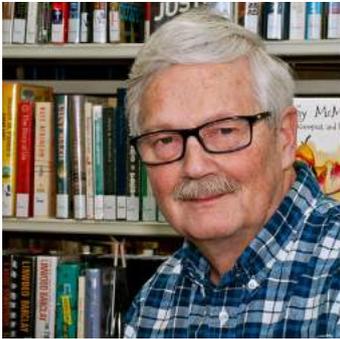


## Gary Hyland Volunteer Award

The 2020 Hyland Volunteer Award was awarded to Cathy Fenwick at the virtual AGM on October 24 for her long-standing and various contributions to the Guild and the Saskatchewan writing and arts community.



# POETS LAUREATE



## Bruce Rice, POET LAUREATE

Bruce Rice met virtually with three different writing groups and a Media Arts Performance class and shared readings with other Canadian writers in a Lyric Theatre Digital Stage Event, Regina Public Library reading with other Poets Laureate, readings for Saskatoon Write Out Loud, Amnesty International, and Wallace Stegner House.

Bruce took a leading role in two memorial events for poets we lost this past year: Don Kerr's Memorial event in January and Mick Burr's Remembrance in June.

Two celebratory events Bruce led were the World Poetry Day readings with other Western Canadian Poets Laureate (John Barton, Nisha Patel, Natalie Meisner, Duncan Mercredi, hosted by Micheline Maylor) and the virtual Poetry Soiree video hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and involving Saskatchewan poets Barbara Klar, Taidgh Lynch and Peace Akintade.

**24** Events Bruce hosted during his 2-year term as Poet Laureate

## Peace Akintade, YOUTH POET LAUREATE

Peace Akintade had a busy year of virtual events and video projects. She met with writing groups and an elementary school, hosted the SWG's virtual Christmas party and shared readings at Saskatoon Open Mic and Lyric Theatre's Digital Stage.

She organized and read at an event featuring Youth Poet Laureates Niko Smart, Timoro Mohamed and host Dash Reimer in December, and created a National Poetry Month readings and interview video series with Saskatoon youth poets Milly Yusuf and Winter Bath.

Peace was involved in a range of other events as Youth Poet Laureate throughout the year, including the Sask Arts Alliance Summit, Saskatoon Folk Fest, Children's Festival of Saskatchewan, the 2021 Saskatchewan Book Awards and the Festival of Words; and did media interviews and features throughout Saskatchewan.



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM



## Inventing the Future

The SWG Annual Conference and AGM was held virtually October 22-25, 2020. The theme of our conference - Inventing the Future - was apt as we navigated new ways of learning and being together as a writing community.

### The four-day virtual event included:

Lisa Bird-Wilson, Dave Margoshes, and Edward Willett - *Virtual Writers-in-Residence*

Trevor Cole, *Caroline Heath Memorial Lecture*

Helen Knott, Danny Ramadan, and Carole Glasser Langille *Writing as Witness: A Panel Presentation* - hosted by Carla Harris

John V. Hicks Awards presentation

Joan Marie Galat *Rock Your Online Reading*

Trevor Cole *The Character Equation interactive workshop*

**Small Talk Series** – 12 pre-recorded talks with an exercise book for participants:

- Ayelet Tsabari *Wish You Were Here – Evoking Place in your Prose*
- Carole Glasser Langille *When You Stumble, There Lies the Treasure*
- Cassidy McFadzean *Music of the Line*
- Chelene Knight *Authentic Sculpting: The Power of Revision Across All Genres*
- Eugene Stickland *Writing Agnes*
- Ibi Kaslik *Where I am Calling From: Point of View*
- Jana G. Pruden *Reporting Your Life*
- Larissa Lai *Chekov's Galaxy: A Workshop on World Building (aka setting)*
- Marcello Di Cintio *Writing from Afar: the Art of Travel Writing*
- Richard Harrison *The Freest You Might Ever Be: Freewriting*
- Rosemary Nixon *Suspense: Traces in the Language and Exclamation Marks Between the Lines*
- Waubgeshig Rice *Creating Characters*

# PUBLICATIONS

## Grain

*Grain, the journal of eclectic writing*, now in its 49th year, continues to publish engaging, diverse, and challenging work by Saskatchewan, Canadian and international writers and visual artists.

Volume 48 consisted of four regular issues—publishing 104 writers or a total of 121 pieces, plus six Short *Grain* contest winners. This volume also featured the work of visual artists Ruth Cuthand (48.1), Zoé Zénon (48.2), and Betsy Rosenwald (48.3) from Saskatoon, and Catherine Carmichael (48.4), based in Montréal, Québec and Flesherton, Ontario.

*Grain's* editorial team saw many changes this past year. I would like to thank former Editor Nicole Haldoupis and Poetry Editor Alasdair Rees for their work on 48.1 and 48.2, as well as outgoing Prose Editor Lisa Bird-Wilson, for her work on all four issues. We welcome incoming Prose Editor Kate O'Gorman and Poetry Editor Brenda Schmidt. Shirley Fehr, the SWG Publications Coordinator, provided layout and design and Leah MacLean-Evans continued as *Grain's* Proofreader.

**33%**  
Increase in subscriptions  
over previous year.

General submissions rose again this year to 2950 up from 2391 (1346 fiction, 1240 poetry, 281 nonfiction, and 83 other). The other category was discontinued in the spring.

*Grain* subscriptions have increased throughout the year to 412, an increase of 33% over last year's 312 subscribers. A total of 1804 subscription copies were sold (93% Canadian with 19% from Saskatchewan and 7% international from South America, Europe, USA, and Asia). There were 146 individual issues sold for the year, up from 126 of last year.

### Short Grain

Our 33rd annual Short *Grain* Contest judges were Susan Olding (fiction) and Phil Hall (poetry). Fiction submissions were up in 2021—105 people submitted 160 pieces, up from 79 submissions of 110 pieces last year. Poetry submissions also increased to 113 submissions of 214 pieces, up from 79 submissions of 145 pieces. International submissions included five US entries, one from Hong Kong, and four from China. Sincere thanks to Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg for their continued support of the Short *Grain* Contest for over 30 years.

Although the contest was held as planned, the winners will be published in the Winter issue (49.2). The Fall 49.1 issue acknowledges Indigenous

communities affected by the residential school tragedies.

*Grain* thanks the Canada Council for the Arts and Saskatchewan Lotteries through SaskCulture for their continued support.

Mari-Lou Rowley  
Editor



FALL 2020 VOL. 48.1



WINTER 2020 VOL. 48.2



SPRING 2020 VOL. 48.3



SUMMER 2020 VOL. 48.4

# PUBLICATIONS

## Windscrip

*Windscrip* features the best in Saskatchewan high school writing.

### Contributors included:

Georgina Doyle, Jane Gurney, Anna Dolgova, Eleanor Grant, Momin Bilal, Nolan Long, Gracelyn Duetscher, Anna Puentesquina, Jack Bell, Gabrielle Robertson, Claire Nagel, Lilah Flieg-Bacheschi, Nathan Singbeil, Evelyn Fourstar, Erica D. Racette, Sohila Elgedawi, Kelly Lam, Emily Zbaraschuk, Sel Zbetnoff, Heidi Terfloth, Kamryn Heavin, Brooke Sawatzky, Abigail Friesen, Graeme Hopkins, Cassie Meyer, and Courtney Eldstrom.

### *Windscrip* award winners and honourable mentions:

#### Jerrett Ens Award for Poetry

Winner: "Supermarket

Flowers" by Sohila Elgedawi

Honourable Mention: "worlds collide" by Emily Zbaraschuk

#### Jerrett Ens Award for Prose

Winner: "The Dirt" by Kamryn Heavin

Honourable Mention: "Where the Wish Sails" by Gracelyn Deutscher

#### Currie-Hyland Award for Poetry

Winner: "I am a Conundrum" by Georgina Doyle

Honourable Mention: "The Seat of My Favourite Coffee Shop" by Cassie Meyer



## Freelance

*Freelance* is the SWG's member magazine provided free to all members in good standing. *Freelance* aims to create a discourse with our membership and inspire them on their writing journey. Focusing on the craft and business of writing, *Freelance* featured the writing of 23 contributors and the artwork of four Saskatchewan artists. *Freelance* is mailed and emailed to members based on their preference.



## spring

*spring* is a biannual publication that showcases emerging Saskatchewan writers. Managing and Nonfiction Editor Joanne Paulson, Fiction Editor Anne Lazaruko and Poetry Editor Steven Ross Smith worked with over 159 submissions to select 22 final works of fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry by 18 emerging writers. Contributors read their work at the virtual launch on March 21.

### Contributors included:

Elena Bentley, Janet Lamb, Helen Chang, CC Corbett, Adrianna Cote, Amanda Dawson, Tea Gerbeza, Troni Grande, George Grassick, Shauna Eveleigh Harris, Jennifer Holtslander, Emilie Kossick, Taidgh Lynch, Karin Martel, Adison Messett, Amanda Schenstead, Ryan Serbu and Monica Steffl.



# PUBLICATIONS

## eBriefs

A weekly members email newsletter, *eBriefs* provides information on SWG events and announcements, member news and industry and professional development opportunities.

In 2020/2021, the SWG distributed 51 eBriefs to an average of 570 people with readers throughout Canada, and internationally.

## New SWG Website Launched

In September, 2020, the SWG launched a new website that gives members easier access to information; staff the ability to populate content more efficiently; and the general public a way to learn about what the SWG has to offer.

The site features a NEWS carousel on the home page drawing attention to major SWG announcements; an improved view of events and workshops; and a revised Find SK Writers section. Over one-third of our members now have a new or improved profile on Find SK Writers making them searchable and providing a way for the SWG to champion our writers.

## Member Pandemic Anthology- *apart*

Published in July 2021, *apart: a year of pandemic poetry and prose* is an anthology of SWG members that paints a vivid portrait of life in a pandemic, when “normal” is a thing of the past and anxiety is a faithful companion.

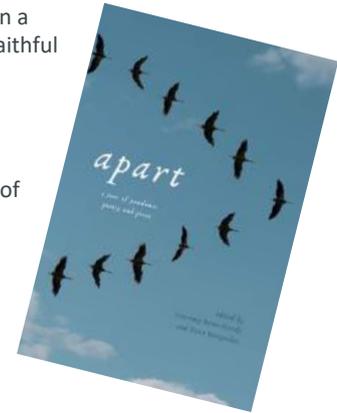
Sixty-eight authors, both emerging and established, were chosen by Managing and Prose Editor Dave Margoshes and Poetry Editor Courtney Bates-Hardy. Overall, 111 writers submitted 216 pieces of writing in poetry, fiction, nonfiction and drama.

The anthology was launched virtually on July 7 and featured readings by contributors Lorri Nelson Glenn, Joan Crate, Jason Heit, Anne Lazurko, Shelley Leedahl, Jeanette Lynes and Moni Brar. Two in-person launches are planned for October 2021.

Copies of *apart* are being sold by the SWG and bookstores.

### Contributors included:

Ruth “Reno” Anderson, Byrna Barclay, Carla Barkman, Elena Bentley, Belinda Betker, Rita Bouvier, Carla Braidek, Moni Brar, Bev Brenna, Dwayne Brenna, Sharon Butala, CC Corbett, Chelsea Coupal, Joan Crate, Robert Currie, Amanda Dawson, Deidra Suwane Dees, Myrna Garanis, Beth Goobie, Janet Hainstock, Louise Bernice Halfe, Madonna Hamel, Gillian Harding-Russell, Jason Heit, Raye Hendrikson, dee Hobsbawn-Smith, Judit Katalin Hollos, Delane Just, Holly Keeler, Tanisha Khan, Karen Klassen, Miriam Körner, Judith Krause, Alice Kuipers, Allison Kydd, Katherine Lawrence, Anne Lazurko, Shelley A. Leedahl, Alison Lohans, Jeanette Lynes, Mary Maxwell, Shannon McConnell, Caitlin McCullam-Arnal, Melanie McFarlane, Bronwen McRae, Lynda Monahan, Helen Mourre, Lorri Neilsen Glenn, Karen Nye, Aliza Prodaniuk, Medrie Purdham, Lloyd Ratzlaff, Paula Jane Remlinger, Jill Robinson, William Robertson, Jenny Ryan, Brenda Schmidt, Glen Sorestad, Tracy Stevens, Shayna Stock, Leona Theis, Michael Trussler, Maureen Ulrich, Bernadette Wagner, Jayne Melville Whyte, Denise Wilkinson, P. J. Worrell, Michelle Yeo



**68** Writers, 74 pieces,  
2 Editors, and 240  
pages make up  
*apart*

# AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The annual audit was conducted by MWC Chartered Professional Accountants LLP and was presented to the Audit Committee on September 20, 2021. The auditors state the Guild's financial practices are sound and in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Some items of note:

- The Auditor reports no significant audit findings, no significant deficiencies in internal controls, and no instances of fraud or misstatement.
- Current cash is up from last year.
- Canada Council Grant funding for 2020-21 was entered after being deferred in the previous year; there was a one-time emergency funding to be used for operational or programming expenses. The result is that grant revenue is higher than in the 2019-2020 report.
- There was more on-line programming than on-site, due to Covid restrictions, which reduced the total expense of programming. The restrictions also decreased operational expenses such as staff travel and in-person board meetings.
- Mentorship expenses were increased, as were artist fees in pursuit of the *apart* anthology.
- Short-term investment interest rates for 2020 were 0.25% to 0.84%, and those maturing in the next investment period bear interest of 0.78% to 0.93%.
- Membership registrations and renewals are up from last year.

SaskCulture encourages non-profit organizations to build a six-month reserve of expenses. This fiscal year SWG has a net surplus of \$12,004 increasing the reserve fund to \$353,635.

Dirk de Lint  
Audit Committee Chair



Chartered Professional  
Accountants LLP

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

To the Members of Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc.

### **Opinion**

The summary financial statements, which comprise of the summary statement of financial position as of July 31, 2021, the summary statement of operations and changes in net assets and summary schedules of grain and retreat operations for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc. for the year ended July 31, 2021. We expressed a qualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated September 25, 2021.

Which are prepared in our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### **Summary Financial Statements**

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the related auditor's report, is not a substitute for reading the complete audited financial statements, including notes and the auditor's report thereon.

### **The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon**

We expressed a qualified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated September 25, 2021. The basis for our qualified audit opinion was on the completeness of memberships, donation and sponsorship revenues.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Summarized Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summarized financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

Chartered Professional Accountants LLP

REGINA, Saskatchewan  
September 25, 2021

Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc.  
 Summary Financial Statements

Summary Statement of Financial Position			
As of July 31	2021	2020	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets	\$ 755,058	\$ 768,285	
Capital assets and art work	41,021	32,524	
Due from related parties	3,701	-	
	\$ 799,780	\$ 800,809	
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
Current liabilities	\$ 44,895	\$ 24,194	
Current deferred revenue	393,602	428,337	
Long term deferred revenue	7,648	6,648	
Due to related parties	-	-	
Net Assets	353,635	341,630	
	\$ 799,780	\$ 800,809	

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

*These statements are derived from the audited financial statements which are available upon request from the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild*

Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc.  
Summary Financial Statements

Summary Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets			
Year Ended July 31	2021	2020	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Grant	\$ 808,571	\$ 770,062	
Self-generated	65,944	70,857	
Donations and sponsorships	39,070	24,358	
Grain <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	61,491	55,253	
Retreat <i>(Schedule 2)</i>	10,020	13,194	
Fundraising	4,081	3,809	
	<b>989,177</b>	<b>937,533</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Artists' fees	203,189	140,905	
Program delivery	45,172	74,210	
Grain <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	95,384	91,797	
Retreat <i>(Schedule 2)</i>	21,301	31,735	
Operational and amortization expenses	144,323	151,834	
Salaries and benefits	435,592	376,438	
Fundraising	2,212	1,675	
Donation to SWG Foundation Inc.	30,000	20,000	
	<b>977,173</b>	<b>888,594</b>	
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>	<b>\$ 12,004</b>	<b>\$ 48,939</b>	
Net assets - beginning of year	<b>341,631</b>	<b>292,692</b>	
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 353,635</b>	<b>\$ 341,631</b>	

*These statements are derived from the audited financial statements which are available upon request from the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild*

Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc.  
Summary Financial Statements

<b>Summary Statement of Grain Operations</b>		<i>(Schedule 1)</i>	
Year Ended July 31	2021	2020	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Grant	\$ 37,000	\$ 36,300	
Donations and sponsorships	2,500	2,900	
Publications revenue	21,991	16,053	
	<b>61,491</b>	<b>55,253</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Artists' fees	62,591	59,192	
Publishing and distribution	16,623	18,004	
Office, meetings and travel	1,981	2,016	
Salaries and benefits	14,189	12,585	
	<b>95,384</b>	<b>91,797</b>	
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES) FROM GRAIN OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ (33,893)</b>	<b>\$ (36,544)</b>	

<b>Summary Statement of Retreat Operations</b>		<i>(Schedule 2)</i>	
Year Ended July 31	2021	2020	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Donations and sponsorships	225	-	
Workshop and participant fees	9,795	13,194	
	<b>10,020</b>	<b>13,194</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Artists' fees	4,150	3,000	
Program delivery	14,045	25,834	
Office, meetings and travel	102	102	
Salaries and benefits	3,004	2,799	
	<b>21,301</b>	<b>31,735</b>	
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES) FROM RETREAT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ (11,281)</b>	<b>\$ (18,541)</b>	

These schedules report the revenues and expenses of the Grain and Retreat operations. Any shortfall is covered by general operational funds

*These statements are derived from the audited financial statements which are available upon request from the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild*

## **Board of Directors** **(August 2020-August 2021)**

Ashley Martin, President *(began Oct. 2020)*

David Schleich, Vice President *(began Oct. 2020)*

Jack Walton, Past-President *(began Oct. 2020)*

## **Members-at-Large**

Jillian Bell *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Terri Bosner *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Joy Solomon Brown *(ended Jan. 2021)*

Dirck de Lint

Bob Friedrich *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Jason Heit *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Margot Johnson

Jeanette Montgomery *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Heather Winter

## **Board Committees & Liaisons**

### **Audit Committee**

Dirck de Lint

Ilonka Halsband

Ashley Martin

Jeanette Montgomery

Paula Jane Remlinger

Jack Walton *(ended Oct. 2020)*

### **HR Committee**

Heather Getz *(ended Jun. 2021)*

Margot Johnson

Ashley Martin

Jan Seibel

Jack Walton

### **Governance Policy Committee**

Joy Brown *(ended Jan. 2021)*

Ashley Martin

Jack Walton

Heather Winter

### **Nominations Committee**

Jillian Bell *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Ashley Martin

Jack Walton

### **SWG Foundation Committee**

Jillian Bell *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Jason Heit *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Ashley Martin

David Schleich

Jack Walton

### **Grain Advisory Committee**

John Barton

Courtney Bates-Hardy

Jillian Bell

Ashley Martin

Kathleen Wall *(ended Oct. 2020)*

Jack Walton

### **Grain Editor Selection Committee**

John Barton

Jack Walton

## **Programming Volunteers**

### **Writing North Committee**

Sheri Benning

Jeanette Lynes

### **Annual Conference**

Jillian Bell

Jack Walton

Ashley Martin

Jeanette Montgomery

### **Writing North**

Delane Just

Kate O’Gorman

## **SWG SPONSORED EVENTS**

The SWG sponsored writing events across the province:

- Buffalo People Arts Institute – Buffalo Day
- Saskatchewan Festival of Words – Writing workshops with Farzana Doctor, Carol Rose GoldenEagle and Tea Mutonji
- Native Plants Society of Saskatchewan – “This Singing Land, kanikamot askiy”
- Saskatchewan Library Association – One Book One Province tour with Paul Seeseequasis for *Blanket Toss Under Midnight Sun*
- Heritage Festival of Saskatoon
- Jane’s Walk Festival Saskatoon
- YWCA THRIVE Speech and Language Day Camp

## **FUNDRAISING**

### **FrankenSell Silent Auction**

The SWG raised \$832 in our virtual silent auction held during the Annual Conference. Money raised went towards new online programming.

### **RiffRaffle 50/50 Draw**

The SWG hosted a virtual 50/50 raffle lottery in May which raised just over \$2800. After costs to run the online raffle, and the payout to the raffle winner, the SWG received \$1175 which benefitted our youth programs, *Windscript* and Youth Poet Laureate.

## Thank you to all our donors

### Grain Magazine

Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg

### Kloppenburg Award

Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg  
Karen Larson  
James Tarasoff

### Doris M. Hillis Scholarship

Estate of Doris M. Hillis

### In Memory of Geoffrey Ursell

Gary Ursell  
Ian & Kiki Delaney

### In Memory of Lydia Olnick

Karen Prisciak Legal  
Professional Corp.

### Andrew Suknaski Writers' Assistance Fund

Randy Lundy

### Patricia Armstrong Fund

Anne Lazurko

### Retreats

Ilonka Halsband

### General Donations

Amber Antymniuk  
Anthony Bidulka  
Rita Bouvier  
Ian Cooney  
Katherine Cram  
Robert Currie  
Felicia Daunt  
Jeanette Dean  
Deana Driver  
Regine Haensel  
Ilonka Halsband  
Charles Hersberger  
Alice Kuipers  
Allison Kydd  
Alison Lohans  
Trina Markusson  
Melanie McFarlane  
James McLean  
Linda Mikolayenko  
Lynda Monahan  
Judith Muirhead  
Joan Olson  
Anne Patton  
David Richards  
William Robertson  
Steven Ross Smith  
Maureen Scott Harris  
Wascana Writers  
Diane Young

## 2020-2021 SWG Staff

### Executive Director

Tracy Hamon

### Program Manager

Yolanda Hansen

### Indigenous Program Manager

Debbie Sunchild-Peterson

### Financial Manager

Jacqueline Fry

### Administrative Assistant

Andrea MacLeod

### Program Coordinator

Cat Abenstein

### Contract Programmer

Tea Gerbeza

### Publications Coordinator

Shirley Fehr

### Interns

Jessica Leeper  
Tanisha Khan

### Grain Editor

Mari-Lou Rowley (*began Dec. 2020*)  
Nicole Haldoupis (*ended Dec. 2020*)

### Grain Fiction and Nonfiction Editor

Kate O'Gorman (*began Jul. 2021*)  
Lisa Bird Wilson (*ended Jun. 2021*)

### Grain Poetry Editor

Brenda Schmidt (*began Dec. 2020*)  
Alasdair Rees (*ended Dec. 2020*)

## 2020-2021 Board of Directors

(October 2020-present)

### President

Ashley Martin

### Vice President

David J. Schleich

### Past President

Jack Walton

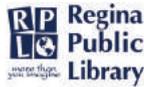
### Members at Large

Dirck de Lint  
Margot Johnson  
Heather Winter

## SWG Operational Funders



## SWG Partners & Sponsors





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skwriter.com

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