

SASKATCHEWAN WRITERS' GUILD
ANNUAL REPORT / 2022-2023

Creating Space.



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Creating Space

The SWG is proud to be an organization of creators. At its core, the SWG strives to provide opportunities to create, and spaces where everyone feels welcome.

Photo front cover: Heather O'Watch, Words in the Park. Photo Credit, SWG.



The Saskatchewan Writers' Guild (SWG) 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. 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 nēhiyawak (Cree), Anihšīnāpēk (Saulteaux), Dakota, Lakota, Nakota and Dené Nations and the Homeland of the Métis Nation.



Storytelling and Statistics

President's Report

David J. Schleich

A while ago, Jack Walton, between chords (his ineluctable fingers generating fully-voiced harmonies and ensemble blues arrangements), persuaded me that the SWG needed Board Members, from outside the big cities, if possible. In due course I became the Guild President, the job enabled so seamlessly by Tracy Hamon, our Executive Director and the team: Andrea MacLeod, Ashwina Parmar, Yolanda Hansen, Debbie Sunchild-Petersen, Cat Abenstein, Tea Gerbeza, Shirley Fehr and Mari-Lou Rowley. "Morceau de gâteau gig," Jack had promised, "especially if you know the history." He told the story and proffered the statistics. "It all started back in 1969 at the writers' conference at Fort Qu'Appelle with Ken Mitchell," he went on.

And what a history our SWG has, compared to other writers' associations in the land. Fifty years back came the

writing groups throughout Saskatchewan, and then Pat Krause's remarkable *Freelance* newsletter. Soon there was Caroline Heath with *Grain*, the first literary magazine published by an actual writers' group. "There was even a debate about getting the apostrophe in the name right (plural first, then possessive)," Jack pointed out. That clinched it for me, being a boomer grammar teacher once.

Back in the 1980s, I was the editor of *Quarry Magazine* and *Quarry Press*. Our little eastern team marveled not only at the quality of *Grain*, but that the SWG also offered programs and retreats. And over the years came all those outreach programs (you know, readings, workshops, mentorship, school visits, writers-in-residence). Even a directory of Saskatchewan writers. Shamelessly, knowing full well that imitation is the sincerest form of, well, flattery, we

at *Quarry* began imitating our prairie colleagues. For example, we copied the SWG's idea for *Windscript* forty years ago, and reached out to high school writers, who loved the opportunity.

The beat went on. *Ebriefs* came into being as the internet age took off. Meanwhile, there were all those savvy collaborations and partnerships with organizations throughout the province like: University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, SaskBook Awards, Cathedral Village Arts Festival, Festival of Words and many more. Talking Fresh and Writing North became places for writers' voices.

I feel our robust Indigenous programming modelled for the rest of the country how it needed to be done. Remember the Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership project, followed by the creation of the Aboriginal Advisory Circle and the Aboriginal Writers' Retreat, the First Nations Reading Series and SAWCI? These days there is the Tânsi Talks Series, and the Indigenous Mentorship Program. Sustained gusto everywhere.

There's some real coin for hard working writers of the Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence. And,

speaking of cash flow for writers, there are the Judy McCrosky Bursary, the Anne Campbell Memorial Scholarship, and the Doris Hillis to help emerging writers attend retreats.

And presto, a generation or so later, we are over 600 members strong under amazing skies friendly to writers.

These days, as your grateful President, I get to witness first hand Awards, Festivals, Community Partnered Events and Programs, Reading Programs, Indigenous Programming, and Guild Programs like our Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureates, an annual conference, and writers-in-residence programs, both virtual and corporeal. There's professional development too, including a manuscript evaluation service, mentorships galore and workshops on all sorts of topics, contemplating always diversity and inclusivity.

It takes a village to nurture all that writing, Jack had said. I'm from a village and fit right in. So too have all those volunteers who make the Guild move and shake: Ashley Martin, Margot Johnson, Andrew Christoffel, Miguel French, Monica John-

son, and Daryl Sexsmith, your indefatigable board who completed a very good nuts and bolts strategic planning workshop called "Lifecycles" with Diane Fletcher recently. Icing on the cake, we have many committees on which serve wonderful people such as, John Barton, Jeanette Montgomery, John Agnew, Sheri Benning, Jeanette Lynes. And, for many years, Jack Walton, who got me into this remarkable, wallomping community in the first place. I have been a member of the Guild for four years, one of them as your President, with one more to go. We are at your service, all of us, with alacrity.

Emily Dickinson, one of my lifelong favourite writers guides us as we negotiate policy, budgets, personalities and new roofs at our head office. She puts it this way for those who might ask why we choose to do such work in a place of "quelques arpents de neige" (Candide, Voltair, 1759) :

*Remembered, if outlived,
As Freezing persons, recollect the Snow—
First—Chill—then Stupor—then the letting
go—*



Executive Director's Report

Tracy Hamon

**"Do not yell WRITER unless
you have pen and paper close
at hand."**

SWG Proverb

Sometimes a year feels like an eternity, sometimes like a day. Perspective is relevant to perception. The SWG blue-pencilled through the 2022-2023 fiscal year like an editor through text—sometimes jaggedly cutting through the tangy sentences of an endemic world, and at other times, smoothly sharing large paragraphs of SWG programming and services connecting and celebrating writers within and beyond our community.

2022-2023 began like every other new fiscal year—full of writing programming and services. While events were

open once again to in-person attendance, we maintained a variety of online programs that could help reduce barriers. Along with an eye to keeping our programming accessible, in an environment where inflation rates explored trips to the moon, the SWG endeavoured to keep costs for programming affordable for members.

The SWG is fortunate to be under the direction of a solicitous Board of Directors. They volunteer their time and energy selflessly to ensure that the SWG maintains its reach and scope within the community. The Board industriously spent months working with Diane Fletcher on a full Lifecycles assessment of the SWG. This culminated on a May weekend as the board worked at developing a new strategic plan/goals. SWG board members also spent countless hours attending numerous events, hosting, guiding, applauding and uplifting our members. We're grateful to have a Board that is interested in who we are, what we do, and how we do it.

Once we again, we thank our funders: SaskLotteries (in partnership with SaskCulture) for our Annual Global Funding, City of Regina, Canada Council, SK Lotteries Community Grant through the City of Saskatoon, Heritage Canada (*Grain's* 50th), and SK Culture (Special Initiatives Grant and Lifecycles). Our funders support our growing membership, programs and services, the SWG organization as a whole, and we're humbled and grateful for the amazing

financial support we receive.

In programming, our continued hybrid model for workshops, lectures, readings, Virtual Writer-in-Residence, and talks quenched the thirst of hungry writers. In October 2022 our SWG Fall Conference was held once again in Regina. Despite the threat of an impending early-winter storm, our conference continued to connect members/non-members with diverse offerings.

The programming team of the SWG are the superstars of the programming world. They're award-winning each and every time they step out on the SWG field. Yolanda Hansen, Cat Abenstein, Tea Gerbeza, and Debbie Sunchild-Petersen produce splendid and spectacular explosions events/workshops into realization. A bow to their expertise (insert thunderous clapping here)!

During the pandemic, our publications were a lifeline for many writers. Mari-Lou Rowley and her team of Brenda Schmidt and Kate O'Gorman continued their excellent editing for *Grain*, accumulating awards and nominations along the way—huge thanks for their keen oversight. We're always excited when contributors to *Grain* get accolades and recognition! And, to celebrate *Grain's* 50th Anniversary this year, copies of a special issue "Celebration" are now available.

Windscript once again showcased the work of high-school writers, and we're eternally grateful to our talented artist/

designer/editor Shirley Fehr, who manages productions of all SWG publications, including our members' news magazine *Freelance* and our online *Ebriefs*. Shirley's designs never cease to amaze, even when there's more work, such as this past year with the advent of "The Guild Prize," a new contest that includes publication in *Freelance*.

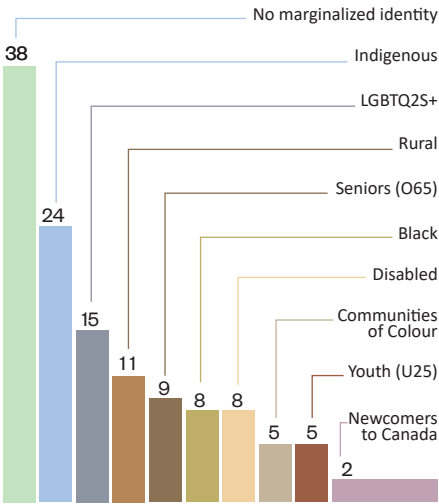
In finances, we thank Ashwina Parmar for her close attention to the numbers since March 2023. Sadly, we said goodbye to our Financial Manager Jacquie Fry—she passed away in December 2022. Jacquie's diligent financial management and accounting propelled the SWG forward since 2017. We thank her for her commitment to the SWG and its membership, and we miss her.

Andrea MacLeod is now the SWG Executive Assistant—she's also the SWG administrative wizard at the office, magically arranging memberships, board meetings, mail, inventory, and other office happenings. We thank her for her incredible talent of making sure we're always on track for all of our needs!

Again, it all comes down to you, our members—thank you for making the SWG an enviable community. As you grow, we grow and manifold the ways we can serve your needs better. We're always learning, reading, writing, thinking, and developing new and exciting experiences for you and your writing. A little pen and paper can go a long way.

Diversity Among our Presenters (%)

With our membership growing each year, opportunities exist within the SWG for a diverse representation of presenters at our workshops and last year demonstrated that.



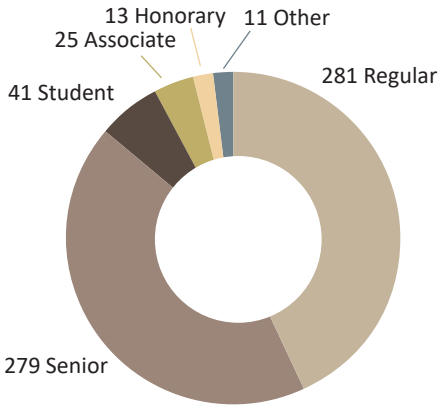
Improving Safety & Accessibility For All

The SWG is taking steps to improve safety and accessibility throughout our programming and events including:

- Offering more hybrid (in-person and virtual) events;
- Providing image descriptions on social media and close-captioning on videos;
- Sourcing wheelchair accessible venues;
- Acknowledging the land and safe spaces mandate at each in-person and online event; and,
- Ensuring staff is trained and up-to-date on first aid, CPR and the use of naloxone kits.

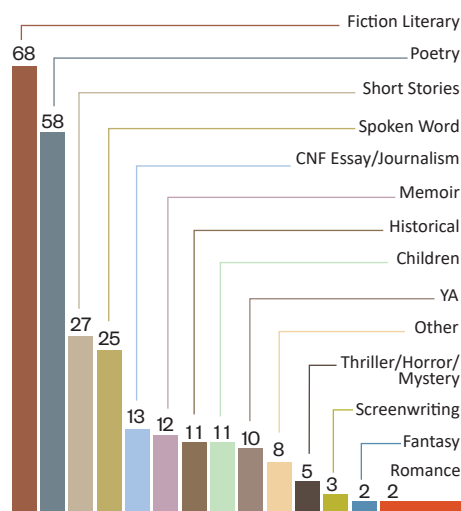
Memberships as of July 31, 2023 (%)

The SWG had 650 members this year. Regular membership are those between 25 and 60; Student membership is under 25; Senior membership is over 60; Honorary members include some of our founding members; Associate and Other members are individuals or groups who are not necessarily writers, but support the endeavours of the SWG.



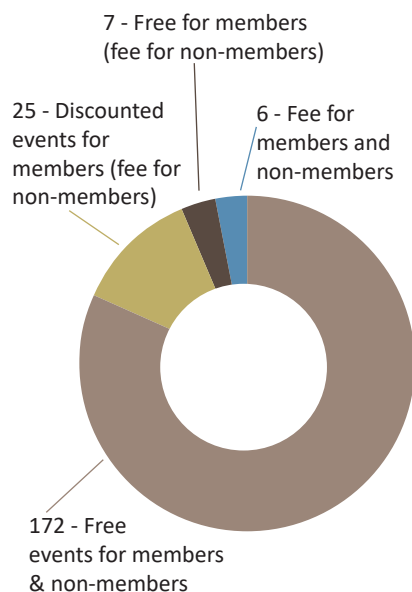
Presenter Genres Represented at SWG Events (%)

The SWG strives to include workshop presenters as diverse as our membership. Members and non-members enjoyed a range of professional development opportunities in 2022/23 from presenters who write in genres from Literary Fiction to Romance and everything in between.



Number of Events That Were Free to Members

Keeping our events and workshops free or close to free for members is something we strive for. Of the 210 events offered between Aug 1, 2022 and July 31 2023, 179 were free for members while 25 were offered at a discount for members.



The SWG funded **16** writers' groups benefitting **107** writers.

Our Author Readings Program had **77** locations host **40** Saskatchewan authors.

Freelance **24** featured contributors over four issues.

Reading Programs

Well-Versed: A Lecture Series

The SWG hosted a virtual Well-Versed Lecture with Joshua Whitehead and host Emily Riddle on Nov 24 titled *Writing From the Body*.

Book Bytes

Book Bytes is our online summer reading series and brings audiences readings by Saskatchewan writers. 2022/23 readers and hosts included:

- August 3 (Poetry) – Yasmin Wooldridge, Greg Orre, Rhea McFarlane and Lauraine Saretsky with host Elena Bentley.
- August 10 (Sask Book Awards reading) – dee Hobsbawn-Smith, Theresa Slind, Guy Vanderhaeghe and host Delane Just.

July 2023 readers and hosts included:

- July 19 – Betty Daniels, Holly Luhning, Xauri'EL Zwaan and host Sabrina Cataldo
- July 26 – Michael Afenfia, Kate Finegan, Glenda Goertzen and host Amanda Marcotte.

Apparitions Open Mic

On October 26, open mic participants shared their hair-raising, spine-chilling tales of the abnormal. Hosted by K.D. Kulpa, an intimate crowd gathered at The Artesian in Regina to recount their ghost stories, their close encounters, and their tales of the unearthly, spectral, mysterious beings who visit (or persist) in our plane of existence.

Saskatoon's Reader's Corner

This event brings people together to help celebrate local writers who share

their stories and readings of their work. Local writers included: Theresa Slind, Cort Dogniez, Karin Melberg Schwier and Jennifer Wallace.

Bushwakker Brew Pub – Writer's Corner Fifth Edition Reading

The Bushwakker Writer's Corner is a space dedicated to celebrating the recent works of Saskatchewan published authors.

The Fifth Edition Bushwakker Writer's Corner Reading, organized by the SWG and Bushwakker on November 5, featured four Regina and area authors: Donna Gartshore, Tara Gereaux, Brian Bowman, and Pam Bustin. Bushwakker created a special dessert for the event.

Forging Futures: A Black History Month / Black Futures Month Event

Every February, people in Canada are invited to participate in Black History Month/Black Futures Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities.

Forging Futures: A Black History Month / Black Futures Month Event is where we celebrate and amplify the talent of Black writers in Canada, and demonstrate wholeheartedly that #blackwritersmatter then, now, and into the future.

This event was curated by Peace Akin-tade-Oluwagbeye. The event began with mental health therapist and clinical director of Heartfire Medicine, Adijat Bunmi Adekunle who shared mental

health resources, followed by a conversation between Peace and K.P Dennis that ended with our presenters offering book recommendations by Black authors.

Author Readings Program

This well-established SWG program was another big success! We continued to be flexible with our readings due to the realities of living with COVID-19 and approved online readings in addition to in-person readings.

We saw 77 different schools, libraries, and community groups host readings by 40 Saskatchewan authors for a total of 99 readings between August 2022 and July 2023. There were almost 6000 attendees at these events, many elementary students, demonstrating the importance of connecting Saskatchewan audiences with Saskatchewan authors.

Words in the Park

Words in the Park shares readings by an eclectic mix of readers in Regina's Victoria Park over the lunch hour. Our 2023 readers and hosts included:

- July 5 – Eli Bird, Geanna Dunbar, Heather O'Watch, with host Austin "The Noble Savage" Ahenakew.
- July 12 – Aislinn McDougall, Chris Brown, Kate Spencer with host Credell Simeon.

Photo Opposite Page: Words in the Park. Credell Simeon. Photo Credit, SWG.



Community Programs

Global Gathering Place – Weaving Words

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

Danica Lorer facilitated two workshop series: a 12-hour series in November and December with 12 participants, and a 4-hour series in the spring with 14 participants. Both groups explored memory and imagination through creative writing and read their work in a final performance.

Saskatoon Open Door Society –This is My Journey: Volunteer Newcomer Stories

In partnership with the Saskatoon Open Door Society, the SWG offered newcomers

to Canada in Saskatoon who volunteer a creative writing opportunity to share their stories and experiences through creative writing.

Danica Lorer facilitated this online workshop series: a 4.5-hour series in January and February with 10 participants. Participants used different methods to generate stories inspired by their experiences as newcomers and as volunteers.

Regina Open Door Society - Opening Doors Through Stories

A group of newcomers to Canada met four Saturdays in October and November online through the Regina Open Door Society to work with author Marie Powell to develop creative writing and expand their English literacy skills.

Opening Doors Through Stories: Imagine, 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 chapbook launch was held in-person and livestreamed to a public audience in May and was hosted by facilitator and editor, Marie Powell.

SaskBooks -- Publishing Symposium

The SWG and SaskBooks offered writers and publishers a chance to learn more about publishing at our two-part online Publishing Symposium in June.

Publishing Symposium Part 1: Publishing 101 with SaskBooks Executive Director Jillian Bell offered insight into the basics of publishing and answered dozens of audience questions.



Opening Doors Through Stories: Imagine contributors l-r: Amira Omar, Neetika Mahawar, Marie Powell (Facilitator), Alina Shylan, Samira Hamidi, and Ifrah Jamal. Missing from photo Mulugeta Zaid. Photo Credit, SWG.

Publishing Symposium Part 2: Submissions Panel featuring Saskatchewan publishers Debra Bell (Radiant Press), Miguel Fenrich (Supernova Press), Denise Leduc (Lilac Arch Press), and Elizabeth Philips (Thistledown Press) and was hosted by Courtney Bates-Hardy. The panel offered insights into each presses' submissions processes and benefits to working with these esteemed local publishers.

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 three genre-specific online writing workshops:

- *Writing Characters into History* with Anne Lazurko;
- *Thank you, Not for Us: Why Your Kid and Teen Manuscripts Aren't Selling* with Natasha Deen; and
- *Queer Street: Urban Fantasy and Radical Construction* with Jes Battis.

University of Calgary Distinguished Writers Program – “Career Support for Queer Writers” with Leah Horlick

Queer writers at all career stages face systemic risks and barriers in both performance and publishing. This professional development workshop for queer, trans, and nonbinary writers of all levels in Saskatchewan and Alberta thoughtfully explored some options in a regional context.

We talked about what “work-life balance” might mean for queer writers, ways to approach engagement with the public, and skills to protect one's self in person and online. We had 14 people register and five people attend the workshop.

In the evaluation for this program, an attendee mentioned how integral it was for them to hear that the things they were experiencing, others were as well. They also mentioned that the workshop was realistic and had relevant points about spoken and unspoken pressures and that the information was presented with “empathy and in the spirit of community.”

Saskatchewan Book Awards Events

In partnership with the Saskatchewan Book Awards (SBA), the SWG assisted in the organizing of the SBA's public reading events celebrating the shortlisted and winning authors of the Saskatchewan Book Awards.

Legislative Library Reading: In partnership with the Legislative Library on November 23, this online event featuring readings by Dr. Allyson Stevenson, Guy Vanderhaeghe, and Arnolda Dufour Bowes, was hosted by Melissa Bennett and was experienced by 130 people.

Saskatchewan Book Awards Shortlist Announcement: In partnership with the Regina Public Library on March 24, the in-person and livestreamed event celebrated the shortlisted authors of the 2023 Saskatchewan Book Awards. Hosted by RPL

Writer-in-Residence, Pam Bustin.

Regina Public Library Shortlisted Authors Reading: In partnership with the Regina Public Library on April 23, this online event featured readings by Anthony Bidulka, Joanne Leow, and Melanie McFarlane with a live audience of over 20 people.

Saskatchewan Book Awards Winners Reading: In partnership with the Cathedral Village Arts Fest on May 23, this in-person event featuring readings by Kathleen O'Reilly, Michael Trussler, and Pat Miller-Schroeder, was hosted by Raye Hendrickson and had an audience of over 30 people.

Saskatchewan Festival of Words Reading: In partnership with the Saskatchewan Festival of Words on July 15, this in-person event featured readings by Jeanette Lynes, Alberta-Rose Bear, and Kathleen O'Reilly.

Community Sponsorships

The SWG sponsored the following writing events and workshops across the province:

- Saskatchewan Festival of Words' writing workshops with Michelle Good, Casey Plett and Tamara Cherry;
- Saskatchewan Library Association's One Book One Province with Michelle Good for *Five Little Indians*;
- Grosvenor Park United Church for their Connecting Communities: Disabilities, Justice and Living Well conference Jan 27-29 ; and
- SK Filmpool for their 24-Hour Write-In.

Professional Development

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 in-person and online. Workshop partners include the Regina and Saskatoon Public Libraries. The following workshops were offered in 2022-2023:

- *Food Matters: Food in Fiction, Nonfiction and Poetry* with dee Hobsbawn-Smith;
- *Generating Essay Topics and Pitching and Publishing* with Krystal Kavita Jagoo;
- *Finding Your Voice for Live Readings* with Amanda Marcotte;
- *Silhouettes and Negative Space: Poetry Shapes and Blank Parts of the Page* with Samantha Jones;
- *Novel Structure and Story Story Structure* with Judy McCrosky;
- *A Writer is Born: What Happens After Your First Book is Published?* with Michael Afenfia;
- *Try, Try Again* with Danica Lorer;
- *The Modern Publishing Landscape with Friesen Press* with Emily Perkins;
- *Where Are We: Sense and Setting in Poetry* with Chelsea Coupal;
- *So You Want to be a Professional Editor?* with Frances Peck;
- *Writing Down the World* with Candace Savage; and

- *Walking and Writing: Experiencing the World* with Ken Wilson.

First Draft: Conversations on Writing

This online talk series dives into themes that affect our writing lives. Presenters, themes, and host interviewers in 2022-23 were:

- S. Portico Bowman *The Tango: Your Money and Your Life* (interviewed by Anthony Bidulka);
- Sandy Bonny *Silos and Sparks: Disciplinary Boundaries and Creative Moments* (interviewed by Sarah Ens);
- Heather Polischuk *The Catharsis of Crime Writing* (interviewed by Joanne J.C. Paulson);
- Moni Brar *The Trifecta of Trauma, Courage and Humour* (interviewed by Cobra Collins);
- Medrie Purdham *Should There Be a Son in Sonnet?: The Ups and Downs of Writing About Family* (interviewed by Kathleen Wall); and
- Jesse Rae Archibald-Barber *Traditional Indigenous Stories and Contemporary Writing* (interviewed by Wendy Whitebear).

Retreats

The SWG's Fall Facilitated Retreat was hosted November 10-13 at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster with Writer-in-Residence Mark Abley, who worked with 10 emerging writers. A Virtual Facilitated Retreat was hosted via Zoom with

Writer-in-Residence Jenna Butler, who worked with 10 emerging writers from April 27-30.

Both of the SWG Writers' Retreats were hosted at St. Peter's Abbey. The Winter Writers' Retreat (Feb 10-24) welcomed 15 retreatants and the Summer Writers' Retreat (July 7-28) welcomed 11 writers. Judy McCrosky continues to serve as our on-site retreat coordinator.

Scholarship and bursary recipients to attend retreats were awarded to the following:

Judy McCrosky Bursary

- Keely Kulpa (Feb 2023)
- Mary-Anne Parker (July 2023)

Anne Campbell Memorial Scholarship

- Karen Wood (Summer 2023)

Doris Hillis Scholarship

- Terri Bear-Linklater (Nov 2022)

Writers' Groups

In 2022-23, the SWG funded 16 writers' groups, who represent 107 writers from all over Saskatchewan.



Mentorship Program Participants. I-r: Shayna Stock, Bruce Rice, Marie Lovrod, Anne Lazurko, Liberty Emkeit, dee Hobsbawn-Smith, Leslie Vryenhoek, and Aspen Enzo. Photo Credit, SWG.

Mentorship Program

Four pairs of apprentices and mentors were matched in the 2023 Mentorship Program to work together between January and May. This year's participants included:

- Aspen Enzo (Regina), mentored by Leslie Vryenhoek (Saskatoon);
- Liberty Emkeit (Medicine Hat), mentored by dee Hobsbawn-Smith (Saskatoon);
- Marie Lovrod (Saskatoon), mentored by Anne Lazurko (Weyburn); and
- Shayna Stock (Regina), mentored by Bruce Rice (Regina).

The Apprentice Reading was hosted May 5 at the Artesian in Regina, by former apprentice Tara Dawn Solheim. The Mentorship and Indigenous Mentorship apprentices shared excerpts from their writing completed during the program.

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 and young adult fiction), nonfiction and poetry.

Indigenous Programs

Truth & Reconciliation Day

In honour of Truth & Reconciliation Day the SWG presented *How Truth and Reconciliation Can Work Through Writing and/or Other Alternative Means* with Christine Miskonoodinkwe Smith and hosted by Carol GoldenEagle on September 29, 2022. Christine is an author, editor, writer, and journalist who graduated from the University of Toronto with a specialization in Aboriginal Studies, and received her Master's in Education in Social Justice.

Creative Writing Workshops

The SWG partnered with the Saskatoon Public Library for two online Creative Writing Workshops hosted by Theresa Slind:

- September 21 - *Honouring our home: writing to, for and through our bodies* with Heather O'Watch; and
- April 20 - *Identity and Story* with Mika Lafond.

Youth Workshop

Francine Cunningham presented this workshop titled *Why writing and sharing your story is important*, hosted by Jennifer Gardiner.

Tânsi Talks

Tânsi means welcome/hello in Cree and we welcomed writers from all over Canada and the US to our online noon-hour conversations with Indigenous writers about writing and storytelling. Talks included:

- October 27 - *Including Spirit World, Star Relations, Land Guardians, Mamâtow kikway kispayik miracles, in Indigenous Story* with Julianna McLean and hosted by Elena Bentley;
- December 7 - *This House is not a home – Incorporating Allegories in Literature* with Catherine Lafferty and host Mika Lafond;
- January 12 - *Inuit Canadians; past, present and future* with Dr. Norma Dunning and host, Carol Rose GoldenEagle; and
- March 16 - *The Story Behind Shopping Cart Boy* with Joshua Heath & guardian Sheila Webster with host Elena Bentley. Joshua has ADHD, FASD, anxiety and has a high visual IQ, he tells his stories of foster care abuse, and other hardships through poetry, along with the help of his caregiver Sheila.

Storytelling Month

Throughout the month of February, the SWG presented a weekly series of storytellers and virtual events. Funded by the Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples, they were hosted by Heather O'Watch. Presenters included Austin Ahenakew, Bevann Fox and Tonia Laird.

Indigenous Mentorship Program

One apprentice and one mentor were matched in the 2023 Indigenous Mentorship Program to work together between January and May. This year's participants were Jamen Willis (apprentice) and Francine Cunningham (mentor).

National Indigenous Peoples Day

In honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day, June 21 the SWG presented *Resilience of First Nations People and the Arts* with Terri Bear-Linklater, from Muskoday First Nation and hosted by Erica Violet Lee. This first time, in-person event is partnered with Wanuskewin Heritage Park.

*Photo on opposite page:
Carol Rose GoldenEagle
Poetry & A Pint, October 2022
Photo Credit, SWG.*



Writing Festivals

Writing North

From Jan 26-28, the SWG and the University of Saskatchewan's MFA Program hosted *Writing North 13: Connections*.

Events included:

- Omar El Akkad's online keynote lecture hosted by Kate O'Gorman;
- River Volta MFA Student & Alumni Readings featuring Red Davis, Delane Just, Ashley Lekach, Walker Pityn, Callum Wilson, Karen Wood, hosted by Josiah Nelson and Dawn Muenchrath;
- Reading & Conversations with Russell Wangersky and Marina Endicott, and Cecily Nicholson and Khodi Dill; and
- Workshops with Russell Wangersky (*Truth & Consequences: The Intersection Between Fact and Fiction*) and Cecily Nicholson (*Understory Poems*).



Photo top: Marina Endicott and Russell Wangersky.

Photo bottom: Khodi Dill in conversation with Cecily Nicholson. Photo Credit, SWG.

Talking Fresh

Our Talking Fresh 2023 festival was held March 3-4 with the theme of JOY. Our program included the following in-person and livestreamed events:

- Indigenous Beading & Storytelling with Keith Sunchild;
- *Fresh Talk: A Workshop on Banter* with Ruby Lang;
- *Languagelessness: The Joy of Reconciling Between Languages and Form in Poetry* with Hasan Namir;
- An interactive conversation on Joy and Resistance with Hasan Namir, Ruby Lang, Helen Chang and host Kris Alvarez; and
- *Sitting Down in Despair, Rising Up in Delight* with Robert Currie.



Photo top: Robert Currie.

Photo bottom: Kris Alvarez, Ruby Lang, Helen Chang, and Hasan Namir.

SWG Programs and Conference

Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate of Saskatchewan

Carol Rose GoldenEagle (Poet Laureate, 2021-2023) and Lauren Klassen (Youth Poet Laureate, 2022-2023) represented the Saskatchewan literary community in a variety of virtual and in-person events and initiatives this year.

As Youth Poet Laureate, Lauren visited schools in Saskatoon, Langenburg, North Battleford to work with young writers, and read her poetry to RBC employees and a Saskatoon retirement community. She was also a featured poet at the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra's Oct 22 concert and the 2023 Festival of Words.

As Poet Laureate, Carol worked with poetry lovers of all ages, including children at Lumsden Beach Camp, students in Saskatoon and James Smith Cree First Nation, and performances for the Legislative Assembly, Regina Public Library, Regina Folk Fest, Cathedral Village Arts Festival, Historical Society of Saskatchewan and River Volta.

Two Poetry & A Pint reading events were hosted this year. October 2022's event was hosted at D'Lish by Tish in Saskatoon and featured Carol, Lauren and Saskatoon poets Peace Akintade-Oluwagbeye and William Robertson. May 2023's event at Bushwakker's Brew Pub featured readings by Carol and Regina poets Neil Aitken, Aspen Enzo, Gerry Hill, Medrie Purdham, and Tai Reign.

The 2023 Poetry Soiree featured readings by Carol, Lauren and Rita Bouvier.



Poetry Soiree at Government House. l-r: His Honour The Honourable Russell Merasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Carol Rose GoldenEagle, Elder Archie Weenie, Lauren Klassen, Rita Bouvier, and David J. Schleich. Photo Credit, SWG.

Virtual Writers in Residence

Jill Robinson (Sept-Nov 2022) and Marie Powell (Feb-Apr 2023) were the SWG's Virtual Writers-in-Residence for 2022-23. This program gives SWG members living outside Regina and Saskatoon access to a professional Writer-in-Residence through Zoom. Jill and Marie worked with 35 SWG members and offered the following public talks:

- *Under the Influence: Welcome and Unwelcome Influences on our Writing* with Jill Robinson on Sept 29, hosted by Judith Wright; and
- *Books Alive: How to Read Like a Writer* with Marie Powell on March 14, hosted by Sharon Plumb.

Penned Up!

Penned Up! provides a two-hour period and space for folks to drop in and write. Penned Up is also an opportunity for members to build community, gather together in a shared space, meet writing goals, commit to writing, and to protect creative time by coming to write.

We met virtually over Zoom on a monthly schedule between September and May, with an in-person celebration featuring David Gane giving a talk on how to keep writing over the summer. Over 100 people participated during the year.

Annual Conference: An Alphabet of Writers

The SWG Annual Conference was held October 21-22 at Regina's Atlas Hotel. Our program included the following workshops, panels and lectures:

- *Writing Your Way into Prairie* walking workshop with Trevor Herriot;
- *Fold and Live to Fold Again: How (and Why) to Write a Fold-In Poem* with Daniel Scott Tysdal;
- *Writing Queerly: Workshopping LGBTQ+ Characters and Settings* with Jes Battis;
- *Taking it On: The Realistic Novel in a Time of Ecological Crisis* with Joan Thomas;
- *The Young Adult Voice* with Kagiso Lesego Molohe;
- *The Fundamentals of Creating a Character* with Dr. Norma Dunning;
- *How to Observe* with Tolu Oloruntoba;
- *Poetic Memory* with Tolu Oloruntoba, Medrie Purdham, Diana Hope Tegenkamp and host Carol Rose GoldenEagle;
- *Agents for Fiction Writers* with Lisa Bird-Wilson, Suzy Krause, Tonia Laird and host Shane Arbuthnott;
- *Storytelling and Art* with Tonia Laird, Kagiso Lesego Molohe, Lara Stoudt and host Carla Harris;
- *Write, Print, Fold and Staple: On Poetry Chapbooks* with Jim Johnstone;
- *Preparing your Manuscript for Publication* with Elizabeth Philips;
- *Creating Sacred Spaces in Urban Centres* with Joely BigEagle Kequahtoway and host Melissa Worme; and
- Heath Memorial Lecture *My Writing My Work* by Dr. Norma Dunning.
- Presentation of the 2022 John V. Hicks Awards in Fiction hosted by Lisa Bird-Wilson.
- Lunch & Conversation with Joan Thomas and Elizabeth Philips.
- AGM
- Community Stage Open Mic & Social, hosted by Dash Reimer, featuring a found poem created by Shayna Stock.



(Above): The Fundamentals of Creating a Character workshop with Dr. Norma Dunning.

(Top Right): Writing Your Way in to Prairie workshop with Trevor Herriot.

(Bottom Right): Write, Print, Fold and Staple: On Poetry Chapbooks with Jim Johnstone.

Photo Credit, SWG.

Awards



Candace Savage, recipient of the Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence, 2022. Photo Credit, SWG.

The Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence

Candace Savage was the winner of the 2022 Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence. The announcement took place at an in-person lunch at the Saskatoon Golf & Country Club on Sept 28, as well as virtually with a video produced by Shoot with Scrapes Videography. The Guild is deeply appreciative of Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg's continued support for this award and were saddened to hear of Henry's passing in October. Fortunately, his generosity lives on through the Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Foundation.

Hyland Volunteer Award

The 2022 Hyland Volunteer Award was awarded to Ted Dyck at the AGM for his long-standing and various contributions to the Guild and the Saskatchewan writing community.

The Guild Prize

The Guild Prize offers SWG members more opportunities to have their work reviewed by a jury and be published. The winner of The Guild Prize receives \$250 plus paid publication in *Freelance Magazine*. In the first year, we had a total of 131 submissions in the flash fiction and poetry categories.

Carla Barkman won the Flash Fiction prize in fall 2022 for "Four Children," and Elizabeth Gardiner won an Honourable Mention for "Tea with Moshom." The fall 2022 prize in flash fiction was judged by Nicole Haldoupis.

In the spring's poetry iteration, Dawn Muenchrath won with her poem "You've heard loneliness is the smoking of our

digital age." Two Honourable Mentions were given to Iyla L. Ottoson for "Injustice" and Diana Hope Tegenkamp for "CHROMA: An Erasure of Derek Jarman's Chroma, A Book of Colour." The spring 2023 competition was judged by Michelle Maylor.

City of Regina Writing Award

The 2023 City of Regina Writing Awards on May 11 celebrated winner Kelly Jo Burke for her submission "Rigby" and runners up Timothy Blackett and Chelsea Coupal. Judges were Anne Fleming and Yusuf Saadi. The SWG is grateful to the City of Regina for their continued sponsorship of this \$4,500 award and reception.



City of Regina Writing Award. l-r: Her Worship Regina Mayor Sandra Masters, Chelsea Coupal, Kelly Jo Burke, and Timothy Blackett. Photo Credit, SWG.



John V. Hicks Long Manuscript Awards in Fiction

The John V. Hicks Award in Fiction was celebrated at the SWG Conference on Oct 22.

The first-place winner was Karin Melberg Schwier for *Inheriting Violet*, second place was Kate O’Gorman for *May I Myself Be Not Lost and Other Stories* and third place was Byrna Barclay for *Everything is Under Control: Birdy & Jock-o Short Stories*. Winners were awarded \$1,000, \$650, and \$350 respectively. Selections were made by jurors Kevin Hardcastle and Kagiso Lesego Molope.

Photo l-r: Karin Melberg Schwier, Kagiso Lesego Molope, Kate O’Gorman, and Lisa Bird-Wilson. Photo Credit, SWG.



Missing from photo is Byrna Barclay who unfortunately left us in May 2023.

Publications

Windscrip

Windscrip features the best in Saskatchewan high school writing. This year's magazine was edited by Jaclyn Morken (Managing and Prose Editor) and Dash Reimer (Poetry Editor).



The following youth were selected as magazine contributors, and many read their work at the launch: Paris Belisle, Kierah Boison, Emma A. Elliot, Ava Farkas, Hargun Kaur, Daria Krol, Felix Liu, Megan Mineau, Grace Murphy, Simran Ramkalawan, Nevin Runnalls, Obii Udemgba, Vaishu Venkata, Stevie Weisergerber, Allister White, Callisto Wieler, and Amy Zhang.

Congratulations to our *Windscrip* award winners and honourable mentions:

Jerrett Ens Award for Poetry

Winner: "Tongue" by Daria Krol

Honourable Mention: "Fantasia for a Fallen Fish" by Amy Zhang

Jerrett Ens Award for Prose

Winner: "Maps" by Felix Liu

Honourable Mention: "Petrichor" by Hargun Kaur

Currie-Hyland Award for Poetry

Winner: "Ripe" by Nevin Runnalls

Honourable Mention: "The Thaw" by Allister White

A digital copy of *Windscrip* is available year-round to the general public on our website (skwriter.com) for free. SWG members receive a digital copy of *Windscrip* as part of their membership. Every high school and public library in Saskatchewan receives a printed issue of *Windscrip* magazine in the fall.

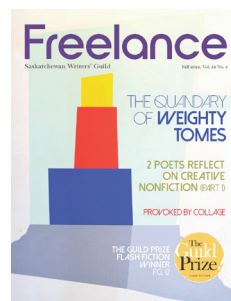
Ebriefs

A weekly newsletter to SWG members, *Ebriefs* provides information on SWG events and announcements, member and industry news, and professional development opportunities. From August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023 the SWG distributed 51 *Ebriefs* to an average of 600 people each issue.

Freelance

Freelance magazine strives 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 24 contributors and the artwork of four Saskatchewan artists.

In addition, *Freelance* featured the works of the first two winners of the Guild Prize (flash fiction Fall 2022 and poetry Spring 2023). *Freelance* is mailed and emailed to members based on their preference and is available for purchase by contacting the SWG office.



Grain

Grain, the journal of eclectic writing, is now in its 51st year - and what a year it's been!

In addition to the four regular issues in Volume 50, we produced a deluxe, full-colour 132-page issue to celebrate 50 years of publishing exceptional writing and art. Aptly titled "Celebration," the issue was released in September, 2023, prior to launches in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert and included the work of 43 writers and artwork by Claire Desjardins. We thank the Canada Periodical Fund for supporting this issue.

In addition to the anniversary issue, Volume 50 consisted of four regular issues, publishing 96 writers and 119 pieces, plus six Short *Grain* winners and five winners in the inaugural Hybrid *Grain* Contest. The volume featured the work of visual artists Jaynie Himsl (50.1), Cee PootooGook (50.2), Paul Dutton (50.3), and Maryline LeMaitre (50.4). In 2022-23, *Grain* had an average of 426 subscribers per issue, up slightly from last year and single-issue sales of 117, also up from last year. General submissions also rose to 3046 from 2950 (1409 poetry, 1289 fiction, 349 nonfiction), with 388 from Saskatchewan.

Judges for the 35th Annual Short *Grain* Contest were Daniel Scott Tysdal (poetry) and Leona Theis (fiction). Judges for the Kloppenburg Hybrid Grain contest were Steven Ross Smith and Liz Howard. For Short *Grain*, 81 people submitted 116 fiction pieces and 86 people submitted 155 poetry pieces. The Hybrid *Grain* contest had 109 submissions from 77 writers.

Grain's editorial team includes Kate O'Gorman (prose), Brenda Schmidt (poetry), and Delane Just (proofreader). Shirley Fehr continues to provide design and layout for the magazine. Thank you all for your excellent work.

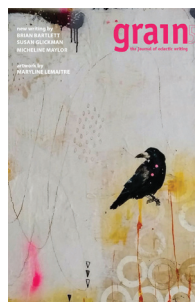
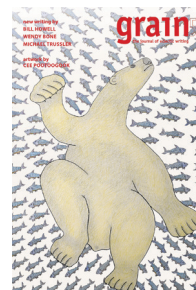
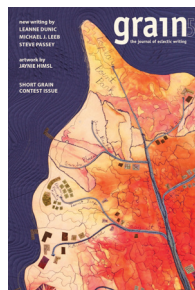
With the help of SWG staff Tea Gerbeza, Andrea MacLeod, and Shirley Fehr, the social media team meets monthly to discuss content, such as adding the popular feature Contributor's Spotlights. In addition, *Grain's* new website went live in November, with improved navigation and a design that incorporates graphics from the magazine's history.

We are grateful to the Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Foundation for the ongoing support of the Short *Grain* Contest and for funding the new Hybrid *Grain* Contest, which opened in August 2022.

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

Mari-Lou Rowley

Editor, *Grain*



Audit Committee Report

2022-2023

The audit committee meets online quarterly with the Executive Director and Finance Manager to review financial results compared to budget. Meeting minutes are submitted to the board.

Both the ED and finance manager are attentive to internal controls around financial reporting and closely monitor finances and budget. While we tragically and suddenly lost a valuable staff member, SWG is fortunate to have found a knowledgeable replacement willing to learn and to have a dedicated ED who pulled the organization through a difficult transition.

The audit partner met with the committee, ED, and finance manager to review draft audited financial statements to July 31, 2023. There were no significant audit findings.

- The audit qualification due to sponsorship and donation revenue is standard for most charities and the audit qualification on sponsorship may be removed in future with verification controls being put in place.
- Grant revenue is stable. Self-generated revenue has increased as GIC interest revenue has significantly increased. Operational expenses have increased 7% over the prior year and total expenses only 1.4%. Net revenue increased 2.4% before amortization and donation to the SWG Foundation.
- Net income from operations is positive and the net loss overall is substantially due to a donation to the related SWG Foundation.
- Cash used in operations was mainly due to using up grants received in the prior year which were designated for current year expenses.
- There were more audit adjustments than in the previous year but all reconciliations were appropriate to a learning curve due to staff transition.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Johnson, B.A., CPA, CMA
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, 2023, the summary statement of operations and changes in net assets and the summary statement of grain operations for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc. for the year ended July 31, 2023. We expressed a qualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated September 19, 2023.

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 19, 2023. The basis for our qualified audit opinion was on the completeness of donation, fundraising 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 19, 2023

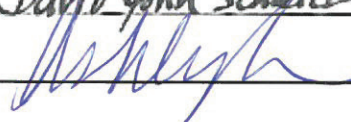
Saskatchewan Writers' Guild Inc.
Summary Financial Statements

Summary Statement of Financial Position

As of July 31	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current assets	\$ 751,647	\$ 818,155
Capital assets and art work	32,982	34,110
	\$ 784,629	\$ 852,265
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities	\$ 20,902	\$ 39,801
Current deferred revenue	417,980	457,083
Due to related parties	6,285	-
Net Assets	339,462	355,381
	\$ 784,629	\$ 852,265

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	2023		2022
REVENUES			
Grant	\$	795,640	\$ 795,935
Self-generated		111,782	94,335
Donations and sponsorships		34,449	41,068
Grain <i>(Schedule 1)</i>		72,654	58,053
Fundraising		1,102	2,748
Government subsidies		-	23,707
		1,015,627	1,015,846
EXPENSES			
Artists' fees		179,692	185,546
Program delivery		99,727	101,323
Grain <i>(Schedule 1)</i>		131,586	104,711
Operational and amortization expenses		174,015	161,892
Salaries and benefits		436,237	451,196
Fundraising		289	1,059
Donation to SWG Foundation Inc.		10,000	8,373
		1,031,546	1,014,100
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES)	\$	(15,919)	\$ 1,746
Net assets - beginning of year		355,381	353,635
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$	339,462	\$ 355,381

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 Grain Operations		<i>(Schedule 1)</i>	
Year Ended July 31	2023	2022	
REVENUES			
Grant	\$ 50,151	\$ 37,000	
Donations and sponsorships	5,250	2,600	
Publications revenue	17,253	18,453	
	72,654	58,053	
EXPENSES			
Artists' fees	81,759	65,737	
Publishing and distribution	21,623	20,231	
Office, meetings and travel	892	1,713	
Amortization of intangible assets	2,300	2,563	
Salaries and benefits	25,012	14,467	
	131,586	104,711	
EXCESS OF REVENUES (EXPENSES) FROM GRAIN OPERATIONS	\$ (58,932)	\$ (46,658)	

This schedule reports the revenues and expenses of publishing the quarterly Grain magazine. 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 2022-August 2023)

President

David J. Schleich

Vice President

Margot Johnson

Past President

Ashley Martin

Andrew Christoffel

Miguel Fenrich

Monica Johnson

Daryl Sexsmith

Board Committees & Liaisons

Audit Committee

Monica Johnson-Chair

Jeanette Montgomery

Ilonka Halsband (ended Nov. 2022)

Paula Jane Remlinger (ended Nov. 2022)

David J. Schleich

Ray Martineau

Sara Gartshore

HR Committee

Heather Getz

Margot Johnson

Ashley Martin

Governance Policy Committee

Ashley Martin Co-Chair

Margot Johnson Co-Chair

Andrea Martineau

Andrew Christoffel

Miguel Fenrich

Daryl Sexsmith

Nominations Committee

Ashley Martin

SWG Foundation

David J. Schleich Chair

Ashley Martin

Daryl Sexsmith

Grain Advisory Committee

John Barton

David J. Schleich

Jeanette Montgomery

John Agnew

Miguel Fenrich

Programming Volunteers

Writing North Committee

Sheri Benning

Jeanette Lynes

SWG Conference

Ashley Martin

Monica Johnson

Andrea Martineau

David J. Schleich

Jack Walton

2022-2023 SWG Staff

Executive Director - Tracy Hamon

Executive Assistant - Andrea MacLeod

Program Manager - Yolanda Hansen

Program Coordinator - Cat Abenstein

Indigenous Program Coordinator - Debbie Sunchild-Petersen

Program Assistant - Tea Gerbeza

Publications Coordinator - Shirley Fehr

Financial Manager/Accountant - Jacqueline Fry (ended Dec. 2022)
- Ashwina Parmar (started Mar. 2023)

Grain

Editor - Mari-Lou Rowley

Prose Editor - Kate O’Gorman

Poetry Editor - Brenda Schmidt

Fundraising

AlphaBets - Raised \$795

Proceeds from this fundraising campaign went to our bursary and scholarships to help deserving emerging writers participate in one of our writers' retreats. Funding also went towards the Indigenous Programming that the SWG offers. This includes Tānsi Talks Series, mentorship program, workshops, and storyteller month, among others.

Virtual Silent Auction During Annual Conference - Raised \$965

Proceeds from this silent auction directly benefitted SWG operations

Grow it Forward Scholarship Drive - Raised \$750

Proceeds from this fundraising drive benefitted our four scholarships: The Anne Campbell Memorial Scholarship; John V. Hicks Scholarship; Doris Hillis Scholarship; and Judy McCrosky Bursary. Contributions directly impact the lives of talented writers and help create a vibrant literary community in Saskatchewan.

Donors

Patron (\$500 and over)

- Anthony Bidulka
- Felicia Daunt
- John & Jennifer Wallace
- RBC Foundation in support of Youth Poet Laureate

Benefactors (\$200-\$499)

- Doug Cameron
- Robert Currie
- Lyn Goldman
- Yann Martel
- Suzanne McNabb
- David Richards
- David Schleich
- Glen Soestad

Supporters (\$100-\$199)

- Anonymous
- David Bellerive
- Alice Kuipers
- Linda Mikolayenko
- Lynda Monahan
- William Robertson
- Karin Melberg Schwier
- Marie Elyse St. George

- Kathleen Wall
- Charlie Thomas

Friends (\$50-\$99)

- Gloria Boerma
- Rita Bouvier
- Helen Chang
- Gail Chin
- Chelsea Coupal
- Kate Finegan
- Gillian Harding-Russell
- Carol Kavanagh
- Richard Kotowich
- Danica Lorier
- Steven Ross Smith
- Jayne Whyte

Contributors (up to \$49)

- Bhoomika Dongol
- Thomas Eastman
- Janet Hainstock
- Fran Henderson
- Allison Kydd
- Trina Markusson
- Wynne Nicholson

- Karen Nye
- Roxanne Williams
- Rose Willow

Retreats

- Anne Lazurko
- Judy McCrosky

Author Readings Program

- Fran Eldridge
- Susan Harris
- Jennie Hunter
- Trina Markusson
- Tony Peter
- Joan Soggie
- Jena Wagman

Grain

- Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Foundation
- Lorna Klose

Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence

- Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Foundation

In Memory of Byrna Barclay

- Robert & Marilyn Blair
- Harold H. MacKay
- Maurice Herauf
- Charlie Thomas

SWG Foundation Funds

Patricia Armstrong Fund

- Katherine Lawrence
- Peggy Worrell

Andrew Suknaski Fund

- Kenneth Wilson

Doris Hillis Scholarship

- Helen Chang
- Chelsea Coupal
- Tanisha Khan
- Mary-Anne Parker

Judy McCrosky Bursary

- Mary-Anne Parker

John V. Hicks Scholarship

- dee Hobsbawn-Smith

Anne Campbell Memorial Scholarship

- Tanisha Khan
- Richard & Barbara King
- Brian & Darcy Moynes
- Elizabeth Phillips
- Madeline Sheridan
- Bela Szabados
- Rose Willow

SWG Operational Funders



SWG Partners & Sponsors





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