

Society PAGES

SPRING 2022 | No. 72 | \$5.00



morrin

The Morrin Centre is managed by
the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec.
Its mission is to share and foster
English-language culture in the Quebec City region.



Society Pages is published quarterly
with the assistance of Canada Post.



Support heritage programming
in Quebec. In English.



Many of his studies were devoted to understanding the nesting and mating behaviour of birds.



Join QAHN!
qahn.org/join-qahn



The Quebec Family History Society

*They say you don't know where you're going
until you know where you've been.
Isn't it about time you knew?*



Access to Ancestry
Access to FamilySearch
Access Drouin Institute
Numerous Magazines
Lectures and Seminars
Experienced Researchers
Extensive Book Collection
Historical Society Periodicals
Receive our magazine Connections
Receive our eNewsletter Connected

Helping people find their
ancestors since 1977, The Quebec
Family History Society is ready to
help you on your journey to the
past. Come explore our website to
see all the benefits membership
has in store for you. www.qfhs.ca

153 rue Sainte Anne, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Québec, H9X 1M5
Phone: (514) 695-1502 E-Mail: qfhs@bellnet.ca



SOCIETY PAGES EDITOR

Kathleen Hulley

kathleenhulley@morrin.org

LAYOUT

Jeanne Lebossé-Gautron

COPYEDITING

Hoffman Wolff

PUBLISHER

Literary & Historical Society of Quebec

44 Chaussée des Écossais

Quebec City, Quebec G1R 4H3

ISSN 1913-0732

LHSQ COUNCIL

Gina Farnell, President

Ladd Johnson, Vice President

Neil Williams, Treasurer

Susan Saul, Secretary

Donald Fyson, Honorary Librarian

Jean-David Banville, Member at large

Jacob Stone, Member at large

Peter Black

Sarah Blair

Jennifer Hobbs-Robert

James Hughes

Grant Regalbuto

Cheryl Rimmer

Julie Rochon

MORRIN CENTRE

Barry McCullough

Executive Director

Hoffman Wolff

Assistant Executive Director

Claude Blaney

Building Caretaker

Cynthia Bureau

Rentals Coordinator

Gail Cameron

Accounting and Financial Clerk

Antoine Dumont

Education Coordinator

Géraldine Franchomme

Museum & Exhibits Coordinator

Olga Grytsai

Accounting and Financial Clerk

Kathleen Hulley

Head of Library & Collections

Stefanie Johnston

Guided Tours Coordinator

Jeanne Lebossé-Gautron

Events Coordinator

GENERAL INQUIRIES

info@morrin.org

418-694-9147

LIBRARY HOURS

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Monday | closed |
| Tuesday | closed |
| Wednesday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Thursday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Friday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Saturday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Sunday | 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. |

morrin.org

Spring 2022 Contents

- 2 Letter from the President
From the Executive Director
- 3 **Transactions**
Albert Grey's Power Luncheon | by Jack Bryden | 3-9
- 10 **Library Pages**
New Acquisitions | 10-11
Reading Suggestions for Babies | 12
Reading Suggestions for Young Children | 13
- 14 **Imagination 2022**
Imagination Program | 14-18
Imagination in Schools | 19
- 20 **Library Pages, continued**
Review: *Operation Angus* | by Hoffman Wolff | 20
Review: *Em* | by Aiden Roberts | 21
Review: *Permanent Astonishment* | by Britta Gundersen-Bryden | 21-22
Review: *On the Trampoline* | by Antoine Dumont | 22
Review: *A Lethal Lesson* | by Rosemarie Fisher | 22-23
- 24 **Events & Activities**
Upcoming Events | 24-25
Library Tablets | 26
Pixels & Pages | 26
- 27 **Miscellanea**
Meet our New Interim Rentals Coordinator | by Cynthia Bureau | 27

Letter from the President

Gina Farnell



“The man of forty years, if he has any understanding at all, has seen all that has been and that will be by reason of its uniformity.”

—Marcus Aurelius, 161–180 AD

According to Marcus Aurelius, it seems that every generation would experience all there is to experience in a lifetime. Every human being would go through wars, pandemics, natural disasters. Did Marcus Aurelius believe that mankind would learn by living the same experiences from one generation to the next? Or did he think that by experiencing the same life-lessons we would better understand our predecessors and prepare our successors? His thoughts relayed a sense of justice: all generations would undergo the same struggles. Could Marcus Aurelius’ words be summed up in the live and learn phrase? We often hear how history repeats itself. In light of the turbulent times we are currently living in, I am sure many LHSQ members see the truth in that saying.

As a learned society, the LHSQ strives to broaden all its members’ horizons without prejudice to age, gender, nationality, or walk of life. Whether it be through reading, taking part in conferences, or listening to distinguished guest speakers, we develop our critical thinking. Information is power. May we all realize how privileged we are to have access to a wealth of information. May we have the wisdom to discern the correct from the misleading. May we also appreciate the freedom we have to develop our creativity. Finally, may we make good use of these privileges and freedoms to pursue our personal development, to develop our community in the broadest sense, and to empower generations to come.

On a lighter note, I invite you to keep informed of your Morrin Centre’s upcoming events and activities. An interesting series debuted in March, *In These Spaces*, and the Imagination Writers’ Festival is coming up in April. And even if we expect normal access to our beautiful library soon, remember that e-books will still be available. For those who love to share their thoughts after reading a good book or need a little push to keep up their reading, join *Pixels & Pages*, the Morrin Centre’s online book club.



From the Executive Director

Barry McCullough

Spring is on the horizon and with it always comes the Imagination Writers’ Festival. This year, I am thrilled that we will host our first in-person festival since 2019 and that it will feature over two-dozen writers from across Canada. While things will look a little different than in previous years, our goal is to get back to the same ambiance that has brought festivalgoers back year after year. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Our virtual programming has continued through the winter with event series covering history, storytelling, and more. We have more exciting events planned for the spring and summer, for which we are currently working out the details. Stay tuned to our newsletter, website, and social media for updates on the latest goings-on at the Morrin Centre.

As we move to a new stage in the pandemic with many health and safety mandates ending/changing, we also plan to open things up slowly, which will include a shift from online to in-person programming. Two of our key services—library operations and guided tours—have been operating in a restricted manner since January. We are still considering options to make this a smooth and steady transition back to a certain degree of normalcy.

On behalf of the whole Morrin Centre team, I thank you for your patience and support over the past two years. We are all very excited to get back to what we do best, which is welcoming people to our historic spaces for the many types of activities and services carried out within them.

The Pressure of an Empire: Albert Grey's Power Luncheon, Quebec, July 24, 1908

By Jack Bryden

The unveiling of the Boer War statue in 1905 within the walls of old Quebec was one of the first ceremonial acts for Canada's new Governor General, Albert Grey. For someone who had recently lived and worked with Cecil Rhodes in Southern Africa, it must have been a special moment for Grey. Twenty thousand spectators were present. Below the fortress city, a squadron of British warships had anchored, bringing Prince Louis of Battenberg to the ceremony. (The German name Battenberg would be changed to Mountbatten in the not distant future.) Shortly after three in the afternoon, Grey spoke to the large crowd, recorded by a reporter from the *Montreal Gazette*:

*The presence of the cruiser squadron of the Atlantic fleet further reminds us of the great and beneficent power, which in the shape of His Majesty's navy enables every Canadian to enjoy the high privileges and advantages attached to the British citizenship in every portion of the world [...] no Canadian, either French or English, has fulfilled his duty to the Empire until he has made himself capable of responding effectively to the call of the Crown.*¹

The unveiling ceremonies were followed by a garden party at the Garrison Club, located at the foot of Quebec's Citadel and just a two-minute walk from the new Boer War statue of a British soldier.

Three years later, Grey arranged a grander celebration of the British Empire, held in 1908 on the 300th anniversary of the founding of the city. There were many parties and balls during the 1908 celebration and, as in 1905, the Garrison Club hosted an event. The mayor of Quebec was the host, but it was Lord Grey's luncheon. The guest list and the seating plan

were probably determined by the Governor General. Only 130 men were invited, most of them promoters of the British Empire and of naval power. Forty-five percent were from Britain or the United States, forty



Boer War Memorial, Quebec City (2008).²

Source: Fishhead64, Creative Commons

percent were English Canadians, and only fifteen percent were French-Canadian, including the Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.³ Laurier was not seated at the head table, where Grey, the Prince of Wales, and the Vice President of the United States

¹ *Montreal Gazette*, August 16, 1905, 6.

² The memorial was possibly built on stones salvaged from the Martello Tower dismantled in 1905 near the present-day Grand Théâtre de Québec.

³ H.V. Nelles, *The Art of Nation-Building: Pageantry and Spectacle at Quebec's Tercentenary* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1999).

| Transactions

were located. There were four other large dinner parties during the week-long tercentenary, but the guest percentages were the same.

Sometimes a luncheon is an excuse to eat and nothing more. Perhaps all 130 men attended the tercentenary to simply celebrate the history of Canada and its people. But why did the anniversary of Quebec City, founded by Champlain 300 years before, require so many warships of the British fleet? The primary purpose of Lord Grey's 1908 luncheon, the warships in the St. Lawrence, and even perhaps Grey's understanding of the tercentenary itself may all have been to dazzle French and English Canadians with the power of the British Empire and to encourage Canadians to subsidize warships for the growing fleet. Under similar pressure in 1909, Australia ordered the construction of a new battlecruiser: *His Majesty's Australian Ship (HMAS)*.

At the time, Germany was striving to attain naval supremacy over Britain in the North Atlantic. The German fleet was expanding quickly and would soon consist of 41 battleships, 20 large cruisers, 40 small cruisers, 144 torpedo boats, and 72 submarines.⁴ It was British defence policy that the Imperial Navy be stronger than the combined forces of any other two powers, but this was becoming difficult for Britain to do without help. Germany anticipated that Britain would not have the

budget to build such a huge navy, and even if it did, much of the British fleet would be scattered around the world defending the Empire. To counter this, Britain began to transfer warships from the Pacific to the North Atlantic. Britain had signed a defensive naval agreement with Japan to protect its interests in the Pacific and was also prodding Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa to pay for warships to defend themselves and Britain.



Albert Grey, 4th Earl Grey, Governor General of Canada, 1904-1911.

The Governor General of Canada received two residences: one in Ottawa and one in the Citadel of Quebec City. In 1905, Grey left Ottawa to take up residence in the Quebec Citadel, and he soon was enamoured with what he found.

In June that year, after walking above the St. Lawrence where the British fleet had anchored in 1759, he wrote a gushing letter of a "besotted tourist" to Laurier. "*The beauties & Potentialities of Quebec continue to grow upon me & I am becoming tres [sic] Quebecois!*" He had fallen in love with the city and its history.⁵

Albert Grey was both an avid imperialist and a dreamer. Grey had spent several years with Cecil Rhodes in Rhodesia and South Africa. For the rest of his life, he was impressed with Rhodes's remarkably big dreams of British power straddling the earth. While he was Governor General, Grey continuously pushed Canadians to share in this imperial dream.

⁴ Robert J. Blyth, Andrew Lambert, and Jan R ger, eds., *The Dreadnought and the Edwardian Age* (Farnham, Surrey and Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2011), 81.

⁵ Nelles, *The Art of Nation-Building*, 64.

Quebec's Boer War statue echoes Grey's speech and praises the Empire.

Grey's primary goal for the tercentenary probably wasn't to build a Canadian sense of Nation or to enhance relations between French and English Canadians or to even to inform Canadians of the magnitude of their history. For Grey, the tercentenary was probably about the expensive array of powerful British warships lying below Quebec City, impressing the crowds with mock battles during the day and electric searchlights lighting the summer nights.

By the turn of the 20th century, everybody from the German Kaiser to the British Admiralty, and to U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt to the Japanese were influenced by the American naval historian Alfred Thayer Mahan. Mahan preached that empire was power and a strong navy was necessary to defend and expand an empire. Canadians who supported the idea of Canada contributing to the British Navy made "admiring allusions to the doctrines of Mahan."⁶

The Canadian edition of the British Navy League insisted that Canada's fate and survival depended on the strength of the British Navy and that Canada should play a larger role in maintaining an imperial fleet. Members of the League included Sanford

Fleming, Charles Hibbert Tupper of Vancouver, and Senator Sir George A. Drummond of Montreal. Lt. Col. William Wood, the secretary for the Navy League in Quebec and past President of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, was seated at Lord Grey's luncheon as well.

Grey did not hide that he was pressuring Canadians and the Laurier government to start contributing to the Imperial fleet. In Halifax, Grey suggested that Britain had carried the load to defend the Empire up to this point but that it was necessary for Canada to assist. He told the crowd of Haligonians that they should recognize that if the Empire was to be

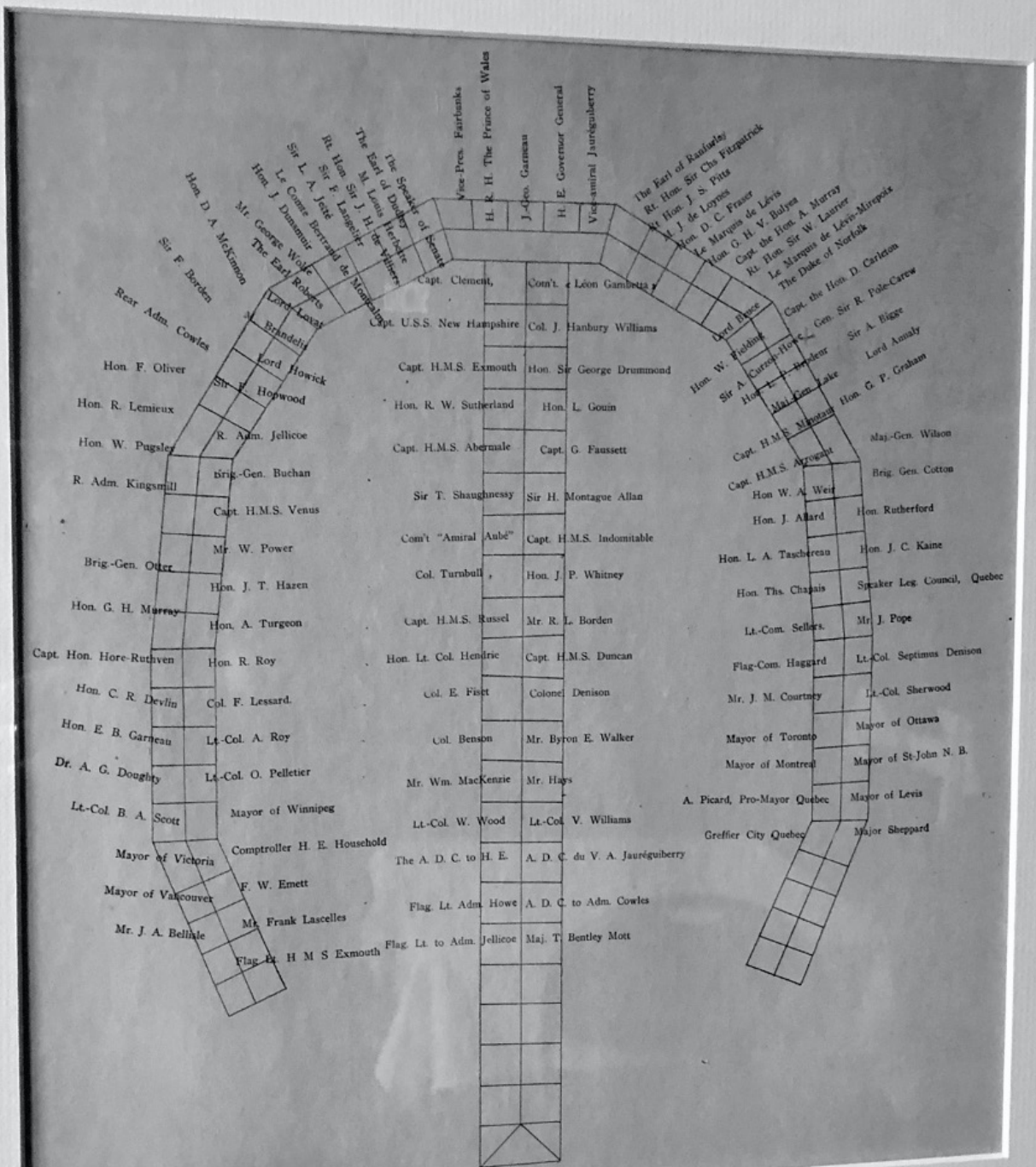
defended from countries like Germany, a complete command of the sea was necessary. He stated that the British government recognized that Canada needed to build infrastructure, but soon it would be necessary



"The Rhodes Colossus," by Edward Linley Sambourne

Source: *Punch Magazine* (1892).

⁶ Carl Berger, *The Sense of Power: Studies in the Ideas of Canadian Imperialism, 1867-1914* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013), 235.



Seating Plan of a dinner given at the Quebec Garrison Club by Sir George Hamson, mayor of Quebec and first Chairman of the Battlefields Park Commission to King George V as Prince of Wales on July 24 1908 during the Tercentenary Celebrations, Quebec.

Head Table: Lord Grey's Luncheon, July 24, 1908.

Source: Courtesy of the Quebec Garrison Club.

for Canadians to take up their share of the common Imperial burden. He suggested that Canadians were facing three choices: absorption by the United States; a weak and impotent isolation; or a recognized position in a Pan-Britannic Federation. He tried to entice the crowd by suggesting that Canada might someday lead such a Federation within the British Empire.⁷

An earlier Governor General, Lord Minto, had also waded into Canadian politics. He strongly encouraged Canada to contribute to the war in South Africa. Minto considered himself to have an imperial mandate to rule and that Canadians should listen to his directives. Prime Minister Laurier had to push back several times and remind the Governor General that Canada was a self-governing country.⁸ By 1908, Laurier had Minto's enthusiastic brother-in-law, Albert Grey, to deal with: a new Governor General with big dreams and an imperial vision of Canada, attractive to some Canadians and highly objectionable to others.

Grey often used his speeches to push Canada to support the Empire, often followed by a partial retraction. In Halifax, he is quoted as saying: *"I would not have you think, gentlemen, that I am one of those who hold that Canada is not contributing to the strength of the Empire because she does not at present contribute to the fleet. You are doing a great work in making Canada the halfway house of Empire, and in straining every nerve by means of your transcontinental railways to shorten the transit between the Orient and England."*⁹

This was followed soon after with a speech that should be noted in Canadian history as an outstanding example of political double-talk: *"I understand a portion of the press have described my speech to the Canadian Club at Halifax as an impassioned appeal to Canada [to provide] an immediate contribution to the Imperial fleet. That is not a correct description of my*

*speech. I never suggested that Canada should be asked to make an immediate contribution. It is true that I pointed out that [...] the safety of your trade depended on the British Empire retaining its command of the seas. It is also true that I pointed out that the whole cost of the Imperial Fleet—the safeguard of your national liberties and of your opportunities of self-development—is met by the taxpayers of the United Kingdom alone, who also have to bear the whole of the heavy burden of the debt contracted in the making of the empire. It is also true that the people of the United Kingdom who carry [...] this double burden are comparatively a small population [compared to Germany and the United States] [...]. It is obviously impossible for this comparatively small people to provide forever, single-handed and without your aid, the naval defence on which the maintenance of your liberties and the safety of your trade depend. It is true that I pointed out all this, but is not true that I ever suggested that the time had come for Canada to take up her share of the Imperial burden of Naval defence, which she will have to take up someday if we are to remain an Empire. [...] Without the support and strength which Canada enjoys as a portion of the British Empire, she would soon lose her national existence."*¹⁰

Soon after this speech, the *Ottawa Journal* pointed out that Earl Grey may have broken some, or all, of the rules with this speech. But what did it matter?

*"We could give the motherland a battleship every two or three years and never miss the money."*¹¹ Grey's reference to the size and power of the United States in his speech is tricky. He played on Canadian fears of the US military behemoth to the south and may have been suggesting that Canada needed a strong British Navy to protect it from the Americans. If Grey couldn't get Canadians anxious enough about the arms race with Germany to support the British Navy, there was always Canada's paranoia about invasion from the south.

⁷ Government of Canada, *Addresses to His Excellency Earl Grey, G.C.M.G., etc. Governor General of Canada, and his Speeches in Reply Having Relation to the Resources and Progress of the Dominion* (Ottawa: S.E. Dawson, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1908), 150.

⁸ J.W. Dafoe, *Laurier: A Study in Canadian Politics* (Toronto: Macmillan, 1963), 78.

⁹ Government of Canada, *Addresses to His Excellency Earl Grey*, 150.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 165–66.

¹¹ *Ottawa Journal*, August 12, 1907, 4.

Stephen Leacock's writings epitomized that fear. In 1909, he wrote that the Monroe Doctrine had been altered to mean that the Americans could claim as much of world that they could afford to buy. According to historian Carl Berger, Leacock felt that "it was a dangerous illusion to expect that the United States would suspend the simple calculus of national self-interest whenever she dealt with Canada."¹²

Grey would use different pitches depending on where he was. In Toronto, he tried to overcome a perceived sense of insecurity and fear of America. He tried to convince them that Canada was destined to be a greater economic power than the United States. "*You own a country greater in area than the United States. [...] You enjoy a climate which produces more vigorous [...] men. [...] I do not hesitate to say, therefore, that if you do [not lead the] United States, it will be entirely your own fault.*"¹³

However, Britain did not want to antagonize the United States with its rapidly growing navy. In New York, Grey endeavored to convince Americans that they should trust both the British and Canadians. "*Let me quote you one more instance to show that, although Canada and the United States are ruled by different constitutions, the beat which proceeds from the one great Anglo-Saxon heart common to us both, makes itself felt in all our veins.*"¹⁴

Supporters of the British Empire hoped that the grand celebration of military power in Quebec would attract western Canadians as well. While many in Ontario feared the United States, many in the Canadian west were attracted by it. With the headline "Americanization of Canada," the Vancouver newspaper *The Province* stated that, "*the Canadian west is becoming daily more Americanized [...]. A referendum would not declare in favor of the British flag*

but of the Star and Stripes."¹⁵ Vancouver and Victoria, two cities with many business ties to interests south of the border, shared strong anti-Japanese sentiments with California, Oregon, and Washington State, which made Britain uncomfortable. The mayors of both of British Columbia's west coast cities as well as British Columbia's Lieutenant Governor were present at Lord Grey's luncheon at the Garrison Club in Quebec. Australia's new British-born Governor General was also present. Remember, Britain needed Japan's strong navy as an ally in the Pacific. However, at that time, most British Columbians (and Australians) of European descent were strongly anti-Asian. At Vancouver's Canadian Club, Grey, worried that British Columbians would offend Britain's new Japanese naval ally, tried to convince them that British Columbia's future prosperity was tied to Asia and, in particular, Japan. "*If there is any part of the world which should be able to take profitable advantage of the increasing foreign trade of China and Japan, that part would appear to be British Columbia, both from the quality of its climate and its land, and from its comparative proximity to Japan.*"¹⁶

The Quebec Tercentenary itself was designed to impress both English- and French-speaking Canadians. At the dramatic conclusion of the grand pageant on the Plains of Abraham, descendants of Wolfe and Montcalm lead two armies of re-enactors dressed in French and English military costumes of 1759. Side by side, the two armies saluted the Prince of Wales in the Royal reviewing stand. The pageant did not re-enact Wolfe's defeat of Montcalm or Lévis' defeat of Murray. As historian H.V. Nelles effectively shows, the huge pageant with its cast of thousands backed by British warships below was not about conflict or defeat, "but rather French-Canadian fidelity to British rule."¹⁷

¹² Berger, *The Sense of Power: Studies in the Ideas of Canadian Imperialism*, 170.

¹³ Government of Canada, *Addresses to His Excellency Earl Grey*, 37.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 104.

¹⁵ *Province*, May 11, 1904, 4.

¹⁶ Government of Canada, *Addresses to His Excellency Earl Grey*, 133.

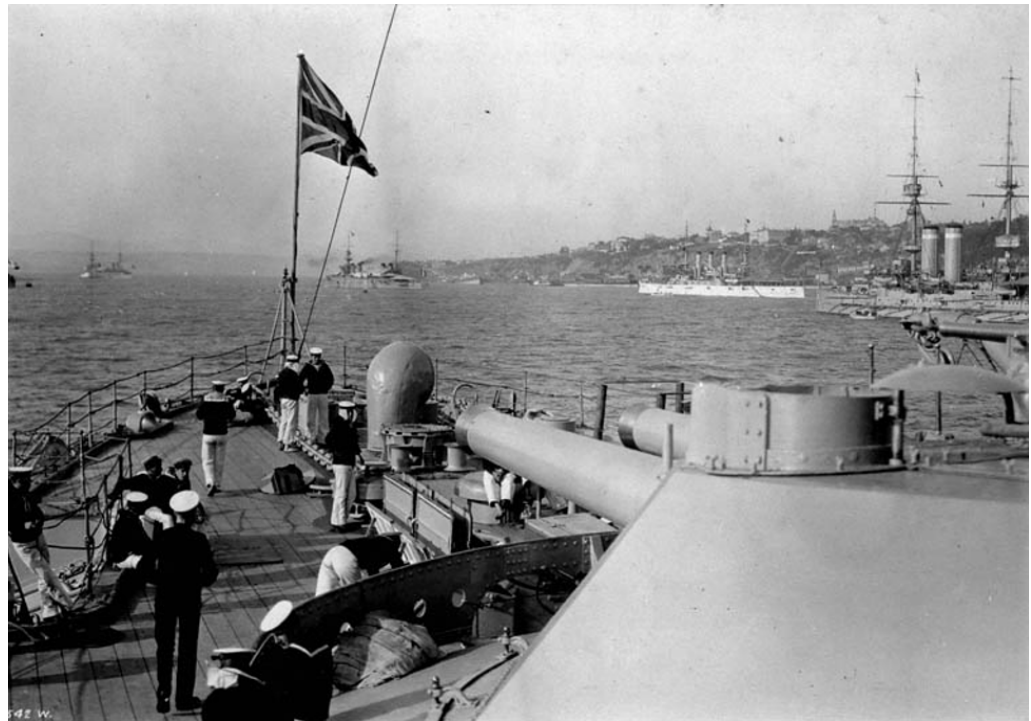
¹⁷ Nelles, *The Art of Nation-Building*, 27.

Quebec was an ongoing problem for the Governor General. Grey suggested that French Canadians showed little interest in the British Empire because they were ignorant of their role in the Imperial scheme of things. French Quebecers' disinterest in the concept of empire and anti-British speeches by the likes of Henri Bourassa weakened Canadian politicians' will to provide financial support for warships.

Grey was convinced that love and support for the Empire could be grown. It was just a question of messaging. He suggested, "*the more French Canadians*

as Rhodes scholars the better."¹⁸ Perhaps Grey thought that cultivating future support for the Empire among Quebecers would give Laurier the mandate to have Canada contribute to the British naval arms race with Germany. Supporters of the Imperial dream often used the quote attributed to Sir Étienne Taché: "*that the last shot fired in defence of the British Empire in North America would be fired by a French Canadian.*"¹⁹ The fact that Taché wasn't talking about Germany but about the United States was overlooked.

The *Edmonton Bulletin* reported that Grey worked "*tirelessly to strengthen the Country's Sense of Imperial Responsibility [...] When Lord Grey came to Canada, there was little feeling in the minds of the people of their Imperial Responsibility [...] which had] already begun to manifest itself by certain motions towards the pocket.*"²⁰



Quebec Tercentenary, Big guns on "H.M.S. Russell," by John Woodruff (1908)

Source: Library and Archives Canada, MIKAN-3361845

On July 30, 1908, Albert Grey's tercentenary celebrations came to end. The warships left Quebec City silently in the morning at 3 a.m. A reporter noted that not a sound indicated the departure of the British fleet: "*Glory has departed [...]. Not even a bugle call broke the calm of the harbor. [...] Shortly after the Indomitable had steamed away the American battleship, the New Hampshire, swung around and then sailed away as quietly as the British fleet.*"²¹ Six years later, Quebec City and the neighbouring village of Valcartier would be filled with tens of thousands of young Canadians waiting to be shipped to Europe to fight for the British Empire. Those who were lucky enough to survive would never see Canada the same way again. ■

¹⁸ Cited in Berger, *The Sense of Power: Studies in the Ideas of Canadian Imperialism*, 214.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 139.

²⁰ *Edmonton Daily Bulletin*, August 3, 1910, 5.

²¹ *Montreal Gazette*, July 30, 1908, 1.

| Library Pages

New Aquisitions

Here are some of the new titles in the Library's collection.

Books with an * are also available on OverDrive.



Leave the World Behind

Rumaan Alam
Fiction
A318 2020



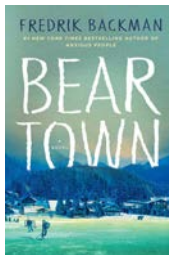
Wish You Were Here

Jodi Picoult
Fiction
P599 2021



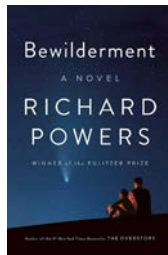
The Day the World Stops Shopping

J.B. MacKinnon
Non-Fiction
640.73 M158



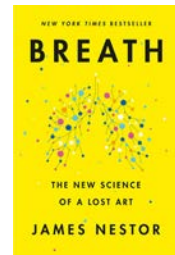
Beartown

Fredrik Backman
Fiction
B126 2017



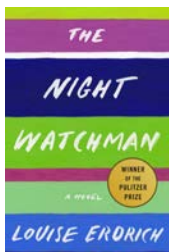
Bewilderment *

Richard Powers
Fiction
P888 2021



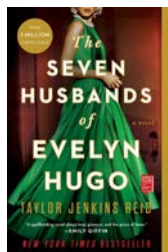
Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art

James Nestor
Non-Fiction
613.192 N468



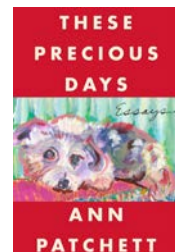
The Night Watchman *

Louise Erdrich
Fiction
E66 2020



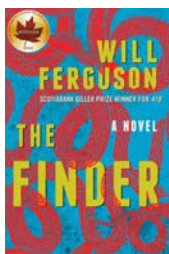
The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

Taylor Jenkins Reid
Fiction
R358 2017



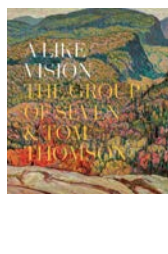
These Precious Days *

Ann Patchett
Non-Fiction
814.54 P294



The Finder

Will Ferguson
Fiction
F353 2020



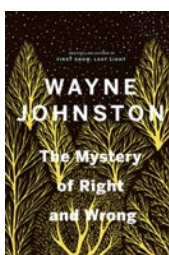
A Like Vision: The Group of Seven & Tom Thomson

Ian C. Desjardins
Non-Fiction
758 M167



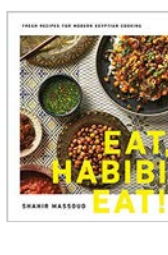
Orwell's Roses

Rebecca Solnit
Non-Fiction
828.91 S688



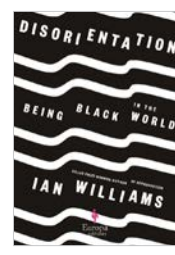
The Mystery of Right and Wrong

Wayne Johnston
Fiction
J73 2021



Eat, Habibi, Eat!

Fresh Recipes for Modern Egyptian Cooking
Cooking
Non-Fiction
641.59 M421



Disorientation

Ian Williams
Non-Fiction
305.896 W723

What's New on OverDrive

Here are some of the new e-book and audiobook titles now available. Log in to the Morrin Centre's OverDrive system at morrin.overdrive.com with your library card to check out our latest acquisitions.

Books with an * are also available in a physical copy in the Library.



April in Spain

John Banville
Fiction



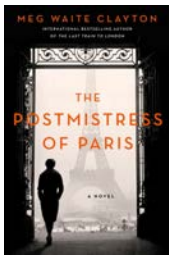
Blue Sky Kingdom

Bruce Kirkby
Fiction



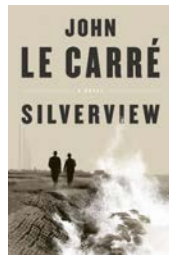
The Storyteller

Dave Grohl
Biography



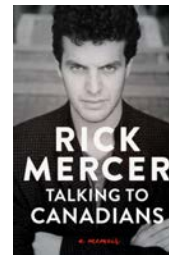
The Postmistress of Paris

Meg Waite Clayton
Fiction



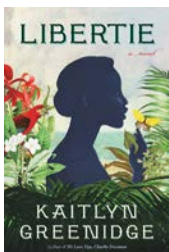
Silverview *

John Le Carré
Fiction



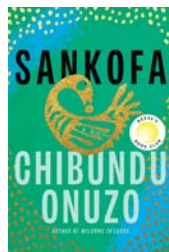
Talking to Canadians *

Rick Mercer
Biography



Libertie

Kaitlyn Greenidge
Fiction



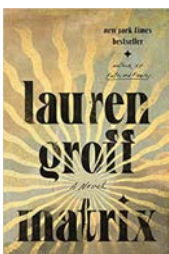
Sankofa

Chibundu Onuzo
Fiction



Beautiful Country *

Qian Julie Wang
Biography



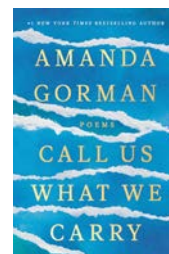
Matrix *

Lauren Groff
Fiction



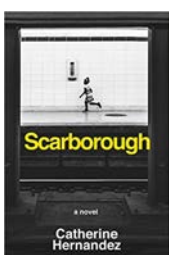
August into Winter *

Guy Vanderhaeghe
Fiction



Call Us What We Carry

Amanda Gorman
Poetry



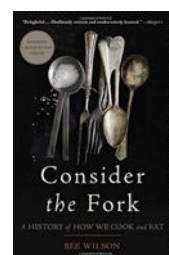
Scarborough *

Catherine Hernandez
Fiction



The Spectacular

Zoe Whittall
Fiction

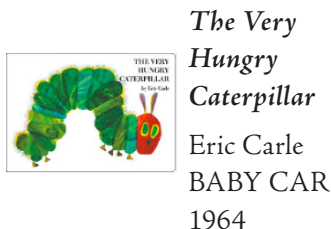


Consider the Fork

Bee Wilson
Non-Fiction



Book Suggestions for Babies



A small caterpillar emerges from an egg and begins eating everything in sight.



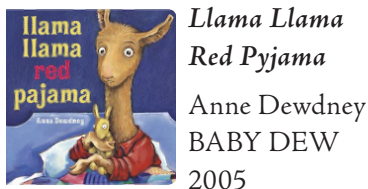
Striking and stylish, *Look Look!* is the ideal first board book for babies just beginning to look and learn and a perfect gift for little hands.



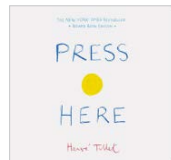
This title in Paul Covello's Canada board-book series features detailed illustrations for the very young, highlighting some of Canada's most beloved and iconic creatures.



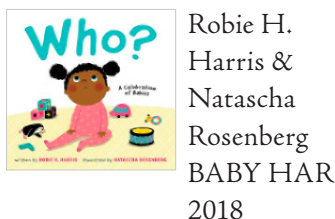
In this love letter to babies and their families, Barbara Reid captures the special joy that a newborn brings to the world. Welcome, baby, welcome!



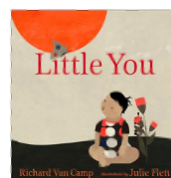
Baby Llama turns bedtime into an all-out llama drama in this rhyming read-aloud favorite!



Press the yellow dot on the cover of this interactive children's book, follow the instructions within, and embark upon a magical journey!



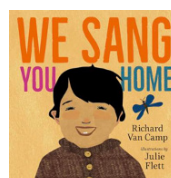
Who? explores the relationships babies form with the people and things they love the most. The text's repetitive verse and melodic voice will captivate babies and toddlers.



With its delightful contemporary illustrations, *Little You* is perfect to be shared, read, or sung to all the little people in your life!

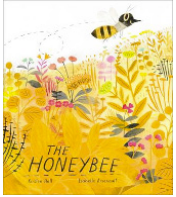


For small children, snow is a wonder. It sparkles and glitters. It transforms the outside world. Every kind of snow brings its own magic. For the youngest among us, winter is magical.



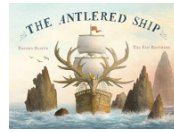
A celebration of the bond between parent and child, this is the perfect song to share with your little ones.

Book Suggestions for Young Children



The Honeybee
Kirsten Hall
& Isabelle
Arsenault
JP HAL 2018

Buzz from flower to flower with a sweet honeybee in this timely, clever, and breathtakingly gorgeous picture book.



The Antlered Ship
Sashka Slater,
Terry Fan, &
Eric Fan
JP SLA 2017

An inquisitive fox sets off on a seafaring voyage with a crew of deer and pigeons in this enchanting tale of friendship and adventure.



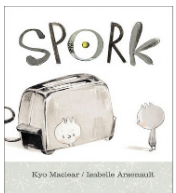
Outside Art
Madeline
Kloepper
P KLO 2021

Join a curious pack of woodland animals as they try to understand what art is and create their own in this beautiful, playful picture book.



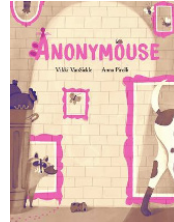
Bear is a Bear
Jonathan
Stutzman &
Dan Santat
JP STU 2021

A gorgeous book about the enduring love between a little girl and her childhood friend, Bear.



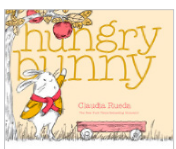
Spork
Kyo Maclear
& Isabelle
Arsenault
JP MAC 2010

When you're a little bit spoon and little bit fork, where do you go when the table is set? A funny tale for everyone who has ever wondered about their place in the world.



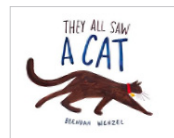
Anonymouse
Vikki
VanSickle &
Anna Pirolli
JP VAN 2021

This clever tale mixes street art, animal, and gorgeous illustrations to create a meditation on how art can uplift any creature's spirit when it speaks directly to them.



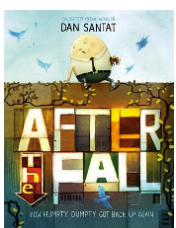
The Hungry Bunny
Claudia Rueda
JP RUE 2018

Bunny needs help picking apples for mama's apple pie. Young readers will delight in using the included red ribbon to help Bunny reach new heights and pick those tasty apples.



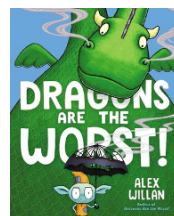
They All Saw a Cat
Brenden
Wenzel
JP WEN 2016

In this celebration of observation, curiosity, and imagination, Wenzel shows us the many lives of one cat, and how perspective shapes what we see. When you see a cat, what do you see?



After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again
Dan Santat
JP SAN 2017

Humpty Dumpty is an avid bird watcher whose favorite place to be is high up on the city wall... until his famous fall. Now terrified of heights, will he summon the courage to face his fear?



Dragons are the Worst!
Alex Willian
JP WIL 2021

A hilarious story about goblins, dragons, and the way to finding one's own way of appreciating others.

| Imagination 2022



This year, the Imagination Writers' Festival will be back in person! We can't wait to see you at the Morrin Centre.

| | GENERAL PUBLIC | STUDENTS |
|---------------------|----------------|----------|
| FESTIVAL PASS | \$ 35 * | \$ 20 |
| SINGLE EVENT TICKET | \$ 15 * | \$ 7 |

Visit morrin.org/imagination to buy your ticket(s)!

* Morrin Centre members receive 25% off all general public ticket prices, including the festival pass.

Want to read the Imagination books right away?

Head to the Maison Anglaise website!

LaMaisonAnglaise.com



Neale MacMillan

MEET THE AUTHOR

Youth Event with **Andrée Poulin**
Tuesday, April 5, 6:00 p.m.

Andrée Poulin (she/her) has published more than 60 children's books in French. Some of her books have also been published in English, Spanish, and Korean. She has won the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award and has been a finalist twice for the Governor General's Literary Award. Her books deal with friendship, empathy, tolerance, and solidarity. Andrée loves (in no particular order): writing, reading, hiking, and chocolate cake.

Presented by **Beneva**



Tim Fallis

OPERATION ANGUS

Terry Fallis
Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.

A two-time winner of the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, Terry Fallis (he/him) is the author of eight national bestselling novels including his latest, *Operation Angus* (2021), all published by McClelland & Stewart. His other books are: *The Best Laid Plans* (2007), *The High Road* (2010), *Up and Down* (2012), *No Relation* (2014), *Poles Apart* (2015), *One Brother Shy* (2017), and *Albatross* (2019). In 2013, the Canadian Booksellers Association named Terry the winner of the Libris Award as Author of the Year.



Pierre Arsenault

DOGS OF WINTER**Ann Lambert**

Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.

Ann Lambert's (she/her) first novel, *The Birds That Stay* (2019), was a finalist for the Concordia University First Book Prize. Her second novel, *The Dogs of Winter* (2020), was a finalist for the Canadian Crime Writers Award of Excellence and a winner of the Audiophile Award. Ann has written over 25 stage and radio plays, and wrote, directed, and produced over a dozen shows with the Dawson Theatre Collective during her teaching career.

**ON THE TRAPLINE****David A. Robertson**

Thursday, April 7, 8:30 p.m.

David A. Robertson (he/him) was the 2021 recipient of the Writers' Union of Canada Freedom to Read Award. He is the author of numerous award-winning books for young readers and the writer and host of the podcast *Kiwew*, winner of the 2021 RTDNA Prairie Region Award for Best Podcast. He is a member of Norway House Cree Nation and currently lives in Winnipeg.



Marlon Kuhnreich

THE FAMILY WAY**Christopher DiRaddo**

Wednesday, April 6, 8:30 p.m.

Christopher DiRaddo (he/him) is the author of the novels *The Family Way* and *The Geography of Pluto*. He has played an active role in Quebec's literary community for over two decades, first as a publicist and then, starting in 2014, as the producer of his own literary events. He created the Violet Hour reading series and book club, which has provided a platform for more than 200 LGBTQ writers. He was president of the Quebec Writers' Federation from 2018 to 2021.



Simon Remark

GUTTER CHILD**Jael Richardson**

Friday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.

Jael Richardson (she/her) is the author of *The Stone Thrower*, a book columnist on CBC's *q*, and the founder and executive director of the Festival of Literary Diversity (FOLD) in Brampton, Ontario. Her debut novel, *Gutter Child*, was shortlisted for the Amazon First Novel Award and is a finalist for the Forest of Reading White Pine Award. She holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Guelph and lives in Brampton.



Vanda Fleury

THE STRANGERS**Katherena Vermette**

Thursday, April 7, 7:00 p.m.

Katherena Vermette (she/her) is a Red River Métis (Michif) writer from Treaty 1 territory, the heart of the Métis nation: Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her first book, *North End Love Songs*, won the 2013 Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry. Her first novel, *The Break*, was a national bestseller and won several 2017 awards. She lives with her family in a cranky old house within skipping distance of the temperamental Red River. *The Strangers* is her second novel.



Julie Artacho

THE WAGERS**Sean Michaels**

Friday, April 8, 8:30 p.m.

Sean Michaels is a novelist, short story writer, and critic. Born in Stirling, Scotland and raised in Ottawa, he eventually settled in Montreal, where he founded the pioneering music blog *Said the Gramophone*. He enjoys cold water, warm madeleines, and songs with colours in their titles.



STORYTIME: MINA

Youth Event with
Matthew Forsythe
Saturday, April 9, 10:30 a.m.

Matthew Forsythe (he/him) is the author-illustrator of *Pokko and the Drum*, which was a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the year in 2019, a recipient of the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Honor, and a Charlotte Zolotow Honor Book. He is also an illustrator for animated films and television. His credits include *Adventure Time*, *The Midnight Gospel*, and *Robin Robin*—a stop-motion animated musical from Aardman Animations. He lives in Montreal.

Presented by **Beneva**



MEMOIRS PANEL

Saturday, April 9, 12:30 p.m.



Billy-Ray Belcourt
A History of My Brief Body
Eternity Martis
They Said This Would Be Fun

Billy-Ray Belcourt (he/him) is from the Driftpile Cree Nation in northwest Alberta. He is an Assistant Professor in the School of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver. In 2021, his book *A History of My Brief Body* won the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize and was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction.

Eternity Martis (she/her) is an award-winning Toronto-based journalist. Her work on race and language has influenced media style guide changes across the country. Her bestselling debut memoir, *They Said This Would Be Fun*, was a "Best Book of the Year" pick by *The Globe and Mail*, Apple, Audible, and Chapters/Indigo, and won the 2021 Kobo Emerging Writer Prize for Non-Fiction.



OUT OF MIND

David Bergen
Saturday, April 9, 3:00 p.m.

David Bergen (he/him) is the bestselling author of ten novels and two collections of short stories. In book after book, he has harnessed the written word to illuminate the human condition. Among his most acclaimed works are *The Time in Between*, *The Matter with Morris*, *The Age of Hope*, and *Here the Dark*. He lives in Winnipeg.



LITERARY NOTES

Poetry Panel and String Music
Saturday, April 9, 4:30 p.m.



Cicely Belle Blain
Burning Sugar
Bertrand Bickersteth
The Response of Weeds
Sarah Venart
I Am the Big Heart



The Morrin Centre once again joins forces with the Orchestre symphonique de Québec (OSQ) to present a *noteworthy* concert. Tune in to listen to readings by poets Cicely Belle Blain (they/them), Bertrand Bickersteth (he/him), and Sarah Venart (she/her), accompanied by music chosen and performed by the OSQ musicians that captures the spirit of their poetry books.

In partnership with the **Orchestre Symphonique de Québec**

To register, visit
morrin.org/imagination



Anick Violette

FRAMED IN FIRE

Iona Wishaw

Saturday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.

Award-winning Canadian author Iona Wishaw (she/her) spent her infancy by Kootenay Lake in British Columbia, eight years in Mexico, her teens in the American south west, and now lives in Vancouver. She has worked as a youth worker, social worker, teacher, and high school principal. She has published short fiction, poetry, poetry in translation, and one children’s book.



Carl Lessard

EM

Kim Thúy

Saturday, April 9, 8:30 p.m.

Kim Thúy (she/her) was born in Vietnam in 1968. At the age of 10, she left Vietnam along with a wave of refugees commonly referred to in the media as “the boat people” and settled with her family in Quebec City. She has worked as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer, and chef-restaurant owner. She now devotes her life to writing. Kim has received many awards and her books have sold more than 850,000 copies around the world and have been translated into 29 languages.



Lena Szymoniak

BUTTER HONEY PIG BREAD

Francesca Ekwuyasi

Sunday, April 10, 11:00 a.m.

Francesca Ekwuyasi (she/her) is a writer and multidisciplinary artist from Lagos, Nigeria. Her work explores themes of faith, family, queerness, consumption, loneliness, and belonging. Francesca’s debut novel, *Butter Honey Pig Bread*, was longlisted for the 2020 Giller Prize and was a finalist, in 2021, for CBC’s Canada Reads competition, the Lambda Literary Award, the Governor General’s Award, the Amazon Canada First Novel Award, and the ReLit Award.



John Fredericks

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT FICTION

Panel

Sunday, April 10, 1:00 p.m.



Paula Toledo

Monique Polak

Room for One More

Dani Jansen

The Year Shakespeare Ruined My Life

Nadine Neema

Journal of a Travelling Girl

Su J. Sokol

Zee



Matt Lee

Join us and discover the writings of the winner and finalists of the 2021 Quebec Writers’ Federation (QWF) Janet Savage Blachford Prize for Children’s and Young Adult Literature! Dive into the writings of Monique Polak (she/her), Dani Jansen (she/her), Nadine Neema (she/her), and Su J. Sokol (xe/xyr) in this discussion about youth literature.

In partnership with the **Quebec Writers' Federation**



Sasha Todorovic

THE QUANTUM EVOLUTION SERIES

Derek Künsken

Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m.

After leaving molecular biology, Derek Künsken (he/him) worked with street kids in Central America before finding himself in the Canadian foreign service as a diplomat. He now writes science fiction in Gatineau, Quebec. His short fiction has appeared in major U.S. magazines such as *Analog*, *Clarksworld*, and *Asimov's*, as well as several “year’s best” anthologies. His work has been translated into Russian, Mandarin, Japanese, Czech, Polish, and French.



A GIRL FROM DREAM CITY: A LITERARY LIFE

Linda Leith

Sunday, April 10, 4:30 p.m.

Linda Leith was born in Northern Ireland and attended schools in London, Basel, Belfast, Paris, and Montreal, graduating from the University of London, which granted her a PhD on the work of Samuel Beckett when she was 24. A novelist, essayist, literary translator, and the founder of Blue Metropolis International Literary Festival and Linda Leith Publishing, she lives in Montreal. Linda was appointed as an officer of the Order of Canada in 2020.



Gaëlle Leroyer

STORIES I MIGHT REGRET TELLING YOU

Martha Wainwright

Sunday, April 10, 5:30 p.m.

Martha Wainwright (she/her) is an internationally renowned singer-songwriter with over two decades of industry experience. She is critically acclaimed for the rawness and emotional honesty of both her vocals and lyrics. Her latest album is *Love Will Be Reborn* (2021). She is also an actress and was featured in Martin Scorsese's *Aviator* and the HBO special *Olive Kitteridge*.

MAJOR PARTNERS | PARTENAIRES MAJEURS



Canada Council for the Arts / Conseil des arts du Canada



Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec



Née du regroupement de La Capitale + SSQ assurance

PARTNERS | PARTENAIRES



CIBC PRIVATE WEALTH ÉQUIPE MARIE-FRANCE DELISLE



Imagination in Schools

April 4–April 15

Imagination in Schools authors

June Hur | Jon-Erik Lappano

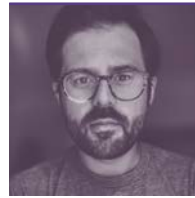
Matthew Forsythe | Eternity Martis | Andrée Poulin | David A. Robertson



Julie Anna Tang

June Hur

June Hur (she/her) was born in South Korea and raised in Canada, except for the time when she moved back to Korea and attended high school there. She studied history and literature at the University of Toronto. She began writing her debut novel after obsessing over books about the Joseon dynasty of Korea. When she's not writing, she can be found wandering through nature or journaling at a coffee shop. She is the author of *The Silence of Bones*, *The Forest of Stolen Girls*, *The Red Palace*, and *A Crane Among Wolves*, and she currently lives in Toronto with her husband and daughter.



Jon-Erik Lappano

Jon-Erik Lappano's (he/him) debut picture book, *Tokyo Digs a Garden*, illustrated by Kellen Hatanaka, won the Governor General's Literary Award and was a finalist for the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award, and Japan's Sakura Medal. He has also written *Maggie's Treasure*, illustrated by Kellen Hatanaka, to wide acclaim, and *Song for the Snow*, illustrated by Byron Eggenschwiler. Jon-Erik lives in Stratford, Ontario, with his family.



Corey Misquitta



Neale MacMillan



Thank you!

We would like to thank the **schools**, **authors**, and **students** participating in the 2022 Imagination in Schools program. Creating opportunities for dialogue and connections between writers and youth is an important part of Imagination's mission!

Presented by **Beneva**

Want to borrow the Imagination books?

morrin.overdrive.com

Want to buy the Imagination books?

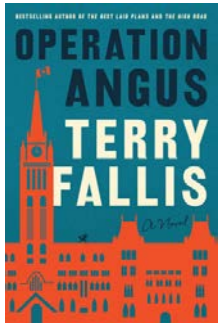
lamaisonanglaise.com

Book Reviews

Operation Angus

by Terry Fallis

Book review by Hoffman Wolff



Canada's Minister of State for International Relations Angus McClintock and his chief of staff Daniel Addison are in London, England at a meeting about the upcoming G8 summit in Washington. The two carry no diplomatic weight: their main

role is to ensure that a mostly-for-show post-summit meeting in Ottawa between the Canadian prime minister and the Russian president goes off smoothly. But a former spy for the British government pulls them aside anyway. There's a plot against the Russian president's life planned for while he's in Ottawa, and since the Canadian government's intelligence organizations won't listen to her, she turns to the only other two Canadian government officials she can find.

Terry Fallis brings back Angus and Daniel for more adventure in *Operation Angus*. It's a breezy, funny, entertaining read, especially if you enjoy spy novels but are tired of ones that take themselves a bit too seriously. Fallis does a good job making his characters human. Neither of the two protagonists are the "solitary, troubled hero called upon to save the day" type—they are generally cheerful, get along well with others, and would really rather not be involved in all this hassle.

While the plot to remove the Russian president is quite serious, Fallis calls on his experiences working in Ottawa to bring to life the pettiness, stonewalling, and occasional absurdity on Parliament Hill. The Champlain Centre, an unintentionally hideous new government building, plays a major role in the plot, and Fallis gives a hilarious and completely believable explanation of the bureaucratic bungling which produced the "giant ugly spider on a cliff," as the Russian security minister describes it.

Given its setting, the book carries a good deal of government maneuverings and terminology, so readers will find it helpful to arrive with at least some understanding of how the federal government works. Furthermore, as this was the first Fallis book I've read, I had a few questions about the characters' back stories, such as "How did the Scotland-born Angus get to be an Ontario MP, anyway?," which I'm sure reading the other books in the series will help to shed light on. But this didn't detract in any way from my enjoyment of the book, and I'd thoroughly recommend it.

Operation Angus (McClelland & Stewart, 2021). *Also on OverDrive

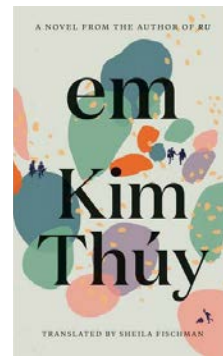


Em

by Kim Thúy,

translated by Sheila Fischman

Book review by Aiden Roberts



Em offers a *memorable* reading experience.

Within the pages of this slim, hard-to-categorize volume with a colourful, enigmatic front cover lies "stories of foreseeable madness, unimagined love, or everyday heroism..." The reader will be immediately drawn in.

This book is very eclectic and it is divided into multiple short sections. Each one can be read rapidly. In the first section, the author briefly recounts how she went about doing research for this book, relates some of the horrors the victims of the Vietnam War experienced, and states that her goal is to tell the truth without being too explicit.

Thúy goes on to recount a series of interconnected fictionalized stories of Vietnamese individuals who have been heavily impacted by the war. The stories touch on the themes of loss, abandonment, love, birth,

death, survival, community, cruelty, flight, bravery, reconnection... The ongoing story of Em and Louis is most striking. These stories are interspersed with texts that deal with people, events, food, and facts related to the stories being told.

The book also includes a drawing, a short interview with the artist, and an even shorter imaginary conversation with a writer. In a later section, the author supplies the reader with some startling statistics and questions why some data was never collected.

Thúy reminds the reader that the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the war will happen in 2025, but the wounds remain. She regrets the period when, before the interference of world powers in Vietnamese politics, everyone would join together to fight off foreign invaders. She remarks that all Vietnamese have the same roots.

Reading *Em* for the first time is a pleasure; additional readings only enhance one's appreciation. It is the kind of book that one should keep close by. Each section can be read separately as a sort of meditation.

One of the reasons the author chose *Em* for the title is because it reminds her of "aimer" in French. She has a great love for her people both past and present. The reader may also associate the title with remember. Readers will surely *remember* and love *Em*, with its plea for a greater role for love in this world.

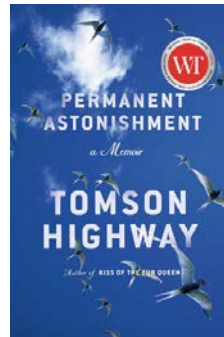
Em (Random House Canada, 2021). *Also on OverDrive.

Permanent Astonishment by Tomson Highway

Book review by Britta Gundersen-Bryden

Tomson Highway's memoir *Permanent Astonishment* is written with a sense of balance that tips the scale to happiness, to joy.

Tomson grew up in the 1950s and '60s, the 11th child of Joe and Balazee Highway. Home was the remote town of Brochet, Manitoba, on the shore of Reindeer Lake;



home was also the vast wilderness of Canada's subarctic. As a child, Tomson was covered by warm fur blankets and surrounded by the love of parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, neighbours, and schoolmates. He not only received this bountiful love, he also bestowed it, especially on his younger brother, Rene.

The writer balances revering the dead—too-young children, adults lost to tuberculosis or cancer, those drowned in lakes or lost in snowstorms—with celebrating the living through his descriptions of wedding feasts for hundreds and the all-night singing, drumming Dene gambling game—*pageesee*.

There is balance among the people of Brochet—Cree, Dene, Metis, and *Moony-ass*—and an intermingling of languages. Cree and Dene phrases are either translated or used in context so readers know exactly what Highway means. Names and nicknames are often blends of Cree, English, and French. Highway explains how the name Jean-Baptiste became "Samba Cheese," how Father Egg Nog, the resident Catholic priest, misspelled names, resulting in Tomson's sister Viola being registered as "Voila," and how Robert Gaubert became "Row Bare Go Bare."

There is a balance among travel by canoe, motorboat, float plane, and dog sled (the author's unbridled love of the last two is evident).

Balance is also evident among the creatures of the north (caribou, fox and squirrels, whitefish, pickerel, pike and trout, eagles, loons and Arctic terns, and even mosquitoes), the land and plants that sustain them, and the humans who hunt, fish, gather, and thus sustain themselves. And Tomson makes it clear that his father was the master of balancing the ways of the past, the imperatives of the present, and a vision for the future.

With anecdotes that make readers smile, Highway balances cultures, beliefs, the traditional, and the modern. The description of Seagull's Little Poop's unofficial Mass on a sand spit can be weighed against

that of teenage girls boiling a transistor radio's battery so it could catch signals sent from the far south through the clear, clean northern night air.

From the time he was "three months short of seven," Guy Hill Indian Residential School was Tomson's home for ten months a year. For the young Cree boy/girl, school was a place where he was celebrated for his musical talent and academic prowess, where he was bullied and abused by certain students and staff, and where he was loved and nurtured by other students and staff. Accounts of a pedophile priest, a homophobic dorm master, and student bullies are weighed against anecdotes about sneaking into the library to play the piano and sneaking books out of the library to read at night, Christmas concerts, and an end-of-the-year Olympics where Tomson won a ribbon, thanks to William Peeskwa, who became one of the "kindest and wisest Elder[s] ever to emerge from northern Manitoba."

Tomson Highway's story is of life in balance—and sometimes hanging in the balance. It is worth reading to the very end, including the acknowledgements.

Permanent Astonishment (Doubleday Canada, 2021).

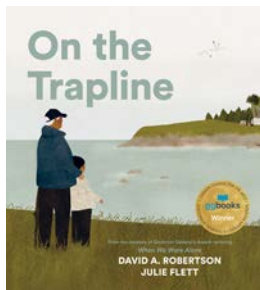


On the Trapline

Written by David A. Robertson

Illustrated by Julie Flett

Book review by Antoine Dumont



I truly believe that children's picture books are an underrated form of literature. Since they are not only intended for children, but are short in both page and word count, it is easy to mistakenly consider the genre as less "important" or less relevant. I often find that the

opposite is true, however. The limited number of words and pages means that the author needs to get to the heart of the matter: they must make every single word

count since each one helps to convey the book's message. The accompanying images also mean that everything needs to be thought through and care taken so that it all melds together into a work of art. This is the case for David A. Robertson's *On the Trapline*.

On the Trapline describes Robertson's own experience with his grandfather when they visit the grandfather's trapline together. Through their journey, his grandfather reminisces about his time in school, his youth, and his connection to nature. Through his grandfather's experiences and memories, young Robertson learns about Cree culture and language.

The book is a delight, both emotionally and intellectually: we are taken through the grandfather's experiences in much the same way the child version of the author is. Almost every page ends with a translation from Swampy Cree into English of the various words and concepts used on the page. *Kiwetinohk* means north, *kiskisiw* means "he remembers," and *minwasin* means beautiful. This helps the reader feel initiated into the Swampy Cree culture and language, and makes the journey taken with Robertson and his *Moshom* (grandfather) even more meaningful.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible art by Julie Flett. It is minimalist, with muted colors and few details. Yet that is not to say that Flett's art is not evocative. Every single page spread presents quiet contentment, which parallels the emotions conveyed through Robertson's words.

All in all, *On the Trapline* is a quiet, delightful story about heritage and reminiscence. I heartily recommend it for both children and adults.

On the Trapline (Tundra, 2021).



A Lethal Lesson: A Lane Winslow Mystery

by Iona Wishaw

Book review by Rosemarie Fisher



Last October I was visiting my son in Nelson, B.C. when I happened upon this book in a bookstore near Baker Street, a historic street in the town. I have thoroughly enjoyed Iona Wishaw's Lane Winslow Mystery series, especially because they take place in Nelson and the surrounding area, a region that I love.

Lethal Lesson is the eighth book in the series, and I was happy to reconnect with the young, newlywed heroine of the story, Lane Winslow, and her dashing husband, Frederick Darling. It's early December 1947, and Lane becomes concerned and goes to investigate when neither the outgoing teacher nor the new replacement turn up to teach the local children in the one-room schoolhouse in King's Cove. She finds the former teacher at home,

unconscious and nearly frozen, while the new teacher is nowhere to be found. Lane decides to fill in to help teach the local children, all the while doing her usual sleuthing. She receives some help from Detective Darling, who always seems to be several steps behind his clever wife.

Much of the book focuses on the personal life of the new teacher, Wendy, who was abandoned as a child by her parents and left on a farm with her uncle and his wife, members of a strict religious sect. At sixteen, Wendy runs away before being forced to marry an old man. She manages to go to school and becomes a teacher, all the while living in fear of being found and dragged back to the farm. Her story is compelling, and I developed a lot of empathy for her character, which kept me turning pages to find out what happened to her.

I enjoyed the latest book in the series, and I am looking forward to the next one. Although I initially started the series because the books were set in the Kootenays, I kept reading them because Wishaw's quick wit, endearing characters, and compelling plots make for a great read.

A Lethal Lesson (TouchWood Editions, 2021). * Also on OverDrive.



Nelson's Big Orange Bridge (BOB) was completed in 1957. The series takes place before it was built.

As a result, the characters are always waiting for the ferry to take them across.

Photo credit: Léa Fischer-Albert

| Events & Activities

Upcoming Events: General Public



Are you curious about science, architecture, artifacts, history, or music? Throughout the In These Spaces project, participants will explore a diverse set of subjects using the Morrin Centre's spaces as a backdrop. Over the course of five live-streamed events, experts will talk about their field of expertise with our host Peter Black.

- March 1 The Restoration of the Morrin Centre with Architect Michel Boudreau
- March 10 Book Conservation with Book Conservator Marie Trottier
- March 15 Acoustics with Musicians Isaac Chalk, Brett Molzan, Ryan Molzan, and Alexandre Sauvaire
- March 24 History of Modern Surgery with Doctor Thomas Schlich
- March 29 History of Capital Punishment in Quebec with Professor Donald Fyson



April is National Poetry month, and the Morrin Centre is holding its third annual *Society Pages* Poetry Contest!

The contest is open to all topics and all genres of poems (haikus, lyric poems, etc.), whatever strikes your fancy. The winning poem and the runners-up will be published in the Summer issue of *Society Pages*.

The contest will run until **Friday, May 6, 2021**.

Please send your submissions to info@morrin.org.



*Street Stories:
Exploring Quebec
City's English-
Language Heritage
Through Toponymy*

*If These Walls
Could Talk:
The Presidents and
their Portraits*

AGM

The 198th Annual General Meeting of the LHSQ will be held on March 30, 2022!

Upcoming Events: Youth Events



Storytime Online is a literacy program for children ages 3 to 7 that takes place on Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Each activity begins with the reading of a story followed by a craft inspired by the week's theme.

| | |
|----------|--|
| April 9 | <i>Pokko and the Drum and Mina</i> |
| April 16 | <i>The First Egg Hunt</i> |
| April 23 | <i>You Might Be Special!</i> |
| April 30 | <i>No Bunnies Here</i> |
| May 7 | <i>The Book that Did Not Want to Be Read</i> |
| May 14 | <i>Jeff Goes Wild</i> |
| May 21 | <i>There's a Unicorn in Your Book</i> |
| May 28 | <i>Even Robots Aren't Perfect</i> |
| June 4 | <i>Group Hug</i> |
| June 11 | <i>Oh, the Places You'll Go</i> |



The S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Club welcomes children ages 8 to 12 who love to experiment, create, and learn more about the world around them. The Club meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

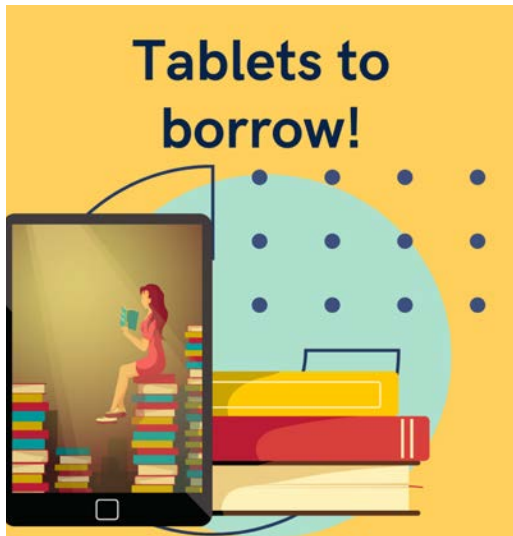
| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| April 5 | Special Guest: Andrée Poulin |
| April 12 | Cotton Ball Launcher |
| April 19 | Yarn Painting |
| April 26 | Real Life Navigator |
| May 3 | Shadow Puppets |
| May 10 | Lung Model |
| May 17 | Artificial Jellyfish |
| May 24 | Real Life Forager |
| May 31 | Pinwheel Designs |
| June 7 | Building a Robot Hand |



Book Quest 2022

Stay tuned for another exciting summer of reading and activities during *Book Quest*, our summer reading program for children.

New Tablets at the Morrin Centre!



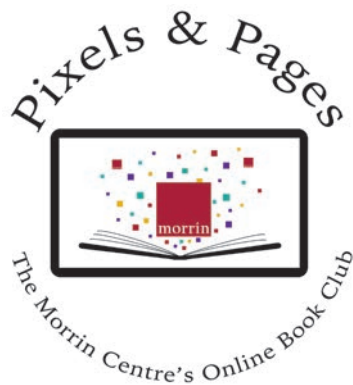
The Library at the Morrin Centre now has tablets that members can borrow to use to access our collection of e-books and audiobooks on OverDrive. We have six tablets that members can borrow for a period of 4 weeks.

Please email library@morrin.org to learn more or to borrow a tablet!

This project is made possible thanks to the support of:



Pixels & Pages: The Morrin Centre's Online Book Club

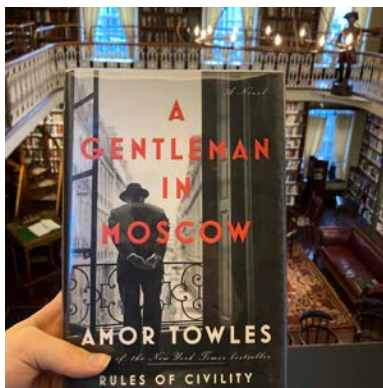


Interested in discussing literature with other book lovers? Missing connecting over books in the Library?

Come join *Pixels & Pages*, the Morrin Centre's online book club!

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21, and we will be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

Please email library@morrin.org to learn more or to sign up!



Thank you to our sponsors and partners:



Meet our New Interim Rentals Coordinator: Cynthia Bureau



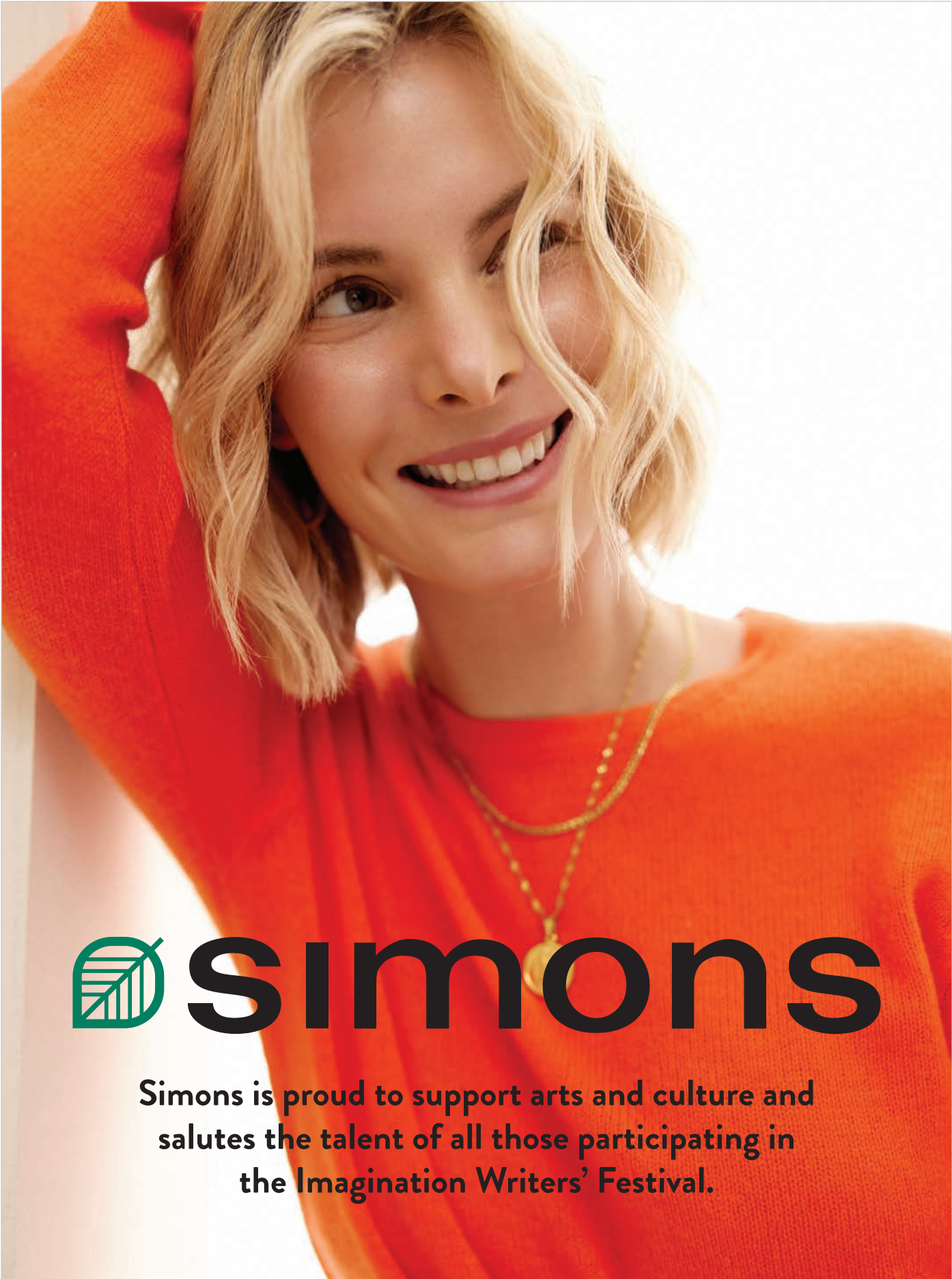
Hello! My name is Cynthia. I am from Trois-Rivières, but I came to Quebec City to study history (among other things) at Université Laval in 2010. I first worked at the Morrin Centre between 2016 and 2018 as a tour guide, heritage coordinator, and rental supervisor. I am now back part-time as the interim rentals coordinator.

I am also the co-owner of a small business in the Saint-Sauveur neighborhood: the Saint-Suave Librairie-Café. It started as a crazy idea on a lazy day while my partner and I were in a used bookstore. I had worked in a coffee shop before, and they had worked as a bookseller at the Université Laval's Coop Zone. We both love to read and enjoy coffee so we said, "Why not open a bookstore-café?" And here we

are, with our-two-year-old small business. Time flies by! The pandemic was hard, but we made it through (I think).

I am happy to be back as a part of the team at the Morrin Centre. It feels like coming home. I hope my experience in business can help with the rentals and all the related logistics. I am also very excited to discover all the books the library has acquired over the past few years. I love reading fiction, especially queer rom-coms (guilty!). In my spare time, I play roller derby and I started a women's tackle football team. I like to stay busy! ■





simons

Simons is proud to support arts and culture and salutes the talent of all those participating in the Imagination Writers' Festival.

UNE COMMUNAUTÉ DE SOINS

Services de santé bilingues

418 684-5333



Jeffery Hale
Saint Brigid's

Hôpital Jeffery Hale Hospital
1250, ch. Sainte-Foy G1S 2M6



Pavillon Jeffery Hale Pavilion
1270, ch. Sainte-Foy G1S 2M4



A COMMUNITY OF CARE
Services & Activities in English

IMAGINE YOUR AD HERE

CONTACT US AT
INFO@MORRIN.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

PROMO

IMAGINATION FESTIVAL 2022

30% OF THE PROFITS
DONATED TO
THE FESTIVAL

BE SMART!
READ THE BOOKS NOW!

-> VISIT LAMAISONANGLAISE.COM
-> **CLICK ON THE LIST**
-> **SELECT THE BOOKS**

SUPPORT
THE FESTIVAL *AND*
YOUR LOCAL BOOKSTORE

PROMO STARTS NOW!
AT WWW.LAMAISONANGLAISE.COM

Québec
Imagination
Writers' Festival

La MAISON ANGLAISE
LIBRAIRIE ANGLAISE ET ESPAGNOLE • ENGLISH AND SPANISH BOOKSTORE

WWW.LAMAISONANGLAISE.COM
(418) 654-9523

FREE SHIPPING TO YOUR HOME
OR TO UN COIN DU MONDE

Québec



Imagination

Writers' Festival

BILLY-RAV BELCOURT
DAVID BERGEN
BERTRAND BICKERSTETH
CICELY BELLE BLAIN
CHRISTOPHER DIRADDO
FRANCESCA EKUYAYASI
TERRY FALLIS
MATTHEW FORSYTHE
JUNE HUR
DANI JANSEN
DEREK KUNSKEN
ANN LAMBERT
JON-ERIK LAPPANO
LINDA LEITH
ETERNITY MARTIS
SEAN MICHAELS
MADINE NEEMA
MONIQUE POLAK
ANDRÉE POLIN
JAELE RICHARDSON
DAVID A. ROBERTSON
SU J. SOKOL
KIM THUY
SARAH VENART
KATHERENA VERMETTE
MARTHA WAINWRIGHT
IONA WHISHAW

APRIL 5
— 10 AVRIL
2022

morrin.org/imagination

morrin

cultural centre • centre culturel

Morrin Centre
44 Chaussée des Écossais
Quebec City, Quebec G1R 4H3
418-694-9147
info@morrin.org

Canada

 Canada Council
for the Arts Conseil des arts
du Canada

 CALQ
Conseil
des arts
et des lettres
du Québec

beneva
Née du regroupement de
La Capitale + SSS
Québec

 MAISON
ANGLAISE

 CIBC
CIBC PRIVATE WEALTH
ÉQUIPE MARI-FRANCE DELISSE

 Chronicle-Telegraph

 JEFFERY HALE
FOUNDATION

 WRITERS' FESTIVAL
FEDERATION