Celebrating Publishing at the Mount

Presents

The Changing Landscape of Publishing

A one-day conference

October 16, 2013

Rosaria Multi-purpose Room

5th Annual
Celebrating Publishing at the Mount
Program

9:00  Publishing Showcase opens
     Visit our participants’ displays
     Buy our panellists’ books

9:30  Welcome
     Terrence Paris, Chair of the Writing Initiatives Committee
     Ramona Lumpkin, President, Mount Saint Vincent University
     Zach Gallant, President, Mount Students’ Union
     Sylvia Gunnery, President, Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia.

10:00 Writers’ Perspectives on Publishing Today
     Alice Burdick
     Sylvia Gunnery
     Stephen Kimber
     Leo McKay, Jr

11:30 Lunch Break

12:00 Keynote: Cynthia Good
     “Issues in Contemporary Canadian Publishing”

1:15 Roundtable Local Publishers with Cynthia Good
     James Lorimer, Formac Publishing
     Robbie McGregor, Invisible Publishing
     Patrick Murphy, Nimbus Publishing
     Andrew Steeves, Gaspereau Press

2:30 Closing Remarks
Cynthia Good, Director of the Creative Book Publishing Program at Humber College, has been in the publishing industry for thirty-five years. After being an editor for Dorset Press, and marketing manager for the Doubleday Book Clubs, she was appointed the first editorial director of Penguin Books Canada. There, she was responsible for establishing a publishing program which grew into one of the most successful in Canada. Under her leadership the roster included such writers as John Ralston Saul, Michael Ignatieff, Alice Munro, Mordecai Richler, Timothy Findley, Stuart McLean, Peter Robinson, Guy Gavriel Kay, Will Ferguson and many others. After twenty years with Penguin, Ms. Good resigned when she was president and publisher to develop the Creative Book Publishing Program at Humber College. She continues to consult for publishers and speak widely on the subjects of writing and publishing.

In addition to several academic awards, Ms. Good has received the Arbor Award from the University of Toronto for outstanding volunteer service. Most recently she has been chosen as one of the 100 Alumni of Influence by University College.

She was awarded an Honorary Degree by Mount Allison University in 2006 and was appointed Trent University Ashley Fellow for the 2007/2008 academic year where she is now Adjunct Professor.

She is currently on the Toronto grant review team for the Trillium Foundation and lives in Toronto.
Our Writers

Alice Burdick has been involved with Canada’s small press community since the 1990s. A poet and visual-arts writer, her many chapbooks include *Covered* and *A Lump in the Bed: Love Poems for George W. Bush*; poetry books are *Simple Master* (Pedlar), *Flutter*, and *Holler* (Mansfield).

Sylvia Gunnery is a writer and educator with 32 years experience teaching at the intermediate and senior levels, and is a recipient of a Prime Minister’s Teaching Award. She first took herself seriously as a writer when she attended the Banff Centre in 1976 under the instruction of W.O. Mitchell, Alice Munro, and others. She has been inspired by her students to write many books for teens and children the most recent being *Emily For Real* (Pajama Press 2012) and *Game Face* (Lorimer 2013). She has served several terms as the Atlantic rep for The Writers’ Union of Canada and represented the Union on the National Reading Campaign from 2009 - 2012. Currently, she is the president of the Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia.

Stephen Kimber is an award-winning writer, journalist and broadcaster. He is the author of one novel and nine books of nonfiction, including the best-selling *Flight 111: The Tragedy of the Swissair Crash* and *Sailors, Slackers and Blind Pigs: Halifax at War*. He teaches creative nonfiction at the University of King’s College in Halifax where he has served as Director of the School of Journalism on three occasions. His latest book, *What Lies Across the Water: The Real Story of the Cuban Five* is published by Fernwood Publishing.

Leo McKay Jr. is a writer and a high-school teacher in Truro. His critically acclaimed 2003 novel, *Twenty-six*, based on the 1992 Westray Mine Disaster, was chosen as the inaugural book for the One Book Nova Scotia event. McKay’s third book, *Roll Up the Rim*, is an independent release on his own imprint: Red Row House books, and was funded through an indiegogo.com campaign. McKay grew up in the Red Row neighbourhood of Stellarton, Nova Scotia, where his parents also grew up.
Our Publishers

**FORMAC**

James Lorimer is president of Formac Publishing, dedicated to publishing books about Canada’s Maritime provinces or by Maritime Canadian authors, for readers in the Maritimes, and beyond. Formac’s titles familiar and not-so-familiar corners of our local history, and celebrate our food culture with cookbooks of Maritime specialties, healthy recipes, and local food. Another area of strength is its children’s list, providing newly independent readers with fiction and nonfiction from across the country, including Quebec. In all its ventures, Formac aims to produce” the most beautiful, most innovative, most challenging, most technologically sophisticated books coming out of the region.”

Robbie MacGregor began in the publishing business at Formac, with James Lorimer. Keen to publish “cool, contemporary Canadian books that would be cheap and look awesome,” he founded Invisible Publishing, along with Nic Boshart. Their first booklist appeared in 2007; half a dozen years later, they continue to publish books they consider edgy and important, books by such writers as Stephanie Domet and Anna Quon. Robbie admits to being a workaholic, tending the business along with working in the public library system, sitting on the board of the Literary Press Group of Canada, and working in support of the local teen writing program, Write Now!

**NIMBUS**

Patrick Murphy is Managing Editor of Nimbus Publishing, the largest English-language publisher east of Toronto. Nimbus produces more than thirty new titles a year on a range of subjects relevant to the Atlantic Provinces—children’s picture books and fiction, literary non-fiction, social and cultural history, nature photography, current events, biography, sports, and cultural issues. Nimbus also does distribution for numerous Atlantic publishers, making the company the biggest book distributor on the east coast of Canada. Murphy is a familiar presence at Word on the Street, where he is often to be found at “Pitch the Publisher,” meeting new writers, hearing new ideas, and providing good practical advice.

Andrew Steeves grew up in New Brunswick. After receiving degrees in Criminology and English Literature, he founded Gaspereau Press with Gary Dunfield in 1997. He spends his time reading, writing, editing, designing, typesetting, printing, binding, marketing, selling and talking about books. He lives in Black River, Nova Scotia.
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    The Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia

The Writing Initiatives Committee is a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning. This is the fifth in its annual series of events celebrating writing and publishing at the Mount and in the larger community.

Committee members for 2013-2014

Terrence Paris, Library, Chair
Susan Drain, Department of English
Clare Goulet, Writing Resource Centre
Joyce Kennedy, Faculty of Education
Brent King, Department of Communication Studies
Will Shead, Department of Psychology
Peggy Watts, Distance Learning and Continuing Education