

AGENDA

THE WRITERS' UNION OF CANADA

OnWords Conference and Annual General Meeting

SFU Harbour Centre, 515 W Hastings St, Vancouver, BC

June 1 – 4, 2017

Writing the World Now

Hashtag for the weekend is: #onwords2017

Thursday, June 1

- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EXECUTIVE MEETING (Alan & Margaret Eyre Boardroom, Rm. 2050, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (Alan & Margaret Eyre Boardroom, Rm. 2050, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm REGISTRATION (NW Corner of the Concourse, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm ROOKIE RECEPTION (location TBA)
Never attended OnWords before and afraid that everyone in the room knows everybody else except you? Not to worry: There's a special welcome committee to say hi, fill you in on what to expect, and introduce you to your fellow first time attendees at this early evening event.
Sponsored by Amazon.ca
- 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm **Opening Event** (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
OnWords kicks off on Thursday evening with a roundtable discussion. Join **Jen Sookfong Lee**, **Sylvia McNicoll**, **Carol Shaben**, and moderator **Waubgeshig Rice** as they explore what "Writing the World Now" means. Reception with cash bar to follow.
- 8:15 pm – 10:00 pm RECEPTION (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Reception sponsored by FriesenPress

Friday, June 2

- 8:30 am – 4:00 pm REGISTRATION (NW Corner of the Concourse, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 9:00 am – 9:30 am MEET AND GREET with caffeine (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Sponsored by Historic Joy Kogawa House and Haig-Brown Heritage House
Join TWUC Chair George Fetherling as he opens the conference with welcomes, thank yous, and important conference info you don't want to miss.

- 8:30 am – 4:00 pm **BOOK TABLE** (Adjacent to Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 9:30 am – 10:15 am **MORNING KEYNOTE** (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Christina de Castell, Director of Collections & Technology at the Vancouver Public Library, starts the day off with a keynote talk on **Reading: State of the Art and Current Trends.**
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am **REFRESHMENT BREAK** (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Sponsored by SFU Creative Writing
- 10:30 am – 11:45 am **WORKSHOPS**
- The Business of Writing: Taxes and the Professional Writer** (1900 Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Brian Borts is partnering with AFBS (by way of the Writers' Coalition program) to present a session on filing tax as a professional writer. Topics will include HST, RRSP's, self-employment deductible expenses, cross-border tax/filing issues, and what to do when that dreaded audit letter arrives. Hear about the various tips and traps around tax filing and learn how to keep as many of those hard-earned dollars in your pocket instead of the government's.
Sponsored by ACTRA Fraternal Benefit Society
- Toward an Equitable TWUC Union #1** (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
The first of two opportunities to join the discussion led by TWUC Equity Consultant **Charles Smith**. *For TWUC members only. Members are strongly encouraged to attend one of the two sessions.*
- 11:55 am – 12:55 pm **In It for the Long Haul** (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Being a writer shouldn't hurt. Learn some best practices toward bringing breath and mindfulness to your writing practice, body-awareness, and improving and maintaining strength and flexibility over time in this participatory session. This fully accessible session is suitable for writers of all ages and abilities. Led by **Elizabeth Bachinsky** and **Jenn Farrell**.
Sponsored by Access Copyright.
- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm **LUNCH BREAK** (Please note we had so much great programming you can't really do it all and still have a leisurely lunch. You are welcome to grab a bite and bring your lunch into the 1400 – 1430 Segal Centre for a midday session, but the Fletcher Challenge Theatre is food free.)
- MIDDAY SESSIONS – During LUNCH BREAK**
- 1:00 pm – 1:55 pm **Midday Q & A: Setting the Record Straight on PLR** (1900 Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)

This interactive session offers a chance to discuss the nuts and bolts of PLR. Led by **Genni Gunn** (Vice-Chair, PLR Commission) and **Peter Schneider** (Manager, PLR Program).

1:00 pm – 1:55 pm

Midday Brainstorming Session: Translation Ways & Means: Securing Resources for Translation into English and French (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

First generation immigrant writers are living repositories of rich cultural heritages, including their mother tongues. However, most often, a lack of resources means that their work remains in their mother tongue. In this working session, participants will exchange experiences of translation and self-translations and explore strategies on how to ensure that appropriate resources are allocated so that their work can be made available in Canada's official languages. Facilitated by **Sadhu Binning** and **Carmen Rodriguez**.

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

WORKSHOPS

Reclaiming Our Copyrights (1900 Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Take a hands-on approach to discussing current copyright challenges faced by writers and exploring ways to enact change with panelists **John Degen**, **Michael Elcock**, and **Martha Rans**.

Toward an Equitable TWUC Union #2 (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

The second of two opportunities to join the discussion led by TWUC Equity Consultant **Charles Smith**. *For TWUC members only. Members are strongly encouraged to attend one of the two sessions.*

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

REFRESHMENT BREAK (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Sponsored by Greystone Books

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

WORKSHOPS

borderblur and Beyond: Genre and its Transformations (1900 Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Explore the crumbling boundaries between genres and the opportunities/challenges this presents for writers. Moderated by **Hal Wake**.

To Write is to Resist, To Write is to ReCreate (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Join this discussion of how writers can challenge contemporary power structures in a literature of denunciation and hope with **Wayde Compton**, **Wanda John-Kehewis**, and **Rita Wong**. Moderated by **Carmen Rodriguez**.

4:45 pm – 5:45 pm

REGIONAL MEETINGS

BC/Yukon (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Ontario (1900 Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)
Other Regions: Check the board at Registration

- 5:45 pm SUPPER BREAK begins
- 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm MARGARET LAURENCE MEMORIAL LECTURE (Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema, Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, 149 W Hastings St)
John Metcalf, award-winning author and Member of the Order of Canada, delivers the 32nd annual lecture.
Sponsored by the Writers' Trust of Canada.
- 9:00 pm – 10:30 pm CASH BAR RECEPTION (Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema, Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, 149 W Hastings St)
Sponsored by the Writers' Trust of Canada

Saturday, June 3

Please remember that TWUC business in the plenary sessions is private and shouldn't be shared on social media.

- 8:30 am – 12:30 pm REGISTRATION (NW Corner of the Concourse, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 8:30 am – 4:00 pm BOOK TABLE (Adjacent to Fletcher Challenge Theatre, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 8:45 am to 9:45 am OPEN SESSION – REGIONAL, COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, and REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS
Please join Regional Representatives, Committee or Task Force Chairs, or TWUC representatives to discuss their reports to the Annual General Meeting. TWUC Chair, George Fetherling, will moderate the session. This is your opportunity to hear these important written reports discussed in detail, and to ask pertinent questions. Because of time restraints, this will be the only opportunity for discussion of these reports. During the plenary session these reports will be accepted without discussion. There will be a call for motions during the plenary session to address any motions raised in these reports. Attendance at the open session is not required to be eligible for the AGM Travel Reimbursement, but it is recommended if you have any questions or concerns with anything you have read in the reports.
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am SPEED NETWORKING (Xerox Conference Room. Rm 1500, SFU Harbour Centre)
Register at the AGM Registration Desk
An opportunity for a 15-minute one-on-one with an industry professional.
- 9:45 am to 10:00 am REFRESHMENT BREAK (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

10:00 am – 10:50 am PLENARY BUSINESS SESSION (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Reminder: Members who wish to use the AGM Travel Reimbursement Pool, don't forget to sign in.

- Call to order
- Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting
- Business Arising from Previous Minutes
- Report from the Chair
- Treasurer's Report: - Auditor's Statement
- Appointment of the Auditor
- 2017 Proposed Budget
- New Business – Recommendations from National Council

11:10 am – 12:00 pm PLENARY BUSINESS SESSION (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

- Approval of Committee, Task Force, and Representative Reports
- Motions arising from any Committee, Task Force, and/or Representative Report
- Approval of Regional Reports
- Motions arising from any Regional Report

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm LUNCH BREAK

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committees should designate a meeting spot and then head to lunch together. Write the meeting spot on the flip chart at Registration.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm PLENARY BUSINESS SESSION (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Reminder: Members who wish to use the AGM Travel Reimbursement Pool, don't forget to sign in.

- Old Business
- New Business

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm SPEED NETWORKING (Xerox Conference Room. Rm 1500, SFU Harbour Centre)

Register at the AGM Registration Desk

An opportunity for a 15-min. one-on-one with an industry professional.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm CHILDREN'S WRITERS CAUCUS (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)

Sponsored by Vermont College of Fine Arts, Writing for Children and Young Adults

4:00 pm – 5:00 DAYNE OGILVIE PRIZE FOR LGBTQ EMERGING WRITERS ANNOUNCEMENT (1400 – 1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
The Writers' Trust of Canada invites you to celebrate the announcement of the Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBTQ Emerging Writers. The prize is presented to an emerging Canadian writer from the LGBTQ community

who demonstrates great promise through a body of work of exceptional quality. Writers who identify themselves as LGBTQ are eligible and while no age restriction exists, the prize is intended for developing writers. The winner, along with two honours of distinction, is selected by a three-member, independent judging panel.

Sponsored by The Writers' Trust of Canada

- 5:00 – 6:30 pm FREE TIME
- 6:30 pm – 12 am WRITERS' DINNER & DANCE (Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue, 05-30 ICBC Concourse)
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Cocktails
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm Dinner
9:00 pm – 12:00 am Dancing
- Sponsored by ACTRA Fraternal Benefit Society**

Sunday, June 4

- 9:00 am – 9:15 am COFFEE – Beverages only, no morning snacks
- 9:15 am – 12:00 pm PLENARY BUSINESS SESSION and ELECTIONS (1400-1430 Segal Centre, SFU Harbour Centre)
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (Alan & Margaret Eyre Boardroom, Rm 2050, SFU Harbour Centre)