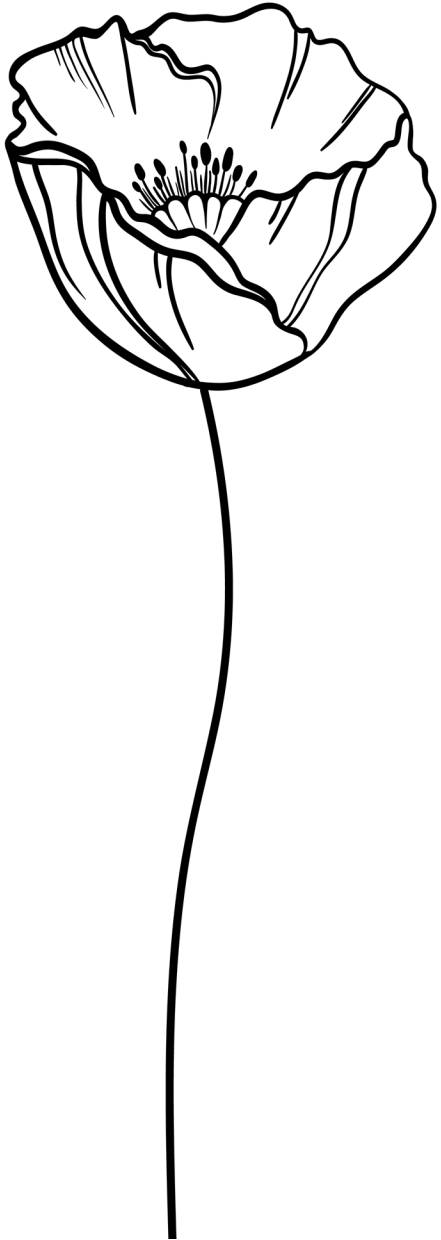


# Storytellers Ball

WT50   
Writers' Trust of Canada





# Event Details

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2026

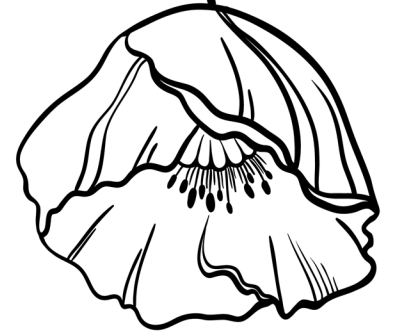
Reception: 6:00 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Location: Fairmont Royal York Hotel

Address: 100 Front Street W

Ballroom: Concert Hall, Level C





# Welcome

Our 50th anniversary celebrations begin tonight. Writers' Trust of Canada has been a steadfast advocate for our national literature and trusted literary voices since 1976.

The Trust was created by Canadian authors, for Canadian authors. That spirit and vision have been written into our story for the past 50 years and will drive our activities for the next 50. From amplifying the bold ideas of emerging writers to sustaining established authors through times of uncertainty, we have remained committed to preserving and expanding what it means for readers to choose Canada.

Writers' Trust has grown and flourished since 1976 thanks in large part to your generosity. Your support makes it possible for Canadian writers to stand tall on the national and international literary stages. We are so grateful for your contribution.

On behalf of everyone at Writers' Trust, thank you and enjoy the evening.

Marla Lehberg  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Writers' Trust of Canada



# Writers' Trust

## Board of Directors

Marla Lehberg, Chair  
Eddy Boudel Tan  
Annahid Dashtgard  
Luisa Girotto  
Sana Halwani  
Adrain Harewood  
Shari Hosaki  
Sumant Inamdar

Mary Ito  
Wendy Liu  
Rt. Honourable Beverley McLachlin  
Shabin Mohamed  
Saeed Teebi  
Iris Tupholme  
Richard Ward

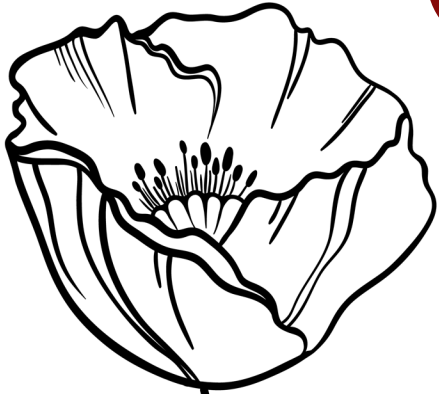
# Storytellers Ball Co-Chairs

Cheryl Atkinson  
& Don Schmitt



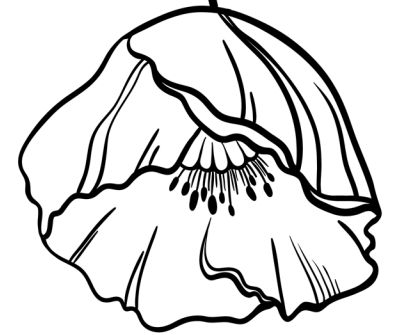
Storytellers  
WT50 Writers' Trust of Canada Ball

# Organizing Committee



Cheryl Atkinson  
Ashley Audrain  
Allison Fortier  
Carley Fortune  
Emma Knight  
Marla Lehberg

Lindsay Mattick  
Alex Moskalyk  
Lucia Remedios  
Lisa Rochon  
Don Schmitt  
Kim Tanenbaum



# Storytellers Ball Patrons

Marla & David Lehberg



# Feature Sponsors



ALAMOS GOLD INC.

**NETFLIX**







# Sponsors



AMAZON MGM STUDIOS



# Feature Sponsors

Jodi & Gerald Butts

Ron & Gillian Graham

Lorraine Greey

Doug Knight & Shelley Ambrose

Shannon Lewis Macdonald & Fraser Macdonald

Ana Lopes and Don Tapscott

Cathy Spoel & Michael MacMillan

The Nadir and Shabin Mohamed Foundation

Lili Shalev-Shawn & Morris Shawn





# Event Supporters

Jeff & Helena Axler Family Fund

Bruce Bailey in honour of Cheryl Atkinson and Don Schmitt

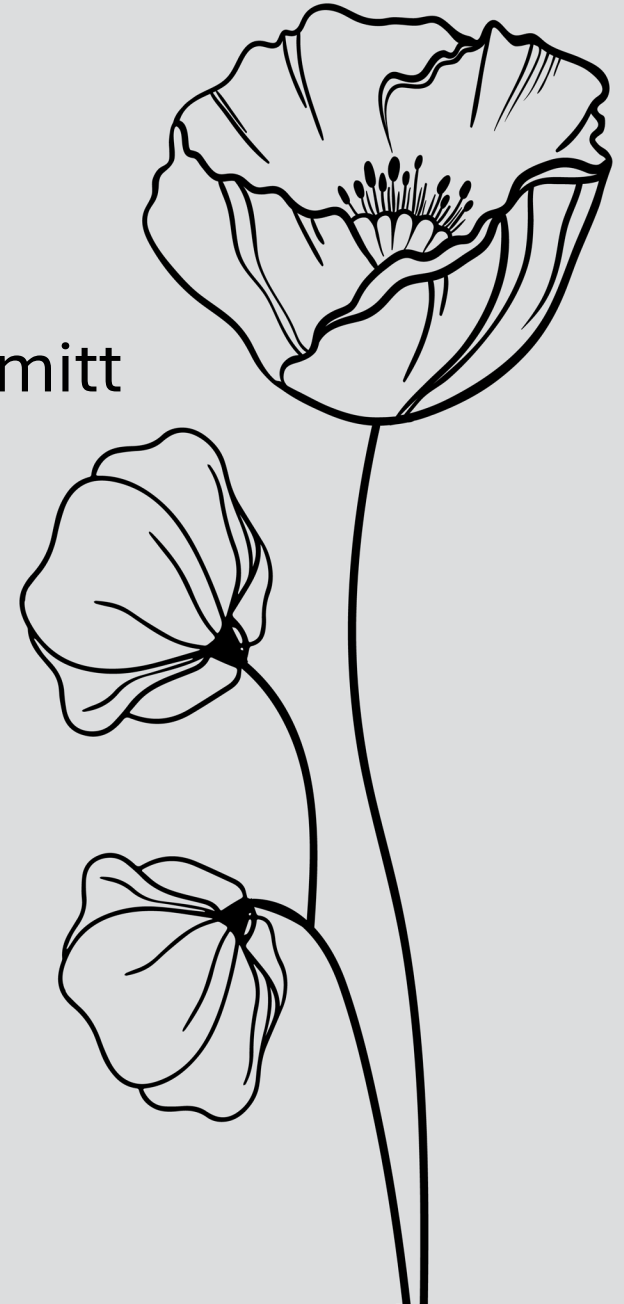
Mitchell Cohen Foundation

Peter Dey & Phyllis Ortved

Roger & Kevin Garland

Knightstone Capital Management Inc.

Joel Rochon





# Mystery Shelf

Tonight, you can help us support emerging writers!

Purchase a wrapped book written by a Canadian author for \$150.  
You have a 1 in 2 chance of winning an additional prize valued  
between \$100 and \$1,000.

You also have the opportunity to find one of five GOLDEN TICKETS  
hidden in the books, providing those who find a Golden Ticket with  
an exclusive top prize!





# Mystery Shelf Golden Ticket #1

## **AIR CANADA ADVENTURE**

Two tickets anywhere  
Air Canada flies

Valid until May 31, 2026



**WT50**  
Writers' Trust of Canada



# Mystery Shelf Golden Ticket #2

## **MONTREAL ESCAPE**

Enjoy return air travel for two,  
two nights at the AC Hotel,  
tickets to the Montreal Museum of Fine Art,  
dinner at Restaurant Le Carré,  
and a \$250 Boutique Marino gift card.

Approximate value \$1,750





# Mystery Shelf Golden Ticket #3

## **BANFF AWAITS**

Enjoy a 3-day ski & stay plus  
lift tickets vacation for two,  
with lessons and rentals at  
Sunshine Mountain Lodge,  
plus a \$700 air travel voucher.

Approximate value \$5,200



**WT50** 

Writers' Trust of Canada

# Mystery Shelf

## Golden Ticket #4

### **AN EXCLUSIVE DINNER WITH ASHLEY, CARLEY, AND EMMA**

You and two friends will enjoy a fascinating meal at General Public in Toronto with best-selling Canadian writers Ashley Audrain, Carley Fortune, and Emma Knight.

Approximate value: Priceless  
Includes \$500 dining gift card.





# Mystery Shelf

## Golden Ticket #5

### **GET PAMPERED AT ELORA MILLS**

You and a guest will be treated to a Connect Package that includes an overnight stay in a Luxurious Mill Room, multi-course Kitchen Counter Experience with wine and beverage pairings, 60-minute massages and breakfast.

Approximate value: \$2,825





# Mystery Shelf Prize Donors

Ashley Audrain  
Aburi Restaurants Canada  
AC Hotel Old Montreal  
Aesop  
Air Canada  
Angus Glen Golf Club  
Arcadia Earth  
Au Lit Fine Linens  
Banff Sunshine  
Basecamp Climbing  
Ben McNally Books  
Body + Soul Fitness  
Boulderz Climbing Centre  
Bounce Forward Co.  
Canadian Museum of History  
Canadian War Museum  
Contrada  
D. Horvath Photography  
Dineen Coffee Co.  
Deighton Family

Dineen Coffee Co.  
Drake Hotel Properties  
Elora Mills  
Fairmont Royal York Toronto  
Femme Women's Wellness,  
Medical & Cosmetic Clinic  
Ferris 360  
Food Dudes  
Carley Fortune  
Gee Beauty  
Good Neighbour  
Goûter Patisserie  
Greenhouse Juice Co.  
Haley Bogaert Face  
Health Casa  
Shari Hosaki  
Jessica Jewellery  
Emma Knight  
Liz Kondo  
Marla Lehberg

David Leonard  
Laywine's  
Limon Restaurant  
L'Intervalle  
Made You Look  
Mix Beauty Lab  
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts  
OLI Studio  
Orangetheory  
Othership  
Queen and Beaver Public House  
Rudy Burgers  
Ruru Baked  
Salt Fine Jewlery  
Scaramouche  
Soulpepper Theatre Company  
Spirit of York  
Stillus Craft Spirits  
Stratus Restaurant  
Sweat and Tonic

The Distillery Restaurant Corp.  
The Forest Hill Gym  
The Keg  
The Lobby by Heaps Estrin  
The Robins Nest  
Theatre Passe Muraille  
TNT Women's Clothing  
Tonic Blooms  
True North Climbing



# Featured Authors

Each table at the Storytellers Ball features a best-selling Canadian author and includes a copy of their latest book for you, that you can have signed as you enjoy dinner and conversation.



# Tara Marsh Glass

Event centrepieces are being designed by local Canadian artist, Tara Marsh. A graduate of Sheridan College's celebrated Glass program, Tara is a member of the Glen Williams Glass Collective in Glen Williams, Ontario.

Handblown glass flowers rise from sculpted copper stems with a quiet, deliberate beauty. The bases are weathered BC driftwood, shaped by time and tide, that ground each work in a sense of place and story. Designed for a writers' gathering, these sculptures invite reflection, spark conversation, and honour the art of storytelling through materials that speak of transformation, resilience, and imagination.

Several of the centrepieces will be available to be won through Mystery Shelf. Be sure to purchase your book when you arrive at the Storytellers Ball!



# The Epilogue

Plan to stay after dinner for more entertainment, Spirit of York spirits tasting, great late-night snacks, and the opportunity to connect with your favourite writer.





# About Writers' Trust

Writers' Trust of Canada was founded in 1976 by writers — Margaret Atwood, Pierre Berton, Graeme Gibson, Margaret Laurence, and David Young — with a goal to make Canada the best place in the world to be a writer. 50 years later, it is Canada's leading charitable organization that advances, nurtures, and celebrates Canadian writers and writing. Through a portfolio of programs including 13 literary awards, financial grants, career development initiatives for emerging writers, and a writers' residency, Writers' Trust ensures that readers have the very best Canadian writers to choose from.

Canada's writers receive more financial support from Writers' Trust than from any other non-governmental organization in the country.

[writerstrust.com](http://writerstrust.com)

@writerstrust





We're so excited to have you with us next week!

Donations are welcome before or after the  
Storytellers Ball.

[writerstrust.com/donate](https://writerstrust.com/donate)



# Questions?

Lisa Shaw

[lshaw@writerstrust.com](mailto:lshaw@writerstrust.com)

647-999-9946

Jennifer Deighton

[jdeighton@writerstrust.com](mailto:jdeighton@writerstrust.com)

416-434-7558





# Storytellers Ball

WT50   
Writers' Trust of Canada

