

Hot Topics and Distinguished Guests at the Canadian Library Association 69th National Conference and Tradeshow in Victoria

For Immediate Release

(Ottawa, May 26, 2014) - The Canadian Library Association / Association canadienne des bibliothèques is the national voice for Canada's library communities. This year marks the 69th annual conference of the CLA and the first time back to Victoria since 2004. The conference, to be held from May 28 to 31 at Victoria Conference Centre, includes over 70 sessions, a trade show with 70 exhibitors and formal awards recognition to some of Canada's library leaders, distinguished authors and illustrators.

Since the founding in 1946, there have been significant changes in the library profession and working environments, especially in the last decade. The CLA conference theme this year, 'Building Bridges to the Future – Colleagues, Collaboration and Consultation', is intended to reflect the ways in which our members and stakeholders will have the opportunity to voice the vision on the future of CLA and its advocacy role within the national and international landscape.

At a Glance, on Thursday, May 29, the conference kicks off with the opening keynote speaker Brian Keating, presenting "Cold Leadership, into The Last Great Wilderness". This is a presentation illustrating the extraordinary leadership capabilities of the failed Antarctic expedition of Ernest Shackleton. Brian Keating (goingwild.org) is a pilot, a naturalist, scuba diver, mountaineer, and an author of five children's books celebrating nature. Brian has been presented with the distinguished "Canadian Hero of the Year" award from Reader's Digest Magazine, an Honourary Doctor of Science degree from Brandon University (2009) and an Honourary Doctor of Laws from the University of Calgary (2011). All three accolades were presented in recognition of his global environmental efforts.

On Saturday, May 31, the conference closes with keynote speaker, Elizabeth Renzetti, a national columnist with the *Globe and Mail*. She has been the newspaper's Arts and Books editor, and for almost a dozen years was a correspondent in the London and Los Angeles bureaus. As journalist for 25 years, she offers a unique perspective of publishing and literacy and has shared her thoughts in many publications, including *Maclean's*, *Report on Business Magazine*, *Chatelaine* and *Elle Canada*. Her essays have appeared in several anthologies, most recently *Between Interruptions: Thirty Women Tell the Truth About Motherhood*.

The annual conference is also an opportunity to formally acknowledge all of our award winners over the last year. Throughout the conference we will celebrate each winner for the:

- **CLA Alan MacDonald Mentorships Award**, presented to Theresa (Terri) Tomchyshyn (Thursday May 29, 9:00 am)
- **CLA/OCLC Award for Innovative Technology**, presented to The Alberta Library (TAL), accepting is Clive Maishment (Friday May 30, 8:30 am)
- **CLA Emerging Leader Award**, presented to Kayleigh Felice (Friday May 30, 8:30 am)



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- **Angela Thacker Memorial Award**, presented to Carol Koechlin (Saturday May 31, 3:00 pm)
- **Outstanding Services to Librarianship Award**, presented to Linda Cook (Saturday May 31, 3:00 pm)

The CLA Book Awards Reception, on Thursday at 7:00 pm, celebrates the best of Canada's creators of books for young people. This year's winners are:

- The **2014 CLA Book of the Year for Children Award** – *Curse of the Dream Witch* by Allan Stratton, published by Scholastic Canada Ltd.
- The **2014 Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award for Illustration** – *The Dark* (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd), illustrated by Jon Klassen and written by Lemony Snicket.
- The **2014 CLA Young Adult Book Award** – *Graffiti Knight* by Karen Bass, published by Pajama Press

The Canadian Library Association / Association canadienne des bibliothèques is Canada's largest national and broad-based library association, representing the interests of public, academic, school and special libraries, professional librarians and library workers, and all those concerned about enhancing the quality of life of Canadians through information and literacy.

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For more information

<http://cla.pwwebhost.com/conference/2014/>

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