



The Word Guild Is Pleased to Announce
The 2019 Word Awards Shortlist

Honouring the Best of Canadian Christian Writing from 2018

TORONTO, ON — The 2019 Word Awards Short List was announced Live, May 1st on The Crossroad's Castle App. The show hosted by Soul H₂O Blogger and Awards Coordinator, Sherry Stahl was a success, providing promotion for Canadian Christian writers featured on the list. Les Lindquist, Treasurer of The Word Guild and Sponsor shed light on the awards history as the incoming Board Chair, David Kitz shared encouragement through a pre-recorded video, shifting focus to the future. Sponsors helped broadcast the news and announced names of those shortlisted in their respective awards classes.

Novelists, bloggers, columnists, apologists, theologians, and songwriters were among those who were recognized. Shortlisted books range from self-published to co-publishing to traditionally published. You will see names like Zondervan, Word Alive, Castle Quay, Faith Words, and Oxford University Press amongst the shortlisted entries. Articles were written in the smallest of local publications to national newspapers and magazines like Testimony, Faith Today, or The Light Magazine. Winners will be honoured and celebrated on the evening of Friday, June 14, 2019 at The Awards Gala being held during The Write Canada Conference at Carmen's Banquet Centre; 1520 Stone Church Road East Hamilton, ON

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This year's Gala is sure to be an interesting time as we reflect on the accomplishments of so many writers in the past year. Awards will be given out in 43 categories for books, stories, articles, poetry, and blogs published in 2018 and reaching both Christian and Mainstream audiences. Beverley J. Rayner of Ladysmith, British Columbia; Sarah E. Ball of Coaldale, Alberta; and Sally Meadows of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan were each shortlisted three times, tripling their chances of taking home a glass award for the win. Thirteen other entrants were shortlisted in two categories, doubling their odds of being announced as a winner.

“Through their commitment and ability to speak words of hope and truth, these writers are bringing many thousands of Canadians closer to the mystery of God in Christ, that is The Word incarnate. It's a remarkable accomplishment to celebrate,”
~Former Chair of The Word Guild Board, Thomas Froese

During the evening, we will also celebrate the annual presentation of Canada's largest literary prize for Christian authors, which will be awarded to the most outstanding book published in 2018. Excellence in social justice issues writing will be honoured with The Debra Fieguth Award. A winner will also be announced for the Harvey/Mackey Award, named after veteran journalists, Bob Harvey and Lloyd Mackey. The 3rd Annual Castle Quay Best New Canadian Manuscript will be awarded for an unpublished book. The winner will receive a prize package including publication of their manuscript by Castle Quay Books.

“It's a credit to each of the nominees, already, whether they win an award or not, to have their work brought forward for this sort of memorable evening,” Froese said.

Our 31st annual awards celebration will be a black-tie event. We're requesting tuxedos or dark suits with ties for men, formal or semi-formal wear for women. However, don't let wardrobe concerns keep you away, especially if you're packing light or coming from a distance; just wear your best outfit! There will be a delicious meal, desert soirée and streamlined awards ceremony (so you get home before the sun come up!).

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Copies of the 2019 Shortlist Media Release in both .docx and .pdf can be found on our [media page](#)

**ARTICLE / SHORT PIECES (ASP) – CHRISTIAN****BLOG**

- Trevor Toop: Oakville, ON : *“Looking For Some Real Good News”* (Reflections from the Rearview Blog by Trevor Toop)
- N.J. Lindquist: Markham, ON *“Mammograms, Breast Cancer, and Me”* (N.J. Lindquist Blog)
- Sally Meadows: Saskatoon, SK *“Sally’s Adventure in Puppyland - Week 24 - Extreme Makeover: Reflections on 2018”* (Sally Meadows Blog)

COLUMN SERIES

- Jack Taylor: Vancouver, BC *“Secularism and Education”* and *“Secularization and Law”* (The Light Magazine)
- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC *“A Curious Pattern”* (Jan/Feb) & *“A Convert’s Conversion”* (Mar/Apr) (*Faith Today*)
- Bruce Clemenger: Richmond, Hill, ON *“The Gathering Place”*, March/April - May/June 2018 (*Faith Today*)

COLUMN SINGLE

- Bruce Clemenger: Richmond, Hill, ON *“Accommodating religious difference”* The Gathering Place (Nov/Dec 2018) (*Faith Today*)
- Jack Taylor: Vancouver, BC *“Secularism and Medicine in Canada”* (The Light Magazine)
- Steve Kennedy: Peterborough, ON *“Making the Connection”* (Testimony)

INSPIRATIONAL/DEVOTIONAL

- Steve Kennedy: Peterborough, ON *“A Three-Day Weekend”* (Testimony)
- Rose McCormick Brandon: Caledonia, ON *“Chasing Daisy/God in my Ordinary Day”* (Mennomedia)
- Angela Bick: Newcastle, ON *“The Department of Loneliness”* (Christian Courier)

LONG FEATURE

- Alex Newman: Toronto, ON *“The Shame of Sexual Harassment in the Church”* (Faith Today)
- Bruce Hindmarsh: Vancouver, BC *“Lovers in a Dangerous Time”*: Reflections on the Moral Sources of our Intellectual Life” (Crux Magazine)
- John H. Redekop: Abbotsford, BC *“Christian Contributions to Political Affairs”* (SWR Publishing Company)

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

- Julia Garratt: New Westminster, BC *“A Season of Waiting and Suffering: Experiencing God During 775 Days of Captivity in China”* (Testimony)
- Mark Buchanan: Calgary, AB *“Let the Sermon be Interrupted: The Church, First Nations, and Reconciliation”* (*Faith Today*)
- Rose McCormick Brandon: Caledonia, ON *“A Time to Downsize”* (Testimony)

POETRY

- Vilma Blenman: Pickering, ON *“My Father’s Place”* (McMaster Divinity College Blog)
- Steve Bell: Winnipeg, MB *“The Name”* (Novalis)

PROFILE/HUMAN INTEREST

- Jenny Svetec: Terrebonne, QC *“A New Canadian Missionary: The Changing Face of Missions in a Global Society”* (Testimony)
- Eleanor Shepherd: Pointe Claire, QC *“A Faithful Mentor”* (The Breakthrough Intercessor)
- Ali Cumming: Vancouver, BC *“The Thoroughbred and the Donkey”* (Regent College Website)

**TERRENCE L. BINGLEY AWARD – SONG LYRICS**

SONG LYRICS (TERRENCE L. BINGLEY AWARD)

- Anastasya Laverdiere: Eston, SK “Seen”
- Carolyn Arends: Surrey, BC “Without Music”
- Steve Bell: Winnipeg, MB “Wouldn't You Love to Know”

ARTICLE / SHORT PIECES (ASP) – GENERAL MARKET PUBLICATIONS

COLUMN SINGLE

- Licia Corbella: Calgary, AB “*Billy Graham More Alive Now Than Ever*” (Calgary Herald)
- National Post Editorial Team: Toronto, ON “*In A Noisy World, The True Power Is In A Silent Night*” (National Post)
- Glynis Belec: Drayton, ON “*Fruitful Gratitude*” (Sugar & Spice Column-Rural Route Magazine)

LONG FEATURE

- John H. Redekop: Abbotsford, BC “*Christian Contributions to Political Affairs*” (Excerpt from *The Church In Surrey & White Rock: The Untold Story* - SWR Publishing Company)
- Doug Koop: Winnipeg, MB “*Die Hard Believers*” (Faith Today)

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

- Brenda Wood: Innisfil, ON “*Babysitting the Grands*” (Muskoka Seniors Magazine)
- Lynn Dove: Cochrane, AB “*Canada's Grief*” (Journey Thoughts Blog by Lynn Dove)
- Terrie Todd: Portage-la-Prairie, MB “*Of Love and Undershorts*” (Terrie Todd Website)

**THE DAVID MAINSE BEST BLOG OF THE YEAR AWARD
~SPONSORED BY CROSSROADS COMMUNICATIONS**

- Leah Grey: Bloomfield, NJ “*Grey Ministries*”
- Sarah E. Ball: Coaldale, AB “*Sarah E. Ball*”
- Lynn Dove: Cochrane, AB “*Journey Thoughts*”

BOOKS – CHRISTIAN FICTION

CHILDREN

- Mirella Coacci van der Zyl: Brantford, ON *Bullied* (Cavern Of Dreams Publishing)
- Donna Simard: Saint-Lazarre, MB *Shhh! It's a Surprise! Hidden Treasures on the West Coast* (Word Alive Press)
- Beverley J. Rayner: Ladysmith, BC “*The Face of Courage – The Edith Cavell Story*” (The Voice of the Martyrs Canada)

CHRISTIAN ADULT FICTION - CONTEMPORARY/SPECULATIVE/SUSPENSE/HISTORICAL/ROMANCE

- Anna Raddon: Blind River, ON “*After Miigaadiwin*” (Word Alive Press)
- Patrick Bell: Kelowna, BC “*In His Majesty's Secret Service*” (Word Alive Press)
- Linda Stauth: Stratford, ON “*Lake of The Cross*” (Word Alive Press)
- Linda Stauth: Stratford, ON “*Starry Lake*” (Word Alive Press)
- Anne Cattaruzza: Longueuil, QC “*Le Peuple Caché: “Un Scientifique Athée, Aune Missionnaire Improvisée, Un Puple caché, Une Course Pour Les Sauver...” “The Hidden People: An Atheist Scientist, An Improvised Missionary, A Hidden People, A Run To Save Them ...”* (Self-Published)



BOOKS – CHRISTIAN NON-FICTION

ACADEMIC

- Bruce Hindmarsh: Delta, BC *“The Spirit of Early Evangelicalism: True Religion in a Modern World”* (Oxford University Press)
- Craig A. Carter: Pickering, ON *“Interpreting Scripture With The Great Tradition: Recovering The Genius of Premodern Exegesis”* (Baker Academic)
- Annette Brownlee: Toronto, ON *“Preaching Jesus Christ Today: Six Questions For Moving From Scripture To Sermon”* (Baker Academic)

INSTRUCTIONAL

- Stewart Brown: Wolfville, NS *“The REAL Welcoming Church: Imitating God, Thinking Like Jesus”* (Word Alive Press)
- John Bowen & Michael Knowles: Hamilton, ON *“Good News Church: Celebrating The Legacy of Harold Percy”* (Castle Quay Books)
- Leonard Hjalmarson: Chilliwack, BC *“Broken Futures: Leaders and Churches Lost in Transition”* (Urban Loft Publishers)

BIBLICAL STUDIES

- Joe Amaral: Milton, ON *“Story In The Stars”* (Hachette Books with Faith Words imprint)
- Ron Mahler: Minden, ON *“The Banquet: Exploring The Greatest Invitation Extended To Humanity”* (Castle Quay Books)
- Ruth L. Coghill: Bobcaygeon, ON *“Woman of Wisdom: A Four Lesson Bible Study (Ruth)”* (Word Alive Press)

CHRISTIAN LIVING

- Ken Shigematsu: Vancouver, BC *“Survival Guide for the Soul”* (Zondervan)
- Lorna Dueck & Dr. Nell DeBoer: Burlington, ON *“For Your Health”* (Word Alive Press)
- Anastasya Laverdiere: *“Servant Sons & Daughters”* (Word Alive Press)

INSPIRATIONAL/DEVOTIONAL

- Kaitlyn Cey: Saskatoon, SK *“STAND Secure”* (Self Published)
- James Bruyn: Calgary, AB *“31 Days With God At Work”* (Self Published)
- Sarah E. Ball: Coaldale, AB *“Fearless In 21 Days: A Survivor’s Guide To Overcoming Anxiety”* (Hachette Books with Faith Words Publishing Imprint)

LIFE STORIES

- Angelina Fast: St. Catharines, ON *“Finding Shelter - A Child’s Memoir of WWII”* (Word Alive Press)
- Melody Leclair: Guelph, ON *“When Lightning Strikes Twice”* (word Alive Press)
- Darlene Martens: Ruthven, ON *“Amazing Grace, Abounding Love”* (Word Alive Press)

MISCELLANEOUS - CHRISTIAN NON-FICTION SHORT LIST NOMINEES

- Neil Bramble, Frank Bucholz, MaryAnne Connor, Marvin Hunt, Beverley Johnston, Ross Johnston, Lloyd Mackey, Joanne Pepper, Perrie Peverall, John H. Redekop, Jack Taylor, Barbara Warwick: Surrey, BC *“The Church In Surrey & White Rock: The Untold Story”* (SWR Publishing Company)
- John Bowen & Michael Knowles: Hamilton, ON *“Good News Church: Celebrating The Legacy of Harold Percy”* (Castle Quay Books)
- Beverley J. Rayner: Ladysmith, BC *“The Face of Courage – The Edith Cavell Story”* (The Voice of the Martyrs Canada)

**BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET CHILDREN (FICTION / NON-FICTION COMBINED)**

- Sally Meadows: Saskatoon, SK “*When Sleeping Birds Fly. 365 Amazing Facts About The Animal Kingdom*” (Siretona Creative)
- Tim Huff & Iona Snair: Toronto, ON “*Am I Safe? Exploring Fear and Anxiety With Children*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Sally Meadows: Saskatoon, SK “*The Underdog Duckling*” (Your Nickel’s Worth Publishing)

BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET FICTION

YOUNG ADULT

- J.C. Kavanagh: Lisle, ON “*The Twisted Climb: Darkness Descends*” (BWL Publishing Inc.)
- Kathy Berlund-Pagé: Montréal, QC “*The Caves of Fire*” (Word Alive Press)

BOOKS – GENERAL MARKET NON-FICTION

CULTURE

- Brian Stiller: Newmarket, ON “*From Jerusalem to Timbuktu: A World Tour of the Spread of Christianity*” (InterVarsity Press)
- Larry J. McCloskey: Ottawa, ON “*Lament For Spilt Porter*” (Castle Quay Books)
- Paul Boge: Winnipeg, MB “*The True Story of Canadian Human Trafficking*” (Castle Quay Books)

LIFE STORIES

- Beverley Hopwood: Durham, ON “*Oh Brother! Confessions of a Long-Suffering Sister*” (Self Published)
- Paul Boge: Winnipeg, MB “*The True Story of Canadian Human Trafficking*” (Castle Quay Books)

Books – SPECIALTY

- Sharon Cavers: Cavan, ON “*Priceless Treasure In Ordinary Places*” (Angel Hope Publishing)
- Beverley J. Rayner: Ladysmith, BC “*The Face of Courage – The Edith Cavell Story*” (The Voice of the Martyrs Canada)
- Karen Autio & Loraine Kemp: Kelowna, BC “*Growing Up In Wild Horse Canyon*” (Crwth Press)

BOOKS – THE BEST BOOK COVER AWARD SPONSORED BY COWLICK STUDIOS

- Barry Slauenwhite: London, ON “*Strategic Compassion: Reuniting The Good News And Good Works In The Fight Against Poverty*” (Compassion Canada)
- Brian C. Stiller: Newmarket, ON “*From Jerusalem to Timbuktu: A World Tour of the Spread of Christianity*” (InterVarsity Press)
- Sarah E. Ball: Coaldale, AB “*Fearless In 21 Days: A Survivor’s Guide To Overcoming Anxiety*” (Hachette Books with Faith Words Publishing Imprint)

FRESH INK {Student Awards}

- Kaitlyn Weeks: Brantford, ON “*The End of Tomorrow*” (Homeschooled)
- Chal Forget: Tiny, ON “*Ice Dragon*” (Georgian College)
- Justine Russell: Pickering, ON “*On Jewish Meditation Literature*” (Brock University: St. Catharines, ON)
- Elise Arseneault: Hamilton, ON “*Companion*” (Redeemer University College: Hamilton, ON)
- Kristen Wood: North York, ON “*You found Me Drifting*” (Tyndale University College: North York, ON)

**IN THE BEGINNING {Unpublished Work Awards}**

- Janet Hainstock: Moosejaw, SK *“The Best There Has Ever Been”*
- William Gray: North Saanich, BC *“Gain, Match, Love: Remaining Best Friends Forever”*
- Lauren A. Harrison: London, ON *“None So Blind”*
- Harold McNabb: Victoria, BC *“The Redeemer of Stony Comers”*
- Kate Maclean: Red Deer, AB *“That’s Your Life”*

CASTLE QUAY BEST NEW CANADIAN MANUSCRIPT

This Short List Has 5 Nominees:

- Helen Smrcek: St. Agatha, ON *“The Horse Thief”*
- Donna Mann: Elora, ON *“Missing In Time But Not In Love”*
- Bosco H.C. Poon: Richmond, BC *“Beyond My Wildest Imagination”*
- Karen Barnestable: Kelowna, BC *“Seeking Silver”*
- Tim W. Callaway: Calgary, AB *“God is Loser Friendly”*

See you June 14th at The 2019 Word Awards Gala!

Carmen’s Banquet Centre—Hamilton, ON
Dinner Served at 6:30pm, Awards Ceremony to Follow

*****Discounts for Gala tickets purchased with Write Canada Conference Tickets*****

WRITE CANADA CONFERENCE

June 14-15, 2019

Redeemer University College—Hamilton, ON

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