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City of Regina

Office of the Mayor

February 5th, 2013

Dear Mayor,

RE: Mayor's Poetry City Challenge: A Celebration of Poetry, Writing and Publishing

Like Regina, your community is known for its support of culture and the arts. In 2012, the Mayor's office issued the Mayor's Poetry City Challenge to many communities across Canada. The challenge is for participating communities to have a poet from your community read a poem at the start of your Council meeting in March or April. Thirty communities from Victoria to Cornerbrook took part in the first Challenge.

As Regina's new Mayor, I invite you to participate in the 2013 Mayor's Poetry City Challenge. Like last year, you are asked to have a local poet read a poem at the start of your March or April Council meeting. The purpose is to recognize UNESCO's World Poetry Day on March 21 and National Poetry Month, which is celebrated in April in both Canada and the United States. This initiative is a celebration of poetry, writing, small presses and the contribution of poets and all writers to the cultural life in our communities. It also celebrates libraries and the work of so many of you to promote literacy and reading.

This project is a partnership between the City of Regina, the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild (SWG), and the League of Canadian Poets (LCP).

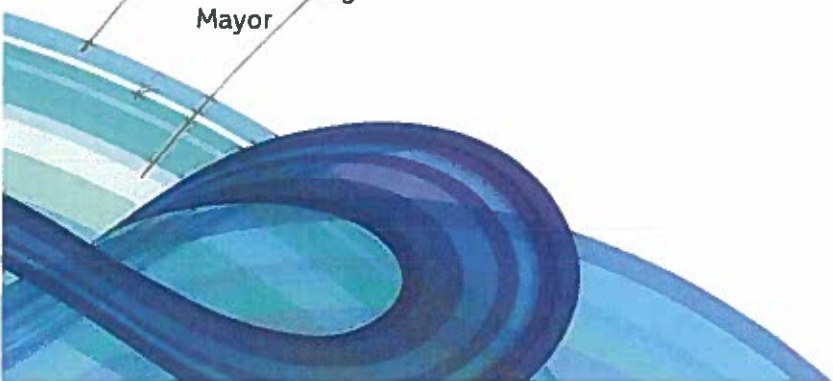
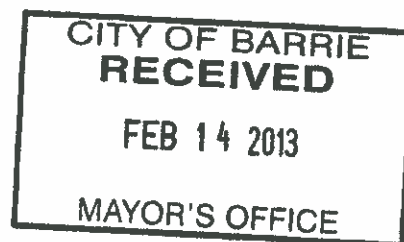
Participating Poetry City communities will be promoted in the media, in writing networks in Canada and the United States, and in communications with UNESCO. More information is provided in the attached information package.

Please confirm your intent to participate with my office by completing the attached contact information page to assist Saskatchewan Writers' Guild and the League of Canadian Poets in the management of the project.

A list of communities invited to participate in the challenge is provided in the package. Other cities are certainly welcome to join, but yours is one of those identified as a strong supporter of culture and the arts through our research.

Sincerely,

Michael Fougere
Mayor



POETRY CITY – INVITED MAYORS AND COMMUNITIES

British Columbia

Mayor Bruce Banman, Abbotsford
Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam
Mayor Mike Bernier, Dawson Creek
Mayor Walter Gray, Kelowna
Mayor John Ruttan, Nanaimo
Mayor John Dooley, Nelson
Mayor Wayne Wright, New Westminster
Mayor Dave Formosa, Powell River
Mayor Dianne Watts, Surrey
Mayor Gregor Robertson, Vancouver
Mayor Dean Fortin, Victoria
Mayor Nancy Wilhelm-Morden, Whistler

Alberta

Mayor Martin Shields, Brooks
Mayor Naheed Nenshi, Calgary
Mayor Stephen Mandel, Edmonton
Mayor Bill Given, Grand Prairie
Mayor Richard Ireland, Jasper
Mayor Rajko Dodic, Lethbridge
Mayor Jeff Mulligan, Lloydminster
Mayor Norm Boucher, Medicine Hat
Mayor Morris Flewelling, Red Deer

Saskatchewan

Mayor Roy Ludwig, Estevan
Mayor Thomas Sierzycki, Town of La Ronge
Mayor Réal Forest, Town of Gravelbourg
Mayor Deb Higgins, Moose Jaw
Mayor Ian Hamilton, North Battleford
Mayor Jim Scarrow, Prince Albert
Mayor Donald J. Atchison, Saskatoon
Mayor Jerrod Schafer, Swift Current
Mayor Debra Button, Weyburn
Mayor Bob Maloney, Yorkton
Mayor Bruce Fidler, Town of Creighton

Manitoba

Mayor Shari Decter Hirst, Brandon
Mayor Ken Wiebe, Morden
Mayor Sam Katz, Winnipeg
Mayor Eric Irwin, City of Dauphin
Mayor George Fontaine, City of Flin Flon
Mayor Earl Porter, City of Portage la Prairie

Ontario

Mayor Jeff Lehman, Barrie
Mayor Chris Friel, Brantford
Mayor Gil Brocanier, Cobourg
Mayor Karen Farbridge, Guelph
Mayor Bob Bratina, Hamilton

Mayor Mark Gerretsen, Kingston
Mayor Karl Zehr, Kitchner
Mayor Brenda Halloran, Waterloo
Mayor Joe Fontana, London
Gary Burroughs, Chair of Niagara Region
Mayor John Henry, Oshawa
Mayor Jim Watson, Ottawa
Mayor Debora Haswell, Owen Sound
Mayor Daryl Bennett, Peterborough
Mayor Marianne Matichuk, Greater Sudbury
Mayor Rob Ford, Toronto
Mayor Keith Hobbs, Thunderbay
Mayor Eddie Francis, Windsor

Québec

Michael Applebaum, maire, Montréal
M. Régis Labeaume, maire, Québec
M. Jean Tremblay, maire, Ville de Saguenay
M. Bernard Sevigny, maire, Sherbrooke
Yves Lévesque, maire, Trois-Rivière

New Brunswick

Mayor Kevin J. Haché, Caraquet
Mayor Brad Woodside, Fredericton
Mayor George LeBlanc, Moncton
Mayor Bob Berry, Sackville
Mayor Mel K. Norton, Saint John

Nova Scotia

Mayor Mike Savage, Halifax Regional Municipality
Mayor Rob Small, Town of Amherst
Mayor W.R. Wills, Town of Truro
Mayor Kevin Saccary, Cape Breton Regional Municipality
Mayor Barrie MacMillan, Town of New Glasgow

Prince Edward Island

Mayor Clifford J. Lee, Charlottetown
Mayor Basil Stewart, City of Summerside

Newfoundland and Labrador

Mayor Dennis O'Keefe, St. John's
Mayor Neville Greeley, Corner Brook
Mayor Philip Wood, Town of Bay Roberts
Mayor Woodrow French, Town of Conception Bay South
Mayor Claude Elliot, Town of Gander
Mayor Walwin Blackmore, Town of Grand Falls-Windsor
Mayor Ralph Wiseman, Town of Paradise
Mayor Leo Abbass, Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Mayor Janice Barnes, Town of Labrador City

Nunavut

Mayor John Graham, City of Iqaluit

Yukon

Mayor Dan Curtis, Whitehorse