



Media Advisory
May 27, 2009

First Annual Saskatchewan Book Day

The Saskatchewan Book Awards is pleased to present the first annual *Saskatchewan Book Day* on June 6, 2009 from 1-5 p.m. on the grounds in front of the Legislative Building. Admission is free and all are welcome. The event will feature readings by Yann Martel and Poet Laureate Robert Currie and other Saskatchewan authors reading from their books.

“Saskatchewan Book Day presents a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate ourselves, our rich literary history, and the contribution of our poets, our creative and non-fiction writers, to our understanding of our place in the world,” said David McLennan, author of *Our Towns*. McLennan will be reading at Saskatchewan Book Day.

Saskatchewan books will be available for sale and authors will be available for book signings. Children’s activities and readings in the SaskTel tent.

The author and book lineup is as follows: Poet Laureate Robert Currie (*Witness*), David McLennan (*Our Towns*), Yann Martel (*What is Stephen Harper Reading?*), Bonnie Dunlop (*Carnival of Glass*), Harold Lerat (*Treaty Promises, Indian Reality: Life on a Reserve*), Margaret Hryniuk (*Legacy of Stone*), Joanne Weber (*Pear Orchard*), Martine Noël-Maw (*Dans le pli des collines*). In the children’s tent: Carrie Saganace (*Stories of our People*) Judith Silverthorne (*Dinosaur Blackout*), Neil Sawatzky (*The Lake in the Middle of Town*) and Lori Punshon (*He who Flies by Night, the Story of Grey Owl*).

“Saskatchewan Book Day will represent and celebrate the diversity of our authors, and raise the pride in Saskatchewan residents for Saskatchewan-based authors, poets, and publishers, so we can say these are our books and our stories. So we can say, I can name our Saskatchewan authors, poets and publishers, ” said Jackie Lay, Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Book Awards.

Saskatchewan Book Awards events are intended to raise awareness of Saskatchewan books and authors by celebrating their excellence, recognizing their diversity, bringing authors and readers together, and supporting the promotional efforts of publishers and booksellers in the province.

The SBA wishes to thank the supporting funders: Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, SaskTel, Canada Council for the Arts, Department of Canadian Heritage, Saskatchewan Publishers Group, Saskatchewan Writers Guild, Saskatchewan Arts Board