

2025 Annual General Meeting

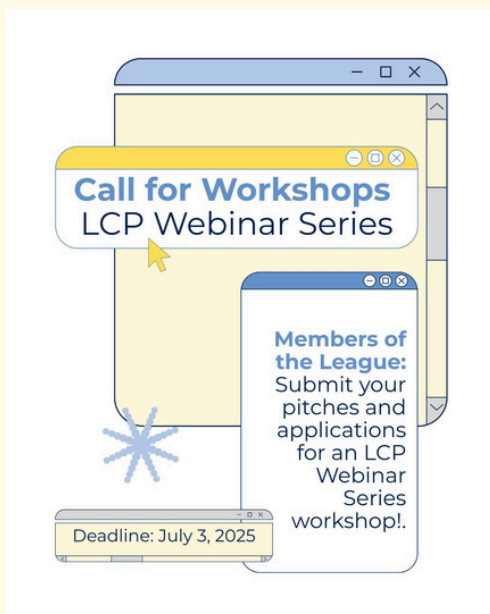
The League of Canadian Poets 2025 AGM and Member Townhall will take place on **Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 2 pm ET.**

- All meeting materials and information will be circulated through email and are available [here on our website](#).
- [Registration is open here](#).
- Members who cannot attend the AGM will have the opportunity to vote by proxy form in advance of the meeting. [Vote by proxy here](#).

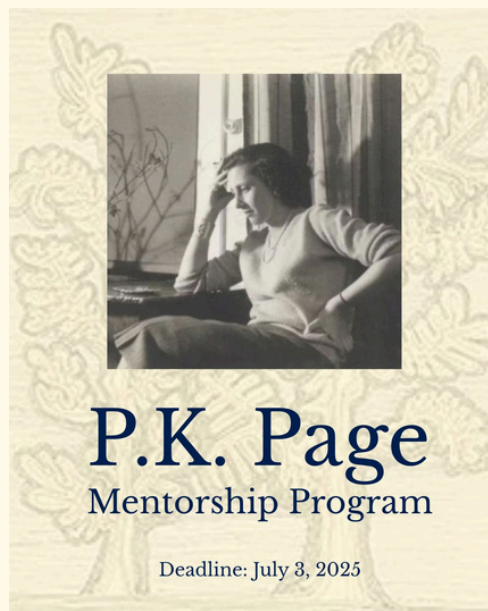
AGM and Member Townhall Schedule:

- League of Canadian Poets Annual General Meeting: 2 pm to 3 pm ET
- Break 3 pm to 3:30 pm ET
- Member Townhall: 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm, ET.

Visit our website for all the AGM and Member Townhall details here: poets.ca/agm2025



[Find out more.](#)



[Find out more.](#)



[Find out more.](#)

Upcoming Events

AGM & Member Townhall
June 24 at 2pm ET

Cross-Pollinations
On Writing a Political Poem
featuring Eileen Myles
June 25 at 6pm ET

Subscribe to Between the Lines

Make sure to subscribe to our poetry newsletter ***Between the Lines*** to catch all the latest opportunities, whether it's calls for submissions, prizes, contests, residencies, festivals, and more!

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Louise Carson

Louise Carson has recently been published in the Haiku Canada Review Vol. 19, No. 1; the 2024 Red Moon Anthology of English-Language Haiku, telling the bees; JONAH Magazine; Gusts No. 40; Enchanted Garden Haiku Journal; Failed Haiku; and the tEmz Review.

Ron Charach

Ron Charach's third book for children is a reimagining of the classic English poem *Who Killed Cock Robin?* The book offers young readers a vocabulary around love and loss, burial, funeral procession, and all the many honors that we grant the deceased, and does so in witty verse that avoids being morbid. Unlike the original poem, Sparrow's motive is explored, and those who volunteer their skills are all drawn from the wonderful world of birds.

George Elliott Clarke

Farzana Naz Shompa has just published, in Bangla translation, a book-length selection of poetry by George Elliott Clarke. Canada Kobi George Elliott Clarke Er Nirbachito Onudito Kobita (Selected, [Translated](#)

Poems of Canadian Poet George Elliott Clarke) is published by Srijon Publisher of Dhaka, Bangladesh. This is GEC's fourth book of poetry in translation. Previous titles appeared in Chinese (2006, trans. Tong Renshan), Romanian (2006, trans. Flavia Cosma), and Italian (2012, trans. Giulio Marra).

Sophia Conway

In celebration of her debut poetry book, *Crumbs & Constellations: A Haiku Story*, a selection of haiku was publicly exhibited across the lush gardens and butterfly greenhouses of Coombs Butterfly World on Vancouver Island, May 10 & 11, 2025. The book can be purchased online or at the gift shop. For more information, visit www.butterflyworldcoombs.com or www.sophiaconway.ca

Marvyne Jenoff

Dear friends, If you are in Toronto on June 6, do join me and several other members of the Writers Union of Canada as we present our work in the Angel Reading Series. I'll be reading from both my recent book of poetry, *Climbing the Rain*, and my new book, a hybrid memoir, *Tree*

Find the latest from the League:

- [Poetry Book Reviews](#)
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and Fruit: a Writer's Life and Work. It would be lovely to see some of you there.

Winston Lê

Asians on Edge: poets of the diaspora futures

May 31st at Spartacus Books

A quintet of Asian diasporic poets excavated language material and shapeshifted the landscape of traditional verse. In honour of Asian Heritage Month, Winston Lê launched his new chapbook, *Thhhhh*. Joining Lê were featured poets Carolyn Nakagawa, Yilin Wang, Rahat Kurd, and Leanne Dunic. Hosted by Grace Kwan.

Amy LeBlanc

I had a new poetry collection come out with The Porcupine's Quill in April 2025! Link below:
<https://theporcupinesquill.com/products/i-used-to-live-here>

Joseph Maviglia

Book launch of *In a Cage of Sunlight*, the selected works of Joseph Maviglia happened on June 13, Vivoli Restaurant, Toronto.

rob mcLennan

completed an editing/poetry manuscript evaluation today, which suggests i might be open to a further one; query, if such intrigues,
<https://robmcLennanauthor.blogspot.com/2017/04/workshops-manuscript-poetry-evaluation.html>

Gabriel Osson

Café littéraire francophone (in French) Toronto Once a month second Saturday from 1:30-2:30 @ CSI 192 Spadina Registration required Gabriel.ossan@gmail.com

Kyeren Regehr

1. AFTER: Poems in Dialogue
A Canadian Anthology of Response Poems Edited by Kyeren Regehr & Zoe Dickinson Published by Caitlin Press, and in collaboration with Planet Earth Poetry. We invite poets across Canada to contribute to AFTER: Poems in Dialogue, a national anthology celebrating the timeless tradition of poetic response. The anthology centers on the vibrant voices of over 60 Canadian poets featured in Season 29 of Planet Earth Poetry, each with a new book, offering an opportunity to engage with some of Canada's best contemporary poetry. Submission period: June 1 – September 30, 2025. To view the list of featured poets and learn more, visit:

<https://planetearthpoetry.com/after>

2. The Poet Laureate Podcast launched during National Poetry Month with guest poet Lorri Neilsen Glenn. It offers an immersive space for poetry, stillness and beauty--a refuge from the noise of the world, where listeners can experience poetry in it's purest form. Each month features an exceptional Canadian Poet reading their poetry. The conversation that follows is sculpted around a few luminous questions that invite the poet to share their relationship with poetry in a way that feels personal, intimate and profound. Hosted by Kyeren Regehr, 7th Poet Laureate of Victoria--this is a legacy project, free to all (no subscription necessary!) www.kyerenregehr.ca/poetlaureatepodcast follow @poetlaureatepodcast on Instagram for updates.

Stephen Kent Roney

This is an invitation for fellow

poets living in or visiting the Saint John NB area to join us in our regular readings on podcast and local radio station CFMH, "Hot Bottled Poetry." We meet at least once a month, generally on a Saturday. Next meeting as of this writing is March 22, and the program theme is "memory." For more information, contact Stephen Kent Roney at [sroneykor@gmail.com](mailto:sroneycor@gmail.com)

Mary Simmerling

Survivors' Voices Writing Workshops: Write Where We Belong

Survivors' Voices Writing Workshops provide a supportive space for survivors of sexual violence and predatory events to reclaim their stories and voices through writing. Facilitated in the Amherst Writers & Artists (AWA) method, workshops offer generative writing prompts, a supportive community environment, and strengths-based feedback. Writings from these workshops have been included in anthologies published by Amherst Writers & Artists Press: *We've Been Put Through Fire & Come Out Divine: Stories of Hope & Survival* and *We've Got Some Things to Say: Reshaping Narratives Around Sexual Violence*.

Location: Held virtually on Zoom.

Frequency: Every other Monday, from 5:30-7:30 pm EST/EDT.

Contact Information: Interested poets should contact Mary Simmerling at mary.simmerling@gmail.com. Additional information is available at writewherewebelong.ca.

Jade Wallace

ZZOO, the debut collaborative poetry collection of League members Mark Laliberte and Jade Wallace, who write together under the name MA|DE, is out now from Palimpsest Press. "This wild-blooded collection turns conventional exhibitionism on its head, treating humans and animals as equal subjects of art, science and selfhood. ZZOO is a bestiary for the modern world." Available in your choice of 5 variant covers: FOXHOLE, TANNIAN, SERPENTINE, INSECTOID or COSMICIST.

David Waltner-Toews

On March 21, at 7 PM, CMU Press in Winnipeg will be launching David Waltner-Toews's *New and Selected Poems*, edited, with an introduction by professor Nathan Dueck from the College of the Rockies. The book also includes an afterward/memoir about the author's life in poetry. The event will be held at McNally Robinson Bookstore. On April 23, during National Poetry Month, he will be doing an Ontario launch at the Kitchener Public Library (again, at 7 PM). A veterinary epidemiologist and Officer in the Order of Canada, Waltner-Toews has published more than 20 books of poetry, fiction and science. For more on Waltner-Toews, see

<https://davidwaltnertoews.wordpress.com/>

Sheri-D Wilson

Poet, Sheri-D Wilson Speaks with Poets & Artists NAUT FOR

EVERYONE Podcast Check it out

<https://www.youtube.com/@NautforEveryone>

Please Subscribe!

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

February 2025 - June 2025

Alberta

- Adrienne Adams
- Anne Stewart
- Katharine Weinmann
- Shana Ross

BC

- Abdul Salam Abo Al Shamat
- Aidan Chafe
- Alice Turski
- Cecily Nicholson
- Jamie Dopp
- jaz papadopoulos
- Jean-Paul Thuot
- Jessica McMillan
- Marlo Browne
- Natalie Lim
- Tāriq Malik

New Brunswick

- Arun Budhathoki
- Ian LeTourneau
- Steph Percival

Nova Scotia

- Dawn Web
- Jen Colclough
- Wanda Campbell

Ontario

- Caitlin Thomson
- Farah Ghafoor
- Jerry Prager
- Jonathan Chan-Choong
- Louise Ells
- Mahaila Smith
- Mansour Noorbakhsh
- Mehrub Rahman
- Mony Nimchonok

- Thu Anh Nguyen
- Yvette LeClair

Quebec

- Adam Haiun
- Gwen Aube
- Lady Rojas Benavente

Saskatchewan

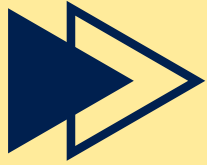
- K.J. Moss

International

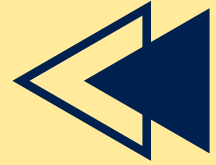
- Cara Waterfall
- Lisa López Smith



[Find out more.](#)



COMMUNITY COMMITTEE UPDATES



[Click Here: find the latest in the Member Hub](#)



Senior Poets Caucus

In the autumn of 2024, email exchanges among senior members of the League explored creating a Senior Poets Caucus. A steering committee of John Barton, Allan Briesmaster, David Brydges, Anne Burke, Louise Carson, Eric Folsom, Cathy Ford and Blaine Marchand with Blaine and John as Co-chairs was ratified. There are 72 members.

The Senior Poets Caucus of the League of Canadian Poets brings together, advocates for, and supports emerging and established poets who self-identify as being fifty years old and older, regardless of their origins, backgrounds, gender identity and gender expression, interests, and aesthetics. It endeavours to establish welcoming spaces online and in person where members may share poems, give workshops, and host lectures and panels. The caucus aims to further discussion of the challenges of writing, publishing and continuing to have meaningful professional careers as poets in an increasingly ageist literary environment, as encountered when submitting their work for publication, applying for funding, and in other organizational and informal situations. Building upon their years of experience as writing professionals, which they would like to share with the larger League membership, senior poets believe that dialogue between and across generations is essential and therefore younger writers, non-caucus and non-League members are welcome to attend caucus meetings and events.

Its first event on Saturday, April 12, was a business meeting and the election of officers for one year, followed by an Open Mic featuring 32 readers. Events will be every second month, excepting summer months. In addition to Open Mics, the SPC will hold a panel.

The SPC has forwarded a motion that in 2026, the League AGM and Town Hall be in-person with key events on Zoom and accommodation at a university or college to make it affordable; and requested it create one of the 60 For 60 activities.

Co-Chairs: Blaine Marchand and John Barton
seniorpoets@leaguepoets.com

Feminist Caucus

The Feminist Caucus has seen another year of growth and accomplishments. Our Meetings, which continue to be held monthly via Zoom using the Community Committees account (with gratitude to the League), have been well attended, always exceeding quorum. New members have joined, each committed to the goals in our Mission Statement. And our two major annual events, held now for the third year in a row, were well received.

The first event, for International Women's Day, featured 10 FC members from across the country and drew an audience of 55+ from Canada, the U.S., and Panama.

The second event, our National Poetry Month reading on April 26th, featured 13 poets who are immigrants or refugees to Canada and drew an audience of 36+. These readings (two of which were given in the poets' mother tongues, followed by English translations) were extremely powerful and moving — termed “devastating,” yet inspiring, by many in attendance.

In light of funding constraints on the arts, we worked proactively to ensure that our readers received financial compensation. We successfully applied for the maximum number of LCP microgrants, and we sold tickets through Eventbrite to pay our remaining readers. We endeavour to find more ways to pay readers.

We developed a strong new land acknowledgement. After months of deliberation, the Motion to adopt it was carried unanimously.

We started hosting a quarterly book club aimed at raising our members' social consciousness. So far, we've discussed two of this year's four titles, which focus on anti-racism.

We made progress developing a Feminist Caucus logo to use in future publicity. A professional designer who believes in our cause has agreed to donate his time to this project.

We held an election at our June meeting and (re-)instated a full slate of officers: Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Co-Chairs: Heidi Greco and Madi Johnstone

feministcaucus@leaguepoets.com | heidigreco@hotmail.com | madilenetinejohnstone@gmail.com

BIPOC Poets Committee

BIPOC Poets Committee is to celebrate, support, and amplify the voices of LCP's member poets identifying as Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Colour across the national literary landscape. We are committed to:

1. providing platforms and opportunities for BIPOC Poets to share work, ensuring voices and stories are heard and valued in mainstream literary circles,
2. offering workshops, mentorship programs, and resources to nurture talents and careers of emerging and established BIPOC poets, fostering a sense of belonging and mutual support,
3. building a supportive and dynamic network that promotes collaboration, dialogue, and solidarity among BIPOC poets (and allies),
4. advocating for greater representation for BIPOC poets in publishing, performance, challenging systemic barriers and biases within the literary world,
5. honour and celebrate rich cultural heritages and contributions of BIPOC poets, recognizing the vital role we play in shaping and growing the literary arts and society at large.

We aim to transform the national literary landscape fostering diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, ensuring accountability through social justice and anti-oppression frameworks.

Co-Chairs: Bassam (they/them) and Hollay Ghadery (she/her)

BIPOCPoets@leaguepoets.com

Parenting Poets

The Parenting Poets Committee continues to maintain a private group on the social networking site Slack, where poets who identify as parents can connect with each other for discussion and support, as well as share published work, opportunities, recommended reading, and even rejections. Anyone who wants to be added can email co-chair Jen Delisle at delisle.jennifer@gmail.com. We also held our first online open mic as part of poetry month, which was a great success, and are planning for more in the future.

Co-Chairs: Jessica Coles and Jennifer Bowering Delisle
jessica.n.coles@gmail.com | delisle.jennifer@gmail.com

Poets of Faith

"Poets of Faith," in the words of our mandate, is a group for "poets who believe their craft is in service to a Supreme Being." We have been having difficulty getting off the ground; there seems to be a demand instead for a group for "spiritual but not religious" poets. I have encouraged them to form their own group. This is not our mandate; we seek fellowship among poets with a firm religious commitment. We model ourselves roughly on AA, seeking a space for humility and open sharing. Like AA, we do not restrict membership by denomination, so long as one can profess belief in a Supreme Being. This is not a place to discuss theological differences, but our personal relationship with the Divine.

Chair: Stephen Roney
sroneymkor@gmail.com

In Memoriam

David C. Brydges

David C. Brydges was a poet/pioneer, cultural acupuncturist, and community builder, whose visionary mission is to bring the world more poets, poetry, and poetry adventures, while living in the wilds of his imagination. David was a passionate pollinator for poetry and eternal autodidact whose motto is "Doctora Ignorantia." His favourite poetry quote was by a 17th century German poet named Friedrich Holderlin. "Although we have to make a living we dwell poetically on this earth."

- Creator of Canada's most historic community poetry park the Dr. Pollard Poetry Park.
- Northern Ontario's largest annual poetry/arts festival. (www.springpulsepoetryfestival.com)
- PoeARTry North a pioneering provincial painting /poetry competition in Ontario
- Chief Creative Engineer for the PoeTrain adventure tours www.poetrain.com
- Administrator of the oldest non-governmental national poetry contest in Canada Dr. William Henry Drummond Poetry Contest.
- An 11-year Poetry Pulse column in a bi-monthly local newspaper The Voice.
- Chief Energizing Officer and Owner of Brydge Builder Press.

Dave was awarded the distinction of Poet Emissary of The Ontario Poetry Society in November, 2021. He was a passionate poet who was a guiding light and prominent figure. His passing has left a huge gaping hole in the poetry community that no one else can ever fill. [Read the full Ontario Poetry Society tribute here.](#)

Paul Dutton

The League was sad to learn that Paul Dutton died early in the morning on May 27, 2025. Paul was a remarkable experimental poet and performer (sound singer) as part of the Four Horsemen, the CCMC and with his own solo publications, recordings and performances. To share a tribute about Paul for inclusion in the next ST@NZA, [please visit this form](#).

Suparna Ghosh

The League was sad to learn Suparna Ghosh passed away on March 8, 2025. Ghosh was a writer and painter based in Toronto, Canada. She integrated illustrations with poetry and incorporated poetry in paintings. Words and visuals often coalesced to create a montage or a vignette, a poem, a sketch or a painting, or a segment of each in one, as illustrated in her art catalogue. She has published and exhibited her works in galleries in Toronto, New York and major cities in India, and in juried shows at the Arts and Letters Club of Toronto. She has recited her poems at several venues, at times to the accompaniment of musical instruments, particularly the sitar.

In Toronto, Suparna Ghosh was one of the founding members of the Art Bar, the longest running poetry-only weekly reading series in Canada. She and poet Ruth Colombo were the founding members of Pegasus, a poetry workshop at the Arts and Letters Club (A&L), where poets read and discussed poetry, either their own, or that of other poets.

Suparna was one of the writer-poets to participate in "Poetry in Union: Railway Lines and Valentines" on February 13th, 2019. This event was a partnership between the League of Canadian Poets and Union Station, Toronto, and is based on the success of The Poet is In, which takes place in New York City annually.

Ian Lancashire

Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto; eminent scholar and innovator; generous colleague and mentor to students; Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada; published poet; avid golfer; loving husband, father, and grandfather; reluctant but eventual cat-lover: Ian Lancashire died unexpectedly April 3, 2025, in Toronto, of complications from covid. Born in Winnipeg November 27, 1942, to Ernest Lancashire and Elizabeth Lawton Lancashire, Ian received his B.A. (Honours) from the University of Manitoba in 1964, and then his M.A. (1965) and Ph.D. (1969) from the University of Toronto, where he was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, a Junior Fellow at Massey College (1966–68; Don of Hall 1967–68), and a pallbearer in 1968 for Vincent Massey. Appointed Lecturer (1968) and then Assistant Professor (1969) in the (then University College) English Department, University of Toronto, he first taught at Erindale College (now University of Toronto at Mississauga) and moved c. 1985 to New College, on the St. George campus, to collaborate in his research with Computer Science colleagues there. He became a full Professor in 1984. His early research focused on Tudor drama and theatre history, the best known of his early publications being his highly influential edition of *Two Tudor Interludes: The Interlude of Youth and Hickscorner* (1980) and his 1984 essential reference volume, *Dramatic Texts and Records of Britain: A Chronological Topography to 1558*, still cited today by experts in the field. His total research publications at the time of his death, individual and collaborative, totalled well over 100. Teaching was a joy to Ian, and after his retirement he continued to involve students in his research projects. Throughout his career he was also an in-demand advisor to many scholarly organizations and journals. He was also a lifelong published poet, particularly interested in difficult poetic forms, and a lifelong golfer (enormously proud of his 2003 hole-in-one!) He celebrated family weddings and anniversaries with erudite yet deeply emotional poems. [Read the full obituary](#).

Larry Sawyer

On February 28, Larry Sawyer, a bold, bright star in our lives, crossed over. A truly unique soul, he was fully human—an authentic individual, steadfast in his love of poetry, and embodied art, music, culture, politics, religion. He was driven by life's unknown. He was sensitive to injustices in the world. He was intellectually curious, and a deeply kind and caring creature. He was a philosopher, one who fiercely believed in truth. Generous to many poets over the years, he enjoyed the art of it, the expanse of it, he immersed himself in poetry, in jazz, in art. Everything he did, he did with his whole heart. His prolific writing, perspectives, thoughts, words—his existence in its entirety profoundly changed me and my world. And he touched so many in our vast circle of writerly friends and comrades.

Please help raise funds to have three proper memorials for Larry in the places he lived and thrived: Chicago, Fairborn, and Toronto. [View fundraiser here.](#)