

Media Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 8:30 PM, JUNE 9, 2012:

Wayne Arthurson wins Alberta Readers' Choice Award for *Fall from Grace*

CALGARY, AB, June 9, 2012 – The debut crime novel by Edmonton author Wayne Arthurson has taken the \$10,000 prize in the [Alberta Readers' Choice Award](#).

Fall from Grace is a fast-paced thriller that follows crime reporter and recovering gambling addict Leo Desroches as he investigates the murder of a young Aboriginal woman. The book, published by Forge Books, was among five finalists vying for the honour of being the best book by an Alberta author as chosen by the reading public. The winner was announced at the Alberta Book Awards Gala in Calgary.

“The award encourages readers to discover the remarkable writing talent in Alberta and support local authors,” said Linda Cook, CEO of the Edmonton Public Library. “With such exceptional books in the running this year, it was a very tight race.”

Now in its third year, the Alberta Readers' Choice Award – presented annually by the Edmonton Public Library – underwent a facelift this year. The eligibility requirement changed from an Alberta-based publisher to an author residing in Alberta.

When the public went to the polls in May, the most votes were cast for Arthurson's book, which won out over these finalists:

- *Freddy's War* by Judy Schultz, published by Brindle & Glass
- *In the Suicide's Library* by Tim Bowling, published by Gaspereau Press
- *Nobody Cries at Bingo* by Dawn Dumont, published by Thistledown Press
- *The Antagonist* by Lynn Coady, published by House of Anansi Press

Arthurson has written four history books, two novels and countless magazine articles. His second novel in the Leo Desroches series, *A Killing Winter*, came out on April 10.

About the Alberta Readers' Choice Award

The Alberta Readers' Choice (ARC) Award is presented annually by the Edmonton Public Library (EPL). Currently in its third year, the ARC Award promotes literacy and reading to Albertans by highlighting the unique and talented writers residing in our province. The \$10,000 prize, sponsored by EPL, goes to the author of the winning title as chosen by the reading public. The ARC Award is one of the largest literary prizes offered in Alberta and is comparable to many national literary awards. For more information about the ARC Award, visit www.epl.ca/alberta-readers-choice.

About the Edmonton Public Library

The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. Every year, we host over 14 million in-branch and online visits across our 17 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere - in the library, at home, or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value - that is today's EPL. Spread the words. www.epl.ca.

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