

Media Release

For Immediate Release:

\$10,000 Alberta Readers' Choice Award Up For Grabs

Reading public goes to the polls beginning April 22

EDMONTON, Alberta, April 11, 2013 – The jury has spoken and five talented authors will battle it out for the fourth annual Alberta Readers' Choice (ARC) Award. The \$10,000 award – presented annually by the Edmonton Public Library and one of Alberta's richest literary prizes – recognizes the exceptional writing talent in Alberta and encourages readers to support Alberta authors.

"The quality of authors in our province is remarkable and this year's submissions did not disappoint," said Linda Cook, CEO of the Edmonton Public Library. "There was something for everyone – fiction, non-fiction, children's titles and poetry. Our jurors definitely had their work cut out for them to get the list down to five!"

The five finalists for the 2013 ARC Award are:

1. *419*, by Will Ferguson (Published by Penguin Group Canada)
2. *I Know Who You Remind Me Of*, by Naomi K. Lewis (Published by Enfield & Wizenty)
3. *The Shore Girl*, by Fran Kimmel (Published by NeWest Press)
4. *The Tinsmith*, by Tim Bowling (Published by Brindle & Glass Publishing)
5. *Walls: Travels Along the Barricades*, by Marcello Di Cintio (Published by Goose Lane Editions)

Shaping the short-list this year was a diverse group of jurors, each with a demonstrated interest in Alberta literature: Diana Davidson, Director of the Province's Public Library Services Branch; Lori Graff, Calgary Public Library Readers' Services Librarian; Michael Hingston, Edmonton Journal books columnist; Gregory Koop, 2010 Alberta Literary Award finalist; and Judy Mott, Library Manager of Seba Beach Public Library.

"This was a great opportunity to discover books I may not have otherwise read," said Davidson. "I'm so impressed with the variety of outstanding work being produced by Alberta writers!"

The public will go to the polls (www.epl.ca/alberta-readers-choice) to cast their votes from April 22 to May 17. The winner of the 2013 ARC Award will be announced on May 25 at the 2013 Alberta Book Awards gala in Edmonton.

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Spread the words.

About the Alberta Readers' Choice Award

The Alberta Readers' Choice (ARC) Award is presented by the Edmonton Public Library (EPL). Currently in its fourth 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 voted on 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

In 2013 the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) celebrates 100 years of service to our great city. We've come a long way since 1913 when books were all you could find on our shelves... and we're just getting started! Today EPL carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff takes you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. The second most visited place in Edmonton, 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. EPL is a registered charity and relies on donations to enhance services. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$20. Spread the words. www.epl.ca/donate.

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