

2026 Annual General Meeting

Monday June 22, 2026

7 pm
Online

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement (Anne Bailey)
 - a. President's Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda (Anne Bailey)
3. Approval of Minutes: AGM, June 9, 2025 (Anne Bailey)
4. President's Report (Anne Bailey)
 - a. Board Highlights of 2025-26
 - b. Membership Survey: Key Learnings and Recommendations
 - c. What's ahead for WGA
 - d. Questions
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Governance Committee (Anne Bailey)
 - b. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility Committee (Jenna Butler/Natalie Simpson)
 - c. Youth Committee (Aubrianna Snow)
6. Executive Director's Report (Giorgia Severini)
 - a. Operational Highlights of 2025-26
 - b. Questions
7. Treasurer's Report (Judith Clark)
 - a. Presentation of 2025-26 Financial Statements
 - b. Questions
 - c. Appointment of Auditors: MOTION that the membership approve Bergeron & Co. Chartered Professional Accountants as auditors for the 2026-27 fiscal year.
8. Board Elections (Anne Bailey)
 - a. Election of Treasurer
 - b. Election of Members-at-Large (2)
9. Other Business (Anne Bailey)
10. Question Period (Anne Bailey)
11. Adjournment

Writers' Guild of Alberta
2025 Annual General Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2025

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Hybrid: Virtual AGM / Southern Alberta Institute of Technology – Heritage Hall

Board Members in Attendance:

Colin Martin, President
Anne Bailey, Vice President
Judith Butler, Treasurer
Kendall Bistretzan, Youth Representative
Anna Shannon, Member at Large
Giorgia Severini (in person and online)

WGA Staff in Attendance:

Ashley Mann
Jason Norman
Ashley Frerichs
Christyn Carter
Kimberly Gomez

Members in Attendance and Online:

Rona Altrows	Nisha Patel
Julie Sedivy	Zeva Mah
Bob Stallworthy	Fiona Pearson
Fran Kimmel	Kim Kelln
Dustin Archibald	Craig Scott
Blaine Newton	Elisabeth Shehner
Leslie Greentree	Amanda Jeffrey
Lori Hahnel	Anne Burke (online)
Alexis Marie Chute	Ari Moretz (online)
Elizabeth Haynes	Audrey Whiston (online)
Jan Markel	Betty Jane Hegerat (online)
Laura Nichol	Bolu Oluwadele (online)
Harrison Varley	Carol Parchewsky (online)
Blaine Wiseman	Elizabeth Millham (online)
Kaila Johnson	Emma Pivato (online)
Sally Truss	Fiona Nelson (online)
Moorea Gray	Jane Harris-Zsovan (online)
Micheline Maylor	Micheline Maylor-Kovitz (online)
Kim Johnstone	Natalie Simpson (online)
Lily Johnstone	Paulo da Costa (online)

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Megan Jamieson

Penney Kome (online)

T.F. Pruden (online)

Total Attendees: 48 (plus 5 staff members)**1. Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order by Colin Martin at 10:13 a.m.

Colin Martin delivers Land Acknowledgment

2. Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda by Moorea Gray, seconded by Amanda Jeffrey CARRIED.

Q: Is the place for putting forward a motion under Other Business?**A:** Yes**3. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the June 9, 2024 AGM Meeting Minutes by Lori Hahnel, seconded by Moorea Gray, CARRIED.

4. President's Welcome and Report – See Annual Report

Anne Bailey provides additional details about the membership survey, including demographics, information about writing activity, WGA member engagement, and key takeaways.

Q: Is there data that shows specifically when member drop-off happens in the first five years?**A:** According to the data the staff has, people most commonly join for one year and then drop off, but further analysis is required in light of these survey findings.**Q:** What have you learned about surveying your constituency that you'd take into account the next time you do such work?**A:** Do a shorter survey, and work on thinking about the questions we want to ask to receive the information that we need. Much of the information we asked for, we can't do a lot with. We also want to create an accessible, inviting, and inclusive survey.**Q:** (Comment) Member believes the reason people leave after the first year is that people go off and find need - and genre-specific groups that better suit their needs. WGA is best for a broader community and set of needs.

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Q: How will the analysis of the survey happen? There's a deep art and science to analyzing certain subjects, and we want to ensure we have the proper tools to do that and properly assess comments.

A: The survey produced a lot of information, so there's a significant amount of material to go through. We're going to have the board look at and compile, but we are also looking at contracting someone to do a concise analysis and produce a report from the material that we can use.

5. Committee Reports:

5.1 Governance Committee – See Annual Report

5.2 Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee – See Annual Report

5.3 Youth Committee – See Annual Report

6. Executive Director's Report – See Annual Report

Giorgia Severini provides highlights regarding membership, sponsorships, and funding.

Q: (Comment) Long-time member voices support of the fee raise

7. Treasurer's Report – See Annual Report

Judith Butler summarizes that the WGA is financially sound at this time and that members have been valuable in donating their resources and time.

Q: If the WGA had gotten an increase to the foundation, what would we have wanted to do with that?

A: We are currently sitting on a surplus of 40,000 left over from COVID, and we need to spend it before the end of the next federal cycle. We are using that to increase staff resources in order to increase sponsorship and keep programs running. Additional funding would have been allocated to this program and for project development as well. Also, an increase in rural and remote programming, for which a specific grant was received.

Q: Thought we were under a deficit and wants clarification.

A: We have more surplus for the current five years. There are also reserve funds that should not be touched unless an emergency arises. We are not in debt.

Q: Did we spend more money than we brought in?

A: For this year, yes. Looking at an overall break-even for five years.

8. Appointment of Auditors:

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Motion to approve Bergeron and Co. as auditors for the 2025 -2026 fiscal year from Leslie Greentree, seconded by [missed], CARRIED.

9. Elections of WGA Executive and Board for 2025/2026:

9.1 Board Slate:

The slate includes incumbent members of the board who require election to a new term or who are taking on a new executive position on the board. Natalie Simpson, Aubrianna Snow, and Elisabeth Shenher are new nominees for Member at Large positions and require election.

It was presented that if no nominations are received from the floor for the executive positions, then the slate will be considered elected by acclamation.

Q: What is being done to improve rural board involvement?

A: Increasing programming outside of Calgary and Edmonton, and doing outreach at existing events. An official strategy to be taken up by the incoming board.

Q: (Comment) Believes geographic distribution is an urgent matter to address. Suggests a mailing package to members outside the two major centres, explaining what the board does and inviting applications.

Q: What will be done so that this [population of mainly Edmonton and Calgary] isn't a regular state for the board?

A: We got a suggestion from the floor and are open to more suggestions. Giorgia Severini will be at the Lacombe writing retreat happening next weekend to connect with people there. Colin Martin extends the invitation to anyone joining online from outside of Calgary or Edmonton to put themselves forward for a board position.

Q: What is the level of commitment required?

A: Job descriptions for the position are available online. One of the key things is that there's a firm commitment level. Members of the board are expected to attend and prepare for meetings. There's at least one affirmed meeting a month that is set a year in advance, and the expectation is that people schedule around those. There are also committee meetings you'd have to attend. Ideally, in-person commitments include the annual retreat and in-person AGM, and conference. Prep for board meetings is an hour or two maximum.

Q: Is virtual meeting attendance acceptable?

A: Yes, except for the two in-person events, which are paid for by the Guild.

Q: If you're on the board, can you also teach a workshop and be paid?

A: Board members cannot be paid for their work on the board, but they can be hired and paid for extra things if they're considered the best person for the job. They cannot be given an advantage. The board doesn't hire anybody to do work – those decisions are made by staff.

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Q: What does rural mean?

A: Anything outside the city limits of Calgary or Edmonton.

Q: Can people who are running for member-at-large who don't have a bio provide information about themselves?

A: Yes

Q: How many are we voting for?

A: Four positions.

Q: What is the age requirement for the youth representative?

A: 30

Call for nominations from the floor put forward by Colin Martin.

- Timothy F. Pruden nominates himself for the member-at-large position (rural)
- Megan Jamieson nominates herself for the member-at-large position (rural)
- Anna Shannon nominates Blaine Wiseman for the member-at-large position (Calgary)

Call for nominations declared closed.

A vote is conducted. A notice will be sent out, announcing the people elected to the member-at-large positions.

Position - Current	Status	Nominations for 2025/2026
President Colin Martin, Calgary <i>Completing 1st year of 2nd term</i> <i>Stepping down</i>	Election	Anne Bailey, Edmonton <i>Entering 2nd year of second 2-year term</i> <i>Election required for President</i>
Vice President Anne Bailey, Edmonton <i>Completed 2nd year of 1st term</i> <i>Running for President</i>	Election	Anna Shannon, Calgary <i>Completed 2nd year of first 2-year term</i> <i>Election required for Vice President</i>
Secretary Angie Elsinga, Calgary <i>Appointed by board</i> <i>Stepping down</i>	Election	Kendall Bistretzan, Calgary <i>Completing 2nd year of 1st 2-year term</i> <i>Election required for Secretary</i>
Treasurer Judith Clark, Calgary <i>Appointed by board</i>	Election	Judith Clark, Calgary <i>Election required</i>
Member at Large (Youth Representative) Kendall Bistretzan, Calgary <i>Completing 2nd year of 1st term</i>	Vacant	Candidate Required

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<i>Running for Secretary</i>		
Member at Large Moni Brar, Calgary <i>Completing 1st year of 2nd term</i> <i>Stepping down</i>	Election	Natalie Simpson, Calgary <i>Election Required</i>
Member at Large Nicole Hill, Edmonton <i>Completed 2nd year of 2nd term</i> <i>Terms completed - leaving board</i>	Election	Aubrianna Snow, Edmonton <i>Election required</i>
Member at Large Jenna Butler, Barrhead <i>Completing 1st year of 1st term</i>	Filled	Jenna Butler, Barrhead <i>Entering 2nd year of first 2-year term</i> <i>No election required</i>
Member at Large Anna Shannon, Calgary <i>Completed 2nd year of 1st term</i> <i>Running for Vice President</i>	Election	Elisabeth Shenher, Edmonton <i>Election required</i>
Past President	Filled	Colin Martin, Calgary <i>No election required</i>

Nominations from the floor for executive positions were called three times. As there were no additional nominees for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, positions were declared by acclamation. Colin Martin puts forward a motion to accept the executive nominees, Harrison seconds, CARRIED.

Q: Which positions would be determined to be one-year terms?

A: Whichever put us over the allotted location variation (see election terms below).

9.2 Elections:

According to the WGA bylaw, there shall be no more than three members of the board who reside in the same centre (Edmonton, Calgary, rural), unless there is a vacancy that cannot be filled.

Motion to permit the 2025 -2026 board to exceed the quota of three members from the same centre based on the member-at-large election. Members who are elected to the board as members at large and who exceed the quota serve only a one-year term and require a new election the following year. Sally Truss moves, Anne Bailey seconds. CARRIED.

WGA Executive and Board 2025-2026

Anne Bailey, President (Edmonton)
Colin Martin, Past President (Calgary)
Anna Shannon, Vice-President (Calgary)
Kendall Bistretzan, Secretary (Calgary)

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Judith Clark, Treasurer (Calgary)

Aubrianna Snow, Youth Representative (Edmonton)

Jenna Butter, Member-at-Large (Barrhead)

Megan Jamieson, Member-at-Large (Stony Plain)

Timothy F. Pruden, Member-at-Large (Thorsby)

Natalie Simpson, Member-at-Large (Calgary)

10. **Other Business:**

Motion to support TWUC statement

Elizabeth Haynes makes a motion [or Elizabeth Haynes moves that] for the WGA to publicly support The Writers Union of Canada's statement on the Government of Alberta's policy of censoring books. Seconded by Anna Shannon.

Discussion. Key points raised:

- The policy would remove agency and power from school boards and librarians to make the correct decisions for their students.
- The targeting of 2SLGBTQ+ authors is clear.
- Concern that taking a political stance could impact future funding.

Colin called the motion. CARRIED.

Question Period

Q: The WGA used to suggest a fee structure. Would we still recommend a rate for writers who are working in the community?

A: We typically use the Writers' Union numbers because it's so variable that we can't determine a standard rate.

11. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned by Anne Bailey at 12:22 pm

Candidates, Incumbents, and Nominees
 Writers' Guild of Alberta
 Executive and Board 2026/2027

Incumbent Board Members

Position	Incumbent
President	Anne Bailey, Edmonton <i>Completing first year of second two-year term No election required</i>
Vice-president	Anna Wagner, Calgary <i>Completing first year of second two-year term No election required</i>
Secretary	Kendall Bistretzan, Calgary <i>Completing first year of second two-year term No election required</i>
Treasurer	Judith Clark, Calgary <i>Completing second year of first two-year term Stepping down</i>
Member at Large/ Youth Representative	Aubrianna Snow, Edmonton <i>Completing first year of first two-year term No election required</i>
Member at Large	T.F. (Tim) Pruden, Thorsby <i>Completing first year of first two-year term No election required</i>
Member at Large	Natalie Simpson, Calgary <i>Completing first year of first two-year term No election required</i>
Member at Large	Jenna Butler, Barrhead <i>Completing second year of first two-year term Stepping down</i>
Past President	Colin Martin, Calgary <i>Stepping down</i>

Candidates, Incumbents, and Nominees
 Writers' Guild of Alberta
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Board Vacancies and Nominees

Position	Nominee
Treasurer	1. Jason Schembri, Calgary
Members at Large 2 positions	1. Shaylean Gladu, Fort McMurray 2. Nomination open

- Each Board member is voted in for a term of two years and limited to a maximum of two terms for a total of four years, except in the case of the past president who may hold office during the term of his/her successor.
 - In rare circumstances by unanimous, anonymous vote by the board an individual board member will be permitted to stand for election for a third two-year term based on the needs of the board, and the extension of the third term shall be ratified at the annual general meeting. Under no circumstances can this term be extended. The additional year as past president is outside of these terms.
 - There shall be no more than three members of the board who reside in the same centre unless there is a vacancy that cannot be filled from a unique community, city, or town. In this case, the board may approve more than three members from the same centre until the next Annual General Meeting.
- Board members need to be elected into Executive positions. If a member is nominated mid-term for an Executive position but fails to be elected, that member reverts back to their original position to finish their two-year term
- Written nominations for the Board of Directors may be made in advance of the AGM, signed by the candidate and two members of the Guild who are in good standing. Additionally, nominations and seconding motions may be put forth at the AGM by Guild members who are in good standing with the consent of the nominee.
- Board members are elected by the majority vote of members present or, under Robert's Rules of Order, if there is no opposition there is no need for a formal vote. The matter is decided by "acclamation" or by "unanimous consent."

Candidates, Incumbents, and Nominees
Writers' Guild of Alberta
Executive and Board 2026/2027

New Candidates Seeking Election (Nominations received by June 1, 2026)

Treasurer

Jason Schembri (Calgary) With 20+ years in executive financial management I have excelled in budgeting, policy development & oversight, strategic planning, financial management, and all detailed level accounting positions, having retired (mostly) financial consulting work in 2024.

Election Statement: I have participated as the treasurer of boards on at least four occasions, as well as being a Chief Financial Officer and an active member of several varying board committees over my career in multiple industries, responsible for all areas of financial management from transaction to final annual statements. I have built a reputation for business acumen and maximizing cost savings, giving organizations more financial resources to work with. I also pride myself on being an efficiency junkie. Retiring from financial work, I turned my attention to coaching and writing, publishing a self-help book before turning to fiction which I love dearly. I still miss my financial work, and it would be a perfect match for me to be able to fill this role and combine both of my passions together in one organization. I have demonstrated a high level of business success in every organization I have served. I plan to be a dedicated board member and help bring great success to the WGA.

Letters of nomination attached.

Member at Large

Shaylean Gladu (Fort McMurray) is a Nêhiyawak poet, published in Northword Magazine, Words in Motion, and Words & Birds. She won first in the 2025 Words in Motion poetry competition, received an honourable mention for the 2026 Kemosha Scholarship, and was a mentee in WGA's 2026 Mentorship Program. Shaylean is a public speaker who has appeared at multiple ceremonies, open mics, fundraisers, and launch events. She completed a Visiting Author Tour with the Wood Buffalo Regional Library, promoting poetry in rural Indigenous schools. She will host the Q&A for the 2026 launch of Where the Mourning Gathers (Stacey Grant).

Election Statement: My purpose is rooted in writing and inspiring creative minds. I have worked diligently to encourage others to create -especially in a world that defaults to productivity- I want to create the framework that values the intellectual pursuit. In my region, I have contributed to many events that empower creatives, and I want to be part of a collective – collaborating to encourage writers and the arts. Currently, I keep others connected as admin for the Fort McMurray WGA Facebook page and have extensive connections with Northword Magazine, Wood Buffalo Regional Library, Arts Council Wood Buffalo, United For Change, CMHA and Wood Buffalo Pride.

Letter of nomination attached.

Candidates, Incumbents, and Nominees
Writers' Guild of Alberta
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Current Board Members not Requiring Election

President

Anne Bailey (Edmonton): Anne Bailey is an academic and professional writer living in Edmonton. Over 20-plus years, Anne held leadership roles in several key strategic communications units at the University of Alberta and served as speechwriter for three successive university presidents. She holds a PhD in English (Canadian literature) from the University of Western Ontario and is the author of Timothy Findley and the Aesthetics of Fascism (Talonbooks) and co-editor of Paying Attention: Critical Essays on Timothy Findley (ECW Press). Essays and articles have appeared in the Globe and Mail as well as several journals and books of literary criticism.

Vice President

Anna Wagner (she/her) (Calgary) is a writer and editor living in Calgary, Alberta on Treaty 7 land. She has publications in Bellingham Review, The Coachella Review, and others. She is currently writing STEMinist historical fiction to give a voice to the Canadian women whose stories need to be told. www.annashannon.ca

Secretary

Kendall Bistretzan (Calgary) was born and raised in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, before moving to Calgary, Alberta, to pursue her journalism degree. She works as a branded content writer for Hive Labs and is a proud board member of the Writers' Guild of Alberta and Sask Girls United. She is currently in the process of querying her debut novel. You can find her on Instagram @kendallbistwrites.

Member-at-Large

Natalie Simpson (Calgary) writes poetry and practices law in Calgary, Alberta. She is the author of two collections, Thrum (Talonbooks) and accrete or crumble (LINEbooks), and many chapbooks, mostly recently post spell (Gap Riot). Her poetry has appeared in several anthologies, including The Best Canadian Poetry in English. She has served on the board of filling Station magazine and on the steering committee for the Calgary Distinguished Writers Program.

Member-at-Large

T.F. (Timothy Frederick) Pruden (Thorsby) spent much of his life learning to write fiction while touring North America performing his music under the stage name Tim Harwill. Since retiring from life on the road, he's published a series of literary and well-received novels.

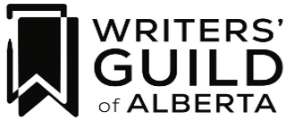
Of Metis descent, Mr. Pruden is a chronicler of the obscure captivated by a never-ending search for independence.

His minimalist fiction depicts postmodern life and the challenges of moral relativism among the people of western Canada. Mr. Pruden's eighth novel 'A Whippoorwill Called' published in 2025. He lives in the small town of Thorsby, Alberta, in western Canada.

Candidates, Incumbents, and Nominees
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Member-at-Large (Youth Representative)

Aubrianna Snow (she/her) is a Mi'kmaw writer, poet, and educator whose work explores interpersonal and systemic violence, connection to place, and the healing power of land and water. Her writing spans journalism, poetry, and creative nonfiction, and has been published in This Magazine, Chatelaine, Muskrat Magazine, Decolonial Passage, Ghost Girls Zine, and the Edmonton Journal. Aubrianna holds a Bachelor of Communications from MacEwan University and is pursuing a Master of Education in Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta. Recognized as a 2024 Writers' Trust of Canada Rising Star and a 2023 Best of the Net nominee, Aubrianna brings a powerful voice to the national conversation on equity, justice, and cultural resurgence.



Writers' Guild of Alberta <mail@writersguild.ab.ca>

Nomination for the Treasurer role on the WGA

1 message

Jason Schembri <help@jasonmillerauthor.com>
To: Writers Guild Of Alberta <mail@writersguild.ab.ca>

Mon, Apr 20, 2026 at 2:00 PM

Good afternoon,

I am very excited to apply to be considered for the treasurer board position.

I am a resident of Calgary and hope that this will not create a barrier to me being considered for this great opportunity.

Bio:

With 20+ years in executive financial management I have excelled in budgeting, policy development & oversight, strategic planning, financial management, and all detailed level accounting positions, having retired (mostly) financial consulting work in 2024.

I have participated as the treasurer of boards on at least four occasions, as well as being a Chief Financial Officer and an active member of several varying board committees over my career in multiple industries, responsible for all areas of financial management from transaction to final annual statements.

I have built a reputation for business acumen and maximizing cost savings, giving organizations more financial resources to work with. I also pride myself on being an efficiency junkie.

Retiring from financial work, I turned my attention to coaching and writing, publishing a self-help book before turning to fiction which I love dearly. I still miss my financial work, and it would be a perfect match for me to be able to fill this role and combine both of my passions together in one organization.

I have demonstrated a high level of business success in every organization I have served. I plan to be a dedicated board member and help bring great success to the WGA.

Statements of support:

WGA member Peter Morgan - pwmorgan@telus.net

It is my pleasure to submit this statement of support for Jason Schembri for the position of WGA Treasurer.

I met Jason in the autumn at a WGA event and was impressed at his detailed CV. His expertise in finance and information technology, gained through roles like Director of Finance for Alberta Professional Engineers, makes him a strong candidate.

Coupled with his management and team building/coaching experience, his talents are well suited to this board position.

He has my strongest support for this role

WGA member Mary Lynn Cloghesy – info@marylynncloghesy.com

Jason Schembri is a dedicated writer and financial professional. He has extensive experience in all matters related to financial management, and I believe he would be a strong asset to the board of WGA. He is personable, engaging, and clear-minded. His career success speaks to his capability, and he can help WGA build its vision for the future and its ability to meet it.

Sincerely,

Jason Schembri CPA, CMA (fiction pen name Jason Miller)

“Stories of redemption, hindered by the occasional serial killer.”

www.jasonmillerauthor.com

Cell: 780-296-1348

Shaylean Gladu

Shaylean.gladu@gmail.com

Shaylean Gladu is a Nêhiyawak poet, published in *Northword Magazine*, *Words in Motion*, and *Words & Birds*. She won first in the 2025 *Words in Motion* poetry competition, received an honourable mention for the 2026 Kemosa Scholarship, and was a mentee in WGA's 2026 Mentorship Program.

Shaylean is a public speaker who has appeared at multiple ceremonies, open mics, fundraisers, and launch events. She completed a Visiting Author Tour with the Wood Buffalo Regional Library, promoting poetry in rural Indigenous schools. She will host the Q&A for the 2026 launch of *Where the Mourning Gathers* (Stacey Grant).

My purpose is rooted in writing and inspiring creative minds. I have worked diligently to encourage others to create -especially in a world that defaults to productivity- I want to create the framework that values the intellectual pursuit. In my region, I have contributed to many events that empower creatives, and I want to be part of a collective – collaborating to encourage writers and the arts. Currently, I keep others connected as admin for the Fort McMurray WGA Facebook page and have extensive connections with Northword Magazine, Wood Buffalo Regional Library, Arts Council Wood Buffalo, United For Change, CMHA and Wood Buffalo Pride.

Shaylean Gladu

Shaylean.gladu@gmail.com

Dear Writers' Guild of Alberta:

It is my great pleasure to write this statement of support for Shaylean Gladu's application to the board of the WGA. Shaylean is an outstanding candidate for this position, as she is dedicated both to her writing practice and to promoting writing in the Alberta community. I had the immense pleasure of witnessing Shaylean's passion, commitment, and hard work during our WGA mentorship this year. Shaylean's work as a visiting author in schools through the Wood Buffalo Regional Library is just one of the ways in which she is engaged in supporting and encouraging young writers in Alberta. I give Shaylean my highest recommendation!

Sincerely,

Anna Veprinska

anna.veprinska@ucalgary.ca

Shaylean Gladu

Shaylean.gladu@gmail.com

Letter of Support

May 16, 2026

RE: Shaylean Gladu's WGA Board Nomination

To whom it may concern:

Over the past two years, Shaylean's powerful evocations of her life have resulted in well-earned recognition. Whatever the medium—poetry, music, or art—her courageous reflections on societal dysfunctions and the tensions between her own marginality and aspirations have inspired residents across Wood Buffalo to examine their lives and relationships to community.

Shaylean's notable achievements and desire to contribute meaningfully to literary and community life make her an ideal candidate for a Member-at-Large position on the WGA's board. She is focused, resilient, bright, and unafraid to wrestle with difficulty.

We need this courage now as Alberta faces challenges with suppression of marginalized voices.

Shaylean's is a critical new voice, a strong voice, an Indigenous voice. I heartily recommend her for a position on WGA's Board.

Nominator:

Name: Juleus Ghunta

Current Member: WGA

Email Address: juleusghunta@gmail.com

Profession: Instructor and WGA's 2025 Writer-in-Residence for Fort McMurray

Shaylean Gladu

Shaylean.gladu@gmail.com

Will Collins

Email: willjco74@gmail.com

Cell: 780-792-8673

Board Chair, Arts Council Wood Buffalo

I'm happy to provide a statement of support for Shaylean to join the board for the Writers' Guild of Alberta. Shay is very active in the arts community: from book and magazine launches, community writing events, writing classes and contests, and open mic nights. She's also recently joined our local writing group, the Paper Cult.

Shay is a talented writer with a lot of promise. I think this would be a great opportunity for her to develop, and I'd also be happy to see more WGA representation in our region to support a very active writing community.