



WRITERS'
GUILD
of ALBERTA

Reserved

THE
WRITERS' GUILD
OF ALBERTA
presents

THE

ALBERTA

LITERARY

AWARDS

Saturday

11

June

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 / 2023

April to March

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ABOUT THE WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA

The Writers' Guild of Alberta (WGA) was formed in October 1980 on SAIT campus to provide a meeting ground and collective voice for all the writers of the province. Our members write in every genre at every level of expertise.

The WGA helps give Alberta writers a sense of unity and community and is the largest provincial writers' organization in Canada.

VISION

A thriving writing community that is diverse, valued, and celebrated.

MISSION

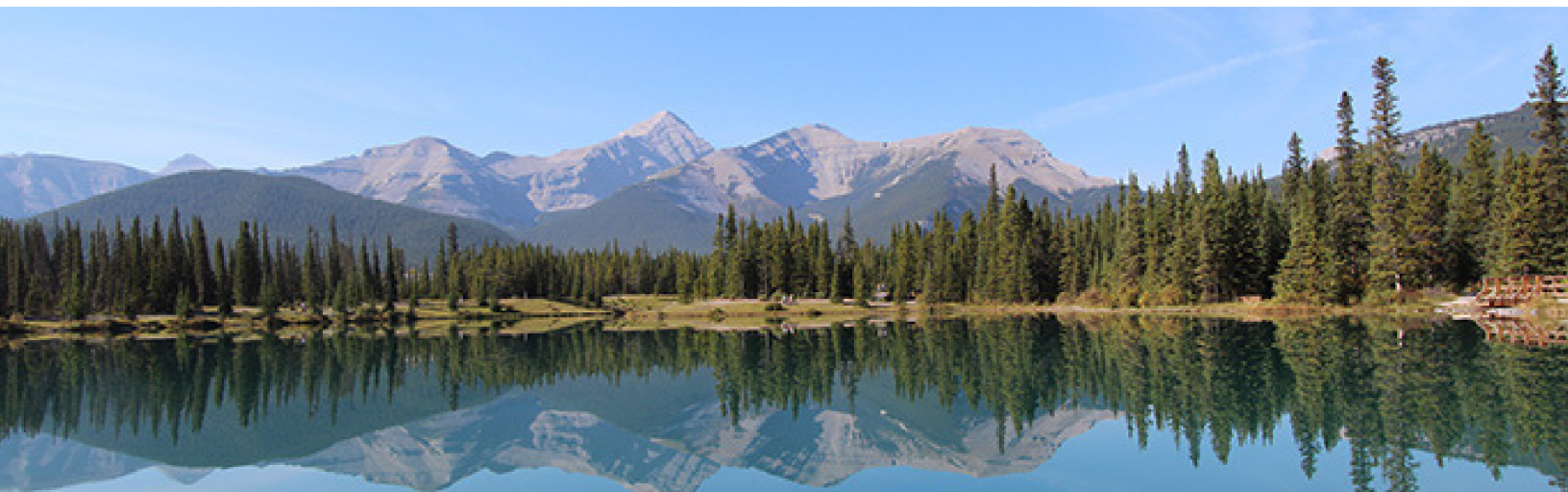
We support and advocate for writers at all stages of their writing life, providing opportunities to connect and grow.

GUIDING BELIEFS

- The literary arts are essential to the well-being of all individuals and communities and contribute to the economy and quality of life in Alberta.
- Networking and collaboration are beneficial to innovation and the creative process.
- A safe and welcoming environment, one that respects and invites diversity and inclusion, is essential for writers to pursue their craft.
- Knowledge and ongoing development are fundamental to creative growth.

CORE VALUES

- Community
- Advocacy
- Relationship Building
- Growth & Development
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2022/2023 was a time of growth and strengthening. We have close to a full board and have re-activated several committees in order to more fully gauge how programs and events might expand to ensure we understand and respect the needs of all members. The WGA staff has sought a fair and balanced approach, within the resources available, and they're to be commended for our many successes.

Executive Director Giorgia Severini has now been in charge of all the good things for over a year now (as President, I've been responsible for all of the bad). Although to some degree still learning and growing, she nonetheless is continuing the history of expertise and level-headed management in the ED role that we have benefitted from for so long.

The Board has now updated our strategic plan in order to better focus on our mission and strategies in the coming years. This includes re-establishing WGA membership and EDI committees. Their mandates include actions to define and improve our diversity efforts – identifying and removing obstacles within existing programs and finding opportunities for new programs that extend the Guild's reach. This is essential if we're to fulfil our mission to

truly be a place for all writers at all levels, in all genres and all forms.

We have welcomed Kendall Bistretzan into the role of Youth Representative on the Board, with a mandate to identify and implement opportunities to integrate youth components into our current programs and establish new youth opportunities. The youth membership component is essential in order to ensure the stable growth of the WGA and our long-term relevance to the writing community.

Committee activity includes plans for the fund development committee to explore new fundraising opportunities that will better stabilize WGA finances. We have, over the past few years, slightly reduced our dependence on that one big funding source that shall remain nameless, but it is a long game.

Several board members have reached their term limits. Kim Fraser, who has served two terms as Member-at-Large, as well as on various committees, has reached her term limit and will be stepping away from the Board. Thank you, Kim, for your perspective and input.

Your executive is also losing Carol Parchewsky, who served on the

executive and as President, and was even voted a special extension to serve two terms as Past-President. I valued her level-headed and sage advice on so many matters. Her skill, perception, and willingness to step up for any challenge truly made my time as President more effective. Is this because she's an engineer? I like to think so. Thank you, Carol.

The WGA flourishes thanks to the writing communities throughout the province – the wealth of information and the energetic people interested in learning more about the craft of writing, and those keen to give back. I encourage all members to consider putting their names forward to serve on the Board, with particular consideration of the board positions that have opened up, or on committees as those opportunities arise. It is work, but it is also rewarding to be on the cutting edge of the WGA's journey.

It has been a true privilege and honour to serve as your president over the last two years, but it is time for me to be remaindered. I wish you success in all of your writing endeavours.

Blaine Newton
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It's been less than a year since our last annual general meeting and report, but I'm happy to see the AGM return to be part of our conference. This latest conference is a culmination of what the WGA has been working on all year, namely taking what we learned from our digital and hybrid experiments during the pandemic and developing accessible methods to serve Alberta writers going forward. We decided to have one central in-person conference hub, but also offer online and hybrid sessions, in order to keep it accessible for remote participants. At the time of writing, the combined in-person and online participation is on track to be a registration total at pre-pandemic numbers. Our pre-pandemic conferences were popular events for Alberta writers to get together, and we're able to make it happen again by offering options that include as many writers as possible.

Equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility were identified as priorities for our new strategic plan. We want to ensure that our future programs continue to be safe and accessible. Most of our programs since the last AGM have been remarkably successful, which

demonstrate headway on our goals. We tried out writing intensives aimed at intermediate-level writers, in both online and in-person formats, and a new retreat format focused on creating writing goals and plans. These and other programs and events sold out or came close. Our Horizons Writers Circle, coordinated by Luciana Erregue-Sacchi, received additional funding that allowed us to provide a greater number of Edmonton BIPOC writers with resources to establish themselves in the literary scene. Horizons also provided online public events and an in-person reading, which were all very well-attended. A huge draw for our programs this year is the opportunity for writers to talk to each other about their writing, and we want to continue to offer as many opportunities as possible.

In October, we welcomed Ashley Frerichs as our new Program Coordinator for the Southern Alberta office in Calgary. Ashley got busy right away establishing partnerships and new events, including an open mic at Pachamama Soul Café, a monthly pub night with the Alexandra Writers Centre, and a writing group in partnership with Queer Calgary, while also continuing

unique monthly literary events in Calgary and online events like our Freedom to Read panel. Our entire staff team is extremely strong, with everyone always individually and collectively coming up with ideas and plans for fulfilling our goals. Please see the Report on Activities for details on all the work the staff have done this year.

During our return to in-person events, we encountered many rising costs due to inflation, as well as new costs of equipment and technical support for hybrid events. Inflation also means we need to increase the fees we pay to writers who work for our programs and events. I want to acknowledge the importance of our donors, many of whom are WGA members, to our ability to stay on top of these rising costs. Donors have contributed to our program costs, bursaries, and endowment funds that help keep programs sustainable. One of the highlights this year was the number of bursaries we were able to give for writers to attend our spring retreat, which came entirely from member donations. The generosity of writers helping other writers in financial need exemplifies how supportive the Alberta writing community is, and I look forward to seeing what the future holds. Thank you to all our donors, and to everyone who has been a part of the community this year.

Georgia Severini
Executive Director

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

The reporting period is from April 2022 to March 2023.

Advocacy

The WGA is a member of the Edmonton Arts Council, PEN Canada, and Access Copyright. We are represented on the Alberta Partners for Arts and Culture (APAC) Coalition, the Calgary Distinguished Writers Program, Calgary's When Words Collide, the Canadian Writers' Foundation, and the Cultural Human Resources Council. We work collaboratively with Calgary's Wordfest, the Edmonton Stroll of Poets, Edmonton's Nonfiction festival (LitFest), as well as writing organizations across the country.

News and articles of interest are posted regularly in *WestWord* and *WriteClick* and through the WGA social media channels.

Annual Conference

The WGA 2022 Conference: Shifting Creative Gears, took place on June 3 – 5, 2022. The focus of the conference was a post-COVID world wherein perhaps we won't return to normal, but instead take the things we learned during the pandemic to create a new vision of the literary world for the future.

The conference took a hybrid format for this year by offering online programming on all three days plus select in-person activities in four Alberta hubs. Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, and Fort McMurray each held an in-person writing workshop, a networking activity, and a group writing critique session on Saturday, June 4.

Online sessions included a How to Speak with Confidence in a Borderless World workshop, panel on Importance of Short Works, Lunch and Online Connection Café: Navigating the Writer's Life Alongside Familial Relationships, and an Online Connection Café: Ask the Historians, among other events and workshops.

Altogether, the conference had 86 participants.

All registrants received access to the recorded sessions through YouTube for a limited time following the conference.

Some of the special guests and keynote speakers included:

- Ivan Coyote (*Care Of: Letters, Connections and Cures*)
-

- Alison MacLeod (*Tenderness*)
- Mariko Tamaki (*Cold*)
- Amanda Leduc (*The Centaur's Wife*)
- Farah Heron (*Accidentally Engaged*)
- Joan Marie Galat (*Mortimer: Rat Race to Space*)
- Eric Walters (*On the Line*)
- Waubgeshig Rice (*Moon of the Crusted Snow*)

The upcoming WGA 2023 Conference: Origins: A Return to Networking, Publishing, Genre, and Craft, will take place on June 2 – 4, 2023. The fundamental focus of this conference is giving participants, after years of online-heavy programming due to the pandemic, the opportunity to make new connections, foster old ones, and network with other writers and industry professionals over the course of an entire weekend.

Alberta Literary Awards and Gala

Our Alberta Literary Awards currently presents \$12,600 in prizes for the following awards:

- Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction (fiction book)
- Wilfrid Eggleston Award for Nonfiction (nonfiction book)
- Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry (poetry book)
- Gwen Pharis Ringwood Award for Drama (published or produced play)

- R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature (alternates between picture book and chapter book)
- Nonfiction Memoir Award
- Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Story (published short story)
- James H. Gray Award for Short Nonfiction (published short nonfiction)
- Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Award (unpublished essay)
- Golden Pen Award (lifetime achievement)

The WGA was grateful to hold the 2022 Alberta Literary Awards Gala in person at the Holiday Inn Express Downtown in Edmonton on Saturday June 11, 2022. Sarah Hoyles delivered the keynote. Capacity at the event was limited to one hundred people to keep the event as safe as possible.

The 2023 gala will be held in person at Fort Calgary on June 3rd, 2023 during our annual conference.

See Page 20 for this year's finalists.



Horizons Writers Circle

The Horizons Writers Circle was launched in June 2021 with Luciana Erregue-Sacchi as coordinator. The program is a continuation of the former WGA project, Borderlines, that began in 2012. The program runs for six months and is fully subsidized, making it cost-free for successful applicants.

Through the Horizons Writers Circle, the WGA. The Horizons Writers Circle initiates an inclusive dialogue that celebrates our diversity and contributes to a deeper understanding of one another. The program achieves this by pairing underrepresented writers with established writers from the same form/genre who can mentor and help them hone their craft. Horizons also uplifts these new writers through workshops, discussions, networking, public reading opportunities, industry events, and other activities designed to introduce them to the literary scene and bolster their position as contributing members of the literary community. This year's closing event took place at a sold out and enthusiastic crowd at the end of March 2023 at 9910 in Edmonton.

The 2022/2023 participants were:

- Kathleen Crowe working with Naomi McIlwraith
- Juhua (Manna) Liu working with Tracey Anderson
- Ting (Maria Antonieta) Pimentel-Elger working with Pierrette Requier
- Devika Short working with Medgine Mathurin
- K'alii Luuyaltkw working with Tololwa Mollel
- Catalina Morales Velez working with Lorna Schultz Nicholson
- Giselle General working with Wendy McGrath

Kemosha Scholarship

First established in 2017 by Dr. Nhung Tran-Davies in partnership with Tlicho Dene author Richard Van Camp, the Kemosha Scholarship offers an opportunity for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Mothers to obtain resources to help them complete the work on their writing – whether that be a novel, a collection of stories, poems, or whatever other form their writing might take.

Richard Van Camp, Jacqueline Guest, and Nicole Harrish, were the 2022 judges. They selected the three finalists (Lareina Abbott, Amber Boyd, Apryl Gladue) as well as honourable mentions (Sandra Lamouche, Shirley Cire).

WGA Podcast Channel

The WGA podcast channel aims to encourage more readers to explore Alberta authors by making the audio recording of the WGA events and programs available to the virtual community. Ongoing events and discussions about the Canadian literary field, such as the Online Reading Series, can be accessed at any time through our podcast channel. Within the past year the podcast channel has over 2,683 plays. As the pandemic recedes, this channel will continue to be updated to give members the chance to revisit or explore any of our former events or programs.

Canadian Literature Centre (CLC)

The mission of the CLC is to foster knowledge, reading, and appreciation of Canadian literatures, in English and in French, with a special focus on Indigenous, minority, and marginalized writing. We partnered with the CLC on two free masterclasses featuring Jael Richardson and Ifeoma Chinwuba. Both classes were held virtually and had a combined attendance of 117 people.

In addition, they turned their regular Brown Bag Lunch series of author readings into podcast episodes and then shared them with us to share on the WGA podcast channels.

Events and Workshops

The WGA hosts monthly events which are generally free to members and available to non-members for a small fee in both Edmonton and Calgary. While the ramifications of COVID-19 are still being reflected in attendance numbers for in-person events, the WGA chose to continue to host professional development presentations, workshops, and panels both in-person and online. The online format has helped engage more members and communities, and has helped with making most WGA programming accessible to everyone. The WGA continues to navigate its way forward and adjust its programming to fit the needs of its members and the public in a post-pandemic world.

For a complete list of our past year's events, see Page 18.

Manuscript Reading Service

The Manuscript Reading Service is a valuable opportunity for writers to have their manuscript read by a professional writer who will then provide them with a detailed evaluation of their work and suggestions for improvement. Writers send their manuscripts to the WGA head office, and they are matched with a professional writer whose experience most closely suits the manuscript submitted. The WGA subsidizes the services for members to keep it affordable.

Mentorship Program

2023 marks the twelfth year for the Mentorship program, which pairs emerging writers with established Alberta authors for four months to develop the emerging writer's literary work, and also to provide support and encouragement. Sponsored by the RBC Foundation, this program has seen many of its participants grow and succeed as published authors.

The 2023 participants are:

- Tracy Fox working with mentor Lee Kvern (*Tracy Fox is this year's Mary Bell Scholarship recipient*)
- Alexander Shay (Levi Hayes) working with mentor C.J. Lavigne (*Levi's participation was supported by the Sharon L. Henderson Award for Young and Emerging Writers*)
- Falon Fayant working with mentor Darcy Tamayose
- Saraswoti Lamichhane working with mentor Jenna Butler
- Felicia Zuniga working with mentor Kat Cameron
- Katherine Abbass working with mentor Micheline Maylor
- Anna Shannon working with mentor Theresa Shea

Partnerships

The WGA continued the following major ongoing partnerships in 2022/2023: The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize,

The Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize, and administration for the Edmonton Stroll of Poets.

Both The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize and The Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize continue to be successful. The Calgary prize received 34 entries and the Edmonton prize received 45.

The WGA hired three successful and prominent jurors for each prize, oversaw the jury's group deliberations, and collected the final jury results and declarations. Close communication and collaboration with the two cities were very successful in the execution of both city's respective prizes. The Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize winner, Glen Huser for *Burning the Night*, was announced during our Alberta Literary Awards Gala on June 11, 2022. The winner of The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize, Jaspreet Singh for *My Mother, My Translator* (Vehicule Press), was announced during The Calgary Awards on June 15, 2022.

The Edmonton Stroll of Poets Society has been in partnership with the WGA for many years. The WGA continues to provide administrative support to run a very successful organization. The Edmonton Stroll of Poets has over 100 active members, holds over 20 readings in a year, and also publishes a yearly anthology. Stroll's reading series

returned to biweekly in-person readings fall of 2022.

The WGA has successfully partnered on events and programs with the Canadian Literature Centre, Wordfest, Calgary Memorial Public Library, the Book Publishers Association of Alberta, WordBridge: Lethbridge Writing Conference, Spruce Grove Public Library, Calgary's Single Onion Reading Series, the Literary Translators Association of Canada, and the Alexandra Writers' Centre Society.

The WGA partnered with Workshop West Playwrights' Theatre for an in-person intensive that was put at The Gateway Theatre during the WWPT's Springboards, A New Play Festival, and featured the expertise of Katherine Koller. The Story to Script: Finding Character and Drafting Dialogue intensive took place in three sittings over the course of a week, from March 19 to March 26, 2023, and focused on story finding, character development and dialogue drafting.

Participants attended two workshops, one on Finding the Voice of the Story and one that centered on transforming Conversation to Dialogue. Participants also got the chance to visit with Katherine for individual one-on-ones, where they discussed the premise, conflict, or heat of their stories, and

received guidance in drafting simple scenarios, outlines, or making notes for future drafts of work.

WestWord

WestWord Magazine is distributed quarterly to over 1000 members and stakeholders, with Raymond Gariépy as editor. The magazine continues to include articles on the craft, business, and life of writing, regular features such as a column on legal matters for writers, as well as community and member news. *WestWord* is available in both print and electronic editions, and is currently distributed to 600 members by post, and 440 by email.

WriteClick

WriteClick, our email newsletter, continues to be distributed to members who opt in to receive it—over 94% of members. It includes current WGA news, event listings, member book launches and readings, upcoming workshops and classes, employment and volunteer opportunities for writers, and up-to-date market and contest listings. *WriteClick* is distributed weekly so members receive information in a timely fashion. WGA special bulletins are also distributed via *WriteClick* when required.

Retreats

The WGA was able to host an in-person retreat in March of 2023, its first since 2019. The Spring One-Day Retreat: Map Your Creative Future, facilitated by Joan Marie Galat, centered on nurturing participants' commitment to their artistic ambitions. Joan shared her journey to publication and aided attendees in making focused plans to move them toward achievable writing and publishing goals. Participants in any stage of their literary journeys were welcome.

The second component of the retreat was the option of attending a one-on-one session with Joan for an additional fee. These meetings provided participants with the chance to receive additional career coaching, and the opportunity to ask Joan more personal literary questions or to inquire about writing tips and advice.

The WGA also did something new this year and hosted a Meet & Greet dinner the day before the retreat, where Joan gave a talk on the Author's Journey. The dinner also allowed participants to network and spend time getting to know one another before the retreat.

RURAL AND REMOTE OUTREACH

The purpose of this outreach program is to bring programs to areas outside

Edmonton and Calgary that don't have regular writing programs and events.

Fort McMurray Write Nights

The Writers' Guild of Alberta is pleased to partner with the Wood Buffalo Regional Library (WBRL) to return to in-person programming for writers in the Wood Buffalo Region. Alisa Caswell facilitates the Write Nights, which are casual writing and discussion sessions suitable for adult writers of all levels. They are held on Wednesday evenings once a month and they are free.

Alberta Culture Days Workshops

Alberta Culture Days is an opportunity for communities across Alberta to celebrate arts and culture through local events and activities. For Alberta Culture Days, the WGA offered four free writing workshops held over Zoom on September 17, 2022. All events focused on the theme: How Our Culture Shapes the Stories We Tell. The workshops included:

- Self-Expression through the Written Word with Gabe Calderón
- How Multilingualism Affects How We Feel, Think, and Write with Julie Sedivy
- Panel: How Our Culture Shapes the Stories We Tell
- Workshop: The Modern Publishing Landscape with FriesenPress

The WGA had a total of participants attend these workshops.

ONLINE PROGRAMMING

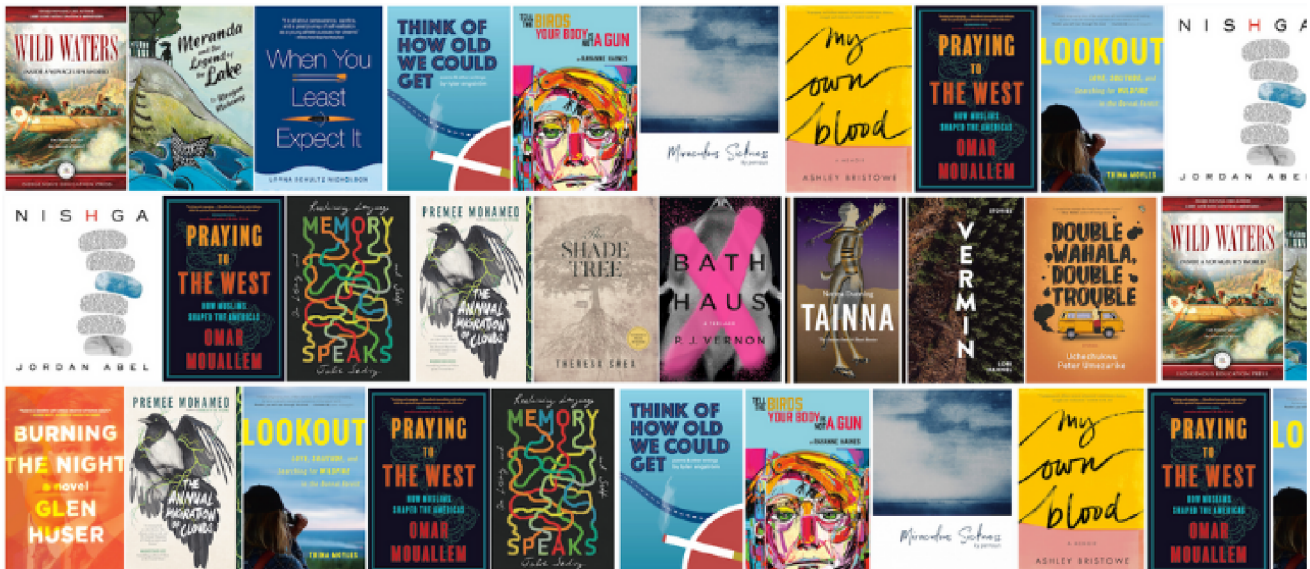
Digital Strategies

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced all of the WGA programming to an online format, we noted how online programming allowed for a greater number and variety of participants and hosts at our events. Even though we've transitioned back to in-person events, our online programming has continued. The mix of online, in-person, and hybrid events has allowed our programming to be as accessible to our community as possible.

Virtual Readings with the Finalists

This reading series was originally created in 2020 to promote the work of the finalists as well as promote the Alberta Literary Awards. As a lead up to the 2022 Alberta Literary Awards, the WGA once again put on several virtual readings with some of the finalists of the Alberta Literary Awards and the Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize.

As well, The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Readings were on April 28, 2022. Each event consisted of awards finalists reading from their work and discussing it with the event host.



Webinars

The Get Publishing Webinar Series was launched in 2016 after the Get Publishing Communications Society dissolved and gifted its brand to the WGA. The webinars allow more accessibility to presentations about the writing craft and business for members who are unable to attend our events in Edmonton and Calgary. They also allow us to more easily bring in presenters from outside Alberta, thus increasing the diversity of voices in our programs. We also offer recordings of select webinars for purchase.

Women's Writing Group

The WGA put on a trial run of an inaugural women's writing group, offered to members free of cost, over the period of three months. From March to May of 2023, Natasha Deen facilitated all three writing group meetings. Participants were exposed to relaxation techniques, dedicated writing time, prompts, and the opportunity to discuss the local literary landscape and other writerly things once a month.

Poetry Intensive featuring Alice Major

From November 2022 to January 2023, the WGA offered a two-part online poetry intensive where Alice Major guided participants in looking at their poems through a different lens, giving them the tools required to move their individual poems into the longer arc of a collection. Participants had time between the two group gatherings to take a thoughtful look at their work, and they also had the opportunity to schedule one-on-one consultations with Alice after each group gathering.

YOUTH WRITING RESIDENCIES

The WGA's youth writing residencies continue to be popular as well as an invaluable experience for young writers. Participants experience not only improvement in their writing but also personal growth, connections with like-minded young writers, and mentorship from experienced and enthusiastic artists. We were able to run WordsWorth in person at Red Deer Polytechnic, though, because of COVID-19, we did add a few precautions. Drink the Wild Air was once again held online, and Circuit Tree was not run this year. Colin Matty once again served as Camp Director for WordsWorth and Drink the Wild Air.

WordsWorth

WordsWorth is a week-long sleep-over creative writing residency for young writers who believe in the power of words. Though typically held near Bragg Creek at Kamp Kiwanis, this year's programming was held in Red Deer at Red Deer Polytechnic (formerly Red Deer College). Guided by established and respected artist-instructors, participants experienced writing through a variety of forms.

But the experiences didn't begin and end with the classes; young writers came

together to celebrate writing through friendships, campfires, concerts, open mic sessions, hikes, free-writing time, and semi-competitive games. The program is for youth aged 11-19.

In order to get back into the swing of in-person youth programming, only two weeks were offered, rather than three like in previous years. The first week ran from July 10-15th and was for ages 11-14. The second week ran from July 17-22 and was for ages 15-19. WordsWorth attracted a total of 37 participants: 14 participants for the first week and 23 participants for the second week.

The 2022 staff consisted of Colin Matty as the Camp Director; Henry Greyson, Sadie MacGillivray, and Jess Tollestrup as the Creative Team; as well as Kim Firmston, Johnny MacRae, Marc Herman Lynch, Omar Ramadan, David Wilson, Marin Perlette, Shima Robinson, and Lindsey Walker as the instructors.

The workshops were:

- Editing Word-Force Style with Kim Firmston
 - A Mighty Matter of Legend: How to Write Like A Hobbit with Johnny MacRae
-

- Uncanning the Uncanny: Weird Ain't Even the Half of It with Marc Herman Lynch
- Writing the Detective with Omar Ramadan
- The Writer's Voice with David Wilson
- Drawing the Script with Marin Perlette
- Poetry Writing and Performance with Shima Robinson
- Every song has a story: Unique voices, universal reach with Lindsey Walker

Drink the Wild Air

Drink the Wild Air is a whirlwind weekend of creativity unleashed for youth aged 11-19. Participants once again came together online to take workshops with working professionals, play games, and share stories, songs, poems, and art. Drink the Wild Air had 12 registrants and took place March 17 for orientation, and March 18-19, 2023, for two full days of creative fun. The 2023 Team consisted of Colin Matty, Sadie MacGillivray, and Marin Perlette.



WGA EVENTS

The WGA and Horizons Writers Circle
Present: Editing 101:

April 7, 2022

We Need to Talk About Crypto:

April 13, 2022

2022 Alberta Literary Awards –Readings
with the Finalists:

April 20-21, 2022

Write for Life: Creative Visioning:

April 23, 2022

City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize
Finalist Readings:

April 28, 2022

Write for Life: Transitioning from Writer
to Author:

April 30, 2022

Writer for Life: Memoir:

May 7, 2022

2022 Mentorship Program Public Reading
and Reception:

May 7, 2022

WGA Annual Conference: Shifting Creative
Gears:

June 3-5, 2022

How to Write Engaging Fiction:

June 20, 2022

Writing Cinematic Scenes in Fiction:

July 23, 2022

Summer Grant Writing Sessions:

August 3-4, 2022

Calgary Write- In:

August 9, 23, September 8, 20, 2022

When Words Collide festival: Writing
Sword Fight Scenes:

August 13, 2022

Everyday Magic: Writing Speculative
Fiction:

August 13, 2022

Authors on Authors: “What Kind of Writer
Are You?” with Bertrand Bickersteth and
Makda Mulatu:

August 24, 2022

Authors on Authors: “Writing That First
Novel” with Farzana Doctor and Kelly
Kaur:

August 31, 2022

Single Onion Reading Series #186:

September 15, 2022

Alberta Culture Days Pop-Up Event:

September 17, 2022

AGM, Golden Pen Award Ceremony, and
Chawkers Foundation Presentation:

September 24, 2022

Calgary Coffee & Chat:
October 6, 18, November 2, 17, December 1,
12, 2022
January 12, 24, February 9, March 2, 16,
30, 2023

WGA Fall Kick Off:
October 6, 2022

Edmonton Write Nights
October 11, 18, 25, November 2, 8, 15, 21,
2022

Single Onion Reading Series #187:
October 20, 2022

Calgary Social: Meet the New
Programmer:
October 27, 2022

Red Deer Poetry Workshop with Colin
Martin:
November 11, 2022

Single Onion Reading Series #188:
November 17, 2022

Single Onion 22nd Anniversary Party:
November 19, 2022

W.O. Mitchell *Who has Seen the Wind*
Re-Release Event with Freehand Books:
November 29, 2022

Calgary Holiday Party and Queen's
Jubilee Medal Ceremony:
December 7, 2022

Edmonton Holiday Party and Queen's
Jubilee Medal Ceremony:
December 7, 2022

Blue Monday Event for Mental Wellness:
January 16, 2023

Poetry Workshop with Calgary
Distinguished Writer Leah Horlick:
February 7, 2023

Calgary Poetry Parlour Open Mic &
Reading Series:
February 28, March 21, 2023

Witching Hour Poetry: International
Women's Day Reading:
March 8, 2023

"How I Write" Panel Discussion &
Readings from Freehand Authors:
March 15, 2023

Self-Publishing Webinar with Dana
Goldstein:
March 28, 2023

WGA LITERARY AWARDS

Congratulations to the finalists of the 2023 WGA Literary Awards!

R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature (chapter books)

- Dena Seiferling (Calgary) – *The Language of Flowers* ([Tundra Books](#))
- Vivek Shraya (Calgary) – *Revenge of the Raccoons* ([Owlkids Books](#))
- Charis St. Pierre (Edmonton) – *Welcome, Dark* ([Orca Books Publishers](#))

Nonfiction Memoir Award

- Tim Bowling (Edmonton) – *The Call of the Red-Winged Blackbird* ([Wolsak & Wynn](#))
- James H. Marsh (Edmonton) – *Know it all: Finding the Impossible Country* ([Durvile & UpRoute Books](#))
- Brandi Morin (Stony Plain) – *Our Voice of Fire* ([House of Anansi](#))

Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Story (published short story)

- Lareina Abbott (Calgary) – “Ma Soeur Marie” (*Prairie Witch Anthology*)
- Suzanne Johnston (Calgary) – “Confidants” (*The Saturday Evening Post*)
- C.J. Lavigne (Red Deer) – “Bees in Winter” (*Corvid Queen*)

James H. Gray Award for Short Nonfiction (published short nonfiction)

- paulo da costa (Calgary) – “Enclosures” (*Reckoning*)
- Marcello Di Cintio (Calgary) – “The Cowboy Exclaims” (*Canadian Geographic*)
- Kyra Lark Koustrup (Calgary) – “You and the Grass” (*Freefall*)

Gwen Pharis Ringwood Award for Drama (published or produced play)

- Heather Morrow (Edmonton) – *Alex & Michael & Hannah*
- Caroline Russell-King (Calgary) – *High and Splendid Braveries*
- Trevor Schmidt (Edmonton) – *Two-Headed/Half-Hearted*

Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction (fiction book)

- Suzette Mayr (Calgary) – *The Sleeping Car Porter* ([Coach House Books](#))
 - Darcy Tamayose (Lethbridge) – *Ezra's Ghosts* ([NeWest Press](#))
 - Thomas Trofimuk (Edmonton) – *The Elephant on Karlùv Bridge* ([Thistledown Press](#))
-

Wilfrid Eggleston Award for**Nonfiction** (nonfiction book)

- Brandi Morin (Stony Plain) – *Our Voice of Fire* ([House of Anansi Press](#))
- Sandra Rollings-Magnusson (Edmonton) – *Tales from the Homestead: A History of Prairie Pioneers, 1867-1914* ([Heritage House](#))
- Chris Turner (Calgary) – *How to be a Climate Optimist* ([Random House Canada](#))

Stephan G. Stephannson Award for**Poetry** (poetry book)

- Tasnuva Hayden (Calgary) – *An Orchid Astronomy* ([University of Calgary Press](#))
- Jaspreet Singh (Calgary) – *How to Hold a Pebble* ([NeWest Press](#))
- Matthew James Weigel (Edmonton) – *Whitemud Walking* ([Coach House Books](#))

Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Award

(unpublished essay)

- Patti Edgar (Calgary) – “One More Apostle Than You”
- Kim McCullough (Calgary) – “Mare Tranquillitatis”

2023 Golden Pen Award (lifetime achievement)

- Joan Crate
-

IMPORTANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Writers' Guild of Alberta gratefully acknowledges the funding support of the following organizations and individuals in 2022/2023:

GRANTORS & FOUNDATIONS

- Alberta Culture
- Alberta Foundation for the Arts
- Amber Webb-Bowerman Memorial Foundation (WordsWorth)
- Calgary Arts Development
- The Calgary Foundation
- Canada Council for the Arts
- Edmonton Arts Council
- Edmonton Community Foundation
- RBC Foundation (Mentorship Program)
- Rozsa Foundation
- Under the Arch Youth Foundation at The Calgary Foundation (R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature)

SUPPORTERS

- Pandemic University (Kemosha Scholarship)
- Jeananne Kathol Kirwin, LLP (Kemosha Scholarship)
- Marilyn and Bob Stallworthy (James H. Gray Award for Short Nonfiction)
- Aritha van Herk (Golden Pen Award)
- The Haynes Family – In Memory of Dr. Sterling Haynes (Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Prize)
- Rona Altrows (Horizons Writers Circle)
- Vivian Hansen (Memoir Award)

SPONSORS

- Alberta Playwrights' Network (Conference)
 - Alexandra Writers' Centre Society (Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Story & Conference)
 - Alberta Views (Conference)
 - Audreys Books (The Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize)
 - Adriana and Stephan V. Benediktson (Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry)
 - Book Publishers Association of Alberta (Conference)
 - The City of Calgary (The City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize)
 - The City of Edmonton (The Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize)
 - EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing (Conference)
 - Jasper Community Habitat for the Arts (Conference)
 - Literary Translators Association of Canada (Conference)
 - Pandemic University (Conference)
 - Priority Printing (Conference)
 - Nhung Tran-Davies (Kemosha Scholarship)
-

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Thank you to all of our donors.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Another year has been completed and with it, another financial audit. I'm happy to say that the WGA is in solid shape financially.

Key items of interest on the financial statements:

- The WGA is maintaining a fairly close alignment with budget projections and responsible spending management.
- Programming activities have grown closer to pre-COVID levels, with a matching increase in both programming revenues and expenses. The WGA continues to cover a significant portion of programming costs with grant funding.
- The WGA continues to maintain the reserve and sustainability funds in GIC, securing those balances for future use.

We have continued to receive valuable support from sponsors and grant funding agencies, which has been instrumental in supporting WGA programs. You can find a listing of the grant funders on Note 10 (page 12) of the Financial Statements. Donations also remain a vital source of revenue and I encourage our members and partners to continue donating and encouraging others to donate.

I am confident that the hard work of the wonderful WGA staff, board directors, and members in general will continue to support the WGA in the coming year. I regret that I'll be unable to attend our AGM this year due to personal commitments.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicolas Brown
Treasurer

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Writers' Guild of Alberta

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Writers' Guild of Alberta, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Writers' Guild of Alberta as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Bergeron & Co. Chartered Professional Accountants

May 23, 2023
Edmonton, AB

**WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
For the year ended March 31, 2023**

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| REVENUES | | |
| Grants (Note 10) | \$ 527,950 | \$ 484,371 |
| Programming | 74,852 | 66,575 |
| Membership fees | 41,749 | 39,318 |
| Donations | 20,264 | 24,904 |
| Sponsorships | 17,900 | 20,700 |
| Other | 13,624 | - |
| Fundraising | 10,207 | 24,915 |
| Interest | 4,988 | 618 |
| Advertising | <u>700</u> | <u>1,165</u> |
| | <u>712,234</u> | <u>662,566</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Wages and benefits | 323,157 | 295,903 |
| Contract fees | 177,335 | 175,235 |
| Program | 159,437 | 98,757 |
| Professional fees | 11,940 | 11,537 |
| Office and administration | 10,160 | 11,793 |
| Travel | 8,037 | - |
| Contributions Edmonton Community Foundation | 7,245 | 16,039 |
| Bank charges (Note 7) | 4,138 | 2,119 |
| Insurance | 4,038 | 5,858 |
| Telephone and utilities | 3,365 | 3,046 |
| Rent | 2,011 | 1,951 |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets | 949 | 1,074 |
| Advertising and promotion | 840 | 83 |
| Bad debts | <u>-</u> | <u>3,569</u> |
| | <u>712,652</u> | <u>626,964</u> |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE OTHER ITEMS | <u>(418)</u> | <u>35,602</u> |
| OTHER | | |
| Government assistance - interest benefit (Note 9) | <u>-</u> | <u>1,372</u> |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>1,372</u> |
| (DEFICIENCY) EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | <u>\$ (418)</u> | <u>\$ 36,974</u> |

**WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
For the year ended March 31, 2023**

| NET ASSETS | <u>Restricted</u> (Note 11) | <u>Invested in</u> <u>capital assets</u> | <u>Unrestricted</u> | <u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> | <u>Total</u> <u>2022</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$ 165,000 | \$ 3,201 | \$ 138,057 | \$ 306,258 | \$ 269,284 |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses | <u>-</u> | <u>(949)</u> | <u>531</u> | <u>(418)</u> | <u>36,974</u> |
| Balance, end of year | <u>\$ 165,000</u> | <u>\$ 2,252</u> | <u>\$ 138,588</u> | <u>\$ 305,840</u> | <u>\$ 306,258</u> |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2023

| ASSETS | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
| CURRENT | | |
| Cash (Note 3) | \$ 312,375 | \$ 267,264 |
| Accounts receivable (Note 4) | 17,309 | 19,182 |
| Goods and Services Tax recoverable | 4,054 | 1,783 |
| Prepaid expenses | 19,491 | 10,781 |
| Short-term investments (Note 5) | <u>96,606</u> | <u>165,360</u> |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 449,835 | 464,370 |
| INVESTMENTS (Note 5) | 68,754 | - |
| TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 6) | <u>2,252</u> | <u>3,201</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ <u>520,841</u> | \$ <u>467,571</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7) | \$ 40,316 | \$ 9,601 |
| Deferred contributions (Note 8) | <u>145,787</u> | <u>124,220</u> |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 186,103 | 133,821 |
| LOAN ISSUED UNDER THE CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT (Note 9) | <u>28,898</u> | <u>27,492</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>215,001</u> | <u>161,313</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| Net assets invested in capital assets | 2,252 | 3,201 |
| Restricted net assets (Note 11) | 165,000 | 165,000 |
| Unrestricted net assets | <u>138,588</u> | <u>138,057</u> |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | <u>305,840</u> | <u>306,258</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | \$ <u>520,841</u> | \$ <u>467,571</u> |

Approved by the Directors:

_____, Director

_____, Director

**WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
For the year ended March 31, 2023**

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses | \$ (418) | \$ 36,974 |
| Add (deduct): | | |
| Charges to income not involving cash | | |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets | 949 | 1,074 |
| Government assistance - interest benefit | - | (951) |
| Interest reinvested directly to investments | <u>1,407</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | 1,938 | 37,097 |
| Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations | | |
| Trade receivables | (7,241) | 408 |
| Interest receivable | (2,700) | 26 |
| Grants receivable | 11,813 | 20,186 |
| Goods and Services Tax recoverable | (2,271) | (427) |
| Prepaid expenses | (8,710) | (9,639) |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 30,715 | (4,162) |
| Deferred revenue | - | (11,440) |
| Deferred contributions | <u>21,567</u> | <u>(46,163)</u> |
| | <u>45,111</u> | <u>(14,114)</u> |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Purchase of tangible capital assets | - | (1,126) |
| Purchase of investments | (121,180) | (165,360) |
| Receipt of investments | <u>121,180</u> | <u>106,000</u> |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>(60,486)</u> |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH | 45,111 | (74,600) |
| CASH, beginning of year | <u>267,264</u> | <u>341,864</u> |
| CASH, end of year | <u>\$ 312,375</u> | <u>\$ 267,264</u> |

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

1. PURPOSE OF THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The Writers' Guild of Alberta (the "Guild") was incorporated in 1981 under the Societies Act of the province of Alberta. The Guild is engaged in the operation of a Provincial Arts Service Organization (PASO) dedicated to writers. The Writers' Guild of Alberta is a registered charitable organization therefore it is exempt from income taxes.

The Writers' Guild of Alberta receives 34% of its revenue from one grantor (2022 - 38%).

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) and include the following significant accounting policies:

Management's use of estimates

- a) The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the current year. These estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to income as appropriate in the year they become known.

Revenue recognition

- b) The Guild uses the deferral method of accounting for contributions (i.e. grants, casino, and donations). Under this method, contributions restricted to expenses of future periods are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period when the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when they are received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Programming fees, fundraising, sponsorships, and advertising are recognized as revenue upon the completion of the event to which they relate.

Membership fees are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year to which they relate.

Investment transactions are recognized on the transaction date and resulting revenue is recognized on an accrual basis. Specifically, interest income is recognized on a time proportion basis.

Financial instruments

- c) Financial assets and liabilities are measured initially at fair value. Subsequent measurement is at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost consist of cash, trade receivables, grants receivable, interest receivable, and non-redeemable guaranteed investment certificates.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost consist of accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Transaction costs related to financial assets and financial liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost are included or deducted in the initial measurement of the asset or liability.

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

Impairment of financial assets

- d) Financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost are tested for impairment if there are indications of possible impairment. The amount of the write-down is recognized in income. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, either directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment loss not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in income.

Cash and cash equivalents

- e) The Guild's policy is to present bank balances and guaranteed investment certificates with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition under cash and cash equivalents.

Tangible capital assets of an NPO

- f) Purchased tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution. Amortization is recorded at the following rates, which have been established by estimates of useful lives. Additions during the current year are amortized at one-half their normal rates, and no amortization is taken in the year of disposition.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Computer hardware | 30% declining balance |
| Furniture and fixtures | 20% declining balance |

Amortization expense is reported in the statement of operations.

When a tangible capital asset no longer has any long-term service potential for the Guild, the excess of its net carrying amount over any residual value is recognized as an expense in the statement of operations.

Contributed materials and services

- g) Volunteers contribute many hours per year to assist the Guild in carrying out its service delivery activities. Because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements. Contributed materials are recognized at their fair value.

3. RESTRICTED CASH

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Externally restricted cash - Casino funds | \$ 55,755 | \$ 4,001 |
| Externally restricted cash - Deferred contributions | <u>90,032</u> | <u>120,220</u> |
| Externally restricted cash | 145,787 | 124,221 |
| | | |
| Unrestricted cash | <u>166,588</u> | <u>143,043</u> |
| Cash | <u>\$ 312,375</u> | <u>\$ 267,264</u> |

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Grants receivable | \$ - | \$ 11,813 |
| Trade receivables | 14,191 | 6,950 |
| Interest receivable | <u>3,118</u> | <u>419</u> |
| | <u>\$ 17,309</u> | <u>\$ 19,182</u> |

5. INVESTMENTS

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Non-redeemable guaranteed investment guaranteed Investment certificate, maturing on April 13, 2024, bearing interest at 2.5% per annum. | \$ 68,754 | \$ - |
| Redeemable guaranteed investment guaranteed Investment certificate, maturing on June 28, 2023, bearing interest at 1.25% per annum. | 51,426 | - |
| Non-redeemable guaranteed investment certificate maturing on March 23, 2024 bearing interest at a rate fo 2.00% per annum | 45,180 | 45,180 |
| Redeemable guaranteed investment guaranteed Investment certificate, maturing on June 28, 2022, bearing interest at .35% per annum. | - | 51,426 |
| Redeemable guaranteed investment guaranteed Investment certificate, maturing on April 13, 2022, bearing interest at .40% per annum. | <u>-</u> | <u>68,754</u> |
| | <u>\$ 165,360</u> | <u>\$ 165,360</u> |

As mentioned in note 11, the guaranteed investment certificates is restricted to cover the internally imposed restriction.

6. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

| | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Accumulated Amortization</u> | <u>Net Book Value</u> | |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| | | | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
| Computer hardware | \$ 34,324 | \$ 32,411 | \$ 1,913 | \$ 2,883 |
| Furniture and fixtures | <u>9,293</u> | <u>8,954</u> | <u>339</u> | <u>318</u> |
| | <u>\$ 43,617</u> | <u>\$ 41,365</u> | <u>\$ 2,252</u> | <u>\$ 3,201</u> |

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

7. CREDIT CARDS

The Guild holds a credit card with an authorized credit limit of \$8,000 bearing interest at a rate of 19.99%. The amount payable on the credit card as at March 31, 2022, was \$4,283 (2022 - \$21), this balance is included in the accounts payable and accrued liabilities amount. The amount of interest paid on the credit cards during the fiscal year was \$371 (2022 - \$40), these amounts are included in bank charges. The credit cards are guaranteed by the current and future assets of the Guild.

8. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

| | Opening | Funds received | Funds used | Ending |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Edmonton Arts Council | \$ 18,346 | \$ 63,000 | \$ (81,346) | \$ - |
| Canada Council for the Arts | 26,400 | 52,000 | (78,400) | - |
| Calgary Arts | | | | |
| Development Agency | - | 26,200 | - | 26,200 |
| Casino | 4,001 | 79,218 | (26,980) | 56,239 |
| Donations, fees and other | 58,173 | 57,779 | (70,104) | 45,848 |
| Alberta | | | | |
| Foundation for the Arts | 9,800 | 10,000 | (9,800) | 10,000 |
| RBC - Emerging Artists | <u>7,500</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>(15,000)</u> | <u>7,500</u> |
| | <u>\$ 124,220</u> | <u>\$ 303,197</u> | <u>\$ (281,630)</u> | <u>\$ 145,787</u> |

9. LOAN GRANTED UNDER THE CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Loan, with an unpaid principal of \$40,000, guaranteed by the Canadian government, interest-free until December 31, 2023 (a) | <u>\$ 28,898</u> | <u>\$ 27,492</u> |

- (a) The Guild obtained a \$40,000 loan under the Canada Emergency Business Account Program. If the Guild repays \$30,000 by December 31, 2023, the \$10,000 balance will be forgiven. Otherwise, an interest rate of 5% will apply to the balance which will be repayable in 36 monthly blended installments. Since there is reasonable assurance that the Guild will repay \$30,000 by December 31, 2023, the organization recognized \$10,000 in net income when the loan was granted under Government assistance - loan forgiveness in 2021. The liability resulting from the \$30,000 balance was initially recognized at its fair value of \$25,509 using an interest rate of 5%. The organization deems that the \$4,490 difference is a contribution toward current financing expenses and recognized in net income as well, under Government assistance - interest benefit.

Regular principal payments required on all long-term debt for the next five years are due as follows:

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 2024 | \$ 30,000 |
| 2025 | 0 |
| 2026 | 0 |
| 2027 | 0 |
| 2028 | <u>0</u> |
| | <u>\$ 30,000</u> |

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

10. GRANTS

| | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Alberta Foundation for the Arts | \$ 244,914 | \$ 255,979 |
| Edmonton Arts Council | 81,346 | 60,229 |
| Canada Council for the Arts | 78,400 | 46,630 |
| Calgary Arts Development Agency | 38,800 | 73,800 |
| Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis | 26,980 | 12,092 |
| Edmonton Community Foundation | 20,931 | 1,300 |
| Royal Bank of Canada Emerging Artists | 15,000 | 14,000 |
| Alberta Cultural Days | 10,750 | 1,230 |
| Rozsa Foundation | 7,500 | - |
| Amber Bowerman-Webb Foundation | 2,000 | - |
| LCM Foundation | 1,000 | - |
| Cultural Human Resources Council | 330 | 1,813 |
| Chawkers Foundation | - | 5,000 |
| Access Copyright Foundation | - | 6,750 |
| Summer employment grants | - | 4,703 |
| John Gillese Fund | - | 1,451 |
| Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy | - | (606) |
| | <u>\$ 527,951</u> | <u>\$ 484,371</u> |

11. RESTRICTED NET ASSET

The Writers' Guild of Alberta's Board of Directors has restricted a sum of \$61,000 (2022 - \$61,000) as a sustainability fund which the funds are held in the guaranteed investment certificates pursuant to the conditions imposed by grant contracts, see note 5.

The Writers' Guild of Alberta Board of Directors restricted a sum of \$104,000 (2022 - \$104,000) as a sustainability fund for future programming and operations, these funds are held in the guaranteed investment certificates, see note 5.

12. WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA ENDOWMENT FUND

The Writers' Guild of Alberta is the beneficiary of the Writers' Guild of Alberta Endowment Fund held with the Edmonton Community Foundation. Assets of this fund are not the property of the Guild but the income generated from the fund is transferred to the Guild. As at December 31, 2022, the balance in the Foundation's Endowment Fund was \$52,151 (2021 - \$43,684).

13. FUND-RAISING EXPENSES AND OTHER

As required under Section 7(2) of the Regulations of the Charitable Fund-raising Act of Alberta, the Guild discloses that it incurred \$0 of expenses related to fundraising in 2023 (2022 - \$0) and it received \$30,471 of contributions in 2023 (2022 - \$49,818).

WRITERS' GUILD OF ALBERTA
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2023

14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Guild is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis presents the Guild's exposures to significant risks at reporting date.

Credit risk:

The Guild is exposed to credit risk with respect to its trade receivables, interest receivable and grants receivable.

Interest rate risk:

The Guild is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed-rate financial instruments, which consists solely of guaranteed investment certificates. These fixed-rate instruments subject the Guild to a risk of changes in fair value.

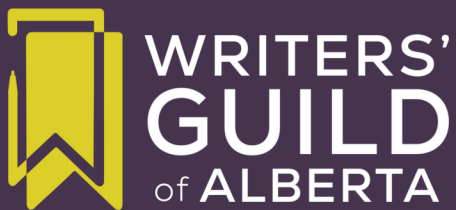
Liquidity risk:

The Guild is exposed to liquidity risk with respect to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Guild's estimates that its exposure to the above noted risks has not significantly changed from the previous period.

15. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Certain corresponding figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year classifications.



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WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE
THE SUPPORT OF:



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