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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2009

20th Annual The Word On The Street Toronto
Sunday, September 27, 2009 - Queen's Park
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Free Admission

www.thewordonthestreet.ca

Experience the best in Canadian literature at the
Scotiabank Bestsellers Stage

(Toronto) – **The Word On The Street** will present some of the country's top literary talent at its flagship venue, the **Scotiabank Bestsellers Stage**.

Elizabeth May, environmentalist, writer, activist and leader of the **Green Party** will kick-off the day, discussing her new book *Losing Confidence*, offering an insider's view of the ills that beset Canada's federal politics.

Then, **Kelley Armstrong**, **Linwood Barclay** and **Robert Charles Wilson**, three of Canada's top authors writing in, respectively, the genres of fantasy, mystery and science fiction will weigh in on their place in our country's literary landscape in the panel discussion "Know Your Genre."

Perennial kids favourite **Kenneth Oppel** will grace the stage to present from his delicious new tale, *The King's Taster*, in addition to giving a stirring reading from his out-of-this-world adventure, *Starclimber!*

Nino Ricci will read from his **Governor General's Literary Award**-winning novel, *The Origin of Species*, followed by **Scotiabank Giller Prize**-winner **Bonnie Burnard**, who will read from her highly-anticipated new novel, *Suddenly*.

We are thrilled to present **Margaret Atwood** as the headliner of our Scotiabank Bestsellers Stage this year, to host the cross-Canada launch of her new novel, *The Year of the Flood*. **LongPen** technology will broadcast Atwood in person from The Word On The Street Toronto to The Word On The Street festivals in Vancouver and Halifax. This interactive video broadcast will allow festival participants to engage in a cross-country question and answer session with Atwood, the first of its kind in Canada.

This stellar line-up will close with what is sure to be a riveting panel discussion. In "The View from Out Here", **Dionne Brand**, **Camilla Gibb**, **Nino Ricci** and **Jane Urquhart**, all past winners of the **Trillium Book Award**, will unite to discuss an author's role as an outside observer.

About The Word On The Street

Every year on the last Sunday of September, in Vancouver, Kitchener, Toronto and Halifax, The Word On The Street unites the country in a national celebration of literacy and the written word. Annually attracting more than 200,000 visitors to its Queen's Park location, The Word On The Street in Toronto is the largest book and magazine festival in Canada. The 2009 edition is set for September 27, 2009.

Please add this information to your listings. Images are available upon request. We are presently confirming interviews. Please check www.thewordonthestreet.ca for updates.

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