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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • September 24, 2007 • Vancouver

Vancouver's 13th Annual The Word On The Street: **The Show Must Go On!**

As the civic strike continues and Vancouver's downtown Library Square remains behind picket lines, one of the country's biggest annual celebrations of reading is adapting to an unprecedented situation.

Since 1995, The Word On The Street festival has occupied the block of library square and streets next to it. Entertainment stages, book sales, panel discussions, exhibits and more typically happen in tents, at tables along the outside perimeter of the library, as well as the promenade and meeting rooms inside the building itself.

But with a week to go and no end of the civic labour dispute in sight, the festival will prevail thanks to the support of a like-minded neighbour: Canada Post, who has kindly allowed The Word On The Street to put tents in their parking lot, located directly across the street from library square. The Centre in Vancouver for the Performing Arts has also consented to permitting use of the area in front of their building as well.

"The Word On The Street has always existed as a collaboration of associations, businesses and communities. And now, we are just so grateful to The Centre and especially Canada Post for joining them to support this festival of reading and literacy" says WOTS creative director, Liesl Jauk. "With the use of the Main Post Office parking lot on Georgia and The Centre's additional sidewalk space along Homer (in addition to Homer and Hamilton Streets themselves) we will be able to re-locate all our Library Square exhibitors and most of those events, meaning the show will go on."

FREE, accessible, and fun for all ages, Vancouver's annual celebration of reading brings visitors face to face with our vibrant writing and publishing community from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the last Sunday of September. Annually, as estimated 30,000 visitors explore a thriving marketplace, author readings, hands-on demos, entertainment, children's activities, and much more. For details, visit www.thewordonthestreet.ca.

THE WORD ON THE STREET

One Day Only | 11am to 6pm | Sunday September 30, 2007 around Library Square
Admission: FREE!! Full details at www.thewordonthestreet.ca

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