

MEDIA RELEASE

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Book it! The Word On The Street is just around the corner ...



The Word on the Street is one of Canada's biggest annual book and magazine events with festivals taking place in Vancouver, Toronto, Kitchener, and Halifax simultaneously.

Vancouver's The Word on the Street is back for its 14th year with another full *free* day of indoor and outdoor author events, exhibits, performances, a marketplace, and all-round books and reading fun and frolic—**Sunday, September 28 at Library Square** (Homer and Hamilton Streets between Robson and Georgia).

Among the many authors and acts booked for 2008 are: **Gabor Maté** (*In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts*), **Ian Ferguson** (*How to be a Canadian*), **Meg Tilly** (*First Time*), **Mel Hurtig** (*The Truth About Canada*), **Karen X. Tulchinsky** (*The Five Books of Moses Lapinsky*), Seattle comic book artist **Peter Bagge**, **Steven Galloway** (*The Cellist of Sarajevo*), Vancouver's Poet Laureate **George McWhirter** (*The Incorrection*), and **Richard Wagamese** (*One Native Life*).

Plus, there'll be a massive marketplace with books, magazines, and other stuff for sale; new literary magazine mini-stages; a Family Literacy Tent with information about families, literacy and lifelong learning; many First Nations authors and books; and visual exhibits, talks, and panels.

The always-popular AUTHORS TENT will feature: **James Glave** (*Almost Green: How I Built an Eco-Shed, Ditched My SUV, Alienated the In-Laws, and Changed My Life Forever*); humourist **Mark Leiren-Young** (*Never Shoot a Stampede Queen*); and, TV personalities, **The Smart Cookies** (*The Smart Cookies' Guide to Making More Dough*).



Fun at the MAIN STAGE includes: spoken word legend **C.R. Avery**; singer-songwriter, **Rose Melberg**; Klezmer-Ladino-Israeli musicians **Y'teev**; the **King of the Ukelele**, Ralph Shaw; and, the **Vancouver Poetry Slam Team**.

The CANADA WRITES tent is chock full of fiction, non-fiction, anthologies, mysteries and more. Audiences can check out acclaimed writers for teens **Susan Juby** (*Getting the Girl: A Guide to Private Investigation, Surveillance, and Cookery*) and **Meg Tilly** (*First Time*); authors who are making a difference **Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas** (*The Flight of the Hummingbird: A Parable for the Environment*) and **Pummy Kaur** (*What Would Gandhi Do?*); a celebration of BC with **Howard White** (*Imagining BC*) and **Jean Barman** (*British Columbia: Spirit of a People*); books that deal with issues surrounding polygamy—**Daphne Bramham** (*The Secret Lives of Saints*) and **Norma Charles** (*The Girl in the Backseat*); mystery authors **Linda Richards** (*Death Was the Other Woman*) and **Roy Innes** (*West End Murders*); and, many more.



And, THE WORD “UNDER” THE STREET, along with an exhibition of comic book artists and illustrated ’zine producers, will feature: the very popular **Art Class with Robin Thompson**; comic book artist and writer **Peter Bagge** (best known for ’90s comic book series *HATE*); and, panel discussions. And, in the Alma Van Dusen room downstairs in the library are Writing Talks, a series of panels about writing that always fill up quickly! Queuing is essential.

This year, The Word On The Street features a brand new MAGAZINE LIFE TENT that includes demos, performances and discussions like **No-brainer containers** courtesy of *Canadian Gardening*; **Stay true to your beliefs and pay your bills** with *SharedVision*; **Science Experiments** with *YES Mag* and *KNOW* for kids; and, **Interactive Art** with *one cool word magazine’s Maria in the Shower*. Rounding out the day will be writer-focussed sessions presented by the BC Association of Magazine Publishers.



At the KIDS TENT and the THE VANCOUVER SUN RAISE-A-READER CORNER highlights include readings by: **Linda Bailey** (*Stanley at Sea*); **Duane Lawrence** (*Sammy Squirrel and Rodney Raccoon: A Stanley Park Tale*); two books with First Nations’ themes **Nicola Campbell’s** *Shin-Chi’s Canoe* and **Elizabeth Denny’s** *Jenneli’s Dance*; **Deborah Hodge** (*Who Lives Here?*); **Robert Heidbreder** (*Crocodiles Play*); and, **Lisa Cinar** (*The Day it All Blew Away*).

And last, but certainly not least, is THE POETRY TENT where **Poetry in Transit XII** will be launched. Peruse all 16 poems—including poems by **George Stanley**, **Garry Gottfriedson**, and **Matt Rader**—on a bus on site. Plus, there’s a full slate of readings, which include **Shannon Stewart** (*Penny Dreadful*); **Zoë Landale** (*Once a Murderer*); and, World Poetry by **Adelene Da Soul**, **Lucia Gorea**, **Seann Traviller**, and **Peter Lojewski**.

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 5 p.m. on the last Sunday of September. Explore a marvellous marketplace, author readings, hands-on demos, musical entertainment, children’s activities, and much more. For details, check out www.thewordonthestreet.ca/vancouver.

THE WORD ON THE STREET

One Day Only | 11am to 5pm | Sunday September 28, 2008 at Library Square
Admission: FREE!! Full details at www.thewordonthestreet.ca