



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17 March 2009

ATLANTIC INK, The Writers Festival announces 2009 Short List

Four provinces! A weeklong fanfare of writers, books, readings, workshops! May 4 to 9, 2009!

The shortlists have been announced. Five first time writers are being recognized for debut novels championed by some of Canada's most innovative small presses. www.atlanticink.ca is resplendent with readings, signings, workshops and the complete details of the nominated authors and books for the May celebration when writers will be applauded from Charlottetown to Saint John, Fredericton to Wolfville, St. John's to Halifax from May 4 through 9. Collectively travelling an estimated 23,872 km, all paths will converge in Halifax on Friday, May 8, 7 pm at the Saint Mary's University Sobeys Building in the Scotiabank Theatre. **Alistair MacLeod** will deliver ATLANTIC INK's first keynote – *A Writer's Life: Geography as Inspiration* – as prelude to four readings by the winners of this year's writers' book prizes.

This year's nominees are:

12th annual Atlantic Poetry Prize

Shades of Green, Brent MacLaine, The Acorn Press
Breaker, Sue Sinclair, Brick Books
Sky Atlas, Alan R. Wilson, Fitzhenry & Whiteside

19th annual Ann Connor Brimer Award for Children's Literature

Lightning and Blackberries, Joanne Jefferson, Nimbus Publishing
The Nine Lives of Travis Keating, Jill MacLean, Fitzhenry & Whiteside
Submarine Outlaw, Philip Roy, Ronsdale Press

19th annual Thomas Head Raddall Atlantic Fiction Prize

Quintet, Douglas Arthur Brown, Key Porter Books
Evidence, Ian Colford, The Porcupine's Quill
Skin Room, Sara Tilley, Pedlar Press

32nd annual Evelyn Richardson Non-fiction Prize

Dangerous World: Natural Disasters, Manmade Catastrophes, and the Future of Human Survival, Marq de Villiers, Penguin Canada
Loyalists and Layabouts, Stephen Kimber, Random House Canada
Halifax at War, William D. Naftel, Formac Publishing

Schedule of Events

All events for Atlantic Ink, The Writers Festival, except where indicated, are free and open to all members of the public (dates and times are subject to change. Visit www.atlanticink.ca for up-to-the-minute details, changes and additions).

Monday 4 May

7 pm **Reading:** Ian Colford, Sue Sinclair, Sara Tilley, St. John's, NL hosted by the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador

Philip Roy visiting schools in Prince Edward Island through May 6

Jill MacLean visiting schools in St. John's, NL through May 6

- Tuesday 5 May Noon **Presentation:** Marq de Villiers, Fredericton Public Library, 12
Carlton Street, Fredericton
- Wednesday 6 May Noon **Reading:** Sue Sinclair, Sara Tilley, Spring Garden Road Library,
Halifax
- Noon **Reading:** Marq de Villiers, Saint John Free Public Library, 1
Market Square, Saint John
- 7:30 pm **Reading:** Douglas Arthur Brown, Brent MacLaine, Alan R.
Wilson, Charlottetown, PEI hosted by the PEI Writers' Guild
- Joanne Jefferson visiting schools in the Annapolis Valley through May 7
- Thursday 7 May 8:30 am – 4:00 pm **Workshop:** Punctuation and Mechanics with
Frances Peck (Editors' Association of Canada), United Way Boardroom,
7th Floor, Royal Bank Building, 46 Portland Street, Dartmouth. Register
on-line at www.editors.ca
- 7 pm **Reading:** Brent MacLaine, Sue Sinclair, Alan R. Wilson, Study
Lounge - Ward Chipman Building, UNBSJ, Saint John
- 7 pm **Reading:** Marq de Villiers, Alderney Library, Dartmouth
- Friday 8 May 8:30 am – 4:00 pm **Workshop:** Clear and Concise: Another Great
Editing/Writing Seminar with Frances Peck (Editors' Association of
Canada), Charlotte Street Arts Centre, Fredericton. Register on-line at
www.editors.ca
- Noon **Reading:** Bill Naftel, Alderney Library, Dartmouth
- 7 pm **ATLANTIC INK Awards Celebration**, Scotia Bank Theatre,
Sobey's Building, Saint Mary's University, Halifax with Keynote Address
by Alistair MacLeod
- Saturday 9 May 10:30 – 2:30 **ATLANTIC INK Festival Workshops** at the Writers'
Federation of Nova Scotia, 1113 Marginal Road, Halifax

Detailed author biographies, book descriptions, high resolution book covers and author
photographs are available on-line at www.atlanticink.ca

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For further information, contact:

Jane Buss/Bonita Hatcher, WFNS
902-423-8116 talk@writers.ns.ca