ASSOCIATION OF BOOK PUBLISHERS OF BC

Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools

2009-2010 catalogue

selected & evaluated by teacher-librarians
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Welcome to the 2009/10 Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools catalogue

The Association of Book Publishers of BC (ABPBC) is delighted to provide our third catalogue of Canadian-published books authored by, about or published by Canada’s Aboriginal peoples: First Nations, Métis and Inuit. This year we have made a change to the look of the catalogues by using a contemporary Aboriginal artist’s work on the cover. We like the idea of cross-promoting literary and art work — we hope you do too. This year’s cover features a painting by Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun entitled Usufruct (1995, acrylic on canvas, 141 x 194 cm, private collection). You will find more information on Yuxweluptun below.

Over the past two years we have heard back from many educators who are finding the catalogue very useful for the development of their library collections. We are also very pleased that publishers from across the country praise Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools as an excellent tool to raise awareness of the suitability of their books for use in schools. There’s always room for improvement though, so we would love to hear from you. We will use the information we gather to improve the catalogue and to tell our funders of its importance to you. You may email comments to Margaret@books.bc.ca.

The books included in the catalogue cover all regions of the country and all grade levels.

Teacher-librarians selected and wrote the annotations for the books included and they also provided grade levels, comments, cautions and curricula matches. Because this catalogue is distributed across the country, we did not reference specific provincial courses but general curriculum areas that would be understood in all provinces and territories. The catalogue can also be found on our website at www.books.bc.ca. Just go to the Resources for Teacher-Librarians link. A list of publishers’ websites is included also for your information.

In order to facilitate locating and ordering titles, the Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools is organized by book title alphabetically within areas: Elementary (K-7), Secondary (8-12) and Cross Grade (books that span both Elementary and Secondary).

Please note that the ABPBC itself cannot accept orders.

The ABPBC wishes to thank the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP) and the Canada Council for the Arts for project support for this catalogue, and to the Arts & Culture Division of the BC Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts for an operating grant that makes it possible for us to turn on the lights and staff an office out of which projects such as this can be undertaken.

Enjoy and best regards,

Margaret Reynolds
Executive Director, Association of Book Publishers of BC

October 2009

Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun

Yuxweluptun graduated from the Emily Carr School of Art and Design in 1983 with an honours degree in painting. Yuxweluptun’s strategy is to document and promote change in contemporary Indigenous history in large-scale paintings using Coast Salish cosmology, Northwest Coast formal design elements and the Western landscape tradition. His painted works explore political, environmental and cultural issues. His personal and socio-political experiences enhance this practice of documentation. Yuxweluptun’s work has been included in numerous international group and solo exhibitions, such as INDIGENA: Contemporary Native Perspectives in 1992. He was the recipient of the Vancouver Institute for the Visual Arts (VIVA) award in 1998.
Alego
Ningeokuluk Teevee
Groundwood Books

A little girl goes to the beach with her grandmother to dig clams. As she walks along, looking for the clams, she discovers other sea life left behind by the low tide. Originally written in Inuktitut syllabics, the translation maintains many of the original Inuktitut words. Each deceptively simple illustration captures the innocent excitement of a small child, as well as giving readers a glimpse of aspects of traditional Inuit lifestyle. The glossary includes beautiful illustrations of the sea creatures Alego gathers in her bucket. Also included is a map of Baffin Island.

Teevee lives in Cape Dorset, (Kinngait) Nunuvat with her family where she works for the municipal government. Her oral stories of her people into artwork is devoted to bringing the Inuit lifestyle. The glossary includes beautiful illustrations of the sea creatures Alego gathers in her bucket. Also included is a map of Baffin Island.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-3
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Better That Way
Rita Bouvier
Sherry Farrell Racette
Margaret Hodgson, trans.
Gabriel Dumont Institute

Written in both English and Michif, the included CD is narrated in both languages as well. As the reader turns each page, Bouvier directs us to do something that will bring us closer to nature, our families and ourselves in order to live each moment to the fullest. She wrote these life lessons for her son to teach him “sacred act[s] of a good life”, and to “pass… on what we know to our children”. She wants children (and their parents) to know that through these simple and joyful acts we are able to show love and respect for each other and for Mother Earth.

Bouvier is a Métis educator and author and Farrell Racette is an educator, author and illustrator, who was instrumental in development of the Gabriel Dumont Institute. Her recent book is Fiddle Dancer. Hodgson, is a Métis educator who has taught the Cree language at the University of Guelph. In 2004, he was made a Member of the Order of Canada.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

A Coyote Solstice Tale
Thomas King
Gary Clement
Groundwood Books

Coyote is expecting his friends to celebrate the winter holidays when he receives an unexpected guest: a small girl dressed like a reindeer. She has come searching for friendship, goodwill and peace. Concerned she is lost, they follow her tracks back, which leads them to a clear cutting and “A bright object in the night”, which turns out to be the mall. Coyote shops for big ticket items for all his friends, discovering the concepts of cash, credit and consumerism. This story is a humorous look at how commercialism contrasts with the age old traditions of feasting, sharing and caring.

King is a Governor General’s Award nominated novelist/politician of Cherokee, Greek and German descent. He currently teaches English and Aboriginal literature at the University of Guelph. In 2004, he was made a Member of the Order of Canada.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-6
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Dancing in My Bones
Wilfred Burton & Anne Patton
Sherry Farrell Racette
Norman Fleury, trans.
Gabriel Dumont Institute

This book continues the story of Nolin, a Métis boy who is discovering his cultural heritage. From the killing of a moose to the dancing of the “bannock jig” it is a tender and jubilant story highlighting the importance of family and tradition. Throughout there is a quiet underpinning of hope, of something that is greater than ourselves giving the blessings of family, music, food and love. Includes a glossary of the Michif words used and recipe for tourtière.

Burton and Patton are both Aboriginal educators who had collaborated on the prequel Fiddle Dancer with published illustrator, author and educator Farrell Racette. Fleury is a Michif storyteller who also speaks Cree, Ojibwa, Dakota, French and English.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-5
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 44 pp. 11”x8”
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9780920915899 $12.95 PA
gdins.org
Dancing with the Cranes
Jeannette Armstrong
Ron Hall
Theytus Books

*Dancing with the Cranes* is a story of death, sadness, birth, anticipation and nature. Chi is waiting for the return of the cranes, an event she shared with her grandmother every year. She misses her grandmother, but her pregnant mother explains that dying is part of the cycle of life, and uses the cranes to aid in the explanation. “If no cranes died, then there would be way too many cranes, and finally there would be no room for anything else but cranes”. She explains that it is the same for people. “It is the saddest thing when someone dies, it is also the happiest thing when a new person is added”. Chi comes to understand that her Temma will always be part of her and she begins to look forward to the arrival of the baby.

Armstrong has received leadership awards. She is a poet and novelist.

*SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 1-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 24 pp. 10”x8”
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781894778701 $12.95 PA
theytus.com

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Eaglecrest Books
Set of 50 Original Titles
Lorraine Adams
Eaglecrest Books

This unique series of leveled early literacy books features Aboriginal children, their families and communities involved in child-centred day-to-day activities, as well as relevant cultural experiences, at home, school and in their natural surroundings. Clear, appealing, colour photographs focus on many active children from the Cowichan River on Vancouver Island, as well as the Yukon and Nunavut. With natural language, patterned phrasing and realistic photographs that carefully support the text, students are engaged and motivated to read the short stories. The numerous lifestyle and cultural connections also encourage oral literacy and understanding between all students. Levels 1 - 16 of this original set are approved by the Reading Recovery Council of Canada and each book includes a word count.

*SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-3
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2003-06 16 pp. (per book) 10.5”x8.5”
(box size)
colour photographs
ISBN: 9781926576329 $325.00 PA
or $6.50 per individual title
eaglecrestbooks.com

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Eaglecrest Books
Set of 50 Original Titles (French)
Lorraine Adams
Lynn Bruvold, trans.
Eaglecrest Books

This series of fifty leveled books was written by two teachers in Cowichan Valley, BC. Lynn Bruvold has thirty-five years experience in teaching, and works as a Reading Recovery and Early Literacy teacher. Lorraine Adams is a Learning Assistance teacher with fifteen years experience. Both have worked extensively with Aboriginal students. The collection of stories presents First Nations children and their families taking part in a variety of activities such as biking, camping, fishing, shopping, cooking and playing. It features themes of honesty, caring and friendship. The settings vary from school and home to the forest, ocean or snowy outdoors. The illustrations are colour photographs. Children of Aboriginal heritage will see themselves represented. All children will enjoy these simple, colourful stories about real life. The levels assigned to these books have been approved by the Reading Recovery Council of Canada.

The French version contains a couple of minor errors.

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SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-3
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2003-06 16 pp. (per book) 10.5”x8.5”
(box size)
colour photographs
ISBN: 9781926576329 $325.00 PA
or $6.50 per individual title
eaglecrestbooks.com
Eaglespect Books
Set of 30 New Titles
Lorraine Adams
Eaglespect Books

This new series is a welcome addition to the popular original Eaglespect series of leveled early literacy books, which features Canadian Aboriginal children, their families and communities involved in child-centred day-to-day activities, as well as relevant cultural experiences, at home, school and in their natural surroundings. This series extends the size and range of the original set, running from Levels 1 – 21 with a word count at the end of each book. The larger-sized books with clear, appealing, colour photographs focus on many active Aboriginal children across the country. With natural language, patterned phrasing and realistic photographs that carefully support the text, students are engaged and motivated to read the short stories. The numerous lifestyle and cultural connections also encourage oral literacy and understanding between all students.

Fiddle Dancer
Anne Patton & Wilfred Burton
Sherry Farrell Racette
Norman Fleury, trans.
Gabriel Dumont Institute

Métis customs and family values are integral to this story of love and traditions shared between a young boy and his grandfather. It incorporates Métis history, music, art and culture into a simple story about a child who thinks he will never be able to be as good a step dancer as his “Moushoom”. The Grandfather then explains to his “Nooshishim” that it takes time and practice to learn any skill, and that he will be as good a dancer as both his grandparents given time. The text for the Michif language translation is included with the English text on each page. The book comes with a CD that includes both the English and Michif narrations of the story, as well as recordings of three jigs performed by John Arcand. Fiddle Dancer was shortlisted for the Children’s Book of the Year at the Anskohk Book Awards and the Saskatchewan Book Awards.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-5
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2007 46 pp. (per book) 11.0”x8.0”
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9780920915769 $12.95 PA
gdins.org
Goodbye Buffalo Bay
Larry Loyie with Constance Brissenden
Theytus Books

Goodbye Buffalo Bay refers to the location of the residential school where Larry Loyie spent six years. The book’s first half is a series of anecdotes about his experience at the school and the second half follows Loyie in his life after he leaves the school. He returns to Rabbit Hill and tries to reintegrate into life there. His grandfather tries to help him be “Cree again” and takes him to an illegal tea dance. He eventually goes with his sister to McBride where he works at the sawmill. He recounts stories of physical and mental abuse and loss of Native culture at the school. An epilogue gives a brief history of residential schools in Canada.

Previous books are The Gathering Tree, When the Spirits Dance and As Long as the Rivers Flow. Loyie has received the Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-Fiction and the First Nation Communities Read Honour Book Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-7
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 144 pp. 5”x8”
ISBN: 9781894778626 $14.95 PA
theytus.com

I is for Inuksuk
Mary Wallace
Owlkids Books

Artist and author Mary Wallace uses the letters that spell INUKSUK to illustrate life on the Arctic tundra. Each letter represents some aspect essential to Inuit survival. From Nunaq the polar bear to Siku the sea ice to Kunik the soft kis of affection, Wallace’s vivid paintings convey her sense of wonder and the connection within the Arctic community. The last page illustrates seven different types of inuksuk and what they represent along with an Inuktitut pronunciation guide.

Wallace is the author/illustrator of The Inuksuk Book, which won the UNESCO White Raven Award, and the National Outdoor Book Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, FINE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 32 pp. 9”x10.5”
colour reproductions
ISBN: 9781897349571 $19.95 HC
owlkids.com

I Like Who I Am
Tara White
Lee Claremont
Theytus Books

In this illustrated picture book, Celina moves with her mother back to her reserve. She is bullied by some of the kids who won’t believe she is Mohawk because she has blonde hair and blue eyes. Celina speaks Mohawk and her family honours their culture.

However, Celina begins to doubt herself and refuses to dance at the upcoming Pow Wow. After a talk with her great grandmother, Celina has a deeper understanding of what it means to really be Mohawk. After she dances, the other kids begin to accept her, and she even begins to teach some of them the language. Includes a page on Mohawk Language Phonetics.

Mohawk artist Claremont studied at Emily Carr and currently teaches art at the En’owkin Centre in Penticton, BC. White is a Mohawk woman from Kahnawake, Quebec. This is her first book.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 40 pp. 8”x8”
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781894778633 $12.95 PA
theytus.com

Jenneli’s Dance
Elizabeth Denny
Chris Auchter
Theytus Books

Contemporary Métis culture and a young girl’s self-esteem issues are explored in this unique illustrated picture book. Jenneli feels she is “nothing special” and as a Métis, looks different than the others. She takes bannock bread for lunch and loves dancing to fiddle music. Her beloved Grandma Lucee, however, instills pride in her heritage and teaches her grandchildren to jig to the traditional Métis fiddle tune, The Red River Jig. When she enters her granddaughter in a children’s jig contest at the local fair, Jenneli overcomes her fears and learns that being Métis makes her feel there is “something special” about her. Lively, full-page illustrations enhance the text. The addition of the historical significance of the Red River Jig in Métis tradition will deepen appreciation of the story.

This book was a 2009 Canadian Association of Children’s Librarians Honour Book for Illustration. The Haida illustrator, Auchter, is also an animator. Denny is a Métis author.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 1-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 44 pp. 8”x8”
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781894778619 $12.95 PA
theytus.com
The Littlest Sled Dog
Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak
Vladyana Krykorka-Johnson
Orca Book Publishers

This picture book reflects life in the north through the tale of one small cairn terrier puppy who, hearing her mother describe the lives of dogs around the world, dreams of being a big, strong sled dog. When she is sent to live with a storyteller in Rankin Inlet, she enjoys life in the north ... and learns that dreams can change!

Kusugak incorporates many aspects of Inuit culture and the northern environment throughout the story. Vladyana’s first-hand knowledge of the north is incorporated in her colourful, energetic full-page pictures that illustrate the story.

This is the ninth book by this author and illustrator duo.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-6
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 32 pp. 8.25"x11"
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781551437521 $19.95 HC
orcabook.com

The Métis Alphabet Book Study Prints
Joseph J. Fauchon
Sheldon Mauvieux
Gabriel Dumont Institute

Created to accompany Fauchon’s The Métis Alphabet Book, this is a handy, supplementary teaching tool for studying First Nations and Métis cultures. With colourful but rather juvenile illustrations, these study prints illustrate and define twenty-six Métis terms from A to Z (e.g. pemmican, Louis Riel, voyageur). With some text written in Michif-Cree, a bold definition frames the large, lightly shaded pencil crayon illustrations. On the back side is a lengthy description of the word, best suited for teachers’ background information or as an extended research source. Other resources are listed below the description, unfortunately with only one internet link provided. The eight-page glossary with 118 Métis terms provides the most value for student-created glossaries and definitions.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-6
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 48 pp. 8.5"x11"
colour illustrations, map
ISBN: 9781554511556 $19.95 HC/
9781554511549 $9.95 PA
annickpress.com

A Native American Thought of It Amazing Inventions and Innovations
Rocky Landon with David MacDonald

From medicines, syringes and scalpels, to toboggans, snowshoes and canoes, Native Americans were highly developed in all aspects of survival. From acquiring and preserving food, to constructing shelters to adapt to a variety of climates, as well as creating tools and clothing, most of these innovations were thought of before 1492. Illustrations depict authentic artifacts, brilliantly coloured costumes and handicrafts, and paintings depict scenes from traditional lifestyles. Further readings, a map showing traditional territories, and a note on Aboriginal languages are included.

Landon is Ojibway. MacDonald is co-authoring The Inuit Thought of It.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-7
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 48 pp. 8.5"x11"
colour illustrations, map
ISBN: 9781554511556 $19.95 HC/
9781554511549 $9.95 PA
annickpress.com

Northern Lights The Soccer Trails
Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak
Vladyana Krykorka

Acclaimed Inuit storyteller Michael Kusugak offers another endearing tale based on traditional myth. Each strand of the Northern Lights was believed to represent one departed soul. On clear nights, all the souls indulged in lively soccer games in the sky. This legend, told by a loving grandmother, consoles her grieving young granddaughter whose mother has died of tuberculosis. The girl can imagine her dear mother is still close by her, playing soccer in the night sky. Exuberant illustrations and beadwork designs from a decorative Inuit parka enrich the story.


SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, PERSONAL PLANNING
Index/Bibliography: No/No
1993 24 pp. 8.5"x11"
colour illustrations
ISBN: 9781555037339 $16.95
HC:9781555037337 $7.95 PA
annickpress.com
The Story of the Rabbit Dance
Jeanne Pelletier
J.D. Panas
Rita Flamand, trans.
Gabriel Dumont Institute

Jacques arrives late to a community gathering and is amazed to see dogs and rabbits dancing outside the building, mimicking the humans inside. He is thrilled to bring this new dance - The Rabbit Dance - to his friends and family. This unique picture book, the collaborative work of three Métis women, incorporates many traditional aspects of their heritage. The bilingual text strongly reflects the oral tradition. Pelletier tells the story in Michif-Cree and the translator keeps the storytelling voice. Lively illustrations add authentic and interesting details to every page. Included with the book is a CD on which Pelletier reads both versions of the story. Three additional musical tracks are included: The Rabbit Dance, Drops of Brandy and The Red River Jig.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-5
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: DANCE, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

The West is Calling
Imagining British Columbia
Sarah N. Harvey & Leslie Buffam
Dianna Bonder
Orca Book Publishers

To celebrate the province’s 150th birthday in 2008, this unique picture book provides an engaging overview of BC history from pre-contact to current times. Each of the fourteen haiku poems are enhanced by double-page spread colour artwork, which corresponds to two concluding pages of brief historical information and a Seek and Find game. The simple haiku evoke BC landscapes and historical eras, such as the Gold Rush, explorers, building the railway, fishing, Emily Carr, the North, Great Bear Rainforest and First Nations past and present. The Seek and Find items for the pre-contact Haida page include a salmon drying rack, longhouse and western red cedar.

Bonder has illustrated many popular children’s books. Harvey is an editor and author. Buffam is a historian and bookseller.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: K-4
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Against the Boards
Lorna Schultz Nicholson
James Lorimer & Company

This young adult novel is the second in the three book series about young Aboriginal hockey star Peter Kuiksak. Thirteen-year-old Peter has moved from Tuktoyuktuk to Edmonton to play hockey at an elite level. Peter must adjust to his new school, his billet family and life in a big city. The novel explores the complexities that even outwardly successful people cope with in managing significant change and how a young Aboriginal boy from a small town in the far north fits in with the dominant urban culture. The prequel to the novel is Roughing and the sequel is The Northern Star. Caution: Depicts some racism.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Clam Gardens
Aboriginal Mariculture on Canada’s West Coast
Judith Williams
New Star Books

The author’s struggle to have the Northwest Coast Aboriginal peoples recognized as farmers, although marine farmers, is documented in this book. She describes the clam gardens in Waiatt Bay and her archaeological explorations into the making and use of these areas. Excellent descriptions of the clam terraces and how they are maintained are enhanced with photographs. Included are Aboriginal oral stories of how clamming came to be, as well as reports left by European explorers. This is not only a history of Aboriginal mariculture but of clamming on Vancouver Island and the surrounding areas.

Williams’ published works include High Slack, Two Wolves at the Dawn of Time: Kingcome Inlet Pictographs, 1893-1998 and Dynamite Stories.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 7-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES
Clearing a Path
New Ways of Seeing
Traditional Indigenous Art
Carmen Robertson, Sherry Farrell Racette, eds.
Canadian Plains Research Center

This vibrant colour catalogue of the 2005 "Clearing A Path" features twenty-one contemporary indigenous artists working in traditional media. It includes profiles of First Nations and Métis artists. Reflecting both aesthetic design and innovative function, "unorthodox art forms" including wearable art (antler button carvings, beaded dance capes, moosehide moccasins) are featured. Performing art (hand drum and fiddle); tools (goose bone needles, elk/deer antler awls); beaded cradleboards, birch bark baskets, and ceremonial clothing are also included. The art vs. craft controversy is discussed. Clearly distinguishing between authentic, traditional indigenous art and handicrafts/crafts, the editors reveal how the artifacts act as a catalyst for change.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: VISUAL ART

Edible & Medicinal Plants of Canada
Amanda Karst, Linda Kershaw & Patrick Owen
Lone Pine Publishing

A team of biologists, botanists, ethnobotanists and nutritionists describe in this volume nearly 600 trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, sedges and grasses, and ferns indigenous to Canada. In addition, there is a separate section for poisonous plants. Detailed information is presented about the cultural history of human use of the plants by Aboriginal people and early settlers, both as food and medicine, and for other uses. Colour photographs illustrate many of the plants described. This book is a usable guide to identifying plants and an invaluable aid to identifying poisonous plants and finding which parts of plants are dangerous to ingest. Safety concerns around experimental eating are adequately addressed. The book is well-illustrated and formatted in an easy-to-use style. It is bound in a durable wipe-clean cover and will slip easily into a backpack.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: PHYSICAL EDUCATION, SCIENCE

The Fall of New France
How the French Lost a North American Empire 1754-1763
Ronald J. Dale
James Lorimer & Company

The Fall of New France details the struggle between France and Great Britain for the control of what is now known as Atlantic Canada and the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. This is an account of a very tumultuous period in North American history, which ended with France surrendering to the British in 1763, thus establishing the bilingual and bicultural nature of Canada. The skirmishes and battles that took place in the fight for control over the colonies are described in vivid detail, as is the involvement of the Aboriginal warriors. Historian Dale, also author of The Invasion of Canada: Battles of the war of 1812, is Superintendent of Niagara National Historical Sites.

Caution: Some graphic descriptions of battle.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: HISTORY

The First Beaver
Caroll Simpson
Heritage House

An Aboriginal child is born with hair the colour of brown reeds. She is named Reede. Each night she disappears into the forest. The people of the village must walk a long distance to find water but one morning, the village awakens to find a beautiful lake, filled with salmon. However, the girl has disappeared. Her father goes to look for her, he calls her name, but Reede can no longer speak with a human voice. Her transformation into the first beaver is complete. She responds to her father’s calls by whacking her tail on the water. Each page of this simple, richly illustrated story prominently features a clan crest. At the end of the story family crests are explained and specific animal crests are described in detail. This book is a rich resource for Westcoast First Nations art projects and culture. This is the first book by this author.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 2-8
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No 2004 96 pp. 8.5”x8” b/w & colour reproductions & photographs, line drawings, colour maps ISBN: 9781550288407 $19.95 PA formaclorimerbooks.ca

WWW.BOOKS.BC.CA • ASSOCIATION OF BOOK PUBLISHERS OF BC
Cross-grades

First Nations Hockey Players
Will Cardinal
Eschia Books

This meticulously researched book features fifty profiles of current players, legends and the top ten Aboriginal hockey players. NHL players who became heroes both “on and off the ice” are featured. Commencing with a brief history of Aboriginal hockey (“ice shinny”), each profile describes how these players pursued careers in hockey, personal stat records and individual motivations such as being inspired by parents, as an outlet for frustrations or an escape from poverty, or as a personal commitment to fitness. Learn who first discovered the players pro hockey talent, how they rose to MVP status, achieved honours and awards, and the harsh downside of success: burnout, racism and addiction. Some players signed $15 to $27 million dollar contracts, while several broke the barriers for generations to follow.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-9
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2008 176 pp. 8.25”x5.25”
b/w charts
ISBN: 9780981094212 $14.95 PA
eschia.com

A Goal in Sight
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

In this Sports Stories series novel, Aiden is a tough enforcer on his local hockey team. Encouraged by his dad, he hits, hooks and slams anyone in his way. When he is finally sent to court for assault, Aiden’s community service punishment is to spend his Saturdays with a younger blind boy. Eric’s wild sunglasses and bizarre fashion statements are his way of dealing with the sighted world and Aiden slowly learns to respect him for it. With the help of his Aboriginal probation officer, he comes to enjoy his time with Eric and discovers that even blind people can play hockey. Helping out with the Seeing Ice Dogs teaches him that there are other ways to play than by being a bully. When his probation is over, Aiden has some difficult choices to make. Guest is a Métis writer. This book is a Canadian Children’s Book Centre Choice.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-8
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2002 120 pp. 5”x7.75”
ISBN: 9781550287790 $16.95 HC/9781550287806 $8.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca

Inuksuk Journey
An Artist at the Top of the World
Mary Wallace
Owlkids Books

This beautiful book is a record of artist Mary Wallace’s eight-day journey deep into the Arctic tundra to explore and experience the traditional Inuit way of life. As Wallace explores the history and traditions of life in the far north, she introduces the reader to the beauty and richness of this apparently barren landscape and her recognition of the connectedness of the Inuit to their environment. Her diary entries express her sense of wonder and are illustrated with photographs and sketches. Each day’s entry is followed by a two-page reproduction of Wallace’s artistic impression of the experiences of the day.

Wallace is the author/illustrator of The Inuksuk Book, which won the White Raven Award from UNESCO and the National Outdoor Book Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-10
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, FINE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2008 64 pp. 9”x11”
colour photographs & reproductions
ISBN: 9781550287387 $19.95 PA
owlikids.com

The Invasion of Canada
Battles of the War of 1812
Ronald J. Dale
James Lorimer & Company

This book gives a thorough account of the War of 1812, the conflict between the United States of America and the British colonies for the areas then known as Upper and Lower Canada. Dale begins with a brief explanation of the events leading up to the American June 18th, 1812 declaration of war against Britain on North American soil. The remainder of the book is devoted to describing each of the battles between the Americans and the British. The Aboriginal warriors’ valued contributions to British successes are highlighted, particularly when united under the leadership of Shawnee war chief Tecumseh.

Dale is also the author of The Fall of New France, featured in this catalogue.

Caution: Some graphic descriptions of battle.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2001 96 pp. 8.25”x11”
b/w & colour reproductions & photographs, line drawings, colour maps
ISBN: 9781550287387 $19.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca
Joseph Brant and His World
18th Century Mohawk Warrior and Statesman

James Paxton
James Lorimer & Company

Detailing the life of Mohawk Joseph Brant, recognized spokesperson for the Six Nations of the Grand River area, this book reviews the struggle of the Mohawk of the Ohio River Valley throughout the 1700s and Brant’s negotiation of a new homeland for his people at the end of the American Revolution. Brant’s ability to read and write in English and his Anglican faith allowed him to move seamlessly between the Mohawk and English cultures. Renowned for his battlefield successes and influence with British officials, Brant is most remembered for his land sale negotiations of the Grand River area, this book reviews the struggle of the Mohawk of the Ohio River Valley throughout the 1700s and Brant’s negotiation of a new homeland for his people at the end of the American Revolution.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Lacrosse Warrior
The Life of Mohawk Lacrosse Champion Gaylord Powless

Wendy A. Lewis
James Lorimer & Company

This account of the history of lacrosse in Canada, mainly told through Gaylord Powless’ accomplishments as Canada’s lacrosse hero, begins with a description of the early version of the ball and stick game played by his Mohawk ancestors. The game was not known as “lacrosse” until named by European settlers in the 1600s. Lewis recounts the evolution of the sport, from a time when Aboriginal players were excluded from non-Aboriginal lacrosse leagues, to today, where players of many nationalities share the field. Gaylord’s many accomplishments in spectator-sport “box” lacrosse are the focal point of this book. The Gaylord Powless Trophy for most sportsmanlike player honours his contributions to the sport. A glossary of lacrosse terms is included.

Lewis won the Vicky Metcalf Award winner Graveyard Girl.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-9
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION, PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Legends of Vancouver
E. Pauline Johnson

Legends of Vancouver is E. Pauline Johnson’s classic collection of legends of the Capilano people of North Vancouver. Although of Mohawk and English heritage, Johnson met Squamish Chief Joe Capilano in London, and these legends were told to her by him and other members of the Squamish nation. The book contains a variety of legends, with background and commentary provided by Johnson. Johnson provides insights into differences between the cultures of the West Coast First Nations and the Mohawk people, as well as how she has integrated her mixed background into her world view. Photographs provide an interesting glimpse into old Vancouver.

Johnson was a performer, writer and storyteller. Her other works include The White Wampum and Flint and Feather. Caution: Contains some racist/stereotypical depictions of Aboriginal people.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 5-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Lightning Rider
Jacqueline Guest

In this crime mystery, the first of the SideStreets novels for early teens, Métis siblings, Grey and January Fournier, are motorcycle enthusiasts with an affinity for speed. When January gets the news that her brother is in the ICU fighting for his life after crashing a stolen bike, the overtly racist town constable immediately implicates Grey as the one responsible for a rash of recent motorcycle thefts that have occurred in the area. Grey’s past run-in with the law does not help his case. January struggles to gather the evidence needed to prove her brother’s innocence. In the end, a twist in the plot reveals who the real culprits are and a fair and just resolution redeems the seemingly bigoted police officer.

Guest is a Métis author of the popular Sports Stories novels for young readers. Guest was nominated for the National Aboriginal Achievement Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-10
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION

WWW.BOOKS.BC.CA • ASSOCIATION OF BOOK PUBLISHERS OF BC
Looking at Indian Art of the Northwest Coast

Hilary Stewart
Douglas & McIntyre

This introduction to the forms and meanings of the two dimensional art of the Northwest Coast people considers the historical origins and the modern representations. In an accessible way the author introduces the basic components, anatomical features, design motifs (real and mythical animals) and the cultural styles of six coastal groups. The author outlines the social, spiritual and decorative use of the designs by the Coast Salish, Nootka (Nuu-chah-nulth), Kwakiutl, Tsimshian, Haida and Tlingit peoples. Also considered are the European taboos imposed on the art forms that started in the 19th century and the resurrection of the art in the 1960s and 1970s by the descendants of these peoples.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 7-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
1992 111 pp. 6.25"x9"
b/w photographs & illustrations
ISBN: 9780888942296 $17.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

Medicine Paint

The Art of Dale Auger

Dale Auger
Heritage House

This magnificent large-format art book is short on text and long on full-page, full-colour plates of the artist’s acrylic and oil paintings. An artist’s preface and foreword by Mary-Beth Laviolette sets the context. The Cree artist died in the process of making the book. He included short anecdotes or legends under many of the reproductions that give fascinating background to his process and the symbolism inherent in the subjects. The book is divided into three periods of the artist’s career and the evolution of both the style/technique and the subject matter is clear.

The artist is also the illustrator/author of Muskwa Talks to the Loon: A Cree Story for Children, which won the Aboriginal Children’s Book of the Year award and the R. Ross Annett Award for Children’s Literature in 2007.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: BC FIRST NATIONS STUDIES, SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 176 pp. 11.5"x10.75"
colour reproductions
ISBN: 9781550289107 $16.95 HC/9781550289114 $8.95 PA
heritagehouse.ca

The Northern Star

Lorna Schultz Nicholson
James Lorimer & Company

As the third book in the sequence inspired by the life and career of the NHL star Jordin Tootoo, this young adult novel continues the story of Peter Kuiksak as his growing prowess on the ice has both positive and negative impacts on his private life. Increased attention and admiration at first seems both positive and bewildering for the thirteen-year-old from the far north in his new home in Edmonton. Eventually it leads to jealousy, envy and increased demands from others. Peter’s navigating through this and maintaining his focus and integrity are portrayed in an entertaining and realistic way that will appeal to young male readers and hockey fans alike.

This is one of six young adult novels the author has written about hockey.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2006 112 pp. 5"x7.75"
ISBN: 9781550288914 $16.95
HC/9781550289107 $8.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca

Pierrich Falcon
The Michif Rhymester

Paul Chartrand
Gabriel Dumont Institute

Paul Chartrand researched, compiled and documented this concise examination of the history and meaning of the Métis national anthem. The focus is on the Michif version of the anthem and the songwriter who composed it, Pierre Falcon. It also includes the lyrics, in both Michif and English, of other songs by Falcon. A well-produced CD of the songs, performed by a variety of Métis singers and musicians, is included with the coilbound book. Together, they provide a rare and interesting glimpse into the Métis perspective, history and culture. While written for adults, this resource could be effectively used in a variety of school settings to supplement and enhance lessons on Métis history or culture.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 32 pp. 6.5"x9"
b/w & colour illustrations & photographs, CD
ISBN: 9780920915752 $25.00 PA
gdins.org
**Rink Rivals**

**Jacqueline Guest**

James Lorimer & Company

In this *Sport Stories* series title, Bryn, a piano prodigy who looks like his white father is not ashamed of his Cree mother and his brother who looks like her, but when the family moves from a remote Cree community to Calgary, the two boys go to different schools and the subject of his heritage never comes up. When Kelsey, his new “study buddy”, makes disparaging comments about Indians and also about musicians, misunderstandings follow. Evan, on the other hand, a talented hockey player but not used to having to make his own friends, aligns himself with a crowd of tough boys who don’t mind breaking the rules. That both boys play hockey on opposing teams only serves to exacerbate their inherent rivalry. In the end, each of them comes to the aid of the other and they do what’s right.

This is a Canadian Children’s Book Centre choice. Guest is a Métis author.

**SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-8**

**OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION**

Index/Bibliography: No/No

2004 112 pp. 5”x7.75”

ISBN: 9781550288559 $16.95

HC/9781550287448 $8.95 PA

formaclorimerbooks.ca

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**Roughing**

**Lorna Schultz Nicholson**

James Lorimer & Company

Set at an elite hockey camp for thirteen to fourteen-year-old boys, the protagonist is a boy with Type 1 diabetes who needs to decide for himself what is right in spite of what a dominant group believes. In his attempts to excel and cope with his diabetes we see the complexities involved even in the lives of the outwardly successful. Early in this young adult novel we are introduced to his roommate, an outstanding Aboriginal player from the far north. He becomes a target for boys envious of his skills and suffers from the growing prejudice of those who only see differences. The story considers the issues of bullying, racism, difficulties with high level competition and coping with chronic disease. This is the sequel to *Interference* and the introduction of the character Peter Kuiksak, an up and coming hockey star who is the protagonist in two successive novels, *Against the Boards* and *Northern Star*. This was a Canadian Children’s Book Centre choice.

**SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12**

**OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Index/Bibliography: No/No

2003 104 pp. 5”x7.75”

ISBN: 9781550288559 $16.95

HC/9781550287448 $8.95 PA

formaclorimerbooks.ca

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**Soccer Star!**

**Jacqueline Guest**

James Lorimer & Company

After supporting a variety of short-lived interests, Samantha Aqsarniig Keyes’ parents have limited her to only one and soccer is her activity of choice. Moving to a new military base after the season has started means she is too late to join the team so she tries out for the school drama production. When her parents pull strings and buy her new cleats so she can play soccer, it is too late to tell them she also has the lead in the school play. With the strength of her Inuk grandmother’s stories and her inuktsisut talisman, Sam struggles to meet her obligations to both her team and the play and to keep her drama secret. Although she pulls it off in the end, she still has to face the consequences of her lies and excuses. Both Sam and her parents learn some important lessons.

Part of the Lorimer Sports Stories series this is a Canadian Children’s Book Centre choice. Guest is a Métis author.

**SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-8**

**OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION**

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes

2004 162 pp. 8.5”x11”

b/w & colour artwork

ISBN: 9780920915868 $25.00 PA
gdins.org

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**Stories of Our People**

*A Métis Graphic Novel Anthology*

**Janice DePeel, Norman Fleury, Jeanne Pelletier et al.**

Gabriel Dumont Institute

This is a collection of five Métis stories ranging from the very traditional tales of Nanabush the trickster to more modern stories of Roogarooos (werewolves) and Whîtíitous (cannibal spirits). Each story is told three ways: in a graphic format, in a short story format and in an interview format. The illustrations are simple but bright and attractive. The writing in all three formats is clear and easy to follow. This collection demonstrates the depth and importance of these stories to Métis culture and beliefs. The transcription of the interviews will be an important addition to any classroom studying oral storytelling tradition.

Fleury also wrote *The Canadian Michif Language Dictionary*. Caution: Some students might find some stories frightening.

**SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12**

**OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: COMMUNICATIONS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION**

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes

2008 162 pp. 8.5”x11”

ISBN: 9780920915868 $25.00 PA
gdins.org

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Cross-Grades

Thunderbird Spirit
Sigmund Brouwer
Orca Book Publishers

Two seventeen-year-old hockey team misfits, Mike “Crazy” Keats from Saskatoon and First Nations player, Dakota Smith from Seattle, are compelling characters in this suspenseful story. Mike is a troubled, angry young man who was mysteriously sent packing from his Saskatoon team to the Seattle Thunderbirds. Dakota is very wise, reasoned and intense and comes from an affluent family in Seattle, who have relatives on a Lilooet, BC reserve. Their unlikely friendship swiftly develops into a mutually supportive, life-saving bond when they are drawn into a vicious cycle of racial hatred, deceit and violence. The story is told by “Crazy” Mike, who eventually learns to control his self-destructive anger. The hockey action is exciting and realistic. A free teacher’s guide is available on the publisher’s website.

This book is part of the high-interest, easy-reading Orca Sports series. Brouwer has written many books for young adults and children.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 192 pp. 4.25”x7”
ISBN: 9781554690459 $9.95 PA

corabook.com

Time of the Thunderbird
Diane Silvey
Dundurn Group

In this young adult novel, a stranger from a land far away is shipwrecked at a Coast Salish village where the villagers nurse him back to health. This man is in search of riches and power. He demands the winter dance be canceled and sacred dance masks burned. When the villagers do not comply, he focuses his attention on the children as they are easier to convert to his image. The children are abducted but teen Salish twins and their half-human friend travel through strange worlds, encounter bizarre creatures and face immense danger to rescue the children. In the end, after an exciting battle where the twins are aided by an ancient shaman and some magic, the children’s spirits are carefully enclosed in a bone tube and returned to the village. Silvey is a member of the Sechelt band (Coast Salish). She is the author of many books, including Spirit Quest.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 4-10
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 86 pp. 9”x6”
b/w drawings
ISBN: 9781555002792 $11.99 PA

dundurn.com

Tom Longboat
Will Cardinal
Eschia Books

Tom Longboat was one of Canada’s greatest athletes and one of the world’s best marathon runners in the early 20th century. Tom was born on the Six Nations Reserve near Brantford, Ontario in 1887 where athletics was a big part of his life. He particularly loved to run and play lacrosse. Once his talent was noticed by others, Tom received invitations to enter the big running races that were all the rage at that time. Because he was of Aboriginal ancestry Longboat battled discrimination for most of his life. However, despite, or maybe because of this, Tom kept running and winning for most of his career. This story is an uplifting tale of determination and skill about a real Canadian hero whose legacy lives on to this day. Includes an historical timeline of his life and related world events.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 5-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2009 144 pp. 8.25”x5.25”
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9780981094250 $14.95 PA

eschia.com

Victoria Callihoo
An Amazing Life
Cora Taylor
Eschia Books

Victoria Belcourt Callihoo was 104 years old when she died in 1966. The stories that surround this “Queen Victoria” of the Alberta Métis community are legendary. Victoria was born during a much simpler time in our country’s history and she experienced a vast range of changes to her people’s way of life during her lifetime. She was one of the world’s best marathon runners in the early 20th century. Tom was born on the Six Nations Reserve near Brantford, Ontario in 1887 where athletics was a big part of his life. He particularly loved to run and play lacrosse. Once his talent was noticed by others, Tom received invitations to enter the big running races that were all the rage at that time. Because he was of Aboriginal ancestry Longboat battled discrimination for most of his life. However, despite, or maybe because of this, Tom kept running and winning for most of his career. This story is an uplifting tale of determination and skill about a real Canadian hero whose legacy lives on to this day. Includes an historical timeline of his life and related world events.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 3-8
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 192 pp. 8.25”x5.25”
ISBN: 9780981094243 $14.95 PA

eschia.com

Running Against the Wind
Cora Taylor
Eschia Books

Victoria Callihoo was 104 years old when she died in 1966. The stories that surround this “Queen Victoria” of the Alberta Métis community are legendary. Victoria was born during a much simpler time in our country’s history and she experienced a vast range of changes to her people’s way of life during her lifetime. She is herself of Métis ancestry.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 3-8
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 192 pp. 8.25”x5.25”
ISBN: 9780981094243 $14.95 PA

eschia.com
Watishka Warriors
Daniel Auger
Eschia Books

In this novel, Sandy Lafonde returns to the Watishka Lake First Nations Reserve in northern Alberta to visit her Aunty Anne. She discovers a reserve devastated by yet another death of a young person who chose suicide over joining the Posse, a gang that has been terrorizing the community. Sandy starts a hockey team to give the youth something to do. Few of the members know how to skate and the coach is a hockey star with problems of his own. Gradually the team comes together with the financial help of Sandy’s ex-NHLer boyfriend and her hockey expertise. A pair of games with a team from Peace River gives them a focus and after an expected loss in the first game, the players come together when they host the second game in their outdoor facility. This story of despair and anger promises a happy ending for the main protagonists in the community.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 7-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Wild Ride
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

In this sequel to Guest’s first book in the SideStreets novel series, Lightning Rider, Métis teen January Fournier is starting to adjust to the changes in her life: moving to Banff National Park, having a new RCMP stepfather and attending a new school. When the family’s RCMP summer student boarder, Willow Whitehead, shows up on her Kawasaki ZX-10R, January feels she has found her soul mate. Willow’s commitment to her Métis heritage prompts January to do some soul searching of her own and the two quickly become friends. However, when several incidences of poaching of the area’s grizzly bears coincide with Willow’s unexplained absences and suspicious behaviours, January connects Willow to the poaching. Fearing the worst, January presses to resolve the case.

Guest is a Métis author who resides in Alberta. Wild Ride was shortlisted for a 2006 Arthur Ellis Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 6-10
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION

Aboriginal Canada Revisited
Kerstin Knopf, ed.
University of Ottawa Press

This collection of scholarly essays in the International Canadian Studies series contains the proceedings from an Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Symposium held in Germany in 2005. These perspectives and empirical studies written by Canadian and European academics, provide a portrait of the current political and cultural position of Canada’s Aboriginal peoples. The contributors, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal scholars, explore Aboriginal politics, health and healthcare, education, poverty and other social issues. They also look at how contemporary Aboriginals are finding voice in literature, art, print media and film. While recognizing improvements, the contributors point out that the colonial legacy still affects Aboriginal peoples, and systemic problems continue to marginalize Aboriginal people. This collection of challenging writings provides statistical data.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: LAW, SOCIAL STUDIES

Aboriginal Education
Current Crisis and Future Alternatives
Jerry P. White, Julie Peters, Dan Beavon & Nicholas Spence, eds.
Thompson Educational Publishing

This anthology collects fourteen essays by leading researchers and academics examining the current state of education for Métis, Inuit and First Nations peoples in Canada. Evidence reveals a disparity between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal educational attainment, and further differences between Aboriginal groups based on gender and geographical location. The historical issues leading to the current situation are examined. The disadvantages of educational disparity to both Aboriginal peoples and the country are assessed, and different approaches are advocated. This book is an essential resource for all concerned in advancing Aboriginal education.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12,
TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: CAREER & PERSONAL PLANNING

www.books.bc.ca • association of book publishers of BC
At Risk
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

In this novel in the Sidestreets series, Tia has taken a job working at a ranch for delinquent teens. Partnered with the tough-as-nails Sage, Tia has her hands full trying to gain the girl’s trust. It is a battle that Tia is slowly winning until $10,000 goes missing from the ranch’s administration office and all evidence points to Sage. Sure that she is going to be hauled off to jail, Sage saddles up her horse and tries to ride her way to Calgary. Tia and Ty, another counselor, follow her finding her just in time to save her, and themselves, from being engulfed in a forest fire. This tightly written story ramps itself up to a gripping and unexpected conclusion.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, COMMUNICATIONS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
ISBN: 9781550288476 $16.95
HC/9781550288469 $9.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca

Becoming British Columbia
A Population History
John Douglas Belshaw
UBC Press

This book revisits BC’s history from pre-colonial times to the present from the perspective of population. By using a demographic lens, Belshaw analyzes the overall patterns and causes of population change. He demonstrates how many early surveys of the subject were biased and racist reflections of the newcomers and settlers for example, not including data related to Aboriginal inhabitants. Chapters most pertinent to school curricula are those describing Aboriginal population before European contacts, changes resulting from contact, the role of immigration during the building of the CPR and the Gold Rush eras, as well as racist policies and events. This historical demographic analyzes data related to sex ratios, nuptiality, fertility, immigration, urbanization, depopulation and mortality in BC.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: GEOGRAPHY, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
charts, graphs, maps
ISBN: 9780774815451 $85.00
HC/9780774815468 $34.95 PA
ubcpress.ca

The Beothuk
Ingeborg Marshall
Breakwater Books

The Beothuk became extinct in 1830. Little was known about these natives of what is now Newfoundland because they mostly avoided contact with newcomers. Marshall has pieced together information from artifacts, records made by naval commanders and information obtained from two Beothuk women captured by the English in the 1820s to create a comprehensive picture of the Beothuk people. Marshall first discusses Beothuk origins, social organization, hunting/fishing and gathering, and burial practices. She estimates there were 500 – 700 Beothuk in Newfoundland pre-contact. Disease and loss of food-gathering territory combined with conflict with settlers eventually led to the demise of the Beothuk. Marshall is considered the foremost authority on the Beothuk.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12, TEACHER RESOURCES
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2009 88 pp. 6”x9”
b/w photographs, line drawings, maps
ISBN: 9781550812589 $12.95 PA
breakwaterbooks.com

At Risk
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

Becoming British Columbia
A Population History
John Douglas Belshaw
UBC Press

The Beothuk
Ingeborg Marshall
Breakwater Books

Braiding Histories
Susan D. Dion
UBC Press

Aiming to help “cultivate an equitable relationship” between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, Dion stresses Canadians’ lack of awareness of the origins and evolution of historical relationships between these two groups. Dion fosters an understanding of the history of oppressive actions towards Aboriginal peoples exemplified by nation to nation treaties, forced assimilation policy and relocation to reserves, residential schools and the Indian Act. She encourages educators to challenge the stereotypical roles of Aboriginals. Dion attempts to replace negative stereotypes with positive, diverse representations of Aboriginal people.

Dion has Lenape/Potawatami roots and is on the Faculty of Education at York University, Toronto.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 227 pp. 6”x9”
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9780774815178 $85.00
HC/9780774815185 $32.95 PA
ubcpress.ca

SecondarY
Cedar
Tree of Life to the
Northwest Coast Indians
Hilary Stewart
Douglas & McIntyre

Originally published in 1984, Cedar is still germane to the study of the Northwest Coast people and their traditional uses of the cedar tree. In clear language and with 550 of her own drawings as well as fifty photographs Stewart covers botanical descriptions of the cedar, the spiritual realm in terms of beliefs, taboos, rituals, healing and prayers, and also traditional uses such as canoes, housing, totem poles, ceremonial uses, basket weaving and clothing.

Other books either written or illustrated by Stewart include Indian Fishing, Looking at Totem Poles and Looking at Indian Art of the Northwest Coast. Cedar received one of the first BC Book Prizes in 1985.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
1995 192 pp. 10"x9"
b/w photographs, line drawings, maps
ISBN: 9781550544060 $29.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

Challenging Traditions
Contemporary First Nations Art of the Northwest Coast
Ian M. Thom
Douglas & McIntyre

This remarkable collection, compiled and discussed by Vancouver Art Gallery curator, Ian Thom, identifies modern Aboriginal artists of the Northwest coast and includes but is not limited to such influential names as Susan Point, Robert Davidson and Tony Hunt Jr. Artists were selected because they demonstrated “deeper artistic and cultural concerns” in addition to being master artists in their media. The artwork ranges from printmaking and watercolour to carving and weaving, to blown glass and bronze casting amongst other media. Along with the reproductions and photographs of each artist’s work is a brief and insightful synopsis of the professional life of the artist. The author wrote the award-winning Emily Carr: new perspectives on a Canadian icon and B.C. Binning, Takao Tanabe, Gathie Falk and Gordon Smith.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 128 pp. 8"x9"
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9780921586395 $16.00 PA
newstarbooks.com

Chiwid
Sage Birchwater
New Star Books

Chiwid was a Chilcotin woman who lived outside, self-sufficiently for most of her life, and moving camps with the seasons. Chiwid is a collection of oral histories about the woman, her family and what life was like in the Chilcotin area of British Columbia in the early to mid 1900s. Part of the Transmontanus series.

Caution: Some coarse language. Some use of “he” to indicate females in the context of oral language.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 128 pp. 8"x9"
b/w photographs, line drawings
ISBN: 9780921586395 $16.00 PA
newstarbooks.com

Chiwid was a Chilcotin woman who lived outside, self-sufficiently for most of her life, and moving camps with the seasons. Chiwid is a collection of oral histories about the woman, her family and what life was like in the Chilcotin area of British Columbia in the early to mid 1900s. Part of the Transmontanus series.

Caution: Some coarse language. Some use of “he” to indicate females in the context of oral language.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 128 pp. 8"x9"
b/w photographs, line drawings
ISBN: 9780921586395 $16.00 PA
newstarbooks.com

The Colour of Dried Bones
Lesley Belleau
Kegedonce Press

The Colour of Dried Bones is a collection of interconnected short stories with a young Ojibway woman as the protagonist. Bella is struggling with her identity as a First Nations woman and worries that she is not passing on her culture to her children. The stories also examine her relationships with her parents, her sister and her lovers, one of whom is not First Nations.

Belleau is a playwright, poet and writer. She is the author of the plays On Relative Ground and Paleface.

Caution: Contains profanity and suggestive sexual content.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 152 pp. 6"x9"
colour photographs, b/w & colour reproductions
ISBN: 9780978499808 $15.00 PA
kegedonce.com
In this novel in the SideStreets series, Zoe is racing towards her future as an engineer designing cars with boyfriend Adam. Laura, her mother, has made her own plans for Zoe, which include a degree in medicine. Laura has her own problems including a rocky marriage and a son with ADHD all of which led her to give up her own ambitions of medical school. Zoe doesn’t want to disappoint Laura, however agreeing to her mother’s plan leads Zoe down a path of indecision, nightmares, migraine headaches and a disastrously failed biology exam, not to mention trouble with the very patient and understanding Adam.

Guest has been nominated for a National Aboriginal Achievement Award and the prestigious Esquao Award for outstanding achievement by an Aboriginal woman. She has been nominated for the Hackmatack, R. Ross Annett and the Arthur Ellis Mystery awards.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: COMMUNICATIONS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2006 136 pp. 4.25"x6.75"
b/w & colour photographs, b/w reproductions
ISBN: 9780920919082 $20.00 PA
gdlns.org
formaclorimerbooks.ca

This is a unique, idiosyncratic, and at times compelling collection of poetry and prose by a Métis writer capturing her family and her own experience in one volume. Looking through a single set of eyes from her multiple perspectives as a mother, daughter, cousin, niece, grandchild, young woman, neighbour or simply as a watcher, the author apprehends some qualities specific to Métis ways and points of view. Family and community members are seen clearly and unapologetically through careful detail and gentle anecdote. The volume opens with a family genealogy and a Treaty Five paylist.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: CREATIVE WRITING, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2007 44 pp. 9.5"x6.5"
b/w & colour photographs, b/w reproductions
ISBN: 9780920919082 $20.00 PA
gdlns.org

First Nations Cultural Heritage and Law: Case Studies, Voices, and Perspectives
Catherine Bell & Val Napoleon, eds.
UBC Press

This book contains case studies related to the protection, repatriation and control of Canadian First Nations’ cultural heritage. This collaborative investigation involved Aboriginal partners from BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan as well as scholars in law, anthropology and archaeology. Presented are views, first-hand accounts and oral history from a variety of Aboriginal peoples. Insights are given about the importance of the potlatch and residential school issues. The topics of language loss and its reacquisition are presented. Aboriginal participants identify, define and articulate their own concepts, laws and experiences related to the three areas investigated in this book, leading to greater appreciation of, respect for and protection of their varied cultures.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: LAW, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2008 521 pp. 6.5"x9.5"
b/w photographs, maps
ISBN: 9780774814014 $58.00 HC/9780774814021 $34.95 PA
ubcpress.ca

Fort St. James and New Caledonia, Where British Columbia Began
Marie Elliott
Harbour Publishing

This book is about how the fur trade developed in central BC. It explains how the Northwest Company was able to become established in an area well-populated by First Nations groups and how they were able to maintain good relations. Elliott researched daily journals, letterbooks and account books of the major posts, as well as the correspondences from the posts to the governors and committees in London. She discusses which First Nations groups lived in the area and their contribution to the enterprise, including the women who were vital in the preparation of the furs and who became “country wives” to many of the company men. Aboriginal peoples acted as guides, hunters, trappers, interpreters, boatmen, packers, dog handlers and transporters of provisions. Includes French Canadian definitions and extensive notes.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 272 pp. 6.5"x9.5"
b/w photographs, maps
ISBN: 9781550174776 $12.95 PA
harbourpublishing.com
SECONDARY

The Fur Trade in Canada
An Illustrated History
Michael Payne
James Lorimer & Company

In 1930, historian Harold Innis wrote that Canada emerged as a country as a direct result of the fur trade. The Canadian “mosaic” can also be traced back to the fur trade, which was a multilingual, multicultural enterprise. These are the overarching ideas on which this comprehensive, chronological book is based. It traces the history of the fur trade from pre-contact trade between Aboriginal people to 1945. The text is fairly dense, however, details about the daily lives of the fur traders and photographs, artwork and maps make this history of Canada come alive.

Payne works for the Historic Sites Service in Alberta. He is the author of many books and articles about the fur trade.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: COMPARATIVE CIVILIZATIONS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, JUSTICE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Gabriel Dumont
War Leader of the Métis
Dan Asfar & Tim Chodan
Folklore Publishing

Gabriel Dumont, fearless leader of the Métis in battles of the 1885 Northwest Resistance was, like his compatriot Riel, a change-agent in the political and geographical landscapes of Canada. This book narrates his life, achievement, fate and role in Canada’s story. The use of dialogue and quotations, many presumably from interviews Dumont gave and from written accounts of his life (there are neither footnotes nor attributions in the text), draw the reader through this chronological presentation of the story behind the facts.

The events of the Northwest Resistance and its tragic outcome are given including Dumont’s exile to the USA and his subsequent job in Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show. Included is a very helpful chapter on the Métis’ way of life in the Northwest.

The authors have also collaborated on Louis Riel in the Legends series.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: LAW, SOCIAL STUDIES

The Great Chiefs
Volume 1
Tony Hollihan
Folklore Publishing

The first of two volumes of the Great Chiefs series tell the stories of six Aboriginal leaders who lived between 1763 and 1911: Sitting Bull, Chief Joseph, Quanah Parker, Red Cloud, Sequoyah and Louis Riel. Louis Riel and Sitting Bull played an especially significant part in Canadian history. Most of the chiefs mentioned were warriors with the exception of Sequoyah, the Cherokee, who created a written Cherokee language. Because of his intellectual pursuits, he was considered a witch and almost killed. A major theme in the book is the enormous pressure put on the Native tribes and their leaders by the ever-advancing European population. The Aboriginal people were gradually overwhelmed and forced from their lands, usually after a bloody struggle.

Hollihan is a teacher and author of several other books including Sitting Bull in Canada.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

The Great Chiefs
Volume 2
Tony Hollihan
Folklore Publishing

The second volume of the Great Chiefs series tell the stories of six Aboriginal leaders who lived between 1768 and 1932: Tecumseh, Crazy Horse, Geronimo, Crowfoot, Plenty Coup and Wovoka. These biographies of renowned Aboriginal leaders show how they grappled with the arrival of foreigners on their soil and the measures they took to protect their people. The contents of Great Chiefs presents the compelling story of how indigenous people are historically overwhelmed, often violently, and forced from their traditions and lands. It is a compelling read that makes the text appeal to young readers.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes 2003 320 pp. 8.25”x5.25” b/w photographs, line drawings, maps ISBN: 9781894864077 $14.95 PA folklorepublishing.com
Healing Traditions
The Mental Health of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada
Laurence J. Kirmayer & Gail Guthrie Valaskakis, eds.
UBC Press

This collection of twenty academic papers brings together research on and reflection of Aboriginal mental health across Canada. A comparative look at similarity between indigenous peoples from other continents and Canadian Aboriginals solidifies the conclusions for self-sustainability of collective and cultural well-being. Traditional healing and the recovery of tradition itself is the recurring theme in dealing with mental illness and psychiatric disorders. This book offers a unique combination of mental health and socio-cultural perspectives. Each chapter contains Notes and References.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 503 pp. 6.5"x9.5"
b/w photographs, graphs, maps
ISBN: 9780774815239 $95.00
HC/9780774815246 $39.95
ubcpress.ca

Histoires de Kanatha/ Histories of Kanatha
Vues et contées/Seen and Told
Georges Sioui
University of Ottawa Press

Georges Sioui is a Wendak (Huron) who, as a child absorbed his elders’ wisdom and developed a keen interest in history. His activist mother advised him to use education, rather than confrontation, to affect change. This book is a compilation of his essays, speeches and poems from 1991–2007 in English and French. Sioui revisits Canadian history from the perspective of Aboriginal people who, pre-contact, had already established an extensive trading network and lived in democratic groups. They understood that all living things are interdependent. Sioui suggests that we must all adopt the Aboriginal vision of mutual respect.

Sioui is a professor at the University of Ottawa.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: COMPARATIVE CIVILIZATIONS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2008 372 pp. 6"x9"
ISBN: 9782760330351 $48.00
HC/9782760306820 $29.00
press.uottawa.ca

Jacob’s Prayer
Lorne Dufour
Caitlin Press

When Jacob Roper saved author Lorne Dufour’s life after an accident on the lake that killed two other white men, Dufour begins a testimony to the place and people he grew to love and respect while teaching school there in the early 1970s. He combines narrative, poetry and photographs to tell of the tragedies and hopes of Alikili Lake, (previously dubbed Alcohol Lake), from the beauty of the landscape, to the social problems, to the resiliency of the people who were able to overcome the alcoholism that was destroying the community.

Dufour has also written two books of poetry. He has been an elementary school teacher, taught philosophy at Royal Rhodes Military College in Victoria, and traveled with a theatre company. He currently lives at McLesse Lake, BC where he horse-logs with his team of Clydesdales.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2009 176 pp. 5.5"x8"
map
ISBN: 9781894759335 $18.95
Pa caitlin-press.com

Klee Wyck
Emily Carr
Douglas & McIntyre

This edition restores the original full text of Emily Carr’s classic text and the 1951 foreword by Ira Dilworth. It is a collection of Carr’s stories and impressions of the lives of BC’s First Nations people from her time travelling and living with them as she painted their villages and totem poles. The writing provides a vivid portrait of the people, as well as her negative views of how they were treated by the missionaries. Editions available since 1951 were based on an expurgated educational edition that had been edited to remove any possible ‘objectionable content’. Included is a new introduction by Kathryn Bridge that gives context to the writing through information about Carr and the expurgating of previous editions.

Carr is one of BC’s most well-known artists and writers.

Caution: Contains some stereotyping language and depictions of First Nations people that could be considered racist.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12, TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LITERATURE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2003 144 pp. 5.25"x8"
map
ISBN: 9781553653646 $29.95
HC/9781553650256 $14.95
dmpibooks.com
SECONDARY

Learning to Fly

Paul Yee
Orca Book Publishers

In this novel in the Orca Sounding series, Jason is the only Chinese student in his small town high school. He has no friends and he desperately wants to go “home” to China. To ease his pain, Jason smokes marijuana. Through his dope smoking Jason hooks up with a First Nations boy, nicknamed “Chief”, and three poor white kids. When Jason’s new friends get him to buy dope for them, Jason is arrested and charged with trafficking. Jason’s dope-smoking friends each struggle with a kind of discrimination—being Aboriginal or being poor. Chief is there for Jason when he is suicidal and Jason returns the favour in the exciting climax of the story.

Yee grew up in Vancouver’s Chinatown. He has written many books about the Chinese Canadian experience including Ghost Train, which won the 1996 Governor General’s Literary Award and Ruth Schwartz Children’s Book Award.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 112 pp. 4.25”x7”
ISBN: 9781551439532 $9.95 PA
orcabook.com

Little Hunger

Philip Kevin Paul
Nightwood Editions

Philip Kevin Paul’s poems build on the power of storytelling. The importance of family is obvious in his work, with many tales based on the actions of uncles, grandparents, parents and siblings. He also clearly values the significance of words, especially his own language, WSÁ,NEC (Saanich). “But it’s the Indian names that quiet him. He says the most peculiar thing after I tell him the secret names of sala and the story-trail they lead us to. // You know what, Uncle! Everything I was thinking, except your voice, went away when you were saying that story.” He uses terms and phrases from his language within the poems, but always in a way that is accessible to the reader.

Little Hunger is on the 2009 ReLit longlist. Paul’s first book, Taking the Names Down from the Hill, won the 2004 Dorothy Livesay Award for Poetry.

Caution: The poems include some references to drunkenness, cigarette-smoking and sex as well as a few subtle allusions to drug use.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: CREATIVE WRITING, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 96 pp. 5.25”x7.5”
ISBN: 9780889712201 $16.95 PA
nightwoodeditions.com

Looking at Totem Poles

Hilary Stewart
Douglas & McIntyre

This is a thorough and informative study of all the major totem poles on the northwest coast. Stewart gives the location of each pole, the history of the pole, the carver(s), descriptions of carving styles and cultural differences, the types of poles (welcoming, memorial or mortuary), descriptions of how the figures are placed on the poles, and the meanings of the figures. The book includes a short history of the Northwest Coast, an historical overview of totem poles, drawings and photographs, including carvings in process, and detailed descriptions of figures, crests and ceremonial objects.

Stewart is an award-winning authority on Northwest Coast First Nations art and culture and author of ten books including Looking at Indian Art of the Northwest Coast and Totem Poles.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2003 232 pp. 8.25”x5.25”
b/w photographs, line drawings, map
ISBN: 9781550540741 $17.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

Louis Riel

Dan Asfar & Tim Chodan
Folklore Publishing

This book tells the story of Louis Riel and his role in Canada’s story. The use of dialogue and quotations, many presumably from Riel’s journal and written accounts of his life (there are neither footnotes nor attributions in the text), draw the reader onward in a chronological presentation of the story behind the facts. The events around Red River and the ill-fated execution of Thomas Scott during the 1869 Resistance are presented. Riel’s move to the USA and his recall to the Northwest Territories by Dumont in 1884 is narrated along with the tragedy of the Northwest Resistance and Riel’s subsequent trial and execution. The issues of prejudice, racism, injustice, bias and minority rights are covered.

The authors have collaborated, so far, on two narrative histories about leaders of the Métis in the Legends series. The title of their other narrative history is Gabriel Dumont: War Leader of the Métis.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: LAW, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
1993 192 pp. 6”x9”
maps
ISBN: 9781550540741 $17.95 PA
folklorepublishing.com
Making Wawa
The Genesis of Chinook Jargon
George Lang
UBC Press

Chinook Jargon was a trade language used along the West Coast from the 1830s until the early 20th century. Sometimes inaccurately referred to simply as “Chinook” (the Chinook First Nations of the lower Columbia River area have their own language), this dialect was used for intercommunication between Aboriginals and traders, officials and settlers. It probably arose as an aspect of the fur trade in post-contact times. This book is unique in the way that it ties together the development and evolution of the Chinook language with colonial history. It has a significant BC historical perspective. The book also includes a chronology, extensive notes and a partially annotated early glossary of Chinook Wawa.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
TEACHER RESOURCE
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Medicines to Help Us
Traditional Métis Plant Use
Christi Belcourt
Gabriel Dumont Institute

This informative and very useful little book contains not only information on the medicinal uses of plants from all over Canada, it also contains general information on Métis traditional knowledge, medicine and healing. In addition to the information provided by the author, she includes the essay “First Hand Knowledge of Traditional Indigenous Medicines” by elder, Rose Richardson. The book is contained in an attractive folder along with 31 (8” x 11”) laminated posters suitable for classroom display. On the back of these posters is a piece of art depicting the plants discussed done by the author in the style of Metis beadwork.

Belcourt’s artwork has appeared in numerous art and Aboriginal magazines.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SCIENCE, VISUAL ARTS

Mi’sel Joe
An Aboriginal Chief’s Journey
Raoul R. Anderson & John K. Crellin
Flanker Press

Mi’sel Joe grew up in the remote Newfoundland Mi’kmaq community of Conne River. He quit school at fifteen and for the first time left his community and got his first job cutting pulp. Emboldened to leave Newfoundland, Mi’sel Joe traveled across Canada as far west as Alberta and as far north as Churchill Falls, finally returning to Conne River to work to bring his community back to its traditional values and beliefs and forward into the 21st century. His experiences working in the woods, on the railroad, on a ranch, in the mines, on a fishing boat and living on the streets or in a boarding house, have informed his approach to dealing with government and working through his band council to bring his community cultural revitalization and economic stability.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL JUSTICE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Native Chiefs and Famous Métis
Leadership and Bravery in the Canadian West
Holly Quan
Heritage House

This book in the Amazing Stories series looks at the lives of five famous Aboriginal men from Canada’s past. Concentrating on the history of the plains people, the men profiled are Cree, Blackfoot and Métis. The book also includes a brief history of post-contact events in Canada as they affected the plains people. The author has chosen to profile those known for their leadership and bravery as well as men who strove for more positive outcomes from the interactions between the First Nations people and European settlers. The stories are all true, although the author has, as she says “embellished them with...imagination and interpretations.”

Quan also wrote Sam Steele. Caution: Contains some racist/stereotypical depictions of Aboriginal people.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2009 128 pp. 5.5”x8.5”
b/w photographs, map
ISBN: 9781894974745 $9.95 PA
heritagehouse.ca
SECONDARY

One Native Life
Richard Wagamese
Douglas & McIntyre

This is a compilation of essays and reflections on how writer Richard Wagamese discovered his roots and his purpose. Taken by the government from his family as a very young child in the "Sixties Sweep", he felt displaced and isolated as he was sent to live with a series of white families. After running away at age sixteen, he experienced homelessness, low income jobs and a transient lifestyle. Thanks to the praise and encouragement of two teachers, he held onto his dream of becoming a writer. He eventually got his first writing job as a newspaper editor, spending days in the library studying books on journalism and writing.

Wagamese is the author of the bestselling and award-winning Keeper'n Me. He became the first Aboriginal Canadian to win the National Newspaper Award for Column Writing. He received the Canadian Author’s Association Award for 2007.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

A Passamaquoddy-Maliseet Dictionary
David A. Francis & Robert M. Leavitt
Goose Lane Editions/University of Maine

The dictionary contains more than 18,000 entries over 1,200 pages, including a comprehensive English index that incorporates a pronunciation and grammatical structure guide. Sample sentences, taken from both oral tradition and contemporary conversation, reveal details of the thought and culture and personal attitudes, as well as a linguistic ingenuity. This cultural document contains detailed knowledge of the physical, intellectual, social, spiritual and emotional environments of the Maliseet and Passamaquoddy people. Of particular value to the First Nation communities in New Brunswick and Maine.

Francis is the language curator at the Waponahki Museum. Leavitt is a professor at the University of New Brunswick.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: LINGUISTICS

A People on the Move
Irene Ternier Gordon
Heritage House

This engaging book tells the history of the Méts of Canada’s Western Plains through the stories of a variety of individuals. Topics such as who the Méts are, family life, food, transportation, the importance of the buffalo and the 1885 rebellion are covered. The author uses various personal accounts and retellings of events so that the reader can get a sense of what the people involved were like, how they viewed their lives what daily life may have been like for them.

Part of the series Amazing Stories. The author’s other books include The Battle of Seven Oaks: And the Violent Birth of the Red River Settlement and Marie-Anne Lagniodiere: The Incredible Story of Louis Riel’s Grandmother.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Racing Fear
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

In this book in the SideStreets series, Adam and Trent’s friendship comes to a skidding halt when Adam loses control of the car and sends them hurtling over a cliff. Now they are once again trying to rebuild their friendship but Trent’s ADHD and the interference of driver extraordinaire, Marcus, is leading Trent down a dangerous path. Will Adam be able to help his friend out of yet another difficult jam at the same time getting past the crippling fear he has suffered from ever since the accident?

Guest has been nominated for a National Aboriginal Achievement Award and the prestigious Esquao Award for outstanding achievement by an Aboriginal woman.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: COMMUNICATIONS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 144 pp. 5.5”x8.5”
b/w photographs, map
ISBN: 9781894974851 $9.95 PA
geritagehouse.ca

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2004 160 pp. 4.25”x7”
ISBN: 9781550288371 $16.95 HC/9781550288384 $9.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca
Rediscovery
Ancient Pathways, New Directions
Thom Henley
Lone Pine Publishing

This teaching resource describes the history of the acclaimed Rediscovery Program, which Thom Henley founded in 1978 on Haida Gwaii to link Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students in the exploration and integration of cultural traditions with the contemporary world. Over 130 wilderness and cultural activities derived from more than thirty Aboriginal cultures are carefully described and indexed. Through the activities, young people from many different backgrounds have strengthened their self-awareness and learned to respect themselves, each other, their culture and their place on this earth. The author’s numerous colour photographs depict youth and elders actively engaged in sharing, working, exploring and learning ancient and practical outdoor skills. Includes forewords by renowned Haida artist Bill Reid and environmentalist David Suzuki.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, OUTDOOR EDUCATION, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
1996 352 pp. 8.5″ x 5.5″
colour photographs, line drawings
ISBN: 9781551050775 $24.95 PA
lonepinepublishing.com

she walks for days inside a thousand eyes
Sharron Proulx-Turner
Turnstone Press

Told from several perspectives, including that of ‘young crow’, this unique book offers an empowering and sweeping presentation of First Nations histories. Using both prose and poetry, the author weaves a tale that encompasses the breadth of tradition from the origin of the Pleiades to the removal of the Cherokee people from their lands in Oklahoma. Overall, the book reads as if it is an extended story/lesson from an elder. Although the language is poetic, it is approachable and could provide inspiration for student-generated writing or passages for oral interpretation.

Proulx-Turner’s previous book, she is reading her blanket with her hands, is also in this catalogue.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: CREATIVE WRITING, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2008 184 pp. 5.5″ x 8.5″
ISBN: 97808888013262 $17.95 PA
turnstonepress.com

Sitting Bull in Canada
Tony Hollihan
Folklore Publishing

The third book in the Legends series, the author provides a candid look at the life of the legendary Indian chief. After Sitting Bull defeated Custer, he led his band north across the border to escape the US army. Walsh of the North-West Mounted Police promised these American Indians protection in Canada provided they obeyed the laws. Despite the outcome, the mutual respect and friendship between Sitting Bull and Walsh endured. Sitting Bull was not only a fierce warrior, but he also advocated a non-violent approach to settling disputes. Despite the US government’s intent to force change upon his people, Sitting Bull was determined to keep the Sioux traditional way of life and their lands. His appeal to the Canadian government for a reservation failed and his people had no choice but to return to the US.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2002 288 pp. 8.25″ x 5.25″
b/w photographs & illustrations, maps
ISBN: 9781894864022 $14.95 PA
folklorepublishing.com

Skin Room
Sara Tilley
Pedlar Press

In this debut novel, Teresa is twelve-years-old when her dad takes her and her little brother from their home in St. John’s, Newfoundland to Nunavut to escape life with their mother, a brilliant, but bipolar artist, whose frequent suicide attempts and loss of reality have made family life impossible. The chapters alternate between her twelve-year-old self and her older self, who has inherited her mother’s artistic sensibilities and self-destructive behaviour. While Teresa searches for love and intimacy among the arts scene in St. John’s, she is haunted by the love she had for a teenaged Inuit carver and the events that led to her family fleeing the North.

Tilley has won three awards for Skin Room, and has written many plays. In 2006, she received an award for contributing to the development of theatre in Newfoundland and Labrador. Caution: Contains frequent swearing, graphic descriptions of sex acts, and references to drugs and alcohol.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 11-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, PSYCHOLOGY

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 392 pp. 5.5″ x 8.5″
ISBN: 9781897141205 $22.00 PA
pedlarpress.com
SECONDARY

The Song and the Silence
The Life of Stoney Indian Chief Frank Kaquitts
Peter Jonker
Lone Pine Publishing

This is a biography of Cree Frank Kaquitts, also known as Sitting Wind. Sitting Wind lived mainly with the Stoney people in Alberta. He had a variety of occupations, including a stint in the Canadian military and as the chief of all three Stoney bands. The book is written as a series of stories that cover various events and periods in Sitting Wind’s life. Most of the stories are written in a fictional style. Sitting Wind’s hope is that upon reading the book “every reader becomes more sympathetic and less judgmental of us Indians”.

Caution: Some use of stereotyping language and some depictions of First Nations people that could be considered racist which reflect the time and the personal experiences of Sitting Wind. Contains some mild swearing.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2006 64 pp. 7.5”x8.5”
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9781550545791 $15.95 PA
lonepinepublishing.com

The Spirit of Haida Gwaii
Bill Reid’s Masterpiece
Ulli Steltzer
Douglas & McIntyre

This photographic essay records the making of Haida artist Bill Reid’s bronze sculpture, Spirit of Haida Gwaii. One of the canoes, full of mythic Haida travelers is installed at the Vancouver International Airport. The volume includes a description by Reid of what the characters in the sculpture mean to him and to Haida mythology and an essay by Robin Laurence that elaborates on the mythology, Reid’s biography and the complex process involved in making the piece. The photographs by noted photographer, Ulli Steltzer, show the process from the 1/6 scale clay model, the full scale clay then plaster covered steel frame, the rubber mold, the wax pattern and the final bronze casting.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ARTS
Index/Bibliography: No/No
2006 64 pp. 7.5”x8.5”
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9781550545791 $15.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

Taking Back Our Spirits
Indigenous Literature, Public Policy, and Healing
Jo-Ann Episkewen
University of Manitoba Press

This book presents the need for and way of using Indigenous literature as a means of healing and understanding for both Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginals. The vital role of stories as a means of reclaiming ones heritage, addressing one’s past and progressing into a new future is clearly presented. Episkewen argues that governmental and social policies in regards to Aboriginal peoples have had a devastating effect. These detrimental policies governed their identity and controlled their rights to resources, agricultural activities, languages, culture, religion, freedom of movement and education. Later chapters deal with the central role and use of transformative and healing personal stories and drama in the redressing of these injustices and the opportunity for a positive future.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2009 256 pp. 6”x9”
ISBN: 9780887557101 $27.95 PA
umanitoba.ca/uofmpress

Tatsea
Armin Wiebe
Turnstone Press

This fictional survival story is set in the Canadian Subarctic in the 1760s before the white man completely invaded the north, but as harmful influences such as guns and alcohol arrive. Tatsea and Ikotsali are an unlikely couple from the Dogrib tribe who become separated during a horrible raid on their village by Cree warriors. Though neither is sure of the other’s continued existence after the raid, they do find each other again after a year surviving in the harsh northern climate. Part love story, part history lesson, part adventure, this book chronicles what life might have been like 250 years ago as the many native tribes, and eventually the white man, begin to clash over land, rights and customs in the Canadian north.

Tatsea was awarded the 2004 McNally Robinson Manitoba Book of the Year Award and the Margaret Lawrence Award for Fiction. A teacher’s guide is available from www.arminwiebe.ca.

Caution: Contains some violent and suggestive scenes.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: HISTORY, SOCIAL STUDIES
Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2003 250 pp. 5.5”x8.5”
ISBN: 9780888012814 $18.95 PA
turnstonepress.com
This is What They Say
François Mandeville, Robert Bringhurst & Ron Scollon
Douglas & McIntyre

This narrative ethnography is an Aboriginal story cycle. Dictated first in 1928 in the Chipewyan language, these stories were initially transcribed by the Chinese linguist Li Fang-Kuei. They lay dormant in his notebooks for nearly half a century until they resurfaced in Taipei in 1976. One of the original translators returns to the texts to make this new, colloquial English version. Chipewyan is one of the many Northern Athapaskan languages spoken in Alaska and western Canada. No other known work of Northern Athapaskan literature has the range of these stories or gives such an authentic picture of traditional life. Appendices describe the narrative ethnography of the author, as well as the multiple states of an oral text and tradition.

Mandeville was born in the NWT. He was the son of a Métis interpreter. Scollon was professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2009 288 pp. 6”x9”
b/w photographs
ISBN: 9781553654735 $24.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

Those Who Know
Profiles of Alberta’s Native Elders
Dianne Meili
NeWest Press

Thirty-one interviews with Aboriginal elders reveal words of wisdom and historical insights that only those who have lived the old ways know. Representing nine different Aboriginal groups, each elder reveals the challenges and hardships of being trapped between a traditional lifestyle and life on the reserve. Compassion and concern for their people, the environment, non-Aboriginal relations and hope for mending future relations, are expressed by the elders. Formerly hunters and trappers, now spiritual advisors, healers and community leaders, they reveal their stories of survival, including growing up on the trap-line and overcoming the loss of culture from growing up in residential schools. Encouraging Aboriginal people to reconnect with their spiritual roots, advice is given on dealing with addictions, disconnection from their culture, and restoring the sacred balance of nature.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
1991 272 pp. 6”x9”
b/w photographs, map
ISBN: 9780920897034 $24.95 PA
newestpress.com

Trail of the Spirit
The Mysteries of Medicine Power Revealed
George Blondin
NeWest Press

The late Dene elder, George Blondin, came from a long line of Dene medicine men. In this book, he has written down numerous stories from the Dene oral tradition explaining what is medicine power, how it is acquired and, most importantly, how it has been and is to be used. This is a unique account of Dene culture and mystical and spiritual beliefs, since few medicine men today are willing to share their knowledge even amongst their own people. From the thirteen laws handed down by Yamagah, to lessons on forgiveness from his brother Yamoria, to stories of stewardship of nature, appropriate sexual thoughts and behaviour, and the correct raising of children, this book is full of lessons useful not only to the Dene but to all people.

Blondin wrote numerous columns for News/North and The Old Man with the Otter Medicine.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2006 181 pp. 6”x9”
map
ISBN: 9781897126080 $24.95 PA
newestpress.com

Tukiliit
An Introduction to Inuksuit and Other Stone Figures of the North
Norman Hallendy
Douglas & McIntyre

Tukiliit is a thorough look at the objects commonly known as inuksuit. But as Hallendy explains, the inuksuk is only one type of stone figure. Each section here describes one type. For example, “innunguaq” is a stone figure in the likeness of a person, whereas an “innuksuk” is that which acts in the capacity of a human and “sakkabluniit” are objects imbued with power. The description of each figure is followed by several pages of colour photographs with meticulous captions that elaborate on the descriptions. Information is given to show that stone figures are evident in many different cultures. A brief text in a number of different languages is given at the end of the book.

Hallendy is a renowned Arctic researcher and has received several grants and awards for his work in the north.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2009 128 pp. 8”x9”
colour photographs
ISBN: 9781553654247 $22.95 PA
dmpibooks.com

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SECONDARY

Understanding Northwest Coast Art
A Guide to Crests, Beings and Symbols
Cheryl Shearar
Douglas & McIntyre

Herb Belcourt grew up during the Depression at Lac St. Anne, one of Alberta’s oldest Métis communities. When Belcourt left home at fifteen to work in coal mines and sawmills his father, who was a fur trader, advised him to save and work for himself. Over the years he prospered in business and, through non-profit agencies that he founded, made significant contributions to the Métis community. Belcourt worked to improve access to affordable housing and to advance education for Aboriginal Albertans. The author addresses the loss of Aboriginal land and recounts the racial prejudices that the Métis faced. This remarkable narrative reveals Belcourt’s devotion to his family, fellow Métis and to his beloved country.

Belcourt was the 2006 recipient of a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Housing.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES, VISUAL ART

Index/Bibliography: No/Yes
2006 224 pp. 6”x9”
b/w photographs, historical documents, map
ISBN: 9781550547825 $22.95 PA
brindleandglass.com

Walking in the Woods
A Métis Journey
Herb Belcourt
Brindle & Glass

This story realistically interweaves the complexities assailing a sixteen-year-old boy and his mother when their soldier father/husband is on a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Incorporating the video gaming subculture, the illicit drug business and life at a Canadian Forces Base high school this young adult novel will attract male readers. Using his father’s absence to gain more freedom the protagonist creates a very difficult scenario for himself and his family. Throughout the story, he begins to transform his thinking about the glory of military encounters with the reality of the actual experience.

Guest was nominated for the Arthur Ellis Award and was a Canadian Children’s Centre Our Choice selection for two other titles.

Caution: Contains some coarse language, descriptions of drug use and very violent video games.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 8-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: CAREER & PERSONAL PLANNING, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Index/Bibliography: No/No
2008 168 pp. 4.25”x7”
b/w archival photographs, maps, family tree
ISBN: 9781552770351 $9.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca

War Games
Jacqueline Guest
James Lorimer & Company

This story realistically interweaves the complexities assailing a sixteen-year-old boy and his mother when their soldier father/husband is on a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Incorporating the video gaming subculture, the illicit drug business and life at a Canadian Forces Base high school this young adult novel will attract male readers. Using his father’s absence to gain more freedom the protagonist creates a very difficult scenario for himself and his family. Throughout the story, he begins to transform his thinking about the glory of military encounters with the reality of the actual experience.

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b/w archival photographs, maps, family tree
ISBN: 9781552770351 $9.95 PA
formaclorimerbooks.ca

Weasel Tail
Stories told by Joe Crowshoe Sr. (Áápohsoy’yiis), a Peigan-Blackfoot Elder
Michael Ross interviewing Joe Crowshoe Sr.
NeWest Press

This volume, compiled over six years, collects personal interviews with Joe Crowshoe, a revered Peigan-Blackfoot elder. His life experiences, stories and sacred Peigan legends, dating back to the 1700s, reveal the vibrant cultural history of his people. Anecdotal interviews, historical vignettes and sidebars with vocabulary, parallel Crowshoe’s stories. His life spanned the end of the traditional ways and the beginning of a new era of life on ‘The Rez’. He stresses the importance of learning from elders and valuing the sacred ways. Joe and his wife, Josephine, share stories ranging from befriending the “Red Coats” (RCMP) to his travels to the Gobi Desert on a palaeontology expedition.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 320 pp. 6”x9”
b/w archival photographs, maps, family tree
ISBN: 9781897126288 $32.95 PA
newestpress.com

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OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/Yes
2008 320 pp. 6”x9”
b/w archival photographs, maps, family tree
ISBN: 9781897126288 $32.95 PA
newestpress.com
Where the Blood Mixes
Kevin Loring
Talon Books Ltd.

This is a play about loss and redemption. Floyd, the main character, lived in residential schools never understanding why he was taken from his home. Now a middle-aged alcoholic, he lives in pain and isolation. Years ago he lost his wife to suicide and, because he was unfit to care for her, his only daughter was taken from him. Two decades later his daughter returns to confront her father. The story takes place at the confluence of the muddy Fraser and the blue Thompson Rivers, or "the place inside the heart where the blood mixes".

Loring, a member of the N’lakap’mux First Nation, received the 2005 Vancouver Arts Award for Emerging Theatre Artist. This play received a Jesse Richardson Award for Outstanding Original Script and the Sydney Risk Prize for Outstanding Original Script by Emerging Playwright.

Caution: Contains coarse language.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 10-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, FINE ARTS, HEALTH & CAREER EDUCATION

Wisdom of the Elders
Native and Scientific Ways of Knowing about Nature
Peter Knudtson & David Suzuki
Greystone Books

First published in 1992, now released with a new introduction, this book examines the ecological themes that concern both scientists and indigenous peoples. These two groups pursue their knowledge of the natural world in different but complementary ways. Comparing a scientific viewpoint to an indigenous perspective, each chapter focuses on a particular ecological or biological topic. The book is a well-documented gathering of sacred stories and traditions from over twenty-two different indigenous cultures, seven of which are found in Canada.

Suzuki and Knudston co-authored Genethics: The Ethics of Engineering Life.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: 9-12
OTHER SUBJECT AREAS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES

Index/Bibliography: Yes/No
2006 288 pp. 6"x9"
ISBN: 9781553651932 $24.95 PA
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