

## Books BC Announces its 2023/24 Poetry in Transit Program in Partnership with TransLink

The Association of Book Publishers of BC (Books BC) is excited to announce the 2023/24 Poetry in Transit program.



Now celebrating its 27th year, this community-engagement project, made possible through a partnership with TransLink and BC Transit, is an opportunity to showcase BC's regional poets. Each year, we invite submissions of BC-authored poems from Canadian publishers and select 10 local poets to be featured in the campaign. A collection of bus cards featuring the poetry selections are produced and placed on transit vehicles across the province for riders to discover. The bus cards also feature the work of local photographers sourced through an Instagram photo competition led by TransLink and paired with the chosen poems by a jury.



The 2023/24 Poetry in Transit selected poets and featured books are:

**Susan Braley**, Victoria

**P.W. Bridgman**, Vancouver

**Robert Bringham**, Heriot Bay

**Edward Byrne**, Vancouver

**Megan Fennya Jones**, Vancouver

**Mark Leiren-Young**, Victoria

**Emily Osborne**, Bowen Island

**Kirsten Pendreigh**, Vancouver

**Sharon Thesen**, Prince George

**Ian Thomas**, Vancouver

*Tilling the Darkness* (Caitlin Press & Dagger Editions)

*Idiolect* (Ekstasis Editions)

*The Ridge* (Harbour Publishing)

*Tracery* (Talonbooks)

*The Program* (Goose Lane Editions)

*Big Sharks, Small World* (Orca Book Publishers)

*Safety Razor* (Gordon Hill Press)

*Best Canadian Poetry 2021* (Biblioasis)

*Refabulations: Selected Longer Poems* (Talonbooks)

*Green Islands: Poems from the Great Bear Rainforest* (Rainbow Publishers & Raven Chapbooks)

[Poetry in Transit](#) has been running since 1996, making it the longest-running poetry on transit program in Canada. Poems eligible for the project must be by BC-based writers and published in book form by Canadian publishers. Poems are submitted by publishers and selected by a jury. The 2023/24 jury included poets Evelyn Lau and Rob Taylor.

Join us in celebrating the 27th year of Poetry in Transit at "Poetry Bus!", the campaign launch event at the Word Vancouver Reading and Writing Festival at UBC Robson Square. On Saturday, September 16th at 12:45 p.m., a selection of the 2023/24 featured poets will participate in a reading hosted by former Poet Laureate Evelyn Lau, followed by a Q&A with the audience. Attendees can also view the complete collection of selected poems displayed onboard the Poetry Bus parked at the venue.

We invite you to share your sightings of the 2023/24 Poetry in Transit bus cards throughout Metro Vancouver and BC using the [#PoetryInTransit](#) hashtag on social media channels. Find us [@ReadLocalBC](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

## **About Books BC and TransLink**

Founded in 1974, the Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia (Books BC) represents 25 BC-owned companies. Books BC supports the aspirations and activities of its membership through cultural, economic, and political initiatives and engages book-related communities in British Columbia, Canada, and beyond.

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TransLink is Metro Vancouver's regional transportation authority, and is the first North American transportation authority to be responsible for the planning, financing, and managing of all public transit in addition to major regional roads and bridges.

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