



## Call for Entries for 6<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Victoria Butler Book Prize

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Authors and publishers from Greater Victoria are invited to participate in the 6th Annual City of Victoria Butler Book Prize, a competition that honours members of the literary community. The \$5,000 prize is awarded to a local author for the best book published in the preceding year in the categories of poetry, non-fiction, fiction and biography.

"We are pleased to continue our commitment to supporting arts and culture in the community," said Mayor Dean Fortin. "For the sixth year, the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize will honour literary achievement and showcase the incredibly talented authors who make the Capital Region unique."

In its second year, the \$5,000 Bolen Books Children's Book Prize will be awarded to an author of children's literature. The prize was created to provide authors of children and youth literature an increased opportunity for recognition.

"These are two of the largest literary prizes awarded in Canada at a municipal level," said Mary Virtue, President of the Victoria Book Prize Society. "We are fortunate to have so many gifted authors in Greater Victoria, and look forward to another standing-room-only gala in the fall."

Books must have been published between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 to be considered. Submissions can be made to the City of Victoria's Community Development Office, at 633 Pandora Avenue between April 14 and May 29, 2009. The Society will appoint two independent juries comprised of representatives from the literary arts community to review and assess adult and children's literature entries based on their literary merit.

Shortlisted nominees for both prizes will be announced in September, and authors will be showcased at a public reading and reception held at the Union Club of British Columbia in October.

Previous City of Victoria Butler Book Prize winners include Kevin Patterson for *Country of Cold* in 2004, Terrence Young for *After Goodlake's* in 2005, Mark Zuehlke for *Holding Juno* in 2006, Bill Gaston for *Gargoyles* in 2007, and Arleen Paré for *Paper Trail* in 2008.

Chris Tougas won the Inaugural Bolen Books Children's Book Prize for *Mechanimals* last year.

Founded in 2004, the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize is a partnership between the City of Victoria and Brian Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies and is sponsored by the Greater Victoria Public Library, the Magnolia Hotel and Spa and the Union Club of British Columbia. The Victoria Book Prize Society establishes the policy and criteria for the prize, appoints the jury and administers the competition.

For more information and submission guidelines, visit: [www.victoria.ca](http://www.victoria.ca) and click on *what's new?*

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