



The 2019 CODE Burt Award for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Young Adult Literature Shortlist

Ottawa, December 9, 2019 — To celebrate and to honour the United Nations International Year of Indigenous Languages, CODE is proud to announce the shortlist for the new Indigenous language award for young adult fiction. This is part of the ***CODE Burt Award for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Young Adult Literature***.

This is the first-ever Indigenous language award for young adult literature in Canada. The shortlisted titles in alphabetical order include:

- **Inconvenient Skin** by Shane Koyczan, written in English and Cree with translation by Solomon Ratt. Illustrations by Joseph M. Sanchez, Jim Logan, Kent Monkman, and Nadya Kwandibens. Published by Theytus Books.
- **Those Who Run in the Sky** by Aviaq Johnston, translated into Inuktitut by Blandina Tulugarjuk. Illustrations by Toma Feizo Gas. Published by Inhabit Media.
- **Three Feathers** by Richard Van Camp, translated into Slavey by Doris Camsell. Illustrations by K. Mateus. Published by Highwater Press an imprint of Portage and Main.

The English language shortlisted titles in alphabetical order are:

- **The Case of Windy Lake** by Michael Hutchinson. Published by Second Story Press.
- **Moccasin Square Gardens** by Richard Van Camp. Published by Douglas & McIntyre.
- **Those Who Dwell Below** by Aviaq Johnston, illustrations by Toma Feizo Gas. Published by Inhabit Media.

The shortlist was compiled by six Indigenous jury members who have extensive knowledge and understanding of young adult literature, literacy, education, and publishing.

“Indigenous language revitalization is a powerful goal that elevates the important link between language, development, and reconciliation,” said Scott Walter, Executive Director, CODE.

Winners will be announced in 2020. The prizes are as follows:

- Indigenous language award winner and translator - \$6,000
- English language -
 - o Winner - \$6,000
 - o Honour prize - \$3,000
 - o Honourable mention

Publishers of the awarded books will be offered a guaranteed purchase of up to 2,500 copies. These books are then distributed to schools, libraries, community and friendships centres across Canada. This guaranteed purchase, combined with a book distribution program, is what makes this award program unique. It ensures that great books make it into the hands of young readers who need them the most, with new titles coming out every year!

About CODE and the CODE Burt Award for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Young Adult Literature

The CODE Burt Award for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Young Adult Literature is a Canadian literary award and readership initiative that recognizes excellence in Indigenous-authored literature for young adults (ages 12-18). The objective of the prize is to champion literacy, build language skills and foster the love and habit of reading by ensuring that young people across Canada have access to high quality, culturally relevant and engaging reading materials. The award program is made possible by the generous support of Canada's Literary Prizes Foundation and the legacy of William "Bill" Burt.

This year financial support for the CODE Burt Award program was generously provided by The Consec Foundation, Power Corporation of Canada and the Writer's Union of Canada. The award is the result of a close collaboration between CODE and the following organizations:



National Association
of Friendship Centres
Association nationale
des centres d'amitié



For further details on the *Burt Award for First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Young Adult Literature*, please visit code.ngo/approach/literary-awards

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About CODE

If you can read and write, you can learn to do, and be, anything. That's the idea behind CODE. A Canadian NGO with over 60 years of experience, CODE advances literacy and learning in Canada and around the world. CODE's international programs encourage development through education through support to libraries, professional development for teachers, as well as national and local book publishing in over 20 languages.

www.code.ngo