SOCIETY OF CHILDREN’S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS
OFFICIAL READING LIST — 2017

CANADA

PREK-K

Nonfiction Picture Book

What Noise Do I Make?
by Brian McLachlan
Book Description: Cats meow and dogs woof, but what about animals beyond Old McDonald’s farm? Find out in this funny and well-researched book that encourages kids’ participation.
Author’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario
Publisher: OwlKids Books

Picture Book

Bringing the Outside In
by Mary McKenna Siddals, illustrated by Patrice Barton
Book Description: Four kids and their dog frolic through the seasons, savoring the joys of outdoor play, the treasures collected along the way, and memories for keeps!
Author’s Residence: Prince George, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers
Author’s Website: www.siddals.com

Gabby: Wonder Girl
by Joyce Grant, illustrated by Jan Dolby
Book Description: Gabby is asking questions and she wants answers! Who is in the mysterious photo? Where is Mrs. Oldham? Gabby and Roy discover just how wonderful question words can be!
Illustrator’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario
Publisher: Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Giraffe Meets Bird
by Rebecca Bender
Book Description: It’s easy to make Giraffe cross. It’s a cinch to make Bird angry. A comic adventure for preschoolers reveals the history of this squabbling pair.
Author’s Residence: Burlington, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Pajama Press

I Love You Too, I Love You Three
by Wendy Tugwood, illustrated by Sheila McGraw
Book Description: Through charming counting rhymes and gentle illustrations, this heartwarming book perfectly captures how the love between a mother and child transcends their separation.
Author’s Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Publisher: Firefly Books

Leah’s Mustache Party
by Nadia Mike, illustrated by Charlene Chua
Book Description: Leah loves her Halloween pirate costume, especially the teal mustache accompanying it. When her birthday draws near, Leah decides to hold a mustache-themed party.
Illustrator’s Residence: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Inhabit Media

Maggie McGillicuddy’s Eye for Trouble
by Susan Hughes, illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan
Book Description: Readers will have no trouble spotting the clever make-believe in this story about an unlikely intergenerational friendship between two neighbors rooted in playful imagination.
Author’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Kids Can Press

A Picnic at the Lighthouse
by Rebecca North, illustrated by Nancy Keating
Book Description: A heartwarming story about a young boy and his father who have a picnic near a lighthouse and spend a fun-filled day together.
Author’s Residence: Newfoundland, Canada
Publisher: Tuckamore Books

The Pocket Mommy
by Rachel Eugster, illustrated by Tom Goldsmith
Book Description: Samuel wishes his mommy would fit into his pocket to keep him company at school. When it comes true, things don’t go quite as expected!
Author’s Residence: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Tundra Books
Author’s Website: www.racheleugster.com

The Snow Knows
by Jennifer McGrath, illustrated by Josée Bisaillon
Book Description: A whimsical winter lullaby with hide-and-seek illustrations invites children to discover who’s hiding in the winter woods.
Author’s Residence: Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada
Publisher: Nimbus Publishing

What Matters
by Alison Hughes, illustrated by Holly Hatam
Book Description: What Matters gently explores nature’s connections, from the minuscule to the monumental, and traces the ripple effects of one child’s good deed.
Illustrator’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Orca Books

GRADES 1–2

Chapter Book

Book Uncle and Me
by Uma Krishnaswami, illustrated by Julianna Swaney
Book Description: It’s election time in India, but what can one kid do to change things when she can’t even vote? Plenty, as it turns out.
Author’s Residence: Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Groundwood Books
Le flocon de Noël
by Louise Catherine Bergeron
Book Description: The recipe for a successful Christmas cookie recipe? A snowflake-shaped cookie cutter, a curious little boy, a generous babysitter, and mostly, a magic formula!
Author’s Residence: Boisbriand, Québec, Canada
Publisher: Bayard Canada
Author’s Website: www.illustrationquebec.com/en/portfolios/oeuvres/artiste/louisecbergeron

The Christmas Wind
by Stephanie Simpson McLellan, illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan
Book Description: On a windy Christmas Eve, Jo, her sick mother, and her infant brother seek refuge in the barn of a grouchy old man named Franklin Murdock.
Author’s Residence: Newmarket, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside
Author’s Website: www.TheChristmasWind.com

Mae and the Moon
by Jami Gigot
Book Description: When the moon disappears, Mae begins to worry. Determined to find her glowing friend, she sets off on a wonderful voyage through her imagination.
Author’s Residence: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Ripple Grove Press

Mouse Vacation
by Philip Roy, illustrated by Andrea Torrey Balsara
Book Description: When Happy’s vacation dreams include the Taj Mahal and New Zealand, but John offers the woods and river, how’s a poor mouse to have any fun?
Author’s Residence: Durham, Ontario, Canada
Illustrator’s Residence: Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Ronsdale Press

The Old Ways
by Susan Margaret Chapman, illustrated by John Mantha
Book Description: Simon, an Inuit boy, is not interested in the old ways of his grandparents until they are trapped in a snowstorm on their snowmobile.
Author’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Fifth House Publishing/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Sizing Up Winter
by Lizann Flatt, illustrated by Ashley Barron
Book Description: A winter wonderland, brought to life in colourful cut-paper collage, helps children grasp the various concepts of measurement.
Author’s Residence: Muskoka, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: OwlKids Books

Sloth the Lazy Dragon
by Regan W. H. Macaulay, illustrated by Alex Zgud
Book Description: Through a sensible diet and plenty of exercise, a brave dwarf helps a heavy dragon named Sloth lose weight so he can fly again.

Take Me Out to the Ice Rink
by Stella Partheniou Grasso, illustrated by Chris Jones
Book Description: This rollicking read will catch everyone up in the energy of a game. Alongside learning basic hockey terms and lingo, young readers will be singing their way to reading fun.
Illustrator’s Residence: Mississauga, Ontario
Publisher: Scholastic Canada
Illustrator’s Website: www.mijonesey.com

When the Rain Comes
by Alma Fullerton, illustrated by Kim La Fave
Book Description: Trapped by a flash flood with an ox cart bearing her community’s rice seedlings, Malini wants to run but knows she must save the seedlings.
Author’s Residence: Midland, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Pajama Press

-poetry-

Driftwood Dragons and Other Seaside Poems
by Tyne Brown, illustrated by Tamara Thiebaux-Heikalo
Book Description: A collection of lyrical seaside poems celebrating the coastal region. From snails to whales, Driftwood Dragons captures the beauty, diversity, and joy of maritime beaches.
Author’s Residence: Canada
Publisher: Nimbus Publishing

Heart of a Champion
by Ellen Schwartz
Book Description: Set in 1942, Heart of a Champion tells the story of a famous baseball team and the internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II.
Author’s Residence: Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Tundra Books
Horror

The Doll's Eye
by Marina Cohen, illustrated by Nicoletta Ceccoli
Book Description: From the moment the glass eye rolls out from under the bed in her creepy new house, twelve-year-old Hadley's life begins to change. Forever.
Author's Residence: Markham, Ontario
Publisher: Roaring Brook Press
Author's Website: www.marinacohen.com

Humorous Fiction

The Best Mistake Mystery
by Sylvia McNicoll, illustrated by Tania Howell
Book Description: Dog walker Stephen Noble counts and analyzes mistakes, which, together with canine clients Ping and Pong and sidekick Renée Kobai, help him solve neighborhood mysteries.
Author's Residence: Burlington, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Dundurn Press
Author's Website: www.sylviamcnicoll.com

Small Medium at Large
by Joanne Levy
Book Description: After she's hit by lightning at a wedding, twelve-year-old Lilah Bloom develops a new talent: She hears dead people.
Author's Residence: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Bloomsbury Books for Young Readers

Mystery

It's a Mystery, Pig Face!
by Wendy McLeod MacKnight
Book Description: A paper bag filled with money. An annoying little brother. Can Tracy and her best friend, Ralph, solve the mystery and still stay friends?
Author's Residence: Hanwell, New Brunswick, Canada
Publisher: Sky Pony Press
Author's Website: www.wendymcleodmacknight.com

Nonfiction

Survival Secrets of Turkey Vultures
by Debra Toor
Book Description: Explore turkey vulture adaptations as you join mother vulture on a hunt to feed her chicks. Combines science, photographs, and learning activities.
Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Guardian Angel Publishing
Author's Website: www.dubrpeace.com

Realistic Fiction

The Elephant Keeper
by Margriet Ruurs, illustrated by Pedro
Book Description: How does an African boy from a poaching background becoming a skilled caregiver of orphaned baby elephants?
Read this true story of release and hope.
Author's Residence: Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Kids Can Press
Author's Website: www.margrietruurs.com

What Makes a Monster? Discovering the World's Scariest Creatures
by Jess Keating, illustrated by David DeGrand
Book Description: From the author of Pink Is for Blobfish, Animal Planet meets Godzilla in this nonfiction picture book that puts the “Ack!” into backyard science.
Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers
Author's Website: www.jesskeating.com

Nonfiction Picture Book

Big Blue Forever
by Anita Miettunen
Book Description: The story of how a blue whale skeleton found on a remote beach in eastern Canada was reassembled for permanent museum display.
Author's Residence: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside
Author's Website: www.anitamiettunen.com

Picture Book

Hala's Window
by Farida Mirza
Book Description: Curious Hala has many unanswered questions. Her village has no school. Her parents are uneducated. Then something happens, and Hala's joyful journey of learning begins.
Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Oxford University Press

Everyday Hero
by Kathleen Cherry
Book Description: Alice, a student with Asperger's, meets school
tough girl, Megan. The two become unlikely comrades and learn about courage, resilience, and friendship.
Author’s Residence: British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Orca Books

**Inside Hudson Pickle**
by Yolanda Ridge
Book Description: Hudson learns that his uncle has a rare respiratory illness to which he may also be genetically predisposed.
Author’s Residence: Rossland, British Columbia, Canada
Publisher: Kids Can Press
Author’s Website: [www.yolandaridge.com](http://www.yolandaridge.com)

**Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess**
by Shari Green
Book Description: Struggling to accept the upcoming changes in her life, a deaf sixth-grade girl finds comfort and courage through an unlikely friendship with her elderly neighbor.
Author’s Residence: Campbell River, BC, Canada
Publisher: Pajama Press
Author’s Website: [www.sharigreen.com](http://www.sharigreen.com)

**The Things Owen Wrote**
by Jessica Scott Kerrin
Book Description: Owen must get back a notebook his granddad accidentally sent to the Iceland archive. He can’t let anyone read the things he wrote in it!
Author’s: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Publisher: Groundwood Books
Author’s Website: [www.jessicascottkerrin.com](http://www.jessicascottkerrin.com)

**Theater Arts**

**The Incredible Adventures of Mary Jane Mosquito**
by Tomson Highway, illustrated by Sue Todd
Book Description: The story of a wingless little mosquito from Manitoba, this musical cabaret explores the ageless theme of a misfit who finds her voice through song.
Illustrator’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Fifth House Publishing/Fitzhenry & Whiteside

**Fantasy**

**The Adventurer’s Guide to Successful Escapes**
by Wade Albert White, illustrated by Mariano Epelbaum
Book Description: In a magical world of floating tiers, mischievous dragons, and endless bureaucracy, Anne and her friends embark on a quest to become the Rightful Heir.
Author’s Residence: Kentville, Nova Scotia Canada
Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

**Historical Fiction**

**Cherry Blossom Baseball**
by Jennifer Maruno
Book Description: Cherry Blossom Baseball isn’t just about a firecracker female pitcher. All of Michiko’s family have Japanese faces, making the government suspicious and their lives fearful.
Author’s Residence: Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Dundurn Press

**Humorous Fiction**

**Mine!**
by Natalie Hyde
Book Description: A wild ride to reclaim a gold mine with moose, muffins, and mayhem!
Author’s Residence: Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Scholastic
Author’s Website: [www.nataliehyde.com](http://www.nataliehyde.com)

**Magical Realism**

**Fox Magic**
by Beverley Brenna, illustrated by Miriam Körner
Book Description: Chance’s two best friends have taken their own lives as part of a suicide pact, and Chance is struggling with loss and guilt. How can she go on without them?
Author’s Residence: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside
Author’s Website: [www.beverleybrenna.com](http://www.beverleybrenna.com)

**Narrative Nonfiction**

**The Ship to Nowhere: On Board the Exodus**
by Rona Arato
Book Description: Holocaust survivors endure hardship and danger, seeking a home where they can live safely as Jews. Their story parallels today’s Syrian refugee crisis.
Author’s Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Publisher: Second Story Press

**Nonfiction**

**Dark Matters: Nature’s Reaction to Light Pollution**
by Joan Marie Galat
Book Description: Told through the eyes of thirteen-year-old Joan who loves the outdoors, Dark Matters introduces the fragile animals impacted by our increasingly threatened nighttime skies.
Author’s Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Publisher: Red Deer Press/Fitzhenry & Whiteside
Author’s Website: [www.joangalat.com](http://www.joangalat.com)

**Safety Stars: Players Who Fought to Make the Hard-Hitting Game of Professional Hockey Safer**
by Sue Irwin
Book Description: The story of hockey’s safety heroes, the opposition they faced, and how they persisted and ultimately succeeded in their campaigns.
Author’s Residence: Canada
Publisher: Lorimer

**Realistic Fiction**

**Ice Dogs**
by Terry Lynn Johnson
Book Description: When an injured boy and a storm both catch Victoria and her dog team by surprise, a routine trip becomes a life-or-death struggle.
**The Kayak**  
by Debbie Spring  
Book Description: In her wheelchair, Teresa feels helpless and trapped. When out kayaking, she saves a windsurfer in trouble, which changes her life forever.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

**No More Dragons**  
by Rie Charles  
Book Description: Bullied at home and at school, thirteen-year-old Alex finds the courage and confidence to confront it and even thrive.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: Thistledown Press

**Shatterproof**  
by Jocelyn Shipley  
Book Description: Nate is running a scam because he looks like a teen TV star, but then he meets a girl he doesn’t want to lie to.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: Dundurn Press

**Tagged Out**  
by Joyce Grant  
Book Description: The Blues find out their new all-star player is gay. Will they challenge their prejudices—and stick up for their teammate?  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: Orca Books

**Cutting to the Chase**  
by Rose Phillips  
Book Description: A young adult novel about self-harm that explores issues of anxiety, family turmoil, friendship, and first love.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: Orca Books

**The Hanging Girl**  
by Eileen Cook  
Book Description: Skye's fake tarot card readings have always been fun, but now there's a missing girl and a prank that has turned very dark.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers

**Fun with Frosting: A Beginner’s Guide to Decorating Creative Fondant-Free Cakes**  
by K. Callard  
Book Description: Aimed at beginner bakers of all ages, this intro-to-cake decorating book provides baking basics and step-by-step instructions for over forty designs.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: Sky Horse Publishing

**Girl Mans Up**  
by M-E Girard  
Book Description: Old-world parents, disintegrating friendships, and strong feelings for other girls drive Pen to see that in order to be herself, she’ll have to man up.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: HarperTeen

**Speed of Life**  
by J. M. Kelly  
Book Description: Crystal and her twin make a pact to raise their baby together, but when an opportunity arises to attend college, she faces a difficult choice.  
Author's Residence: Canada  
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers
**Stepping into Traffic**  
by K. J. Rankin  
Book Description: After being bounced from one foster home to another, sixteen-year-old Sebastian is losing his sense of self. He wants to behave in his next home, but will his bad choices stop him?  
Author's Residence: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada  
Publisher: Thistledown Press

**Science Fiction**

**Transferral**  
by Kate Blair  
Book Description: In an alternate London, criminals are given diseases removed from the innocent. A chilling look at a world gone wrong while trying to do right.  
Author's Residence: Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
Publisher: Dancing Cat Books