



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **HAPPY 15TH BIRTHDAY, SASKATCHEWAN BOOK AWARDS**

You are cordially invited to Saskatchewan Book Awards' 15th birthday party! The 2007 award winners will be announced on Saturday, November 24th, at the 15th Annual Gala to be held at Regina's Conexus Arts Centre.

Authors and publishers will be in attendance to celebrate Saskatchewan's finest books for 2007. "This year's nominees demonstrate the high calibre of writing and publishing in this province," says Glenda James, Executive Director. "The shortlisted authors include a number of former winners, and we are very excited that one of our multiple award winners will be featured as our guest speaker."

This year, novelist Sandra Birdsell will take the podium to address the crowd. Lovers of Canadian literature will be familiar with *The Russlander*, winner of the Fiction, Regina and Book of the Year Awards in 2003. Sandra's work has been deeply influenced by her strong connection to Saskatchewan. Prairie-born and raised, she studied creative writing at the former Saskatchewan School of the Arts and has been Writer-in-Residence at both Regina and Saskatoon public libraries. Her after-dinner presentation on Saskatchewan writing will surely be a show-stopper.

Another acclaimed artist to be featured at the ceremony is Jeffrey Allan Sawatzky, who will provide a musical tribute for the Book Awards' 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. The very able Sheila Coles of CBC Radio will again serve as the Master of Ceremonies.

The celebrated authors and stellar new talents in this year's line-up are sure to make the Saskatchewan Book Awards Gala an event to remember, as we commemorate 15 years of literary excellence in Saskatchewan and look forward to the books to come.

Gala tickets are \$65 and available from Book & Brier Patch, by emailing [tickets@bookawards.sk.ca](mailto:tickets@bookawards.sk.ca), or by calling 791-7744.

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