



Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Announcing the 2015 Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union

Fresh Fish Award for Emerging Writers

(April 8, 2015 – St. John's, NL) The Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union has again committed to supporting one of Canada's most lucrative literary prizes of its kind, the biennial Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union Fresh Fish Award for Emerging Writers. The award rewards and encourages talented writers who have completed a manuscript but not yet published a book. It is presented by the Literary Arts Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (LAFNL) and administered by the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador (WANL), which is now accepting entries for 2015.

"Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are known throughout the world for their natural creativity, unique language, and knack for storytelling. It's what we do. It's who we are," says Allison Chaytor-Loveys, Chief Executive Officer of the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union. "As sponsor of the NL Credit Union Fresh Fish Award, we are thrilled to assist LAFNL and the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador to keep this tradition alive. Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union is honoured to be a part of program that celebrates and recognizes talented writers in our province."

"I can't believe it's been two years," says Paul Whittle, winner of the 2013 Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union Fresh Fish Award for his collection of short stories *Everything is What it Is*. "The prize money allowed me to take a serious chunk of time off work. That uninterrupted time helped me process and fine-tune my early draft into a polished manuscript." Now that he is

submitting his manuscript to publishers, Whittle fully realizes the value of having had a professional edit, which is included in the award.

In addition the \$5,000 prize and the services of an editor valued at \$1,000, the winner receives a sculpture by Jim Maunder. The two runners-up each receive \$1,000. This year, enhancing the mentorship element of the award, the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union is offering a free wealth management seminar to all three prize winners.

Since the inaugural year of the Fresh Fish Award in 2006, several careers have been launched and nine manuscripts have been published from among the sixteen winning and shortlisted Fresh Fish writers.

The winner of the 2015 Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union Fresh Fish Award will be announced this fall.

WANL is now accepting manuscripts for the award from residents of the province who are not published in book form of any genre. The postmark deadline for submission is Monday, June 15, 2015. Submission guidelines are available on WANL's website at www.wanl.ca.

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Photo caption: Allison Chaytor-Loveys, Chief Executive Officer of the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union and Paul Whittle, winner of the 2013 award, holding the sculpture "Fresh Fish" by artist Jim Maunder, at the announcement of the 2015 Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union Fresh Fish Award.

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