



The Canadian
Children's
Book Centre

Call for applications from **Canadian children's and YA authors and illustrators** interested in touring for **TD Canadian Children's Book Week 2018**

Date posted: Friday, May 26, 2017

Posted by: The Canadian Children's Book Centre

Application deadline: Friday, June 23, 2017

General Information:

The mission of **TD Canadian Children's Book Week** is to connect the authors and illustrators of Canadian children's and young adult books with readers across Canada. TD Canadian Children's Book Week is Canada's largest celebration of reading and Canadian children's books. The first Book Week tour was held in 1977 and since then over 300 Canadian authors, illustrators and storytellers have toured throughout the country.

In celebration of TD Canadian Children's Book Week, the Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) sends authors, illustrators and storytellers on a cross-Canada tour to give readings, workshops and presentations to children in schools, libraries, community centres and bookstores. The next Book Week tour will run from **Saturday, May 5 to Saturday, May 12, 2018**.

Description and duties:

Applying authors and illustrators must be available to tour a province/territory (other than their home province) from Saturday, May 5 to Saturday, May 12, 2018. They should be prepared to give readings and workshops in schools, libraries, community centres and bookstores across their tour region.

Touring for TD Canadian Children's Book Week can be an exhausting, but exhilarating experience. Along with the smiling faces of hundreds of children and the dedicated teachers and librarians that authors and illustrators will meet on their journey, they will also be facing long days (up to four presentations a day), hours of travel and potential bumps in the road (i.e., weather interruptions, flight cancellations and delays, etc.).

Individuals must be comfortable with all major forms of travel (i.e., planes, buses, trains, being driven in cars by volunteer drivers, etc.) and be prepared to rise to the challenges of TD Canadian Children's Book Week.

Qualifications:

- Authors and illustrators with books being released in the period from Spring 2017 to Spring 2018 are eligible. Re-issues or re-releases of previous titles are not eligible.
- Only Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada are eligible.
- Authors, illustrators and storytellers are eligible to tour every three years. Therefore, authors and/or illustrators who toured in 2016 and 2017 are not eligible to tour for TD Canadian Children's Book Week 2018.
- Authors and illustrators must have at least two professionally published books for children and/or young adults — picture books, fiction, short stories, poetry, drama or non-fiction — that lend themselves to a public reading.
- Authors of travel guides, bibliographies, cookbooks, exhibition catalogues, instruction manuals, self-help books, scholarly books, textbooks and specialized reference works are not eligible.
- Illustrators of children's books are eligible, provided they have illustrated the complete text of at least two professionally published works for children and/or young adults.

- Self-published authors and illustrators are not eligible to tour, as per Canada Council funding guidelines.
- Author/author teams or author/illustrator teams are not eligible to apply to tour together unless the individuals or their publishing company are prepared to pay the travel, accommodation and meal costs for one of the team members. The CCBC receives a limited amount of funding for a certain number of tour spots and we are not able to use two blocks of funding to send two individuals to one location.
- Authors and illustrators must provide two letters of reference from schools and libraries that have hosted them for readings and/or workshops during the past two years. *Letters sent via email will be accepted. Letters may also be generic reference letters you have received in the past for other grant applications, etc. They do not have to be specifically addressed to the CCBC in regards to TD Canadian Children's Book Week.*
- Authors and illustrators must have experience presenting engaging readings and/or workshops to children and/or young adults.
- Each author and illustrator will be touring outside of his/her home province and must be comfortable travelling and keeping up with a busy schedule for the week of the tour.
- Authors and illustrators must be accessible by both phone and email.
- Authors and illustrators must have necessary ID for travelling (i.e., valid passport or driver's license with photo ID).
- All authors and illustrators chosen to tour for TD Canadian Children's Book Week must be a member of the CCBC. (Membership details can be arranged once the roster has been selected and authors/illustrators have been contacted.)
- The CCBC will consider all applications with regard to achieving a tour roster having broad representation of the publishing companies (smaller presses as well as the larger ones) in Canada and the various genres in children's writing.
- The tour roster is selected to provide fair representation of gender, regional and cultural diversity.
- The CCBC will also consider awards and honours received.

Compensation:

All travel expenses, accommodation expenses and meal expenses are covered by the CCBC. A per diem of \$65.00 per day is allowed for meals.

Authors and illustrators will be paid **\$250.00** (plus GST or HST, if applicable) **per school reading**. There are usually 8 to 12 school readings given during the tour.

The CCBC also receives funding from the Canada Council to pay for four public readings per author and illustrator. The authors and illustrators will be paid **\$250.00** for each of the **four Canada Council public readings** (plus applicable taxes).

Additional Information:

There are **26 available tour spots**. In addition, three storytellers are selected to tour by the Storytellers of Canada. The CCBC's goal is to finalize the roster by mid-July. **Only those authors and illustrators who are selected to tour will be contacted, as will their publishers.**

A unique aspect of the Book Week touring program is that the authors and illustrators always tour outside of their home province so that they can meet young fans from different parts of the country. If you are chosen to tour, you will be asked for your list of the top three provinces and/or territories you would like to tour. The CCBC will then determine the location you will be touring (keeping your top choices in mind) and you will be assigned a Book Week Coordinator who will be located in the province or territory you will be touring. They will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of your Book Week tour (i.e., booking school and library readings, booking your travel and accommodations, etc.).

Authors and illustrators should inform their publicist(s) that they are applying so that they are aware of the author's and/or illustrator's intention to tour.

Applicants are also encouraged to have their publicist(s) send further information (i.e., current books, backlist titles, press releases or media kits, etc.) to the CCBC prior to the deadline.

The CCBC is looking for individuals who will bring knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to the Book Week tours. The more information we have about each applicant, their published works and their reading/workshop experience, the better.

In the information below is a list of **Frequently Asked Questions** about the Book Week touring program. If applicants have further questions or would like to learn more about TD Canadian Children's Book Week, please contact Shannon Howe Barnes, Program Coordinator at 416.975.0010 x 227 or by email at shannon@bookcentre.ca.

Applicants should use the **Book Week Application Checklist** to ensure that they have submitted all of the required information. Applications that are missing information will not be considered.

Application deadline: Friday, June 23, 2017. Applications being sent by mail must be *post-marked* by this date (not received by this date).

How to apply:

All interested authors and illustrators are asked to complete the application form below and submit 2 letters of reference, either by snail mail or email, by **Friday, June 23, 2017** to:

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