

Finalists announced for 2016 BMO Winterset Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2017 (St. John's, NL) – ArtsNL is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2016 BMO Winterset Award are Robert Chafe, Michael Crummey, and Paul Rowe. The award celebrates excellence in Newfoundland and Labrador writing. The winner will be announced at Government House on Thursday, March 16, 2017.

The three finalists are:

- Robert Chafe, for: *Two Man Tent* (Breakwater Books), St. John's, NL
- Michael Crummey, for: *Little Dogs* (House of Anansi Press), Toronto, ON
- Paul Rowe, for: *The Last Half of the Year* (Killick Press; imprint of Creative Book Publishing), St. John's, NL

The winner will receive a prize of \$12,500 and the two finalists will each receive \$3,000.

Books in any genre published in 2016 were eligible for the award. A total of 37 works by Newfoundland and Labrador authors (either native-born or resident) were submitted by publishers from across the country. The jury consisted of Susan Chalker Brown, Alison Dyer, and Berni Stapleton.

The Winterset Award honours the memory of Sandra Fraser Gwyn, St. John's-born social historian, prize-winning author, and passionate promoter of Newfoundland and Labrador arts. Her husband, journalist and author Richard Gwyn established the award in 2000, which is managed by ArtsNL. It's named after the historic house on Winter Avenue in St. John's where Sandra grew up.

Finalists will read from their works and answer questions from the audience at **a public reading and reception: 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at The Rooms (in the Theatre)**, 9 Bonaventure Avenue in St. John's.