



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Finalists announced for 2020 BMO Winterset Award

March 2, 2021 (St. John's, NL) – ArtsNL is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2020 BMO Winterset Award. The award celebrates excellence in Newfoundland and Labrador writing. The winner will be announced on March 25, 2021.



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

Books in any genre published in 2020 were eligible for the award. A total of 23 works by Newfoundland and Labrador authors (either native-born or resident) were submitted by publishers from across the country.

The BMO 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 late husband, journalist and author Richard Gwyn, established the award in 2000, which is managed by ArtsNL. It is named after the historic house on Winter Avenue in St. John’s where Sandra grew up.

This year’s jury had the task of creating a long list from the 23 submitted works, and today we are announcing their finalist selections from that list. The jury members consisted of Megan Gail Coles, Jamie Fitzpatrick, and Shannon Webb-Campbell.

To read the jury’s comments on each of the finalists’ works, [visit the ArtsNL website](#).

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The Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council (now known as ArtsNL) is a non-profit Crown agency created in 1980 by The Arts Council Act. Its mission is to foster and promote the creation and enjoyment of the arts for the benefit of all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. The Council is governed by a volunteer board of 13 appointed by government, reflecting regional representation of the province. This includes 10 professional artists who provide sectoral representation of the arts community; two community representatives (with an interest in the arts); and one representative of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (non-voting). ArtsNL receives an annual allocation of \$3.9 million from the Province to support a variety of granting programs, program delivery, office administration, and communications. It also seeks support from the public and private sector. It supports the following artistic disciplines: dance, film, multidiscipline, music, theatre, visual art, and writing