

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NIC Write Here Readers Series Hosts Award-Winning Duo

NIC's Write Here Readers Series is hosting an award-winning duo this month.

Judy LeBlanc and Christine Lowther will be reading at the Tye Hall Student Lounge at NIC's Comox Valley campus Thursday, November 30, starting at 7 pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

LeBlanc is a fiction writer and NIC English instructor. She has a number of stories published in Canadian literary journals, has won the *Antigonish Review's* fiction contest and has been longlisted for the CBC short story prize. She is a founding member and former artistic director for the Fat Oyster Reading Series. Her first collection of short stories, *Promise of Water*, was published by Oolichan Press this fall.

"I am so proud of the calibre of our faculty," said Sheree-Lee Powsey, Chair of NIC's English department. "Judy is a talented writer and teacher who inspires excellence in her students. I am looking forward to hearing her read from her new book."

NIC's Write Here Readers Series highlights the richness of the literary arts, offering students and community members the opportunity to interact with some of Canada's top writers including Clayoquot Sound author, Christine Lowther.

Lowther's poetry and creative non-fiction appear in many anthologies and literary journals. Her latest book, *Born Out Of This*, was shortlisted for the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize. She won the creative non-fiction category of the Federation of BC Writers 2016 Literary Writes contest and the 2014 Rainy Coast Arts Award for Significant Accomplishment. Her prose poem 'Not a Lake' recently appeared in *The Malahat Review* along with an interview discussing her exploration of the boundaries between creative non-fiction and poetry.

"The goal of the Write Here Readers Series is to encourage creativity and provide opportunities for the public and students to meet and discuss literature with writers, both local and from other regions," said Nick Van Orden, NIC English instructor and series organizer.

NIC offers a wide selection of university transferrable English and creative writing courses. This fall, LeBlanc is teaching Introduction to Creative Writing: Poetry and Drama (ENG-108) and will be teaching Creative Writing: Poetry (ENG-208), starting in January. For details on NIC's Write Here Readers Series or on NIC English programs, visit www.nic.bc.ca/ut.

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Christine Lowther and Judy LeBlanc will be at NIC's Comox Valley campus, Tye Lounge, for a literary reading at 7 pm, Thursday, November 30, 2017.