

Ânskohk Indigenous Literature Festival to Nurture, Share Gifts of Indigenous Stories & Art

Festival kicked off this afternoon in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

(Saskatoon, Sask) The Saskatchewan Ânskohk Writers' Circle Inc. (SAWCI) is proud to present the Ânskohk Indigenous Literature Festival, with three days of free in-person and virtual events kicking off in Saskatoon on Thursday afternoon.

"The Ânskohk Festival was created as a showcase for the diversity of the work of Indigenous authors and the richness of Indigenous literature, while promoting mutual respect and good relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people," said Lisa Bird-Wilson – author, executive director of the Gabriel Dumont Institute and SAWCI board chair. "Since its beginnings in 2004, the Festival has nurtured and promoted hundreds of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit writers and story-tellers of all genres."

Ânskohk (ANS-cook) translates to English as "passing on the teaching; tying one generation to the next or passing the story on." Under the banner of this year's theme, From Woodsmoke to Bandwidth, audiences can expect to learn how Indigenous storytelling has changed and evolved alongside time and technology. Featured 2021 authors and presenters include Jesse Wenté, Waubgeshig Rice, Maria Campbell, Rosanna Deerchild and many more.

"While thousands have attended in-person Festivals over the years, over five hundred at the biannual event in 2019 alone, this year we are going with a blend of in-person and virtual speakers and presentations," explained Bird-Wilson. "All in-person events require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result, but we recommend you check our website, sawci.ca, in advance for specific entrance requirements of the venue you are planning on attending."

"With free admission thanks to our generous partners and safe, comfortable options for anyone to participate, we look forward to exploring the importance of Indigenous writers and storytellers and the impact of their work on the reconciliation of the truth about our shared histories."

For a full listing of speakers and events, as well as livestream information, please click [here](#) or check out the Festival's Facebook page [here](#).

