



Forest Of Reading®



The impact

The Forest of Reading is Canada's largest recreational reading program where readers select the winners! This initiative offers ten reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages.

See what our past nominated and winning authors had to say about the Forest of Reading program and the Festival. Register at forestofreading.com.

Caroline Pignat, Multiple Nominee & Winner —

The program empowers young readers as they discuss and vote for their favourite titles. It connects them with authors through school visits and letters, through workshops, and at the fabulous Festivals. What a powerful affirmation of voice — for both the author who writes and the readers who vote. As a teacher, I can think of no better way to empower and inspire young readers. As an author, I can think of no better affirmation than to celebrate the book with such enthusiastic fans.

Diana Williams, Teacher-Librarian —

The Forest of Reading allows me to have access to quality resources I can integrate into my school library. It creates opportunities for teachers to interact with other teachers and librarians and learn from them and what they do in their schools. The program is key for helping keep reading alive in schools and libraries. The resources created let teachers and program runners engage readers on a variety of levels. I think there needs to be more information provided to schools about the resources and the program.

Ruth Ohi, Multiple Nominee —

It's encouraging and motivating as a writer to be recognized on a list such as the Forest. Being listed as a Forest nominee means your chances of being published again increases since book sales increase and publishers take note.

Dr. Eric Walters, Winner of the Governor General Award and multi-award winning Author —

The Forest of Reading is THE most significant force in promoting literature and literacy in the country. I have been part of this program as a writer, a teacher, and as a parent. I have seen first-hand the impact of the program. Without it, Canadian publishers would be stressed and possibly would have to discontinue publishing, many writers would be forced to give up their careers - with only those with affluence being able to continue or become writers. Most importantly, this is a driving force in the development of literacy in our entire country. Children discover books - Canadian books that reflect their homes, their backgrounds, their cultures, and their country - and in doing so become more literate, more aware, more compassionate, and empathetic. This program doesn't just create better readers, it fosters the development of better people.

Judy Brunsek, Director of Sales and Marketing, OwlKids —

As a publisher, we eagerly await news of nominations across the range of categories we publish. We know that being nominated makes our authors and illustrators winners, both through the book orders that bump up sales very nicely and through the exposure our creators get to the next generation of readers.

Kevin Sylvester, Multi-award winning author —

There's no better reading program. The selection of books is Canadian top tier. The kid-centered approach to reading, participating, and voting is unique. As an author I'm not sure I'd have a career without the support of this program. That's true for many of us, I'd wager. Where else are Canadian kids given such positive and wide-ranging introduction to Canadian creators? The answer is "nowhere". Can't wait until we can meet in person again, and I can see the passionate readers clutching their beloved CANADIAN books and yelling at us like we're rock stars.