





# 2025 Forest of Reading® Nominated Titles Announced

Canadian authors and illustrators selected for largest recreational reading program

**NEWS RELEASE** 

**TORONTO, ON** (October 15, 2024) – The <u>Forest of Reading,</u> Canada's largest recreational reading program, is excited to announce the English and French-language nominees for the 2025 Awards. The Forest of Reading's mission is to instill the love of reading in people of all ages, while supporting programming in schools and libraries and celebrating Canadian authors, illustrators, and literature.

#### SEE THE 2025 FOREST OF READING AWARD NOMINATED LISTS: forestofreading.com

"It is our favourite time of year as we unveil our Forest of Reading nominees! Our dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to read hundreds of books and bring these exciting titles to young readers across the country," says Meredith Tutching, Director, Forest of Reading. "Our programs have something for everyone. Our nominated titles act as mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors where the readers see reflections of themselves while exploring new worlds and experiences. This allows them to connect with a diverse array of characters in the stories they read. Canada has some of the best writers and illustrators in the world, and by participating in the Forest of Reading program, young readers gain first-hand experience of how impactful stories can be."

The Forest of Reading consists of ten programs distinguished by age group and reading level, each with ten nominated titles, selected by <u>committees of library practitioners</u>. The English <u>school-aged programs</u> are Blue Spruce, Silver Birch (Express and Fiction), Yellow Cedar, Red Maple, and White Pine. <u>French school-aged literature</u> is celebrated through the Peuplier, Mélèze, and Tamarac programs. The Forest of Reading has an adult program, <u>Evergreen</u>, which celebrates excellence in Canadian literature as a book club (nominees for Evergreen are now announced in October).

Throughout the program year, the Forest of Reading provides quality online literacy and reading engagement resources that can be used in school and library programming or at home. In April, those who participate in the Forest have the opportunity to vote for their favourite books and select the award winners (Evergreen voting is in September).

Developing a love of reading is crucial, especially after unprecedented disruptions and closures to schools and libraries and declining reading levels over the past four years. The Forest of Reading is excited to share this year's 100 nominated titles, written and illustrated by more than 175 nominees, and to celebrate with our 270,000 participants.

All school-aged nominated titles will be available in <u>alternate formats</u> through Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) and Alternative Education Resources of Ontario (AERO).







Follow the conversation #IReadCanadian and #ForestofReading.

- 30 -

**About the Ontario Library Association**: The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with 4,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA enables members to advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading\* program.

About Tinlids: Tinlids Inc. is the official wholesaler for the 2025 Forest of Reading program.

### Media and program contacts:

## **Meredith Tutching**

Director, Forest of Reading Ontario Library Association 1-877-340-1730

#### Laurel McLeod

Social Media and Communications Specialist Ontario Library Association 1-877-340-1730