



Crime Writers of Canada

The write kind of crime.

CRIME WRITERS OF CANADA AT BOUCHERCON 2017 **Pre-convention overview of activities: October 2nd 2017**

The great news is our 100 members at Bouchercon this year will have many chances to promote themselves, their work, and CWC throughout Bouchercon. With more than 1700 people signed up to attend, this convention certainly offers every one of us the chance to find new readers, meet those who are already fans, and even lay the groundwork for an authorial career that's yet to take off. An overview of what we're doing follows; reference is made to specific briefings you will have already received/will get soon. Full programming details with times and locations for events can be found on the Bouchercon website: <http://bouchercon2017.com/>

CWC BUTTONS: There'll be a CWC button in your registration packet; please wear it at all times so conventioners will NOTICE CWC's presence. Thanks to Mark Eddy who will help Cathy Ace to stuff envelopes. Cathy will be taking the opportunity of speaking at the opening ceremonies, as CWC's Chair, to mention the buttons...so hopefully they'll be useful ice-breakers and conversation-starters. Keep them when you leave Bouchercon, then please USE THEM AT ALL EVENTS YOU ATTEND THEREAFTER; they denote your CWC membership, so you can wear them at CWC events and non-CWC events.

CWC LEAFLET: Created especially for Bouchercon, we'll be using leaflets to inform conventioners about CWC and to try to get as many people as possible to sign up for our free public newsletter CRIME BEAT (and even as Associate or Professional Author Members). Please do what you can to encourage people to do this. More signatures for CRIME BEAT = more people who love crime writing getting OUR news each month. Please take a few moments to read the leaflet, and maybe offer to take the completed form it contains to the CWC Table on behalf of those who sign up. Thanks to Ted Griffith for his work on the leaflet.

PUB QUIZ: Almost 80 of our members (pretty much everyone who can – thank you!) have promised to donate two print books each so we have a gift for every one of the 150 participants. Whether you intend signing up as a contestant or not, whether you're a Team Leader for the pub quiz or not, **PLEASE ALL BRING YOUR TWO BOOKS TO THE CWC TABLE BY FRIDAY LUNCHTIME AT THE LATEST.** Even if you're not a Team Leader you can still sign up to join a Pub Quiz team at the CWC Table. Thanks to all those who are participating. [Team Leaders have received a specific briefing from Cathy Ace.]

INTERNATIONAL RECEPTION: Eight past-Presidents of CWC (and our current Chair and Vice Chair) will be presenting authors who have come to Bouchercon from outside North America with special ribbons at this event. Since the hundreds of conventioners who will attend this event are doing so because they have an interest in non-USA crime fiction, **PLEASE ATTEND THE EVENT IF YOU CAN!** Let's flood the event with as many people wearing CWC buttons as possible – this is great targeting for non-USA authors (and there's free food!). Thanks to all those who are participating. [Cathy Ace is dealing directly with the ribbon presenters via email.]

CWC TABLE: Located outside the Dealer Room/Book Room this is CWC's temporary HQ for the duration of the entire convention. Please take your books for the Pub Quiz to it, and also use it as the place where you can renew your membership for 2018 (yes, you can do that at Bouchercon...and one existing member who renews by December 31st will win a FREE membership!). There'll be stocks of the CWC leaflet there, as well as CWC bookmarks you can hand out. Thanks to Kathy Prairie and Susan Calder for organizing the staffing of the table, and to all those who will be participating. [You'll have received a specific briefing from Kathy P. about table staffing.]

CWC-SPONSORED REFRESHMENT AREA/HOSPITALITY AREA: CWC is sponsoring the area where refreshments are served for all of Saturday 14th October. Even if you didn't sign up to have your own table, you can still use the chance to meet your fellow members – and they would welcome your support. Thanks to Mark Eddy, Bill Prentice, and Ishara Deen for organizing the use of the tables, and to all those who will be participating. [Those who are participating have received a briefing email from Cathy Ace.]

CWC CHARITY SILENT AUCTION BASKET: There will be 69 books on a KOBO reader (everyone with work available on KOBO nominated a title – thank you!), plus a free Associate Membership in this basket – it's a great lot to be able to offer at the charity auction. Thanks to KOBO for giving CWC the e-reader and donating the titles nominated by our members. Thanks to the members who nominated one of their titles, and to Judy Penz Sheluk and Kay Kendall for organizing the list of books and the basket. Please check it out at the convention and – yes – you can bid on it!

This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow members of CWC, to make new connections, and revive some that have flagged a little. It's also a time to celebrate Canadian crime fiction, in Canada, with the world of crime writing fans coming to our door.

Best wishes for safe travels, we look forward to seeing you in Toronto.

The Board and Secretariat of CWC.