

# TD Canadian Children's Literature Award

## SUBMISSION & CRITERIA INFORMATION

### Award Information:

- The award recognizes excellence in Canadian children's literature by the awarding of two cash prizes of \$50,000 each to the most distinguished Canadian children's book of the year in English and French.
- If the winning book is a picture book or graphic novel, the \$50,000 is divided equally between the author and the illustrator.
- \$10,000 is divided among the honour book authors/illustrators.
- The publisher of the winning book receives \$2,500 for promotion and publicity purposes.

### Criteria:

In identifying the most distinguished book of the year, each judge shall consider the following criteria for excellence:

- Quality of the text or storyline (in the case of a wordless book) and illustrations (if present).
- Interpretation of the theme or concept.
- Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity and organization.
- Appropriateness of style and presentation.
- Books should have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it, such as interpretation of theme and concept.
- Book must be self-contained and not dependent on other media for its enjoyment.
- Book should have been written for a child audience and should achieve excellence of presentation.
- Each book is to be considered as a contribution to literature.
- The popularity of a book and didactic intent are not to be considered.

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Books must be published between **January 1 and December 31, 2020**.
- Both the author and illustrator (if applicable) must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.
- Only books published in Canada are eligible for submission. Copyright page/CIP data must reflect this.
- New editions or re-issues of previously published books are not eligible for submission.
- First Canadian editions of books previously published or simultaneously published by non-Canadian publishers are eligible for submission provided they are published between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Copyright page/CIP data must reflect this.
- All genres of books (i.e., picture books, fiction, non-fiction and poetry), written for young people **up to age 12**, are eligible for consideration. Teen/young adult books are not eligible for submission. For teen fiction/YA, see [Amy Mathers Teen Book Award](#). For teen/YA non-fiction, see [Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction](#).

- Books must be in English.
- Translations are eligible, provided the French edition wasn't already submitted to the Prix TD de littérature canadienne pour l'enfance et la jeunesse during its eligible year. In the case of simultaneous publication, the publisher holding the original rights takes precedence over the other. Contact [meghan@bookcentre.ca](mailto:meghan@bookcentre.ca) for details.
- In the case of translations, the translator must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.
- Books being submitted for consideration must be original works.
- Books based on traditional stories will be considered if the book is the result of original research and the retelling and interpretation are the writer's own.
- Short story collections by more than one author are not eligible.
- Books written as part of a series or published in serial form will be judged as separate entries and must function as a 'stand-alone' story.
- Books based on recorded songs are not eligible for submission.
- The award is only for books in the printed format, as distinct from digital (i.e., eBooks) and audio visual formats.
- Books in manuscript form are not eligible.
- All books must have an ISBN.
- Self-published books are eligible for submission provided they have a valid ISBN.

**Publisher and creator expectations prior to submission:**

- Publishers agree to pay the \$25 non-refundable submission fee per title per award.
- If a book is shortlisted, the publisher, author and illustrator may be asked to participate in a series of events highlighting and promoting the shortlisted author and illustrator, in addition to the award celebration.
- The CCBC is unable to assume the costs for travel and accommodation. It is our hope that publishers will assist the award winner(s) with providing the resources for attending the in-person awards ceremony (should we be able to hold an in-person event) or for creating an acceptance speech video of appropriate quality should the creator(s) be unable to attend an in-person event.
- Publishers agree to prepare and encourage their authors and illustrators to participate in all reasonable publicity associated with the award: interviews, readings, appearances, etc.
- The winning publisher agrees to use the \$2,500 awarded to them to promote/advertise the winning title.
- Publisher agrees to have the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award seal on copies of the shortlisted titles and the winning title. Seals will be provided to the publisher by the CCBC.

**Note to self-published authors using printers in the US:** When you are sending your submissions, if they are arriving directly from the printers in the US, please make sure that all courier charges, including duty, are billed to you. The CCBC cannot incur these costs. Packages flagged as COD will be refused.