



2026 Festival Schedule

Please visit the ticket page on our website for information on pricing and access to each event

Tues, Sept 22

7:00 PM

Free Public Readings and Q&A @ Penticton Public Library, Penticton, BC

Reading by Local Okanagan Authors **Sarah Carrington, Leigh McFarlane, and Faye Arcand**

Thurs, Sept 24

5:30 - 8:30 PM

Free Public Readings and Q&A @ Stillfood Bistro

Reading by Local Okanagan Authors **Andrea Buck, Taylor Williams, and Julie Wise**

Fri, Sept 25

3:00 - 5:30 PM

Conference Meet and Greet @ Red Rooster Winery, Penticton, BC

Get to know featured guests and fellow attendees at a meet and greet with icebreaker games at Red Rooster Winery

Dinner and Story Slam @ Elma, Penticton, BC

6:30 - 8:00 pm Dinner

8:00 - 9:30 pm Featured Readings by **Susan Juby, C.E. Gatchalian, and Janie Chang**, followed by a Story and Poetry Slam

Sat, Sept 26

WCWF Conference Day One @ Okanagan College, Penticton, BC

8:30 - 9:30 am Registration, Coffee, and Snacks provided by Federation of BC Writers

9:30 - 9:45 am Indigenous Welcome & Opening Remarks

9:45 - 10:30 am Keynote by Susan Juby - *Holding the Line: Writers and the Rise of AI*

10:45 am -12:00 pm Workshops/Panels + Blue Pencil Sessions by Editors BC

- Craft: **Janie Chang** - *Use Techniques from Historical Fiction to Create an Immersive Reading Experience in Any Genre*
- Business: **Bill Arnott** - *Building Community through Marketing and Cross-Promo: How to Sell Books, Build Brand, and Develop Great Networks*
- Community: **Spud Publishing** - *Spud Publishing presents: Pollinate to Publish.*

12:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch Break

1:30 - 2:45 pm Workshops/Panels + Blue Pencil Sessions by Editors BC

- Craft: **Michael V Smith** - *My Hand is a Red Brick: an image-system workshop*
- Business: **Bryan Mortenson** - *The Life of a Book*
- Community: **Moderated Panel** - *Navigating the Literary Landscape: Making the most of events, courses, resources, and more*

3:00 - 4:15 pm First Page Slush Pile Sponsored by Pulp Literature

5:00 - 10:00 PM

Writers' Lounge Social, Dinner, and Literary Trivia Night @ The Standard, Penticton, BC

Socialize with other conference attendees, enjoy dinner, and participate in (or watch fellow attendees participate in) literary trivia

10:00 PM - Late

Adult Bedtime Stories (19+) @ The Standard, Penticton, BC

Sun, Sept 27

WCWF Conference Day Two @ Okanagan College, Penticton, BC

8:30 - 9:00 am Registration, Coffee, and Snacks provided by Federation of BC Writers

9:00 - 10:15 am Workshops/Panels + Blue Pencils

- Craft: **C.E. Gatchalian** - *Writing Beyond Yourself: Imagination, Empathy, and the Ethics of Creating Characters*
- Business: **JM Landels, Mel Anastasiou, and Sierra Louie** (Pulp Literature) - *Slush-Pile Confidential: What goes on behind the scenes at a literary press?*
- Community: **Anne Fleming** - *Feedback: What are truly useful ways of reflecting our reading of a work back to its author*

10:30 - 11:45 am Workshops/Panels + Blue Pencil Sessions by Editors BC

- Craft: **Val Caine** - *Red Stained Glasses Make the Rosiest Filter: crafting villains readers will love*
- Business: **Moderated Panel** - *Paths to Publishing*
- Community: **J.C. (John) Corry** - *Building Your Writing Community: Why, and How*

12:00 - 12:30 pm Closing Remarks and Door Prizes

1:00 - 2:30 Brunch at LOCAL Public Eatery

3:00 pm Social at Four Shadows Winery