

a little haiku•rage

volume 4

Seasonal newsletter for Haiku Canada's BC and Territories region

Le Bulletin d'information saisonnier pour Haiku Canada
section des Territoires et de la Colombie-britannique



Editorial

Again, thank you so much everyone for contributing to this fourth edition of the regional newsletter ! We have already covered 4 full seasons together! Did you have time to enjoy our warm summer? Have you had a chance to take some fresh air despite the many forest fires devastating our region?

Which brings me to our last haiku challenge around the notion of *hiraeth*, a welsh word for nostalgia for a home that you cannot return to (or never was). All my thoughts go out for those who were evacuated. I hope that everyone had a home to get back to...Climate change will probably find its way in many haiku this year!

Secondly, I would like to express my gratitude to all participating poets, many of you confess that *hiraeth* stirred many memories, especially after 2 years of travel restrictions. Fall is always a nice time to find comfort in old wool-knits or to start weaving new threads! Whether you dove into nostalgia or not, keep writing and submitting, we love to read you! You are working on a project? Keep us in the loop!

By the way, are you curious to find out who is our featured poet this Fall? I am “burning” to introduce to you: Ruth Powell, an avid nature lover and outdoors enthusiast who understands more than anyone else the direct link between health, well-being and haiku as she is both poet and physician! Her beautiful poetry will surely find its way to your heart and maybe will inspire you to get out and organize your very own ginko walk ! Check out the Hall of Fame to discover some very inspired and inspiring poets in our region! Fall is harvest time, after all, so let’s celebrate!

Again, this newsletter is an invitation to build literary friendships and foster collaboration. I hope you will enjoy it!

in the issue dans ce numéro

- interview / entrevue with Ruth Powell
- haiku challenge / défi haïku
- Let's celebrate!
- special projects/ projets spéciaux
- at your calendar / à votre calendrier
- present moment... and beyond
- coming up / à l'affiche

Freely adapted from the thirty-five questions Proust originally answered in 1890.

1. What is your idea of perfect haiku?

One that evokes immediate recognition and a strong response, with perhaps more insights on reflection.



2. What is currently your favorite short form?

Haiga. They say a picture paints a thousand words, and I would add that a few lines add a whole new dimension to a picture.

3. What is the quality you most like in a poet?

Sight/insight.

“ I value how it awakens my senses,
teaches to look and listen, and to
better understand myself and others. ”

4. Which writers or poets do you most admire?

There are so many I admire, it's difficult to choose. At present I'm re-reading Anne McKay's book *the journey* for the third time and am amazed at how she can say so much in so few lines.



5. When not writing you are... (fill in)

Hiking, paddling, cross-country skiing, spending time with family and friends and working.

6. You find a treasure while hiking. What is it?

A live wolverine – but at a safe distance!

7. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

In poetry I overuse “just”, “light”, “trail” or “path” and “deepens”.

8. What do you particularly like about your region?

There’s enough space to breathe, enough forest to get lost in, more lakes than you could ever paddle and people who understand why you would want that.

9. What is your greatest extravagance? Travel.

10. A time-traveling voucher is offered to you.

Where/when would you go?

To the west coast of what is now British Columbia, prior to European contact.

11. A fantastic grant allows you to choose your next writing retreat destination, where would you go?

Copenhagen or Oslo.





12. Morning writer? Night owl or all-hours writer? Morning

13. Which writer would you like to invite for a ginko walk? E. Pauline Johnson.

14. Favorite ginko walk?

The Greenway Trail system in Prince George.

15. Favourite season or kigo? Fall.

16. It's Halloween and you are invited to dress as your favorite word, what would it be? Whimsical.

17. Funniest/strangest time when you were mistaken for another person? Who? When? Where?

On Earth Day a couple years ago I was mistaken for a homeless person in downtown Prince George.

18. What is the trait you most dislike in poets?

Self-importance.

pearls of wisdom

"When you've written something, let it sit for awhile, then re-read and edit."

Ruth Powell

19. What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Raising two boys who are now lovely young men and still seem to enjoy spending time with their mother.



haying weather
the lemonade jug
perspires

Ruth Powell

*in Kacian, Jim (ed), Fear of Dancing, the Red Moon
Anthology of English Language Haiku (Red Moon
Press 2013) and Gorman, Leroy (ed) horses' hooves
(Haiku Canada 2013).*

20. What is your greatest fear as a writer or poet?

That I will run out of things to say and keep writing anyway.

21. When and where were you happiest?

When I graduated from medical school and moved to a small village called Hazelton, BC. My colleagues were great, I loved my work, and we had such adventures hiking, paddling, skiing and exploring our new surroundings.

22. Which talent would you most like to have?

I would love to be athletic so I could go back-country skiing, mountain climbing, kite-surfing and all of those things I've watched others do with such longing.

“ I loved poetry from the first time I heard a poem as a child. I was one of those weirdos who actually liked memorizing poems in elementary school, and wrote some really bad poems about pine forests and so on.

I first discovered haiku when my older sister, Nancy, introduced me to haikuworld.org and their monthly kigo. She also suggested I join Haiku Canada.

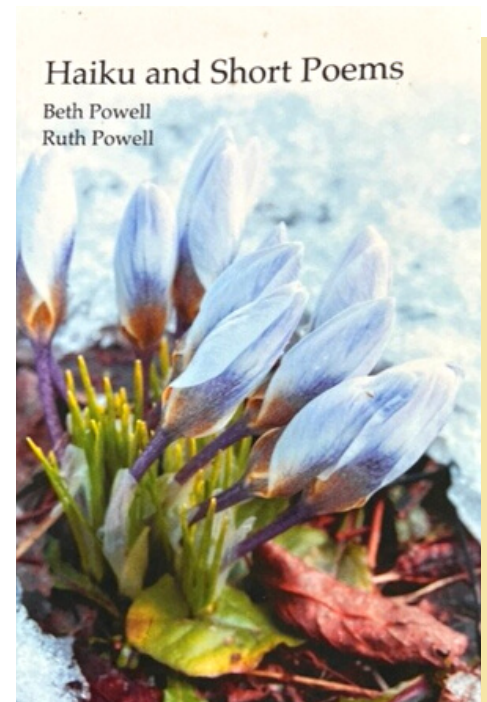
”

23. What project are you currently working on (or looking forward to starting)?

I'm looking forward to starting is creating haiga. I've taken a lot of photos, am hoping to sign up for a photography course, and hope some inspiration will come to me for adding the haikus.

24. where can we find your work?

My sister and I self-published a small book of haiku in 2013. Haiku Canada also published a trifold entitled Cancer Clinic (October 2019). I've had a few haibun published in the Haiku Canada Review, one in cattails, and individual haiku published here and there. I should keep track...

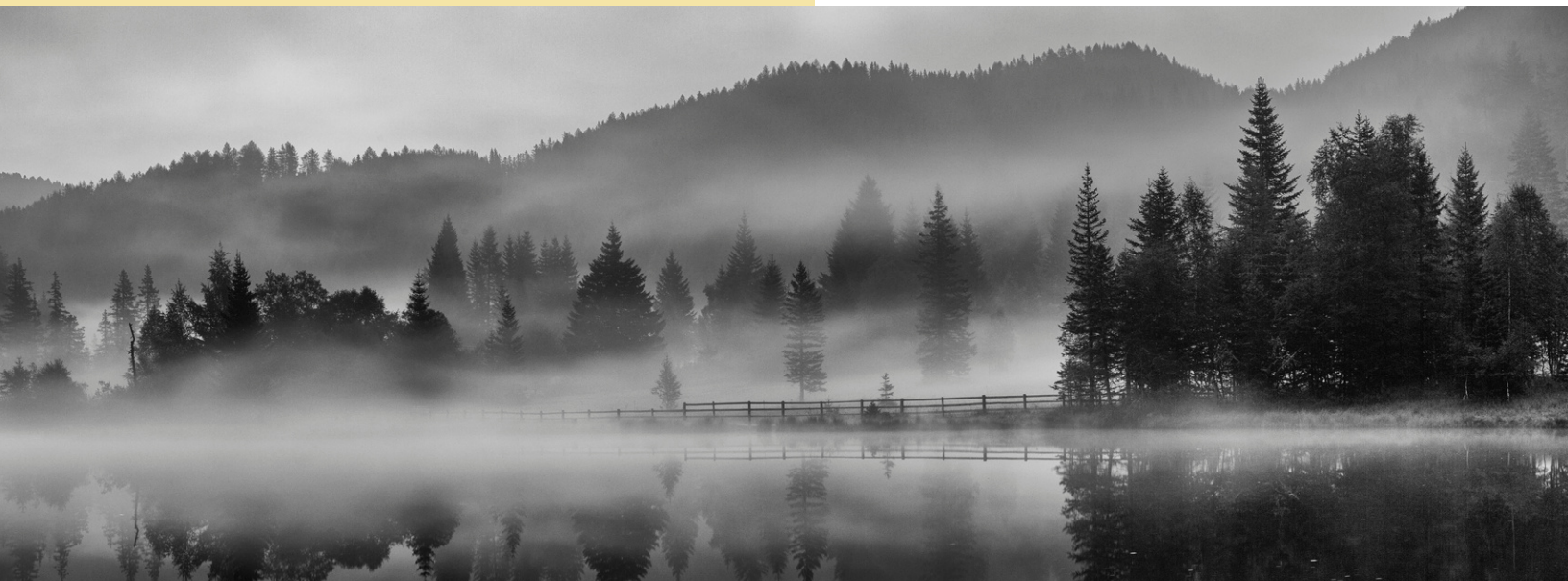


To order your copy:
haijinfox@gmail.com

25. If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what would it be?

A wilderness lake.

“ Just imagine being home to so many species, being able to experience all the sights and sounds of the seasons, and to reflect the sky. ”



Hiraeth

In the last edition you were invited to explore the concept of *hiraeth*, a welsh word with no direct translation in English which means a homesickness for a home to which you cannot return, a home which maybe never was; the nostalgia, the yearning, the grief for the lost places of your past. It is said that the only other equivalent, from another language, is the portuguese *saudade*...

What have you been longing for last summer?

hometown-
the places
I thought I knew

Sally Quon

vacant lot
the tire swing fallen
beside empty bottles

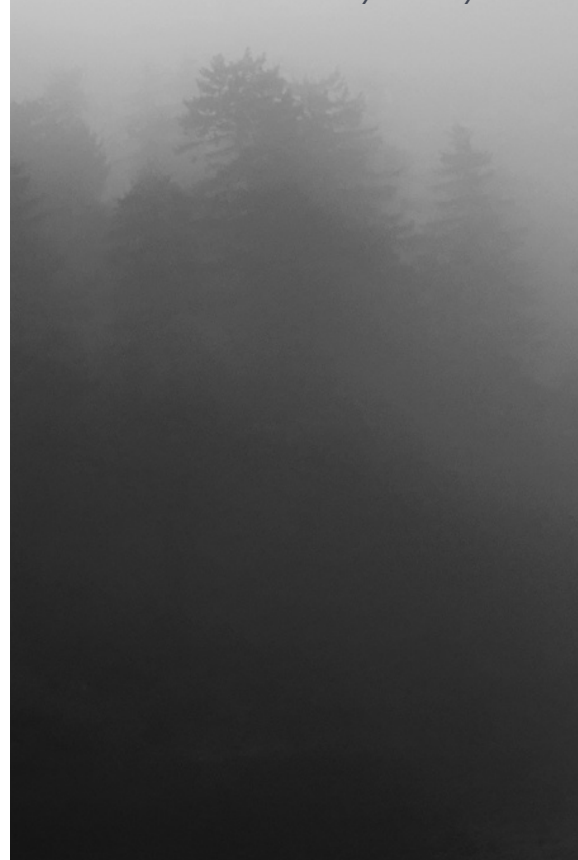
Michele Rule

Dans la dernière édition, nous vous invitons à explorer le concept of *hiraeth*, qui en gallois signifie une nostalgie pour une terre, son lieu d'origine ou pour un terroir perdu. En breton on l'écrit *hiraeth*: mal du pays, que celui-ci soit réel ou mythique ou pour toute nostalgie du passé. On dit que le seul équivalent dans une autre langue est le *saudade* portugais...

Quel désir se cachait en vous,
cet été?

land of a thousand lakes
and conifer forests -
my soul

Cheryl Ashley



the musty scent
of old photographs lingers,
follows me
from room to room . . .
ancestors I never knew

elehna de sousa
GUSTS no.33

family reunion
in June - searching for
the missing cousin

Michele Rule

in pursuit of a dream
that died by half
even words know their way home

Cheryl Ashley

my family as remote
in death as in life –
each gravesite marked
with a pushpin
on my world map

elehna de sousa
GUSTS no.20

childhood home-
everything smaller
than I remember

Sally Quon

time stops
you are briefly here
– doppelgänger

Karin Hedetniemi



*my grandma's needles
patterns of the past
with new wool*



susan spooner

at the crossing
two long one short
a prairie song

Cheryl Ashley

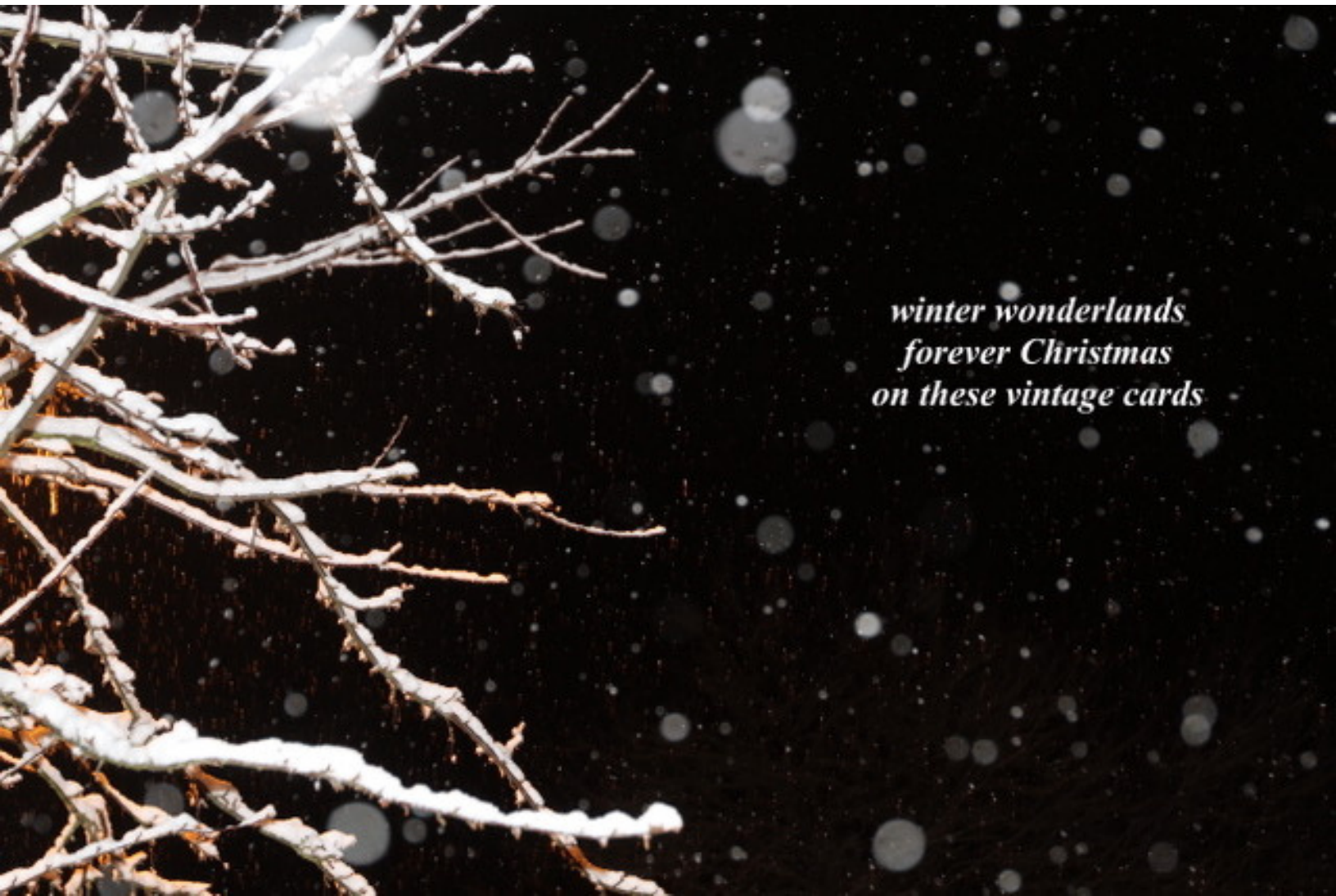
nothing left
of grandfather's house
yet still the old cherry blooms

elehna de sousa

VCBF Hon Mention 2015

Another Trip Around the Sun 2019





*winter wonderlands
forever Christmas
on these vintage cards*

susan spooner

my
old
school

t h e l o n g j u m p i t n o w

their
new
house

susan spooner

HALL OF FAME / MUR DE LA RENOMMÉE

Congratulations to these distinguished poets who live in the BC and the Territories region!
Félicitations aux poètes de notre région qui se sont illustrés.es récemment!

kjmunro (Whitehorse, Yukon)

- is the recipient of the 2023 Borealis Prize- The Commissioner of Yukon Award for Literary Contribution for her longstanding contribution to the Yukon literary scene.
- Details can be found on the BC and Yukon Book Prizes.

Karin Hedetniemi (Victoria, BC)

- her haiku earned an Honourable Mention in Basho's Spring 2023 Contest.
Details at <https://www.bashopb.com/winners/>
- Another haiku earned Editor's Choice in the Poetry Pea Podcast on August 14:
<https://poetrypea.com/s6e26-haiku-tango/>

Antoinette Cheung (Vancouver, BC)

- *her poem features in the winners of the 2nd Trailblazer contest*
- <https://trailblazercontest.weebly.com/2023-winners.html>
- Interviews with the winners



Appel de textes (anthologie)

En français

Ouvrage collectif qui sera publié par les
Éditions Pippa Paris)

Thème: Boire et manger

Détails: [Association francophone de haïku](#)

date limite: 15 septembre

Produced locally

The Solitary Daisy is a bi-monthly newsletter for haiku lovers of all levels of experience. Featuring haiku mini-lessons, prompts, and links to interesting haiku journals and opportunities, The Solitary Daisy is intended to encourage participation.

All are welcome.

Editors: Sally Quon and Michele Rule (from BC).

<https://www.facebook.com/sally.quon/>

Invitation (haibun)

New haibun publication opportunity.

The Young Buddhist Editorial is launching a new online column, entitled Clouds in Paper, that will feature haibun on the theme of interdependence between people, nature, and all things.

The submissions period is open until October 13. To submit, please visit <https://www.youngbuddhisteditorial.com/events/haibun-2023>. Please note that you do not need to be Buddhist or to write about Buddhism; rather, the journal is seeking work that creatively embodies the spirit of interconnection between all things.
Editor Rylan Li (Shengzhi)

some calls
for submissions and contests

September septembre

Journals and other publications

- [The Heron's Nest](#), September 15
- [Scarlett Dragonfly Journal](#), Sept.1-25
- [L'ours dansant](#) no.34 thème libre, 10 septembre
- [Cicada's Cry](#), Sept. 1-15
- [Whiptail Journal](#), Sept. 1-10
- [Presence](#), Sept.30

CONTEST

- [The Society of Classical Poets Contest](#), until Sept 15.



NEW: Links are now active: click on them to access websites! visit the official websites as information may change.

NOUVEAUTÉ: Les liens sont activés. Cliquez pour accéder aux sites! Consulter les sites internet officiels car l'information pourrait changer.

October octobre

Journals and other publications

- [Prune juice](#), October 1-30
- [Autumn Moon Journal](#), until Nov.1
- [Wales Haiku Journal](#), Sept.1-30
- [L'ours dansant](#) no.35 thème: la cuisine- 10 octobre
- [San Francisco International Haiku, Senryu and Tanka Contest](#), Oct.31,

November novembre

Journals and other publications

- [Modern Haiku](#), Nov.15
- [Bottle rockets Press](#), Nov.1-Dec 15
- [Frogpond](#), Nov.1-30

ongoing on selected themes:

[Asahi Haikuist Network](#)
[Poetry Pea](#)



local meetings



Haiku Arbutus

Victoria, BC, since 2014;
meets quarterly;
facilitated by Terry Ann Carter.
Contact Dan Curtis at dancurtis8@gmail.com

Solstice Haiku

Whitehorse, YT, since 2014;
meets monthly to share and discuss haiku; facilitated by
Katherine Munro (kjmunro).
Contact kjm.1560@gmail.com

Vancouver Haiku Group

Vancouver, BC, since 2010;
meets monthly.
Visit the Vancouver Haiku Group Facebook page or
vancouverhaikugroup@gmail.com



Building the Haiku Canada Collection

archives@haikucanada.org

Publishing a haiku-related book?
Donate one copy to the Haiku Canada Collection as
part of your distribution plan.
Downsizing? Preparing for end of life?
You can help build the Haiku Canada Collection . . .

The Haiku Canada Collection, established in 2017,
is located in British Columbia at the University of
Victoria Library, within Special Collections and
University Archives.

Already donated, or intending to donate, your haiku
materials to another archive?
Let us know, so that site and your resources can be
incorporated into the information base of the Haiku
Canada archives.

Archives Committee members:
Katherine Munro (Yukon)
Vicki McCullough (BC)

*Reclaiming the landscape
réconquérir le paysage*

A POST-HAIKU CANADA WEEKEND PROJECT 2022
UN PROJET POST-CONFÉRENCE ANNUELLE D'HAIKU CANADA 2022

Haiku Canada corner

Haiku Canada now has a Youtube Channel You can find the video that was
created as a post-haiku Canada Conference (2022) project on "Reclaiming
the landscape". Click on the image or visit the Youtube channel to access
the video!

Haiku Canada a maintenant sa propre chaîne vidéo YouTube et vous pouvez
y retrouver la vidéos qui a été créée suite à la conférence "Reconquérir le
paysage" (2022). Cliquez l'image pour visionner la vidéo ou visitez la chaîne
Youtube!

www.youtube.com/@HaikuCanada

● Next Issue Winter 2024 ● prochain numéro- hiver 2024

The next issue will cover the months of
Decembre 2023, January and **February 2024.**

We want to know about

- your special projects and meetings in your area
- book launches and readings
- awards and achievements
- looking for a renga partner? Let us know we'll post it!

Let's build this community!

Please send me your info for the next issue **before November 15, 2023.**

If you are interested in answering the not-so-dreadful Proust-inspired questionnaire, please contact me as we will feature one poet in every issue. Thank you to Ruth Powell for sharing precious moments and tips with us! Priority will be for promoting local poets from the BC and the Territories.

Enjoy your summer!

I wish you plenty of inspiring ginko walks, meetings with friends and families!
Hoping to feature your success and inspiration soon!

Next Haiku Challenge

Preserving/ conserver



You are invited to use all your senses to find examples of "preserving" that might be your own harvest, your memories, our resources, world peace or mental health. What are your treasuring? What should be preserved? Tell us all! Send us up to 3 haikus or tanka on the topic! You can send them for our next edition AND share them in our "It's a wrap" online regional reading planned on December 17 (Zoom)! See the invitation attached!

Pour le prochain défi, vous êtes invité.e à observer avec tous vos sens le concept de "conserver" que ce soit votre récolte, vos souvenirs, nos ressources, la paix dans le monde ou notre santé mentale. Racontez-nous ce que vous chérissez et ce que vous désirez conserver. Envoyez-nous jusqu'à 3 haïkus ou tankas sur le sujet et courez la chance de les partager en ligne lors d'une lecture régionale "It's a wrap!" qui se déroulera via Zoom le 17 décembre prochain. Consultez l'invitation en annexe pour plus de détails!



Sandra St-Laurent
regional coordinator
coordonnatrice régionale

bc-territories@haikucanada.org