



FROM SEA  
TO SEA  
TO SEA

2025  
EDITION



Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books



FROM SEA

TO SEA

TO SEA

## Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books

### 2025 Edition



Présidente d'honneur vice-royale :  
Son Excellence la très honorable Mary Simon Gouverneure générale du Canada

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The names and spellings of the Indigenous authors, illustrators  
and translators' Nations reflect how they identify themselves in their  
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# WELCOME – TAWÂW!

Welcome to the 2025 Edition of *From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books!* I encourage you to celebrate this collection of 25 of the best Indigenous picture books published in Canada between 2022 and 2024. Care was taken to ensure that this collection reflects the diversity of First Nations, Métis and Inuit voices from sea to sea to sea, and that the titles are available and in print for anyone who wishes to access them.

Please promote by reading and sharing the titles within this collection, as I hope you have for the titles curated within the first three collections (*From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books* 2018, 2021, and 2023 editions).

Many people were involved in the creation of this special collection. Many thanks go out to the amazing selection committee, who considered over 100 titles in curating this collection! They are Allison Taylor McBryde, children's collection librarian; Joanne Schwartz, award-winning author and former children's librarian; and Nancy Cooper (Chippewas of Rama First Nation), author and First Nation Consultant at the Southern Ontario Library Service. Thanks also to Mary Beth Leatherdale, award-winning author and editor, and last, but not least, the incomparable Patti McIntosh, President of IBBY Canada, for your help with and support of this project!

Special thanks also to the designer, Vanessa Giovino, and to the production team members, Kathleen Keenan and Shannon Swift, for constructing this lovely catalogue. Finally, thank you so much to the publishers, who are tireless in their support of the catalogue, submitting titles, assisting with images and helping to promote the collection!

We have confidence that this catalogue can help to guide you to some wonderful, quality board books and picture books. We live in an exciting time, with new picture books written by Indigenous authors and/or illustrated by Indigenous

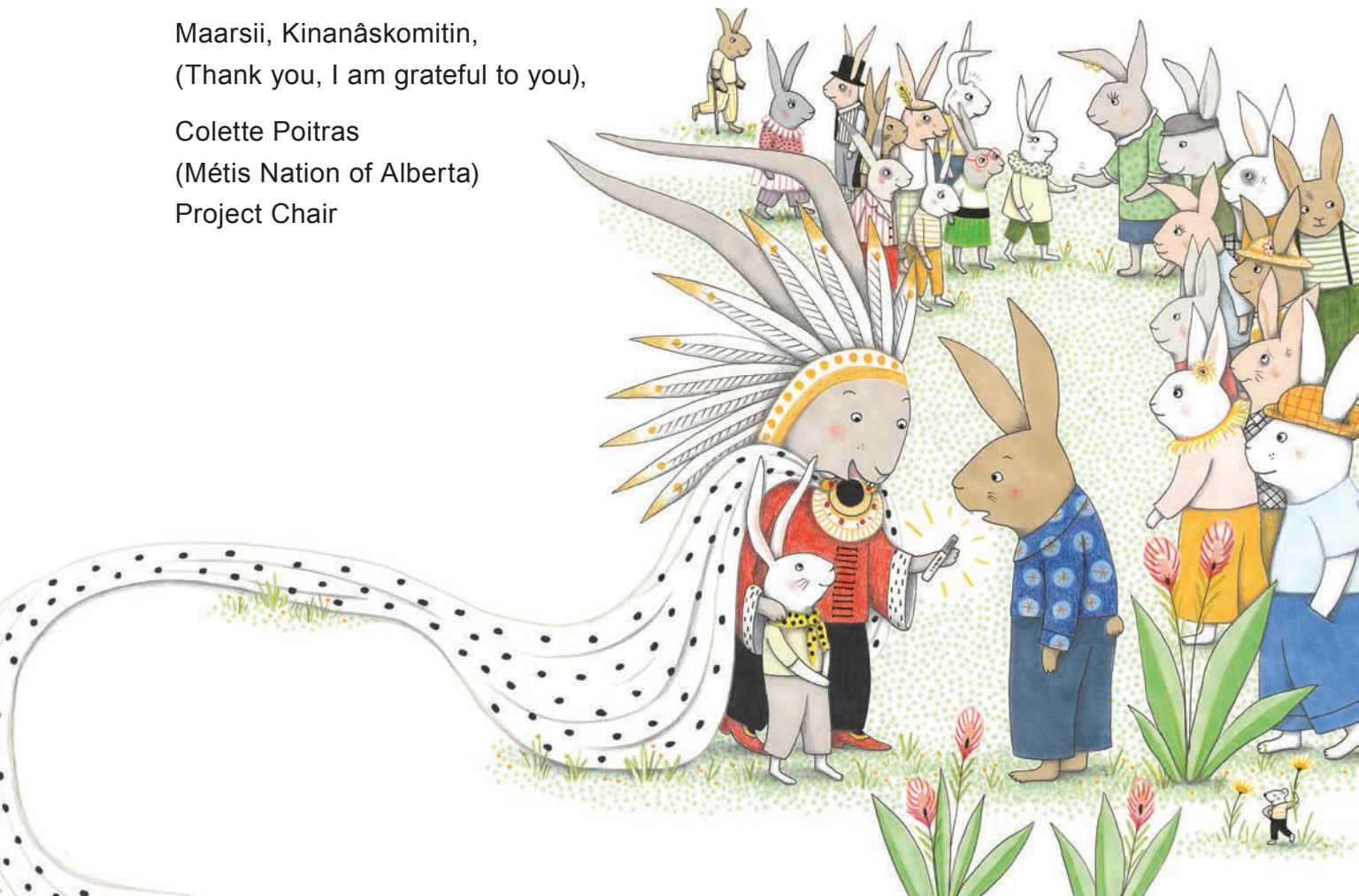
artists published more and more frequently. I encourage you to continue to read titles written and illustrated by Indigenous people and update your own collections as new titles become available.

Please celebrate the titles in this collection with us by using the hashtags #ReadIndigenous and #Indigenouspicturebooks and tagging @IBBYCanada on social media.

We hope you enjoy reading the catalogue and the titles within as much as we have!

Maarsii, Kinanâskomitin,  
(Thank you, I am grateful to you),

Colette Poitras  
(Métis Nation of Alberta)  
Project Chair





**Bourdeau Waboose, Jan [Nishnawbe Ojibway].**

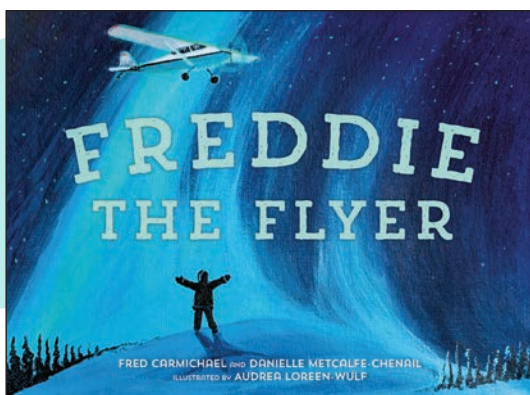
### **The Hawk Shadow.**

**Illustrated by Karlene Harvey [Tsilhqot'in/Syilx].**

**Kids Can Press, 2024. 9781525310843**

Two siblings go for a walk with the intention of fishing together. When big brother Big Ed gets in a bind, a hawk is able to assist. The descriptive text allows readers to feel the sunshine on their skin and savour nature's sights, sounds and fragrances while joining these siblings on their walk through

the woods to go fishing. The siblings' love for one another shines through, despite their good-natured teasing. There are lovely cultural teachings infused within the text. Harvey's bright and colourful digital artwork is stunning and allows the reader to feel the joy that the children in the story feel while spending time together, as well as the genuine support that the hawk and its shadow provides when they need assistance.



**Carmichael, Fred [Gwich'in/Scottish/Irish]**

**and Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail.**

### **Freddie the Flyer.**

**Illustrated by Audrea Loreen-Wulf [Inuvialuit].**

**Tundra Books, 2023. 9781774880807**

In vignettes, framed by the months of the year in English, Gwich'in and Inuvialuktun, we are introduced to shy Freddie, a young boy obsessed with the dream of flying who

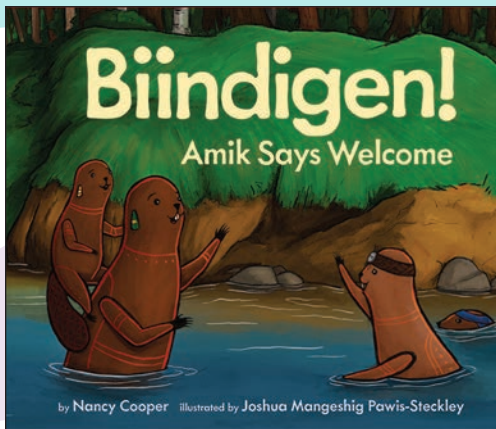
eventually becomes the first Indigenous commercial pilot in the Arctic. We get a glimpse of Freddie's many exciting adventures: taking a pregnant mother to the hospital (the baby came early and was born on the plane!); flying through a blizzard to save a stranded prospector; and filling up the plane with dog teams and trappers going out to their camps. The painterly illustrations done in acrylic on canvas capture the remote, rugged landscape. Back matter includes translations and a brief overview of Freddie's life and the very important role he played for the communities in the Western Arctic over his long career.

After a short swim, the group of beavers reaches one of Amik's family's dams. They climb onto the dam just after a red fox runs across it. The cousins are afraid, but Amik says, "This is my friend Waagosh." "Miigwech," the fox says. "Being able to run across this dam helps me get quickly home to my family."



"Excuse me, Waagosh," Amik asks the fox. "Have you seen my little sister?"  
 "No," Waagosh replies. "I've been busy hunting for my family's dinner."

*Biindigen! Amik Says Welcome. Owlkids Books, 2023.*

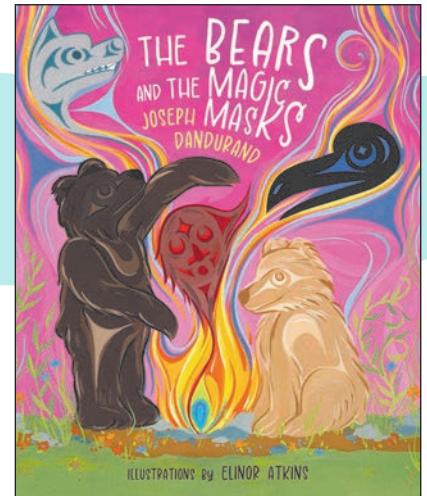


Cooper, Nancy [Chippewas of Rama First Nation].  
**Biindigen! Amik Says Welcome.**  
 Illustrated by Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley  
 [Wasauksing First Nation].  
 Owlkids Books, 2023. 9781771475150

The beaver family of Amik ("beaver" in Anishinaabemowin) and Nishiime ("younger sister") are hosting a reunion. Cousins from all four directions are coming to visit. Throughout the story, Cooper demonstrates the importance of beavers within the ecosystem, but also the power of family and love, and the interconnectedness that the earth, animals, environment and humans all share. The illustrations are lovely and warm, infused with cultural knowledge—showcasing each beaver's Nation as well as the environment. This title is a celebration of Indigenous knowledge, diversity, environmental stewardship and language revitalization.

**Dandurand, Joseph [Kwantlen First Nation].**  
**The Bears and the Magic Masks.**  
**Illustrated by Elinor Atkins [Kwantlen First Nation].**  
**Nightwood Editions, 2024. 9780889714748**

Joseph Dandurand tells a magical tale about the relationship between the Kwantlen people and bears in the third book in the Kwantlen series. When a master carver is rescued from a river by two young bears, he repays their kindness with magical masks that transform the bears into raven or eagle or Sasquatch. Transformed, the animals bring gifts of food to the bears. The Sasquatch dances for the Kwantlen people before taking off the mask and returning to the forest. Nt̓eʔkepmx artist Elinor Atkins interprets the text in a traditional colourful style.



The young bears were so happy that they sang and danced around the masks.

They were so hungry that they went into the river and ate as much fish as they could. Then they went back and danced around the masks again as the first spring moon was high in the dark sky.

*The Bears and the Magic Masks. Nightwood Editions, 2024.*

I pick up the beads. Line after line, row after row, I slide the beads up over the eye of the needle and along the thread. My hands move in slow motion through the stitches.

As I bead, I give thought to the strawberry teachings.

Quietness takes over the room except for the soft rustling sound of beads. Swish. Swish. Swish. I take deep breaths in through my nose and breathe out slowly through my mouth.

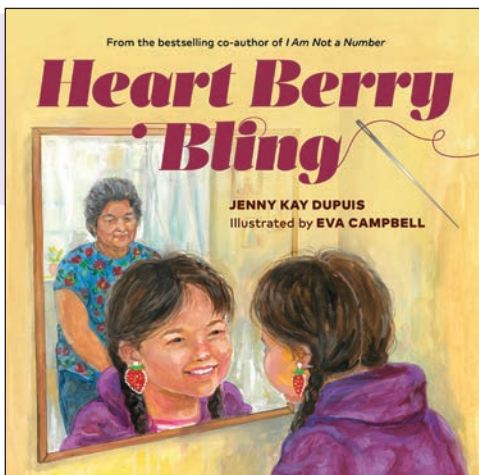
"Did you know our spirit lives in beadwork? Our past breathes in the beads. And our strength settles between the rows of stitches," Granny tells me.

I playfully use my needles like swords, piercing the beads and locking them in place.

Granny checks each bead and stitch, nodding with approval. "That's much better."



*Heart Berry Bling*. HighWater Press, 2023.



Dupuis, Jenny Kay [Nipissing First Nation].  
**Heart Berry Bling.**  
 Illustrated by Eva Campbell.  
 HighWater Press, 2023. 9781774920558

This title demonstrates Indigenous strength, love and resilience in the face of challenges. It is a gentle and authentic way to explain the complexities and gender discrimination of the Indian Act and the separation of families from one another, as well as from their culture. Campbell's warm and expressive illustrations help to illuminate the story. Ultimately, *Heart Berry Bling* is a lovely and powerful story that encompasses truth telling about Canada's discriminatory laws and about Indigenous perseverance in the face of adversity.



Dupuis, Melissa Mollen [Innu].  
**Nutshimit: In the Woods.**

Illustrated by Elise Gravel.

English translation by Dina Ginzburg  
and Gaëlle Mollen [Innu/Chadian].

Scholastic, 2023. 9781039701809

In this personal and informative introduction to Innu culture, Melissa Mollen Dupuis weaves Innu-aimun words into reflections on family and childhood memories, ethno-botany, creation stories and respect for the natural world. Quebec artist Elise Gravel's hilarious cartoon-style illustrations of everything from bears to cedar trees capture the personal and chatty style of the author, making the deep and significant natural and cultural information approachable for all ages. (Simultaneously published in French. *Nutshimit : Un bain de forêt*. Scholastic, 2023.)



*Nutshimit: In the Woods*. Scholastic, 2023.



*Let's Go! / haw êkwa! Greystone Kids, 2024.*

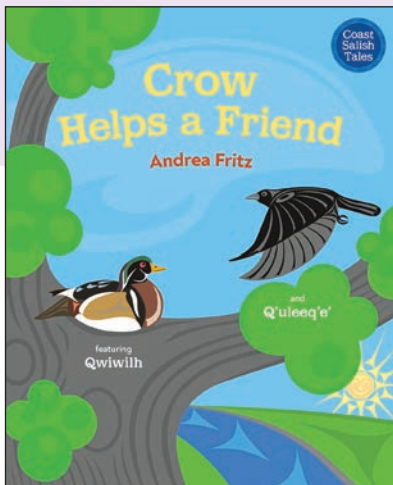
**Flett, Julie [Cree/Métis].**

**Let's Go! / haw êkwa!**

**Greystone Kids, 2024. 9781771646109**

Inspired by her son and skateboarding culture, Julie Flett brings to life the rhythm and sounds of skateboards on sidewalks. Soft greens, browns and grey dominate the colour palette and fluid lines move the skateboarders along paths like rivers flowing to the skate park. The children gather, make friends and develop community as they watch and participate. The repeated Cree phrase “haw êkwa!” can mean “okay then,” capturing the desire to join in and skate—now!





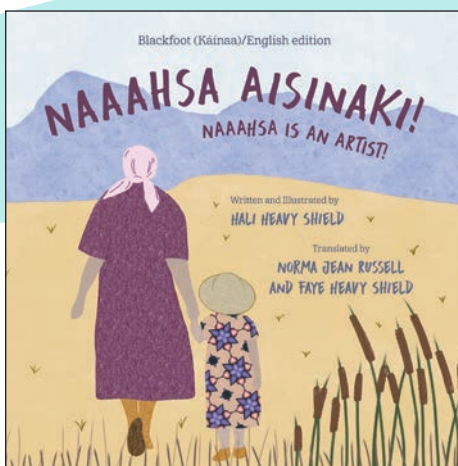
**Fritz, Andrea [Lyackson First Nation].**

## **Crow Helps a Friend.**

**Orca Book Publishers, 2024. 9781459836242**

In this title in the Coast Salish Tales series, storyteller and artist Andrea Fritz incorporates words in Hul'q'umi'num' and features art blending traditional Salish artforms with bold, bright colour. Qwiwilh, the wood duck, builds a nest every year in the nook of a gnarled old tree that arches over a beautiful stream. Crow taunts Qwiwilh about his choice of tree and challenges him to a game, which results in the old branches cracking and trapping the birds underwater. Qwiwilh

rescues Crow and in return, Crow and Squirrel plant an acorn in the rotten tree stump to provide a new home for Qwiwilh's family in the future. Fritz concludes her tale: "From the old and broken can come new beginnings." The series also includes *Otter Doesn't Know* (2023), *Raven Gets Tricked* (2024) and *Woolly Dog Warms His Family* (2026).



**Heavy Shield, Hali [Kainai Nation of Southern Alberta].**

## **Naaahsa Aisinaki! / Naaahsa is an Artist!**

**Blackfoot [Káinna] translation by Norma Jean Russell [Kainai Nation of Southern Alberta] and Faye Heavy Shield [Kainai Nation of Southern Alberta].**

**Second Story Press, 2023. 9781772603477**

Naaahsa is an artist, and as she says, "Art is a language everyone understands." It is the bond that she shares with her granddaughter, always encouraging her to use her imagination but also to work hard and persevere, as Naaahsa had to do

when she was in residential school. As the young narrator accompanies Naaahsa to her art opening, she feels pride and inspiration. Naaahsa is a celebrated artist but first and foremost her loving grandmother. The muted colours and varied textures and shapes of the illustrations speak to the understated, layered message in the story. A beautiful picture book that foregrounds the power of art. (Also available in an English edition. *Naaahsa is an Artist!* Second Story Press, 2023.)

Ni'toyi naanistsisstoyiimihpinnaana Naaahsa otao'toissksinima'tsaahsi.  
Aikakaiitsi'poyi Naaahsa otsitsi'nakstssi'siwa.

Naaahsa went to a residential school when she was my age.  
Blackfoot was the only language Naaahsa spoke as a child.

Aohtaisimayaawa maahkssayaiitsi'poyssaawa.  
Naaahsa aisokaisimiaanitsiyi niiksi oohsissiksi, "Kitsiikakomimmohpoaawa."

liikohaikkikhini'taki ookoowayi. Ki, inao'kitanistsiwa aiitohtsokimohsiwa  
a'yaisinaakssi.

But it was against the rules to speak Blackfoot at residential school. So Naaahsa  
whispered to her brothers and sisters in secret, "Kitsiikakomimmohpoaawa. I love you."

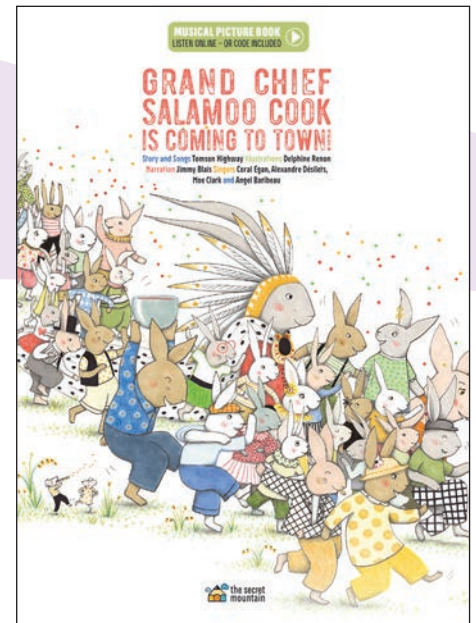
She was sad to be away from home. But making art made her feel better.

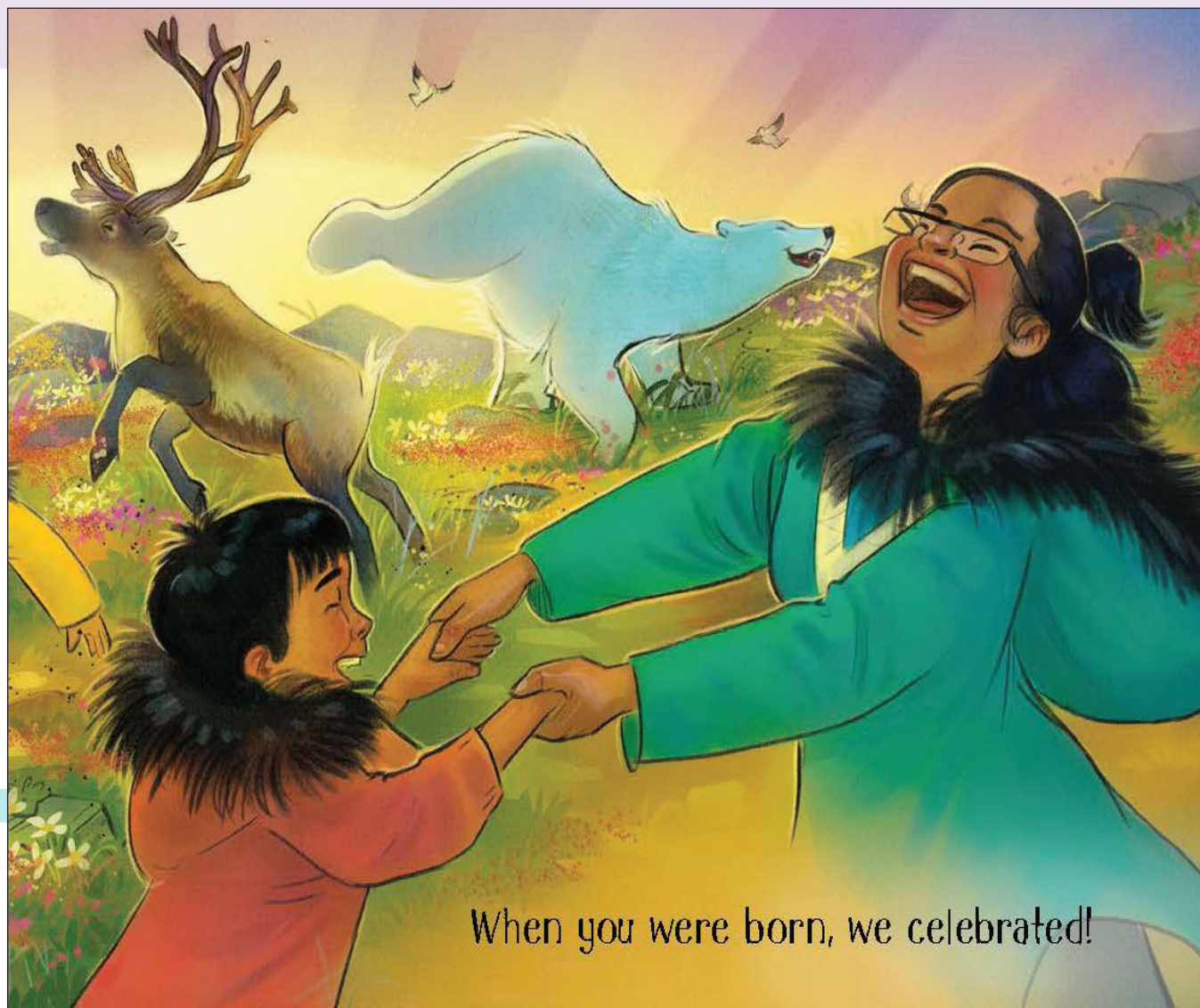


*Naaahsa Aisinaki! / Naaahsa is an Artist! Second Story Press, 2023.*

Highway, Tomson [Barren Lands First Nation].  
**Grand Chief Salamoo Cook Is Coming to Town!**  
Illustrated by Delphine Renon.  
The Secret Mountain, 2023. 9782898360428

Tomson Highway, writer, playwright, pianist and composer, has created an exuberant one-of-a-kind musical picture book that encompasses nine original songs in Woods Cree. Grand Chief Salamoo Cook is coming to Kisoos, a small town of Cree-speaking rabbits, for the first time ever, to announce a mysterious contest. The excitement is uncontainable, but the contest rules cause mixed reactions. Hilarity, rebellion and revelation ensue in this inventive work. Delphine Renon's illustrations bring the right touch of humour and playfulness to the comic scenes. Back matter includes a glossary of Cree words and a QR code to link to the narrated story and songs. (Also available in a French edition. *Le grand chef Salamoo Cook arrive en ville!* The Secret Mountain, 2023.)





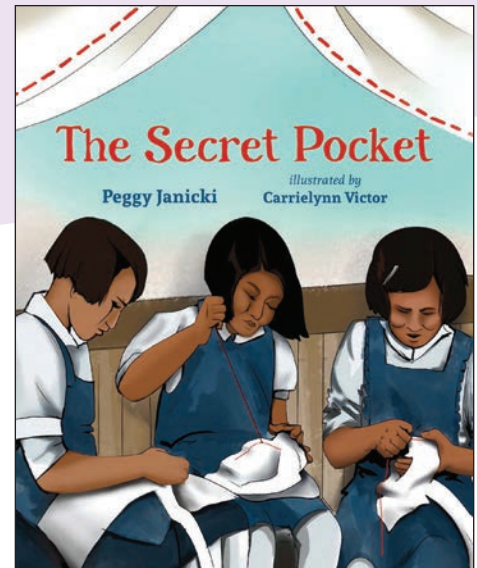
When you were born, we celebrated!

*We Love You as Much as the Fox Loves Its Tail. Inhabit Media, 2023.*

Janicki, Peggy [Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation].  
**The Secret Pocket.**

Illustrated by Carrielynn Victor [Coast Salish/European].  
 Orca Book Publishers, 2023. 9781459833722

Peggy Janicki shares her mother's story of the difficult and heart-wrenching years she spent in residential school as a young child. Taken at the age of four, the young girl and the other children suffer many kinds of harsh treatment, including constant hunger. In a spark of genius, the girls use their traditional skills learned at home to sew secret pockets into their petticoats to hide bits of food to share amongst one another. The illustrations highlight the stark, cold colours of the institution contrasted with the warm, enveloping colours of home. A moving story that demonstrates once again the incredible resilience and ingenuity of residential school survivors. Back matter includes an author's note and a glossary of Dakelh terms.

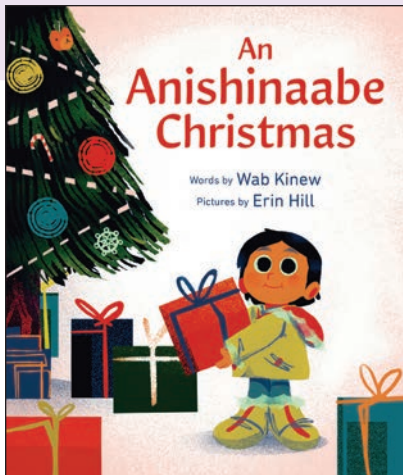


Kelly, Masiana [Inuk/Dene].

**We Love You as Much as the Fox Loves Its Tail.**

Illustrated by Tamara Campeau.  
 Inhabit Media, 2023. 9781772274769

In a gentle bedtime poem, the birth of a long-awaited baby is celebrated with joy and happiness. Like the title, the depth of love is expressed in similes that highlight the Arctic setting: “We’ll love you as much as the narwhal loves its tusk,” “as much as the muskox loves its hair,” “as much as the beluga loves to dive deep.” The family, and the animals, welcome baby into the world, and as night comes on and the aurora borealis lights the sky, all fall into a deep, peaceful sleep. In bright primary colours, the illustrations vividly portray the loving family, the Arctic animals and the beauty of the landscape, all embracing the new arrival.

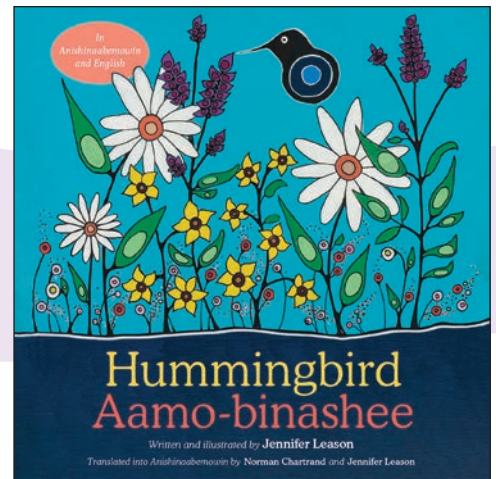


**Kinew, Wab [Anishinaabe].**  
**An Anishinaabe Christmas.**  
**Illustrated by Erin Hill [Iroquois/Haudenosaunee**  
**Six Nations Mohawk].**  
**Tundra Books, 2024. 9781774883570**

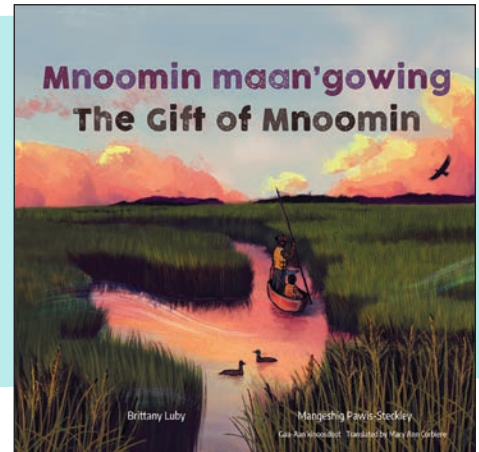
Baby and their family are going home to the rez to visit Kookum and Mooshom for Christmas. Along the way, Baby questions their mother and father about the bear that once came on the rez, whether they give presents at Christmas, and how the rez can be home, even though they live elsewhere. Along with Baby, we learn about Makwa, Miigiwe and Giiwedaa, the important concepts that underlie the traditions of an Anishinaabe Christmas. Colourful digital illustrations take us from the city to the rez, culminating in a picturesque scene of the family gathered outside on a snowy, winter night. A lovely story to introduce the Anishinaabe way of celebrating this special time of year.

**Leason, Jennifer [Minegoziibe**  
**Anishinabe/Pine Creek First Nation].**  
**Hummingbird / Aamo-binashee.**  
**Anishinaabemowin translation by Norman Chartrand**  
**[Minegoziibe Anishinabe/Pine Creek First Nation].**  
**Orca Book Publishers, 2024. 9781459837140**

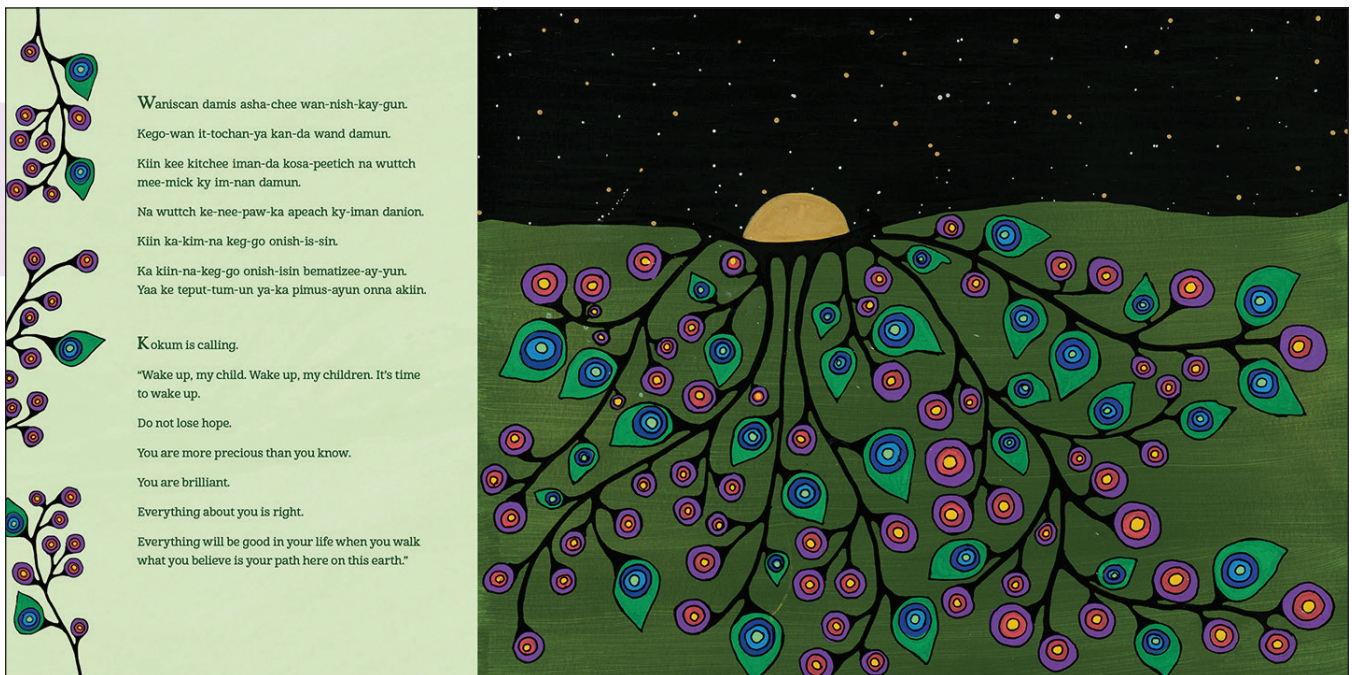
*Hummingbird / Aamo-binashee* includes a dual-language text in a dialect of Anishinaabemowin sometimes known as Western, Saulteaux or Plains Ojibwa. In this cautionary tale, the children are warned to stay close and play in the fields and garden of their grandmother in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, or the Windigo might eat them. When Windigo's darkness begins to creep into your soul, you lose hope, strength and confidence in yourself. Kokum tells the children that their ancestors are watching and hummingbird, spirit messenger, appears to remind them to "learn from the past... and keep going." Hummingbird, who can fly backwards and forwards and whose wings trace a never-ending figure eight, is a living symbol that "love is forever."



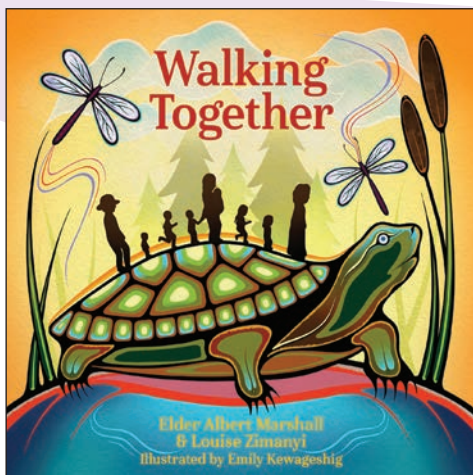
Luby, Brittany [Anishinaabe descent, paternal ancestors from Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3].  
**Mnoomin maan'gowing / The Gift of Mnoomin.**  
 Illustrated by Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley  
 [Wasauksing First Nation]. Anishinaabemowin translation by Mary Ann Corbiere [Nishnaabe].  
 Groundwood Books, 2023. 9781773068466



This lovely book starts off with the sentence “A seed is a story you can hold in your hand.” The reader is then invited to hear the story of the Gift of Mnoomin (often mis-termed as wild rice). We learn how the seeds and plants work within the entire ecosystem and how different animals and humans have a part to play in the development, harvesting and propagation of the seed. The warm and muted illustrations help to convey how important each individual organism is to the delicate ecosystem. Each paragraph is available in both English and Anishinaabemowin. At the end of the book is an ecological note and translator’s note.



Hummingbird / Aamo-binashee. Orca Book Publishers, 2024.



Marshall, Elder Dr. Albert D. [Eskasoni First Nation] and Louise Zimanyi.

### **Walking Together.**

Illustrated by Emily Kewageshig [Saugeen First Nation].  
Annick Press, 2023. 9781773217765

A spring walk in the forest with Elders, parents and children becomes a time to learn about and experience Etuaptmumk (Two-Eyed Seeing) and Netukulimk (protecting Mother Earth). This beautiful story demonstrates the concept of how together, if we watch, listen and wonder, we can discover how to live in harmony and balance with nature. The Woodland-style illustrations in bright, bold colours reveal new creatures and plants on each turn of the page, with a special focus on frogs, the peepers, who signal the spring awakening in Unama'ki (Cape Breton). An afterword gives further background and context to the concepts.



*Walking Together. Annick Press, 2023.*

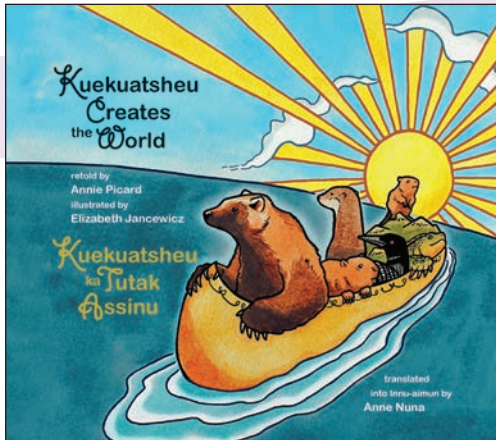
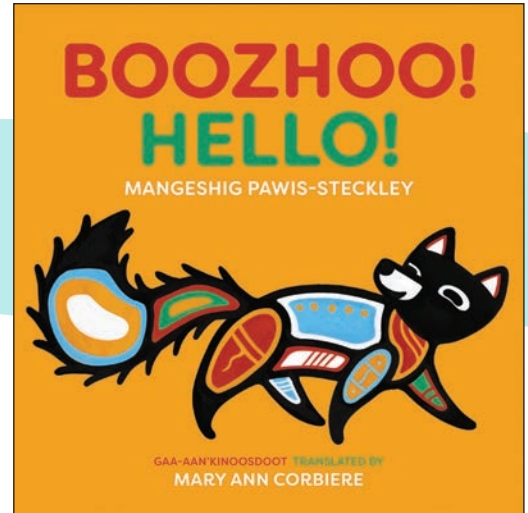
**Pawis-Steckley, Mangeshig [Wasauksing First Nation].  
Boozhoo! / Hello!**

Anishinaabemowin translation by  
Mary Ann Corbiere [Nishnaabe].

Groundwood Books, 2024. 9781773067155

Evocative of Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle’s *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*, this joyful book with an Indigenous worldview allows the reader to get in touch with our animal relatives in the woodland and water areas of Anishinaabe territory. The text and the illustrations immerse us in the natural

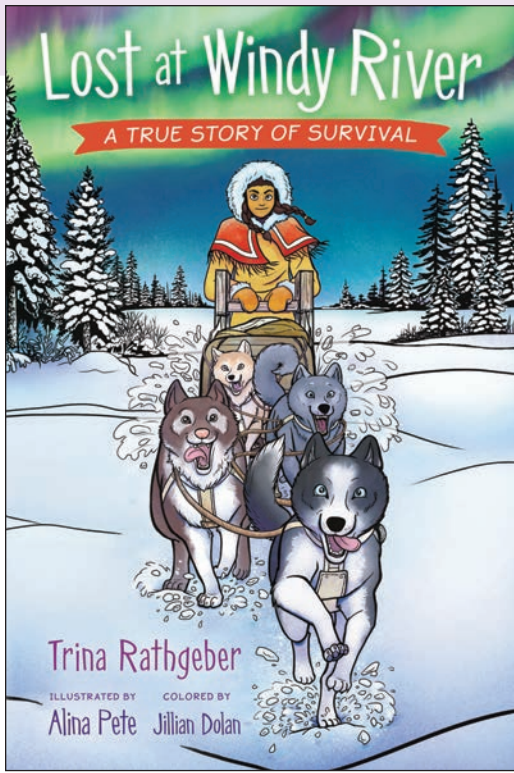
world and awaken all of our senses. Readers will almost feel the sun on their faces and smell the clean, fresh air while looking at and listening to the animals. Written in both Anishinaabemowin and English, this is a fantastic title for language learners of all ages.



**Picard, Annie [Innu].  
Kuekuatsheu Creates the World /  
Kuekuatsheu ka Tutak Assinu.**

Illustrated by Elizabeth Jancewicz. Innu-aimun  
Sheshatshiu dialect translation by Anne Nuna [Innu].  
Running the Goat & Mamu Tshishkutamashutau Innu  
Education, 2024. 9781998802203

In a gentle storytelling voice, the author recounts the creation story that her Innu Grandmother told her as a child. When the world was covered in water, a group of animals that had survived were travelling by canoe. Kuekuatsheu, Wolverine, said he could create land if he only had a clump of earth from the bottom of the sea. Scorned for his small size, it is Utshashk, Muskrat, that saves the day and Kuekuatsheu is able to create Turtle Island. The animals learn the important lesson that all creatures, from the biggest to the smallest, deserve our respect. The illustrations fill the pages in the deep blues of endless water and sky, and the animal’s expressive faces communicate hope, despair and finally, gratitude. In dual language Innu/English and also available in Mushuau dialect. (*Kuekuatsheu Creates the World / Kuekuatsheu ka Ushitat Assinu*. Innu-aimun Mushuau dialect translation by Penash Rich [Innu]. Running the Goat & Mamu Tshishkutamashutau Innu Education, 2024.)



Rathgeber, Trina [Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation].  
**Lost at Windy River.**

Illustrated by Alina Pete [Little Pine First Nation].

Coloured by Jillian Dolan [Métis Nation of Alberta].

Orca Book Publishers, 2024. 9781459832268

Trina Rathgeber gathered family stories and historic documentation to retell and reclaim her grandmother Ilse Schweder's story of survival. This graphic novel introduces Ilse's family, life on a tundra trapline, historical references to residential school and northern fur trading posts. A storm and whiteout conditions separate Ilse from her brother's dogsled team, leaving her alone and lost. Relying on cultural references and Indigenous knowledge to survive, Ilse drinks melted snow, builds a snow cave, frightens off a lone wolf and reclaims her sense of direction from a migrating caribou herd. Nine days later, snow blind, starving and with severe

frostbite, Ilse is found by a reclusive trapper who takes her home to her family. The artwork by nêhiyaw artist Alina Pete recreates this tale of endurance in an appealing, accessible and informative graphic novel.



*The Song That Called Them Home. Tundra Books, 2023.*

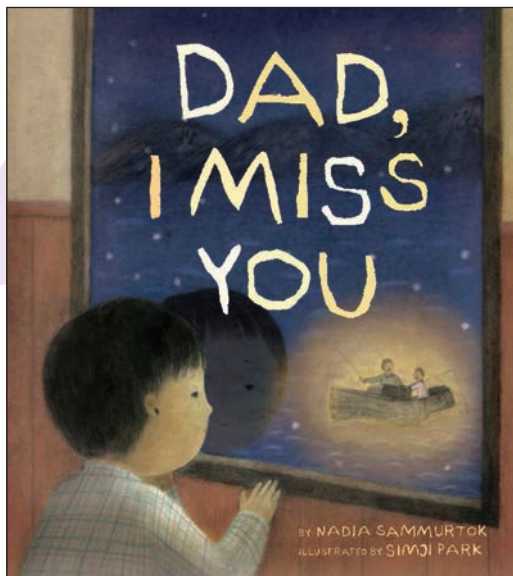
Robertson, David A. [Norway House Cree Nation].

**The Song That Called Them Home.**

Illustrated by Maya McKibbin [Ojibwe, Yoeme and Irish].

Tundra Books, 2023. 9780735266704

This is an engaging, adventurous and compelling story about a brother and sister who are swept away by Memekwesewak, water creatures, on a canoe trip with Moshom. It demonstrates the power of love, family and blending traditional stories in a new way for a new generation of learners. Robertson proves again that he is a masterful storyteller, and Maya McKibbin's two-page illustrations are truly magical. They are lovely and flowing, matching the text wonderfully.



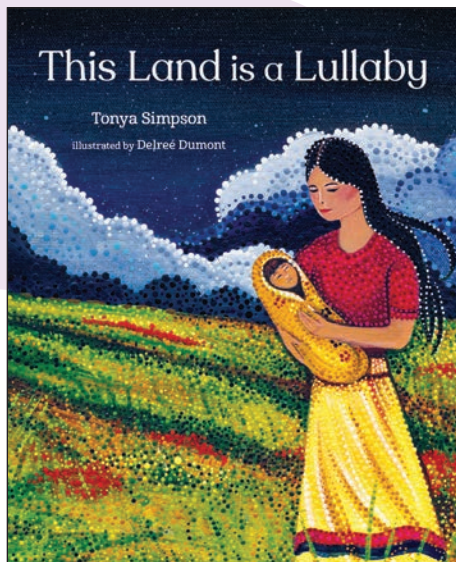
Sammurtok, Nadia [Inuk].

**Dad, I Miss You.**

Illustrated by Simji Park.

Inhabit Media, 2024. 9781772274820

A residential school story told in two voices, that of a young boy and his father. Separated by distance and the inability to speak directly about such difficult feelings, they each express longing, sadness and suffering as the narrative shifts between their internal monologues. The heartbreaking conversation conveys their deep bond despite the painful rupture. When the boy finally returns, he must begin the process of reconnection to his family and community and reclamation of his language and culture. The illustrations employ a subdued palette and simple compositions to convey the interiority of the narrative. This unique perspective gently yet powerfully tells the story of loss, resilience and ultimately, hope.



Simpson, Tonya [Pasqua First Nation/Scottish].

## **This Land Is a Lullaby.**

Illustrated by Delreé Dumont [Onion Lake Cree Nation].

Orca Book Publishers, 2024. 9781459836099

In this beautiful and lyrical lullaby, Tonya Simpson, a Scots Cree author, sings to her baby of frogs and fireflies, raindrops and ancestors. In rhyming text, she builds connections between the land, the sky, the animals and her culture. The glowing illustrations by Delreé Dumont are jewel-like in colour and style. The gradual transition from the bright yellow and orange of the prairie through darkening skies to dusk-like greens and blues ends with the deep night, loon and stars. The slowing cadence of the text lulls her baby and gives the reader the time to savour this lullaby to the land. (Also available in dual-language Plains Cree and English. *This Land Is a Lullaby / cistomâwasowin ôma askiy*. Plains Cree translation by Dorothy Thunder [Little Pine First Nation]. Orca Book Publishers, 2024.)

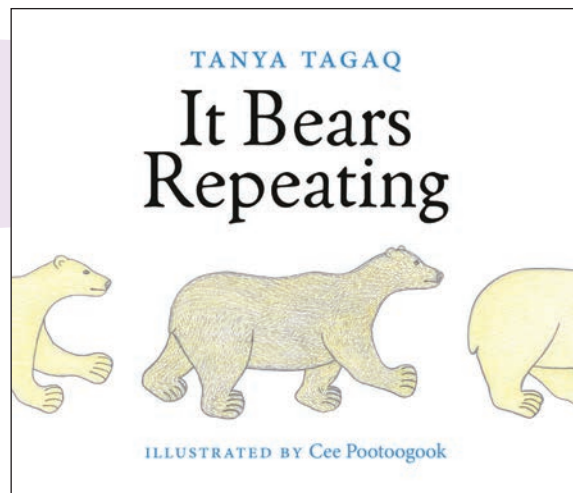
Tagaq, Tanya [Inuk].

## **It Bears Repeating.**

Illustrated by Cee Pootoogook [Inuk].

Tundra Books, 2024. 9781774880555

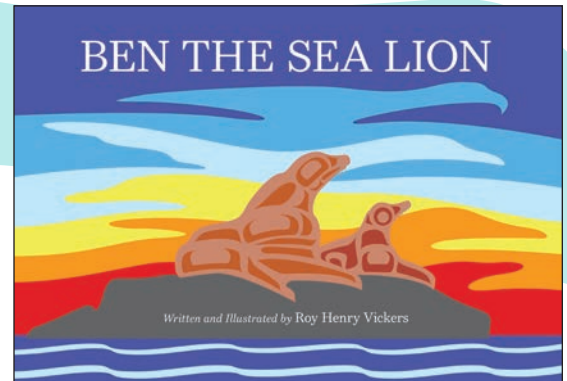
Artful simplicity abounds in this beautifully designed counting book. We learn to count to ten in Inuktitut as we follow an ever-expanding group of polar bears frolicking in the spare landscape—sliding down hills, fishing for seals and napping in the mid-day sun—until we're back to one again. Celebrated Inuk author and singer Tanya Tagaq's clever, rhythmic text is paired with carver and printmaker Cee Pootoogook's unembellished coloured pencil drawings of playful polar bears. A creative collaboration that bears repeated readings. Back matter includes a glossary and pronunciation guide.



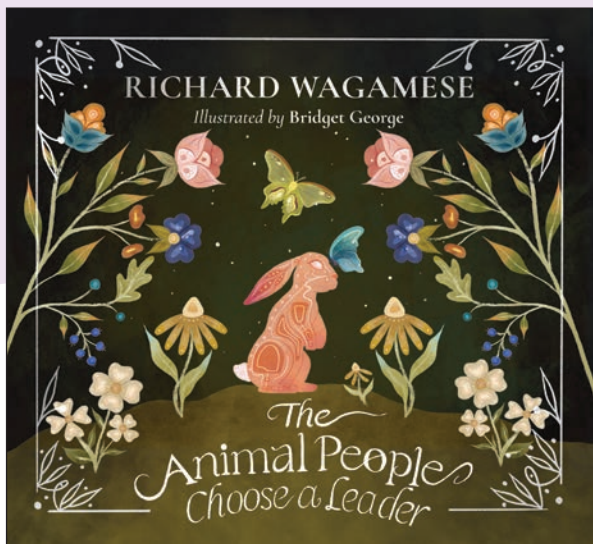
**Vickers, Roy Henry [Tsimshian, Haida and Heiltsuk].  
Ben the Sea Lion.**

**Harbour Publishing, 2022. 9781550179736**

Roy Henry Vickers’s iconic artwork accompanies a tale about a small, gaunt Steller sea lion pup caught in a fisherman’s net the summer Roy was seven years old. Roy and his cousins decide to call the pup Ben, from the Tsimshian word for sea lion: “Teeben.” The boys promise to feed and take care of the pup, leading to tussles over milk bottles, cleaning up an abundance of poop, and finding space for a very fast-growing baby. The dogs find Ben a very odd addition to the village. Ben pulls the boys’ boat around the harbour on his never-ending search for fish, and he quickly grows enormous. Ultimately the day comes, as his aunt promised, that the boys “have to let it go back to the wild.” Full-page colourful art illuminates this story set in Kitkatla, home of the Gitxaala people—especially on the final page, where a golden-haired, fully-grown Ben suns himself with a potential mate by his side.



*Ben the Sea Lion. Harbour Publishing, 2022.*



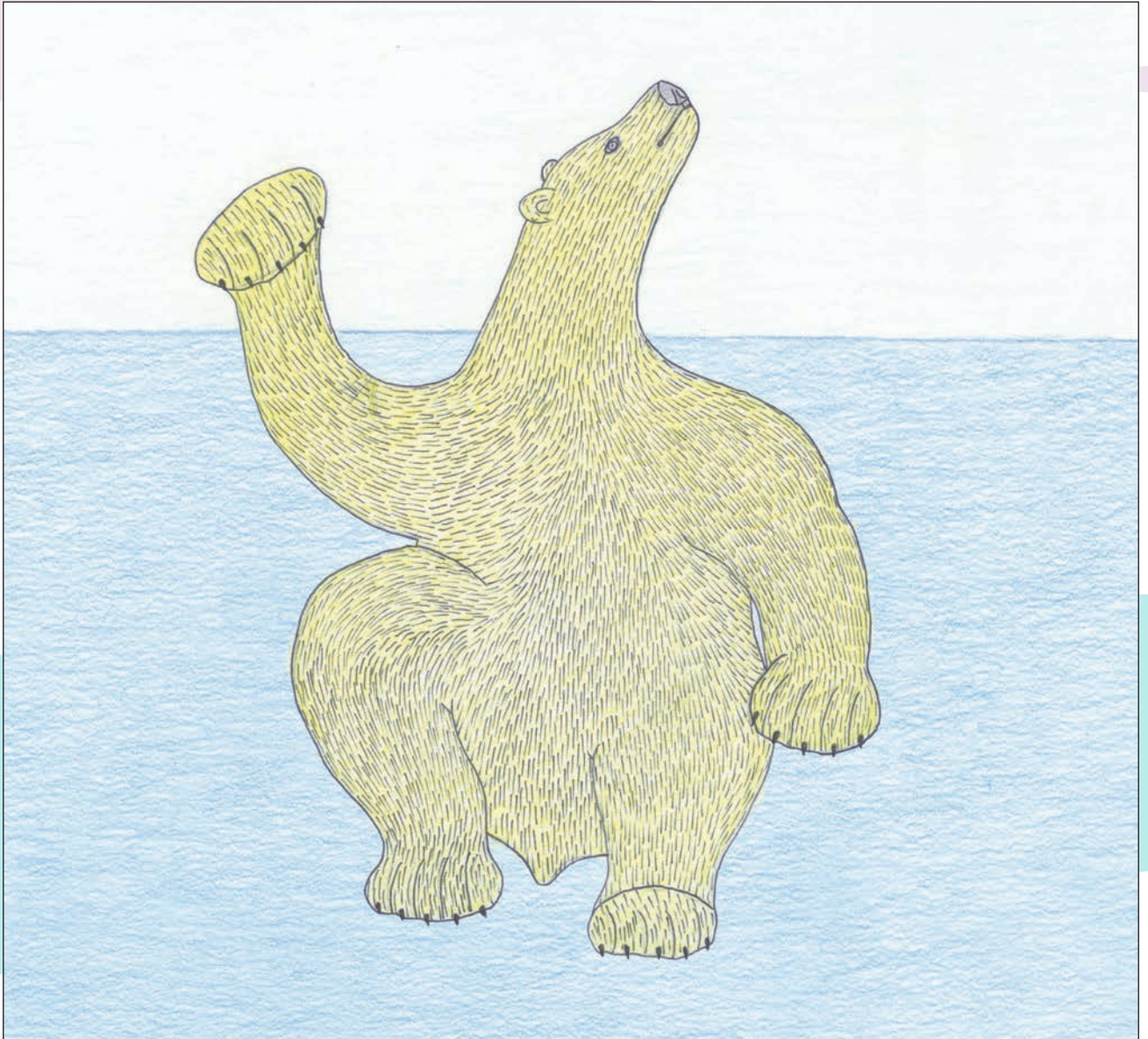
Wagamese, Richard [Wabaseemoong First Nation].  
**The Animal People Choose a Leader.**  
Illustrated by Bridget George [Anishinaabe].  
Douglas & McIntyre, 2024. 9781771624183

From one of Canada's preeminent late storytellers, *The Animal People Choose a Leader* is not just a traditional legend about a race to determine a leader among the animals; it is also a lesson in kindness, wisdom, patience, respect for one another and the power of the collective. The rich and luminous illustrations add depth to the story and are works of art

in their own right. Together in one package, this book is an amazing treasure.



*The Animal People Choose a Leader.* Douglas & McIntyre, 2024.



*It Bears Repeating. Tundra Books, 2024.*

## Addendum to the 2018, 2021, and 2023 Editions of

# FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

## New editions and titles in series

- Dandurand, Joseph [Kwantlen First Nation]. *The Girl Who Loved the Birds*. Illustrated by Elinor Atkins [Kwantlen First Nation]. Nightwood Editions, 2023. 9780889714441
- Dandurand, Joseph [Kwantlen First Nation]. *A Magical Sturgeon*. Illustrated by Elinor Atkins [Kwantlen First Nation]. Nightwood Editions, 2022. 9780889713901
- Fritz, Andrea [Lyackson First Nation]. *Otter Doesn't Know*. Orca Book Publishers, 2023. 9781459836211
- Fritz, Andrea [Lyackson First Nation]. *Raven Gets Tricked*. Orca Book Publishers, 2024. 9781459836273
- Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson) [Gitxsan Nation]. *The Bee Mother*. Illustrated by Natasha Donovan [Métis]. HighWater Press, 2024. 9781774920800
- Koonoo, Brian [Inuk]. *Animals Illustrated: Arctic Fox*. Illustrated by Joseph Starkey. Inhabit Media, 2023. 9781772274851
- Nicholson, Caitlin Dale. *ninitohtênân / We Listen*. Cree translation by Leona Morin-Neilson [Cree/Métis]. Groundwood Books, 2024. 9781773068596
- Qitsualik-Tinsley, Rachel [Inuk/Cree] and Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley [Scottish/Mohawk]. *Tanna's Puppy*. Illustrated by Michelle Simpson. Inhabit Media, 2024. 9781772275520
- Vickers, Roy Henry [Tsimshian, Haida and Heiltsuk] and Lucky Budd. *A Flock of Gulls, a Chorus of Frogs*. Harbour Publishing, 2024. 9781990776502



# USING THE COLLECTION

This list reflects the most current attitudes and approaches to Indigenous literature today. Having these titles in your collection will allow children to find the books they need at the right moment.

## Creating a Caring Environment

When using the books in this collection, it's important to create a caring environment where readers can ask questions and explore perspectives. Some topics may be difficult for readers. Be prepared to be faced with potentially sensitive topics or challenging, thought-provoking conversations. Come with strategies for facilitating and encouraging discussions that will prepare, engage and inform readers. Readers who are learning about issues that have affected their own lives, their families and/or communities, such as the residential school system, may find discussions very challenging. Consider raising awareness of support services available to readers and their families in the event that discussing the topic has a personal impact.



*The Hawk Shadow. Kids Can Press, 2024.*

# PUBLISHERS

## **Annick Press**

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Toronto, ON M4M 1Y2  
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## **Douglas & McIntyre**

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## **Inhabit Media Inc.**

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## **Kids Can Press**

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## **Nightwood Editions**

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custserve@scholastic.ca

## **Second Story Press**

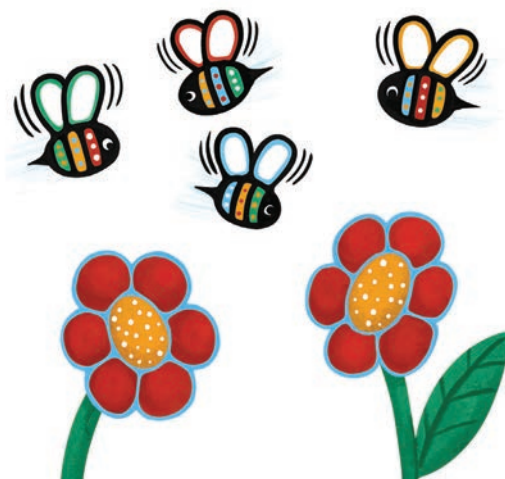
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## **The Secret Mountain**

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