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## A newspaper for learners

March 2020

### Canada helps Australia

Australia is battling wildfires. Canada is helping to put out the fires.

Since December 2019, Canada has sent more than 100 firefighters and fire experts to help.

#### Returning the favour

Some of the firefighters are from BC. In 2017 and 2018, Australian firefighters helped BC during its wildfires.



These Canadian firefighters are helping Australia.

Canada is returning a favour says Gary Horsman, a wildfire officer from Kamloops, BC. "We had a number of Australians working here and we would have struggled without them."

Adapted from CBC News and Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre Inc. • Photos: Pixabay/Skeeze, Twitter/@CIFFC



This is a wildfire.

#### Did you know?

Since the Australian wildfires started in September 2019:

- 33 people have died
- 3000 homes have been destroyed
- 500 million animals have died

### New face on \$5 bill

The Bank of Canada wants help. It wants to put a new face on the \$5 bill.

All Canadians can suggest a historic Canadian. They can use the bank's online form until March 11.

#### Who is on the bill now?

Sir Wilfred Laurier is on the bill. He was prime minister of Canada from 1896 to 1911.

#### Who should be on the bill?

Many people think Terry Fox should be on the new bill.

Terry Fox had bone cancer. His leg was amputated above his knee when he was 18.

In 1980, Fox started to run across Canada. He wanted to raise money for cancer research.

Fox ran from Newfoundland to Ontario. It took 143 days. He had to stop. His cancer got worse.

Terry Fox died in 1981. He was 23. He was a hero to many people.

Adapted from Global News and Wikipedia Commons • Photo: Flickr/Bank of Canada



This is a \$5 bill.

### Prince Harry and Meghan Markle

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle may start a new life in Canada.

The couple will no longer serve as working members of the Royal Family.

They made the announcement on January 8.

"We now plan to balance our time between the United Kingdom and North America," said Prince Harry.



This is Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

#### Why Canada?

The couple said they have a "strong connection to Canada."

They spent their first Christmas with their son, Archie, in BC. They stayed for six weeks at a mansion on Vancouver Island.

Meghan lived in Toronto for seven years before she married Harry. She acted in the TV show Suits. She is friends with Jessica Mulroney. Jessica is the daughter-in-law of former Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney.

#### Did you know?

Prince Harry and Meghan will lose their "Royal Highness" titles.

They will remain the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

Adapted from *National Post*  
Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Office of the Governor General

# Poetry

World Poetry Day is on March 21. We recognize BC poets for their achievements.

## A masked poet 📖

Atticus is from Vancouver. He is a poet. He wears a mask when he reads his poetry in public.

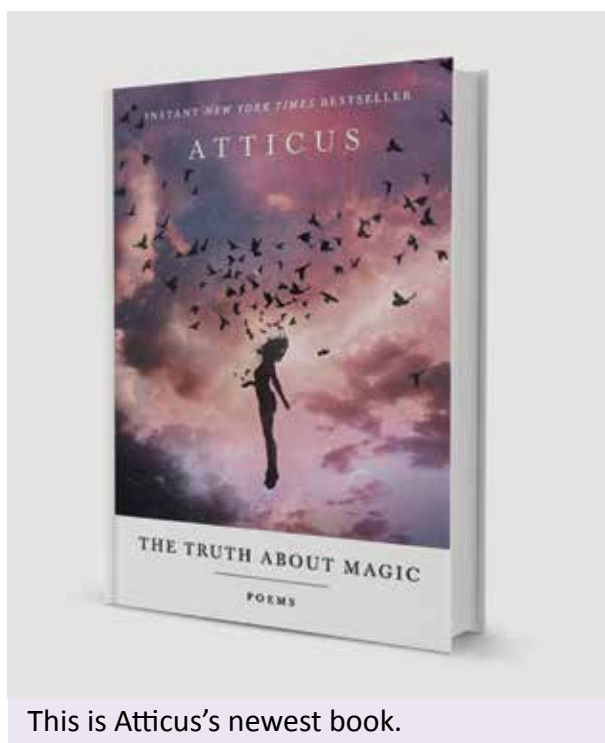
### Why does he wear a mask?

Atticus says the mask is a symbol. It reminds him to “always write what he feels.”

### What does Atticus write about?

Atticus writes about love, Europe, nature and wine. He dedicated his new book to his mother. She inspired him to write poetry.

Atticus has published two books of poetry. The poems are published with photographs.



This is Atticus's newest book.

Atticus says, “It’s incredible” to meet his fans who “are connecting with the words.”

### Did you know?

- Atticus has almost 1 million followers on Instagram.
- Some celebrities like his work. Fans include model Karlie Kloss and actor Emma Roberts.
- Some women have tattoos of the title of his first book, “Love Her Wild.”

Adapted from *Quill & Quire*  
Photo: St. Martin's Griffin



Scan to listen to Atticus talk about his poetry.

## Vancouver's first Indigenous poet laureate 📖

Christie Charles is a spoken word artist. Spoken word poetry is read aloud. Poets use their voices and sometimes music to perform their poems.

Charles is a member of the Musqueam Nation. She uses the Musqueam dialect to tell the stories of her ancestors.

Charles dances and sings her poems. Sometimes she sings in the Salish language. She plays the drums. Sometimes she raps. Her poetry performances are lively.

### One of her poems says:

“This is our way,  
My heart is the Earth and the  
Earth is my heart.  
We sit and listen to all the little  
birds,  
the crickets, the frogs, the owls.  
They tell us when the time is right.”

Charles is excited to be Vancouver's poet laureate. She wants to “highlight Indigenous poetry in the city.”

She is honoured “to share these beautiful stories” from her Nation's past.

### Did you know?

A poet laureate is a poet officially appointed by a government. Charles is Vancouver's poet laureate from 2018-2020.



This is Christie Charles.

Adapted from *Vancouver Courier*  
Photo: Vancouver Public Library

## Patrick Lane 📖

“Those lights in the sky.  
Little butterflies of the night”  
Patrick Lane “Stars”

Patrick Lane was a famous poet. He died on March 7, 2019.

### Where was he from?

Patrick Lane was born in Nelson, BC. He was born in 1939.

He worked in sawmills as a young man.

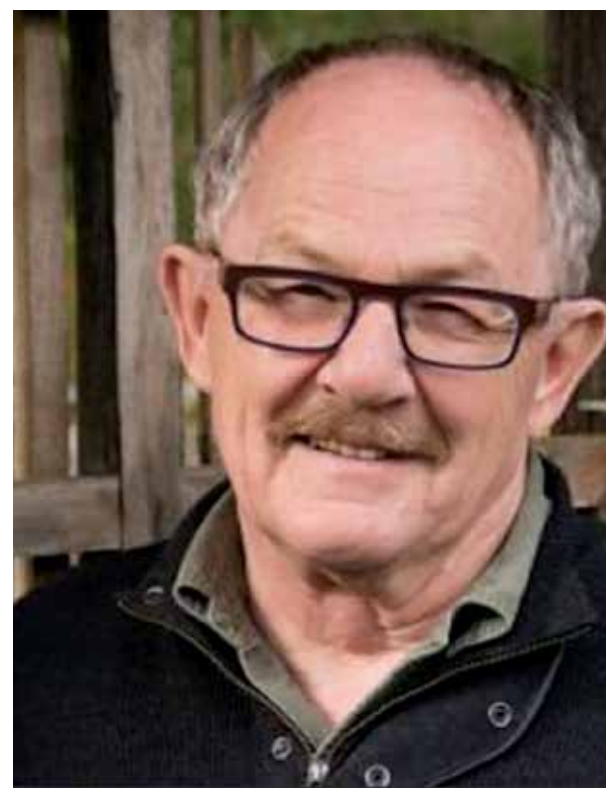
Lane learned to write poetry in the 1960s. He learned to write poetry by reading.

### What did he write about?

Lane wrote about nature. He loved animals.

He wrote more than 20 books of poetry. He received many awards.

Submitted by Kimberley Alcock • Photo: Chris Hancock Donaldson



This is Patrick Lane.

# Crafts

## Get crafty

Many schools have a holiday in March. It is called spring break.

Are you looking for fun things to do during spring break? You could do some crafts!

### Rock painting

Rock painting is easy.

Painted rocks make beautiful decorations.

#### Here's what you do:

1. Find smooth rocks.
2. Clean the rocks with warm water and soap.
3. Let them dry.
4. Paint your rocks.

Be creative! You could paint flowers, animals or shapes.

### Salt dough

Salt dough is safe for young children.

#### What you need:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water
- food colouring

#### What you do:

1. Mix the flour and salt in a large bowl.
2. Add the water.
3. Mix with your hands.
4. Add the food colouring.
5. Make shapes with the dough.

To keep your dough art, bake it in the oven. Bake at 250 degrees F for about one hour. You can also paint your art when the dough is hard.

Submitted by Felisha Chuter • Photos: Pixabay/AnnRos, Shutterstock/Maria Arts



You can paint many designs on rocks.



Salt dough is fun to play with.

## Who won the photo contest?

A photo contest was held during Family Literacy Week 2020.

It began January 26 and ended February 2.

The theme was "Let's Read Together!"

People submitted photos to enter the contest.

#### Winners:

- Individual - Mike and Hudson Morrell
- Program - South Okanagan Immigrant & Community Services (SOICS)



# Calendar

## International Women's Day



International Women's Day is March 8. It celebrates the achievements of women and women's rights to equality.

Photo: Flickr/Molly Adams

## Daylight Saving Day



Daylight Saving Time starts on March 8. Turn your clocks forward one hour at 2 am.

Photo: Pixabay/Ivan Ilijas

## Pi Day



Pi Day is March 14. Pi Day celebrates the mathematical number 3.14. The symbol for pi is  $\pi$ . Some people eat pie on Pi Day.

Photo: Wikimedia Commons

## St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day is March 17. It is an Irish holiday. Shamrocks and leprechauns are symbols of St. Patrick's Day. People wear green for good luck.

Photo: pxhere

# BC Place Names

## Twiggly Wiggly Road

Frank Ney was the mayor of Nanaimo from the 1960s to 1990. He liked to have fun. Sometimes, he dressed up as a pirate.

The mayor gave amusing names to new streets, including Dingle Bingle Hill Terrace and Jingle Pot Road.

Ney's children helped name these streets:

- Twiggly Wiggly Road is named after Twiggly Wiggly the Magic Clown. It is a business in Nanaimo.
- Bob-o-Link Way and Chick-A-Dee Court are named after birds.
- Sherwood Forest is a neighbourhood in Nanaimo. All the street names are from the story of Robin Hood, including Nottingham Drive and King John Way.



This is Twiggly Wiggly Road.

Adapted from CBC News and *Cottage Life*  
Photo: Flickr/Russell McNeil

## Stoner

Stoner is on Highway 97, south of Prince George.

The word “stoner” is often used to describe someone who uses marijuana.

That is not why the place is called Stoner. People shortened the name. Locals still call it Stone Creek.

Adapted from CBC News and *Cottage Life*

## Wreck Beach

Wreck Beach is in Vancouver.

It was named for shipwrecks.

People started swimming naked at Wreck Beach in the 1920s.

It became an official nude beach in 1991. It was the first in Canada.

Wreck Beach is the largest nude beach in Canada. It is 7.8 km long.



This is Wreck Beach.

Submitted by Sarah Sutherland  
Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Xicotencatl

## Horsefly

Horsefly is a community in the Cariboo region of BC.

In 1829, gold was discovered in the area. It started the Cariboo Gold Rush.

Gold miners were bothered by horseflies. They named the river and lake after the pests.

The village was called Harper's Camp. The name was changed to Horsefly in the 1920s.

Today, Horsefly is a popular tourist spot.

Adapted from 604Now.com

## Skookumchuck

Skookum means “strong” or “powerful.”

“Chuck” means water.

Together these words mean “strong water.”

“Strong water” is the fast-moving water in a river.

Skookumchuck Narrows Provincial Park has a fast moving river.

It is so strong it can turn over boats.

Skookumchuck Park is near Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast.



This is Skookumchuck Rapids.

Adapted from *Readers Digest*; *BC Magazine*  
Photo: Pinterest.com

## Spuzzum

Spuzzum comes from the Indigenous name “spozem.”

This means “little flat.”

The people from Spuzzum were called Nlaka'pamux.

Spuzzum is north of Hope, BC.

Because it is north of Hope, some people call it “beyond Hope.”

Adapted from BC Government

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