
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 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.



This is Christie Charles.

Did you know?

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

Adapted from *Vancouver Courier* • Photo: Vancouver Public Library