

2023 Calgary Awards Recipient – W.O. Mitchell Book Prize

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council:

1. Ratify the 2023 Calgary Awards Recipient for the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize as recommended by the selection jury (Attachment 1); and
2. Direct that Attachment 1 remain confidential pursuant to Section 17 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* until after the Calgary Awards ceremony on 2023 June 14.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Calgary Awards are The City of Calgary's ("The City") highest honour. 13 different Calgary Awards celebrate and recognize outstanding achievements and contributions made by Calgarians.
- 12 of the 13 Calgary Awards Recipients were ratified by Council at the 2023 March 14 Regular Meeting of Council (C2023-0005). The final Calgary Awards recipient to be ratified is for the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize.
- What does this mean to Calgarians? The Calgary Awards are an opportunity for Calgarians to nominate deserving individuals, businesses, and organizations to be recognized by The City.
- Why does this matter? The W.O. Mitchell Book Prize is awarded in honour of acclaimed Calgary writer W.O. Mitchell and recognizes literary achievement by Calgary authors.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Guiding Principles: Strengthen Relationships with Calgarians.
- Background and Previous Council Direction are included in Attachment 2.

DISCUSSION

Section 5.7.3 of Council's *Recognitions by Council Policy*, CP2018-2, requires that Calgary Awards "recipients are to be selected by a jury from amongst nominations and ratified by Council."

The W.O. Mitchell Book Prize is coordinated through a partnership between The City and the Writers' Guild of Alberta, which administers the Award as part of the Alberta Literary Competitions. A total of 42 submissions were accepted from 2022 October 11 to December 31.

Members of the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Jury ("the Jury") received the book submissions to read in 2023 January, then met from 2023 March 17 to 31 to make their decision. The Jury selected the Calgary Awards W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Recipient as listed in confidential Attachment 1. Information about the Jury is provided in Attachment 3.

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

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|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public engagement was undertaken | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dialogue with interested parties was undertaken |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public/interested parties were informed | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public communication or engagement was not required |

Following Council ratification of the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Recipient, the City Clerk’s Office will notify the Recipient and prepare for the announcement and presentation of the Calgary Awards in 2023 June. A list of the three finalists for the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize was published on calgary.ca/calgaryawards on 2023 April 3. More information about external engagement and communications for the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize is outlined in Attachment 4.

IMPLICATIONS

Social

The Calgary Awards demonstrate Council’s commitment to recognizing those who contribute to the community.

Environmental

No environmental impacts were identified.

Economic

No economic implications were identified.

Service and Financial Implications

Existing operating funding - base

No financial impact. The Calgary Awards costs are included in the City Clerk’s Office budget.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. CONFIDENTIAL – Calgary Awards W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Recipient
2. Background and Previous Council Direction
3. Calgary Awards W.O. Mitchell Book Prize Jury members
4. Calgary Awards External engagement and communications

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Jill Floen, City Solicitor and General Counsel	Law, Legislative Services and Security	Approve
Kate Martin, Director/City Clerk	Law, Legislative Services and Security	Approve