



April 27, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Access Copyright Foundation awards \$100,000 in new research grants**

The Access Copyright Foundation (ACF) is pleased to announce the first recipients of its new research grant program. A total of \$100,000 was awarded to 17 creators, publishers and organizations. Please see the attached backgrounder for a full listing of research grant recipients for the February 1, 2011 deadline.

ACF Research grants will support inquiry and exploration relevant to Canadian publishing, writing and visual arts. Projects funded include research toward the creation of publishable works, innovative programs, strategic initiatives and studies.

“Access Copyright Foundation’s grant programs were set up to directly support Canada’s hard-working creators and publishers,” says ACF Founding Chairperson Michael O’Reilly. “We’re thrilled to be able to make this kind of contribution to Canada’s literary and visual arts community.”

ACF is partnering with the Saskatchewan Arts Board to administer the grant process. Grant recipients were adjudicated by a panel of professional artists who have the knowledge, skills and abilities to make objective and informed decisions. The jury members were: designer Teresa Bubela from Victoria, B.C.; writer Denise Chong from Ottawa, Ont.; and writer, editor and publisher Russell Wangersky from St. John’s, N.L.

“The number and high quality of applications for the research grants were very impressive,” said Saskatchewan Arts Board Executive Director David Kyle. “This shows that there is a real need in the creative community from coast to coast for this kind of support. We were very pleased to partner with ACF to administer the grants, which will play an important role in the availability and success of publishable work in our country.”

This is the Access Copyright Foundation’s first year of awarding grants in three areas: professional development, research, and events. Applications for professional development grants are currently being accepted. Professional development grants are available to Canadian creators and publishers to attend programs, conferences or events that will enable them to develop or refine their craft or expertise. The application form is available from the ACF website at [www.acfoundation.ca](http://www.acfoundation.ca). The deadline for professional development grants is **May 1, 2011**.

The deadline for events grants will be announced at a later date. Events grants are available to organizations that support Canadian creativity through events that aim to deepen appreciation and enjoyment of Canadian culture.

### **About the Access Copyright Foundation**

The Access Copyright Foundation promotes and supports Canadian culture by providing grants intended to encourage the development and dissemination of publishable Canadian works. The Foundation endeavours to make a modest but important contribution to the Canadian cultural community, while also broadening public awareness of the creative vitality of Canadian writers, visual artists and publishers. For more information, please visit [www.acfoundation.ca](http://www.acfoundation.ca)

### **About the Saskatchewan Arts Board**

The Saskatchewan Arts Board serves the people of Saskatchewan through programs, services and partnerships designed to build a strong and vibrant arts sector. Its main goals are accessibility, sustainability and growth, awareness and acceptance, and development and life-long learning. Established more than 63 years ago, the Arts Board is the first agency of its kind in North America. In the decades since then, it has continued as a leader in the country, and it continues to build on this strong tradition to meet ongoing opportunities for public investment in the arts community. For more information, please visit [www.artsboard.sk.ca](http://www.artsboard.sk.ca)

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