



LITERALLY SPEAKING

Summer 2021 | Issue 2



Welcome back! The GLC team is looking forward to another year of literacy activities and services for our community.

There are some exciting developments we are proud to share with you and lots of plans for the coming months. Please read on for all our news, a couple of book recommendations, and the best ways to get in touch with us. Happy reading!

The GLC Team

Building a Diverse Library

With the holidays approaching, you may be wondering what books you should ask for as gifts or buy to gift to others. While making your choices, consider making choices that diversify your library and the libraries of others.

What does having a diverse library mean? In a nutshell, it means choosing authors and stories that represent people, backgrounds, and life situations that are different than yours, including religions, family structure, parts of the world, gender, and so on.

And what does having a diverse library do? Being exposed to lots of ways of being in the world introduces us to the idea that other people live in ways that are different than ours. This is especially important for children; when they are exposed to different ways of living, they learn that differences are to be treasured and celebrated. Diversity in your library also encourages everyone to be more comfortable learning about others and about asking questions.

Altogether, this makes a better world for us all!

Finding books that can introduce more diversity into your library can be intimidating - it's definitely easier to stick with the authors you know and the same kinds of books you usually read! Luckily, the GLC has lots of suggestions to offer you. For example, the two book selections at the end of this and future newsletter are one place to start. There's also a wide selection of books for all age groups on our website, under Diversity Reads: <https://gaspelit.ca/diversity-reads>, and many other websites that offer suggestions



Activities

Annual General Meeting

The GLC's Annual General Meeting will be held on October 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The AGM this year will be held in the GLC's offices at the Douglastown Community Centre (28, rue St. Patrick, in the basement).

Due to COVID restrictions, registration is required, so please reach out to us beforehand!

Give us a call at 418-368-5611 or send us an email at info@gaspelit.ca.



On October 30, the GLC will be hosting a Halloween event in partnership with SOS Bats and Bright Beginnings. This *Halloween Bat Bash* activity will feature a story, crafts, games, and prizes. Join us at 10 a.m. to learn about bats, show off your costume and enjoy some spooktacular fun!

Please contact us to register or for more details at info@gaspelit.ca.

News

Meet our 2021-2022 Team

Chelsea Flowers

This is Chelsea's second year with the GLC. This year, her role includes Interim Executive Director, while Cheryl Henry is away, as well as Project Coordinator for the Tutoring Project.



Crystal Element

Crystal is joining the GLC team this year as the new project coordinator for GLC's youth project, which will have her working with students and combatting high school dropout.

Welcome Crystal!



Susie Bilodeau

Susie Bilodeau will be working as the GLC's digital project coordinator, as well as taking care of our social media and webpage.

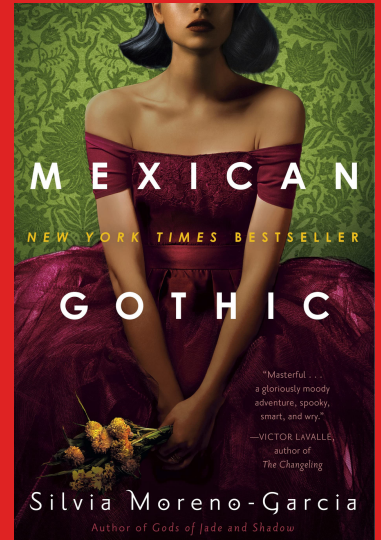


Book Spotlight

Mexican Gothic by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

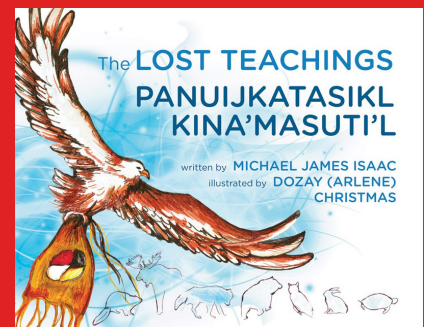
Silvia Moreno-Garcia is a Canadian Mexican author who lives in Vancouver, B.C. Her novel, *Mexican Gothic*, is the story of a young woman in 1950s Mexico who is summoned to a small mining town to investigate the possibility that someone is trying to murder her cousin. A genre-bending read, *Mexican Gothic* combines historical fiction with gothic storytelling and a healthy splash of fantasy and horror.

Be prepared! Some books you can't put down until you finish them and this might just be one of those.



The Lost Teachings / Panuijkatasikl Kina'masuti'l by Michael James Isaac

This story of great Eagle, who found a bundle with the seven teachings and distributed them to the creatures of the forest, was written by Michael James Isaac, from the Listuguj First Nation. Beautifully illustrated by Dozay (Arlene) Christmas from the Tobique Reserve in New Brunswick, this book tells its story in English and in mi'kmawi'simk.



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