

Report of the FGPL Program Committee

The 2024/25 Program Committee - **Nancy Ryan, Lorna Rourke, Mary Mulholland, and James Gordon** - had a busy year, organizing both fall and spring events.

In keeping with the Halloween season, our October **Open Minds** evenings featured speakers who addressed “scary” subjects. There were two events. Kevin Matsui from the Centre for Advancing Responsible and Ethical Artificial Intelligence at the University of Guelph spoke about the challenges posed by artificial intelligence with his talk, ***AI: Should We Be Scared?*** Two presenters, Sara Bowers-Peter from Crimestoppers Guelph Wellington and Elizabeth Kent from Victim Services Guelph, shared the latest information about criminal deceptions with their popular ***Scams & Frauds*** talk.



This March, the committee organized two evenings in celebration of Guelph authors: ***Guelph Writes***. Each event featured a panel of four local writers in discussion with each other and moderator Jeremy Luke Hall. Our first session, ***Chapter One***, featured **Barbara Kyle, Nick Ruddock, Kathy Stinson** and **Sue Williamson** while ***Chapter Two*** included **Lisa Browning, Adam Honsinger** and **Deepa Rajagopalan** and **Mary Swan**.

A poster for 'Guelph Writes' with a purple header. It lists two chapters: Chapter 1 on Wednesday, March 19, and Chapter 2 on Wednesday, March 26. It mentions the Main Library, Program Room and lists featured authors. A photo of Jeremy Luke Hill is included with the text 'Hosted by Jeremy Luke Hill from Vocamus Press'. Registration information is at the bottom.

Guelph Writes

Friends of the Guelph Public Library present two writer's panels featuring some of Guelph's literary movers, shakers and story makers.
Register at www.guelphpl.ca/events.

Chapter 1
Wednesday, March 19 from 7-8:30 p.m.
Main Library, Program Room
Featuring Barbara Kyle, Nicholas Ruddock, Kathy Stinson, and Sue Williams.

Chapter 2
Wednesday, March 26 from 7-8:30 p.m.
Main Library, Program Room
Featuring Lisa Browning, Adam Lindsay Honsinger, Deepa Rajagopalan, and Mary Swan

Hosted by
Jeremy Luke Hill
from Vocamus Press

Although our October speakers' evenings were well attended, *Guelph Writes* was somewhat more popular, with an average attendance of 60. This concept is one we may consider again since the feedback from panel and audience members was very positive.

Assistance from the library for these programs was much appreciated. Library staff helped with marketing and signing-up, and they offered practical assistance on event evenings. Our own FGPL volunteers were also an immense help, organizing the room, greeting people, and looking after the details that ensure a successful event.

To help us create even more successful events, please send us your comments/great ideas/suggestions: info@fgpl.ca. Subject line: Program Feedback.