Exterior Exhibition Case

This exhibition of Theytus Books will be open to the public from February 15 and throughout the Spring of 2023.

As the first and oldest Indigenous-run publishing house in Canada, Theytus Books provide a window into book history and heritage in the Okanagan, and in North America.

Students, faculty, and all members of the larger community are invited to enter the reading room to see a more detailed “loop” of exhibits featuring the striking visuals and compelling texts put forth by Theytus Books. We are open for walk-ins, Monday - Friday, 10:00am-3:00pm. Please contact us to make an appointment outside of these hours at osc-contact@lists.ubc.ca

These Theytus Books publications, numbering over 130 items on display, along with all of the items in Okanagan Special Collections, can be requested, handled, and experienced in our reading room. Please ask to see any item you see on display, or any item you find in our catalogue, and one of our members of staff will be happy to assist.

Interior Exhibition Case

In Salish, “theytus” means “preserving for the sake of handing down.”

Theytus Books has an essential tie to the Okanagan. Theytus Books offers a reflection of place that is valuable to our campus and communities.

Founded in 1980, Theytus Books is the first, and oldest, Indigenous publishing house in Canada. It operates in partnership with the En’owkin Centre on Syilx territory on the Penticton Indian Reserve.

Frequently lauded for its focus on the authentic expression of Indigenous voices in print, Theytus has brought the writing, dialogue, and art of a multitude of Indigenous authors to the public.

Please enjoy this display of an important part of Canadian publishing history.
Case 1: *Gatherings* (1990-)

Gatherings is the "En'owkin journal of first North American People," and was published, generally annually with a few exceptions, from its beginning in 1990 (vol. 1) to 2003 (vol. 14). Volume 15 was released in 2016.

Okanagan Special Collections has catalogued Gatherings as a series, but other libraries, such as Xwi7xwa Library at UBC Vancouver have catalogued them as standalone books.


Case 2: *Gatherings (1990-)*, continued


Case 3: *Gatherings*, edited by Greg Young-Ing

This case is in memory of Greg Young-Ing (1961-2019).

Greg Young-Ing was a member of Opaskwayak Cree Nation in Northern Manitoba. As part of an illustrious career including expertise in Indigenous copyright, he was the managing editor of Theytus Books from 1990-2003, and the publisher from 2016-2019. He was also professor of Indigenous Studies at UBC Okanagan and author of the seminal text, *Elements of Indigenous Style: A Guide for Writing By and About Indigenous Peoples*. His passing is an enormous loss to the many communities of which he was an essential and active member.

Greg Young-Ing leaves his mark not only on those who have had the pleasure of knowing him, but also on those who for years to come will learn and grow from the wisdom of his writings and the scholarship that he has left behind.


Case 4: Early releases

Theytus Books was originally founded in 1980 in Nanaimo, B.C. Four books were published from this location within about its first year of operation, but by 1981, the publishing house had moved to Penticton and ownership was assumed jointly by what was then called the Okanagan Indian Curriculum Project and the Nicola Valley Indian Administration.

Of the four books published in Nanaimo, Okanagan Special Collections has two as first editions (see notes below).

Today, Theytus Books is operated in partnership with the En'owkin Centre, a post-secondary institution of higher learning with objectives of enhancing "Aboriginal culture, language, political development, and leadership and excellence in Indigenous Arts."


Case 5: Early releases, continued

   First edition, signed by author.

   New edition. Note the different illustrations.


   A Six Nations Legend interpreted through art.
Case 6: Works for children


31. Hall, Harron, and Ron Hall (ill.). (2021). *kaxntim sankanixʷ kəl nixʷtitkʷ iʔ acxʷalxʷalt = We go with Muskrat to those living underwater.* Text in English with some text in nsyilxcən. Part of the *Follow the Water* series.


33. --, and Shianna Allison (ill.). (2021). *Siwlkw nkwancinäm k'el sulī' = The water sings to sulī'.* English with some text in nsyilxcən. Part of the *Follow the Water* series.

Case 7: Works for children, continued


Case 8: Works for children, continued


Case 9: Okanagan Women's Voices

From the summary:
"During early settlement times, some women of Syilx Okanagan descent, rather than being "between" two groups of men, were women who stood between two worlds, the expanding frontier world of the settler and the shrinking Indigenous world of the Syilx Okanagan people. Few Syilx Okanagan voices exist to counterbalance the overwhelming number of settler voices recounting those times. The voices of those Syilx women, whose own standing within the Syilx secured a privileged view from between the two worlds, offer us this unique glimpse into those times."

"Okanagan Women's Voices" features the writing and stories of seven women: Susan Moir Allison (1845-1937), Josephine Shuttleworth (1866-1950), Eliza Jane Swalwell (1868-1944), Marie Houghton Brent (1870-1968), Hester Emily White (1877-1963), Mourning Dove (1886-1936) and Isabel Christie MacNaughton (1915-2003).

The bibliography of Okanagan Women's Voices reveals a richness of cited archival resources. One of the seven women profiled in this volume is Hester Emily White. Okanagan Special Collections also cares for a document entitled Okanagan Indian Language written in 1940 by Louis Gabrielle of the Penticton Reserve for Hester White. This document is on display here.


Case 10: The Works of Dr. Jeannette Armstrong

Dr. Jeannette Armstrong is a prolific contributor to the publications of Theytus Books as a writer, an editor, a collaborator, and as a literary scholar.

Dr. Armstrong earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Victoria in creative writing and a Ph.D in Indigenous Environmental Ethics from the University of Greifswald in Germany. She is a Syilx elder, a fluent speaker of nsyilxcən, and a member of the Board of Directors of En’owkin Centre.

At the UBC Okanagan campus, Dr. Armstrong is Associate Professor of Indigenous Studies and Canada Research Chair in Okanagan Indigenous Knowledge and Philosophy.


50. Armstrong, Jeannette, illustrated by Barbara Marchand (1991). *Neekna and Chemai.* Part of the *Kou-skelowh = We are the people* series. (see Case 15).


Case 11: The Works of Dr. Jeannette Armstrong, continued


   Contents include a contribution by Greg Young-Ing entitled “Marginalization in the publishing industry.”


Case 12: The Works of Dr. Jeannette Armstrong, continued


Case 13


63. Robinson, Harry, compiled and edited by Wendy Wickwire. (1989). *Write it on your heart: The epic world of an Okanagan storyteller.* Published in collaboration with Talonbooks, Vancouver B.C.

Case 14


   Foreword by Susanna Hayes.

Case 15: Kou-Skelowh = We Are The People series

First published in 1984 by Theytus Books. Okanagan Special Collections holds both the individual legends published with colour illustrations by Barbara Marchand in 1991, and the subsequent compiled volumes. The preface provides background notes on the creation of the book, and how this was achieved through appropriate cultural consultations and protocols.

These books feature nsyilxcən language alongside English text.


70. --. (1991). *How names were given.*


73. --. (2017). *Kou-skelowh = We are the people: a trilogy of Okanagan legends.* "This edition has been reformatted in both languages for the Okanagan language learners and the English reader's pleasure" -- Editorial note. Text in Okanagan and English.
Case 16


75. --, Archie Beaverho (ill.) and Mary Rose Sundberg (trans.). (2008). *Eneèko nàmbe jk'qò k'èzhò / 1993 John Blondin njhtl'è yjitl'è; wetà George Blondin wegondi = The old man with the otter medicine / told by John Blondin in 1993; as told by father, George Blondin*. Text in Dogrib and English.

76. Vital, Thomas, Archive Beaulieu (ill.), and Mary Siemens (trans.). *Yamqoqsha eyits'ò wets'èkeè Tsà = Yamozha and his beaver wife*. Text and accompanying audio/multimedia CD in Dogrib Weledeh dialect and English.

Case 17


79. Keitlah, Wilma (ed.). (1995). *The sayings of our first people = wawaač'akuq yaqwii'itq quu'as (wawaach'akuuk yaqwii'itq quu'as).*
Case 18: Literary Scholarship


85. Murphy, P.K., George P Nicholas and Marianne Ignace (eds.). (1999). *Coyote U:Stories and teaching from the Secwepemc Education Institute.*
Case 19: Poetry, Prose, and Drama


Case 20: Poetry, Prose, and Drama, Continued


   Includes “Percy's edge” / Greg Daniels; “Age of iron” / Marie Clements; “Confessions of an Indian cowboy” / Margo Kane.


Case 21: Law and Rights

   On the topic of land and environmental stewardship.

   On the topic of Indigenous-Government relations.


**What is Section 35?**
Case 23: Effects of colonization

Expressions in the fiction genre


Case 24: Effects of colonization, Continued

Expressions in non-fiction


