Bibliography of British Columbian children’s literature

J. Kieran Kealy

Résumé: Cette bibliographie consacrée à l’ensemble de la production destinée à la jeunesse en Colombie-Britannique laisse entrevoir, à partir des années 70 et 80, la part grandissante qu’occupent les auteurs et les illustrateurs colombiens dans la littérature canadienne.

Though obviously rather lengthy, the following bibliography does not pretend to be comprehensive. Inevitably some texts have been forgotten. My criteria for inclusion on this list have necessarily been somewhat subjective. I have included writers like Ted Harrison and Dayal Kaur Khalsa, for example, because a reasonable portion of their creative careers took place in B.C., while excluding others like Myra Paperny, Allen Morgan, bp nichol, James Houston and Margaret Laurence, whose time in British Columbia seemed less significant in regard to their children’s texts. In most cases I have tried to include a complete listing of an author’s contributions, though in some cases, like that of Ingrid Shelton, I have included only one or two titles in a lengthy series. I have also listed multiple texts by an author chronologically to give some sense of the evolution of his or her career.

In addition to including texts by B.C. authors, I have also included texts not written by a B.C. author but illustrated by a B.C. illustrator. When this is the case, I have annotated the illustrator as (BC). Finally, I have included a smattering of texts set in B.C., noted at the end of the entry. In these cases I was either unable to ascertain the association of the author with the province or I simply wanted to include texts, like those of James Houston, that clearly reveal their B.C. roots.

The most pervasive problem in establishing the criteria for any bibliography of children’s literature is deciding what background works to include, particularly those texts which, though primarily directed at an adult audience, can be of great value to young adults. In most cases, I have been guided by earlier bibliographers in my decisions. In the particularly hazy area of Native legend, I have been quite liberal, excluding only the ethnologically based collections of men like Barbeau, Boas and Swanton. I have not, however, included detailed examinations of Native lore and life such as those of Hilary Stewart and S.W.A. Gunn.

In the area of children’s drama, I have in almost every case included only those plays that have been published, thereby ignoring, regrettably, many plays that exist only in manuscript form. I have also not included translations in my
collection, though I have included texts like those of Diane Carmel Léger and Kira Van Dusen that were written in French. Finally, I have made no mention of children’s journals published in British Columbia. I would refer readers interested in this area to excellent articles on children’s periodicals in CCL 10, 14 and 59.

I have tried to keep my classification of texts extremely simple. “F” refers to all works of fiction, including poetry, as well as collections of myths and Native legend. “I” refers to picture books; “D” refers to drama; “NF” refers to all works of non-fiction, including histories, biographies and various how-to texts; finally “Ref” indicates texts that are clearly academic in nature, like those of Sheila Egoff, Kieran Egan and Ron Jobe. In some instances I have suggested that certain texts fall into two of these categories. All entries on texts that have been reviewed in CCL (issues 1-71) include a reference to the review, reviews that in their breadth provide an excellent annotation for much of this bibliography.

I would like to express my gratitude to all who helped me in this endeavour, in particular Jane Flick, Sonia Craddock, Sarah Ellis, Kit Pearson, Wendy Sutton, Judith Saltman, Ramona Montagnes and Jerry Wasserman. Finally I would like to offer my special thanks to Paula Hart, whose knowledge of and experience with children literature were invaluable in the early days of this project, and to Phyllis Simon of Vancouver Kidsbooks, whose knowledge of B.C. children’s literature is second to none.

As I initially mentioned, this bibliography is meant to be a beginning, thus I would appreciate any corrections, particularly in regard to texts that have inadvertently been omitted.


Buckingham, Sandra. Stencil it! Firefly, 1993. NF.
—. The book of small. Clarke, Irwin, 1966(c42). NF.
—. Your baby needs music. Douglas & McIntyre, 1978. NF.
—. Dolly lovers to the rescue. Gage, 1981. F.

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Coombs, Betty et al., eds. (including Sue Ann Alderson). Explorations 1. Addison-Wesley, 1985-86. Ref.


Cropped, Marion. I heard the owl call my name. Clarke, Irwin, 1967. F. (Set in BC)


Craven, Margaret. I heard the owl call my name. Clarke, Irwin, 1967. F. (Set in BC)

Crawford, Sonia. The TV war and me. Illus. Susan Cook. Scholastic-TAB, 1980. F.

The treasure hunt. Gage, 1984. F.

We can't take Micky. Scholastic-TAB, 1986. F.

Secret of the cards. Scholastic-TAB, 1990. F.

Hal, the third class hero. Harper-Collins, 1992. F.


Dehr, Roma, & Ronald M. Bazar. Good planets are hard to find. Vanc: Namchi Ent., 1990. NF.
—. Abalone summer. Raincoast, 1993. F.
—. The toothpaste genie. Scholastic-TAB, 1981. F.
Edmonds, Yvette. Yuit. Napoleon (Addison Wesley), 1993. F.
Ellis, Patricia M., ed. *Indian tales of the Northwest*. CommĆCEPT, 1976. F.
—. *Pebbles and porridge pots* (videocassette). Vancouver: First Avenue, 1986. F.
Pacific Educational Press, 1984. Queen Charlotte Islands Series. NF.
Evans, Hubert. *Forest friends: stories of animals, fish, and birds, west of the Rockies*. Phila: Judson Press, 1926. F.
—. *New front line*. Macmillan, 1927. F.
—. *Derry, airdale of the frontier*. Illus. F.C. Yohn. Dodd, Mead, 1928. F.
—. *Derry's partner*. Illus. Frank E. Schoonover. Dodd, Mead, 1929. F.
—. *Derry of Totem Creek*. Illus. H.E.M. Sellen. Dodd, Mead, 1930. F.
—. *North to the unknown: the achievements and adventures of David Thompson*. Dodd, Mead, 1949. F.
—. *Mist on the river*. Toronto: Copp, Clark, 1954. F.
Ferber, Elizabeth. *Once I was very small*. Illus. author. Annick, 1993. I.
—. *The windago & Last days of Paul Bunyan*. Playwrights, 1978. D.
—. *New Canadian kid*. Pulp Press, 1982. D.

—. Sunny side up. Gage, 1990. F.


Garrigue, Sheila. The eternal spring of Mr. Ito. Bradbury Press, 1985. F. (Set in BC)

Garrod, Stan. Indians of the Northwest Coast. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1980. NF.


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Allen, Douglas & McIntyre. 1989. F.
— *Saltwater summer*. Morrow, 1948. F.
Hancock, Lyn. *There's a seal in my sleeping bag*. Collins, 1972. F.
— *There's a racoon in my parka*. Doubleday, 1977. F.
— *You have to draw the line somewhere*. Illus. John Frazer Mills. McClelland & Stewart, 1963. F.
— *West with the white chiefs*. Illus. Walter Ferro. McClelland & Stewart, 1965. F.
— *Let X be excitement*. McClelland & Stewart, 1969. NF.
Hays, H.R. *Children of the Raven; the seven Indian nations of the Northwest Coast*. McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1975. NF.
—. *Blue*. Scholastic-TAB, 1992. F.
—. *The case of the marmalade cat*. Scholastic-TAB, 1992. F.
—. *The trail of the chocolate thief*. Scholastic-TAB, 1993. F.
—. *Torn away*. Viking, 1994. F.
—. *Ben & Jacky and the missing diamond*. Riverwood, 1993. F.
Hull, Raymond, & Gordon & Christine Soules. *Vancouver's past*. Soules, 1974. NF.
*It happened in British Columbia: an illustrated review of some aspects of British Columbia's first 100 years as a Canadian province*. BC Centennial, 1970. NF.
Jackman, Sydney W. *Vancouver Island*. Griffin, 1972. NF.


Johnson, Emily Pauline. *Legends of Vancouver*. Vancouver: Thompson, 1911. F.


——. *She shoots! she scores! The Woman’s Press*, 1975. F. (Rev:5:77)


——. *Go do some great thing: the black pioneers of British Columbia*. Douglas & McIntyre, 1978. NF.

——. *Exploring British Columbia’s past*. 1983. NF.


—. White jade tiger. Beach Holme, 1993. F.
—. Not so dumb: four plays for young people (includes Schoolyard games, Not so dumb, Night light, & Secrets). Coach House Press, 1993. D.
Léger, Diane Carmel. La butte à pétard. Les Éditions d’Acadie, 1989. F.
Listen to us. BC Council for the Family, 1985. NF.
Littlechild, George. This land is my land. Illus. author. Children’s Book Press. I.
—. Performance I: Keep the faith baby and Remembrance. Fforbez, 1980. D.
—. Performance II: The princess and the trolls and Virtue rewarded. Fforbez, 1980. D.


—. Simon Fraser. Grolier, 1991. NF.


—. Miss P and me. Clarke, Irwin, 1982. F. (Rev:33:52)


(Rev:50:73)
Morgan, Roland. Vancouver then and now. Illus. photographs. Vancouver: Bodima, 1977. NF.
Morrison, Dorothy, Roma Dehr & Ronald M. Bazar. We can do it!: a kid's peace book. Manchi United Enterprises, 1985. I.
Musgrave, Susan. Gullband thought that measles was a happy ending. Illus. Rikki (Erica Ducornet).
J.J. Douglas, 1974. F.
Myles, Eugenie Louise. The emperor of Peace River. Western Producer. 1978. NF.

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Oswald, Nancy. The insect zoo and The wildcat hero. Scholastic, 1985. F.
Patton, Janice. The exodus of the Japanese. McClelland & Stewart, 1974. NF.
—. The sky is falling. Viking Kestral, 1989. F.
—. The lights go out again. Viking/Penguin, 1993. F.
Petchick, Derek. Men of British Columbia. Hancock House, 1975. NF.
Rasky, Frank. The taming of the Canadian West. McClelland, 1968. NF.
— The magic of light. Hutchinson, 1959. F.
— The spell of Chuchuhcan. Hutchinson, 1966. F.
— No one need ever know. Ginn, 1971. F.
— Brothers by choice. Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 1974. F.
— A time of cicadas—part I: days of wonder. Oberon, 1989. NF.
— Guns & magnolias—part II: days of wonder. Oberon, 1989. NF.
Canada Calling Series. NF.
— My heart is glad, vols. I & II. Williams Lake: Local Publisher, 1965. D.
— The deep has many voices. Williams Lake: Gwen Ringwood Theatre, 1971. D.
NF.
Vanderhoof: Yinka Dene Language Institute, 1991. F.
(Rev:43:74)
F.
— Where the rivers meet. Pemb麦克ean, 1988. F.
— Adventures with Miss Flint. Thistledown, 1993. F.
Sawyer, Don, & Art Napoleon. NESA activities handbook for native & multicultural classrooms (3
Schemenauer, Elma. Hello Vancouver. GLC Silver Burnett, 1986. NF.
— Hello Victoria. GLC Silver Burnett, 1986. NF.
— Born a Woman: seven Canadian women singer-songwriters. Polestar, 1988. NF.
Shelton, Ingrid. Adventures at the airstrip with Sean and Jennifer. Illus. Photographs. Hancock
House, 1982. F.
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1977. NL. (Rev:31:105)
Siska, Heather Smith. People of the ice: how the Inuit lived. Illus. Ian Bateson. Douglas & McIntyre,
—. We are the Shuswap. Illus. Brent Lynch. Saewepemc Cultural Education Society, 1988. NF.
Prince Rupert: Metlakatla Band Council, 1983. F.
—. Matt and Jenny in old Vancouver .... Children's Studio Books, 1986. F.
Steltzer, Ulli. Indian artists at work. Douglas & McIntyre, 1976. NF.
—. Hailstorms & Hoop Snakes. Western Producer Prairie Books, 1984. F.
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Suzuki, Laura, & Peter Cook. David Suzuki asks did you know... about light and sight? General, 1990. NF. (Rev:62:70)
Swanson, Diane. A toothy tongue and one long foot: nature activities for kids. Whitecap, 1992. NF.


Thompson, Peggy. The bittersweet kids. Playwrights Union of Canada, 1982. D.

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— Instant puppets for kids. Pembroke, 1989. NF.
— Get growing: exciting plant projects for kids. Pembroke, 1990. NF.
Wallas, James, & Pamela Whitaker. Kwak'iutl legends. Hancock House, 1981. F.
— The ghost of Soda Creek. Porcupé Books, 1990. F.
— (adapter). The dog who stopped the war. Douglas & McIntyre, 1985. F.
Watts, Irene N. A blizzard leaves no footprints; Listen to the drum; Patches; The rainstore: four children's plays. Playwrights Co-op, 1978. D.
— Tales from Tolstoy. Playwrights Canada, 1982. D.
— Just a minute: ten short plays and activities for your classroom with rehearsal strategies to accompany multicultural stories from around the world. Pembroke, 1990. D.
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Weatherby, Hugh. Tales the totems tell. Illus. Author. MacMillan, 1944. F.
— Crossroads. Greer de Pencier, 1991. F.
— Balloon race mystery and other stories. Overlea, 1988. F.
— Say yes. Greer de Pencier, 1991. F.
— Secret ballot. Greer de Pencier, 1991. F.


— Disneyland hostage. Clarke, Irwin, 1982. F.
— The Kootenay kidnapper. Collins, 1983. F.
—. *Code red at the supermall*. Collins, 1988. F.
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