



## RBC Taylor Prize

THE RBC TAYLOR PRIZE commemorates Charles Taylor's pursuit of excellence in the craft of writing. The prize is awarded annually to the author whose book best combines an excellent command of the English language, an elegance of style, quality of thought, and a subtlety of perception. 2018 marks the 17th awarding of this prize.

With a desire to increase the national reach and impact for the shortlisted authors the 2018 prize cycle will feature new elements. All new elements and requirements are detailed in this submission package. During the process of preparing the submissions, if any questions arise please email Su Hutchinson, executive director at rbctaylorprize@gmail.com .

The RBC Taylor Prize is a combination of national promotion and a monetary award. Past history reveals that the strong emphasis the prize places on publicity delivers important promotional benefits for all finalists and the winner. When you submit a book for consideration, it is important to make your writers aware of the prize's intent to create public engagement and media opportunities and the prize's compliance requirements regarding participation as outlined in the publishers' submission package.

New in 2018 is a multi city tour of academic and/or public institutions during the week prior to the prize awarding. It is likely that in 2018, the pilot year, there will be at least two perhaps three tour stops before coming to Toronto. While variances may occur from year to year, your author(s) should be aware that an emphasis is placed on mid-cycle publicity, interviews, and engagement with Canadians across the country through a variety of media and other promotional opportunities. The media and engagement schedule is determined with input from all finalists and their publicists. The prize executive director will strive to minimize disruption to your authors' schedules in advance of the week prior to the prize awarding. Finalists' publicity may extend beyond the naming of the winner. In recognition of the increased level of activity, immediately following the award ceremony finalists (including the winning author) will each receive a \$5000 purse, (\$2,000 prior to February 19, and \$3,000 on February 26) the winning author will receive a \$25,000 purse.

All finalists are required to be available for travel and public engagements from February 19, 2018 culminating in Toronto for the RBC Taylor Prize Event Weekend

### DETAILS FOLLOW:

- Monday February 19/Tuesday February 20, 2018 — author travel from point of origin to a series of national engagements outside of Toronto, which may also include local media events
- Wednesday February 21, 2018 – author travel to Toronto
- Thursday February 22, 2018 — authors available for daytime press engagements, followed • by IFOA moderated public Q & A
- Friday February 23, 2018 — authors available for daytime press engagements, followed by a private Finalist dinner
- Saturday February 24, 2018 — public event late afternoon TBC — evening free

- Sunday February 25, 2018 – mid morning: Ben McNally Books Annual Brunch with short presentation by finalists at the King Edward Hotel
- Monday February 26, 2018 – mid morning: Gala Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, Travel from Toronto to point of origin.

The winner of the RBC Taylor Prize will be required to nominate an emerging author in the genre of literary non fiction within two weeks of being named the 2018 RBC Taylor Prize winner. The emerging author selected by the 2018 prizewinner will receive a \$10,000 cash prize and the opportunity to be mentored under the nominating author.

The mentorship requirement is intended to be a natural communication between writers that will be influenced by time and place in writing cycle for the emerging author and the winning author. The degree of mentoring will be determined between the authors.

THE CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION OF THE EMERGING AUTHOR IS:

A published author (short story, poetry, article, essay – in a recognised online forum, journal, magazine, or in book format) who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. The candidate should be at work on a significant writing project in literary non-fiction. It is anticipated that the prize of \$10,000 will enable the author to progress in the creation of a final draft.

The trustees will review the submissions and consult with other publishers and appropriate advisors within the Canadian literary community to ensure their eligibility.

Participation in the events and promotional opportunities that make up the RBC Taylor Prize are exciting, but rigorous. It will be assumed that your signature on the publishers' submission form signals that your shortlisted author(s) will participate. Please review the Eligibility Requirements with your author before signing the Publishers' Submission Form for each submitted book. Conditions of entry, participation, and obligatory dates are found in the sections titled Eligibility Requirements and Publisher Requirements.

TIMETABLE FOR WINNER IN ADDITION TO ALL OF THE ABOVE

- Availability for mid-cycle media interviews .....TBA
- RBC Wealth Management tour dates .....TBA

TIMETABLE FOR RBC TAYLOR PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Wednesday, December 6, 2017 .....Longlist announcement
- Wednesday, January 10, 2018 .....Shortlist announcement
- Monday February 26, 2018 .....Gala Luncheon and Awards Ceremony, Toronto

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. All entries for the 2018 prize must be Canadian-authored titles published in English between November 1, 2016 and October 30, 2017, and widely available through book-

stores and libraries.

2. Only titles in the genre of literary non-fiction are eligible.
3. Publishers are invited to nominate authors by submitting their books. Self-published books are not eligible. The submission of an author's work will be taken as agreement by the author that he/she is willing to have the submitted work be considered and will abide by the rules of the RBC Taylor Prize.
4. Authors must be alive at the time of submission.
5. Titles may be single-authored or co-authored. Multi-authored collections, anthologies, and conference proceedings are not eligible.
6. Posthumously published works, as well as second or later editions, revisions, and reprints are not eligible.
7. Translated works are eligible. In the event that a book in translation is selected as the winner, the writer and translator will share the prize money equally. Media support will also be provided to the translator.
8. The jury is selected by the trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation which administers the RBC Taylor Prize.
9. The jury may request the submission of titles as it sees fit. All publishers and authors of jury-requested titles will bear the same responsibilities as are in place for publisher-submitted titles.
10. Each jury will determine the parameters or criteria of their deliberations. The jury will have sole responsibility for the selection of the longlist, shortlist, and one winner. The jury's decision is final. Neither discussion nor correspondence concerning any decision can be entered into.
11. Each author and each publisher are aware of the nature of the prize, know the relevant dates, and agree to comply.
12. The trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation reserve the sole right to refuse any entry for any reason considered justifiable.
13. The trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation reserve the sole right to vary the Eligibility Requirements and conditions of entry from year to year.
14. The trustees of the Charles Taylor Foundation reserve the sole right to grant exemptions to the listed author and publisher requirements for reasons of illness, incapacity, or other reasons. These exemptions will be considered by the trustees on a case-by-case basis.

#### DEFINITIONS

1. Canadian author means any author with Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status in Canada at the time of publication.
2. A book, or title, is a work that has a minimum of 48 pages, carries an ISBN, is bound, and is printed in an edition of no fewer than 500 copies.
3. A publisher is a company that carries out as its primary business the publishing of

books. Such firms must have established terms of trade and have coast-to-coast distribution in Canada.

4. Literary non-fiction is understood to include well-crafted titles in the form of essays, memoirs, collected letters and diaries, criticism, history, biography and autobiography, among others.
5. The prize cycle is the period from the announcement of the shortlist to the announcement of the winner.

#### PUBLISHER REQUIREMENTS

Publishers will work in cooperation with the RBC Taylor Prize to promote their authors. The publisher is required to submit the Publishers' Submission Form digitally as per the instructions on the form found on the last page of this document. The submission of this form will be taken as confirmation that the author agrees to having his or her book submitted to the RBC Taylor Prize and will comply with the rules of the prize. By submitting the Publishers' Submission Form, the publisher agrees to:

1. Communicate with their author the known dates of prize activity noted above and confirm their author's availability, prior to signing the Publishers' Submission Form.
2. Work cooperatively and actively with the prize publicity and administrative teams to promote the shortlisted books, the winning book, and the prize.
3. To pay, within 30 days of the Shortlist Announcement, \$1500 per shortlisted book, in a cheque, money order, or bank draft, made out to the Charles Taylor Foundation, as a contribution in support of the advertising and promotion costs incurred by the prize.
4. To maintain sufficient stock levels of the shortlisted and winning book as may be necessary for publicity purposes. Shortlisted publishers, or their sales and marketing designates, will be available for a marketing call on or around Monday January 15, 2018, and be prepared to ship a minimum of ten copies of their shortlisted book(s) immediately following this meeting. A further 40 copies to be shipped to the address provided as soon as possible.
5. To secure permission from the Charles Taylor Foundation when using seal artwork on reprints of shortlisted or winning titles.
6. To advertise the finalists' or winner's book in the media as they see fit.
7. For each reprint of the hardcover or paperback edition of the winning title, there must be clear mention of the RBC Taylor Prize on the cover.
8. International editions of each shortlisted title must mention that it is a finalist or winner of the RBC Taylor Prize.

#### SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

1. All submissions must be made by publishers. Submissions made by authors or anyone acting as their agent will not be accepted, as self-published titles are not eligible. There

is no limit to the number of titles a publisher may submit.

2. Publishers are asked to send their submissions according to the following schedule. Please do not wait to send in your submission as books are disseminated regularly to the jury allowing them enough reading time for each submission.

*The dates for submissions for the 2018 RBC Taylor Prize are as follows:*

- June 16, 2017 for books published between November 1, 2016 and May 29, 2017
- August 11, 2017 for books published between May 30, 2017 and July 31, 2017
- October 6, 2017 for books published between August 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017
- November 3, 2017 for books published between October 1, 2017 and October 31, 2017

*Finalist announcements are scheduled as follows:*

- Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – Longlist announcement via press release
- Monday, December 11, 2017 – Reaffirmation of author availability completed
- Wednesday, January 10, 2018 – Shortlist announcement press conference (author presence not requested)
- Monday, January 15, 2018 – Meeting/conference call in Toronto, between prize and finalist author representation to review timelines, expectations and other pertinent information

3. All submissions must be published as finished books. Submissions received after the final deadline of November 3, 2018 but published on or prior to October 31, 2017, are ineligible for the 2018 prize. Books published after October 31, 2017 may be submitted for the 2019 RBC Taylor Prize..
4. Four copies of each title must be delivered in accordance with the above schedule of deadlines, to the following address:

RBC Taylor Prize  
c/o Su Hutchinson,  
Unit 14 – 20 Brockton Avenue  
Toronto, ON M6K 1S5

Please note that deliveries do not require a signature and can be left in the demarked RBC Taylor Prize bin.

Weekend Deliveries will not be accepted.

5. Having moved fully to a digital submission process the submission form does not require downloading or emailing. To access the form, please go to:  
[www.rbctaylorprize.ca/online\\_submission\\_form.asp](http://www.rbctaylorprize.ca/online_submission_form.asp) to open the fillable submission form.
  - Hard copies of this form are no longer required to complete your submission.
  - By completing the form and hitting submit, you are accepting the terms and conditions outlined by herein and have the authority to make this submission.
6. When preparing to fill out the submission form please have prepared for upload:
  - An ebook version of the submitted book. A PDF version is acceptable where an ebook version cannot be uploaded,

- A current author biography, title information and catalogue copy,
  - Electronic images for both the book cover and the author, in high resolution.
7. For further information please direct all inquiries as follows:
    - Su Hutchinson,
    - exective director
    - RBC Taylor Prize
    - Phone: 416-525-7664
    - Email: rbctaylorprize@gmail.com
  8. Each submission received will be acknowledged electronically.