

# Ottawa Christian Writers' Fellowship

A Chapter of the Word Guild



Building a Community of Christian Writers in our Nation's Capital

## Annual Ottawa Conference

### Called to Write in Challenging Times



**Plenary Speaker 1 - Lessons I Learned in Writing and Faith with Karen Stiller.** Karen is a senior editor of Faith Today magazine and a freelance writer and author. She is editor of a series of essays about The Lord's Prayer, an editor of *Evangelicals Around the World: a Global Handbook for the 21st Century*, and co-author of *Shifting Stats* and *Going Missional*. Karen Stiller's books include: *The Lord's Prayer* (2017), *Shifting Stats Skating the Church* (2015) and *Going Missional* (2010).

### **Plenary Speaker 2 - Lessons I Learned in Writing and Politics with John Weston.**

John is a lawyer focusing on Government Relations and Indigenous Affairs; author of the book *On! Achieving Excellence In Leadership*; and a profession speaker.

John has been helping shape Canada's future for several decades. He cut his teeth on public affairs at age 21 while working on the patriation of Canada's Constitution under British Columbia's Deputy Minister Responsible for Constitutional Affairs, and later for the Government of Quebec. From 2008 to 2015, he served as a Canadian Member of Parliament, launching a national program on health and fitness, and winning unanimous approval for two private member's bills.

He is also a founder of the Canadian Constitution Foundation and the National Health and Fitness Foundation, whose mission is to "Make Canada the Fittest Nation on Earth".

[www.johnweston.ca](http://www.johnweston.ca)

### **Worship will be led by Collin Bernard and Cathy Goddard**



**Collin Bernard** is a Christian rock artist based in Ottawa, Canada. His band of five is his wife, Monica Bernard, Dan Woods, James, Richer, Frankie Coleman and Jared Jost. Collin released his debut EP, "Hold On", in January 2012 to excellent reviews. He has been nominated for Best New Artist of the Year at the Canadian Gospel Music Awards and his first single, "Hold On" went to number one for three weeks on the Canadian Christian Radio Chart. Collin is a 2013 Juno nominee. His website is [www.collinbernard.com](http://www.collinbernard.com)



**Cathy Goddard** is an Ottawa area recording artist. She has appeared as a musical guest on 100 Huntley Street, The Miracle Channel and Nite Lite Live. Cathy has also been featured on CTV Television Ottawa, the A Channel, and Christian radio stations across Ontario and Quebec. She recently received nominations for two Covenant Awards from the Gospel Music Association Canada and a nomination from The Shai Awards.

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**Workshop A1: Christian Poetry with Don Martin.** Martin is "Series editor for the Poiema Poetry Series" from Cascade Books, and Poet-in-Residence at McMaster Divinity College. D.S. Martin's books include: *Conspiracy of Light: Poems Inspired by the Legacy of C.S. Lewis* (2013), *Poiema* (2008) and the chapbook, *So The Moon Would Not Be Swallowed*.

**Martin is "Series editor for the Poiema Poetry Series"**



**Workshop A2: Speak the Truth Without Getting Sued with Denyse O'Leary.** Five steps to reduce the risk of a lawsuit for libel or slander. She began to publish her books in 2001 and she continues to do editorial work.



**Workshop B1: Exploring the Intersection of Journalism and Fiction with Peter Stockland.** He is a veteran journalist of 30 years who is currently senior writer with the Canadian think-tank Cardus, and publisher of *Convivium*, an online publication that explores the role of faith in common life. Prior to joining Cardus, he was vice-president of English-language magazines for Reader's Digest Magazines Canada Ltd. A former editor-in-chief of the *Montreal Gazette*, and a former editorial page editor of the *Calgary Herald*, Peter is also an accomplished writer of fiction published in numerous Canadian magazines.



**Workshop B2: Write Right with Timothy Kitz.** He is a freelance editor who has edited novels, picture books, academic essays, game manuals, legal transcriptions, medical translations, band biographies, and other forgotten "things and words". Timothy is a published author, poet, and comic maker and can be reached via [timothykitz@gmail.com](mailto:timothykitz@gmail.com) and [refreshing words.net](http://refreshingwords.net).



**Workshop C1: Stepping Stones for the Developing Writer with Liz Kranz.** Liz is a multi-faceted writer - short stories, news articles and plays. She has published short stories in: "Valley Living", "Praise Writes," "Haleyon", "Our Canada", and "More of Our Canada". She has published short stories in two books: *Apple Cider with Cinnamon*, and *Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Spirit of Canada*. Liz has written articles in "Spur Ottawa", and she currently writes two columns for the Pembroke Daily Observer Newspaper. She has also written a number of plays performed in churches.



**Workshop C2: Traditional Publishing Versus Other Options with David Kitz.** He is an award-winning author, a teacher and an ordained minister, who uses the power of drama to bring stories to life. His writing experience spans several genres. His Passion of Christ novel won the Word Guild award for historical fiction. His children's picture book, *Little Froggy Explores the BIG World* also won an award. David is a blogger. He has written, edited or contributed to more than ten books. For more information visit [www.davidkitz.ca](http://www.davidkitz.ca). His recent book is *The Soldier Who Killed a King* (2017).

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#### Registration Details - Ottawa Christian Writers' Fellowship (OCWF)

**When** - **Saturday, April 7th, 2018**; 8:15 am to 4:15 pm

**Where** - Cardus Ottawa, 45 Rideau St, 7th floor, Ottawa, ON, K1N 5W8 (corner of Rideau St and Sussex Drive; between Chapters and CIBC Branch)

**Cost** - \$50.00 including HST (includes a catered lunch); payable by **cash** on conference day or **credit card** on conference day or **cheque payment** prior to conference cheque payable to Ottawa Christian Writers' Fellowship; send to Ottawa Christian Writers' Fellowship, c/o Denyse O'Leary, 36 Scout Street, Ottawa, ON, K2C 4C4

**RSVP by email** - confirm attendance to Nicole Wegscheider, [nicolejourney@gmail.com](mailto:nicolejourney@gmail.com) by **Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018 noon**. Kindly include the following items in your email listed below. Thank you for your support in expressing your preferences.

#### **RSVP Email - Content:**

**1. Title:** OCWF Conference - Saturday, April 7, 2018

**2. Method of Payment:** cash or credit card or cheques; **payment details found under Registration Details/Cost**

**3. Workshop Selections (three separate choices):**

**Group 1:** Select A1 or A2.

Group 1: Workshop A1 - Christian Poetry with Don Martin

Group 1: Workshop A2 - Speaking the Truth Without Getting Sued with Denyse O'Leary

**Group 2:** Select B1 or B2.

Group 2: Workshop B1 - Exploring the Intersection of Journalism and Fiction with Peter Stockland

Group 2: Workshop B2 - Write Right with Timothy Kitz

**Group 3:** Select C1 or C2.

Group 3: Workshop C1 - Stepping Stones for the Developing Writer with Liz Kranz

Group 3: Workshop C2 - Traditional Publishing versus Other Options with David Kitz

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Schedule - Saturday, April 7th, 2018:

- 8:15 am Registration opens
- 9:00 am Welcome and Worship
- 9:30 am Plenary Speak 1 - Karen Stiller
- 10:15 am Coffee Break/Book tables open
- 10:45 am Workshops (A1 or A2)
- 11:30 am Workshops (B1 or B2)
- 12:15 pm Lunch Break
- 1:15 pm Worship and Prayer
- 1:30 pm Plenary Speaker 2 - John Weston
- 2:15 pm Workshops (C1 or C2)
- 3:00 pm Coffee Break
- 3:15 pm Panel Discussion - Q & A - Christian Witness in the Digital Age
- 3:45 pm Closing Remarks, Prizes and Prayers
- 4:15 pm End of Conference