

Our Times Magazine Announces Winners of the Lena Wilson Endicott Poetry Contest

Toronto, Ont. December 4, 2013 -- **Our Times Magazine**, Canada's independent labour magazine about work, workers' rights and social justice, announced today the winners of the Lena Wilson Endicott Poetry prizes. These were established in honour of Lena Wilson Endicott (1928-2012), an artist and poet who cared deeply for the world and social justice.

The first prize winner is **Pamela Porter** of North Saanich, British Columbia, whose poem, "**Albion Mine, 1918**" reflects on the young miners replacing the ones killed in a Nova Scotia mine four days after a 1918 explosion. Porter has been shortlisted for and won numerous awards, including the inaugural Gwendolyn MacEwen Poetry Prize.

The contest's first runner-up is Janna **Payne's** "**Explanation for termination of employment (cont'd)**." Like most poets and writers, Payne has worked many day jobs, including one as a frontline caregiver, which fuels the poem's critical sense of care politics and contemporary labour issues. Payne is from Peterborough, Ontario.

Kate Braid's poem, "**Hands**," is the second runner-up and celebrates the hands of men and women who work in construction. Braid, a red-seal carpenter and established writer in Vancouver, BC, has written five books of prize-winning poetry, including *Turning Left to the Ladies* and five books of non-fiction, the most recent being her memoir, *Journeywoman: Swinging a Hammer in a Man's World*.

The contest's judges, poet Marilyn Dumont (Calgary, Alberta), labour educator Adriane Paavo (Toronto, Ontario) and teacher, Valerie Endicott (Toronto, Ontario), were so impressed by the calibre of the work submitted that they also gave three Honourable Mentions: Salimah Valiani, Toronto, Ont; Jane Byers, Nelson, BC; and Michael Meagher, Fredericton, NB.

Prize-winning poems have been published in the Fall issue of *Our Times*, now in bookstores. Honourable Mentions will be published over the course of 2014.

Contact:

Maureen Hynes
Poetry Editor, *Our Times*
hynes.maureen@gmail.com
416-516-2667

Lorraine Endicott
Managing Editor, *Our Times*
editor@ourtimes.ca
902-755-6840 (Nova Scotia)

<http://Facebook.com/ourtimesmagazine>

Twitter@OurTimesMag

Subscribe at www.ourtimes.ca

Digital subscription: <http://ca.zinio.com>

Subscription and advertising enquiries: Liz Ukrainetz at office@ourtimes.ca.

Story ideas to: editor@ourtimes.ca