

ElderCollege at Silver Harbour: Fall 2025

Books Unlimited Book Club (on Zoom)

This popular book club, established in 1997, continues to welcome both returning and new participants. This friendly group loves to talk about fiction and occasionally a non-fiction book. If you would like more information on Books Unlimited, please email info@silverharbourcentre.com, and we will have the facilitator contact you.

The book list for this fall includes:

Sep 17 - *Forgotten on Sunday*, by Valerie Perrin

Oct 8 - *The Diviners*, by Margaret Laurence

Oct 29 - *Birnam Wood*, by Eleanor Catton

Nov 19 - *The Brothers Karamazov*, by Dostoevsky

Dec 10 - *The War We Won Apart*, by Nahlah Ayed

Wed 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Sep 17 – Dec 10

Via Zoom

\$30

Canadian Demographics, 1450-2050

Beginning with the Indigenous populations before European contact, this course looks at Canadian demographics through the colonial period, the 20th century, and the first half of the 21st century. We will see how the size, age and geographical distribution of populations can influence both culture and politics.

Week 1: An overview of Canada in the mid-15th century, with estimates of Indigenous population numbers. We look at the impact of European settlement and imported diseases.

Week 2: The colonial period, 1750-1900. British, French and Loyalist settlement, through immigration in the late 19th century.

Week 3: The 20th century: War, peace and migration, 1900-2000.

Week 4: The 21st century to 2050: An aging Canada.

Presenter: Crawford Kilian

Crawford taught at Vancouver City College in 1967-68 and was an instructor at Capilano College from 1968 to 2008. He has published 22 books, both fiction and non-fiction, and has written hundreds of articles and book reviews. He is currently a contributing editor of The Tyee.

Fri 10:00 – 11:30 am

Oct 3 – 24

Card Room

\$30

Healthy People Healthy Planet

The theme of the fall Health People Healthy Planet is biodiversity. Our health is intricately tied up with the health of the natural world of which we are a part. Sometimes we need to admit that what we have done in the past was destructive and we need to change. This includes the way we approach wildfires, how we build cities and how we protect our streams from pollution.

Nov. 3: **Nature - First Cities:** Based on the recent local book of the same name. Learn about better ways of building our cities on the north shore by allowing nature to thrive. See examples of how we can go from grey to green, with green roofs, day-lighted streams, rainwater infiltration, tree protection/ planting and more. Speaker: local authors, TBA.

Nov. 10: **Return of the Firefighters:** Preventing spread in the event of an interface wildfire. Speakers are staff from the City and District of North Van. Bring your concerns about your house, trees and neighbourhood and learn how to improve your chances.

Nov. 17: **How tire wear affects fish in our streams; a case study on Wagg Creek:** Tires shed 6PPD, which is especially toxic to Coho Salmon. What to do about it besides not driving. An example of how to protect streams is by building rain gardens, which was subject of one of our previous environmental talks.

Speaker: Paul Lhotka from NS Stream Keepers, who conducted an in-depth study, including sampling of the Creek during rain fall events.

Mon 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Nov 3 -17

Card Room

\$30

History in Four

Nov. 7th - **Ed Kry**, well-known Founding Chair of the Elder College Board of Directors and the president of the original Society will present a class called Turning Points in History. Enjoy Ed's view of a few major turning points in history from the asteroid that killed the dinosaurs, to the printing press, to the wheel, to the first vaccine, and more. Final topics will be exciting and one will be hilarious.

Nov. 14th - **Allan Orr** -No stranger to Elder College's History lectures, Allan Orr, past teacher of Social Studies and English at Secondary Schools and a long-time contributor to Elder College's History courses, and much more, will present a lecture on Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau and the various issues and contributions he made to Canada's history.

Nov. 21st - **Jack Little**, professor emeritus in SFU's History Department and author of many books and articles on Canadian History, will present his book, At the Wilderness Edge, which examines five anti-development campaigns that reflected a dramatic decline in public support for large-scale commercial and industrial projects in BC by the 1970s. These protests were instrumental in preserving threatened green spaces in the Lower Mainland and beyond.

Nov. 28th - **Bob Fuhr**, another popular and well-known presenter in our History courses and professor of History at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, will present the 1911 Canadian Federal Election. The main theme of the campaign that year was free trade with the United States. Prime Minister Wilfred Laurier had negotiated a deal with President William Howard Taft to open up business between the two countries. The Conservative Party under Robert Borden argued that it would lead to the American annexation of Canada; it was better to remain strongly attached to Great Britain. Americans too weighed in on the costs and benefits of making a deal with Canada. It was an emotional contest.

Fri 10:00 – 11:30 am

Nov 7 – 28

Card Room

\$30

Inspired by Nature: Rivers and Rainforests

Early American naturalist John Muir once said "In every walk with Nature one receives far more than he seeks", emphasizing the restorative and illuminating power of nature. Join us on a series of four local nature walks to inspire you.

Thurs. Sept 11 at 10:30 am – **The Varley Trail**, guided by author Dr. Trevor Carolan and artist Arnold Shives. *The Varley Trail was named for painter Frederick Varley, a member of Canada's famed Group of Seven, who lived across from Pipeline Bridge at Lynn Creek in the mid-1930s.*

Thurs. Sept 18 at 11:00 am – **Lighthouse Park Nature Walk - Valley of Giants Trail**, guided by Sally McDermott. *Learn about the unique flora of Lighthouse Park and the importance of protecting it.*

Thurs. Sept 25 at 10:30 am – **Nature Journaling at the Elders Council for Parks Heritage Centre**, with author Dr. Trevor Carolan. *In writing down our observations and experience in the natural world, we can interweave these details with our thoughts and reflections on life. Nature journaling enhances nature literacy and encourages artistic expression that helps restore us.*

Thurs. Oct 9 at 10:30 am – **Mushroom Nature Walk on the Old Buck Trail**, guided by Sharmin Gamiet of the Vancouver Mycological Society. *Meet at the Elders Council for Parks Heritage Centre, then join us for a slow paced walk to learn about the unique relationships between mushrooms and trees.*

\$30 (includes all 4 walks)

Dr. Trevor Carolan has published more than 20 books and produced two documentary films. He taught Literature, Creative Writing and Environmental Studies for twenty years, and holds a PhD in International Relations. Active in BC watershed conservation issues, he also worked as researcher on behalf of First Nations land claims. A former elected Councillor in North Vancouver, he worked to preserve the North Shore's Cove and Mountain forests from logging and residential development, and was instrumental in establishing the Lower Seymour Conservation Area and the Varley Trail at Lynn Canyon into being. *Cascadia: The Life and Breath of the World*, his Eco-Lit anthology received a Best American Essays Citation in 2013. His travel collection *Road Trips: Journeys in the Unspoiled World*, offers a harvest of accounts in search of meaningful living from around the globe.

Arnold Shives was born in Vancouver. He studied at UBC where he met Gordon Smith who became a longtime mentor and friend, then attended the San Francisco Art Institute followed by another two years at Stanford University. He has exhibited widely in Canada and elsewhere. His work is also held at many prominent national and international museums and galleries. Arnold and his wife live in North Vancouver.

Meet Our Local Authors

Oct. 14th - **Peter Woodbridge**- An agricultural economist, Peter spent much of his business career working globally — often visiting places steeped in history and intrigue. He brings to the world of fiction his passion for meticulous in-depth research and a knack for storytelling. His debut novel, *The Girl from Barcelona*, launched a heart-thumping, high-stakes espionage story that was featured at the London Book Fair, the Brooklyn Book Fair, and in Barcelona Metropolitan. *Girl On the Run* and *Girl With A Vengeance* followed soon after to complete the Daniela's Story trilogy. He has another espionage trilogy in the works for publication in the new year.

Oct. 21st - **Laurel Gurnsey** - Always curious about life, Laurel Guernsey's romantic suspense novels have been enriched by her many adventures – swimming with sharks in Bora Bora, riding camels in the Australian Outback and racing around the track at Le Mans in a vintage Lagonda. She has also written many historical/social articles for the Classic Car Club of America (Pacific Northwest Region) and was a teacher for a number of years. The *Butterfly Trilogy* and *Tremors of the Heart* are several of her writings.

Oct. 28th - **Frances Peck** - Frances Peck had a long career working with other people's words as an editor, ghostwriter and instructor before rediscovering her own words. *The Broken Places*, her debut novel, is about a major earthquake rocking the west coast which won her Globe and Mail's best book of 2022. Her second novel, *Uncontrolled Flight* has been described as an "absorbing, intense contemporary tale" (Winnipeg Free Press).

Nov. 4th - **Claudia Cornwall** is a freelance writer and award-winning author of seven books. She taught non-fiction and memoir writing at SFU for many years. Claudia has written seven books – historical and non-fiction, including *At the World's Edge*, *Catching Cancer* and her most recent book, *British Columbia in Flames* which was a finalist for the BC Lieutenant Governor's Award for historical writing, the BC Book Award for Regional Writing, and the Jeanne Clarke Local History Awards.

Nov. 18th - **Anthea Penne** writes both fiction and creative non-fiction and is the author of *Old Stones*, a literary exploration of her dual heritage and was the result of her thesis which she wrote for her MFA. Excerpted chapters from this book won her the Prairie Fire Creative Nonfiction competition while another chapter generated the play, *Coming Back* which was a finalist in the Women's Playwrites International competition.

Nov. 25th - **Michael Kluckner** is a well-known Canadian writer and illustrator, who has devoted himself to "illustrated books" sometimes with watercolour, other times with more graphics works and narrative. In his 20s, he drew newspaper cartoons and was also in graphic design/layout and typesetting which allowed him to imagine the finished product and work backwards from there. This experience has made his books much easier to produce. Several of his many historical works include *Vancouver; The Way it*

Was, Vanishing Vancouver and *Paving Paradise* with his more recent title, a graphic novel, *The Rooming House*, is a reflection back to life in the early 70s – hippie life.

Tues 10:00 – 11:30 am
Oct 14 – Nov 25
Card Room
\$30

Mythos, The Shaping of the Western Tradition: Joseph Campbell

This is a further opportunity to enrich your life with the excitement of powerful ideas and masterful story telling. With Joseph Campbell, we have previously explored the world's most ancient myths and how these myths have been embodied in Eastern cultures. Now, in this third series, we will explore the unique characteristics of Western mythology, particularly its emphasis on the individual and the hero's journey. Campbell will explore the one great story of humanity and the common patterns in myths and modern narratives, providing a framework for understanding the psychological and cultural significance of storytelling in human societies.

Each session will begin with a 50-minute recorded presentation by Joseph Campbell followed by a discussion of the ideas presented in the video facilitated by Marga Hanna. Marga is a retired University Professor, Registered Clinical Counsellor and Art Therapist specializing in Trauma Treatment. During her graduate work she studied at Pacifica University which maintains the Joseph Campbell archives.

Wed 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Oct 15 – Nov 19
Card Room
\$30

What's News

Are you interested in following current events? What's News is a discussion group that focuses on current topics in local, national and international news. Meeting once a week, this group offers you an opportunity to be informed, get caught up to date, and express your opinions about the significant stories of the day.

Thur 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Sept 18 – Dec 11
Card Room
\$30