



the third house
INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA

PRESS RELEASE

A safe place to hone your writing skills

If you are a writer in the Shuswap, there is a chair at the Library with your name on it — and it's free. It doesn't matter if you're a famous author or a closet writer. All you need is to want to improve your writing skills and be willing to help other writers improve theirs, and the chair is yours for two hours on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

This is an open invitation from The Third House in collaboration with The Okanagan Regional Library for you to attend the start-up of a New Writers' Group. Meetings will be held twice a month from 11 am to 1 pm at the Library, South Shuswap Branch. The first meeting will be held on January 13, 2016; bring with you a page or two of your own writing and a notebook with pen or pencil.

Why would you want to join a writers' group? Because a writers' group is a support group, a.k.a. a cheering squad for writers that provides you with honest feedback, so you can get better. A writers' group can play a crucial role for any writer whether you are a publishing author, an unknown poet or you are simply trying to write your memoirs for your offspring.

A writers' group is a place where, if and when you are ready, you take your courage in hand and you stand up to read some of your work. The others will offer feedback — some of the comments you will ignore but much of it will be intelligent and helpful. The other members will see your writing from a new perspective. This is so valuable. A writers' group is also a place where you pay attention to the writing of others and give them your feedback. If it's good writing it can challenge and inspire your own. It's a safe and supportive place to come to hone your writing skills.

For further information, visit www.thethirdhouse.ca.

The Third House Interactive Multimedia is a very small group, two artists actually — Peter Blacklock and Joyce Adrian Sotski — whose statement of purpose is to 'enhance opportunities for creative artists in the Shuswap.' Our projects, which you can read about on our website, include Ida and Old Baldy's Seniors' Theatre Project, The Perigean Project, Reader-Writer Sessions, a Photography Workshop, and now the upstart of a New Writers' Group in the South Shuswap.

Peter, with his background of a career in drama and education, is a prolific writer, a playwright, an actor, a musician, and a composer. He is a great asset to the community. He is an active member of Shuswap Theatre, the force behind the summer dinner theatre productions at Haney Heritage Village, and the founder of Seniors' Theatre in Salmon Arm and Blind Bay.

Joyce's career began in the printing industry as a graphic artist and with onslaught of the digital age just naturally moved over into the world of web sites and interactive CD-ROMS. She is in the throes of leaving her career behind, to retire, to work full time in the arts as a writer, a visual artist and experimental videographer.

For further information, feel free to contact us through our website, www.thethirdhouse.ca.