

# Home County's Great Canadian Haiku Anthology

Edited by Penn Kemp and Catherine McInnes

## Winning Haiku:

haiku lyrics by: Trevor Malone, Helen Baker and Terry Ann Carter,  
music by Hawksley Workman, Emm Gryner, Royal Wood & Catherine McInnes

Lightfoot hit me hard  
Sundown burned into my brain  
never been the same

Emily's vision –  
from this deep coastal forest  
comes a raven's caw

Leonard Cohen sings  
Hallelujah ! crocuses  
On Parliament Hill

Terry Fox's things –  
a lone sock, the heel worn through  
miles still left to go

The following 16 haiku complete Home County's Great Canadian Haiku Anthology (not in order of rank). Penn Kemp, London's Poet Laureate, was also invited to contribute a Great Canadian haiku for the project.

haiku lyric by Chuck Reid, music by Royal Wood

freshly falling snow  
moonlit walk alone with you  
deep inside winter

words frozen in air  
melt the silence between us  
we hug to stay warm

when turning for home  
we find our steps through the snow  
half covered over

freshly falling snow  
moonlit walk alone with you  
deep inside winter

haiku lyric by James Gregoire, music by Jim Zegers

concert in the park  
toddlers, teen and Tilley hats  
perfect harmony

cedar wax wing flock  
berry picking and pecking  
-spring cackle

along the highway  
corn stalks waving in cadence  
just shootin' the breeze

haiku lyric by Dianne Tchir and Sterling Haynes, music by Catherine McInnes

Winter freezes skin  
north wind licks fluttering flakes  
whips Canada's limbs

aurora borealis casts  
long shadows from inuksuks  
onto my spirit

soft throat duets in  
Inuktituk – blizzards, winds  
howl in dissonance

haiku lyric by Terra Martin, music by Hawksley Workman

inflation deforms –  
two copper leaves on one stem  
shimmer in the sun

vanishing penny  
the committee's sleight of hand  
just an illusion?

lost generation  
newly-minted one-cent coin  
left at the crossroads

haiku lyric by Charles Trumbull, music by Emm Gryner

changing of the guard —  
the English and the French words  
echo and re-echo

changing of the guard —  
soldiers' tunics the color  
of geraniums

Robson Square morning —  
a Sikh with a broom cleans leaves  
from English ivy

cold September rain —  
atop a Kwagiutl pole  
Raven steals the sun

haiku lyric by Janet Stewart, Wendy Sullivan, and Ruth E. Walker, music by Royal Wood

The silvery spruce  
a stately sky silhouette  
moonlit and serene

Coyote unseen  
heard in eerie love struck howl  
tribute to the moon

The brilliance of stars,  
waters calm at night, reflecting  
the loon's haunting call

Canoe bows break waves  
part pine limbs on portage trails  
carry our past home

haiku lyric by Judith Young, and Patricia Black and Katerina Fretwell, music by Hawksley Workman

dreams of Ida Reds  
by bushel, basket and bag  
crunchy running juice

maple sugar pie  
Ice Wine, Bloody Caesar, Screech  
Timbits. Insulin!

fiddlehead, salmon,  
poutine, maple, comedy –  
Canada's food groups

haiku lyric by Peggy Fletcher, music by Catherine McInnes

dark belly of fall  
shelters the wintering seeds  
maple leaf cover

blue as the heavens  
Great Lakes winter majesty  
ice edged and steaming

dandelion fluff  
spinning its winged white beauty  
on Canada's spring

sea of blue Lupin  
stretched across Summer meadows  
Maritime showcase

haiku lyric by Jacqui Denomme and John Lazarus, music by Emm Gryner

Gnarly old naked  
tree, twisted tendrils reach for  
me while I sneak by

Dusk-light plays sly tricks  
on my sight, shifts my shadow  
in strange directions

Cascades of clear bird  
song escape from the sky to  
sing chants with my soul

a gnarled old tree still  
grips its rock, at the loud rim  
of Niagara's maw

haiku lyric by Cornelia Hoogland, Pamela Cooper, and Andreas Gripp, music by Catherine McInnes

Blackfriars' bowstring arch  
of cast-iron clearly says "bridge."  
Drum-roll of deck boards.

lilac scented rain –  
a winged sugar maple key  
flutters to the ground

Blackened clouds above  
Sir Frederick Banting Square  
Flame prevails in rain

haiku lyric by Kelly Bradley, music by Hawksley Workman

Warmth of woolen skins  
Mingling amongst the maples  
We wait patiently

Marveling for hours  
As smoke embraces steam of  
Somersaulting sap

Till sun-kissed into  
Sinuous streams of syrup  
Sweet sips of spring light

haiku by Ingrid Ruthig, Pamela Cooper, Terry Ann Carter, music by Royal Wood

Bold freight trains tug the  
day east to west, a stubborn  
backdrop, behind them.

cross country train ride –  
a spotted towhee settles  
on a bale of hay

end of summer  
the Great Blue Heron stretches  
into its own shadow

haiku by Judith Young and Fern G. Z. Carr, music by Royal Wood

multi-coloured toques  
swiveling in unison  
in the icy air

little skates wobble  
padded bottoms topple down  
future hockey stars

game in overtime  
Hockey Night in Canada  
skate blades slash the ice

haiku lyric by Christine Thorpe, music by Hawksley Workman

Plump Canada Goose  
ignores the call to migrate  
prefers life at home.

Red-tailed Hawk circles  
hungry rush of talons snag  
pigeon on the wing.

Tundra Swans roosting  
hundreds on the stubbled field  
contemplating loft.

Pair of Snowbirds pack  
zippered cases, passports, pills  
catch Florida flight.

haiku lyric by Zahra McDoom, music by Emm Gryner

A Rwandan man,  
Exhales into Lake Erie's  
Watery grey sky

Moroccan mint tea  
sipped, in the shade of an elm,  
from red stained glasses.

West Indian boy,  
Riding through the sugarbush –  
a winter fire burns.

haiku lyric by Judie Land, music by Emm Gryner

Superior waits –  
longer than time, deeper than  
God's icy blue eye.

You can break your heart  
scrambling high on rocks, stumbling  
on God's jagged teeth.

In the great lake north,  
earth weeps rivulets, pain seams  
its rocky old face.

Scrub trees flay bare legs,  
but at midnight, the tall pines  
whisper shush kisses.

The Poet Laureate was also invited to contribute a Great Canadian haiku for the project.

**haiku lyrics by Penn Kemp, Poet Laureate, city of London, music by Catherine McInnes**

The Shield our elder –  
we who are new to this land,  
rock shows what endures.

Nesting place awaits  
on Arctic sands. Tired Tundra  
Swans ready despite.

Intrepid migrants  
from coast to coast to coast a-  
light, rest, rise again.

Seasons claim changes  
unpredictable as northern  
lights, thunder roll.