

## **Notable AX**

For KCR, Feb. 21, 2017 edition  
Jane Simpson, Executive Director, AX

While the building renovation on Maple Avenue continues, we've forged ahead with some literary programming. I mentioned in last month's Notable AX article that the literary committee has been busy planning. We're fortunate to have Vanessa Black, Director of the Sussex Regional Library, on the committee – Vanessa and the library have agreed to partner with AX and host two celebrated authors who will be visiting Sussex in March and April.

Now that we have confirmed details, we can share more information about the upcoming literary events. Please spread the word and plan to attend.

### *UNB Writer in Residence, March 24 – 25*

This year's UNB Writer in Residence, Rabindranath Maharaj, will offer a reading on Friday night, March 24, at 7:00 p.m., and a free workshop on Saturday morning, March 25, 10:30 a.m. Both events will take place at the Sussex Regional Library.

Robin, as he is also known, has written many novels, including *The Amazing Absorbing Boy*, which won a Trillium Book Award and was voted a CBC Canada Reads Top 10 for Ontario. His novel *A Perfect Pledge* won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and was a Commonwealth Writers' Prize finalist.

Robin's workshop is free and open to all levels of writers. The workshop will focus on: finding sources of inspiration, the importance of "voice," the elements of plotting, avenues for publication, and guidelines around memoir writing. Robin is no stranger to New Brunswick – he completed his second M.A. at UNB – and he's looking forward to meeting local writers to talk about the writing process.

There is no charge for the reading or workshop, but please register for the workshop so we can give Robin an idea of how many people will attend. Call the library at (506) 432-4585 or email [sussexpl@gnb.ca](mailto:sussexpl@gnb.ca) to register. Visit the AX website ([axartscentre.ca](http://axartscentre.ca)) or the AX Facebook page for more information in the coming weeks.

### *Frye Festival's Charlotte Gray, April 24*

AX is partnering with the Frye Festival and the library to bring best-selling author Charlotte Gray to Sussex. Charlotte will give an on-stage interview with Stephanie Coburn, discerning reader and past president of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick, and will then take questions from the audience.

Charlotte Gray is the author of ten non-fiction bestsellers, including her newest book, *The Promise of Canada: 150 Years – People and Ideas That Have Shaped*

*Our Country*. She has won many awards, such as the Pierre Berton Award and the Toronto Book Award. Three of her books have been adapted for the screen, including her award-winning *Gold Diggers*, which was made into a mini-series by US Discovery Television. She is a member of the Order of Canada and an adjunct research professor at Carleton University, and she lives in Ottawa.

This event is also free and will take place at the Sussex Regional Library on April 24, 7:00 p.m.