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Regina Public Library introduces 2017-2018 Writer in Residence

Regina Public Library is pleased to announce its 29th Writer in Residence, Andrew Battershill.

Originally from British Columbia, he attended the University of Toronto, where he studied creative writing. He has just relocated to Regina with his wife Suzannah Showler.

Battershill was selected as Writer in Residence earlier this year from an impressive list of candidates. His first book, *Pillow*, was longlisted for the Giller Prize and shortlisted for the Kobo Emerging Writer Award. His second novel, *Marry, Bang, Kill*, is scheduled for release in 2018. He was also the co-founder of the literary humour quarterly *Dragnet Magazine*, and is the Fiction Editor of *This Magazine*.

"I am thrilled to be the RPL's Writer-in-Residence this year," said Battershill. "I've only just arrived in Regina, but already I have found the people to be open, warm, and friendly. This is a community I'm excited to join, and I hope to meet, offer my help and service to, and get to know as many of its members as I can."

Regina Public Library was the first public library in Canada to offer a Writer in Residence program in 1978. Our goals are to encourage and inspire local writers to create works of their own and enable authors and others in the community to receive guidance and advice from an established writer; as well as engage the Regina public in learning more about the process of writing, editing and/or publishing.

"Having Andrew join us enriches the library and the community, by giving us access to his talent and experience," said Jeff Barber, Library Director and CEO. "He is an extraordinary author, and I am thrilled he is here to offer his support and share his unique perspective with local writers."

At a special evening dedicated to celebrating literacy and literary talent, RPL will introduce Battershill to the Regina community. The event will take place at RPL's Central Branch at 5 pm on September 8, 2017. The program features a special reading from Battershill, as well as performances from local artists.

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Media contact:

Margherita Vittorelli
Marketing and Communications Consultant
Regina Public Library
mvittorelli@reginalibrary.ca
306.777.6114 (office)