



## Newsletter / Bollettino March 2012 / Issue 62

Association of  
Italian Canadian Writers  
Executive

President  
Licia Canton

Vice-President  
Jim Zuccherò

Secretary  
Connie Guzzo-McParland

Treasurer  
Michael Mirolla

Communications Officer  
Luigi Monteferrante

Newsletter Editor  
Agata De Santis

Editorial Board  
Caroline Morgan Di Giovanni,  
Anna Foschi, Maria Ierfino  
& Alberto Mario DeLogu

Past President  
Venera Fazio

## NOTA DELLA PRESIDENTE

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is here! There is a lot happening at the AICW and there will be many opportunities to meet over the next few months. We are looking forward to seeing members and colleagues at our 14th biennial conference to be held in Halifax, March 23 to 25. The conference committee is working on the final details. And don't forget the Blue Met Festival which will be held in Montreal, April 18 to 23.



This month we are launching *Behind Barbed Wire: Creative Works on the Internment of Italian Canadians* and *Beyond Barbed Wire: Essays on the Internment of Italian Canadians* – a co-publication with Columbus Centre. I thank my co-editors Domenic Cusmano, Michael Mirolla and Jim Zuccherò for their diligent work, as well as the contributors for their co-operation. I'd also like to acknowledge the work of Venera Fazio, Anna Foschi, Agata De Santis, Giulia De Gasperi, Sayeeda Alibhai and Columbus Centre's Lucy Di Pietro and Louanne Aspillaga.

The last few months have been very intense. As you may recall, the Association of Italian Canadian Writers, in partnership with Guernica Editions and *Accenti Magazine*, received a grant from Canadian Heritage – under the Community Historical Recognition Program (CHRP) – to produce two books and a series of magazine articles on the internment of Italian Canadians during the Second World War. Several articles appeared in Issues 23 (Fall 2010) and 24 (Winter 2012) of *Accenti Magazine*. The companion volumes *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire* and Issue 25 (Spring 2012) of *Accenti* will be launched across Canada: Vancouver (March 6), Montreal (March 16), Ottawa (March 18), Halifax (March 24) and Toronto (March 31). Please see page 6 for details. Free copies of the books will be available at the launches. For more information about the project, write to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca).

June is Italian Heritage month. We are currently discussing events to be held across Canada. If you have any suggestions, please write to [info@aicw.ca](mailto:info@aicw.ca).

The new AICW website was launched last October, and Giulia De Gasperi has been updating it on a regular basis. Visit [www.aicw.ca](http://www.aicw.ca) to find out the latest news. Regular members, who have not already done so, are encouraged to send in a 75-word bio.

Please send in your fees and take advantage of our two-year deal. **Thank you** to long-time members for your continued support and a warm **Welcome** to new members.

Happy Spring!

Licia Canton, Ph.D.  
President, Association of Italian Canadian Writers

### Welcome new AICW members!

Terri Favro  
Jessica Kluthe  
Paola Melchiori  
Adriana Monti



## 6 MARZO / VANCOUVER

Launch of *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*  
Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan  
6:00PM  
(See page 6 for details)

## 15 MARZO / MONTREAL

The Yellow Door Poetry & Prose Reading  
An evening of Poetry, Prose & Music  
3625 Aylmer, Montreal  
(between Pine & Prince Arthur)  
Founder, producer/host Ilona Martonfi  
Doors open 7:00PM / Reading 7:30PM  
Admission: \$5.00 at the door

Featuring:  
Steven Manners, Louise Carson,  
Ehab Lotayef, Susi Lovell, David Bourgeois,  
Chris Galvin, & Michael Reinhart

[www.yellowdoor.org](http://www.yellowdoor.org)

## 16 MARZO / MONTREAL

Launch of *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*  
Casa d'Italia, 505 Jean-Talon  
5:30PM  
RSVP to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca)  
(See page 6 for details)

## 18 MARZO / OTTAWA

Launch of *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*  
DiVino Wine Studio, 225 Preston Street  
4:00PM  
RSVP to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca)  
(See page 6 for details)

## 20 MARZO / MONTREAL

Visual Arts Centre School of Art /  
McClure Gallery  
An Evening of Poetry, Prose and Music  
350 Victoria Avenue, Montreal  
Producer/host Ilona Martonfi  
Doors open 7:00PM / Reading 7:30PM  
Admission: \$5.00 at the door

Featuring Guernica authors & special guests:  
John Asfour, Connie McParland,  
Michael Mirolla, Marianne Ackerman,  
Paul Bélanger, Laurence Hutchman, &  
Son Malaya

[www.visualartscentre.ca](http://www.visualartscentre.ca)

## 21 MARZO / HALIFAX

"The Internment of Italian Canadians during World War Two – A Project"  
Speaker: Dr. Giulia De Gasperi, Post-doctoral Fellow (Ethnology),  
University of Edinburgh  
Italian Canadian Culture Association, 2629 Agricola Street, at 7:00PM  
RSVP to [julia.freedom@gmail.com](mailto:julia.freedom@gmail.com)



## 22 MARZO 2012 / HALIFAX

Agata De Santis is very honored to announce that her documentary film, *Mal'occhio [The Evil Eye]*, will screen at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 in Halifax on Thurs, March 22, at 7:00PM. The screening will be followed by a Q&A. Admission is free. The screening is part of Pier 21's monthly *Diversity Spotlight Program* series, and will serve as a pre-conference event of the AICW's Biennial Conference.

[www.redheadproductions.com](http://www.redheadproductions.com)

## 24 MARZO / HALIFAX

Launch of *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*  
Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, 1055 Marginal Road  
6:30PM  
RSVP to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca) (See page 6 for details)

## 31 MARZO / TORONTO

Launch of *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*  
Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave. West  
4:00PM  
RSVP to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca) (See page 6 for details)

## 14 APRILE / MONTREAL

Winners of the Accenti contests will be celebrated at the 3rd Annual Accenti Foundation Benefit Gala on Saturday, April 14, 2012. For more information and to reserve tickets, write to [accenti@accenti.ca](mailto:accenti@accenti.ca) or call 514-329-3254 (101). (See page 3 for details.)

## 18 - 23 APRILE / MONTREAL

To mark the fifth anniversary of the Accenti Photo Competition, an exhibit of winning photos will be held in the gallery of the Opus Hotel during the 14th Blue Metropolis Festival, April 18 to 23. Accenti winning photos are available for purchase as large-format prints at [www.accenti.ca](http://www.accenti.ca).

## 21 APRILE / MONTREAL

The Internment of Italian Canadians during World War II – a Blue Met Event  
The publication of *Beyond Barbed Wire* (Essays) and *Behind Barbed Wire* (Creative Works) – edited by Licia Canton, Domenic Cusmano, Michael Mirolla and Jim Zuccherro – marks the passage of Italian Canadians from former victims of state authority to engaged agents of social change. The discussion will focus on the historical events of the 1940s and the recently released companion volumes. Presented by AICW, Guernica, Accenti. *Beyond Barbed Wire* is a co-publication with Columbus Centre of Toronto. The complete Blue Met Festival program will be available as of March 20 at [www.bluemetropolis.org](http://www.bluemetropolis.org).



# NOTIZIE

## AICW'S 14TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

"Back to the Future: Possibilities Since Pier 21"

Dalhousie University & Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21  
Halifax, March 23 - 25, 2012

For the conference program please write to Giulia De Gasperi  
at [julia.freedom@gmail.com](mailto:julia.freedom@gmail.com).

## AN UPDATE FROM MEMBER FRANK CANINO

The *Via Crucis [A Way of the Cross]* screenplay recently received the following citations:

Cynosure Screenwriting Awards> quarter-finalist

Filmmakers International Screenwriting Awards> 2nd round qualifier

Westfield Screenwriting Competition> Honorable Mention

*Looking For Angelina*, the film, had another showing at Toronto's Arts & Letters Club in Canada on Sunday, Sept 25, followed by a panel discussion.

Love Creek Productions' end of season in-house awards for *Sara Plays Her Game*: awards in all three categories of directing, acting and writing.

## MAL'OCCHIO DVD AVAILABLE ONLINE

The documentary film, *Mal'occhio [the evil eye]*, by Agata De Santis is now available for purchase online. The DVD costs \$20.00 (plus shipping) and can be ordered directly at [www.redheadproductions.com](http://www.redheadproductions.com). For further details, please contact Agata at [agata@redheadproductions.com](mailto:agata@redheadproductions.com).

## Accenti Foundation

2012 Gala Dinner and Dance

Saturday, April 14, 2012

8050 de Chamilly, Saint-Leonard (QC)

CULTURE • COMMUNITY • COMMITMENT

# Accenti Foundation



## 2012 Gala DINNER AND DANCE

\$90

Saturday, April 14, 2012

Buffet Roma

8050 de Chamilly, Saint-Leonard (QC)

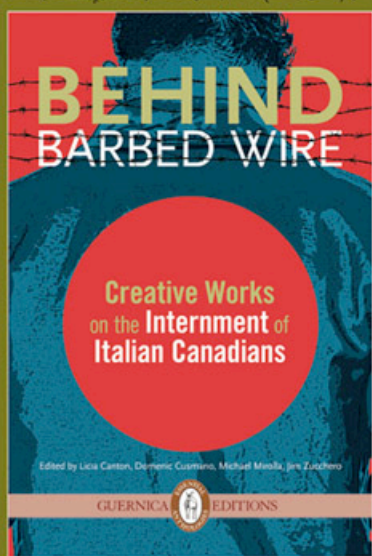
Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m.

• Five course meal • Open bar all evening • Espresso bar  
• Midnight buffet • Silent auction • Fabulous door prizes



BANQUE  
NATIONALE

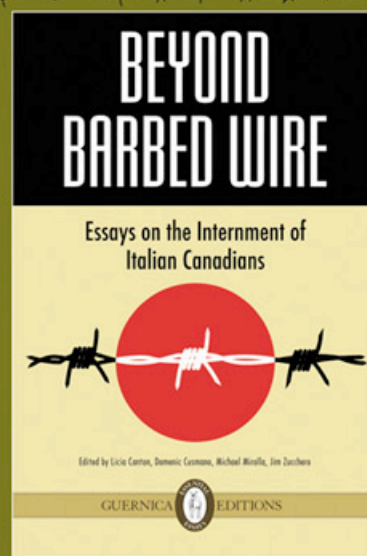
## NEW VOLUMES REVISIT INTERNMENT OF ITALIAN CANADIANS



**Behind Barbed Wire** presents fiction and nonfiction, poetry and drama, and visual art—works which bring to life the memory of the internment of Italian Canadians during the Second World War.

**Beyond Barbed Wire** includes diaries, oral histories and testimonials as well as commentary and analysis. These writings explore contentious issues and raise important questions about rights and responsibilities, power and privilege, political processes, ethnic identity, collective memory, and other topics relevant to contemporary Canadian society.

Funded by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada  
(Community Historical Recognition Program - CHRP).



40  
YEARS  
villalab  
columbus  
centre



ACCENT i Canada  
The Magazine of the Italian Community

REQUEST YOUR FREE COPY TODAY! (While supplies last.)

Write to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca)

*Beyond Barbed Wire* also available at Columbus Centre:  
[laspillaga@villacharities.com](mailto:laspillaga@villacharities.com)

## F.G. BRESSANI LITERARY PRIZE DEADLINE: April 2, 2012

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

Submissions are accepted from Canadian citizens or permanent residents, 16 years of age and older, with at least one parent or grandparent who was born in Italy (except for the category CREATIVE NON-FICTION which is open to people of any ethnicity).

Submissions are accepted in any of the following categories:

**POETRY:** Collections of at least 20 poems, published between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2012.

**FICTION:** Novels published between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2012.

**SHORT FICTION:** Short stories and novellas (of at least 8,000 words) published between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2012. Single entries only - collections and essays are excluded and will not be accepted.

**CREATIVE NON-FICTION:** Memoirs, travel writings and essays (of at least 8,000 words) on Italian themes, published between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2012. Single entries only - collections are excluded and will not be accepted. **NOTE:** the CREATIVE NON-FICTION category is open to people of all ethnicities.

**EMIGRATION FROM ITALY:** This special prize is offered by the "Regione Lazio Cultural Society of BC" to Italian-Canadian writers of non-fiction (e.g. memoirs, biographies, autobiographies, essays, etc.) on the theme of "Emigration from Italy". Entries must have been published (as a book, in a journal or as part of a collection) between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2012.

Authors can submit works written in Italian, English or French (translations are not eligible).

Each entry must be accompanied by its own original application Form downloadable at <http://iccvancouver.ca/wp-content/uploads/Bressani-2012-Application-Form.pdf>.

Entries must be submitted in 6 copies (two copies for the readers, three copies for the judges and one copy for the library of the Italian Cultural Centre).

Each author can submit no more than 3 works in total for all categories.

A writer can win only one prize per category, and each text may be submitted to only one category.

Manuscripts will not be accepted.

There must be only one author per entry.

No entry fee is required.

Submissions must be sent or delivered in a sealed package with the original application form to the following address, and must be received no later than April 2, 2012:

Italian Cultural Centre  
F.G. Bressani Literary Prize  
3075 Slocan Street  
Vancouver, BC V5M 3E4

The judges reserve the right to reassign to another category an entry that doesn't fit properly in the category indicated in the application form. Entries which do not qualify for any of the categories will be disqualified. Submitted works will not be returned.

## WRITERS' UNION OF CANADA WRITING FOR CHILDREN COMPETITION DEADLINE: April 24, 2012

The Writers' Union of Canada is pleased to announce that submissions are being accepted until April 24, 2012 for the 16th annual Writing for Children Competition. The winning entry will be the best Canadian work of up to 1,500 words in the English language, fiction or non-fiction, written by an unpublished author.

**PRIZE:** \$1,500 for the winning entry, and the entries of the winner and finalists will be submitted to three Canadian children's publishers.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This competition is open to all Canadian citizens and permanent residents who have not been published in book format in any genre and who do not currently have a contract with a book publisher. Original and unpublished (English language) fiction or non-fiction is eligible.

### HOW TO SUBMIT ENTRIES:

- Entries should be typed, double-spaced, in a clear twelve-point font, and the pages numbered on 8.5 x 11 paper, not stapled. Do not send entries that only have a few sentences per page.
- Illustrations are not accepted.
- Submissions will be accepted by hardcopy only.
- Include separate cover letter with title of story, full name, address, phone number, email, address, word count & # of pages of entry.
- Please type the name of the entrant and the title of the entry on each numbered page. This is not a blind competition.
- Make your cheque or money order payable to The Writers' Union of Canada. Multiple entries can be submitted together and fees can be added and paid with one cheque or money order, \$15 per submission.
- Entries must be postmarked by April 24, 2012 to be eligible.
- Mail entries to: WFC Competition, The Writers' Union of Canada, 90 Richmond Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M5C 1P1.

Results will be posted at [www.writersunion.ca](http://www.writersunion.ca) in July 2012. Manuscripts will not be returned.

## MAL'OCCHIO STORY CONTEST DEADLINE: Ongoing

Redhead Productions is holding a contest to find the best mal'occhio story. Did you experience mal'occhio first hand? Did you witness a curing? Or a curse? Does your grandmother or aunt know the curing ritual? Do you wear an amulet around your neck? Or is it hanging on your rearview mirror?

On the 13th day of every month in 2012 we'll award a DVD copy of MAL'OCCHIO for the most original, intriguing story we receive. Winning entries will be published on our website and Facebook page.

### CONTEST RULES

- Stories must be between 100 and 200 words.
- Please include a photo with your entry.
- Please include your full name, email address and mailing address. (Your email and mailing address will remain confidential.)
- Please send your entry to: [agata@redheadproductions.com](mailto:agata@redheadproductions.com). Please write "Mal'occhio contest" in the subject line.
- Winners will be notified in advance.

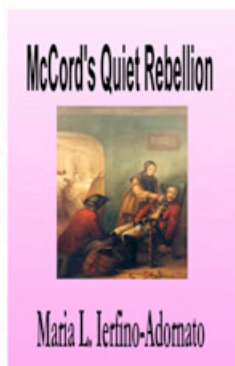
You only need to submit your story once. All entries will remain eligible until the end of the contest in December of 2012.



IN STAMPA

### **McCord's Quiet Rebellion** By M.L. Ierfino-Adornato Chronicle Publishing

*McCord's Quiet Rebellion*, set in eighteenth century Montreal and more specifically in Griffintown, is the first historical novel to be written by author M. L. Ierfino-Adornato. The affluent and affable Mary McCord, first-born daughter of British Loyalist, Thomas McCord, is the central figure in the historical novel. She is the intriguing heroine and aspiring writer, who ambivalently seeks her true identity but conceals it at the same time. A reverent non-conformist (who converts to Catholicism), Mary experiences her 'quiet rebellion' as does Canada, against the backdrop of the French, Irish and American revolutions. Available online at: Amazon.com, Amazon.ca, Indigo-Chapters, Barnes and Noble.



### **Giardinu d'Amuri** By Rosanna Lo Presti Joie De Plume Books

*Giardinu d'Amuri* è un libro di poesia e prosa in vernacolo siciliano. Il vernacolo è una lingua molto musicale, la prosa a volte divertente. Spesso nella traduzione si perde la musicalità che il vernacolo ha. L'originalità.



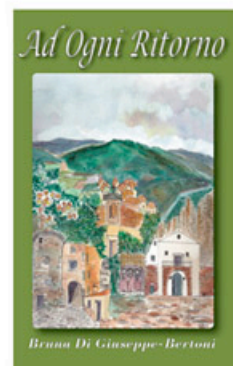
### **L'Ora del Tramonto** By Rosanna Lo Presti Kimerik

Scoppia la seconda Guerra mondiale. Il 30 giugno 1940 l'Italia affianca la Germania. La vita di quattro giovani amici e compagni di scuola. Lily Prestipino, Sarah e Helmut Gregosky, Hans Miller. I protagonisti di questa commovente storia si trovano coinvolti a pagare lo scotto di colpe che non hanno commesso.



### **Ad Ogni Ritorno** By Bruna Di Giuseppe-Bertoni Joie De Plume Books

*Ad Ogni Ritorno* è il racconto di una storia vera. Il mio ritorno dopo tanti anni dal Canada per rifare lo stesso percorso fatto con mio padre tanti anni fa. Il pellegrinaggio da Tufo alla Santissima, rivivendo colori, odori, paesaggi e gente visti nell'infanzia. È quindi una raccolta di poesie per ogni ritorno, e la descrizione dell'intero viaggio fatto con la compagnia di Tufo. Parte del ricavato della vendita del libro verrà devoluto ad un'organizzazione di beneficenza con sede a Tufo che realizzerà un dipinto all'interno della cappella della Santissima Trinità raffigurante le tre figure sagre.



*Ad Ogni Ritorno* is a true story. After so many years I returned to my father's village called Tufo to walk the same route taken with my father many years earlier. The pilgrimage from Tufo to the Holy Trinity was to relive the beauty, colors, the smells, people and landscapes seen in childhood. The book is a collection of poems for each return, and the description of the entire trip with the Tufo people. Part of the proceeds of the sale of the book will be donated to a charitable organization based in Tufo who will create a painting in the chapel of the Blessed Trinity, depicting the three figures.

The book will be launched in Toronto on March 31.

### **White Death — The Blizzard of '77** (30th Anniversary Edition) by Erno Rossi, M.A.

Many homes filled with snow after hurricane force winds destroyed windows during *The Blizzard of '77*, January 28th, 1977. Erno Rossi's oral history of that major disaster is chronicled in his extremely successful book, *White Death - The Blizzard of '77* that has survivors tell their stories. Visit [www.whitedeath.com](http://www.whitedeath.com) for photos and order information.



# INVITATION Book Launch

Join us as we celebrate the launch of two volumes commemorating the internment of Italian Canadians during the Second World War.

The Association of Italian Canadian Writers (AICW), in partnership with Guernica Editions and Accenti Magazine, and co-publisher Columbus Centre of Toronto, are proud to launch: *Behind Barbed Wire* and *Beyond Barbed Wire*, edited by Licia Canton, Domenic Cusmano, Michael Mirolla and Jim Zuccherro, across Canada. Pick up your free copy at one of the following events:

March 6 at 6:30 p.m. Vancouver (Italian Cultural Centre)

March 16 at 5:30 p.m. Montreal (Casa d'Italia)

March 18 at 4:00 p.m. Ottawa (DiVino Wine Studio)

March 24 at 6:30 p.m. Halifax (Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21)

March 31 at 4:00 p.m. Toronto (Columbus Centre)

RSVP: [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca)

Books are also distributed free of charge to libraries, academic institutions, community organizations and individuals. Request your free copy\* by writing to [projectmanager@aicw.ca](mailto:projectmanager@aicw.ca). The books are also available in electronic format.

*Beyond Barbed Wire* is also available at Columbus Centre in Toronto. Request a free copy\* by writing to [laspillaga@villacharities.com](mailto:laspillaga@villacharities.com).

\*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

*Beyond Barbed Wire* is co-published with Columbus Centre of Toronto

Funded by the Government of Canada, Community Historical Recognition Program (CHRP)





**BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!**  
**DEVENEZ MEMBRE AUJOURD'HUI !**  
**DIVENTA SOCIO OGGI!**

**CONTACT INFO / COORDONNÉES / DATI PERSONALI:**

First Name / Prénom / Nome: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name / Deuxième prénom / Cognome: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name / Nom de famille: \_\_\_\_\_ Salutation / Titre / Titolo: \_\_\_\_\_

Street / Adresse / Via e Numero Civico: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Ville / Città: \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State / Province/État / Provincia: \_\_\_\_\_

Country / Pays / Stato: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code / Zip Code / Code postal / CAP: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel (home / maison / casa): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel (work / travail / ufficio): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address / Adresse courriel / E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Website / Site Web / Sito Internet: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest / Champ d'intérêts / Interessi: \_\_\_\_\_

Biography / Biographie / Biografia (475 characters maximum / 475 caractères maximum / massimo 475 caratteri):

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**CHOOSE ONE / CHOISISSEZ UN STATUT / SCEGLIERE:**

☐ New member / Nouveau membre / Nuovo Socio

☐ Renewal / Renouvellement / Rinnovo

**CHOOSE ONE / CHOISISSEZ UN STATUT / SCEGLIERE:**

☐ Voting member / Membre votant / Socio con Diritto di Voto (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$75.00 CAD

☐ Voting member / Membre votant / Socio con Diritto di Voto (2 years / 2 ans / 2 anni) – \$130.00 CAD

☐ Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$50.00 CAD

☐ Associate Member / Membre associé / Socio Ordinario (2 years / 2 ans / 2 anni) – \$80.00 CAD

☐ Student member / Membre étudiant / Socio Studente (1 year / 1 an / 1 anno) – \$50.00 CAD

☐ Supporter / Sostenitore – \$100.00 CAD

**Please make the cheques out to the name of the association / Les chèques doivent être faits au nom de l'association / Gli assegni dovrebbero essere intestati all'associazione.**

Please mail the completed form accompanied by a cheque or money order to:

S'il vous plaît envoyer le formulaire complété accompagné d'un chèque ou un mandat à :

Si prega di inviare per posta il modulo completato, accompagnato da un assegno o un vaglia a:

*Overseas: please send money orders. À l'étranger: il est préférable d'envoyer des mandats. Estero: si prega di inviare vaglia.*

**Association of Italian Canadian Writers**

**7181 Beaubien**

**P.O. Box 41**

**Montreal, QC H1M 2Y2 CANADA**