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AICW Newsletter, January 2025

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1. President's Letter

Dear AICW members,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone has had a peaceful and joyful holiday.

Thank you to all our members who came out to share their reading at our holiday social this

past December 6. It was great seeing you all and listening to your stories and your poems.

Our first event for 2025 is the AICW-sponsored Books and Biscotti evening at the Columbus Center in Toronto on February 5th from **7:00-9:00** pm. Come and enjoy an evening of poetry with AICW members Bruna di Giuseppe-Bertoni, Joe Giampaolo, Christopher Manieri, Gianna Patriarca, and Maria Zarrone.

The AICW is proud to organize a panel on “New Trends in Italian-Canadian Literature” at the Librissimi Italian Book Festival at the Columbus Center in Toronto on May 3-4.

The AICW will also be organizing a panel at AccentiFest 2025 which will be held at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown on June 26-28.

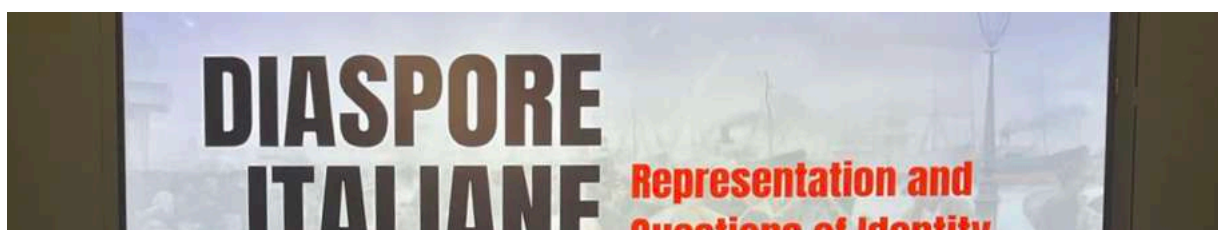
And we're excited to announce that we're organizing the third edition of Emerging Creative Voices! See the call for submissions in this newsletter.

Please stay tuned for further details.

Your president,

Christine Sansalone

2. AICW News





AICW members: Anna Romano Milne, Laura Libralato, and Rosetta Rosati.

Diaspore Italiane – December 5-7, 2024, Genova, Italy

AICW members Laura Libralato, Anna Romano Milne, and Rosetta Rosati travelled to Genova in early December to participate in the Diaspore Italiane conference. They were joined by Margherita M. Morsella as part of a panel called: “The Legacy of Italian Immigrant Women in Canada: [Silent No More](#)”. The presentations explored the vital contributions of Italian immigrant women to Canadian society through three community projects. Watch the video recording of the panel here and the OMNI interview [here](#). All of the conference presentations are now available on the YouTube channels of the [Galata Museo del Mare](#) and [Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana](#).



Website Update

The AICW continues updating the [“Books” section](#) of its webpage, where we feature books that our members have written. We encourage members to send us a picture of their book cover in JPEG format and a 100-word description of their book to include on the site. You may also include links to online book reviews of your work.

Here are some important tech specs to keep in mind to ensure a successful submission: The resolution of the image should be 300 ppi. The file should be no smaller than 500 pixels on its short side. The maximum file size is 2 MB. Files that do not meet these standards will not be accepted.

Please email the picture and description of the book to christine.sansalone@gmail.com and mariapia.spadafora@gmail.com.

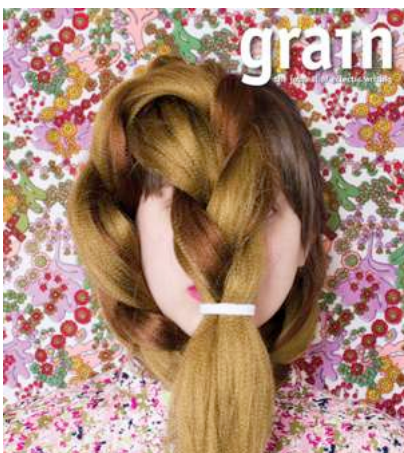
Books must have been published in 2021 or later.

3. Member News

New Published Story

AICW member **Carmelinda Scian**'s short story, "Betrayal," has been published in *Grain*. Congratulations, Carmelinda!

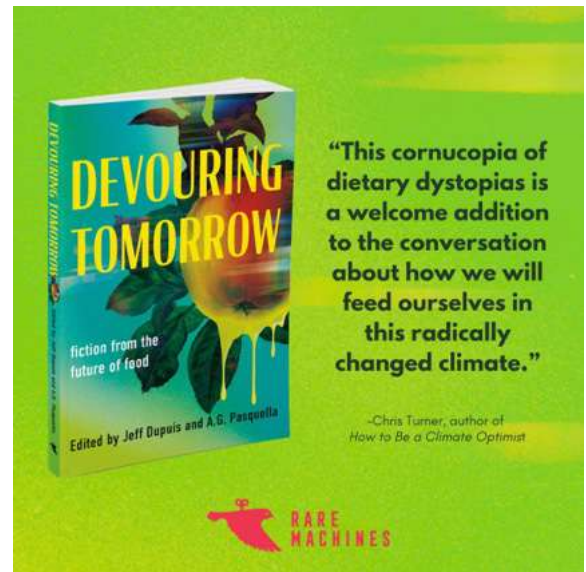
[Grain](#)





Devouring Tomorrow on Toronto Star "Can't Wait to Read" list

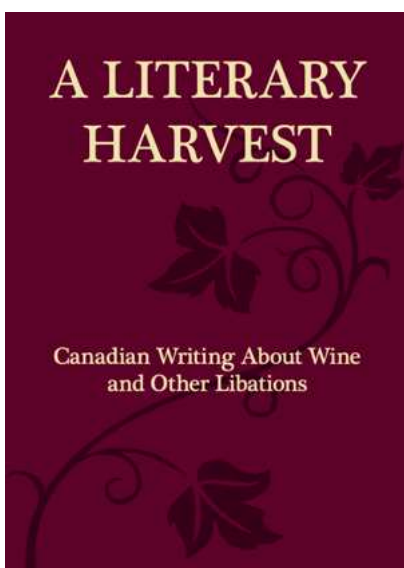
Devouring Tomorrow, a speculative fiction anthology on the future of food, includes "Rubber Road" a dystopic short story by AICW member **Terri Favro**. Edited by AG Pasquella and Jeff Dupuis, and published by Dundurn Press, the anthology was included in the Toronto Star's "We Can't Wait to Read" list for 2025. Preorders are available at bookstores and through Dundurn. Congrats, Terri!



A Literary Harvest: Canadian Writing About Wine and Other Libations

Edited by Licia Canton, Giulia De Gasperi, and Decio Cusmano, this important volume gives us fresh understandings and diverse perspectives on drinking wine and other libations. Imbued with humour and tragedy, the unique drinking voices fermenting in this volume form a potable Canadian Literature, (Longbridge Books, 2025; 308 pp.).

Purchase it [here](#).



4. Events

Books & Biscotti: A Celebration of Literature With the Voices of Italian-Canadian Authors



Come and enjoy an evening of poetry, and more,
with Italian-Canadian authors Bruna Di Giuseppe-Bertoni, Joe Giampaolo,
Christopher Manieri, Gianna Patriarca and Maria Zarrone



Books & Biscotti

A celebration of literature with the voices
of Italian-Canadian authors

~ Coffee and cookies will be served ~

~ Columbus Centre - Columbus Room ~

~ February 5, 2025, 7 pm ~

901 Lawrence Avenue West (Ample free parking after 6 pm)

~ The event is free ~ Please RSVP by e-mail at: booksandbiscotti500@gmail.com

(please provide full name and number of guests)

Books & Biscotti
Association of Italian-Canadian Writers

This cultural event is organized by members of the **Association of Italian-Canadian Writers** in collaboration with our venue sponsor **Villa Charities**.

Save the Date! Online Writing Workshop on March 8, 2025 with Anna Romano Milne

Following the successful collaboration with the Writers Collective of Canada last year, **AICW members** will be invited to register for a free 2-hour online workshop on March 8 at 11 am EST.

The workshop will focus on "The Art of Character" and will be limited to 16 participants.

Stay tuned for further details!

<https://wcc-cec.org/>



Writer In Residence Regina Public Library



If anyone's in the Regina area between January and June 2025, drop into the Central Library and say "Hello" to



Michael Miolla, AICW member. He will be at his post be at his post there dispensing writing tips and offering presentations. Click [here](#) for more information!

miollamichael@gmail.com

Accenti's Workshops to Build Community: Workshop 10

WORKSHOPS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

Workshop 10 - The Art of Seeing: Travel Photography with **ROBERT T. NORTON**



This transformative workshop is a rich visual journey that explores how to level up your creative game from simply *taking* photographs to *making* photographs with skillful intent. The workshop combines engaging information and exercises to awaken your creative spirit.

Robert T. Norton is a multi-discipline creative with decades of experience that have led to numerous publication credits and awards.

Friday, January 31, 2025

Visit www.accenti.ca/workshops-to

Friday, January 31, 2025
12:00-1:30 p.m. ET (on Zoom)
Free Admission

Visit www.accenti.ca/workshops-to-build-community/ or click here to register.

This project is made possible through the financial support of Employment and Social Development Canada as part of the New Horizons Seniors Program.



Free registration [here](#).

AccentiFest 2025



<https://accenti.ca/accenti-fest-2025-home/submissions/>

Festival organizers invite proposals for academic papers or panels, creative works, artistic performances, and audio and visual presentations that celebrate the diverse expressions of the Italian cultural heritage in Canada and beyond. Writers, artists, performers, academics, researchers, cultural organizers, collectives, ad hoc groups, arts organizations and others from all disciplines are invited to submit proposals in English or Italian. Emerging artists and students are welcome.

The submission deadline is February 24th, 2025. Find out more [here](#).

To see photos from last year's event, [click here](#).

Fiction and Poetry Workshop with Nicole Haldoupis



Award-winning author and AICW member **Nicole Haldoupis** is teaching an in-person creative writing workshop this winter!

All skill levels are welcome, and anyone can sign up!

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 - 9PM, February 11 – March 6, 2025 (four weeks)

Where: College of the North Atlantic, Prince Philip Drive Campus, Stephenville, Newfoundland (you do NOT need to be a CNA student to join!)

How Much: \$281.75

Sign Up [Here](#)

Contact Nicole at
nicole.haldoupis@cna.nl.ca if you have
any questions!

5. Call for Submissions



Call for Submissions: Emerging Creative Voices (3rd Edition)

The AICW is organizing the third edition of Emerging Creative Voices.
We would like to invite you to read from your latest work.

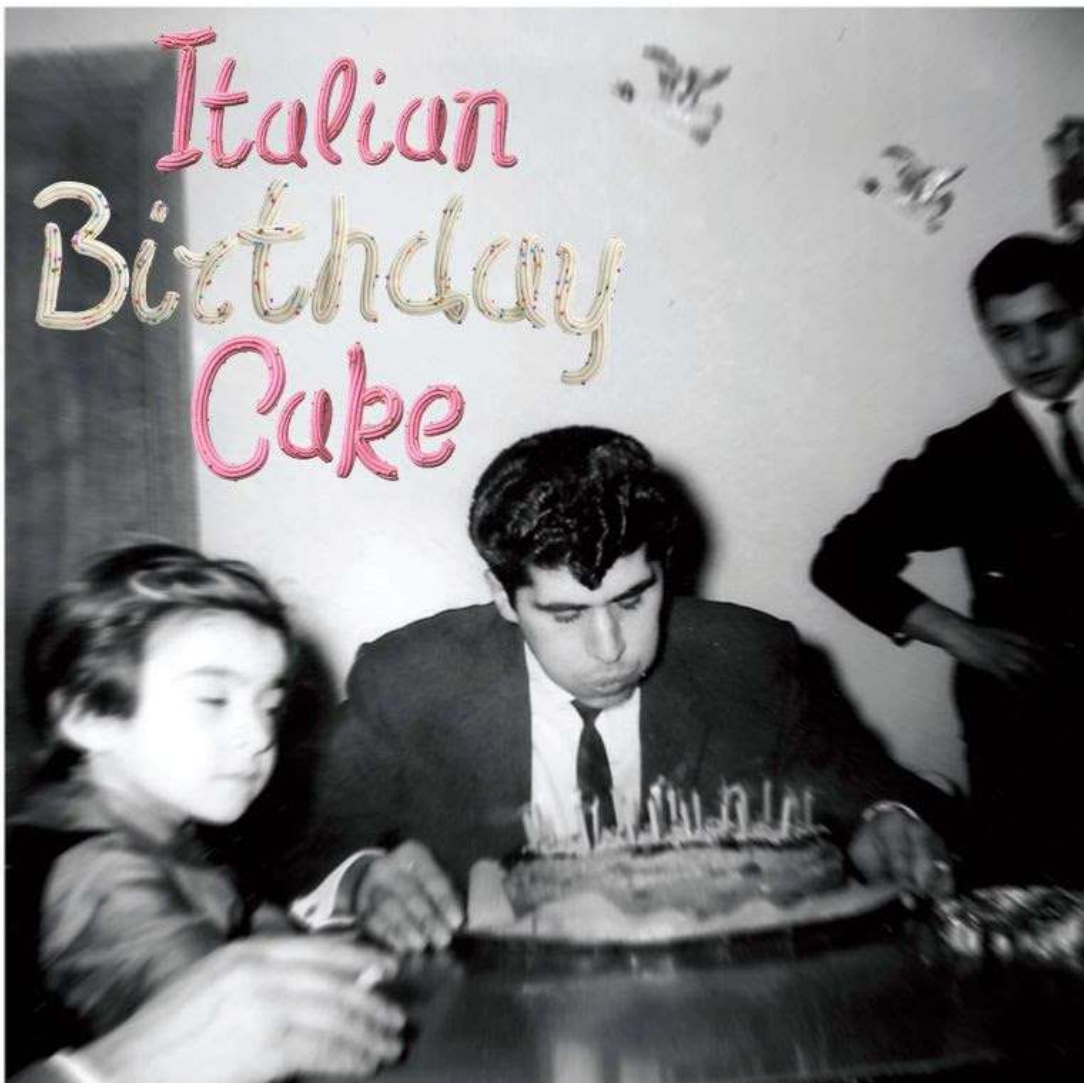
With this third edition we want to support and feature the talented storytellers in our community. We strongly believe that engaging with the younger members of our community is paramount to keeping the Italian-Canadian community alive.

The event will take place in **March 2025** on Zoom.

We invite you to send a short bio (max 75 words).

We also ask to send the genre and the piece you are going to read (max 10 minutes long) no later than **February 17, 2025**.

Please, send to mariapia.spadafora@gmail.com



Family Stories of "Italian Birthday Cake"

AICW new member **Cassandra Marsillo** is researching the history of "Italian birthday cake" and how it became so significant in the Italian diaspora communities of North America. She also wants to include YOUR memories and stories in the project. She is not looking for anything in particular, just for you to share the significance of this cake - whether you love it or hate it - in your family. -Do you have a recipe for this cake that has been handed down to you? -When did/does your family make this cake? -Do you have stories to tell about it?

[Click here to learn more and submit your stories!](#)



librissimi

Toronto Italian Book Festival
MAY 3 + 4 2025

6. Invitation to Submit

Thanks for subscribing to the AICW newsletter. The next newsletter comes out on **March 18th, 2025**. To include your items in the next newsletter, fill out the form at <https://aicw.ca/submission/>. Deadline for all submissions is **March 4th, 2025**. If you are having trouble submitting an item for the AICW Newsletter using the online form, please see the [short tutorial video](#) we've created.

7. Thank You / Credits

AICW Executive

Christine Sansalone, President
Maria Pia Spadafora, Vice-President
Licia Canton, Past-President
Dennis Maione, Treasurer
Delia De Santis, Membership Chair
Giulia Verticchio, Secretary

AICW Editorial Board

Anna Foschi
Rosaria Moretti-Lawrie
Cristina Pepe
Anna Romano Milne
Salvatore Bancheri
Diana Iuele-Colilli

Newsletter Committee

Maria Pia Spadafora (Chair)
Lisa Meffe
Sonia Di Placido
Christine Sansalone

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