

Dear Reader,

For over 40 years, *Contemporary Verse 2 (CV2)* has been working to expand public readership and appreciation of poetry with an inclusive publishing program that supports outstanding new poetry and critical writing about poetry from Winnipeg, across Canada, and beyond.

At *CV2* we believe in the power of poetry and its amazing capacity to change the lives of those who read it, and those who write it. Our belief that poetry can be both a catalyst for language acquisition and a step in the path towards creative self-discovery fuels our passionate commitment to publishing the broadest possible range of new, emerging, and established poets.

As Canada's oldest poetry magazine, *CV2* has been exceptionally dedicated to the support of talented poetic writing at all stages and levels of experience for nearly 44 years, but now we want to take it further — to offer more to the writing community than we ever have before.

Critical support is crucial to poets at all stages of their careers, but is especially important for emerging poets. The number of submissions of new work we receive has doubled over the past few years, with many writers requesting feedback on their writing. Unfortunately, as much as we wish we could provide constructive notes to all who request them, our current staff and funding resources limit our ability to do so.

With your help, we believe we can start to provide consistent, valuable encouragement and resources to the writing community in the shape of a special, expanded project devoted to the experience of emergence. This project will provide poets at all stages of their writing practice with a range of opportunities to access resources in their own local, national, and online writing communities.

Scheduled to launch in 2019, *CV2*'s Emergence Project will include an extended issue of the magazine (Fall V.42.2), which will feature an expansive conversation in the form of interviews with writers about what it means to be an emerging poet in Canada; a gala launch of the issue and panel discussion with several of the poets featured in the issue (both local, and from across the country); and a series of free writing and publishing workshops to be held in the spring of 2019 and the spring of 2020.

- *CV2*'s expanded Emergence Issue will feature 10 conversations with a selection of experienced poets who have established themselves as mentors in their communities. Featured poets will represent a diversity of experience, background, age, style and focus. Conversations will centre on the experience of each poet, as well as the importance of the work they do within their respective writing communities. Each featured poet will be asked to curate a selection of new writing from 3 to 5 poets they have worked with. Alongside these conversations and curated selections, the issue will feature a generous sample of work from new and emerging Canadian poets of all ages. Each of the emerging

poets accepted for this issue will be asked to provide a brief introduction to their work and the writing experience.

- The launch of the Emergence Issue in 2019 will include a panel discussion with several of the featured poets in the issue. The panel discussion will be recorded and transcribed to be published on the *CV2* Website for all to access.
- The Emergence Workshops are planned as a series of 6 writing and publishing workshops to be held in the spring of 2019 and the spring of 2020, in Winnipeg. The workshops will aim to help poets navigate not only the ins-and-outs of seeking support for their writing, but also the publishing industry at large, providing access to writing resources available both locally and online. These workshops are free of charge, to ensure that all poets have access to these resources. Summaries of the discussions that take place in the workshops will be posted online for all to access.

Our new goals require additional financial support beyond the current funding we receive and the income we generate through the sales of subscriptions to the magazine. The estimated total cost of this project is just over \$20,000. We request your help to ensure that this project can come to fruition and offer the widest and greatest possible support to poets.

CV2 is a registered charity and all donations of \$10.00 and higher will receive a charitable receipt. Levels of support are as follows:

Poetry Legend:

\$2500.00+

Poetry Superhero:

\$1000.00+

Poetry Champion:

\$500.00+

Poetry Builder:

\$250.00+

Poetry Supporter:

\$100.00+

Poetry Friend:

\$10.00+

Your generous contribution will go towards:

- Emergence Issue Volume 42.2 — extra expenses of creating an expanded issue include printing costs for extra pages, additional writers' fees and other production costs beyond the average for a regular issue of *CV2*
- Emergence Gala Launch — extra expenses include travel and accommodation costs of welcoming writers from out-of-province; special venue arrangements for the recording of panels and readings; and transcription costs for print and online publication
- Emergence Workshops — extra costs for workshops include facilitators' fees, venue fees, and material resource fees; production, resource compilation and distribution costs. These workshops are to be created inclusively through consultation and collaboration with existing community and writing resources and organizations to ensure ongoing support for development.

All proceeds will go to the Emergence Project. Thank you for your generous support and for your passion for Canadian poetry.

Most sincerely,

Clarise Foster

Editor, Contemporary Verse 2 (CV2)