

Media Advisory**October 27, 2023****Alberta dinosaurs inspire YA novel**

Edmonton What better place than Alberta to set a dinosaur-themed Young Adult novel? “The province is home to not one, but two, paleontological museums, which is unique in Canada,” says David Stover, Editor and Publisher of Rock’s Mills Press, “and it’s a great follow-up to *Lukas and the Ghost Train*.” In this new novel, a terrifying Wihtikow Rex takes centre stage. The mysterious creature, a Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton that Lukas and his cousin KC accidentally bring to life—is adapted from Cree mythology as a ravening monster that grows as it consumes its victims.

“I got the idea while I was reading “Lukas and the Ghost Train” to a friend’s Gr. 3 class at Prince Charles Elementary,” says Adams. “It’s Edmonton Public School’s only First Nations elementary school and that prompted me to introduce Mekwen Calf Robe as a strong, female First Nations paleontologist.”

He workshopped the novel by writing and reading it to students in a Gr. 4 class. In the process, he enlisted Michael “Mahkoos” Merrier, a Métis Elder and pipe-carrier to provide spiritual guidance as the novel was created. Now, with it published, who better to speak at the event than Dr. Philip Currie, world-renowned paleontologist and museum curator whom the author once encountered at a long-lost dinosaur dig?

Where: Muttart Theatre - Downstairs - Stanley A. Milner Library
When: 7.30-9.00 p.m. Friday, November 3, 2023
Who: Stuart Adams, Author
Dr. Philip Currie, paleontologist and museum curator
MC - Kenneth Brown, Edmonton writer, actor and director
Michael “Mahkoos” Merrier (Métis Elder and Pipe Carrier)

Rock’s Mills Press is an independent Canadian publisher with an eclectic list spanning the spectrum from academic nonfiction to children’s books. Authors include poet Gary Geddes, historians Michael Bliss and J. L. Granatstein, sociologists Lorne Tepperman and Robert Brym, and many others, both upcoming and established. *Beyond Banting: Decoding Canada’s Diabetes Research Superstars* by Krista Lamb, published by RMP, was recently named the winner of the Science Writers and Communicators of Canada 2021 Book Award in the general books category.

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