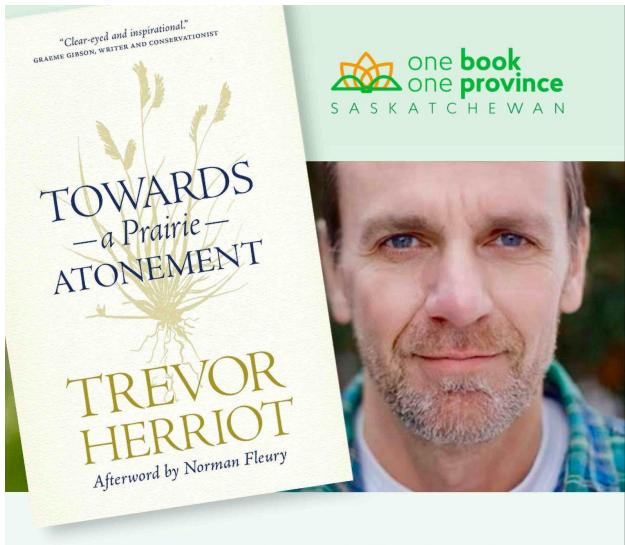




For Immediate Release
January 6th, 2025

Trevor Herriot's *Towards a Prairie Atonement* selected for One Book One Province 2026



Towards a Prairie Atonement by Trevor Herriot was selected by the Saskatchewan Library Association (SLA) as its One Book One Province title for 2026. Each year, SLA selects a title by a Saskatchewan author that builds awareness and understanding of an aspect of Saskatchewan's history and culture. The program will see libraries, book clubs, and individuals read *Towards a Prairie Atonement* and share discussions at events across the province, starting this spring. One Book One Province will be launched with a special event at Government House on March 26th, 2026, hosted by Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Bernadette McIntyre.

More than a history, *Towards a Prairie Atonement* is a call to action that begins with the author facing

his own responsibility, as a descendent of settlers, for Indigenous displacement and ecological degradation. In 1938, when the Métis of Ste. Madeleine returned from working away, they found their homes burnt to the ground and their animals shot. The land they held in common was no longer theirs but was now controlled by the federal government. Herriot connects today's ecological disarray to the legacy of Métis dispossession. With Indigenous and settler people alienated from one another and from the grasslands itself, hope and courage seem in short supply. This book offers both by proposing a practical atonement that could again bring people and prairie together.

This year, 2026, has been declared by the United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, an excellent opportunity to consider our collective responsibility and relationship to the critically endangered natural prairie. University of Regina Press Co-Director, Marcel DeCoste, describes *Towards a Prairie Atonement* as "something more than an elegy for this place and its original peoples, more even than an unflinching indictment of the colonial culture that has so scoured these lands; it is a poignant call to a reconciliation both ethical and environmental, to be pursued by individuals, communities, and governments alike."

Trevor Herriot is a naturalist and author of several award-winning books, including *Grass, Sky, Song* and the national bestseller *River in a Dry Land*, both short-listed for the Governor General's Award for Non-fiction. *Towards a Prairie Atonement*, published by University of Regina Press in 2016, won two Saskatchewan Book Awards. His most recent book, a novel, *The Economy of Sparrows* (2023), earned the Glengarry Book Award. He is a recipient of the Kloppenburg Award for Literary Merit, the Glengarry Book Award, and the Saskatchewan Order of Merit. For more than twenty years, he has been the voice of "Birdline" on CBC Radio Saskatchewan's *Blue Sky* noon show.

The University of Regina Press publishes books that matter—in both academic and trade formats. Since 2013, URP has sparked conversation and developed authors into public intellectuals.

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