March 15, 2017

**Station Eleven** author to speak at MacEwan University

Edmonton – Last August, MacEwan University announced that Emily St. John Mandel’s novel *Station Eleven* was named the 2016/17 Book of the Year. The novel recently won the Author C. Clarke Award and the Toronto Book Award, and was long-listed for both the International Dublin Literary Award and CBC’s Canada Reads.

Praised by *Game of Thrones* author George R. R. Martin *Station Eleven* weaves together several stories that take place before, during and after a plague that wipes out life as we know it. From the actor who dies on stage before the end of the world, to the travelling theatre troupe that encounters a self-proclaimed prophet in the aftermath, the novel tells a story about fate, beauty and hope during times of darkness and tragedy.

“*Station Eleven* is taught in first-year English classes across the institution. The highlight of the year is when the author visits MacEwan University for a public reading,” said Paul Martin, the coordinator of the Book of the Year Committee. “She will also spend a few days presenting writing workshops and discussing the process for developing a novel.”

Every year since 1997, the university has chosen a work of contemporary Canadian fiction based on its appeal and potential to generate interest and discussion at the university. The Book of the Year celebrations will take place between March 20 and 24. The public reading will take place on March 23 in the Heart (main floor lobby) of the Robbins Health Learning Centre.

The Book of the Year program is a long-standing tradition at the university, and is sponsored by the Centre for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ), the Department of English, the Library, the mStore, the Students’ Association of MacEwan University (SAMU), and the Edmonton Public Library.

*Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.*

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