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**Acclaimed author named Writer-in-Residence**

Edmonton – MacEwan University’s Department of English is pleased to announce that Marina Endicott has been named the 2016 Writer-in-Residence. Endicott teaches creative writing at the Banff Centre for the Arts, the University of Toronto, Humber College and the University of Alberta.

Endicott’s first novel, *Open Arms*, was short-listed for the Amazon First Novel Award and serialized on CBC Radio. Her novel *Good to a Fault*, a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, won the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize for Best Book, Canada/Caribbean. *Little Shadows*, about a sister-trio-harmony vaudeville act touring the prairies in 1912, was long-listed for the Giller Prize and short-listed for the Governor General’s award. Her latest novel, *Close to Hugh* was the CBC Best Book of 2015.

“MacEwan University’s Writer-in-Residence allows students and the wider Edmonton-area community one-on-one access to a professional writer for non-judgmental manuscript and publishing advice in an environment external to the classroom,” said Jacqueline Baker, assistant professor, English Department. “This is very important to our students as we now offer a new minor in creative writing,” added Baker.

During her residency, Endicott will be at work on her new novel, *The Difference*, set on a clipper ship in 1901. “I’m at the beginning of a big project and I’m really looking forward to that dedicated writing time,” said Endicott. “I also very much enjoy reading manuscripts that people bring to a writer in residence; it’s such a gift,” added Endicott.

Writers, novelists, poets, screenwriters, playwrights and essayists of all skill levels are invited to meet with Endicott during her time on campus. Endicott’s advice for writers is to keep on writing, and forget about whether it’s good or not, just keep writing.