



SPEAKERS HOUSE CANADA



Random House of Canada Limited



McCLELLAND & STEWART

Celebrating 100 Years

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**Random House of Canada and McClelland & Stewart
Write a New Chapter in Book Promotion: Speakers House Canada**

TORONTO, Monday June 16, 2008 — Bestselling authors are taking their stories and ideas from page to stage this fall with the launch of a national, professional speaking agency. Speakers House Canada is a vehicle for showcasing authors who are in-demand speakers, allowing them to connect with audiences in new ways.

Speakers House Canada is a new business and marketing initiative of Random House of Canada Limited (RHC) and McClelland & Stewart Ltd. (M&S). Together these companies have unmatched expertise in book publishing and promotion, and represent the visionaries behind the boldest non-fiction topics and the finest fiction dominating bestselling charts.

“Our authors have been asking us for help managing an increasing number of speaking requests and demands on their time,” says Brad Martin, President and CEO of Random House of Canada. “We are continually striving to find new opportunities to promote our authors. This is an additional service we can provide to authors, strengthening our relationship with them between book projects and promoting them to new audiences, without straying from the business of selling books to retailers.”

This new business area is an extension of the ongoing active promotion of RHC and M&S books and authors, and will be in addition to the traditional events planned with retailers to market and sell their books. Speakers House Canada will create a new revenue stream for the authors and facilitate all aspects of booking and scheduling, making it easy for authors to share their ideas and stories with readers and organizations across Canada.

Bestselling author, business woman, design maven, television star and producer, Debbie Travis is among the distinguished list of authors who will make up the inaugural Speakers House Canada roster. “I’m thrilled to be working more closely with Random House. There is nothing I love more than speaking and mentoring to groups about building my brand, television career and of course the design world. I am also looking forward to sharing my tales of being a working mother as I launch my new book *Not Guilty*. Having Speakers House Canada handle this exciting venture of public speaking on my behalf is wonderful. I’m looking forward to getting out and telling people in person about my new book and sharing some of the things I’ve learned along the way.”

Travis’s *Not Guilty: My Guide to Working Hard, Raising Kids and Laughing through the Chaos*, will be published by Random House Canada this October.

"From my own experience I'll tell you — you can't have a strong company without investing in new ideas," says Courtney Pratt, former CEO of Canadian steel manufacturer Stelco. "I loved writing *Blast Furnace* and talking to the media about it on my book tour. Now I'll have a chance to get out and talk directly with audiences about my experiences and share ideas for encouraging corporate responsibility. The dialog itself is so important and can be the beginning of real change." Pratt's *Into The Blast Furnace: The Forging of a CEO's Conscience*, co-written by Larry Gaudet, was published by Random House Canada in April 2008.

Speakers House Canada is launching with a small and targeted list of authors who can speak on a variety of topics. While the list will grow, it will be kept focused to ensure an appropriate level of service for the speakers. Below is a listing of the Speakers House Canada inaugural roster:

- **Sara Dimerman**, therapist, parent educator, and founder of the Parent Education and Resource Centre. Child and family therapy expert at www.canadianparents.com.
- **Janice Lindsay**, design icon and Canada’s foremost authority on colour. Columnist for *The Globe and Mail* and author of *All About Colour*.
- **Lyman MacInnis**, expert on public speaking with 40 years worth of experience in business communications and Executive coaching.
- **Natalie MacLean**, one of Canada’s top wine writers and an accredited sommelier. Author of the bestselling *Red White & Drunk All Over*.
- **Jennifer McLagan**, internationally recognized chef, food stylist and culinary revolutionist. Author of the bestselling *Bones* and *Fat*.
- **Erna Paris**, has written widely on issues of truth and reconciliation, war crimes and human rights, international criminal courts, rule of law and US post-9/11 foreign policy, contemporary European history, with an emphasis on French history and politics, the Jewish Diaspora, and Canada’s role internationally.
- **Courtney Pratt**, one of Canada’s most accomplished business executives. A former CEO of Stelco who is concerned with fostering community involvement.
- **Julian Sher**, award-winning investigative journalist in print, radio, TV, and on the Web. A veteran documentary writer and director, a newsroom trainer.
- **Piers Steel**, one of the world's foremost experts on the subject of procrastination.
- **Debbie Travis**, decorating icon, business leader, TV producer, designer, columnist, star, and Mom.
- **Dr. Michael Ungar**, pre-eminent expert on troubled kids and youth at risk.
- **Andrew Westoll**, award-winning travel writer specializing in issues of science, conservation, and culture.

For more information and a list of speakers and topics visit: www.SpeakersHouseCanada.ca

ABOUT RANDOM HOUSE OF CANADA LIMITED

Random House of Canada Limited is the Canadian division of Random House, Inc., the world's largest trade book publisher. Random House of Canada proudly distributes Random House books in Canada, and is home to the prestigious and long-standing Canadian imprints Doubleday Canada, Knopf Canada, Random House Canada, Bond Street Books, Vintage Canada, Anchor Canada and Seal Books, which together have one of the most successful and award-winning programs in Canadian history. Random House is the book publishing division of Bertelsmann AG, one of the world's foremost media companies.

ABOUT McCLELLAND & STEWART LTD.

McClelland & Stewart Ltd. was founded in 1906 and is one of Canada's oldest and most prestigious publishing houses. Called "a national treasure" by the Canada Council for the Arts, McClelland & Stewart is fondly known as "The Canadian Publisher" having published some of the finest Canadian writers, including Margaret Atwood, Alistair MacLeod, Rohinton Mistry, Alice Munro, Jane Urquhart and the late Pierre Elliott Trudeau. A national trade publisher, McClelland & Stewart publishes a wide range of award-winning fiction and non-fiction, both Canadian and international authors, under the imprints McClelland & Stewart, Douglas Gibson Books, New Canadian Library and Emblem. In 2001, Random House of Canada became a 25% owner of McClelland & Stewart. The other 75% was given as a gift to the University of Toronto by former owner Avie Bennett. Under the agreement, Random House of Canada provides various services to McClelland & Stewart. Together, Random House of Canada and McClelland & Stewart authors have won many prestigious awards, including The Governor General's Award, The Giller Prize, The Man Booker Prize, The Pulitzer Prize, Le Prix Médicis, and The National Business Book Award to name a few.

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