



2016 Kids' Lit Quiz Canada  
Annual Report

## HERE WE GROW AGAIN!

2016 was a spectacular year for Kids' Lit Quiz™ Canada!

Tournaments took place in three provinces: British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario. There was a 20 percent increase in registration over 2015!

His Excellency the Right David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, was Guest Quiz Master at our inaugural Ottawa tournament. As Quiz Master, he even entertained the students with a wolf howl!

A link to a video interview from that can be found here:

Ottawa Citizen <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7acUzkLD-4>



Photo Credit: MCpl Vincent Carboneau, Rideau Hall

Teams of children's authors participated with the student teams in Vancouver, Hamilton, Ottawa and at Ryerson's Mattamy Athletic Centre at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto. This has been a terrific way for readers to be with their beloved authors and for authors to test their wits against their readers, all while celebrating reading!

It is always heartening to hear we ARE making a difference in children's lives.

Below is feedback received from Kids' Lit Quiz coaches.

*"KLQ engages readers and reluctant readers to be excited about books. Students start to recognize they know more than they realize when it comes to "book knowledge". Reading*

*and talking about books come together in a way that makes it cool to be the reader and the friend of the reader. “*

F. Faraj

*“At each school assembly we have a kidslit segment where kids face-off against teachers with student-written questions. It helps generate buzz around reading and the club.”*

Hillcrest PS librarian.

*“This was my first year coordinating KLQ at our school. As a new teacher-librarian, and I was floored by the excitement felt by the students who had participated in the regional heat in past years with the support of our former TL. I recruited student coaches, and they expertly led the weekly practices using the material shared on the KLQ website. The program helped to light a spark in even the most reluctant readers. We can't wait to participate again next year - the students are already planning a mini in-school competition! “*

K. Rogers-Hern

Celebrating readers and reading elevates the status of reading and sends a powerful message in a community.

It is important to society at large as well as benefitting the individual.

Founder and Quiz Master Wayne Mills states:

*“We all need to read aloud more, so that children hear the alluring power of story.*

*We need librarians, who know their books,*

*teachers who are passionate about good books and*

*booksellers with well-stocked bookshops.*

*The book is under threat and the great pity is that*

*it's democracies that will suffer because*

***books of all kinds keep ideas alive and encourage critical thinking,***

***which is the hallmark of a strong democracy.***

*Great nations are judged by their levels of literacy and their passion for literature.*

***Reading and reading for pleasure is the litmus test of education.”***

The reach of Kids' Lit Quiz Canada continues to grow! It is important to remember that the KLQ teams are the tips of a reading iceberg! They represent their schools' strongest readers and are usually selected from a growing corps of keen readers in every school. KLQ Book Clubs routinely have 15 to 20 and as many as 50 kids coming each week to talk books and prepare for the Quiz.

In May, we partnered with the National Reading Campaign to run an exhibition Quiz in Sudbury, the designated 2016 Reading Town. Executive Director Sandy Crawley was an excellent and enthusiastic guest Quiz Master! Thanks to McLeod Public School for hosting us! Sudbury has plenty of big readers too!

We welcomed some new, enthusiastic and talented individuals to our Board 2016. Their ideas are energizing us all!

Please enjoy the following videos, which document our spectacular year!

Kids' Lit Quiz Canada 2016- What is it?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Myv\\_b8H4FFo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Myv_b8H4FFo&feature=youtu.be)

Kids' Lit Quiz Canada 2016 – The Road to New Zealand

<https://youtu.be/t18qJgMWV30>

A huge thanks to our sponsors and private donors;

TD Bank Group, the Vandewater Foundation at the Toronto Foundation,

Tory's LLP, CIBC and the many individual donors and friends of the Kids' Lit Quiz Canada family!

Our prize sponsors ensure our big readers win great prizes. They are:

Mabel's Fables Book Store, Vancouver's Kidsbooks, Kaleidoscope Kids, A Different Drummer Books.

Of course, none of the five Kids' Lit Quiz™ tournaments and National Final could have taken place without a corps of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers. Our volunteers are a talented group and pitched in as score keepers, Judges, scrutineers, at snack service, registration, tech support and fundraising. We truly would not exist without them!

Join us as we move into our 7<sup>th</sup> year! 2017 holds much promise as we host the **KLQ WORLD FINALS** during Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We can use your support! Please contact us to discuss how you can

**Be part of the story...**



Nancy Davidson  
President & National Coordinator  
Kids' Lit Quiz Canada