

# Authors' Profiles

**Sarah Ens** is the author of *The World Is Mostly Sky* and *Flyway*, winner of the 2023 ReLit Poetry Award. She has published poetry and non-fiction in magazines including *Prairie Fire*, *The New Quarterly*, *Arc Poetry Magazine*, and *Contemporary Verse 2* and lives and writes in Treaty 1 territory (Winnipeg, Manitoba).

**Paul Doerksen** is Associate Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies at Canadian Mennonite University. Doerksen is the author of *Take and Read: Reflecting Theologically on Books*.

**Ann Hostetler** is the author of two poetry collections, *Safehold* and *Empty Room with Light*, and editor of an anthology, *A Cappella: Mennonite Voices in Poetry*. She lives in Goshen, Indiana, and is Professor Emerita at Goshen College, where she taught English and creative writing for several decades. Her scholarship on American literature includes a focus on Mennonite literature, and she edits the *Journal of Mennonite Writing* at [www.mennonitewriting.org](http://www.mennonitewriting.org).

**Elizabeth (Liz) Jansen** is a PhD student in History at York University. Her Russlaender ancestors settled in Alberta and Saskatchewan before moving to Ontario. She studies how their values, beliefs, and way of life influenced how they adapted interculturally and ecologically—and what they still teach us.

**Karl Koop** is Professor of History and Theology at Canadian Mennonite University and publishes in the field of Anabaptist Studies. He is also co-editor for *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*.

**Janne Korkka** is Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Turku, Finland. His research focuses on contemporary Canadian fiction, poetry, and non-fiction, in particular writings that engage

with Western and Arctic Canada. He is the author of *Ethical Encounters: Spaces and Selves in the Writings of Rudy Wiebe* (Rodopi, 2013), and co-editor of *Thinking with the Familiar in Contemporary Literature and Culture "Out of the Ordinary"* (Brill, 2019) and *Exploring Canada: Exploits and Encounters* (Peter Lang, 2022). He has also published on Canadian writing in various research anthologies and journals including *English Studies* and *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature*. He has been President of the Nordic Association for Canadian Studies since 2015.

**Lucille Marr** is Chaplain at The Presbyterian College (Montreal) where she is also a Distinguished Scholar-in Residence (Honorary). She is also an Adjunct Professor at McGill University's School of Religious Studies. Marr has a chapter on "Women and Christianity" in the forthcoming edited volume *Women in World Religions*, and her book *Frances Davidson: Spirituality and Gender* is scheduled with Pandora Press for 2026.

**Geoff Martin's** place-based and environmental essays have been nominated twice for the Pushcart Prize and have appeared in *The New Quarterly*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Literary Review of Canada*, *Boulevard*, and *The Common*, among others. He is currently completing an essay collection, called *Homeground*, and is a co-founder of The Creek Collective, a group of artists making art in response to—and alongside—Schneider Creek in Kitchener Ontario.

**Colin P. Neufeldt** is a Professor of History at Concordia University of Edmonton. His recent publications include "Perspectives on the Mennonite Experience During the Holodomor (1932–33): Resources in North American Archives and Libraries," *Ukraina Moderna* 30–31 (2021): 131–55; "Divided Loyalties: The Political Radicalization of Wymysle Niemieckie Mennonites in Interwar Poland (1918-1939)," *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 96, no. 4 (Oct. 2022): 531–70; and "Escape to Freedom and Return to Bondage: A Case Study of the Evacuation of Mennonites from Deutsch Wymyschle and Gąbin, Poland in Early 1945," *The Polish Review* 69, no. 3 (Oct. 2024): 27–51. Colin lives in Edmonton, Alberta, where he also practices law.

**Arnold Neufeldt-Fast**, PhD (Theology), is Vice President Academic and Dean of the Seminary at Tyndale University in Toronto. He was born in Ontario in 1964 and taught for six years at the Mennonite Theological Seminary Bienenberg in Switzerland. Neufeldt-Fast is the nephew of two regiment members, one who

died in the Siege of Budapest and the other who died of starvation in a Soviet POW camp.

**Richard Ratzlaff** recently retired from a career as acquisitions editor first at University of Toronto Press and then at McGill-Queen's University Press. He has lived in Toronto for thirty-odd years but is from Abbotsford, BC. Among other projects, he hopes to learn more about the history and culture of the Germans in and from the former Soviet Union.

**Werner Toews** has published articles in several publications on Russian Mennonite themes and is the author of *Sketches from Siberia: The Life of Jacob D. Sudermann*. He was the chairperson of the Chortitza Headstone Project.

**Ad van de Staaij** obtained his MA in East European History in Utrecht and his PhD (on the relations between Dutch Doopsgezinden and Ukrainian Mennonites between 1920 and 1938) in Amsterdam. He lives and works in Den Haag, Netherlands.

**Nataliya Venger** is Professor of History at Oles Honchar Dnipro National University, Ukraine. She is a research associate at the University of Winnipeg and a visiting scholar at Canadian Mennonite University.

**Sabrina Voelz** has been teaching English and North American Studies at Leuphana University Lüneburg since 1997. Her research interests focus on identity studies, trauma, and the depiction of ethnic and religious groups in North American literature and film.

**J. A. Weingarten** is a Professor of Language and Liberal Studies at Fanshawe College. He is the author of *Sharing the Past* (UTP, 2019) and the co-editor of *Unpacking the Personal Library* (WLUP, 2022). He is currently finishing work on *The Selected Letters of John Newlove* and working on a new book, *Learning to Learn*, geared toward students beginning their post-secondary careers.

**Hans Werner** is a Senior Scholar at the University of Winnipeg. He is the author of *The Constructed Mennonite: History, Memory, and the Second World War* and *Imagined Homes: Soviet German Immigrants in Two Cities*.