

News from Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

Emma Craig, Regional Librarian, St. John's Division

NL Public Libraries Nominee, Michael Crummey's *The Adversary*, wins 2025 Dublin Literary Award

Since 1994, the Dublin Literary Award has accepted nominations of books from public libraries around the world to compete for their award. In May, NL Public Libraries' nominee, *The Adversary* by **Michael Crummey**, was chosen as the recipient of the 2025 Award.



Set in the Newfoundland outport of Mockbeggar, the novel follows the sibling rivalry between Abe Strapp and Widow Caines as they fight for the scant resources available in this isolated northern community, affecting the lives of everyone around them. A dark and beautifully written historical novel, *The Adversary* was chosen as the 2024 Must-Read Book of the Year by NL Public Library patrons and staff.

In March, the shortlist for the 2025 Dublin Literary Award was released, which included the titles nominated by libraries from around the world: *Not a River* by **Sleva Almada** (translated by **Annie McDermott**), *We Are Light* by **Gerda Blees** (translated by **Michele Hutchinson**), *James* by **Percival Everett**, *Prophet Song* by **Paul Lynch**, and *North Woods* by **Daniel Mason**.

In May, *The Adversary* was announced as the 2025 winner and Crummey accepted his award in Dublin. In his acceptance speech, Crummey made sure to shout-out public libraries: "I would not be here today without the Buchans Public Library, the library in my hometown... the library was the place where I found the world outside my town, and it just gave me such a sense of possibility. So, the fact that the Newfoundland Public Libraries... are still opening me up to the world and sending me out into the world, that just makes me so thrilled."

Immediately, plans got underway in St. John's to give Crummey a hero's welcome! Friends and family of Crummey, as well as the public, were invited to a celebration event at the A.C. Hunter Public Library on June 12th. St John's Library Board Member **Joanne Earle**, former NL Collections Librarian **Bonnie Morgan**, and author **Lisa Moore** all spoke about Crummey and his



work, as well as the significance of his win, before the man of the hour was welcomed to the podium.

We here at NL Public Libraries are very proud of Crummey's win and how he represented the importance of NL literature on the international stage. Learn more about 2025 shortlist and longlist at their [website](#).

