

For Immediate Release

Two new authors join the ranks of the *Our Canadian Girl* series

Meet Millie – a brand new Our Canadian Girl from Toronto, Ontario

Ride the River by Troon Harrison

Ten-year-old tomboy Millie MacCallum needs a break from her parents and new baby sister almost as much as they need a break from Millie. So it's arranged that Millie will spend the summer with her aunt at Stoney Lake in Ontario's Kawartha Lakes region, one of the province's first areas of pioneer settlement. It's 1914 and life in the Kawarthas is much different than Millie's urban existence in Toronto. In the course of a wonderful, adventurous summer, Millie learns another way of life – and about herself- in ways she wouldn't have imagined.

Troon Harrison has written over a dozen children's books including *The Long Weekend*, *Goodbye to Atlantis* and *Courage to Fly*, which were selected as "Our Choice" by the Canadian Children's Book Centre; *The Dream Collector* which won the Blue Spruce Award and was a finalist in the Independent Publisher Book Award in 2000; and *A Bushel of Light*, which was selected as an Honour Book for the Geoffrey Bilson Historical Fiction Award in 2001. She lives in Lakefield, ON.

And Keeley, another new girl on the block, from Frank, Alberta

The Girl from Turtle Mountain by Deborah Ellis

It's September 1901, and ten-year-old Keeley and her father are making a fresh start, after the death of Keeley's mother, in a brand new town called Frank that sits in a valley at the bottom of Turtle Mountain in Southern Alberta. From the moment they arrive Keeley knows she'll love Frank. Not only can she and her dad live together, but there's room for children to breathe, as her dad would say. There's also room for mischief, and Keeley quickly gets into some, with the encouragement of a schoolmate named Peter. Peter dares Keeley to spend a night in the coal mine, where she discovers another part of Frank that a little bit scary. Will things turn out as she hopes?

Deborah Ellis's first book, *Searching for X*, won the Governor General's Award in 2000. Her next book, *The Breadwinner*, was shortlisted for the Red Maple Award. The sequel to that book, *Parvana's Journey*, won the 2003 Ruth Schwartz Children's Book Award. Ellis grew up

in Paris, Ontario, and now lives in Toronto, where she works with women with psychiatric disabilities. She also reads prodigiously, writes constantly, and has never been known to back down from a dare.

With a stunning list of the best of Canada's children's authors, the award-winning **Our Canadian Girl** series is a runaway success with young readers across the country! This impressive list includes: Kathy Kacer, Anne Laurel Carter, Priscilla Galloway, Budge Wilson, Cora Taylor, Sharon E. McKay, Lynne Kositsky, Kathy Stinson, Dorothy Joan Harris, Julie Lawson...and now, Deborah Ellis and Troon Harrison!

Aimed at 8-to-12 year old girls, **Our Canadian Girl** tells the story of Canada's past from the perspective of the girls who lived through it. Readers everywhere have fallen in love with girls surprisingly like themselves as they follow historical narrative ripe with drama and adventure.

Our Canadian Girl

Published by Penguin Canada

5 1/2 x 8 ; \$8.99 / Original Trade Paperback

Millie: Ride the River

0-14-331202-2

Keeley: Girl from Turtle Mountain

0-14-301484-6

For more information about **Our Canadian Girl**, or to book an interview or event with one of the **Our Canadian Girl** authors, please contact:

Karen McMullin, Publicist

Phone: (416) 928-2408

Fax: (416) 925-0068

Email: Karen.McMullin@ca.penguinroup.com