

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, SLA was forced to cancel the last three stops on the OBOP tour. Our apologies to the libraries and their patrons in Assiniboia, Shaunavon and Muenster. These events will be rescheduled when it is safe to do so.

We were thrilled to begin the OBOP program on February 28 with the official launch at Government House, hosted by their Honours Russ and Donna Mirasty. Here are a few words from His Honour's address:

"I want to thank the Saskatchewan Library Association for this wonderful program. Literacy is very important, in so many aspects of our lives. This program not only supports literacy, it uses reading as a way to bring people together – to create a sense of community.

I feel very strongly that everyone in this province – no matter where you are from or what your background is – everyone can contribute to their communities and to the larger community. In fact, we need everyone to contribute.

I want to commend the Library Association on selecting a powerful, beautifully-written, and very timely book by the gifted Candace Savage. This is the perfect book to spark conversation. Thank you, Candace, for your curiosity, which led you to dig deeper, so to speak, into the history of this land. And thank you for being so conscientious in your research, and in consulting knowledge keepers.

I know that Candace has been asked if this book is, in itself, an act of Reconciliation. I was able to watch the short film of a reading by Candace – and what a great film! Candace answers that very question in the film. It's my feeling that the key to Reconciliation is relationships, which create understanding, and that leads to possibilities. That's what the One Book, One Province program does – it helps people to create relationships and understanding, and that's what we're doing here tonight."

Following this special evening, Candace visited libraries in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Radisson, Moose Jaw and Weyburn, as well as the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in partnership with Regina Public Library. Thank you to all the organizers of these events. With each passing year, the audience grows, and more and more people learn about the project.

Thank you to our project partners, in particular, the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild, the Museums Association of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan History and Folklore Society for ongoing support. The OBOP committee is beginning the selection process for next year, and we will announce the title as soon as the book is chosen.

And finally, in case you missed it, Candace Savage recorded a reading for distribution to libraries and museums, which can be viewed [here](#).