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## Camozzi makes long list for CBC writing contest

Posted on April 5, 2018 Richard MacKenzie; richardmac@thecasket.ca

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Local writer and artist Anne Camozzi. File

Often, Antigonish's Anne Camozzi has been recognized for her skill as an artist. This time, it's her talent as a writer being longlisted for a prestigious prize.

Camozzi is the only Nova Scotian amongst 27 making the long list for the 2018 CBC Short Story Prize contest.

"The long list was selected from more than 2,200 English-language submissions," a release regarding the contest noted. "There were more than 3,000 submissions in both English and French."

Camozzi entered the short story, The Great Caribou, which she adapted from a chapter of a novel she has been

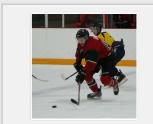
Camozzi said she was happily "shocked" when she heard she had made the long list.

"I entered in September, figured I hadn't made it ... it's pretty big," Camozzi said, talking to the Casket April 4, immediately following the announcement.





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"For me, I feel like I won already. Making the long list has changed many writers' careers and, already, I have someone interested in the novel the chapter came from ... an agent who wants to talk to me a little bit more about it."

Camozzi talked about selecting that particular chapter to rework into a short story for submission.

"Because it's a real climax in the novel and, I thought, it would lend itself to adapting to a short story ... I obviously had to change it quite a bit," she said.

"It occurs more than halfway through my novel so, of course, all the background would have been known by the readers. Other chapters of my novel might have been more expository where this is really action packed." She used the word "validation" when talking about being on the long list.

"It's validation for me that the writing of my novel is worth continuing to work on," she said, noting she received that from people as well as she read them a chapter or two. The list includes a former writer-in-residence at the People's Place Library, the well-accomplished Donna Morrissey.

Camozzi recalled Morrissey's short but telling response to what she read which was 'give me more.'

Camozzi talked about motivation for entering the contest back in the fall.

"Because I've been writing since aged eight, family, friends and other writers convinced me it's time to come out of the literary closet and share my work," she said, in a quote she also provided to the CBC for contest material.

"I wanted to honour my years of creative writing and widen my circle of readers."

"The winner of the 2018 CBC Short Story Prize will receive \$6,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts, attend a 10-day writing residency at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity and have their story published on CBC Books," the release stated.

"Four finalists will each receive \$1,000 from the Canada Council for the Arts and will have their story published on CBC Books."

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