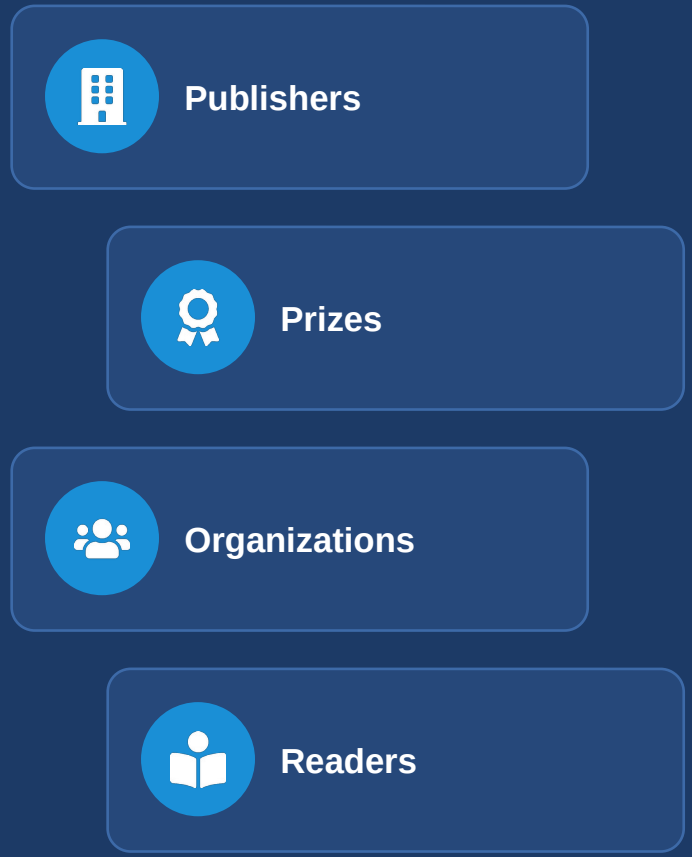
NBE3U Stories Now, Lesson 10

Who Makes Literature Happen?

Publishers, prizes and organizations



Today's goals

We are learning…

- About the people and organizations behind contemporary Indigenous literature.
- How they influence identity and heritage.

I can…

- Describe the contribution of one publisher, prize or organization.
- Identify the most important facts in a source.
- Explain its influence on literature and identity.
- Share my findings clearly with a group.

Today's plan

Time	What we're doing	You will…
0–8 min	**Hook**	Discuss
8–15 min	**Overview**	Note
15–40 min	**Expert groups**	Research
40–60 min	**Home groups**	Share
60–75 min	**Influence**	Write

Who decides?



Before a novel reaches you, who decides it gets published, edited, marketed and taught? Why might it matter whether those people are Indigenous?

Sentence starters

“An editor decides…”

“It matters because…”

“In Unit 3, Johnson's publishers…”

How it works

- Pairs: 3 minutes.

Big idea

Books don't reach readers on their own. Indigenous-led publishers, editors, prizes and organizations have built the space for contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit literature, from Theytus Books in 1980 to the Indigenous Voices Awards in 2018.

A short timeline

Year	What
1980	Theytus Books founded by Randy Fred (moves to Penticton in 1981)
1980	Gabriel Dumont Institute incorporated (Métis Nation–Saskatchewan)
1993	Kegedonce Press founded by Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm
2006	Inhabit Media, the first Inuit-owned independent Arctic publisher
2018	First Indigenous Voices Awards
2022	Five Little Indians wins CBC's Canada Reads

Expert groups

On page 1:

1. Each group researches one organization.
2. Start with its own website.
3. Fill in founded, leaders, work, an example.
4. Choose the most important fact to teach.

Five to research

Theytus Books

First and oldest Indigenous publisher in Canada (1980).

Kegedonce Press

Neyaashiinigmiing, 1993; poetry and more.

Inhabit Media

Inuit-owned, Iqaluit region, 2006.

Gabriel Dumont Institute

Métis education and publishing, 1980.

Indigenous Voices Awards

Crowdfunded; first awards 2018.

Bonus

Your circle novel's publisher.

Teach your home group

Two minutes each:

1. Who, when, where.
2. What they publish or do.
3. One example.
4. Why it matters.

Owning the press

When Indigenous editors and publishers choose, edit and design books, communities decide which stories are told and how.

Connect: In Unit 3, Johnson and Zitkála-Šá published with settler magazines and presses. What changes when the press is Indigenous-led?

Influence map

On page 2:

1. Contribution of each organization.
2. Its influence on identity and heritage.
3. Why ownership matters.
4. Connect to Unit 2 or 3.

Then and now

Then (Unit 3)

- Settler magazines and presses.
- Settler editors chose and cut.
- Audiences mostly settler.

Now

- Indigenous-led presses and prizes.
- Indigenous editors choose.
- Audiences in communities and beyond.

Research questions

- Who founded it, when and where?
- Whose community does it serve?
- What does it publish or award?
- What changed because it exists?

Check yourself

Be honest. This helps you choose what to work on next.

Success criteria	Not yet	Almost	Got it
I can describe the contribution of one publisher, prize or organization.			
I can identify the most important facts in a source.			
I can explain its influence on literature and identity.			
I can share my findings clearly with a group.			

Exit ticket

1. One organization and its contribution.

2. Why Indigenous-led publishing matters.

3. One fact you'll remember.

Next class: Stories and Screens.

Teacher reveal

Who makes literature happen: key points

Theytus Books (1980): Founded by Randy Fred; the first and oldest Indigenous publishing house in Canada, now in Penticton at the En'owkin Centre.

Kegedonce Press (1993): Founded by Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm at Neyaashiinigmiing; Indigenous literature, especially poetry.

Inhabit Media (2006): The first Inuit-owned independent publisher in the Canadian Arctic; Inuit stories, oral history and knowledge.

Gabriel Dumont Institute (1980): Métis Nation–Saskatchewan's education arm; more than 100 Métis cultural and educational resources.

Indigenous Voices Awards (2017–18): Crowdfunded prize for First Nations, Métis and Inuit writers, including unpublished and Indigenous-language work.

Influence: Indigenous control of publishing means Indigenous editors decide which stories are told and how: control of the narrative (A3).