

For immediate release: Attention Arts and Books/Literary Editors

Ontario Journal Goes “Missing”

DURHAM REGION’S LITERARY JOURNAL LICHEN SUSPENDS PUBLICATION

May 2007, Durham Region. *LICHEN Arts & Letters Preview* has been a vibrant and important voice in contemporary Canadian writing almost since the first issue. After nearly ten years of focusing on publishing the new work of writers, poets, and visual artists from Canada and beyond, it is time for the people behind *LICHEN* to take a well-deserved break.

LICHEN has always lived up to its ideal. “We made it our mandate to feature the voices of our community,” said editor, Ruth E. Walker. “Durham has a rich and diverse collection of creative artists, but unlike many other regions in Canada, until *LICHEN*, we had no journal dedicated to those talents.”

The volunteer editors worked hard over the years to develop a strong base of readers across Canada. Time and again their contributors shared their excitement about being published in *LICHEN*, and readers sent fan mail. This non-profit publication won the support of the Ontario Arts Council and the Ontario Trillium Foundation. “That’s no mean feat,” said Steven Laird, poetry editor.

Their final, largest-ever issue, themed “Missing”, is just hitting newsstands and bookstores, and continues to deliver the goods. This special collector’s edition features 208 pages of new work by award-winning authors and poets. It also gathers together new fiction and poetry from all the members of the editorial board, past and present, and of course, from first-time published writers. To round out the issue, readers can enjoy the winners and runners-up of two international challenges—*LICHEN*’s ‘Tracking a Serial Poet’ competition and ‘One Hundred & One Words’ fiction competition—along with highlights of *LICHEN*’s history and a complete 20-page index of nine years of contributors.

LICHEN Arts & Letters Preview is published, printed and distributed in Durham Region. Managed by the collaborative efforts of its volunteer editorial board, *LICHEN* is a non-profit corporation, dedicated to bringing the best of writing and art to readers in Canada and beyond. With the spring/summer “Missing” issue, *LICHEN*’s editors are putting the publication on hold for at least two years. Further information is available at the *LICHEN* website www.lichenjournal.ca

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LICHEN gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL. & THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION. Many thanks, too, to FRIENDS OF LICHEN.