

# ARAS Weekly Newsletter

Association of Retired Academic Staff

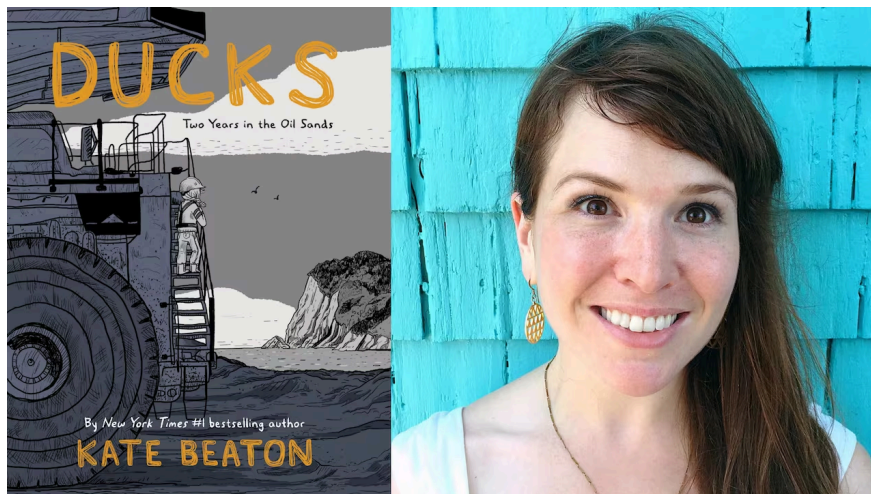


January 9, 2024

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## BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on **Wednesday, January 17th at 2:20pm** in Room 1-46 of University Terrace ([8303 112 Street](#)).



The discussion of *Ducks* by Kate Beaton will be led by Vivien Bosley. Members may participate either in-person or online.

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Beverly O'Brien ([bo1@ualberta.ca](mailto:bo1@ualberta.ca)) will send a Zoom link beforehand for those wishing to join virtually.

If you wish to join the group, please contact Vivien Bosley at [vbosley@ualberta.ca](mailto:vbosley@ualberta.ca).

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## LUNCH WITH...



This year marks the beginning of Lunch With... at a new venue located in Room 1-38 of University Terrace ([8303-112 Street](#) next to College Plaza). The University Club decided to charge us \$150 for the use of the Papaschase Room and we had to

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guarantee at least 20 attendees at \$33 per person. ARAS found these conditions unacceptable so here we are. The lunch will be catered by Upper Crust and will consist of soup, sandwiches, dessert squares and coffee (decaf) at a cost of \$20. Paid parking will be available under University Terrace and is accessible from 112 Street by turning onto 83 Avenue and driving east until turning left into the parkade. The pay machine is located close to the elevator which will take you to the first floor. Room 1-38 is at the far east of that floor. You should be targeting an arrival time of 11:30am with lunch to begin at around 11:45am and the speaker starting his presentation at around 12:15pm.

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The first speaker at this new venue is Michael Janz, the Councillor from Ward papastew who will pose the question “Won’t You Be My Neighbour?”. Recognizing the addition of 70,000 new neighbours to Edmonton’s population last year, the speaker will address how one can provide quality housing, transportation and general public services making Edmonton a good place to live.

In order to make this new system work, we ask you to register for the event by sending an E-mail to [emirhse@ualberta.ca](mailto:emirhse@ualberta.ca). We also encourage you to pay in advance, preferably by INTERAC

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transfer (to [emirhse@ualberta.ca](mailto:emirhse@ualberta.ca)). However, payment in cash or by cheque at the desk inside Room 1-38 will be acceptable as long as we know in advance that you are coming (we have to inform Upper Crust how many people they are catering for).

We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday, January 24th at 11:30am in University Terrace!**

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## DINING OUT

A reservation for us at Happy & Olive for **6:30pm, on Thursday January 25th** has been made! The restaurant is located at [9640 142 St NW](#) in a strip mall. The parking is easy and free! The owners have a background that includes The Red Ox Inn and Canteen. Both of these restaurants had a great reputation so we should be in for a treat.

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Please let Peggy know by *Tuesday, January 23rd* if you plan to come at [peggyallegretto@gmail.com](mailto:peggyallegretto@gmail.com).

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## TRAVEL GROUP

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 25th** at **2pm** in Room 1-38 of University Terrace ([8303-112 Street](#)). The speaker will be Doug Hube and his talk will be “Bird-watching in Namibia”.

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Anyone who is able to present a summary/pictures of an interesting trip at a subsequent meeting of the Travel Group, please contact Ken Roy ([ken.roy@ualberta.ca](mailto:ken.roy@ualberta.ca)) indicating a suitable time.

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## WEBINARS OF INTERESTS

1. Topic: Housing in Calgary  
**Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 2:00 - 3:30PM**  
**Mountain Time/4pm Eastern time**
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Part 1: Overall topic-The Shifting Landscape of Homelessness in Post-Pandemic Calgary

Speaker: Jeannette Waegemakers-Schiff, PhD, Emerita Professor-Research, Faculty of Social Work

Part 2: Later Life Homelessness: Structural Drivers and Opportunities

Speaker: Lara Nixon, MD, Assistant Professor, Cumming School of Medicine

In-person attendance: Engineering Building, G Block, 2nd Floor, Room 207, University of Calgary

or Join by Zoom (Link for non-members)

[https://go.ucalgary.ca/2024-01-10-Housing-in-Calgary\\_LP-Registration.html](https://go.ucalgary.ca/2024-01-10-Housing-in-Calgary_LP-Registration.html)

2. Surviving our fiery future: Learning to live with wildfire

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024 @12 noon ET (Online via Zoom)**

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Speaker: Dr. Eric Kennedy, Associate Professor, Disaster & Emergency Management, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University

In this presentation, Dr. Kennedy discusses the interconnected sources of our wildfire crisis and what can be done to address it. We consider some of the challenges with our emphasis on firefighting and suppression, and discuss some of the paradigm shifts that will be needed if we want to live safely with wildfire in the future.

For more information and to register:

<https://www.yorku.ca/alumniandfriends/connect/events/scholars-hub/>

Dr. Eric Kennedy is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies whose research focuses on decision-making in emergency contexts, especially around the question of how we leverage expertise and evidence to manage disasters more effectively.

### 3. Canada's Homelessness Crisis

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**Wednesday, January 17, 2024 @7pm ET**

Speaker: Alison Smith, PhD, Associate Professor, Dept of Political Science, University of Toronto, Mississauga



For further Information & Registration:

[https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/canadas-homelessness-crisis?utm\\_source=DUA&utm\\_medium=Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=events&utm\\_content=image](https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/alumni/canadas-homelessness-crisis?utm_source=DUA&utm_medium=Newsletter&utm_campaign=events&utm_content=image)

4. Getting to know Africa and its people: Confronting popular stereotypes

**Wednesday, January 31, 2024 @12 noon ET** (Online via Zoom):

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Speaker: Dr. Joseph Mensah, Professor, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University  
As the world gets more connected, due primarily to contemporary globalization and international migration, it is important to understand other people and their cultures. Dr. Mensah will present on the continent of Africa and its people and culture in an effort to subvert prevailing negative stereotypes surrounding Africa.

For more information and to register:

<https://www.yorku.ca/alumniandfriends/connect/events/scholars-hub/>

Born and raised in post-colonial Ghana, Dr. Joseph Mensah has an extensive record of teaching, research, publication and service. His current research interests include Culture & Cultural Studies; Transnational & Return Migration; Ethno-Racial Identity Formation; and African Development.

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## ARTICLES OF INTEREST



Why Retirees should be the CEO of their own health care by David Zitner. Published on Dec. 14/23 in CURAC's Academic for Life Column in University Affairs (UA). See link to it at:

<https://www.universityaffairs.ca/career-advice/academic-for-life/why-retirees-should-be-the-ceo-of-their-own-health-care/>

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## OFFICE ASSISTANT

David will be in the office every Tuesday from 2-5pm next week.

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