

Keynote Address: Margaret Atwood

Thursday, September 24
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

UBCM is very pleased to welcome internationally recognized author Margaret Atwood as the 2020 Keynote Speaker. Ms. Atwood will explore the themes of climate change, COVID-19 and community in a session that promises to be thought provoking, insightful and animated with Atwood's acerbic humour.

Atwood's accomplishments over the course of her career include the 1985 novel *The Handmaid's Tale* that has been adapted into an eleven-time Emmy Award-winning television series, and its sequel, *The Testaments*, which won the 2019 Booker Prize.

Atwood is the winner of many international literary awards, including the prestigious Booker Prize, Arthur C. Clarke Award, Governor General's Award, the PEN Pinter Prize, the Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Book Critics Circle, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. In October 2019, she was presented with the Companion of Honor award—given for achievements in the arts, literature, science and politics—by Queen Elizabeth, making Atwood only the third Canadian to receive the honor.

She is the author of more than fifty volumes of poetry, children's literature, fiction, and non-fiction; perhaps best known for her novels, which include *The Edible Woman*, *The Robber Bride*, *The Blind Assassin*, *Oryx and Crake*, and *The Year of the Flood*. Her non-fiction book *Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth*, part of the Massey Lecture series, was made into a documentary. Her work has been published in more than 40 languages.

Keynote Speaker Sponsored by Municipal Finance Authority of BC