

**February 22, 2010
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Canada's newest literary star reads at NIC

North Island College is honoured to welcome Annabel Lyon, the acclaimed Canadian short-story writer, who will read from her debut novel *The Golden Mean*. "Few writers would dare to employ Aristotle as their narrator but Annabel Lyon has done exactly this in her extraordinary novel" says John Boyne, author of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*. This story, set 2300 years in the past, lets us see the world through the eyes of the renowned philosopher and examines the relationship between Aristotle and his 13 year old pupil, soon to be recognized as Alexander the Great.

"Annabel Lyon's Aristotle is the most fully realized historical character in contemporary fiction." writes the 2009 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize Jury consisting of Marina Endicoot, Miriam Toews, and R. M. Vaughan. "In this alarmingly confident and transporting debut novel, Lyon offers us that rarest of treats: a book about philosophy, about the power of ideas, that chortles and sings like an earthy romance." *The Golden Mean* was the chosen novel for this year's session of NIC Reads, the college book club.

Lyon is an award-winning author. Her first book, the short-story collection *Oxygen*, was nominated for the Danuta Gleed and ReLit awards. Her second, *The Best Thing for You*, was nominated for the Ethel Wilson Prize for Fiction. *The Golden Mean*, her first adult novel, has been short-listed for three major awards: the Giller Prize, the Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and the Governor-General's Literary Award for Fiction. "In Lyon's clever hands more than two thousand years of difference are made to disappear and Aristotle feels as real and accessible as the man next door." exclaims Fred Stenson, author of *The Great Karoo*.



Author Annabel Lyon will read at NIC on March 8, 2010.
photo credit: Phillip Chin

“With this powerful readable act of the imagination, Annabel Lyon proves that she can go anywhere it pleases her to go.”

An online creative-writing teacher at the University of British Columbia, Lyon, who lives in New Westminster with her husband and two young children, will visit the **Stan Hagen Theatre** on NIC’s Comox Valley Campus on **Monday March 8th at 7:00pm**. Please join us for this free public event.

North Island College is pleased to acknowledge the support of the NIC Reads Committee, the North Island College Faculty Association Group Professional Development Fund and the President’s Office in presenting this event. For further information and to reserve a seat, please contact Mary Anne Guenther at 250-334-5001. Copies of *The Golden Mean* are also available for purchase at the NIC Bookstore at the Comox Valley campus.

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