

## PATTI FLATHER

Hello! My name is Patti Flather. I'm an award-winning playwright, writer, theatre artist, and cultural producer with decades of experience.

I also work as a dramaturg, director and mentor helping other creators to develop and share their voice and vision. I believe in the power of transformative stories to question, illuminate, inspire, celebrate, and connect us across landscapes and cultures. My pronouns are she/they.

I'm a passionate theatre artist interested in connecting with producers and creators across Canada and around the world – including for productions of my plays, collaborations, readings, dramaturgy, & more. Get in touch!



*Patti Flather in the Yukon's Dempster country*

*With deep gratitude, I acknowledge that I live, create, and benefit as an uninvited guest on the traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. I acknowledge the Tagish Kwan as the original people who live and occupy the lands within this Traditional Territory, alongside the headwaters of Chu Níikwän, also known as the Yukon River. Shäw níthän. Kwänäschis. Thank you.*

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My play *Paradise* toured nationally and is published. My debut fiction collection *Such A Lovely Afternoon* was released in 2022. Other plays include *Sixty Below* (with Leonard Linklater), nominated for 7 Dora Awards for its Native Earth Performing Arts production. *Where the River Meets the Sea* won the Canadian National Playwriting Competition. Co-created works include *Map of the Land*, *Map of the Stars* & *Vuntut Gwitchin Stories*.

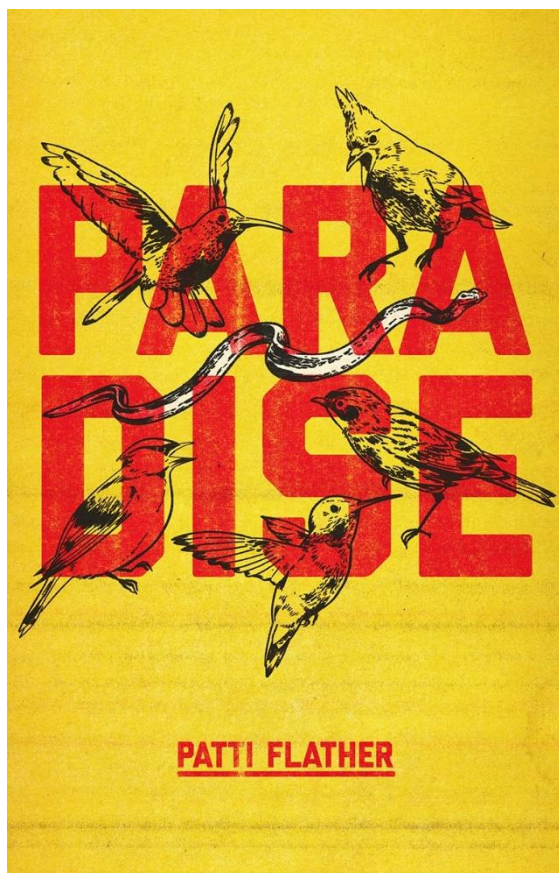
I'm a recipient of the Borealis Prize for literary contribution with BC & Yukon Book Prizes and have an MFA in Creative Writing from UBC. For two decades I was a co-founding artistic director of Gwaandak Theatre, developing and sharing Indigenous and Northern theatre stories. A third-generation anglo-settler, I grew up on unceded, stolen territories of the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam Nations in North Vancouver, B.C. I live in Whitehorse, Yukon.

[www.pattiflather.com](http://www.pattiflather.com) Contact me at [pattiflather@gmail.com](mailto:pattiflather@gmail.com)

## My Projects – *Paradise*

I'm seeking additional productions for my latest stage play. Let me tell you about *Paradise*. This is a play from my heart.

A haunting, poetic story about four characters struggling to find grace and humanity, *Paradise* explores trauma, mental illness, addiction, and the lengths we'll go to for personal freedom. *Paradise* is about an unemployed logger and his beloved dog, a young Canadian accused of terrorism, a family doctor and a spirited young woman questioning her place in the world. Each yearns to connect – like all of us – in this visceral and moving exploration of the human spirit.



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*“Paradise is as beautiful as it is unsettling, linking stories of peaches, snakes, dogs, limericks, and ordinary people under stress.”*

– Ric Knowles, Professor of Theatre Studies, University of Guelph

*“This incredible body of work is as complex as it is poetic...Flather’s work brilliantly constructs a narrative in which we hear at the same time echoes of John Milton’s powerful Paradise Lost and Joni Mitchell’s popular ‘Big Yellow Taxi.’”*

– Carolina Miranda, Feminine Harbor

The play's premiere production (Gwaandak Theatre/MT Space) was directed by the late Majdi Bou-Matar, brilliant director and a beloved friend. It toured nationally including to IMPACT 15, PlaySmelter 2018 in Sudbury and Expanse Festival in Edmonton. This play's story remains timely and relevant and I'm seeking more productions.

I also interested in working with a translator for versions in other languages.

## Upcoming Projects

### *Beyond Paradise* *With Yukon Digital Theatre Collective*

A pair of adorable dogs, an aloof snake, a flashy Yellow-rumped warbler – and the humans they're connected with...

I'm taking a deep-dive, adapting my stage play *Paradise* for digital storytelling with a series of audio episodes in development.

Working with dramaturg Jasmine Chen, I'm finding hope, moments of connection, and resilience in a joyful adaptation process. And dreaming better futures for each of the characters. It's a wonderful journey exploring the characters in new ways through the animals who are deeply in tune with their humans and the earth they share.

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### *Tomorrow Quilt* *An Audio Story Quilt*

I created this personal audio play podcast during the pandemic. I'm a settler in Canada today because of the 1918 flu pandemic that broke my great grandmother's heart.

I become a grandma during this pandemic, stitching the corners of my story-quilt to here, now, tomorrow. Our journey together on this earth.

With dramaturg Vicki Stroich, composer Jeremy Parkin, and graphic designer Jenna Roebuck.



*I acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts for these projects.*

## Other Works – *Such a Lovely Afternoon*

*Such a Lovely Afternoon* is a dazzling debut fiction collection from award-winning Yukon writer Patti Flather. A feisty young tomboy grapples with gender roles with sometimes hilarious results, a refugee single dad struggles for dignity in his northern community, and a malfunctioning compost toilet and wacky neighbours upturn a woman's island cabin life, among other tales.

Against vivid landscapes from Canada's West Coast to Hong Kong to the Yukon, Flather reveals poignant beauty, compassion and humour in everyday lives, with characters searching for identity and belonging, delving into their resilience and humanity.

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"Patti Flather's tender stories transported me in place and time and into the lives of characters who were rendered so powerfully that they, by turn, broke my heart and made me smile with laughter. *Such A Lovely Afternoon* is the fiction debut of a seasoned and accomplished storyteller."

—KEVIN CHONG, author of *The Double Life of Benson Yu*

"These stories are soaked in the light and darkness of Canadian intergenerational experiences. Flather takes us north, west, and to the far east, right into the hearts of characters trying to get out from under their own lives, whether they're travellers, adolescents, parents, or political refugees. Her captivating, lively, and heartrending stories are peopled with characters as troubling, provocative, and lovable as our own friends, families, and acquaintances can be.

—JOANNA LILLEY, author of *Endlings*

*Such A Lovely Afternoon* is published by Inanna Publications, one of only a very few independent feminist presses in Canada. [www.inanna.ca](http://www.inanna.ca)

