



JULIE H. FERGUSON

So far, **Julie H. Ferguson** has changed the way over 4,000 teachers approach creative writing and the way hundreds of students actually write. Her mission: to improve the literacy statistics in Canada, one kid at a time.

A working writer for forty years, Julie is the author of *Writing with Power: Proven Tools and Tips for Your Classroom* and thirteen other non-fiction books; her latest are *Book Magic: Turning Writers into Published Authors* (Beacon 2008) and *Sing a New Song* (Dundurn 2006). October 2009 will see her first young adult biography released, *James Douglas: the Father of BC* (Dundurn). Julie's many articles have appeared in international, national, and regional publications, as well as on the Web.

Not only is Julie a successful author, she is also an accomplished speaker and trainer who earned her professional speaking designation in 2000. During the last twelve years, many of western Canada's school districts have invited her back time and again to present at their professional development events and to lead lively, fun workshops for their gifted, regular, and special education students. Julie delights in inspiring Aboriginal students and participants in boys-only English classes to improve their writing. Since she retired as a practising physical therapist five years ago, Julie has taken an intense interest in current brain research as it relates to writing and gender, and she incorporates the findings into all her sessions.

Julie speaks at international writers' conferences, and teaches for the Creative Writing program at Vancouver Community College and Surrey's Creative Writing Diploma program. Organizations such as the World Ship Society and the National Press Club in Ottawa have enjoyed her dynamic, well-illustrated presentations on Canadian history and, since 1996, Julie has also appeared on local and national radio, and TV. She was chosen as one of Vicki Gabereau's *Five Guests of the Year* on CBC Radio.

Julie is a proud member of CWILL British Columbia, the Federation of BC Writers, The Burnaby Writers' Society, and the Vancouver PhotoClub, also formerly of the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers. She owns and operates Beacon Literary Services and invites you to visit www.beaconlit.com.