

The Word On The Street Toronto Starts a New Chapter with Leadership Transition

Toronto, ON – January 15, 2026 – Big news for Canada's largest literary festival! Kim Robinson and Kent Robinson are officially taking the reins of The Word On The Street Toronto (WOTS). After working behind the scenes with the festival for over a decade, they are now stepping up to lead WOTS into an exciting new future.

Kim and Kent Robinson: Meet the incoming WOTS Executive Directors

Kim and Kent are highly qualified experts in making major, successful events happen. They bring over 30 years of combined experience in running major live events, creative campaigns, and strategic programming across the arts and entertainment sectors.

Kent Robinson: Kent is a Producer and the Founder of Propagation Media and a specialist in branding, media production, event logistics, and cultural programming with 20 years of experience. He has worked with many of Canada's leading screen and cultural institutions (like the Directors Guild of Canada) to develop dynamic events and content. He also co-produced the successful Toronto Screenwriting Conference for eight seasons, a must-attend event for industry professionals.

Kim Robinson: Kim is a Producer and Partner at Propagation Media. With over two decades of experience, she specializes in event production, partnership strategy, and managing logistics to ensure long-term sustainability. She has produced major initiatives for respected industry organizations like the Canadian Media Producers Association, focusing on creating inclusive and accessible events. She also co-produced eight successful seasons of the Toronto Screenwriting Conference.

Together, they have been instrumental in WOTS's success for over 14 years, managing everything from brand design and marketing to sponsorship. Now, they are ready to put their expertise at the forefront as Co-Executive Directors of WOTS.

For Kim Robinson, WOTS is personal. She first came to the festival as a kid and cherishes the memory of meeting Michael Martchenko, the famous illustrator of Robert Munsch's books. She is thrilled to now bring that same sense of wonder to today's audiences. She reflects on the transition:

"We are excited to step into leadership at WOTS. This festival has always been about connection—connecting readers with writers, great ideas with audiences, and communities with each other. Our goal is to support the industries we work in, lift up both new and established voices, and create new memories for families across the city and beyond."

Kent Robinson adds:

"WOTS has an incredible history. We want to carry forward that spirit of community and collaboration that helped build the festival from its very first days on Queen Street. We will ensure WOTS remains a vibrant space to celebrate new ideas and new stories now and into the future."

Amanda Olson, President of the Board of Directors, notes:

"The Board couldn't be more thrilled about hiring Kim and Kent to lead the festival. Their passion for WOTS is perfectly matched by their wealth of experience at the organization and beyond. We're excited to see them take on a bigger role at WOTS, ensuring it continues to thrive as one of Canada's premiere accessible festivals championing Canadian and Indigenous voices."

Established in 1987, The Word On The Street Toronto continues to celebrate the written word and community. Under the leadership of Kim and Kent Robinson, the festival will start a strategic renewal, creating new and exciting ways to platform authors and connect audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

The festival would also like to thank Sienna Tristen (outgoing Director of Programming) and Sarah Mosher (outgoing Director of Community Engagement) for their dedication and creativity.



For media inquiries:

Daniel Shehori
dshehori@gmail.com

About The Word On The Street Toronto (WOTS)

WOTS is Canada's biggest book and magazine festival. It's a free, family-friendly event that brings in over 135,000 visitors! Each year, it features more than 200 exhibitors and showcases over 100 authors. It's a place to discover new Canadian and Indigenous literature and connect with stories and ideas that matter.

The **2026 festival** will take place on **September 26–27** in Toronto at **David Pecaut Square** (215 King St W).