



## **NATIONAL LIBRARIAN AND AUTHOR ROCH CARRIER FEATURED AT BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY TRUSTEES CONVENTION IN NELSON**

**May 22, 2002 – Nelson, BC** - Roch Carrier, well-known author and the National Librarian of Canada will be the keynote speaker at the 2002 convention of the British Columbia Library Trustees Association to take place in the Prestige Inn, Nelson, BC from May 31 to June 2.

“We are delighted to have such a distinguished Canadian join us in Nelson for our annual conference entitled Leadership @ your library,” stated BCLTA President Blair Qualey. “Mr. Carrier’s commitment and enthusiasm for libraries will surely be carried home by the many trustees and librarians attending the conference, enhancing their efforts in providing superior library service throughout British Columbia.”

Author of *“The Hockey Sweater”* and the recently-released *“Our Life With The Rocket”*, a biography of hockey star Maurice ‘Rocket’ Richard, Mr. Carrier will also be giving readings at L.V. Rogers High School and the municipal library during his brief stay in the queen city.

His L.V. Rogers reading takes place at 9 a.m. on Friday May 31. He gives his keynote speech at the Prestige Inn at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, carrier has lunch with the delegates before giving a reading and book signing of *“Our Life With The Rocket”* at 2 pm. This will be followed by a reception at 6 p.m. given by the Association Francophone des Kootenay Ouest, hosted by Director-General Jeanne Huot.

He departs Nelson on Sunday June 2.

Carrier was born in the small town of Sainte-Justine, Quebec in 1937 and wanted to be a writer from a young age. He left home at eleven years old to go to school. He received a BA from the Universite Saint-Louis in Edmunston, New Brunswick followed by a master’s degree at the Universite de Montreal and a Doctorate at the Universite de Paris. He published his first book, *“La Guerre, Yes Sir!”* in 1968 at the age of 31.

Much of Carrier’s non-writing life was spent as a professor at the college militaire in Saint-Jean as well as the Universite de Montreal. Briefly, he was secretary-general of the Theatre du Nouveau Monde in Montreal he has also been the director of the Canada Council from 1994 to 1997 and was appointed as National Librarian in October 1999

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