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To National Media

AUTHOR OF CANADIAN CLASSIC RELEASED NEW TITLE:
Come Walk With Me, A Memoir by Beatrice Mosionier

Winnipeg, Manitoba (December 16, 2009) -- In 1983, **Beatrice Mosionier** (then Culleton) blazed onto the stage of Canadian literature with the publication of her first novel ***In Search of April Raintree***. With searing clarity, Mosionier explored the struggle of two Métis sisters as they tried to make sense of the powerlessness, racism, and loss that loomed so large in their lives.

For years, readers have asked: How much of April Raintree's story is from the author's own life? ***Come Walk With Me, A Memoir*** is the answer to that question.

In *Come Walk With Me, A Memoir*, Beatrice recounts a life that often parallels that of her most memorable fictional character. Like April, Mosionier confronts great loss – of family, of innocence, and of dignity. However, whereas April is just beginning her quest for self-realization, Mosionier shares with us how she has found fulfillment – artistically, politically, and personally. She also includes the recovery of her powerful bond with her mother, a bond nearly destroyed by the family's separation in 1952.

ON THE BESTSELLERS LIST!

Come Walk With Me, A Memoir made the 'Winnipeg Bestsellers' list upon its release, named the number one bestselling paperback non-fiction at McNally Robinson Booksellers. The book is available for purchase at all McNally Robinson Bookseller locations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario, as well as on their website www.mcnallyrobinson.com. It can also be purchased online at www.chapters.indigo.ca and www.amazon.com.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Come Walk With Me, A Memoir is published by HighWater Press, an imprint of Portage & Main Press. Once again, Beatrice's unassuming style and authentic voice make for an unforgettable literary journey, captivating the hearts and minds of those who venture into the book's pages. Here is what people are saying:

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“Reading Beatrice's memoir is like sitting next to her on a couch listening to her retell the stories of her past. The tales flow with ease and she is never afraid to reveal the depth of experiences from which she has emerged on the road to becoming an important literary figure on the Canadian scene.” -- Michael Wolch, Citytv & McNally Robinson

“Rarely do artists create self-portraits without a hint of ego, but Beatrice has written her memoir that way. *Come Walk With Me* is as straight up as it gets and that is a testament to her courage.” -- Wabanakwut Kinew, CBC Winnipeg

“Métis writer Beatrice Mosionier (formerly Beatrice Culleton) made a big splash with her groundbreaking, acclaimed first book, *In Search of April Raintree*. Now, more than 20 years later, she's just published a memoir - a moving, even inspirational, book called *Come Walk With Me* (High Water Press).” -- Quentin Mills-Fenn, Uptown Magazine

“Old fans of Mosionier's novel writing style will be glad to know her delightful child's voice is alive and clear and sweet coming off the page, telling the colourful details of her life as a brown-skinned obviously Indian (her word) foster child, particularly during the 10 years living in St. Norbert, south of Winnipeg. The memoir is full of questions and musings about her complicated life from this bright, observant, but very shy child. As she gains understanding and maturity, the voice changes, too.” -- Maureen Scurfield, Winnipeg Free Press

“*Come Walk With Me, A Memoir* is a window into the life story of one of Indian Country's most wondered-about authors. Joyous and heartfelt, it is a pathway of truth, embedded with tales of frank honesty and brutal realism few can do so well or with such detail. Whether it be the stories of beautiful resilience while growing up, the exciting days of Native publishing in Manitoba, or the startling moments of confronting racism in mainstream Canada, this is a brave, exciting book that can act both as a companion piece to *April Raintree* and as a remarkable experience of a tumultuous time in Canadian and Aboriginal history. Miigwech Bea.” -- Niigonwedom James Sinclair, Guest-Editor, *Urban NDN's NDN Ink 2*

“*Come Walk With Me, A Memoir* is beautifully and directly written. Beatrice is a gifted and engaging storyteller whose words are so vivid, so unflinchingly real, that the images come, just as though they were painted on a page... Anybody who has read *April Raintree* should read *Come Walk With Me*. What's fascinating and engaging is that so much of April's story is informed by Beatrice's own life. I believe now that this is what made April so great, the emotions in it are real, the passion, the pain, the strength, it all comes from the heart, from experience... Here is a woman who came from so many hardships and through her strength of character and spirit, has succeeded and found peace... This book should inspire others to endure, to tell their stories, to educate others.” -- Dave Robertson, Author, *The Life of Helen Betty Osborne* and *7 Generations*

“Fascinating to read . . . This memoir functions as a mini-history about Aboriginal and non-Native writers, about publishing and politics, offered by an important figure in the development of Canadian Aboriginal literature.” -- Paul DePasquale, Department of English, University of Winnipeg

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“Beatrice Mosionier truly invites you to *Come Walk With Me* on this, the journey of her extraordinary life. This memoir will take you by the hand and lead you through her confusion as a three-year-old taken away from her family to the strong mature woman who would write the must read novel *In Search of April Raintree*. Here, Beatrice shows us her true story, stripped bare and open, she is fearless.” -- Rosanna Deerchild, Author, *this is a small northern town*

ABOUT BEATRICE MOSIONIER

Born in St. Boniface, Manitoba in 1949, Beatrice Mosionier was the youngest in a family of four children and placed in foster care at age 3. Following the suicides of her sisters, Vivian in 1964 and Kathy in 1980, Beatrice was compelled to take up writing. The result was the novel, *In Search of April Raintree*, published in 1983. The book remains one of Canada’s most popular works of Aboriginal literature and launched the Manitoba literacy initiative On the Same Page in 2008. Beatrice previously worked as publisher of Pemmican Publications and has written more books of fiction, a play and a short film. She lives in Manitoba with her husband.

www.beatrice-culleton-mosionier.com

www.portageandmain.press.com

www.highwaterpress.com

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