Mystery Writers Ink December, 2004

Writers' Networking Sources

writers networkin	
In Person Networking Sources	Electronic Networking Sources
Reading groups: e.g. Memorial Park Library Mystery Book Club (ran this fall, maybe be repeated) Check with your local library!	Online mystery discussion: - www.dorothyl.com
Form your own book club/reading group or critique group of like-minded writers. Note: Critique groups are great-make sure though that the group is like minded. You can join some groups who just want to criticize and that doesn't bolster confidence. But having a network of friends who are in the business is important as it is so solitary.	Online book review and writers sources: Arts News: http://www.rockyloam.ca/CANews/PublishingForm.html - keep up on what's happening on the arts scene, specifically book publishing, in Canada - Writers Net (international Internet directory of writers, agents, editors and publishers; includes a writers forums where you can chat with other writers, including published and unpublished): http://www.writers.net/ Writers aggregation at a distance.
Writers' organizations: a short list: - Writers Guild of Alberta @ http://www.writersguild.ab.ca/ - Alberta Romance Writers @ http://www.albertaromancewriters.com/ - Alexandra Writers Society @ http://www.alexandrawriters.org/ or ph. 403-264-4730 - Writers Union of Canada - Private Eye Writers of America - Mystery Writers of America	Writers organizations at a distance: Sisters in Crime (they also have an Internet chapter, http://www.sinc-ic.org/ Crime Writers of Canada @ http://www.crimewriterscanada.com/ check out a long list @ http://www.dmoz.org/Arts/Writers_Resources/Organizations/Canada/ See also the Mystery Writers Ink website @ www.mysterywritersink.com and click on Links to Other Sites, then scroll down to Organizations for Mystery Writers and Readers
Extensive list of provincial and federal level resources at: http://www.writers.ns.ca/organs.html	
 Volunteer to help out with readings and book festivals: Word on the Street: annual celebration of writing in Calgary @ http://www.thewordonthestreet.ca/ PanCanadian WordFest every October in Calgary @ http://www.wordfest.com/ 	www.januarymagazine.com is a great source of books and reviews www.murderandmayhem.com www.reviewingtheevidence.com
Mystery Conventions: - Bloody Words in Toronto, hosted by Crime Writers of Canada (one member went to this two years ago and had a chance to pitch her novel idea to an agent and met some published authors) - Bouchercon, international annual convention in rotating venues (new website each year) - Malice Domestic: mystery convention devoted to the traditional mystery, held each year in Arlington, VA Maui Writers Conference – another member went to this two years and had a wonderful time Surrey Writers Conference - Left Coast Crime is another big mystery convention	Mystery Conventions listed on the 'Net: - See the Mystery Writers Ink website @ www.mysterywritersink.com and click on Links to Other Sites, then scroll down to Mystery Conventions.

Tips: The biggest networking is talking to people. If you do go to a convention and meet someone, stay in touch when you come home via email. I have done this and have so many people who I chat with back and forth. In fact, from Maui five years ago, I have friends I still e-mail. We have been through so much together, especially commiserating over rejection. I have friends all over the world who I talk to about writing and publishing and the ups and downs.