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'This is the 25th anniversary (going on 44th) of an opportunity, of Earle Birney's sanctuary for creative writers. We, at the gate of the stockade, follow the migrations of the creatures imagined into life outside; and it is best that I do as we always have -- let the gate swing open to let the curiosity roam, so that you can see some of those that came down through the years to drink at UBC and then move on. Each of us has our favourites; you will find yours.' -- George McWhirter, from the Introduction

Words We Call Home is a commemorative anthology celebrating more than twenty-five years of achievement for the UBC Creative Writing department -- the oldest writing program in Canada. The more than sixty poets, dramatists, and fiction writers included provide just a sample of the energy and vision the department has fostered over the years. From Earle Birney's pioneering efforts in 1946, to the birth of the department in 1965, to the present day, the programme has created a place for aspiring, talented writers. That it has succeeded is evidenced by the numerous authors who have received Governor General Awards, Commonwealth Poetry Prizes, CBC Prizes for Poetry, and other distinguished awards. Words We Call Home is a collection of work that will hold a special place in the hearts of those who have watched UBC grow and flourish over the years and of everyone who loves literature.