

Erica Violet Lee

Erica Violet Lee (BA, MEd) is a nêhiyaw (Plains Cree) author, poet, community organizer, artist, and scholar. Erica has worked with Idle No More, the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition, and the David Suzuki Foundation, among others in the pursuit of Indigenous feminist freedoms. She is from westside Saskatoon and Thunderchild Cree Nation in Saskatchewan.

Represented by Cody Caetano at Cooke McDermid literary agency, Erica's debut collection of poetry entitled "*On The Prairies We Will Live Forever*" will be published next year with Penguin Random House Canada.

Erica has served as an Iris Marion Young scholar at Penn State University and a scholar of the inaugural Cornell University and Mellon Foundation Migrations Institute. As a two-time CBC Future 40 winner, a YWCA Youth Award Recipient, a previous member of the Canadian Youth Delegation to the United Nations COP 21 Climate Conference, as well as a board member of Indigenous Climate Action.

Since her beginnings as a blogger at moontimewarrior.com, her writing on politics has been showcased in *Briarpatch Magazine*, *Eagle Feather News*, *The Guardian*, *The Globe and Mail*, *CBC Indigenous*, and *Red Rising Magazine*, among others. Her poetry is in *Contemporary Verse 2*, *Brick: A Literary Journal*, and the recently published *Young Indigenous Women's Utopia 2.0*. In addition to her own writing, she has edited works for other award-winning authors such as Paul Seesequasis and John McDonald.

Erica's work has led to residencies with the Banff Centre for the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center in Italy, along with hundreds of invited speaking engagements in communities and at universities worldwide over the past decade. Erica is the recipient of literary awards from the Canada Council for the Arts, Sask Arts, and The Writers Trust of Canada.

While she holds a BA in Political Theory from the University of Saskatchewan and an MEd in Social Justice Education from OISE at the University of Toronto, she works to always remain grounded in community and guided by art, poetry, and music as sensual, material pathways toward our shared liberation.

Her current project is a series of essays on music, travel, and the wonderful freedom of chasing desire in a capitalist, colonial society.