

## NBC and Facebook make Olympic deal

The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif.

NBC and Facebook announced a deal Thursday to share content on the upcoming Winter Olympics, both hoping to boost interest on what promises to be a big event for social media.

One of NBC's short Olympic profiles, on the relationship between American speed skater J.R. Celski and Seattle rapper Macklemore, premiered Thursday on Facebook's site.

The Olympics begin Feb. 6 in Sochi, Russia, and NBC is the American rights holder to broadcast the games.

The NBC Olympics page on Facebook will feature video like the Celski story and other content. American figure skating gold medallist Sarah Hughes will be available to answer questions from fans online during NBC's prime-time coverage of the figure skating competition. NBC will also offer polls, photo galleries, trivia and other shareable information on its Facebook page.

NBC is in talks with other social media companies about Olympics material.

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## Buddy Williams' adventures continue in WinterFree

### The Adventures of Buddy Williams Book III - WinterFree

Book review by Sonja Herter

Ken Budd has done it again.

The seasonal adventures continue for Buddy, the protagonist, in a series of novels set on the Prairies during the early 1950. The recent release of "WinterFree" follows the first and second novels in the series, "SummerWild" and "FallGently" having appeared on bookshelves over the past two years. The series' final novel, "SpringRush," will be out in May of 2014.

Buddy Williams, 11, and his two friends, Riel and Mokey, live in fictional Buffalo Crossing, a small Saskatchewan railroad community. His close-knit family has a missing link since the passing of his grandfather in "FallGently." His death has greatly affected Buddy, the only boy in the family, and now the constant male figure in his life is gone. Nan, his grandmother, along with Bernice, Buddy's mother, and Aunt Bud, his mother's sister named Audrey, are a three-generation family living together since the loss of their husbands in the war. Rounding out the family dynamics are Buddy's younger sister, Pearl, and their cousin, Maisie. They all live in a rented two-storey, three-bedroom house. Gramps' wages earned as a locomotive mechanic are sorely missed; he was too young for a pension, and so Nan has had to find work. The sale of the granddad's shotgun, promised to Buddy, causes friction between Nan and Buddy, when it was sold "to make ends meet."

Buddy's winter adventures begin when the three boys, known as "The Three Musketeers," dig a cave in a snowdrift, only to have it collapse on Riel. This causes anxious moments for the other two boys who need to rescue him before it is too late. In other relationships, Buddy's despised teacher, Miss Ruby, who he calls 'The Red Witch' and the principal of the school, Mr. 'Army' Armitage, play major roles in Buddy's life, but not always in the most positive sense. Is it because Buddy is getting older, or is it that he misses Gramps so much? Which factor causes him to now get into so much trouble? In the two previous novels, the lad was no troublemaker, so these newly exhibited, negative behaviours can be disappointing for the reader, but Buddy takes time to reflect and remember Gramps' words of wisdom, which eventually anchor him.

A new friend, who is a girl, in fact, two girls, enter Buddy's life. But it is an unexpected encounter with an old acquaintance, Joe Star Blanket, which leads to changes in his life. Just perhaps, though, it was the experience of getting lost in the winter blizzard, from which he manages to survive, that gives him a more positive path to follow.

Saskatchewan-born Budd, a former resident of Brooks,

### The Adventures of Buddy Williams Book III



where he lived as a teenager and later taught at the high school there, now lives in Gibson, B.C. Retired from his teaching, he has now given over to writing. This latest 134-page, paper-backed, fictional novel is published by SummerWild Productions.

WinterFree is available online at [www.summerwild.ca](http://www.summerwild.ca), as well as at Chapters, Coles and Indigo bookstores. As it was with the previous releases, the novel is geared to pre-teens and teens, especially boys, although many adults will enjoy reading it while it transports the reader back to the 1950s, a time of more simple pleasures. The book is an easy read with unique figures of speech and creative, detailed descriptions. A student study guide, including a parent/teacher answer key, is also available for all the books in the series. Both the novels and the guides are being used by Grade 5-9 teachers, for advanced ESL classes, and by home-schooling parents as tools in the study of the novel.

## 'Person of Interest' producer says revelations of NSA surveillance vindicate show

The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif.

Producers of CBS' "Person Of Interest" said revelations about government surveillance have proved early critics of the TV drama wrong.

Jonathan Nolan recalled that the show about an all-seeing machine used to prevent crime was labeled far-fetched by some observers when it debuted in 2011.

But after former National Security Agency analyst Edward Snowden's disclosures about secret government surveillance programs, there was a brief period of gloating at "Person of Interest," Nolan said.

"It validated our decision to wear tinfoil hats for the last two years," he said Wednesday.

"Person of Interest," which airs Tuesday on CBS, stars Michael Emerson and Jim Caviezel.

## BRA CLINIC

Have you ever gone on a bra shopping trip, only to be frustrated and end up walking away empty handed? Jeuniqe International, founded in 1959, manufactures healthy bras based on the engineering of the Golden Gate Bridge (balanced load suspension). Shirley McInnes, International Executive Director and a Certified Bra Fitter, is coming to Medicine Hat for a Bra Clinic. Bras on the market with frills and lace may look nice but they are not doing their jobs. (85% of Women Are Wearing The Wrong Bra). A woman needs support from beneath the breast tissue. TABBra and Jeuniqe bras fit both small to full figure, sports, maternity and mastectomy – 200 sizes and 5 styles to choose from, 30 A – 46 KK, No Bounce, No Wires to gouge or bruise or impede lymphatic drainage and circulation. This bra will not ride up in the back or fall off the shoulders and helps promote better posture. Switching to a custom fitted bra is like giving up a floppy pair of slippers for an orthotic shoe. Once women adjust to the uplift and snugness after a couple of weeks, you will become a life long client. Doctors, massage therapists and chiropractors often refer their patients to us.



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## Drake pokes fun at past in 'SNL' promo

The Canadian Press

TORONTO

In a new promo for his hosting stint on "Saturday Night Live," Toronto rapper Drake pokes fun at his past starring as wheelchair-bound Jimmy Brooks on the Canadian teen soap "Degrassi: The Next Generation."

Appearing at a mixing board, Drake's prompted by cast member Bobby Moynihan who says: "I'm super excited you're hosting. You can rap, but do people know you can act too?"

Drake replies that he was in a "Canadian soap opera back in the day," and he's asked to show off his chops.

With cheesy music swelling in the background, the 27-year-old "Worst Behaviour" hit-maker immediately launches into an earnest monologue.

Feigning tears, he begins: "No, you broke my heart."

"And now I'm reduced to the saddest boy in all of Toronto," he adds. "You know what? Not even Toronto. I am the saddest boy in all of Canada."

"That was beautiful," replies Moynihan.

Drake will both perform and star in this weekend's episode of the long-running sketch series. He also has five nominations heading into the Grammy Awards on Jan. 26.

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