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For immediate release

**SKI WRITERS TRADE SNOW FOR VERBAL FLOW AT 7TH WHISTLER READERS
AND WRITERS FESTIVAL, September 12 + 13, 2008**

September 9, 2008 - Whistler, BC - Whistler's writers are looking forward to the 7th Whistler Readers and Writers Festival on September 12 and 13 as the one weekend of the year when a good vocabulary trumps prowess on a bike or a set of boards. Of course, nothing trumps a dump of fresh powder in a town like Whistler but the September 13 forecast indicates no such distractions.

Two celebrated ski writers taking part are Susan Reifer and Leslie Anthony.

Reifer is a long-time contributing writer at *SKI Magazine* and a long list of other ski, sports and travel publications, and was an editor and bureau supervisor for the Olympic News Service at the Winter Olympic Games of 2002.

Anthony is a former Managing Editor of *POWDER* magazine, Creative Director of *SKIER* magazine, and current Editor of award-winning *Peak Performance* magazine.

Both spend large blocks of their professional lives writing about skiing, but this weekend, will switch gears and talk instead about the craft and business of writing.

Reifer will lead a session on Saturday, September 13, at 12:30pm, on *Structure, Storytelling and Sticking to the Facts: Keys to Successful Non-Fiction*. "Some of the skills of writing are gifts, but structure and sticking to the facts are job skills that people can learn and that will help them produce more readable work," she says.

Reifer's seminar in Whistler, while focused on writing for magazines, applies equally to other types of commercial non-fiction, including film documentary, newspaper journalism, longer non-fiction works and memoir.

Anthony will present *Breaking Into Magazines*, at 4pm, offering insight on how to write queries, grab an editor's attention without doing him bodily violence, how to think like the newsstand and pitch stories that sell, and build and maintain working relationships with editors.

Anthony is also celebrating the fall release of his first book, *Snakebit: Confessions of a Herpetologist* from which he will perform at the Saturday 8pm Readings, alongside crime writer William Deverell and Whistler's 2008 Writer in Residence, Candace Jane Dorsey.

Tickets for the Festival workshops are still available online at www.theviciouscircle.ca.

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The Whistler Writers & Readers Festival, September 12-13 2008 offers more than fifteen workshops, seminars and masterclasses on offer for writers and readers at all levels of practice. Guest writers for 2008 include Wayne Grady, William Deverell, Candace Jane Dorsey, Mel Hurtig, Nancy Warren, Carrie Mac, Shaena Lambert, Leslie Anthony, Susan Reifer, Rebecca Wood Barrett, and more. A full program is available at www.theviciouscircle.ca.

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