

# Bridging the Gap 2025

*RCLAS Co-operative Poem, National Poetry Month, April 2025*

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*Compiled by Janet Kvammen*

Fraser River spanned by jewel on high  
connecting north, south, water and sky.

Candice James

The times, the times I've ventured across this span;  
still and ever longing to reach the farthest shore.

Alan Girling

A steel and stained-glass structure, straddling its mirrored reflection  
of black and white age, proudly recording its historic rendition.

Jerena Tobiasen

Bridge creates connections, abridging us through multi-coloured transitions and forms.  
Backdrop a cosmos of colours, yellows, greens, purples, pinks singing

Susan McCaslin

silky torrents, flowing trees, waves of steel—  
form follows form, energy repeating.

Jessica Lee McMillan

When I look at this bejewelled beauty,  
I hear the ironworkers who will not cross its rusted hulk.

Angus Pratt

I will miss that glimmering arc of the old Pattullo  
when the easing light of the sun sets it aflame.

Karen McLaughlin Freeborn

in spaces between belonging galactic fragments kaleidoscope curves  
fractals of feminine nurturing all geometric seasons made whole.

Cynthia Sharp

a longing stare out the stained-glass window,  
where is the colour that'll make her hope glow?

Isabella Mori

Diamonds arching through the golden sky,  
Coloured rainbows catch the carefree eye.

Julia Schoennagel

From our bedroom window, a string of cars the length  
of her like Christmas lights in monochrome.

Chelsea Comeau

a burnt-orange peel rolls across the road, its  
citrus drops caught in glimmering gold, the morning sun

Emily Molinari

Beneath metallic arches, silver-spun and wide,  
the Fraser hums and dreams where steel beams collide.

Jude Neale

No blocks of worry could this graceful span improve,  
arched o'er the mighty Fraser that we love.

Jennifer Getsinger

Warnings appear below concrete legs.  
Horizon unhinged beyond translation.

Angela Kenyon

Goodbye Pattullo, been good to know you,  
reincarnation will be strong and true.

H.W. Bryce

Octogenarian ancient, bracelet of iron and light,  
hieroglyphic twist of imperial bluster, runic rivet connector, immaculate

Alan Hill

heart of the city our paling bridge still  
Her golden essence forever coppering the river

Janet Kvammen

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## 18 contributing poets in order of appearance:



Candice James | Alan Girling |  
Jerena Tobiasen | Susan McCaslin |  
Jessica Lee McMillan | Angus Pratt |  
Karen McLaughlin Freeborn | Cynthia Sharp |  
Isabella Mori | Julia Schoennagel |  
Chelsea Comeau | Emily Molinari |  
Jude Neale | Jennifer Getsinger |  
Angela Kenyon | H.W. Bryce |  
Alan Hill | Janet Kvammen |

### Acknowledgements

Ekphrastic Writing Prompt:

*Bridging the Gap - Pattullo Bridge Series*

Art by Janet Kvammen