

December 2013, for immediate release

New Vancouver Indie Comic Anthology Puts a Modern Spin on Iconic Canadian Superheroes



VANCOUVER – CANADA – Cloudscape Comics is excited to announce its **newest graphic novel anthology: *Epic Canadiana!*** This collection pays tribute to Canada’s Golden Age of Comics – when Canadian comic heroes such as Johnny Canuck, Canada Jack, and Nelvana of the Northern Lights protected our country from villainy.

“Most Canadians don’t know that during World War II we had a vibrant comic tradition of our own,” says Bevan Thomas, *Epic Canadiana*’s editor and contributor writer. “Later known as the ‘Canadian Whites’ due their black-and-white pages, they were created as a home-grown alternative to American comics since wartime important restrictions made it impossible for Superman, Batman, and all the rest to be shipped north of the border. A fascinating piece of Canadian culture that deserves more recognition.”

Each story in the anthology stars a very different hero: the disillusioned patriot Johnny Canuck, the Inuit demigoddess Iknippalagaq, the crazed Nazi-hunter the Loon, the Metis gay-activist Jacques de Canada, the legacy heroes Nite-Flyer and Nitro-Girl, the doomed powerhouse Energy Trader, the enigmatic spectre Ghost-Woman, and the post-apocalyptic survivor Gin. From Nazi-ravaged Arctic to modern Montreal to Vancouver after the bomb, nine diverse heroes defend the country against a multitude of foes. Many of the characters are homages to the Canadian Whites, reinvented for today with enhanced Canadian-ness (our Arctic demigoddess is based on real Inuit mythology, our masked vigilante dresses as a loon not a penguin). Others are totally new, exploring what it means to be a hero in bold new ways. The anthology embraces the multiculturalism and diversity that defines Canada, with an even gender split, a variety of ethnicities, and heroes representing the LGBT community.

Epic Canadiana is available at www.cloudscapecomics.com/store/epic-canadiana-1/.

Founded in 2008, Cloudscape boasts 60+ members, the largest of any BC comics society, including such diverse creators as manga artist Chloe Chan, book illustrator Scot Ritchie, *Simpsons* artist Nina Matsumoto, underground comic creator Colin Upton, poet Ray Hsu, video game artist Edison Yan, and

webcartoonists Angela Melick and Sam Logan. More about Cloudscape and its members can be discovered at www.cloudscapecomics.com.

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For more information, such as a media kit or copy of the book, contact Bevan Thomas by e-mail at bevan@bevanthomas.ca or by phone at 604-710-1659.

