

# Talent Bank Publishing

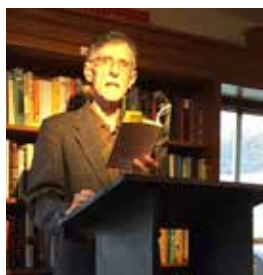
Summer 2018

## "ZEN SLAPS" LAUNCHED FOR MARITIME CANADA AT LAHAVE, NS

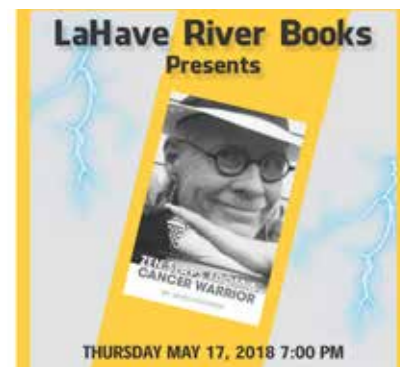
**Zen Slaps from a Cancer Warrior** by the late Ontario writer James Hockings was officially introduced to Atlantic Canada in style this month when editor and publisher Eric Hustvedt presented the book at LaHave River Books, Nova Scotia, May 17.

Subtitled **A Pissant's Perspective**,

the book is an irreverent memoir of a passionate photographer/



writer fighting cancer on his own terms, while living a love story.



It can be a witty and sometimes profound companion for someone facing a life-threatening disease. (See reviews, page 2)

## "ZEN SLAPS" DISPLAY AT NATIONAL MEDICAL CONFERENCE

There will be a display table for **Zen Slaps** at the 2018 Canadian Annual Urological Excellence Con-



ference held this year in Halifax, Nova Scotia, June 23-28. Book editor and publisher Eric Hustvedt will be on hand to discuss the book with physicians and nurses attending the conference.

This opportunity has been arranged by Dr. Nicholas Power, who wrote the Foreword to the book and who is co-chair of the

scientific committee for the event. Explore how a "medical environment with scarce resources can be tweaked in the coming years towards optimal patient care."

Dr. Power, who is originally from New Brunswick, said the display will be an opportunity to introduce the book to professionals on the front line of care.

## REVIEW IN MEDICAL JOURNAL

Another path to introducing potential readers is an upcoming review of **Zen Slaps from a Cancer Warrior** written for the Canadian Urological Association Journal by Dr. Nicholas Power.

Dr. Power is the London, Ontario, surgeon who was author James Hockings' primary physician. He supported Hockings' efforts to control the direction of his own treatment.

## WHERE TO BUY

Talent Bank's first book title, **Zen Slaps from a Cancer Warrior: A Pissant's Perspective** is now on the shelves at LaHave River Books, LaHave, Nova Scotia and Indigo North and Chapters South in London, Ontario. It can be ordered in

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B0J 2H0 Canada 902-677-2794  
[tbcom.ca/zen-slaps.html](http://tbcom.ca/zen-slaps.html) [publisher@tbcom.ca](mailto:publisher@tbcom.ca)

## SAMPLE RESPONSES TO ZEN SLAPS from a CANCER WARRIOR

### "A Brilliantly Shared Story"

(from an Amazon.com customer review, January 2018)

*I was very touched by this incredible love story written by a man struggling with terminal cancer. He faced this challenge with courage, persistence and resourcefulness. He did an enormous research on the disease, kept looking for new trials*

*and treatment options. He never gave up. His devoted wife kept encouraging him to continue fighting the disease and to share his story with the world. And he did despite the physical and emotional pain. I was particularly deeply moved by Jim's abstract called "On the Ability to Love" which I found very philosophical.*

*It is a very touching story which I would highly recommend to everyone.*

### "A compelling read!"

(from an Amazon.ca customer review, October 2017)

*This is an incredibly honest, insightful and poignant look into two subjects that, at some point in life, will touch everyone in some fashion. Whether it's seen as a quirky, unique love story set in a world of cancer diagnosis/treatment or a quirky, unique journey through cancer set inside a very special love story - well, that's up to each reader to decide.*

*It switched seamlessly back and forth between the two for me. Be prepared and put on a pot of coffee or tea though because once you start reading, it's very hard to put down.*

## THE FIRST DAY



**Zen Slaps** first saw the light of day in the author's 'local' in the suburban London, Ontario, community of Ilderton, September 15.

Friends and family toasted James Hockings with his favourite beer. Among those present were Jim's widow, Karen Pinney, and his doctor, Nicholas Power.

A percentage of sales from the launch were donated in support of cancer research to the London Health Sciences Foundation, which helped promote the event.

## WHERE TO BUY (continued)

paperback from any bookstore in North America by its title and ISBN number: 978-0-9952193-0-4. The eBook version (ISBN 978-0-9952193-1-1) is available from online retailers such as Kobo, Amazon.com and Amazon.ca

Editor and publisher Eric Hustvedt read excerpts from the book and the first 28 copies were sold.



## MORE TO THE STORY

James Hockings' widow Karen Pinney, who supervised the editing of **Zen Slaps**, has written her own account of their relationship and the challenges they both faced during Jim's 'tussle' with cancer.



Karen Pinney with Eric Hustvedt

Titled **Golden Days and Velvet Nights** and will be published by Page Publishing.



Dr. Nick Power, who wrote the Foreword for **Zen Slaps**, signs copies of the book at Indigo North in London, Ontario, in November.

Nan Taylor was on hand to represent Talent Bank Publishing.