

Menagoesg Redux

"Return to the Windy Place"

Menagoesg is the original name of the area that became Saint John.

*Wolastoquiik and Mi'kmaq peoples
living with lands and waters since time
call Menagoesg home*

*this place was breathing long before
DeMonts and Champlain sailed
or Loyalists came ashore*

*after gum boots walked the ocean floor
or taste buds craved purple dulse
seeking a bay of old-world architecture*

*a windy place, we call it
wilds where nature meets industry
now fading paint stained buildings*

*we gave up on the hours
clocks returning internal
rhythms to tide tables*

*others note moons cycling
ancient burial grounds
where many untold stories wait*

*when worlds gather at King's Square
marveling at city market's iron
generations reverse like Wolastoq*

*even Houdini once spent a night
under twinkling lights illuminating
a port parade in transition*

*not knowing where we landed
we exchanged country names
for low and high tides*

*fog spirits bridge across Saint John
to many who call this old beginning
a new home.*