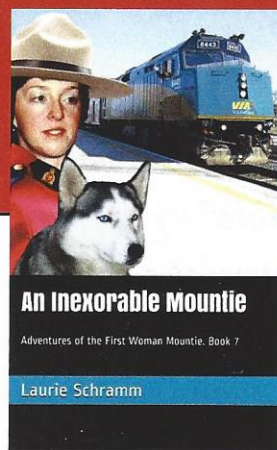


BOOK REVIEW

AN INEXORABLE MOUNTIE: ADVENTURES OF THE FIRST WOMAN MOUNTIE

By Laurie Schramm

Published by Dr. Laurie Schramm; Saskatoon, Sask.; 2021; 147 pages



THE BOOK *An Inexorable Mountie: Adventures of the First Woman Mountie* is another strong novel from author Laurie Schramm.

What starts out as a seemingly simple duty to identify and monitor the security required for an upcoming high-level visit disguises the true reason for the cross Canada trip. Or does it. As the characters come to life, with each having their own agendas, the reader is drawn into learning their past, their present, and not until the final chapters, their futures.

The twists and turns in this novel make this adventure difficult to put down. Cpl. Alex Houston of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police RCMP once again must rely on her police training, instincts and previous life/work experiences to identify the players in this mystery, which is much more complex than originally believed. Alex, her canine partner, Silver, and colleague Cst. Jack McDonald, work as an impeccable team to piece together the who, the what, the when, the where and the how as they travel across Canada.

The train travel from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Vancouver, British Columbia, allows the reader time to indulge in the progression of Alex, and the main characters. It also provides the opportunity to frequent the dome car

of the iconic transcontinental rail system where taking in all the majestic sights that Canada has to offer is an added bonus.

The focus and growth of Alex Houston's character continues to evolve and shows her adaptation to each duty she performs. Each adventure puts the reader in the middle of the action, frequently offering to assist Alex in her investigation, both in your mind and out loud.

The writer's background allows him a special insight into police procedure, which not all are able to master. His ability to get into the mind and thoughts of his characters is uncanny, very well done.

I look forward to reading all the Alex Houston novels, as, being a retired female RCMP officer, I see a bit of myself in every story that is told. 🍷

About the Reviewer

Cst. Karen Frost (Rtd.) was born in Vancouver, B.C., and served 25 years with the RCMP from 1980-2005. She served in both Alberta and British Columbia, and did a tour in Kosovo as UN Civilian Police. Upon retirement, she worked as cruise ship security, with the United Nations in Lebanon and Pakistan, and security at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics. She is enjoying retirement with volunteer work and much-deserved travel.

OPINION
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PAGE 4

