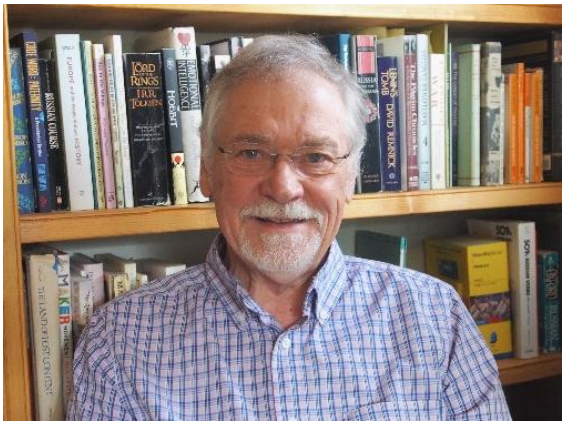
Neill McKee
Creative Nonfiction Writer
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



Neill McKee is a Canadian creative nonfiction writer, living in Ottawa, Canada. He is presently focusing on a creative book on New Mexico's history, where he was living from July 2015 to March 2026. He holds a BA in Psychology from the University of Calgary and a M.S. in Communication from Florida State University. He is married and has two adult children. McKee lived and worked around the world for 45 years, focusing on communication programs for positive social change. He has traveled to over 80 countries on assignments and lived in Malaysia, Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda, and Russia for a total of 18 years, working for Canadian and American development agencies, as well as, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). McKee has directed and produced many award-winning documentary films/videos, multi-media initiatives, and has authored/edited many books/manuals and articles in the field of development communication. McKee is an excellent manager, facilitator, presenter and public speaker. Since retiring from full-time international work at the end of 2012, he has been studying and writing creative nonfiction.

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/McKeeNeill/

WORK AND EDUCATION

- **Since Sept 2015 -** Creative Nonfiction Writer, Albuquerque, New Mexico and Ottawa, Canada
- **2013 – June 2015 -** Consultant (part time), Innovation Expedition, LLC, Maryland
- **2009 – 2012 -** Project Director, Communication for Change (C-Change), FHI360/AED, Washington, D.C.
- **2001– 2008 -** Senior Technical Advisor/Project Director/Asia Regional Director, Center for Communication Programs, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland (based in Moscow, Russia 2004-2007)
- **June 1999 – 2000 -** Chief, Basic Education and Adolescent Development, UNICEF, Kampala, Uganda
- **1994 – May 1999 -** Regional Communication Officer, ESARO, UNICEF, Nairobi, Kenya
- **1990 – 1993 -** Chief, Communication and Information, UNICEF, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **Sept 1998 – 1989 -** Associate Director, Communication Division, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- **Aug 1987 – Aug 1988 -** Sabbatical, Florida State University, Completed M.S. Communication , Dec 1988
- **1975 – July 1987 -** Film Producer-Director, IDRC, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- **1973 – 1974 -** Deputy Director, Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO), Sabah, Malaysia
- **Sept 1970 – 1972 -** Film Producer-Director, CUSO, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- **Aug 1968 – Aug 1970 –** CUSO volunteer teacher, Government Secondary School, Kota Belud, Sabah, Malaysia
- **May 1968 -** Completed B.A. in Psychology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

BOOKS/MANUALS

- ***My University of the World: Adventures of an International Film and Media Maker.*** NBFS Creations Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2023. A memoir of the author's long career in making films and developing media projects in many parts of the developing world from 1970 to 2012. https://www.neillmckeeauthor.com/my-university-of-the-world
- ***Kid on the Go! Memoir of My Childhood and Youth***, NBFS Creations Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2021. A memoir of growing up in an industrially-polluted small town in Southern Ontario, Canada. The author recalls all the challenges of his childhood and youth, trying to find his direction in life, his university days and his decision to depart to become a teacher in Malaysia on the island of Borneo. https://www.neillmckeeauthor.com/kid-on-the-go
- ***Guns and Gods in My Genes: A 15,000-mile North American search through four centuries of history, to the Mayflower,*** NBFS Creations Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2020. A travel memoir on searching for the author's roots and seeking answers on whether to become a dual Canadian-American citizen. https://www.neillmckeeauthor.com/guns-and-gods-in-my-genes
- ***Finding Myself in Borneo: Sojourns in Sabah***, NBFS Creations Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2019. A travel memoir of his almost life-long relationship with the people and land of Sabah, Malaysia. https://www.neillmckeeauthor.com/finding-myself-in-borneo
- ***Strategic Communication in the HIV/AIDS Epidemic,*** Sage Publications, New Delhi, 2004. Lead author with J.T. Bertrand and A. Becker-Benton. https://www.amazon.com/Strategic-Communication-HIV-AIDS-Epidemic-dp-0761932089/dp/0761932089/ref=mt_other?_encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=1619730333
- ***Involving People, Evolving Behaviour: A handbook for behaviour progamme development***. UNICEF, N.Y. & Southbound, Malaysia, 2000. Chief editor with Erma Manoncourt, Chin Saik Yoon and Rachel Carnegie and author of Chapter 3, *Motivation to Act.* https://www.southbound.com.my/SB_InvolvingPeopleEvolvingBehaviour.htm
- ***Social Mobilization and Social Marketing in Developing Countries: Lessons for Communicators.*** Southbound, Penang, Malaysia, 1992. Author. https://www.southbound.com.my/SB_SocialMobilization.htm
- **Games and Exercises: A Manual for Facilitators and Trainers Involved in Participatory Group Events** (1998). Communication Section, UNICEF-ESARO, Nairobi, Kenya, and Organizational Learning and Development Section, Division of Human Resources, UNICEF House Three United Nations Plaza, New York, New York. file:///C:/Users/Owner/Documents/unicef_games_and_exercises.pdf
- ***VIPP: Visualisation in Participatory Programmes*** – *How to facilitate and visualize participatory group processes,* UNICEF Bangladesh with Southbound, Malaysia, 2007. Co-author with Maria Angelica Salas, Hermann J. Tillmann and Nuzhat Shahzadi. (Second edition of VIPP manual produced by UNICEF Bangladesh in 1993.) https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/document/games-and-exercises-manual-facilitators-and-trainers-involved-participatory-group-events

ARTICLES

- ***Social and Behavior Change Communication,*** Chpt. 17 of The Handbook of Communication and Social Change, Wiley Blackwell, Malden, USA, 2014. Co-author with Antje Becker Benton and Emily Bockh.
- ***Visualisation in Participatory Programmes (VIPP): Taking stock of its diffusion and impact.*** Journal of Communication for Development and Social Change - A Global Journal, Vol. 2, No. 4, 2008. Hampton Press. Creskill, N.J. 2009. Co-author with Nuzhat Shahzadi, Hermann Tillmann, and Maria Angelica Salas. Also, key paper at the World Congress on Communication for Development (WCCD), Rome, October 2006.
- ***Advancing Sex Education in a Fractured World: Towards a Social-Ecological Approach*****:** The Brown Journal of World Affairs, Volume XIV, Issue II, Spring/Summer 2008. Author.
- ***Meena Communication Initiative Takes on New Challenges: Psychosocial care in tsunami and tidal wave aftermath.*** Journal of Communication for Development and Social Change, A Global Journal, Hampton Press. US, Vol 2, No. 2, 2008, pp. 70-93. Co-author with Nuzhat Shahzadi. Download at:

- ***Involving People, Evolving Behaviour: The UNICEF Experience.*** In Approaches to Communication for Development and Social Change, Editor: Jan Servaes, New Delhi: Sage, 2007. Co-author with Erma Manoncourt, Chin Saik Yoon and Rachel Carnegie.
- ***"Know Yourself" Program: Taking Adolescent Reproductive Health to Scale in Bangladesh:*** Key paper at the World Congress on Communication for Development (WCCD), Rome, October 2006. Co-author with Mohammed Shahjahan, Caroline Jacoby and Marc Boulay.
- ***Meena and Sara: Two Characters in Search of a Brighter Future for Girls***, Animation World Network, 1996. Co-author with Christian Clark.
- ***The Animated Film in Development Communication,*** Drawing Insight: Communicating Development through Animation. Southbound, Penang, 1996. Co-author with George McBean.
- ***Contraceptive use in Russia: Trends and Constraints****,* In Choices: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Europe, IPPF European Network, Brussels, 2005. Co-author with Elena Dmitrieva.
- ***Russian Health Providers' Perspective on HIV/AIDS****,* In Choices: Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Europe, IPPF European Network, 2004. Co-author with Elena Dmitrieva.
- ***Sara: A Role Model for African Girls Facing HIV/AIDS*****,** In A. Singhal and W.S. Howard (eds.) The Children of Africa Confront AIDS: From Vulnerability to Possibility, Ohio University Press, Athens, 2004. Chief author with Mira Aghi, Rachel Carnegie and Nuzhat Shahzadi.
- ***Cartoons and Comic Books for Changing Social Norms: Meena, the South Asian Girl*****,** In Singhal, A., Cody, M.J., Rogers, E.M., and Sabido, M. (eds.), Chapter 18 of Entertainment-Education and Social Change: History, Research, and Practice pp. 331-349. NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2004. Lead author with Mira Aghi, Rachel Carnegie and Nuzhat Shahzadi.
- ***Beyond Social Marketing***: Towards a Community-Based Learning Model. In S.A. White, K.S. Nair, and J. Ascroft (eds.) Participatory Communication: Working for Change and Development, (pp. 194-228), Sage Publications, New Delhi, 1994. Author.
- ***Social Mobilization for EPI in Bangladesh***, in Near Miracle in Bangladesh*,* Dhaka, University Press, Dhaka, 1991. Author.

BOOK AWARDS

- ***My University of the World: Adventures of an International Film and Media Maker.***
  -Gold Medal for Autobiography, National Indie Excellence Awards
  -New Mexico - Arizona Book Awards for Autobiography & Memoir
  -Distinguished Favorite in the Career Category, Independent Press Awards
  -Finalist in Autobiography, Book -Excellence Awards.
- ***Finding Myself in Borneo: Sojourns in Sabah***
  -Readers' Favorite Travel Memoir Award (Honorable Mention), September 2019:
  -New Mexico/Arizona Book Award for Biography/Autobiography/Memoir (non-NM/AZ subject), November, 2019:
  -IPPY – Independent Publisher Book Award, (Bronze) Best Regional Nonfiction: Australia/New Zealand/Pacific Rim
- ***Guns and Gods in My Genes***
  -Readers' Favorite Travel Memoir Award (Bronze Medal-Genealogy), September 2021
  -New Mexico/Arizona Book Award for Biography/Autobiography/Memoir (non-NM/AZ subject)
  -Finalist in History, Travel and Cover Design, 2021

PERFORMANCE AWARDS

- **Achievement Award** for management excellence, AED, Washington, D.C., 2011.
- **Grad Made Good Award**, Florida State University, November 15, 2008.
- **Global Media Award** for the Best Combined Media Effort, Population Institute, for *Know Yourself* videos and toolkit on Adolescent Reproductive Health Program, Bangladesh, Dec 5, 2004.
- **UNICEF Bangladesh Staff Association Award** in recognition of outstanding contribution to communication directly relevant to UNICEF, Dec 14, 1993.
- **Global UNICEF Staff Award** for 1992 to Program Communication and Information Section, Bangladesh: In recognition of outstanding contribution and commendable dedication to the goals of UNICEF.

- **Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society for Academic Achievement** at Florida State University, April 3, 1989.

FILM AWARDS

- **World Health Organization Special Prize** for *Prescription for Health*, best primary health care film, 11th International Festival of Red Cross and Health Films, Bulgaria, June 1985. Also, **Best Audiovisual**, Information Services Institute, Ottawa, 1983.
- **Prize of Environmental Council of Government of Czechoslovakia**, for *Trees of Hope,* 13th International Festival of Films and Television Programs of the Environment, Ekofilm '86. Also, **Red Ribbon Award for Environment and Ecology** at American Film & Video Festival, 1986.
- **Silver Screen Award**, Medicine and Health, for *A Handle on Health*, U.S. Industrial Film and Video festival, Chicago 1987.
- **Honorable Mention** for *Footholds* at 2nd Festival de cine del desarrollo, Colombia 1985.
- **Honorable Mention** for *The Mysterious Milkfish*, 26th San Francisco International Film Festival, 1983.
- **Best Audiovisual**, *Harnessing the Monsoons*, Information Services Institute, Ottawa, 1983.
- ***Prix Gestion des Resources Naturales*** for *Fish By-Catch*: *Bonus from the Sea,* 9th International Scientific and Technical Film Festival, Brussels, 1982.

FILM AND VIDEO PRODUCTION CREDITS

(View Most titles here: https://www.neillmckeevideos.com)

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLES, RUSSIA (Healthy Russia, 2020 – JHU/CCP)
Oversaw the development and guided the script development of ***Nastia's Diary*** (2005), a video on HIV/AIDS prevention and care and dealing with stigma and discrimination. ***Pre-test and Post-test Counseling of HIV*** (2005), a training video for health care providers. Provided overall direction and guidance in production of ***Life Themes,*** and entertainment-education video designed to promote healthy lifestyle choices amongst Russian youth.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH, BANGLADESH (CCP - BCCP)
Concept development, script writing and production supervision for ***My Puberty*** (2002), ***New Feelings, New Passions*** (2002), ***Preventing Risks to our Future*** (2003)**,** and ***Marriage and Family Health*** (2003)**,** four 25-minute videos accompanied by information booklets and life skills manuals. Produced in collaboration with Bangladesh Centre for Communication Programs and the Adolescent Working Group with sponsorship from USAID, Dhaka.

SARA MULTI-MEDIA INITIATIVE: THE ADOLESCENT GIRL IN AFRICA (UNICEF)
Original concept development and project manager for animated film/multi-media initiative: ***The Special Gift*** (1996), on staying in school; ***Sara Saves Her Friend*** (1997), on avoiding sexual abuse and HIV/AIDS; ***Daughter of a Lioness*** (1998), on avoiding female genital mutilation. ***The Trap*** (1999) on preventing sexual abuse from "sugar daddies" and ***Choices*** (1999) on prevention of teenage pregnancy.

MEENA MULTI-MEDIA INITIATIVE: THE SOUTH ASIAN GIRL CHILD (UNICEF)
Original concept development and project manager for animated film/multi-media initiative: ***Count your Chickens*** (1992), on girls' education; and ***Dividing the Mango*** (1993), on equality in nutrition and workload. (The series of 24 completed by UNICEF.)

WATER AND SANITATION (IDRC)
A Handle on Health (1986), on self-reliance in handpump technology, French version: ***L'artisane de la santé***, Spanish version: ***Artesanía de la salud***.

Plastics in Handpump Technology (1984), Malaysian-produced handpumps.

Prescription for Health (1983), on the need for better sanitary conditions and improved hygiene in conjunction with the supply of potable water - used by UNICEF and others worldwide. French version: ***L'eau et l'hygiene***, Spanish version: ***Agua y salud***.

HEALTH SYSTEMS (IDRC)
A Message from African Healers (1979), on traditional psychiatric medicine in Zaire (post production only), French version: ***Le message des guérisseurs africains***.

Panoi, the Village Midwife (1975), on the role of traditional midwives in the family planning programs of Thailand (post production only); French version: ***Pâa-Noi, la sage-femme du village***.

Rural Health Workers (1977), on rural health delivery projects in six countries, French version: ***Les auxiliaires sanitaires en milieu rural***.

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (IDRC)
Project Impact: The Overview (1978), on an innovative experiment in mass primary education in the Philippines and Indonesia, French version: ***Impact I: répondre à un besoin***.

Project Impact: The System (1978), on the specifics of the *Impact* system in the Philippines, French version: ***Impact II: apprendre***.

Footholds (1984), on a network of research agencies in South America which are attempting to find solutions to rural poverty and agricultural production, French version: ***Pas à pas,*** Spanish version: ***Paso a paso***.

AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IDRC)
Harnessing the Monsoon*s** (1981), on a successful farming system experiment in the dry lands of Sri Lanka, French version: ***La mousson apprivoisée.

An End to Pounding (1979), on grain dehulling and milling in Botswana, French version: ***L'adieu au pilon***.

When the Harvest is Over (1978), on crop storage and post-harvest systems in Kenya, French version: ***Après la récolte***.

Pods of Protein (1979), on grain legume breading and development in West Africa, French versions: ***Une mine de protéine***; Spanish version: ***Cofres de proteína***.

INFORMATION SCIENCE (IDRC)
Thought for Food (1977), on an agricultural information network for Latin America, French version: ***Le savoir de la terre***, Spanish version: ***Vínculos para el desarrollo***.

FORESTRY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (IDRC)
Trees of Hope (1985), on the drought and fuelwood crisis in Africa and the development of village woodlots, French version: ***Les arbres d'abondance,*** Spanish version: ***Arboles de la abundancia***.

Trees of Plenty (1986), on the importance of nitrogen fixing trees in Third World agroforestry systems, French version: ***Les arbres de l'espoir***.

Bamboo: The Miracle Grass (1987), on bamboo research and utilization which underlines the importance of this natural resource, French version: ***Le bamboo, plante miraculeuse***.

Rattan, the hidden resource, an overview of research into improving the planting and economics of rattan in Asia. (Filming only). French version: ***Rotin, resource cachée***.

AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES (IDRC)
The Mysterious Milkfish (1982), on the scientific work leading to the successful breeding of milkfish in captivity and on improvements in the farming of milkfish in the Philippines, French version: ***Les chanidés en captivitée***, Spanish version: ***El misterioso chanos-chanos***.

Fish By-Catch**: **Bonus from the Sea (1980), on a new system of saving and processing trash fish which are a valuable by-product of shrimp trawling operations off the coast of Guyana; French version***: La pêche secondaire…un cadeau des mers***, Spanish version: ***La pesca collateral… un regalo del mar***.

Oyster Farming in the Tropics (1979), on the development of tropical oysterculture, French version: ***L'ostréiculture sous les tropiques***, Spanish version: ***Cultivo de ostras en los tropicos***.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT: GENERAL (IDRC)
On the mandate and role of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada:
Choices: Science and Technology in Development (1980), on issues concerning the role of science and technology in the development of Third World countries, French version: ***Alternatives: La science et la technique au service du development***

IDRC Briefing slide show on film (1980);

First 16mm productions English and French: ***Stretching the Earth*** (1976); ***Asia: the Search for Solutions*** (1977); ***Continent in the Making*** (1977); and in English and Spanish: ***Common Task*** (1976).

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Making Ends Meet (1979) on the role of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation in developing countries, shot in Jamaica, Swaziland, Solomon Islands, Western Samoa and London. Shown to the Queen and Commonwealth Heads of State at their summit in Lusaka, Zambia, August 1979. (Produced in collaboration with IDRC.)

CANADIANS IN DEVELOPMENT (CUSO)
On the experiences and roles of Canadian volunteers working in developing countries under the auspices of CUSO, Canadian University Services Overseas in the early 1970s: ***CUSO in Forestry: The Malaysian Program*****;** ***CUSO in Ghana; CUSO in East and Central Africa*****;** ***CUSO in Papua New Guinea*****;** ***Tanga Man*****;** ***Four Times CUSO*****;** and ***Mana Ulu?*** (first film produced by Neill McKee).