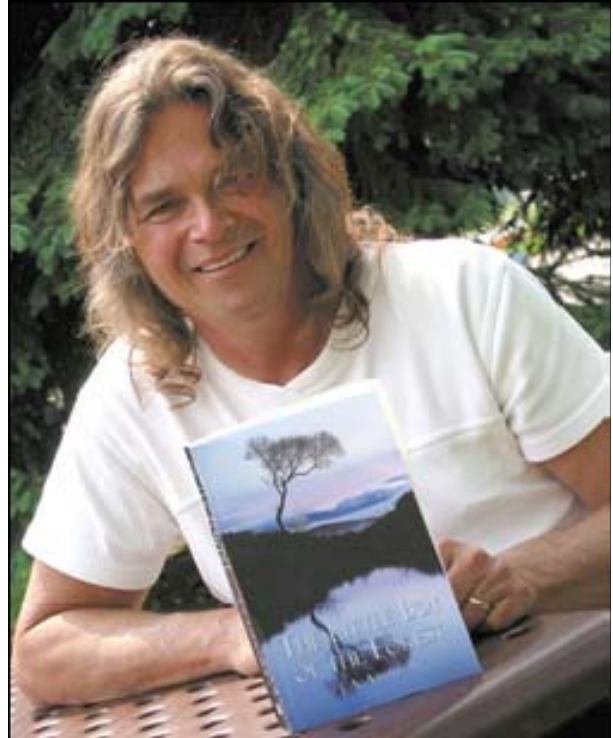


Persistence Turns Fantasy into Reality

CTB's Joe Aarntzen, displays his first published book 'The Little Boy of the Forest'

Not many authors can say they've been turned down by publishers from coast to coast and still managed to get their book out. But Joe Aarntzen, Corporations Tax Branch, can – and he says it with an easy smile. His first book, *The Little Boy of the Forest*, was recently released by an American publisher. “When I found out it was getting published, it felt great,” he says. “My advice to artists out there is to keep trying. Just because you get rejected doesn't mean you can't make it happen.”

The book, he says, is hard to categorize. Covering four eras, *The Little Boy of the Forest* is part fantasy and part ghost story.



Updates on Strategic Initiatives

His inspiration came from his family cottage on Stoney Lake, near Peterborough, where he did much of the writing. “Of all the books I have written, this one flowed most easily for me,” says Joe, who will often get up at 4 a.m. to spend an hour on his writing before starting his commute to work .

A writer since his school days, he's tried his hand at poetry and songwriting and has numerous other novels under his belt. In fact a second book, *Corman the Carp*, will be published next year. Currently working on a new novel, Joe is also busy marketing his first published work.