

Craig K. Swinwood CEO HarperCollins Canada & Harlequin

January 8, 2020

Romance Writers of America Attn: RWA Board of Directors 14615 Benfer Road Houston, TX 77069

To RWA Board of Directors,

As a leading global publisher of romance fiction that is committed to diversity and inclusion, we at Harlequin believe it is important that all authors feel included, respected and heard. Recently reported actions by RWA leadership have therefore led us to decide not to sponsor or attend the RWA2020 national conference. We will reevaluate our participation in 2021 as the organization works with its members to address concerns that have been raised.

We will continue to support Harlequin authors and we are currently looking at additional ways to reach out to both our authors and to the romance writing community in the coming year.

Sincerely,

**Craig Swinwood** 

cc: Carol Ritter