SEASONS

The wind

Going over on the ferry

On a summer night, it is 9pm

But not getting dark here

Running up the highway

Nostrils filled with dust

I can smell Fireweed

And the trees by the roadside

Though I cannot identify them

Only interrupted by the exhaust

Of an occasional passing truck

It is dry now

Though it has rained so much this year

When we sandbagged in the spring

The scent of mud and wet sand

The sweat of those working together

To aid their neighbours

Reinvigorated by hot coffee

Relief from,

The persistent damp

That follows you everywhere

I learned a new skill this summer

Made a medicine bag down in Vancouver

Mint and sweetgrass

So close to the ocean

The air was different

The medicine bag will remind me

Of my time there

Scent evokes the strongest memories

Changing times and changing seasons

Soon running up the highway

Will smell like winter

Fresh snow and dropping temperatures

And the reassuring wood smoke.