



Author of Book on World's First Woman Aircraft Designer Recognized with Provincial Heritage Award

OHS Alison Prentice Award presented June 20, 2015

Ismaili Centre, North York, Ontario

For Immediate Release

In 1967, The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) established an awards program to recognize individuals, organizations, corporations, and authors who have contributed significantly to the preservation and promotion of Ontario's heritage.

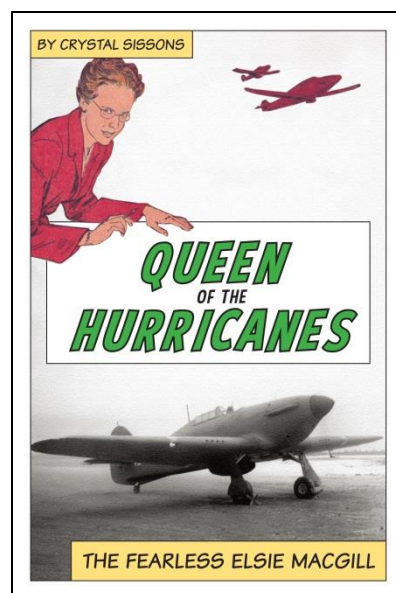
Dr. Ian Radforth, Chair of the Honours and Awards Committee of the OHS, is pleased to announce that the 2014 Alison Prentice Award, which recognizes the best book on women's history in Ontario published in the past three years, was awarded to **Crystal Sissons** for her book, *Queen of the Hurricanes: The Fearless Elsie MacGill*, published by Second Story Press.

Sissons explores the fascinating life of Elsie MacGill and reveals important themes in Ontario women's history relating to education, health, family, employment, women's organizations, and feminism. The book deftly tells the story of MacGill's long life as both an engineer and an advocate of women's rights.

The first woman aircraft designer in the world, MacGill did vital work in aircraft production during the Second World War, when she gained public recognition as "Queen of the Hurricanes." In this thoroughly researched and engaging biography, readers will find interesting all of the various aspects of MacGill's life.

Crystal Sissons is an independent historian and works at the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada in Ottawa. She is also active in a number of organizations, including the Business and Professional Women's Club of Ottawa within BPW Canada.

Founded in 1888, the Ontario Historical Society is a non-profit corporation and registered charity dedicated to the preservation and celebration of Ontario's history for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds. To learn more about the OHS's Honours and Awards Program, or to submit a nomination, please visit www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.



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Crystal Sissons

[Queen of the Hurricanes: The Fearless Elsie MacGill](#)
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