



Author of First Nations History Recognized with Provincial Heritage Award

OHS Donald Grant Creighton Award presented June 20, 2015
Aga Khan Ismaili Centre, North York, Ontario

For Immediate Release

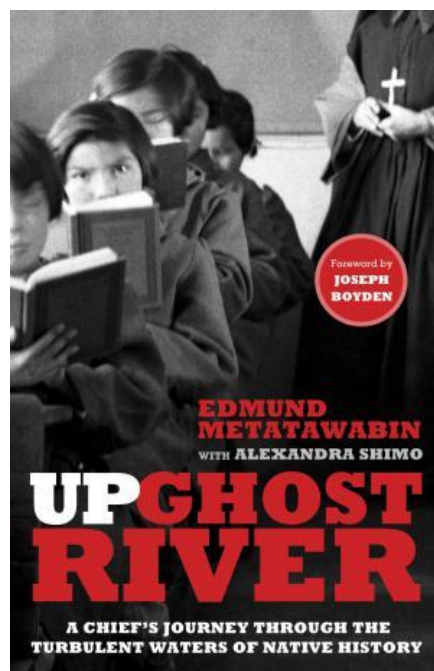
In 1967, The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) established an awards program to recognize individuals, organizations, corporations, and authors who have contributed significantly to the preservation and promotion of Ontario's heritage.

Dr. Ian Radforth, Chair of the Honours and Awards Committee of the OHS, is pleased to announce that the 2013 Donald Grant Creighton Award, which recognizes the best book of biography or autobiography highlighting life in Ontario, past or present, published in the past three years, was awarded to Edmund Metatawabin for his book, *Up Ghost River: A Chief's Journey Through the Turbulent Waters of Native History* (Knopf Canada, 2014).

In a powerful memoir, Edmund Metatawabin relates his childhood experience of being sent to a residential school in Northern Ontario and how the trauma that he and his classmates suffered there deeply affected his adolescent and adult life. *Up Ghost River* provides both a valuable perspective on a shameful part of our nation's history and an inspiring testimonial of how Metatawabin sought to overcome his past, repair his present, and better the lives of new generations of First Nations youth.

Edmund Metatawabin, former Chief of Fort Albany First Nation, is a Cree writer, educator and activist. A residential school survivor, he has devoted himself to righting the wrongs of the past, and educating Native youth in traditional knowledge. Metatawabin now lives in his self-made log house in Fort Albany, Ontario, off the reserve boundary, on land he refers to as my "Grandfathers' Land." He owns a local sawmill and also works as a consultant, speaker and researcher.

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



The Ontario Historical Society

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