



# Historian Deborah Gorham Recognized with Provincial Award

OHS Alison Prentice Award presented June 10, 2017  
York University Senate Chambers, Toronto, 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.

The Alison Prentice Award recognizes the best book in Ontario women's history published in the past three years. The OHS is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2016 Alison Prentice Award is **Deborah Gorham** for her book *Marion Dewar: A Life of Action*, published by Second Story Press.



This engaging and enlightening biography examines Marion Dewar's remarkable career in politics and community service. Undeterred by the absence of any personal papers of her subject, author Deborah Gorham has researched far and wide and interviewed many of Dewar's former colleagues, friends, and family members. These sources reveal much about Dewar's varied career as a nurse, progressive Catholic, women's rights and peace activist, advocate for social justice issues, mayor of Ottawa, and NDP Member of Parliament for Hamilton-Mountain.

With just the right mix of storytelling and analysis, Gorham not only captures the details and drama of Dewar's personal and public life, but also reflects on and sometimes revises feminist scholarly understandings of women's activism.

The Honours and Awards Committee proudly recognizes Deborah Gorham.

The award was presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at the York University Senate Chambers in Toronto, Ontario.

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 <https://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index.php/categories> or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

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-The Ontario Historical Society-

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