



## Author of Comparative Study of the Irish Diaspora Recognized with Heritage Award

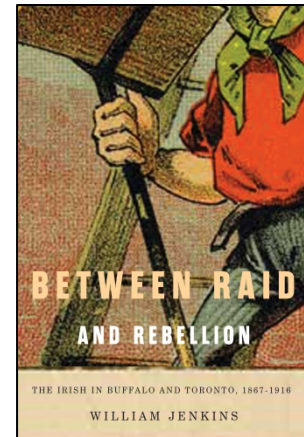
OHS Joseph Brant Award presented June 14, 2014  
O'Connor House, North York, Ontario

*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 Joseph Brant Award, which recognizes the best book on multicultural history in Ontario published in the past three years, was awarded to William Jenkins for his groundbreaking study *Between Raid and Rebellion: The Irish in Buffalo and Toronto, 1867-1916* (McGill-Queen's University Press).

William Jenkins, the director of the graduate program in history and associate professor in the Department of Geography at York University, has added substantially to our understanding of Ontario history by revealing how Irish immigrants and their descendants adapted to life in Toronto and shaped the city they made home.



His book begins at the time of the Fenian raids on the eve of Confederation and ends as Irish Torontonians responded to Dublin's Easter Rebellion of 1916. Patterns of settlement, work, and social interaction, as well as institution-building and identity politics, come more sharply into focus thanks to the book's parallel – though often contrasting study – of the Irish in nearby Buffalo.

This is a masterful and authoritative history based on impressive research. Informed by scholarship in the social sciences, particularly historical geography, the book also succeeds at story-telling, bringing to life the struggles and conflicts of Irish newcomers as they found a place, crafted identities, and helped build Toronto.

The award was presented at the annual meeting of The Ontario Historical Society at the historic O'Connor House in North York.

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](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards) or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

**The Ontario Historical Society**

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**McGill-Queen's University Press**

[Between Raid and Rebellion: The Irish in Buffalo and Toronto, 1867-1916](#)  
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**William Jenkins**

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