



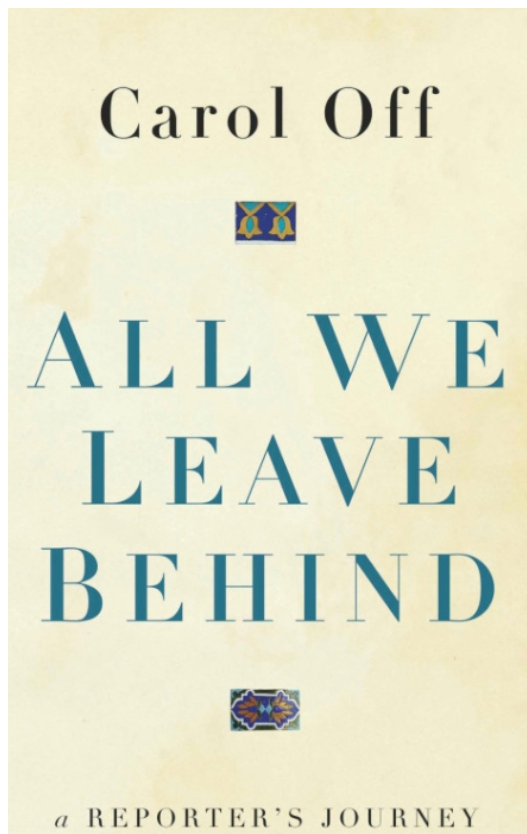
Celebrated Journalist Carol Off Recognized with Provincial Book Award

OHS Huguenot Society of Canada Award presented June 23, 2018
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, Toronto, Ontario

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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 Huguenot Society of Canada Award honours the best book or substantial article published in Ontario that has brought public awareness to the principles of freedom of conscience and freedom of thought. The 2017 recipient is **Carol Off**, for her book, *All We Leave Behind: A Reporter's Journey into the Lives of Others*, published by Random House Canada.



In the book, the celebrated CBC journalist Carol Off explains how, when pursuing a news story in Afghanistan, she interviewed Asad Aryubwal. He knowingly took great risks to tell on public television what he knew about Afghan's warlords at time when the United States and its allies were supporting some of them. In consequence of the interview, death squads sought to kill Asad, forcing him and his family to flee to Pakistan. Desperate, he sought help from the author. Knowing that her interview with him had endangered his life, Carol felt compelled to break with journalism's code of conduct and assist him and his wife and children. For several years Carol persisted in the maddeningly frustrating, but ultimately successful process of bringing them to Canada as refugees. This book is a revealing, recent history of Afghanistan. It is a story that takes readers behind scenes to reveal how journalists operate and to show the impossibility, at times, of keeping the personal separate from the professional. Moreover, it is a story of courage, conscience, generosity, and friendship.

The Honours and Awards Committee is pleased to present the 2017 Huguenot Society of Canada Award to Carol Off.

The award was presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto.

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.

-The Ontario Historical Society-

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