



# The Stories of Francis Pegahmagabow Recognized with Provincial Book Award

OHS Fred Landon Award presented June 23, 2018  
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, 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 Fred Landon Award recognizes the best book on local or regional history in Ontario published in the past three years. The OHS is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2017 Fred Landon Award is **Brian McInnes** for his book *Sounding Thunder: The Stories of Francis Pegahmagabow*, published by the University of Manitoba Press.



Brian McInnes' book is both elegant and masterful in its weaving of language, spirituality, storytelling, family, community, and physical place on the lands and waters of Georgian Bay as he presents the world and life of his great-grandfather, Francis Pegahmagabow.

Francis Pegahmagabow, born in Shawanaga, Ontario, was a member of the Ojibwe nation. He enlisted in the First World War and served with distinction. Francis is the most decorated Canadian Indigenous soldier for bravery and recognized as the most accomplished sniper in North American military history. Upon his return from war, Francis served the community of Wasauksing as chief and councillor, was a founding member of the Brotherhood of Canadian Indians and was elected Supreme Chief of the National Indian Government in 1949.

McInnes' presentation of family stories in both Ojibwe and English, and his placement of them within their historical and geographical context, underlines Waubgeshig Rice's claim in his foreword to *Sounding Thunder* that the book will remain "a vital resource for generations to come."

The Honours and Awards Committee is proud to recognize author Brian McInnes and his book, *Sounding Thunder*.

The award was presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto, Ontario on June 23, 2018.

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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