

Dan Robson's *Bower: A Legendary Life* Wins OHS Creighton Award for Best Ontario Biography

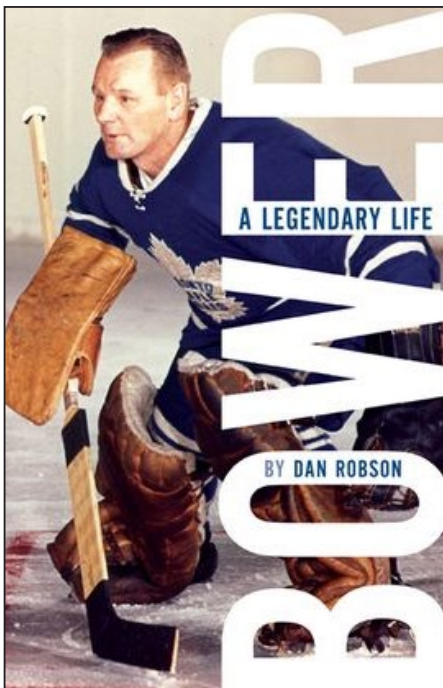
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The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to present the 2019 Donald Grant Creighton Award to Dan Robson for his book, *Bower: A Legendary Life*, published by HarperCollins Canada. The Donald Grant Creighton Award honours the best book of biography or autobiography highlighting life in Ontario, past or present, published in the past three years.

In *Bower: A Legendary Life*, Dan Robson documents the authentic rags-to-riches story of one of Ontario's most treasured sports legends. Johnny Bower emerged from the depths of Depression-Era Saskatchewan to dominate the goal crease in the National Hockey League. It is said that "goalkeepers are different" and this book shows how. Bower was an innovator in his own way (he was the first to dare to "poke check" his oncoming adversaries), and Dan Robson's book shows that perfection in life can be approached, if not achieved, with persistence, dedication, and optimism.

Bower: A Legendary Life tells the story of a modest man who was not afraid to throw himself fearlessly in the way of a blazing hockey puck in order to defend the honour of his team. For many years, Bower led the Maple Leafs in the crease, helping the Buds secure four Stanley Cups within just five seasons. He was the idol of countless Ontarians. In retirement, he drew respect and admiration from people across the province who saw in him an honest man who had the raging heart of an elite competitor and a war veteran. Drawing on various records, contemporary accounts, and interviews, Robson brings a special light to the famed goalie's life. In telling Bower's story,

Robson invokes a pleasant mix of Ontario places, coffee shops, streetscapes, and arenas that turn this book from a simple hockey story to one of a well-lived life. The Honours and Awards Committee proudly presents the Donald Grant Creighton Award to Dan Robson.



Watch Dan Robson's Acceptance Speech



Founded in 1888, the Ontario Historical Society is a not-for-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://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/honours-awards/> or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

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