FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Huguenot Society of Canada Award honours the best book—or substantial article—published in Ontario within the last three years that has brought public awareness to the principles of freedom of conscience and freedom of thought. The 2020-21 recipient is Natasha Bakht for her book *In Your Face: Law, Justice, and Niqab-wearing Women in Canada*, published by Delve Books, an imprint of Irwin Law Inc.

*In Your Face* is a thoughtful, well-researched study of the lives and experiences of Muslim women in Canada who cover their faces with a full veil. Though small in numbers, they have in recent years faced much legal, political, and social attention. Natasha Bakht, a full professor of law at the University of Ottawa, conducted interviews of niqab-wearing women in Ontario and Quebec to examine their motivations and lived experiences. She interrogates popular arguments for why women should not wear the niqab in public places, including courtrooms, and examines legislative bans of the niqab in public spaces and other public contexts. The book closes with expressions of resistance of niqab-wearing women themselves, and their determination to challenge stereotypes and wrongful perceptions of who they are and what they stand for.

The Honours and Awards Committee is pleased to present the 2020-21 Huguenot Society of Canada Award to Natasha Bakht.

Watch Natasha Bakht’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/](https://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/honours-awards/) or contact the Society’s offices by telephone or e-mail.