

OHS Carnochan Award Recognizes Forestry and Heritage Champion Dave Lemkay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Ontario Historical Society's Carnochan Award recognizes an individual who has contributed many years of service to the heritage community. This year, the OHS is pleased to present the Carnochan Award to Dave Lemkay of Douglas, Ontario.

Readers of the *OHS Bulletin* may already know his name, as Lemkay is an original member of the Vimy Oaks Legacy Corporation, a not-for-profit corporation of volunteers who promote the memory and legacy of Canadians who fought in the First World War by planting "Vimy Oak" saplings—which are descendants of acorns gathered after the Battle of Vimy Ridge—and planted in Canada by Canadian soldier, Lieutenant Leslie Miller. In addition to his role with the "Vimy Oaks" project, Lemkay delivered maple trees to Juno Beach, France, on the 50th anniversary of D-Day in 1994. His passions for forestry and history have produced exceptional results over a 40-year career.

For almost 20 years, Dave Lemkay served as General Manager of the Canadian Forestry Association that published and distributed the Canada's Forests Teaching Kit series to educators across the country. He oversaw designations of The Forest Capital of Canada to worthy communities in Ontario including The Ottawa Valley in 1984, Ontario's Northwest – Thunder Bay in 2000, The Town of Oakville in 2007, Norfolk County in 2008-9 and the Petawawa Research Forest in 2017.

Dave is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Algonquin Forest Authority. He is also a Director with Shaw Woods Outdoor Education Centre, former Director of the Friends of the Petawawa Research Forest, the Forest History Society of Ontario, and Vimy Oaks Legacy Corporation. In past years he has served on the boards of the Renfrew Historical Society and the Ottawa Valley Historical Society that operates the Champlain Trail Museum in Pembroke.

Lemkay has done so much to preserve and promote public awareness of the history of our forest industry. Through his promotional efforts and boundless enthusiasm, several popular books concerning important chapters of Ontario's forestry history have been published, including the much-acclaimed *Alligators of the North*, *75 Years of Research in the Woods and Destination Algonquin Park – Tracks to Cache Lake and The Highland Inn*. Most recently in 2017 Dave authored the book *Echoes & Ripples*, a Canada 150 community project to feature the history of Admaston-Bromley Township. He has enriched our province by his many noteworthy achievements in heritage preservation and the promotion of Ontario's history.

Dave Lemkay Responds



The OHS Honours and Awards Committee is pleased to recognize Dave Lemkay with the 2020-21 Carnochan Lifetime Achievement Award.

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.

-The Ontario Historical Society-

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