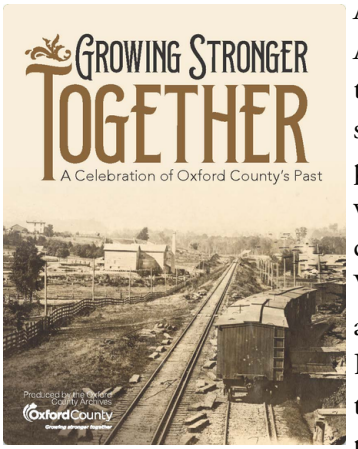
OHS Best Local History Book Award Winner: *Growing Stronger Together – A Celebration of Oxford County's Past*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to announce *Growing Stronger Together – A Celebration of Oxford County's Past* as the winner of the 2026 Best Local History Book Award. Produced by the Oxford County Archives in celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the County, and the 25th Anniversary of the Archives, Archivist Liz Dommasch has woven together this richly illustrated publication of contributions from local history societies, museums and individuals from across Oxford County. The book provides an interesting mix of traditional political and municipal history, with individual stories and tales of the everyday settlers who defined the communities and the events that shaped the County from its earliest days. Who could forget such luminaries as Aimee Semple MacPherson, Joe Boyle and Len Coles? How about the fiery speeches of the Abolitionist John Brown, the legend of Drumbo Dan, the spectacle of Donkey Baseball or the fearsome strength of the Mighty Men of Zorra? These historic tidbits provide an appetizer for the reader, and leave them curious to find out more about the Dairy Capital of Canada.



The OHS would also like to acknowledge and congratulate two runners up:

Graham M. Segger and the Pelham Historical Society, for *The Land at the Crest of the Hill – Clues to Niagara History from Upper Fonthill.*

&

Debra Honor, for *The Lives That Touched Belle Vue Amherstburg*



The OHS Best Local History Book Award was presented at the 2026 OHS Awards Ceremony on November 14, 2026 at the Historic John McKenzie House in Willowdale, Toronto, Ontario. Left to right: Co-Chair of OHS Awards Committee Hans Bathija and award winner Liz Dommasch

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 Awards Program, or to submit a nomination, please visit ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/awards/ or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

-Ontario Historical Society-

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