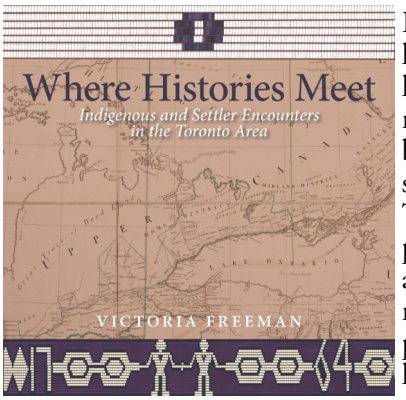
ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY Since 1888

OHS Best Scholarly Book Award Winner: *Where Histories Meet: Indigenous and Settler Encounters in the Toronto Area*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to announce the winner of the 2026 Best Scholarly Book Award, *Where Histories Meet: Indigenous and Settler Encounters in the Toronto Area* by Dr. Victoria Freeman, Bighorn Books & LCR Publishing, imprints of University of Calgary Press, 2025.



Dr. Freeman's book has its origins in a project to reimagine the historical narratives told and re-enacted at The Village at Black Creek heritage site (formerly known as Black Creek Pioneer Village) in northwest Toronto. This "Changing the Narrative" collaboration between First Nations, conservation authorities, and a number of scholars, complicates the dominant settler story of what would become Toronto, by resituating historical narratives within the much longer presence and "deep history" of Indigenous people. Noteworthy is the author's notion of how sources and understandings of the past (archival records, oral traditions, family memory, genealogy, and Indigenous perspectives on written history) form the "place" where histories meet, hence the book's title.

Abundantly illustrated with full colour maps, photographs, and reproductions of primary sources, readers will appreciate the emphasis on Indigenous agency in this re-storying of Ontario history.

The Awards Committee would also like to recognize two runners up from the shortlist of nominees:

Jim Phillips, for *I Did Not Commit Adultery: Marital Conflict and the Law in Ontario in the 1870s*

&

Jackson Pind for *Students by Day: Colonialism and Resistance at the Curve Lake Indian Day School*



The OHS Best Scholarly 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: OHS Awards Committee Co-Chair Hans Bathija and award winner Victoria Freeman.

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

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-Ontario Historical Society-

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