

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OHS JJ Talman Award Presented to *The Great Canadian Art Fraud Case: The Group of Seven & Tom Thomson Forgeries* by Jon S. Dellandrea

The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to present the 2023-24 J.J. Talman Award for the best book on Ontario's social, economic, political, or cultural history to Dr. Jon S. Dellandrea for *The Great Canadian Art Fraud Case: The Group of Seven & Tom Thomson Forgeries*, published by Goose Lane Editions.

This highly engaging book is both the dramatic history of the early 1960s Ontario Provincial Police case into the mysterious figures behind the reproduction of the works of Canada's most famous Ontario based art collectives, and the gripping tale of how through a series of coincidences and dogged investigation in the twenty-first century the author ultimately learned the story of the key players and what happened to them post-event. Full of intrigue and "who-dunnit" suspense as the author follows the paths of the motley players, this book screams to be made into a dramatic film or documentary.

In this, his first published book, Jon Dellandrea has produced a piece of art unto itself, intricately interwoven with full-colour images of the forged artwork and the originals they were purported to represent. His investigative work is top-notch, and his passion for and knowledge of Canadian art is on full display in this highly accessible book. One doesn't have to be an art expert to appreciate Dellandrea's masterwork. The Honours and Awards Committee congratulates Jon S. Dellandrea.



The OHS JJ Talman Award presented at the Honours and Awards Ceremony on November 2, 2024 at the Historic John McKenzie House in Willowdale, Toronto, Ontario. Pictured are: Award Winner Dr. Jon S. Dellandrea (L) and Co-Chair of OHS Honours & Awards Committee Hans Bathija (R). Click the image to watch a video of the award acceptance.

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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