

Walter Owen Book Prize, 2021

The Walter Owen Book Prize, awarded annually by The Canadian Foundation for Legal Research, serves to recognize and reward excellent legal research and writing published in books which comprise outstanding new contributions to legal doctrine in Canada.

The Prize has been established in celebration of Walter Owen, Q.C., P.C. (1904-1981), a prominent member of the Law Society of British Columbia, former Lieutenant Governor of that province, past President of the Canadian Bar Association and first President of the Foundation.

Eligibility

- Books must be judged to be professionally invaluable to members of Canada's Bar, Bench, and law academies.
- Books must have been published in the two year-period preceding the awarding of the Prize (the 2021 Prize will be awarded to selected books published in 2019 or 2020).
- The Prize is awarded in alternating years for books written in English (odd-numbered years, including 2021) and in French (even-numbered years).
- Co-authors of books are acknowledged as nominees.

Submission of Nominations

Each submission of a nomination for the Prize must include a statement of 200 or less words explaining how the book is regarded as meeting the Prize award selection criteria (stated below).

Submissions of nominations must be made with consent of the author(s).

The deadline for submissions of nominations for the 2021 Prize is March 17, 2021. Submissions must be e-mailed to the attention of the foreperson of the Prize selection Jury: Emeritus Professor John N. Davis: jdavis@yorku.ca. On receipt of each nomination, Professor Davis will notify the nominator of the address to which to send one (1) copy of the nominated book.

Additional copies of books which are shortlisted by the Jury will be requested. Our experience suggests that publishers of nominated books, which are shortlisted, will be willing to supply additional copies.

After completion of the selection process, books will not be returned to individuals or publishing companies who submitted them.

Selection Criteria

- An entirely new English language work (or a previous title's complete revision) which is not a translation;
- Published in Canada;
- Contributing to Canadian legal literature (specifically, a book dedicated to legal doctrine rather than theory or law reform);
- Enhancing the quality of legal research in Canada;
- Substantial in nature;
- Exhibiting theoretical breadth, depth and erudition;
- Containing excellent English language writing;
- About a topic of current interest;
- Which is, or is likely to be, highly valued by Canada's legal profession, judiciary, and law academies (specifically, as an essential reference work, instead of a law annotation, jurisprudence directory, or collective work);
- Published during 2019 or 2020.

Selection Jury

The successful candidate will be chosen by a Jury appointed annually by The Canadian Foundation for Legal Research.

The members of the 2021 Jury are:

John N. Davis, Emeritus Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto, Jury foreperson;

John-Paul E. Boyd, Q.C., Barrister/Mediator, Calgary;

Arthur L. Close, Q.C., B.C. Law Institute Executive Director (Retired), Vancouver;

Hon. Kenneth C. Mackenzie, Q.C., B.C. Court of Appeal (Retired), Vancouver;

Hon. Marguerite Trussler, Q.C., Alberta Court of Queen's Bench (Retired) and Alberta Ethics Commissioner, Edmonton, and

David C. Day, Q.C., Foundation Trustee, Barrister, and N.L. Supreme Court Master, St. John's.

Prize Award

The award, funded by The Canadian Foundation for Legal Research, is a \$15,000.00 cash prize for the first place selection and, if regarded as deserving, \$10,000.00 for the second place selection and \$5,000.00 for the third place selection.

Additional Information

For additional information, please contact the Jury foreperson, John N. Davis: jdavis@yorku.ca.

Recent Winners

- 2020 - Professor Pascal Fréchette (Sherbrooke), first Prize; Professor Yan Campagnolo (Ottawa), second Prize;
- 2019 - Jonathan Rudin (Toronto), first Prize; Hon. Robert J. Sharpe (Toronto), second Prize; Professors Philip Girard, Jim Phillips and R. Blake Brown, third Prize;
- 2018 - Professor Yaëll Emerich (Montreal);
- 2017 - Caitlin Pakosh (Toronto);
- 2016 - Professor Pierre-Claude Lafond (Montreal);
- 2015 - Professor Adam Dodek (Ottawa);
- 2014 - Louise Langevin, Nathalie Des Rosiers and Marie-Pier Nadeau;
- 2013 - Teresa Scassa (Ottawa) and Michael Deturbide (Halifax);

- 2012 - Martine Valois (Montreal) and co-authors;
- 2011 - Ed Ratushny, Q.C.; Dennis Mahony and co-authors (shared the first and only Prize).

The Canadian Foundation For Legal Research, December, 2020