

NEW AND NOTABLE BOOKS AUGUST 2025

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Art and Historic Resources



305 Lost Buildings of Canada

Raymond Biesinger *, Alex Bozikovic * (Goose Lane Editions)

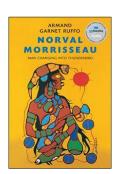
Accompanying Biesinger's illustrations are Alex Bozikovic's descriptions which capture each building's historical, cultural, and architectural significance. Bozikovic draws on local histories, archived building permits and his own extensive knowledge of the Canadian urban architectural landscape and its history — from the letters passed through Kelowna's unlikely art deco post office to the destruction of a home in Halifax's Africville — to offer fascinating, sometimes forgotten stories about each building and its significance.



Kôhkominawak Ocihcîwâwa: Our Grandmothers' Hands: Repatriating Métis Material Art

Gregory Scofield * (Gabriel Dumont Institute)

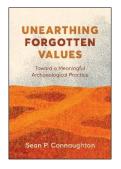
Scofield has repatriated Métis artifacts from across the world, from coast to coast in Canada, to England and Scotland, bringing the grandmothers home, and is sharing these grandmothers with everyone through this beautiful book. This resource also contains a historical overview by Sherry Farrell Racette, and over 100 photographs.



Norval Morrisseau: Man Changing into Thunderbird

Armand Garnet Ruffo * (Douglas & McIntyre)

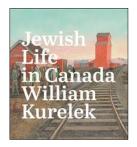
Ruffo draws upon years of extensive research, including interviews with Morrisseau himself, to recollect the artist's life in all its triumphs and tragedies: his first solo and breakthrough exhibition; his legendary "Garden Party" where he and his agent flew a coterie of critics from Toronto to remote Beardmore for an afternoon tea party. Here too is Morrisseau's battle with alcoholism, then Parkinson's disease, and his exultant "Shaman's Return" to national status in the Canadian art scene. The author draws upon his own Ojibway heritage to provide insight into Morrisseau's life and iconography.



Unearthing Forgotten Values: Towards a Meaningful Archaeological Practice

Sean P. Connaughton (Purich Books)

Based on lengthy experience working with and within Indigenous communities in British Columbia and around the world, Sean P. Connaughton discusses such thorny issues as the meaning of decolonization, Indigenous land rights and sovereignty, the commodification of heritage, and state support for projects that will exacerbate climate change. Weaving together real-life stories, fieldwork, scholarship, data, introspection, and Indigenous values, *Unearthing Forgotten Values* charts a practical course for change.

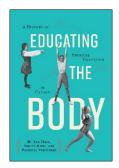


William Kurelek: Jewish Life in Canada

Ed. Sarah Milroy * (Goose Lane Editions)

Includes essays on Kurelek's articulation of the Canadian ideal of multiculturalism, his distinctive framing strategies, Jewish life in 1970s Canada, and on Kurelek's use of photographic sources. The volume features more than 50 images, including reproductions of the full suite of Kurelek paintings as well as previously unpublished archival source material, offering a complete record of Kurelek's working process. Many of the works in this book are set in Manitoba.

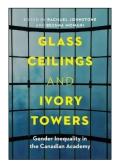
Education



Educating the Body: A History of Physical Education in Canada

M. Ann Hall *, Bruce Kidd *, Patricia Vertinsky* (University of Toronto Press)

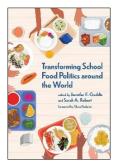
This book traces the major developments in physical education from the early nineteenth century to the present day and concludes with a vision for the future. It examines the realities of Canada's classed, gendered, and racialized society and reveals the rich history of Indigenous teachings and practices that were marginalized and erased by the residential school system. Today, with the worrying decline in physical activity levels across the population, *Educating the Body* aids in understanding policy options for moving ahead.



Glass Ceilings and Ivory Towers: Gender Inequality in the Canadian Academy

ed. Rachael Johnstone *, Bessma Momani * (University of British Columbia Press)

Even as Canadian universities suggest their gender issues have largely been resolved, many women in academia tell a different story. Systemic discrimination, the underrepresentation of women in more senior and lucrative roles, and the belief that gender-related concerns will simply self-correct with greater representation add up to a serious gender problem. Contributors consider the daily grind of academic life, social, structural, and systemic challenges, and the gendered dynamics of university leadership, all with an eye to laying the groundwork for practical and meaningful institutional change.

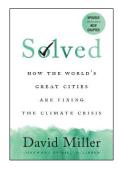


Transforming School Food Politics Around the World

Ed. Jennifer E. Gaddis, Sarah A. Robert (MIT Press)

This book highlights the importance of global and local struggles to argue that the transformative potential of school food hinges on valuing the gendered labor that goes into caring for, feeding, and educating children. Drawing from historical and contemporary research, personal experiences, and collaborations with community partners, these essays provide readers with innovative strategies that can be used in their own efforts to change school food policy and systems. Ultimately, this volume sets the stage to reimagine school food as part of the infrastructure of daily life, arguing that it can and should be at the vanguard of building a new economy rooted in care for people and the environment.

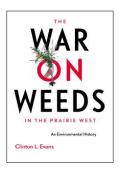
Environment and Climate Change



Solved: How the World's Great Cities Are Fixing Climate Change

David Miller * (University of Toronto Press)

This book demonstrates that the initiatives cities have taken to control the climate crisis can make a difference in reducing global emissions if implemented worldwide. By chronicling the stories of how cities have taken action to meet and exceed emissions targets laid out in the Paris Agreement, Miller empowers readers to fix the climate crisis. As much a "how to" guide for policymakers as a work for concerned citizens.

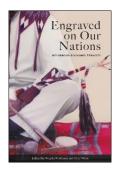


The War on Weeds in the Prairie West: An Environmental History

Clinton L. Evans * (University of Calgary Press)

In this ground-breaking study, Evans studies the evolution of the relationship between people and weeds in the formative years of western Canada. This book documents the arrival of weeds with seed from England in the sixteenth century, how these foreign seeds survived and thrived on the plains of North America, and governmental perceptions and legislations against weeds. Highlighting topics such as weed biology and ecology, noxious weed legislation and "weed science," Evans considers the delicate connections between human culture and the natural world.

Finance and Economics



Engraved on Our Nations: Indigenous Economic Tenacity

Ed. Wanda Wuttunee *, Fred Wien * (University of Manitoba Press)

Despite investments in nation building, self-autonomy, and cultural resurgence, Indigenous economic development has remained an underexplored area of research. This book overturns the discouraging deficit perspective too common in policy and academia and amplifies the largely undocumented history of successful Indigenous economic activity in Canada. This first-of-its-kind collection shares stories not only of entrepreneurial excellence and persistence but savvy leadership, innovation, and reciprocity.



Fiscal Choices: Canada After the Pandemic

Michael M. Atkinson *, Haizhen Mou * (University of Toronto Press)

The book argues that although those who are entrusted with the instruments of power can be reluctant to take risks or abandon well-known, if poorly performing, formulas. It concludes with a set of predictions and prescriptions rooted in a realistic interpretation of Canada's political economy. Ultimately, *Fiscal Choices* presents a sober assessment of federalism and parliamentary government as instruments of democratic accountability.

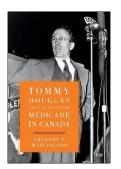
Healthcare



Making Health Policy, 3rd Edition

Kent Buse et al. (Open University Press)

This new edition includes a greater diversity of expertise and reflects the latest research and thinking about how to do health policy analysis, including a new focus on issues like the role of values in health policy, policy making in response to climatic and environmental change, and the growing importance of social media in the policy process. It also draws on the COVID-19 pandemic and its response to highlight key aspects of the health policy process.

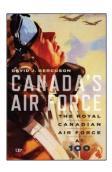


Tommy Douglas and the Quest for Medicare in Canada

Gregory Marchildon * (University of Toronto Press)

Marchildon traces the origins of Medicare back to the 1930s Depression and its devastating impact on the Prairie populations. He examines how Tommy Douglas and a new generation of reformers, radicalized by the Depression, prioritized socialized health care. The book reveals how, as the provincial party leader, Douglas leveraged support from both local and external allies to rapidly implement universal hospital insurance and lay the groundwork for a new health system.

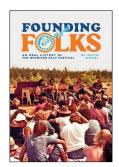
History and Heritage



Canada's Air Force: The Royal Canadian Airforce at 100

David Bercuson ♥ (University of Toronto Press)

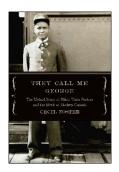
In Canada's Air Force, historian David J. Bercuson shares the history of the first one hundred years of the Royal Canadian Air Force, from its inception in 1924 to its centennial in 2024. Drawing on memoirs, diaries, unpublished histories, archival sources, interview transcripts, and standard reference works, Bercuson traces the history of the RCAF as not only a fighting force but also a human institution.



Founding Folks: An Oral History of the Winnipeg Folk Festival

Kevin Nikkel * (University of Manitoba Press)

Founding Folks tells the festival's origin story, from founder Mitch Podolak's unlikely dream of bringing folk music to prairie stages to how it became one of the most influential Folk Festivals in North America. Through conversations with staff, volunteers, and musicians—including Bruce Cockburn, Tom Jackson, and David Amram—filmmaker Kevin Nikkel offers a nuanced look at community building, explores the relationships between politics and culture, and provides fascinating insight into the lifelong friendships that developed among some of folk music's most defining figures.

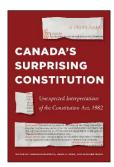


They Call Me George: The Untold Story of Black Train Porters and the Birth of Modern Canada

Cecil Foster * (Biblioasis)

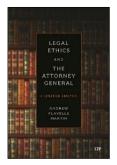
Canada's black train porters were a familiar sight to the average passenger—yet their minority status rendered them politically invisible, second-class in the social imagination that determined who was and who was not considered Canadian. Subjected to grueling shifts and unreasonable standards, the so-called Pullmen of the country's rail lines were denied secure positions and prohibited from bringing their families to Canada. It was their struggle against the racist Dominion that laid the groundwork for the multicultural nation we know today.

Law and Legislation



Canada's Surprising Constitution: Unexpected Interpretations of the Constitution Act, 1982 ed. Howard Kislowicz ♣, Richard J. Moon♣, Kerri Anne Froc♣ (UBC Press)

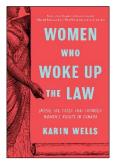
In this illuminating collection of essays, leading scholars reflect on surprising interpretations, focusing on fundamental freedoms; equality, Indigenous, and language rights; structural features of the *Charter*; as well as the courts' approach to the interpretation of the Constitution. This thoughtful work of this volume is crucial in identifying, accounting for, and — looking ahead — anticipating potential surprises. Its thorough analysis also offers a view of the Constitution in action.



Legal Ethics and the Attorney General: A Canadian Analysis

Andrew Flavelle Martin * (University of Toronto Press)

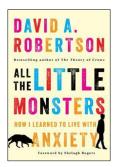
The book illustrates that while the role of the Attorney General is unique, the individual occupying this position practices law and should be held to the same standards as any other lawyer. It addresses common misconceptions about the role and highlights the importance of the accountability of the Attorney General, especially to the provincial and territorial law societies that regulate the legal profession. This accountability is essential not only for upholding the rule of law but also for enabling these societies to fulfill their statutory mandates to regulate the legal profession in the public interest.



Women Who Woke Up the Law: Inside the Cases that Changed Women's Rights in Canada Karin Wells (Second Story Press)

Karin Wells pulls us into the lives and legal trials of a group of women integral to the advancement of women's rights in Canada. Some never saw justice themselves, but they left a legal legacy. Their bold determination is something we need now more than ever to guard the hard-won gains in women's rights.

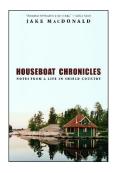
Manitoba Voices



All the Little Monsters: How I Learned to Live with Anxiety

David A. Robertson * (HarperCollins)

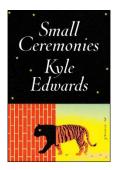
In All the Little Monsters, Robertson reveals what it's like to live inside his mind and his body, describes the toll his mental health challenges have taken on him and his family, and how he has learned to put one foot in front of the other as well as to get back up when he stumbles. He also writes about the tools that have helped him carry on, including community, therapy, medication and the simple question he asks himself on repeat: what if everything will be okay? In candidly sharing his personal story, Robertson hopes to help others on their own mental health journeys.



Houseboat Chronicles : Notes From a Life in Shield Country

Jake MacDonald * (McClelland & Stewart)

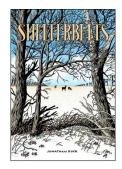
This is the story of Jake MacDonald's discovery of some of the last wild places in North America. When Jake was still a boy, his father built a cottage in Manitoba. It was here that he developed a hankering to live in wild places, and why he decided to quit his graduate studies and explore the distant corners of the continent in a second-hand van. MacDonald argues that the heart and soul of Canada are to be found in Shield country. On its countless cold lakes, under its impossibly starry skies, we come to know ourselves. Its vastness and indifference show us our limitations and help to define us.



Small Ceremonies: a Novel

Kyle Edwards * (McClelland & Stewart)

Tomahawk Shields and Clinton Whiteway are on the cusp of adulthood, imagining a future rife with possibility and greatness. The two friends play for their high school's poorperforming hockey team, the Tigers, who learn at the start of the new season that the league wants them out. Their annual goal is now more important than ever: to win their first game in years and break the curse. Ferociously piercing the heart of an Indigenous city, this debut novel is a heartbreaking yet humour-flecked portrayal of navigating identity and place, trauma and recovery, and growing up in a land that doesn't love you.

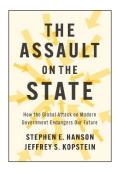


Shelterbelts

Jonathan Dyck * (Conundrum Press)

Through a series of vignettes, *Shelterbelts* explores the perspectives, experiences and limitations of a wide range of characters who find themselves increasingly at odds with their surroundings. A pastor and his queer daughter learn that a family has left their church because of the "LGBT issue." Young activists butt heads with a farmer over the construction of a pipeline. A librarian leaves suggestive notes for readers inside popular library books. By pulling these threads together, artist Jonathan Dyck has woven a rich tapestry--one that depicts a close-knit community in the midst of defining its future as it reckons with its past.

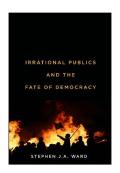
Political Science



The Assault on the State: How the Global Attack on Modern Government Endangers Our Future

Stephen E. Hanson, Jeffrey S. Kopstein (Polity Press)

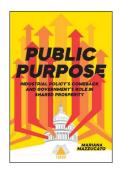
Political scientists Stephen Hanson and Jeffrey Kopstein offer an impassioned plea to defend modern government against those who seek to destroy it. They dissect the attack on the machinery of government from its origins in post-Soviet Russia to the core powers of Western democracy. The dangers of state erosion imperil every aspect of our lives. The book outlines a strategy that can reverse this destructive trend before humanity is plunged back into the pathological personalistic politics of premodern times.



Irrational Publics and the Fate of Democracy

Stephen J.A. Ward * (McGill-Queen's University Press)

Stephen Ward combines history and evolutionary psychology to argue that social irrationality is likely to occur when social tensions trigger a person's enemy stance. Analyzing eruptions of public irrationality, Ward presents his evolutionary theory of public irrationalism. Catalyzed by intolerant media and demagogues, the swing towards the irrational weakens democracy. The book concludes with practical recommendations for what society should do to resist the engines of unreason within and without us.



Public Purpose: Industrial Policy's Comeback and Government's Role in Shared Prosperity

Mariana Mazzucato et al. (Boston Review)

Thinkers across the political spectrum have begun expressing new interest in industrial policy as a way to address the most serious problems of our times: from national security and climate change, to the market's underfunding of public goods, to economic growth and labor market dysfunction. Together, contributors make a compelling case for industrial policy—what it is, and why we need it now. Addressing investment, innovation, supply chains, and growth, they offer a robust vision of a renewed industrial policy, and what it can offer the economy in the face of climate change and a global pandemic.

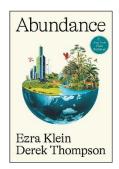


The Public Servant's Guide to Government in Canada, Second Edition

Alex Marland ♥, Jared J. Wesley ♥ (University of Toronto Press)

Navigating a career in Canada's public service can be a complex journey. *The Public Servant's Guide to Government in Canada* serves as an essential resource for those seeking to transition into and thrive in provincial and federal government roles. Written for university students, early-career public servants, and those shifting into government from other sectors, the book demystifies spaces between politics and public administration. More than merely a tool for individual advancement, this guide is a call to action for building a more informed and effective public service in Canada.

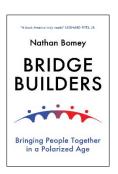
Social Science



Abundance

Ezra Klein, Derek Thompson (Avid Reader Press)

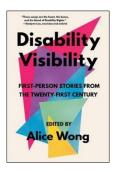
Abundance explains that our problems today are not the results of yesteryear's villains. Rather, one generation's solutions have become the next generation's problems. Progress requires facing up to the institutions in life that are not working as they need to. It means, for liberals, recognizing when the government is failing. It means, for conservatives, recognizing when the government is needed. In a book exploring how we can move from a liberalism that not only protects but also *builds*, the authors trace the political, economic, and cultural barriers to progress and propose a path forward.



Bridge Builders: Bringing People Together in a Polarized Age

Nathan Bomey (Polity Press)

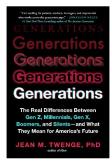
Journalist Nathan Bomey paints a forensic portrait of Americans who are spanning gaping divides between people of difference. These countercultural leaders all believe in the power of forging lasting connections to bring about profound change. Though the blueprints for political, social, and cultural bridges vary widely, bridge builders have much in common--and we have much to learn from them. In this book, Bomey dissects the transformational ways in which bridge builders are combatting polarization by pursuing reconciliation, rejecting misinformation, and rethinking the principle of compromise.



Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century

Ed. Alice Wong (Knopf Doubleday Publishing)

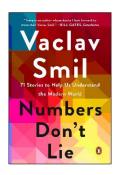
Activist Alice Wong brings together an urgent, galvanizing collection of personal essays by contemporary disabled writers. This anthology provides a glimpse of the vast richness and complexity of the disabled experience, highlighting the passions, talents, and everyday lives of the community. It invites readers to question their own assumptions and to partake in the joys and challenges of modern disability experiences.



<u>Generations</u>: The Real Differences Between Gen Z, Millennials, Gen X, Boomers, and <u>Silents – and What They Mean for America's Future</u>

Jean M. Twenge (Atria Books)

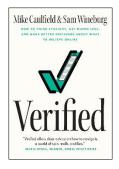
Upending the conventional theory that generational differences are caused by major events, Dr. Jean Twenge analyzes data on 39 million people from robust national surveys—some going back nearly a century—to show that changes in technology are the underlying driver of each generation's unique makeup. In this revelatory work, Twenge outlines key shifts in attitudes and lifestyle choices that define each generation regarding gender, income, politics, race, sexuality, marriage, mental health, and much more.



Numbers Don't Lie: 71 Stories to Help Us Understand the Modern World

Vaclav Smil * (Penguin Books)

From the author of How the World Really Works, comes an essential guide to understanding how numbers reveal the true state of our world. Urgent and essential, with a mix of science, history, and wit, this book features-- bite-sized chapters on a broad range of topics including energy, the environment, technology, transportation, and food production. Numbers Don't Lie inspires readers to interrogate what they take to be true.

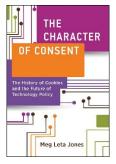


Verified: How To Think Straight, Get Duped Less, and Make Better Decisions about What to Believe Online

Mike Caulfield, Sam Wineburg (University of Chicago Press)

The internet has become the Wild West. We are faced with a seemingly endless source of information, all of it difficult to evaluate. Trusted sources can be full of ads, bad actors can slip under the radar, and seemingly questionable databases might hold a helpful treasure trove. Historian Sam Wineburg and media literacy guru Mike Caulfield help readers learn to identify red flags, get quick context, and make better use of common tools, like Google and Wikipedia, that have the ability to help and hinder in equal measure.

Technology and Innovation



The Character of Consent: The History of Cookies and the Future of Technology Policy

Meg Leta Jones (The MIT Press)

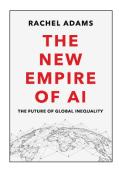
Rather than promote functionality, privacy, and decentralization, cookie technology has instead made the internet invasive, limited, and clunky. Good thing, then, that the cookie is set for retirement in 2024. In this eye-opening book, Jones tells the little-known story of this broken consent arrangement, tracing it back to the major transnational conflicts around digital consent over the last twenty-five years. What she finds is that the policy controversy is not, in fact, an information crisis—it's an identity crisis.



A Digital Bundle: Protecting and Promoting Indigenous Knowledge Online

Jennifer Wemigwans * (University of Regina Press)

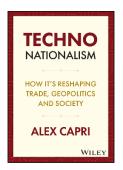
An essential contribution to internet activism and a must read for Indigenous educators, A Digital Bundle frames digital technology as an important tool for self-determination and idea sharing, ultimately contributing to Indigenous resurgence and nation building. By defining Indigenous Knowledge online in terms of "digital bundles," Jennifer Wemigwans elevates both cultural protocol and cultural responsibilities, grounds online projects within Indigenous philosophical paradigms, and highlights new possibilities for both the Internet and Indigenous communities.



The New Empire of AI: The Future of Global Inequality

Rachel Adams (Polity Press)

As AI takes hold across the planet and wealthy nations seek to position themselves as global leaders of this new technology, the gap is widening between those who benefit from it and those who are subjugated by it. As Rachel Adams shows, growing inequality is the single biggest threat to the transformative potential of AI. Not only is AI built on an unequal global system of power, but it also stands poised to entrench existing inequities to further consolidating a new age of empire. The effects will be seen in intensified international migration as opportunities become increasingly concentrated in wealthier nations; in heightened political instability and populist politics; and in climate-related disasters caused by an industry blind to its environmental impact across supply chains.



<u>Techno-Nationalism</u>: How It's Reshaping Trade, Geopolitics and Society

Alex Capri (Wiley)

Techno-nationalism holds that a nation's economic strength and its national security — even its social stability— are linked to the technological prowess of its institutions and enterprises. From artificial intelligence and biotechnology to semiconductors and quantum science, nations that fall behind in the technology race risk becoming permanent losers, with potentially catastrophic consequences. After decades of trade liberalization and free-flowing investment into China, a paradigm shift amongst a bloc of like-minded, mostly Western countries, has set in motion epic change. The essential book on technology-related competition between nations and its impact on the world.



You'll See This Message When it is Too Late : The Legal and Economic Aftermath of Cybersecurity Breaches

Josephine Wolff (MIT Press)

Wolff describes a series of significant cybersecurity incidents between 2005 and 2015, mapping the entire life cycle of each breach in order to identify opportunities for defensive intervention. She outlines three types of motives underlying these attacks—financial gain, espionage, and public humiliation of the victims—that have remained consistent through a decade of cyberattacks. She offers examples of each and analyzes the emergence of different attack patterns. This book shows us what we can learn from the aftermath of cybersecurity breaches and how we can do a better job protecting online data.