



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ERIN DOUPE, GUELPH TEACHER,
RECEIVES GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HISTORY AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING**

WINNIPEG, November 14, 2023 – Erin Doupe, a teacher at John F. Ross Collegiate Vocational Institute in Guelph, Ontario, has been named a recipient of Governor General's History Award for Teaching Excellence — the country's most prestigious history honour.

The award is administered by Canada's National History Society and recognizes teachers who strive for excellence in teaching Canadian history. This year, six teachers from across the country will receive their awards from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, at an upcoming ceremony.

Erin Doupe led her high-school students through a local history project called *The Story of a Soldier*, which centred on the experiences of Guelph's soldiers and their families during the First World War. The students worked closely with attestation records, diaries, historical newspapers and secondary sources, which they used to craft a short biography of a soldier. The students then mailed their stories to the soldiers' last known address.

"As I read the research notes and stories my students wrote about Guelph's fallen soldiers from the First World War, I am reminded of author Thomas King's quote, "The truth about stories is that's all we are," says Doupe. "I am so proud of the work that my students did to ensure that Guelph's First World War soldiers, though gone, are not forgotten."

"History is an important lens for understanding the world around us. These teachers have created meaningful and engaging opportunities for their students to research, investigate, and reflect on the past, and to consider how it continues to influence our present," said Melony Ward, President & CEO of Canada's History Society. "Their dedication to nurturing a deeper understanding of Canadian history is both inspiring and invaluable."

Each award is accompanied by a \$2,500 individual prize, as well as a \$1,000 prize for the teacher's school. To learn more about all of this year's award recipients, visit CanadasHistory.ca/GGHA2023. The other recipients of the Governor General's History Awards for Teaching Excellence are:

- André Boutin-Maloney, Bert Fox Community High School, Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan**
- Pascal Bureau, Selwyn House, Westmount, Quebec**
- Chantal Clabrough, Westmount High School, Westmount, Quebec**
- Andrea Izzo, Oscar Peterson Public School, Stouffville, Ontario**
- Annie Masson, École Internationale Filteau, Québec, Québec**

About the Governor General's History Awards

The Governor General's History Awards recognize excellence in five categories: Teaching, Museums, Scholarly Research, Community Programming and Popular Media. The awards are Canada's top history honours and involve the leading agencies of Canada's history and heritage community. Each award category is administered by the presenting organization and has its own jury, selection process and prize structure. The Governor General's History Awards are administered by Canada's National History Society, with the support of the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage, and Power Corporation of Canada.

About Canada's National History Society

Canada's National History Society is a national charitable organization that seeks to encourage Canadians to engage more deeply with their country's past. We share the stories behind the history through our magazines, *Canada's History* and *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*, digitally at CanadasHistory.ca, as well as through our education and award programs, including the Governor General's History Awards. We believe all Canadians should see themselves reflected in our publications and programs.

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