

# J. W. DAFOE FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation* by Andrew Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) win the \$12,000 J.W. Dafoe Book Prize for 2023**

Andrew Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) have won the 2023 John Wesley Dafoe Book Prize for *Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road to Reconciliation* published by HarperCollins Publishing Ltd.

Andrew Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii)'s work is the unanimous choice of this year's jury. Jury Chair Mary Agnes Welch describes the winning book this way: "Valley of the Birdtail is the most clear-eyed and compassionate book on the legacy of Indigenous inequality I've read. It's maddening in parts, wryly funny in other parts, and its vivid characters – prairie Canadians will recognize them all – bring the complex national issue of white supremacy right down to John Dafoe's backyard."

The Prize will be formally awarded at the J.W. Dafoe Foundation's Book Prize Event this fall in Winnipeg. The J.W. Dafoe Foundation thanks this year's dedicated jury members, Dr. Dale Barbour, Dr. Gregory Mason, and Ms. Mary Agnes Welch, for their service to the J.W. Dafoe Foundation and their selection of *Valley of the Birdtail* for the 2023 J.W. Dafoe Book Prize.

The J.W. Dafoe Book Prize memorializes John Wesley Dafoe, one of the most significant Canadian newspaper editors of the 20th century. During his tenure at the *Manitoba Free Press*, later renamed the *Winnipeg Free Press*, from 1901-1944, Dafoe was known for his advocacy of western development, free trade, national independence, and the British Commonwealth. The Prize is one of the richest book awards in Canada for excellence in non-fiction, with a focus on major subjects involving Canada, the West, and Canadians, as well as the Canadian nation in international affairs.

The Foundation's activities also support a \$10,000 fellowship for M.A. students pursuing studies in international relations, international conflict resolution, economics, history, law or politics at the University of Manitoba; a \$1,000 writing award for Manitoba post-secondary students; the annual J.W. Dafoe Political Studies Students' Conference (PSSC); a new prize for student and community newspaper writers established in partnership with the Winnipeg Press Club; and a number of colloquia on Canada in international affairs. For more information on the Foundation and its other activities, visit <https://dafoefoundation.ca/>

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