



Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador

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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release.

ROSE WINS 2009 HERITAGE AND HISTORY BOOK AWARD

(April 9, 2010 – St. John's, NL) George A. Rose took home a \$250 cash prize on April 1 for winning the 2009 Heritage and History Book Award for his non-fiction book titled *Cod: The Ecological History of the North Atlantic Fisheries* (Breakwater, 2007). Rose was presented the prize by Catherine Dempsey, Executive Director of the Historic Sites Association, during the association's Water Street Book Club at the Heritage Shop's gallery (309 Water Street).

"I am deeply honoured by this [win]," says George Rose, "and hope that it helps draw attention to the importance of the fishery not only to our collective history but also to our future."

A description of the winning book from the publisher's website: "In *Cod*, Rose recounts the many political influences on the province's fisheries over several centuries and describes how neglect from the late 1800s onward led to insufficient scientific knowledge and little protection for the stocks when massive Euro-Russian fleets targeted the Grand Banks after World War II, destroying the most prolific fishery the world has known."

George A. Rose is one of Canada's best known and most respected fisheries scientists. He is widely considered to be the authority on the Newfoundland and Labrador cod fishery.

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He holds degrees in Fisheries and Wildlife Management from the University of Guelph, in biology from Laurentian University, and holds a doctorate in biology from McGill University. His main career interests have been in the fisheries of the North Atlantic and in world-wide conservation, particularly in Africa, on which he has published over 100 peer reviewed publications. He lives on Three Island Pond in Paradise, Newfoundland.

The Heritage and History Book Award is presented for a work of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or children's/young adult literature that exemplifies excellence in the interpretation of the history and heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. Administered by the Writers' Alliance (WANL), the award is sponsored by the Historic Sites Association as a way to demonstrate appreciation for those writers whose exploration of their culture and heritage has shaped their writing.

Théa Morash, WANL's executive director, is delighted about this continued partnership with the Historic Sites Association. "All four shortlisted works were certainly deserving of the attention. Awards like this one play an important role in bringing public attention to significant works of literature."

The award was judged by Paul Butler, a novelist, editor, freelance journalist, and educator.

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Established in 1987 to contribute to a supportive environment for writing in the province, the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador offers workshops, programs, and information to both professional and aspiring writers. <http://wanl.ca/>