

# J. W. DAFOE FOUNDATION

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March 20, 2012

## **Five submissions are shortlisted for \$10,000 John W. Dafoe Book Prize**

Five books drawn from across Canada made the shortlist for the 2012 John W. Dafoe Book Prize from an excellent field of 47 entries.

Belisle, Donica. *Retail Nation: Department Stores and the Making of Modern Canada*. Vancouver: UBC Press

Gwyn, Richard. *Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald: His Life, Our Times*. Toronto: Random House Canada

Levine, Allan. *King: William Lyon Mackenzie King: A Life Guided by the Hand of Destiny*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre

Wilford, Timothy. *Canada's Road to the Pacific War: Intelligence, Strategy, and the Far East Crisis*. Vancouver: UBC Press

Wilson, David A. *Thomas D'Arcy McGee: The Extreme Moderate, 1857 – 1868*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press

The winner will be named later in the spring and collect the award at the J.W. Dafoe Foundation's Annual Book Prize Dinner in May.

The book prize memorializes John Wesley Dafoe, one of the most significant Canadian editors of the 20th century. It is one of the richest book awards for non-fiction excellence about Canada, Canadians and the Canadian nation in international affairs. In 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, and national independence. His case for adoption by Britain of the Statute of Westminster in 1931 advanced the severance of formal ties with Empire and created the eight dominions, which became the nucleus of the present 53-nation Commonwealth.

The Foundation's activities also supports \$15,000 in fellowships for MA students pursuing studies in international relations, politics, economics or history, at the University of Manitoba and a number of colloquia on Canada in international affairs.

For questions or further information contact: Dr. James Fergusson, Honorary Secretary (see above).