

## IODE Violet Downey Book Award Winner is Filled with Excitement

We are delighted that *Dog Driven* written by Terry Lynn Johnson won this year's National Chapter of Canada IODE Violet Downey Book Award. This was announced at the IODE Canada Annual Meeting held via teleconference on May 22. Ms. Johnson, who lives in Whitefish Falls, ON, has written 10 books for children.



*Dog Driven* is a marvellous adventure story. McKenna Barney is a 14-year-old musher with a team of eight dogs who agrees to compete in the Great Superior Trail Run at the request of her six-year-old sister, Emily. Emily is blind as a result of Stargardt disease. The race has been organized to re-enact the course taken by postal carriers who travelled around Lake Superior in the late 1800s. The competitors will carry mail and Emily begs her older sister to join in the race to carry her classmates' mail and bring attention to the disease. What McKenna has not told anyone is that she is sure she has the same vision problem. This quick-paced adventure is suitable for all ages, but particularly for those nine and up. This is a tale about bravery, courage, sheer determination and learning to trust.

In normal times, copies of the award-winning book are available for purchase by members attending the National Annual Meeting. This year that was not possible, so we are offering the following suggestions. We encourage you to purchase the book through your local bookseller; this will also benefit their bottom line at this time of economic downturn. Or, consider purchasing an Indigo "Shop to Give" gift card through the **IODE Snack Pack Fundraising** icon on the IODE Canada website ([iode.ca](http://iode.ca)). Use the gift card to purchase your copies of *Dog Driven* through Indigo, giving Snack Pack 15% of the gift card value! Please consider buying this book for children you know and donating this book to your local schools and libraries as usual, but also think about agencies with children who are in need of a treat, for instance shelters for moms and kids and food banks that are distributing books along with groceries.

The IODE Canada office has a supply of bookplates and gold seals to identify the award-winning books. We will be happy to send these to you FREE OF CHARGE to affix to your purchases. We ask that chapter members consolidate their requests to reduce mailing costs. Please send your name, address, telephone number, IODE chapter and the quantity of bookplates and seals you require to [iodecanada@bellnet.ca](mailto:iodecanada@bellnet.ca)

We encourage you to follow IODE activities by visiting [www.IODE.ca](http://www.IODE.ca) or @IODECanada on Twitter and by liking IODE Canada on Facebook.

Founded in 1900, IODE Canada is a national women's charitable organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals through education support, community services and citizenship programs.

For more information about our organization and charitable work, please visit our website.