

IODE Violet Downey Book Award for 2020

At the **120th National Annual Meeting, on Friday 22 May 2020**, IODE Canada announced the winner of the **IODE Violet Downey Book Award for 2020**. The value of the award is \$5,000.

Through the generosity of IODE member, the late Mrs. Violet Downey, IODE established The National Chapter of Canada IODE Violet Downey Book Award in 1984. The first award was presented in 1985. This Award is offered annually for the best English language book containing at least 500 words of text (preferably with Canadian content) in a category suitable for children age 13 and under. A committee of two professional specialists in children’s literature and 11 IODE members reviewed 144 titles and prepared both a short list and a recommended list.



Dog Driven is the winner of the IODE Violet Downey Book Award for 2020. **Author Terry Lynn Johnson** of Whitefish Falls in northern Ontario has written 10 books for children. *Dog Driven* was published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and is suitable for children age nine and older.

Dog Driven centres on a 14-year-old girl named McKenna Barney who enters a commemorative dogsled race at the request of her 6-year-old sister who is blind. Emily hopes that if McKenna wins, she will bring attention to the cause of her blindness, Stargardt disease. The book is filled with quick-paced adventure and shows how qualities of courage, bravery and trust can grow. McKenna is a determined musher with eight dogs in her team who is carrying her own secret, the knowledge that she is losing her sight.

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.

www.IODE.ca