search under subject matter for your next read.

Best Political Books **List of Nominations**

List of Nominations

Big Ideas

These books are mainly writers' visions for Canada and many make important policy suggestions.

We received over 180 nominations for eligible books. We've divided them into categories so you can

Lee

Ezra Levant

Spin Wars by Bill Fox

Fraser

• A Fair Country: Telling Truths about Canada by John Ralston Saul • Against Reform by John Pepall

At Home in the World: Canada's Global Vision for the 21st Century by Jennifer Welsh

Aux pays des merveilles: Essai sur les mythes politiques québécois by André Pratte

Becoming Canada: Our Story, Our Politics, Our Future by Ken Dryden Beyond the Bubble: Imagining a New Canadian Economy by James Laxer

Arrival City: The Final Migration and Our Next World by Doug Saunders

- Blood and Belonging by Michael Ignatieff
- Canada: Is Anyone Listening? by Rafe Mair Citizens Plus: Aboriginal Peoples and the Canadian State by Alan Cairns
- Constitutional Odyssey: Can Canadians Become a Sovereign People? by Peter Russell Dances With Dependency: Out of Poverty Through Self-Reliance by Calvin Helin
- Disrobing the Aboriginal Industry: The Deception Behind Indigenous Cultural Preservation by Frances Widdowson and Sir Albert Howard

Doing the Continental: A New Canadian-American Relationship by David Dyment

Fearful Symmetry: The Fall and Rise of Canada's Founding Values by Brian Lee Crowley

- Down the Road Never Travelled by Brigitte Pellerin Ethical Oil: The Case For Canada's Oil Sands by Ezra Levant Exporting Democracy: The Risks and Rewards of Pursuing a Good Idea by Bob Rae
- First Nations? Second Thoughts by Tom Flanagan Game Theory and Canadian Politics by Tom Flanagan Globalization and the Meaning of Canadian Life by William Watson
- Governing from the Centre: The Concentration of Power in Canadian Politics by Donald J. Savoie Holding the Bully's Coat: Canada and the U.S. Empire by Linda McQuaig Journeying Forward: Dreaming First Nations' Independence by Patricia Monture-Angus
- Just Trust Us by Patrick Boyer Long Shadows: Truth, Lies and History by Erna Paris Losing Confidence: Power, Politics and the Crisis in Canadian Democracy by Elizabeth May
- MacroWikinomics: Rebooting Business and the World by Don Tapscott Nationalism Without Walls: The Unbearable Lightness of Being Canadian by Richard Gwyn One Hundred Monkeys: The Triumph of Popular Wisdom in Canadian Politics by Robert Mason
- Policy and Politics in Canada: Institutionalized Ambivalence by Carolyn Tuohy Power Shift: From Party Elites to Informed Citizens by Vaughan Lyon

Peace, Power, Righteousness: An Indigenous Manifesto by Taiaiake Alfred

- Rants, Raves and Recollections by Rafe Mair Reconquering Canada: Quebec Federalists Speak Up for Change edited by André Pratte
- Scheming Virtuously: The Road to Collaborative Government by Gilles Paquet Shakedown: How Our Government Is Undermining Democracy in the Name of Human Rights by
- Shooting the Hippo: Deaths by Deficit and other Canadian Myths by Linda McQuaig Solving Tough Problems by Adam Kahane

• Sorry, I Dont Speak French: Confronting the Canadian Crisis that Won't Go Away by Graham

Still Ranting: More Rants, Raves and Recollections by Rafe Mair Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent by Andrew Nikiforuk The Canadian Century: Out of America's Shadow by Brian Lee Crowley

The Polite Revolution: Perfecting the Canadian Dream by John Ibbitson

The Efficient Society: Why Canada Is As Close To Utopia As It Gets by Joseph Heath The Lesser Evil by Michael Ignatieff The New Canada by Preston Manning

The Once and Future Canadian Democracy: An Essay in Political Thought by Janet Ajzenstat

The Return of the State: Protestors, Power-Brokers and the New Global Compromise by Adam

The Truth About Canada: Some Important, Some Astonishing, And Some Truly Appalling Things

Towards a Just Society: The Trudeau Years edited by Thomas S. Axworthy and Pierre Elliot

Urban Nation: Why We Need to Give Power Back to the Cities to Make Canada Strong by Alan

The People's Mandate: Referendums and a More Democratic Canada by Patrick Boyer

The Decline of Deference: Canadian Value Change in Cross National Perspective by Neil Nevitte

The Three Questions: Prosperity and the Public Good by Bob Rae The Trouble With Canada by William D. Gairdner

The Rights Revolution by Michael Ignatieff

American Civilizations by Daniel Paul

Political Biographies

by A.W. Johnson

Saul

• What the Bleep is Going on Here? by Rafe Mair

• Who Killed the Canadian Military? by J.L. Granatstein

Harmes

Trudeau

The Unconcious Civilization by John Ralston Saul The Unfinished Canadian: The People We Are by Andrew Cohen

Transforming Power: From the Personal to the Political by Judy Rebick

All Canadians Should Know About Our Country by Mel Hurtig

Broadbent Watchdogs and Gadflies: Activism from Marginal to Mainstream by Tim Falconer

While Canada Slept: How We Lost Our Place in the World by Andrew Cohen

• We Were Not the Savages: First Nations History: Collision Between European and Native

This category leans more heavily to biography than autobiography. Most of the books on this list were

The Trouble With Canada...Still!: A Canadian Speaks Out by William D. Gairdner

penned by journalists and written about prime ministers.

• A Great Restlessness: The Life and Politics of Dorise Nielsen by Faith Johnston

Bennett: The Rebel Who Challenged and Changed a Nation by John Boyko

French Kiss: Stephen Harper's Blind Date with Quebec by Chantal Hébert

Le naufrageur: Robert Bourassa et les Québécois by Jean-François Lisée

Juggernaut: Paul Martin's Campaign for Chrétien's Crown by Susan Delacourt

Just Watch Me: The Life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Volume II: 1968–2000 by John English

A Measure of Defiance by Mike Harcourt A Soldier First: Bullets, Bureaucrats and the Politics of War by Rick Hillier An Honourable Calling: Political Memoirs by Allan Blakeney

Citizen of the World: The Life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Volume I: 1919-1968 by John English

• Dream No Little Dreams: A Biography of the Douglas Government of Saskatchewan, 1944-1961

Extraordinary Canadians: Lord Beaverbrook by David Adams Richards • Extraordinary Canadians: Louis-Hippolyte LaFontaine and Robert Baldwin by John Ralston

Jean Chrétien: A Legacy of Scandal by Paul Tuns

Louis Riel: A Comic Strip Biography by Chester Brown

Memoirs by René Lévesque's translated by Philip Stratford

Gouverner le Québec by Robert Bourassa

Riel: A Life of Revolution by Maggie Siggins

• Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson by Andrew Cohen

• Extraordinary Canadians: Wilfrid Laurier by André Pratte

Attendez que je me rappelle by René Lévesque

Chrétien: The Will to Win by Lawrence Martin

Memoirs: 1939-1993 by Brian Mulroney No Holds Barred: My Life in Politics by John Crosbie with Geoffrey Stevens Not Without Cause: David Peterson's Fall from Grace by Georgette Gagnon and Dan Rath

On the Take: Crime, Corruption and Greed in the Mulroney Years by Stevie Cameron

Public Triumph, Private Tragedy: The Double Life of John P. Robarts by Steve Paikin

Rogue in Power: Why Stephen Harper is Remaking Canada by Stealth by Christian Nadeau

Straight from the Heart: From Shawinigan to Sussex Drive-The Classic Story of How it All

The Secret Mulroney Tapes: Unguarded Confessions of a Prime Minister by Peter C. Newman

• Trudeau's Shadow: The Life and Legacy of Pierre Elliott Trudeau co-edited by Andrew Cohen

Young Trudeau: 1919-1944: Son of Quebec, Father of Canada by Max and Monique Nemni

These are largely about political parties or the dynamics of a political party and its leader's ascent to (or

• Yankee Doodle Dandy: Brian Mulroney and the American Agenda by Marci McDonald

• Here Be Dragons: Telling Tales of People, Passion and Power by Peter C. Newman

• The Truth Shows Up: A Reporter's Fifteen-Year Odyssey Tracking Down the Truth About

The Right Fight: Bernard Lord and the Conservative Dilemma by Jacques Poitras

Began by Jean Chrétien with Ron Graham The Player: The Life & Times of Dalton Camp by Geoffrey Stevens The Prime Ministers of Canada by Gordon Donaldson The Rainmaker: A Passion for Politics by Keith Davey

Mulroney, Schreiber and the Airbus Scandal by Harvey Cashore

The Worldly Years: Life of Lester Pearson 1949-1972 by John English

The Washington Diaries: 1981-1989 by Allan Gotlieb

Think Big: My Life in Politics by Preston Manning

Political Parties and Institutions

Harperland: The Politics of Control by Lawrence Martin

Kicking Ass in Canadian Politics by Warren Kinsella

and Jack Granatstein

descent from) power.

Wilson-Smith

Adam Daifallah

Simpson

Peter Russell

Bashevkin

Political Fiction

great reads nonetheless.

History

Gairdner

Hackett Fischer

Donald J. Savoie

Laird

Frederick Vaughan

The Parliament of Canada by C.E.S. Franks

King John of Canada by Scott Gardiner

The Best Laid Plans by Terry Fallis

The High Road by Terry Fallis

Speaking For Myself: Politics and other Pursuits by Duff Roblin

Stephen Harper and the Future of Canada by William Johnson

René Lévesque and the Parti Québecois in Power by Graham Fraser

Sheeple: Caucus Confidential in Stephen Harper's Ottawa by Garth Turner

- To Make a Difference: A Memoir by Ian Scott Trudeau and Our Times: Volume I: The Magnificent Obsession by Stephen Clarkson and Christina McCall • Trudeau and Our Times: Volume II: The Heroic Delusion by Stephen Clarkson and Christina
- Blue Thunder: The Truth About Conservatives From Macdonald to Harper by Bob Plamondon Canadian Politics Unplugged by Eric Nichol and Peter Whalley • Double Vision: The Inside Story of the Liberals in Power by Edward Greenspon and Anthony

Full Circle: Death and Resurection in Canadian Conservative Politics by Bob Plamondon

Harper's Team: Behind the Scenes in the Conservative Rise to Power by Tom Flanagan

Left Out: Saskatchewan's NDP and the Relentless Pursuit of Mediocrity by John Gormley

Losing Control: Canada's Social Conservatives in the Age of Rights by Tom Warner

Rebuilding Canadian Party Politics by R. Kenneth Carty, William Cross and Lisa Young

• Rescuing Canada's Right: Blueprint for a Conservative Revolution by Tasha Kheiriddin and

The Armageddon Factor: The Rise of Christian Nationalism in Canada by Marci McDonald

The Discipline of Power: The Conservative Interlude and the Liberal Restoration by Jeffrey

Local Motion: The Art of Civic Engagement in Toronto by Dave Meslin

Out of the Blue: The Fall of the Tory Dynasty in Ontario by Rosemary Speirs

Tales From the Back Room: Memories of a Political Insider by Michael Decter

The Long Road Back: The Conservative Jouney: 1993-2007 by Hugh Segal

The Right Balance: Canada's Conservative Tradition by Hugh Segal

The Newsmakers: The Media's Influence on Canadian Politics by David Taras

The Dark Side: The Personal Price of a Political Life by Steve Paikin

The Government and Politics of Ontario by Graham White

The Life: The Seductive Call of Politics by Steve Paikin

One Big Party: To Keep Canada Independent by Paul Hellyer

How We Almost Gave the Tories the Boot: The Inside Story Behind the Coalition by Brian Topp

The Way it Works: Inside Ottawa by Eddie Goldenberg Turning Points: The Campaigns that Changed Canada by Ray Argyle Two Cheers for Minority Government: The Evolution of Canadian Parliamentary Democracy by

• Women, Power, Politics: The Hidden Story of Canada's Unfinished Democracy by Sylvia

As few have written fictional accounts of Canadian political life, this list is short, but it includes some

Bastards and Boneheads: Canada's Glorious Leaders Past and Present by Will Ferguson

Canada's Founding Debates edited by Janet Ajzenstat, Paul Romney, Ian Gentles, and William D.

• Champlain's Dream: The Visionary Adventurer Who Made a New World in Canada by David

• Court Government and the Collapse of Accountability in Canada and the United Kingdom by

• Dynasties and Interludes: Past and Present in Canadian Electoral Politics by Lawrence LeDuc,

• Empire to Umpire: Canada and the World to the 1990s by J. L. Granatstein and Norman Hillmer

• Gendered States: Women, Unemployment Insurance, and the Political Economy of the Welfare

• Conventional Choices: Maritime Leadership Politics by Ian Stewart and David Stewart

Fights of Our Lives: Elections, Leadership and the Making of Canada by John Duffy

Gatekeepers: Reshaping Immigrant Lives in Cold War Canada by Franca Iacovetta

• From Bourassa to Bourassa: Wilderness to Restoration by L.Ian MacDonald

A Deal Undone: The Making and Breaking of the Meech Lake Accord by Andrew Cohen • A National Crime: The Canadian Government and the Residential School System by John S. Milloy • All the King's Horses: Politics Among the Ruins by Ron Graham

Canada: A Portrait in Letters: 1800-2000 by Charlotte Gray

Canadian Politics: Critical Approaches by Rand Dyck

• Canadian Politics, 5th Edition by James Bickerton and Alain G. Gagnon

Deadlock in Korea: Canadians at War, 1950-1953 by Ted Barris

Jon H. Pammett, Judith I. McKenzie and André Turcotte

• 1867: How the Fathers Made A Deal by Christopher Moore

The Colony of Unrequited Dreams by Wayne Johnston

These books bring Canada's political history vividly to life.

- State in Canada, 1945-1997 by Ann Porter • Imperialist Canada by Todd Gordon • John A.: The Man Who Made Us: The Life and Times of John A. Macdonald, Volume I by Richard Gwyn
- Pearson's Prize: Canada and the Suez Crisis by John Melady
- Ralston Saul • Right Honourable Men: The Descent of Canadian Politics from Macdonald to Chrétien by
 - Scrum Wars: The Prime Ministers and the Media by Allan Levine "Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867 by Sheldon Godfrey and Judith Godfrey" Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda by Romeo Dallaire

• The Canadian Federalist Experiment: From Defiant Monarchy to Reluctant Republic by

The Fight for Canada: 400 Years of Resistance to American Expansion by David Orchard

Slumming It at the Rodeo: The Cultural Roots of Canada's Right-Wing Revolution by Gordon

- Mavericks: An Incorrigible History of Alberta by Aritha van Herk Misconceiving Canada: The Struggle for National Unity by Kenneth McRoberts
 - One-Eyed Kings: Promise & Illusion in Canadian Politics by Ron Graham • Out of the Depths: The Experiences of Mi'kmaw Children at the Indian Residential School in Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia by Isabelle Knockwood

Mr. Smith goes to Ottawa: Life in the House of Commons by David Docherty

My Union, My Life by Jean-Claude Parrot and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers

- Parliamentary Democracy in Crisis edited by Peter H. Russell and Lorne Sossin Patriot Game: Canada and the Canadian Question Revisited by Peter Brimelow
- Perceptions of Cuba: Canadian and American Policies in Comparative Perspective by Lana Wylie

- Reasoning Otherwise Leftists and the People's Enlightenment in Canada, 1890-1920 by Ian
- McKay
- Rebels, Reds, Radicals: Rethinking Canada's Left History by Ian McKay
- Reflections of a Siamese Twin: Canada at the Beginning of the Twenty-first Century by John

• Sacré Blues: An Unsentimental Journey Through Quebec by Taras Grescoe

The Canadian Founding: John Locke and Parliament by Janet Ajzenstat

- Right Side Up: The Fall of Paul Martin and the Rise of Stephen Harper's New Conservatism by Paul Wells
 - The Last Spike: The Great Railway, 1881-1885 by Pierre Berton

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