



The Great Canadian Giving Challenge

June 4, 2018

Greetings OAS member or supporter,

Every year at our annual symposium the OAS presents awards to a number of worthy individuals. While this might seem to some like some kind of arcane ritual born in the early days of our society, I would argue that the awards presentation is an important part of what the OAS does because it:

1. Encourages our younger, [student members to continue innovative research](#);
2. Rewards those members of our community who are working to an excellent standard, whether in the area of [CRM](#) or [Public Archaeology](#); and
3. Recognizes and honours those people who have made significant and on-going contributions to archaeology in Ontario whether those contributions are [academic](#) or in [service](#).

All of these things speak to our goals as a society. Awards are much more than framed up pieces of paper that will collect dust in some corner of the attic: they are about celebrating those who promote excellent archaeology, and they are about building and maintaining our community. They are also about remembering the history of archaeology in Ontario, as a number of our awards bear the names of people who played important roles in building the OAS.

Awards, however, cost money. Not vast sums, but a little bit every year. We provide banquet tickets to winners, we frame up those pieces of paper, we provide small gifts to some winners. Consequently, without continuing donations, our awards fund has naturally diminished. It currently sits at just under \$100 and we will face the need to cover the cost of awards from our operating funds.

Canada Helps, the organization that the OAS uses to help facilitate on-line donations, is holding a "Great Canadian Giving Challenge" during June. While we welcome donations all year around, of any amount, this month we are hoping to raise money specifically for our awards fund with the goal of restoring its financial health and enable us to continue providing these tangible expressions of appreciation to our deserving award winners. You can help us do this! Consider making a small

donation in the name of one of those people or companies you think was particularly deserving. Or share a story about an award winner.

We are thrilled that a supporter has already pledged to match donations we raise for the awards fund in the month of June up to \$2000!

We will be posting stories around our awards, their namesakes, and their recipients on our social media during June. We encourage everyone to join in.

And, don't forget, the deadline for nominations for the 2018 awards is August 1.

Donations can be made either through the [OAS donations page](#) or through [Canada Helps](#).

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

Alicia Hawkins
President