

NEIL ORFORD

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“I can say without hesitation that Neil Orford is one of Canada’s very best educators. He’s hard working, ambitious, and incredibly passionate about bringing history to life for each and every student who set foot in his classroom. A true trailblazer in Canadian education.”

– Jenna Misener COO at “The Logic”

For nearly 40 years, Neil Orford has brought his passion for telling the stories of Canadian history to his work as a teacher, presenter, writer and entrepreneur.

An Ontario history teacher for 31 years, Neil is a recipient of both the Governor General’s and Ontario Premier’s Award for History Teaching. His ground-breaking **Digital Historian Project** won the 2015 Government of Canada History Award, and he is the recipient of the Canada 125 Medal, the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal and numerous leadership awards.

Neil has been featured on CBC’s “The National”, TVO’s “The Agenda”, and in numerous articles across Canada. He has written for major Canadian publications and is a regular presenter at Conferences and workshops.

In 2013, Neil Orford founded **Canadian Historical Education Services, Ltd** (CanHist.ca) - a leader in historical education, which promotes ‘heritage-walking’ tours in Europe. A passionate supporter of the Juno Beach Centre, Neil’s many tours to its grounds on the D-Day beaches in Normandy have helped to deepen public understanding of Canada’s wartime contributions and advance the Centre’s mission of remembrance and education.

In 2017, Neil founded **Defining Moments Canada** – Canada’s premier non-profit heritage education organization, leading some of Canada’s most important national commemoration projects in partnership with many of Canada’s top universities, governmental and private organizations.

This commitment to ongoing heritage education inspired Neil to start **‘Small Town Big Ideas’** in 2023 - a lecture series inviting some of Canada’s top public intellectuals to speak in smaller communities.

Inspired by the rich complexity of Canadian stories, Neil continues to teach and shape how Canadians understand their shared histories; where they intersect, overlap, and distinguish who we are as a people.

A proud son of two Canadian Veterans, Neil and his wife Laurie raised their family and continue to live in Dufferin County, Ontario.



We do History Differently.



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