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## Wilfrid Laurier University Press authors Candida Rifkind and Linda Warley win Gabrielle Roy Prize

WATERLOO – WLU Press authors Candida Rifkind and Linda Warley have won the 2016 Gabrielle Roy Prize (English section) for their edited collection, *Canadian Graphic: Picturing Life Narratives*. In addition, Dean Irvine and Smaro Kamboureli, also WLU Press authors, were finalists for their book *Editing as Cultural Practice in Canada*.

The Association of Canadian and Québec Literatures (ACQL) awarded the prize at a reception May 27 in Toronto.

"We are elated by the accomplishment of our authors in both *Canadian Graphic* and *Editing as Cultural Practice in Canada*," said **Lisa Quinn**, director of WLU Press. "Our publishing program demonstrates the deep commitment of the Press to supporting vibrant inquiry in Canadian literature and cultures, and this recognition from the ACQL community speaks to the continuation of that vital role as one of Canada's leading scholarly publishers."

In *Canadian Graphic*, Rifkind and Warley present critical essays on contemporary Canadian cartoonists working in graphic life narrative, from confession to memoir to biography. *Canadian Graphic* was also chosen as an entry in the 2017 Association of American University Presses Book, Jacket, and Journal show, representing the best in design from university presses.

The Gabrielle Roy jury called *Canadian Graphic* "ground-breaking ... both a stimulating read and an important scholarly achievement."

Irvine and Kamboureli's *Editing as Cultural Practice in Canada* focuses on the varied and complex roles that editors have played in the production of literary and scholarly texts in Canada. The jury lauds the "meticulous research and cumulative wealth of editorial experience in this collection," saying it shows that "editing is not optional but inevitable, activated in the manifold conversations, disagreements, and reconsiderations that generate a 'final' text."

"I'm so pleased for WLU Press and for Candida and Linda, the book's editors," said **Gohar Ashoughian**, Laurier's university librarian, who oversaw the incorporation of the Press into the Laurier Library's organizational structure in the spring of 2015. "Our vision at the Library is to connect research, learning, and cultural engagement, and these awards underscore the importance of the Press's work across all three of these areas."

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WLU Press publications have won numerous awards, and have now been recognized by the Gabrielle Roy Prize 12 times. For more information on WLU Press and a full listing of its awards, visit [www.wlupress.wlu.ca](http://www.wlupress.wlu.ca).

The Association of Canadian and Quebec Literature annually awards two juried prizes, one in English and one in French, for the best book-length studies in Canadian and Quebec literary criticism. Established in honour of late Quebec author Gabrielle Roy, this competition is open to works of criticism on Canadian or Québec literatures published anywhere in the world in English and French.

### **About Wilfrid Laurier University Press**

Founded in 1974, Wilfrid Laurier University Press has established a reputation for excellence in scholarly publishing in the areas of history, literature, sociology, social work, life writing, environmental humanities, film and media studies, Indigenous studies, women's studies, and religious studies. The Press publishes 25-30 titles a year and has over 700 titles in print.