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Earliest Toronto

Robert M. MacIntosh



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Almost half the population of Toronto-immigrants and newcomers from elsewhere in Canada-has no cultural memory of our city's beginnings. In a bid to fill this gap, Earliest Toronto tells the city's story up to the War of 1812 and its aftermath.

Beginning with the dramatic conflicts in the aboriginal communities around Lake Ontario before the coming of the Europeans in the early seventeenth century, followed by two centuries of French exploration and settlement, the city's early history will surprise many Torontonians.

Simcoe, the founder of the village of York in 1793, is often presented as a great administrator and military leader. In fact he was a poor manager with no attachment to Canada, and a vigorous advocate of English snobbery and class distinction. His chief concern was to gain preferment in London and to transplant the values of the British class system to the forest frontier.

Earliest Toronto makes a plausible case that the real founder of Toronto was William Berczy, a remarkably cultured and determined man who led an expedition of German immigrants to Markham in 1794, and who contributed significantly to the early development of the new settlement.

Later chapters focus on the people and events that shaped the early years of a struggling frontier community. One of the stories is about the sinking of the Speedy on Lake Ontario, and how it led to the building of The Grange, today one of Toronto's oldest extant buildings and the birthplace of the Art Gallery of Ontario.

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From reader reviews:

Ryan Connors:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book entitled Earliest Toronto? Maybe it is for being best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have some other opinion?

Kevin Miller:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try point that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Earliest Toronto, you could enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Dale Vaught:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got students? We believe that that question was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everyone has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person just like reading or as examining become their hobby. You should know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your own teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update in relation to something by book. A substantial number of sorts of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is this Earliest Toronto.

Tim Andrus:

Some individuals said that they feel weary when they reading a reserve. They are directly felt the idea when they get a half regions of the book. You can choose the actual book Earliest Toronto to make your current reading is interesting. Your personal skill of reading ability is developing when you including reading. Try to choose easy book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the feeling about book and reading through especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to open up a book and go through it. Beside that the e-book Earliest Toronto can to be your brand new friend when you're truly feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of that time.

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