Without the Indigenous, there would have been no Canada. This is the shot Dr. Olive Patricia Dickason (Lifetime Achievement) fired across the bow of Canadian historiography. Today everything about the early foundations of Canada is under question because of her and her academic work. An accomplished journalist who won numerous writing awards at the Globe and Mail, the retired University of Alberta history professor came to academia late in life. Of Métis background, Dr. Dickason was dismayed by what she found when delving into Canada's past. Dickason asked why few Aboriginal faces could be lifted from the pages of history, why there were so few Aboriginal contributions to Canada's first



Dickason, accurate portrayals of Canada's development now line the shelves: Indian Arts in Canada, The Myth of the Savage and the Beginnings of French Colonialism in the Americas, and, most significantly, her groundbreaking Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples. For the first time, Aboriginals were fully seen in sound academic studies as fully dimensional individuals and communities with their own histories and role in the development of Canada. In the past, she has been awarded one of the most prestigious awards in Canadian historiography, the Macdonald Prize, and is a member of the Order of Canada. Today, she is receiving a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for her lifetime achievements that have brought a truer historical perspective to the history of Canada and Aboriginal people.