

TED BARRIS - Brief Biography (revised August 6, 2013)

Ted Barris is an award-winning journalist, author, and broadcaster. For 40 years, his writing has regularly appeared in the national press – *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, as well as magazines as diverse as *Legion*, *Air Force*, *esprit de corps*, *Quill and Quire*, and *Zoomer*. He has also worked as host/contributor for most **CBC Radio** network programs and on **TV Ontario**. He is a full-time professor of journalism and broadcasting at Toronto's Centennial College, where he has twice been short-listed for the Wicken Teaching Excellence Award.

Barris is the author of 17 bestselling non-fiction books, including a series on wartime Canada: *Juno: Canadians at D-Day, June 6, 1944 ... Days of Victory: Canadians Remember 1939-1945 ... Behind the Glory: Canada's Role in the Allied Air War ... Deadlock in Korea: Canadians at War, 1950-1953 ... Victory at Vimy: Canada Comes of Age, April 9-12, 1917 ... Breaking the Silence: Veterans' Untold Stories from the Great War to Afghanistan ...* and, this fall, *The Great Escape: A Canadian Story*. Barris's historical writing has twice been short-listed for the **Canada History Prize**, in memory of Pierre Berton.

His writing has also been published in such anthologies as *The Canadian Encyclopedia ... Total Hockey: The Official NHL Encyclopedia ... A History of Maple Leaf Gardens ...* and a volume of learned papers presented to the Canada-Korea Conference at the U of T.

Barris's remaining books are: *Fire Canoe ... Rodeo Cowboys ... Spirit of the West ... Positive Power (Story of the Edmonton Oilers) ... Playing Overtime (A Celebration of Oldtimers' Hockey) ... Carved in Granite (125 Years of Granite Club History) ...* and *Making Music (Profiles from a Century of Canadian Music)* co-authored with his father Alex Barris. He was also a contributor to the book *101 Things Canadians Should Know About Canada*, published in 2008.

Among the awards Ted Barris has received: the international **Billboard Radio Documentary Award**, the Yorkton Film Festival's **Golden Sheaf**, as well as numerous **ACTRA nominations**. He is an active member of military associations, including the RCAF Association, the Canadian Aviation Historical Society, and the Korea Veterans Association of Canada (he's an honorary member). He is a patron of the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society supporting that author's works and memory in his hometown, Uxbridge. In 2010, the town recognized Barris with its annual "Citizen of the Year" honours. In 2006, the 78th Fraser Highlander regiment awarded Barris its **Bear Hackle Award** to recognize his "contribution to the awareness and preservation of Canadian military history and traditions." In 2004, the Remembrance Service Association of Halifax recognized Barris and his military history writing with its **Patriot Award**. In 1993, he received the **Canada 125 Medal** "for service to Canada and community." In 2011, the Ontario (116th) Regiment awarded him its annual medallion of excellence for raising the profile of military history in Canada.

In 2011, he was one of 19 civilians presented with the **Minister of Veterans' Affairs Commendation**. The citation reads: "Ted Barris has made such exemplary contributions by generously giving of himself, and so both benefiting veterans and making manifest the principle that Canada's obligation to all who have served in the cause of Peace and Freedom, must not be forgotten."

In 2012, the Air Force Association of Canada selected Ted Barris to receive **Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal**. His citation reads, in part: "The medal ... is a tangible way to recognize outstanding Canadians ... who have built and continue to build this caring society and country through their service and achievements."