



# **Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: A Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic**

*Gerard Kenney*

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In the barren lands of Canada far north of the Arctic circle, summers are quick and cool, mere short interruptions in the true business of the polar regions, winter. Winters there can be dangerous with temperatures that plunge to awesome depths during the long, lonely hours of Arctic darkness. Powerful blizzards shriek across the land for days at a time, causing all animal life to seek shelter from the cutting blast, essentially putting a temporary end to normal activities of life, such as travelling and eating. It is an unforgiving land that does not easily suffer fools.

Over 100 years ago, in June 1898, Captain Otto Sverdrup and 15 crewmen put out to sea aboard the schooner *Fram* from the Norwegian city today known as Oslo. When they returned to Norway four years later, they came back with a record of geographic and scientific discovery, the richness of which is unparalleled in the annals of Arctic exploration. The first section of this book is the story of those four heroic years spent in the High Arctic and their impact on Canada's subsequent efforts to ensure Canadian sovereignty in the area of the Norwegian discoveries.

The second section of the book deals with the Canadian Arctic expeditions between 1903 and 1948, led by intrepid men such as A.P. Low, Joseph E. Bernier, Vilhjalmur Stefansson and Henry Larsen.

"For anyone interested in the recent history of the Canadian North and why we even call it the Canadian North *Ships of Wood and Men of Iron* is a must read. Kenney persuasively nominates a shortlist of new national heroes for a country badly in need of them."

- Randy Boswell, CanWest News Service

"In my view, this book will be an important document about Canada-Norway relations in the North, especially considering the increased international emphasis now on circumpolar relations in the North."

- Shirley Wolff Serafini, Canadian Ambassador to Norway

"This book is a well deserved recognition of one of Norway's most famous polar explorers and his invaluable contributions to the exploration and development of science in the Canadian Arctic. **Gerard Kenney's** book also sheds an interesting new light on the history of the final settlement of Norway's territorial claim of the Sverdrup Islands."

- Ingvard Havnen, former Norwegian Ambassador to Canada

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Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want really feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. The actual Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: A Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic is kind of publication which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

#### **Joyce Johnson:**

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get lot of stress from both daily life and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not only a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is usually Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: A Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic.

#### **Sharon Scott:**

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: A Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic, you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

#### **Micheal Goggin:**

As a college student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher requested them to go to the library or to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's heart or real their interest. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading significantly. Any students feel that examining is not important, boring and also can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: A Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic can make you experience more interested to read.

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