



2023 Canadian Community Newspaper Awards | Concours des journaux régionaux canadiens Winners | Lauréats

GENERAL EXCELLENCE | EXCELLENCE GÉNÉRALE

101 - Best All-Round Newspaper | Meilleur journal

Class 1011 – General Excellence, Circulation up to 1499

Best All-Round Newspaper | Meilleur journal

- 1st - The Lake Cowichan Gazette, Lake Cowichan, BC
- 2nd - Claresholm Local Press, Claresholm, AB
- 3rd - Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News, Tofino/Ucluelet, BC

Best Editorial Page | Meilleure page éditoriale

- 1st - Claresholm Local Press, Claresholm, AB
- 2nd - The Lake Cowichan Gazette, Lake Cowichan, BC
- 3rd - Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News, Tofino/Ucluelet, BC

Best Front Page | Meilleure page frontispice

- 1st - Claresholm Local Press, Claresholm, AB
- 2nd - The Lake Cowichan Gazette, Lake Cowichan, BC
- 3rd - South Peace News, High Prairie, AB

Class 1012 – General Excellence, Circulation 1500 to 6499

Best All-Round Newspaper | Meilleur journal

- 1st - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE
- 2nd - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB
- 3rd - Powell River Peak, Powell River, BC

Best Editorial Page | Meilleure page éditoriale

- 1st - Gulf Islands Driftwood, Salt Spring Island, BC
- 2nd - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE
- 3rd - Aylmer Express, Aylmer, ON

Best Front Page | Meilleure page frontispice

- 1st - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik
- 2nd - Gulf Islands Driftwood, Salt Spring Island, BC
- 3rd - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE

Class 1013 – General Excellence, Circulation 6500 to 17499

Best All-Round Newspaper | Meilleur journal

- 1st - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC
- 2nd - Okotoks Western Wheel, Okotoks, AB
- 3rd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB

Best Editorial Page | Meilleure page éditoriale

- 1st - Hill Times, Ottawa, ON
- 2nd - Okotoks Western Wheel, Okotoks, AB
- 3rd - Ancaster News, Ancaster, ON

Best Front Page | Meilleure page frontispice

- 1st - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC
- 2nd - The News, Parksville/Qualicum Beach, BC
- 3rd - Okotoks Western Wheel, Okotoks, AB

Class 1014 - Best All-Round Newspaper, Circulation 17500 and over

Best All-Round Newspaper | Meilleur journal

- 1st - The Suburban, Montreal, QC
- 2nd - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB
- 3rd - Wellington Advertiser, Fergus, ON

Best Editorial Page | Meilleure page éditoriale

- 1st - The Suburban, Montreal, QC
- 2nd - Wellington Advertiser, Fergus, ON
- 3rd - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB

Best Front Page | Meilleure page frontispice

- 1st - The Suburban, Montreal, QC
- 2nd - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB
- 3rd - Wellington Advertiser, Fergus, ON

PREMIER AWARDS | GRANDS PRIX

201 - Best News Story | Meilleur reportage

Class 2011 - Best News Story, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB - "Fed up with frog jumping" - Nicole Buffie
- 2nd - Powell River Peak, Powell River, BC - "Combined effort frees tangled humpback" - Paul Galinski
- 3rd - The Highlander, Haliburton, ON - "Devastating call inspired better policing" - Lisa Gervais

Class 2012 - Best News Story, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Hill Times, Ottawa, ON - "Feds had concerns over upholding diplomatic protection obligations as convoy ensnared dozens of embassies" - Neil Moss, Charelle Evelyn
- 2nd - The Suburban, Montreal, QC - "B'nai-Brith-Senator-demand-deportation" - Beryl Wajzman
- 3rd - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC - "Two men charged with murder in fatal shootings that rocked Whistler Village" - Megan Lalonde

202 - Best Feature Story | Meilleur article de fond

Class 2021 - Best Feature Story, Circulation up to 3999

- 1st - Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News, Tofino/Ucluelet, BC - "Beloved Ucluelet vessel engulfed in flames" - Andrew Bailey
- 2nd - The Saint Croix Courier, St. Stephen, NB - "Occupational tintype photography making comeback on Grand Manan" - Heather Knight
- 3rd - The Macleod Gazette, Fort Macleod, AB - "Blackfoot veteran shares good fortune" - Frank McTighe

Class 2022 - Best Feature Story, Circulation 4000 to 12499

- 1st - Manitoulin Expositor, Manitoulin Island, ON - "On Valentine's Day, Mindemoya couple ended their lives together" - Michael Erskine
- 2nd - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE - "Who will apologize to Jason Sark?" - Paul MacNeill
- 3rd - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC - "From the Sea to Sky to Kharkiv, a ray of hope" - Brandon Barrett

Class 2023 - Best Feature Story, Circulation 12500 and over

- 1st - North Shore News, North/West Vancouver, BC - "No magic pill to cure family doctor shortage" - Jane Seyd
- 2nd - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB - "What to do with a worn out sock" - Kevin Ma
- 3rd - The Battlefords Regional News-Optimist, North Battleford, SK - "Was David Milgaard's wrongful conviction covered up? He thought so." - Lisa Joy

203 - Best Feature Series | Meilleure série d'articles de fond

Class 2031 - Best Feature Series, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "A look at preserving language, culture in Stoney Nakoda" - Jessica Lee
- 2nd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "New study shows development, human activity threatening wildlife" - Cathy Ellis
- 3rd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "French Oblates plan to kick out Johannes Rivoire" - Emma Tranter

Class 2032 - Best Feature Series, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Hill Times, Ottawa, ON - "The hate MPs get: three-part series" - Chelsea Nash, Mike Lapointe, Kate Malloy
- 2nd - Surrey NOW-Leader, Surrey/North Delta, BC - "Costly Living" - Tom Zillich, Tom Zytaruk, Lauren Collins
- 3rd - Era-Banner, Newmarket/Aurora, ON - "Food For Thought" - Kim Zarzour, Lisa Queen, Heidi Riedner

204 - Outstanding Columnist | Meilleure chroniqueur

Class 2041 - Outstanding Columnist, Circulation open

- 1st - Cowichan Valley Citizen, Duncan, BC - Robert Barron
- 2nd - Dundas Star News, Dundas, ON - Gordon Cameron
- 3rd - North Shore News, North/West Vancouver, BC - Andy Prest

205 - Outstanding Reporter Initiative | Esprit journalistique exceptionnel

Class 2051 - Outstanding Reporter Initiative, Circulation open

- 1st - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE - "Through the Cracks" - Paul MacNeill, Rachel Collier
- 2nd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Maskless 'pod' school opens in Virgil / 'Hotels-on-the-Lake'" - Evan Saunders
- 3rd - The Independent of Petrolia and Central Lambton, Petrolia, ON - "The Independent: Court transcript tells different version of Petrolia councillor's 2018 charge withdrawal" - Heather Wright

206 - Best National Editorial | Meilleur éditorial national

Class 2061 - Best National Editorial, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Manitoulin Expositor, Manitoulin Island, ON - "An apology marks the start of reconciliation, not the end" - Michael Erskine
- 2nd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "Idlout shows NDP is at the grown-ups' table" - Corey Larocque
- 3rd - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB - "Abortion frequency about more than just legality" - Greg Vandermeulen

Class 2062 - Best National Editorial, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - The Suburban, Montreal, QC - "Grow up Quebec! Yes, bilingualism means higher pay! Quelle surprise!" - Beryl Wajzman
- 2nd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Do the right thing for seasonal workers" - Kevin MacLean
- 3rd - Dundas Star News, Dundas, ON - "The politics of the flag" - Kevin Werner

207 - Best Local Editorial | Meilleur éditorial local

Class 2071 - Best Local Editorial, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Gabriola Sounder, Gabriola Island, BC - "Ferry Passenger Bill of Rights" - Derek Kilbourn, Sarah Holmes
- 2nd - Gulf Islands Driftwood, Salt Spring Island, BC - "Hall Plan is Solid " - Gail Sjuberg
- 3rd - The Lake Cowichan Gazette, Lake Cowichan, BC - "Community vision must stay front, centre" - Andrea Rondeau

Class 2072 - Best Local Editorial, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Close maskless school now" - Richard Harley
- 2nd - North Shore News, North/West Vancouver, BC - "No. 1 Priority" - Jane Seyd
- 3rd - Observer, Elmira-Woolwich, ON - "Development charges and an addiction to growth" - Steve Kannon

208 - Best Historical Story | Meilleur article historique

Class 2081 - Best Historical Story, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - The Macleod Gazette, Fort Macleod, AB - "Sherry Hirsche walked in veteran father's footsteps" - Frank McTighe
- 2nd - Shilo Stag, CFB Shilo, MB - "Grandchildren share grandfather's Great War scrapbooks" - Jules Xavier
- 3rd - The Haldimand Press, Haldimand County, ON - "Wartime contributions of our Indigenous neighbours" - Mike Renzella

Class 2082 - Best Historical Story, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC - "They just vanished" - Megan Lalonde
- 2nd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Hiking series explores Black history in NOTL" - Jill Troyer, Don Reynolds
- 3rd - Flamborough Review, Waterdown, ON - "Save the 103: Fundraising effort underway to restore Westfield's steam locomotive in Rockton" - Julia Lovett-Squires

209 - Best Local Civic Journalism | Meilleur journalisme civique local

Class 2091 - Best Local Civic Journalism, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "Ottawa city councillor opposes new Larga Baffin facility" - Madalyn Howitt
- 2nd - The Chronicle, Ladysmith/Chemainus, BC - "Truth and reconciliation messages embraced by Ladysmith community" - Duck Paterson
- 3rd - The Leaf, Winnipeg, MB - "Saigon Centre battles squatters, lack of funding/Disrepair at Saigon Centre linked to Manitoba Housing Third-party manager says their hands were tied /'The government should look after them, to get everybody safe'" - Sean Ledwich

Class 2092 - Best Local Civic Journalism, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Hit farmworker exposes dirty laundry" - Somer Slobodian
- 2nd - The Beaver, Oakville, ON - "Series on crime in region" - David Lea, Bambang Sadewo, Roland Cilliers
- 3rd - Peace Arch News, Surrey, BC - "Mental health housing facility to close after 50 years; looming closure devastates Buena Vista residents" - Sobia Moman

210 - Best Local Cartoon | Meilleure bande dessinée locale

Class 2101 - Best Local Cartoon, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "March 22, 2022" - Patrick LaMontagne
- 2nd - Gulf Islands Driftwood, Salt Spring Island, BC - "Welcome Aboard " - Dennis Parker
- 3rd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "October 13, 2022" - Patrick LaMontagne

Class 2102 - Best Local Cartoon, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - The Suburban, Montreal, QC - "Lipstick on a Pig" - Anthony Bonaparte
- 2nd - Stoney Creek News, Stoney Creek, ON - "City Discovers 26-year waste pipe leak" - Mike Vukovich
- 3rd - Mountain News, Hamilton, ON - "Cost of food on the rise" - Mike Vukovich

211 - Best Spot News Photo Coverage | Meilleure photographie – Sur place

Class 2111 - Best Spot News Photo Coverage, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Sweet Dreams, Smokey" - Jungmin Ham
- 2nd - The Eastern Graphic, Montague, PE - "Logan Fischer" - Paul MacNeill
- 3rd - The Macleod Gazette, Fort Macleod, AB - "Train derails east of Fort Macleod" - Frank McTighe

Class 2112 - Best Spot News Photo Coverage, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Canadian Champion, Milton, ON - "Milton rock climbing incident leaves woman with serious injuries" - Graham Paine
- 2nd - Hill Times, Ottawa, ON - "Freedom Convoy" - Andrew Meade
- 3rd - The Beaver, Oakville, ON - "Car going wrong way on busy Oakville street hits and injures 2 cyclists" - Graham Paine

212 - Best News Feature Photo | Meilleure photographie – Reportage d'actualité

Class 2121 - Best News Feature Photo, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Staring Contest" - Jungmin Ham
- 2nd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "Protest, cheers, greet Pope Francis on stage in Iqaluit" - David Venn
- 3rd - Aylmer Express, Aylmer, ON - "Clovermead Adventure Farm..." - Rob Perry

Class 2122 - Best News Feature Photo, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - The News, Parksville/Qualicum Beach, BC - "A ruff life" - Michael Briones
- 2nd - The News, Parksville/Qualicum Beach, BC - "Fly eagle, fly" - Michael Briones
- 3rd - Burnaby Now, Burnaby, BC - "Gaining speed" - Jennifer Gauthier

213 - Best Feature Photo | Meilleure photographie – Reportage

Class 2131 - Best Feature Photo, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Just Out for a Rip" - Jungmin Ham
- 2nd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "Harvesting on a fine evening north of 60" - David Venn
- 3rd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Staring Contest" - Jungmin Ham

Class 2132 - Best Feature Photo, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Burnaby Now, Burnaby, BC - "For the love of dance" - Jennifer Gauthier
- 2nd - New Westminster Record, New Westminster, BC - "All aglow" - Jennifer Gauthier
- 3rd - New Westminster Record, New Westminster, BC - "Singing sensation" - Jennifer Gauthier

214 - Best Sports Photo | Meilleure photographie – Sport

Class 2141 - Best Sports Photo, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Rolling Down the River" - Jungmin Ham
- 2nd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Laying Out For It" - Jungmin Ham
- 3rd - The World-Spectator, Moosomin, SK - "A trip and a goal!" - Kim Poole

Class 2142 - Best Sports Photo, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Burnaby Now, Burnaby, BC - "Happy Landings" - Jennifer Gauthier
- 2nd - North Shore News, North/West Vancouver, BC - "Skateboard bowl" - Paul McGrath
- 3rd - Nanaimo News Bulletin, Nanaimo, BC - "Terrific tubing" - Greg Sakaki

215 - Best Photo Essay | Meilleur essai photographique

Class 2151 - Best Photo Essay, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Castlegar News, Castlegar, BC - "30th annual fall fair" - Jennifer Small
- 2nd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "Canada Summer Games in Pictures" - Denis Cahill
- 3rd - Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore/Kananaskis/Banff, AB - "Sweet Dreams, Smokey" - Jungmin Ham

Class 2152 - Best Photo Essay, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB - "For the birds" - Kevin Ma
- 2nd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "NOTL 'spring' in pictures" - Richard Harley
- 3rd - Okotoks Western Wheel, Okotoks, AB - "Canada Day Celebrations in the Foothills" - Brent Calver, Remy Greer, Robert Korotyszyn

221 - Outstanding Community Service | Excellence en service communautaire

Class 2211 - Outstanding Community Service, Circulation open

- 1st - Gulf Islands Driftwood, Salt Spring Island, BC - "Let's Pick It Up, Salt Spring!"
- 2nd - The Haldimand Press, Haldimand County, ON - "Provincial Debate 2022"
- 3rd - Chemainus Valley Courier, Chemainus, BC - "An enjoyable time and raising money bottom line of music trivia tournament"
- 3rd - The Uxbridge Cosmos, Uxbridge, ON - "Special Edition"

223 - Best Coverage of the Arts | Meilleure couverture artistique

Class 2231 - Best Coverage of the Arts, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik
- 2nd - Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News, Tofino/Ucluelet, BC
- 3rd - Alberni Valley News, Port Alberni, BC

Class 2232 - Best Coverage of the Arts, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Coast Reporter, Sechelt/Gibsons, BC
- 2nd - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB
- 3rd - The Battlefords Regional News-Optimist, North Battleford, SK

224 - Best Sports Coverage | Meilleure couverture sportive

Class 2241 - Best Sports Coverage, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB
- 2nd - The Advocate, Pictou, NS
- 3rd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik

Class 2242 - Best Sports Coverage, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Nanaimo News Bulletin, Nanaimo, BC
- 2nd - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC
- 3rd - Tri-City News, Coquitlam/Port Coquitlam/Port Moody, BC

226 - Best Community Newspaper Website | Meilleur site Web

Class 2261 - Best Community Newspaper Website, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - The Citizen, Blyth/Brussels, ON
- 2nd - Nunatsiaq News, Nunavut/Nunavik
- 3rd - North Grenville Times, North Grenville, ON

Class 2262 - Best Community Newspaper Website, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Nanaimo News Bulletin, Nanaimo, BC
- 2nd - Surrey NOW-Leader, Surrey/North Delta, BC
- 3rd - Victoria News, Victoria, BC

227 - Best Multimedia Features | Meilleur reportage multimédia

Class 2261 - Best Community Newspaper Website, Circulation open

- 1st - Goldstream News Gazette (Victoria, BC)
- 2nd - The Battlefords Regional News-Optimist (North Battleford, SK)
- 3rd - New Westminster Record (New Westminster, BC)

228 - Best Multimedia Breaking News Coverage | Meilleur reportage multimédia de l'actualité

Class 2281 - Best Multimedia Breaking News Coverage, Circulation open

- 1st - Saanich News, Saanich, BC - "Witnesses report 'at least 50' shots fired after brazen bank shooting in Saanich" - Don Descoteau, Katherine Engqvist, Greater Victoria News Team
- 2nd - North Shore News, North/West Vancouver, BC - "Three-storey apartment fire displaces dozens of residents" - Jane Seyd, Alanna Kelly
- 3rd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Kai Bartel strikes gold" - Molly Bowron, Richard Harley, Kevin MacLean

SPECIAL COMPETITIONS | CONCOURS SPÉCIAUX

301 - Best Special Section | Meilleur cahier spécial

Class 3011 - Best Special Section, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - The World-Spectator, Moosomin, SK - "Tribute to Small Business"
- 2nd - Powell River Peak, Powell River, BC - "Taste of Powell River"
- 3rd - Alberni Valley News, Port Alberni, BC - "Progress 2022: Turning Points"

Class 3012 - Best Special Section, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Coast Reporter, Sechelt/Gibsons, BC - "Coast Kids"
- 2nd - Goldstream News Gazette, Victoria, BC - "Speedway: The final lap"
- 3rd - The Abbotsford News, Abbotsford, BC - "Stronger Together"

302 - Excellence in Rural Reporting | Excellence en journalisme rural

Class 3021 - Excellence in Rural Reporting, Circulation open

- 1st - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC - "The Other Battle" - Robert Wisla
- 2nd - Pique Newsmagazine, Whistler & Pemberton, BC - "A Boom in Bridge River" - Robert Wisla
- 3rd - The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON - "Hit seasonal farmworker airs dirty laundry" - Somer Slobodian, Kevin MacLean

303 - Best Business Writing | Meilleur article d'affaires

Class 3031 - Best Business Writing, Circulation up to 9999

- 1st - Nunatsiak News, Nunavut/Nunavik - "'Rankin loves cake, apparently': Cake maker scales back" - David Venn
- 2nd - Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News, Tofino/Ucluelet, BC - "Ukee adopts new B and B restrictions" - Andrew Bailey
- 3rd - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB - "Trucking industry grapples with looming vaccine mandate" - Nicole Buffie

Class 3032 - Best Business Writing, Circulation 10000 and over

- 1st - Observer, Elmira-Woolwich, ON - "Business is blooming for local producers" - Leah Gerber
- 2nd - Stoney Creek News, Stoney Creek, ON - "Evictions Displace Downtown Businesses" - Mike Pearson, Richard Leitner
- 3rd - Nanaimo News Bulletin, Nanaimo, BC - "Ten Nanaimo business partners breathing new life into Island's most remote pub" - Chris Bush

304 - Best Agricultural Edition | Meilleur numéro sur l'agriculture

Class 3041 - Best Agricultural Edition, Circulation open

- 1st - The Carillon, Steinbach, MB - "Ag Now Section"
- 2nd - The Citizen, Blyth/Brussels, ON - "The Citizen's Salute to Agriculture 2022"
- 3rd - Claresholm Local Press, Claresholm, AB - "Claresholm AgWeek"

305 - Best Agricultural Story | Meilleur article sur l'agriculture

Class 3051 - Best Agricultural Story, Circulation open

- 1st - St. Albert Gazette, St. Albert, AB - "Vertical farms give farmers precise control for optimal growth" - Kevin Ma
- 2nd - Coast Reporter, Sechelt/Gibsons, BC - "A demonstration farm takes root in Sechelt" - Keili Bartlett
- 3rd - The Abbotsford News, Abbotsford, BC - "VIDEO: Life carries on at Abbotsford dairy farm where 200 cows died" - Jessica Peters