

THE WALRUS

Submission Guidelines for The Walrus

The Walrus invites writers to submit brief query letters detailing prospective stories. A good query will convey clearly and concisely the narrative thrust and major themes of the story, the section for which the pitch is intended, the suggested approach, and why the author is well-suited to write the piece. Please include relevant writing samples. Note that our production lead time from query to newsstand is three months at a minimum, so stories with an element of timeliness should be pitched accordingly.

Due to the high number of pitches we receive, we ask that writers not send completed/on-spec submissions for any section other than Imaginings, unless specifically invited to do so. We do not accept unsolicited fiction or poetry.

Email queries can be sent to editorial@walrusmagazine.com, with the contents of the pitch in the body of the email. For writing samples, Word documents and PDFs are acceptable.

Queries can also be sent by mail to:

Editorial, *The Walrus*
19 Duncan St., Suite 101
Toronto ON M5H 3H1,

or by fax to (416) 971-8768.

If you are sending your pitch by fax, include a cover page clearly marking it as an editorial submission.

No phone inquiries, please.

Section Guide for Writers, Artists, and Photographers Pitching The Walrus

FIELD NOTES

Field Notes are short, reported pieces (500–1,000 words) that appear in our front-of-book section. Most Field Notes tell the story of a little-known person or phenomenon, but also illustrate something broader about the politics or culture of a country or region. We typically include one from Canada in each issue.

IMAGININGS

Imaginings are humorous pieces with a fictional premise (700–1,500 words).

YOU ARE HERE

You Are Heres deconstruct an idea, combining text and images in a double-page spread that charts people, places, objects, and events in unexpected ways.

COLUMNS

Most columns are perspective-based pieces (1,500–2,500 words) that offer up a distinct point of view on a social or political issue. Others may look at an interesting development in a field like technology or sports. *Walrus* columns differ from newspaper opinion pieces in that they are markedly journalistic (i.e., steeped in facts and reportage).

FEATURES

The Walrus publishes a variety of features, from investigative pieces to narratives to essays to memoirs, ranging anywhere from 3,000 to 10,000 words. Feature writers tend to have extensive journalism or other writing experience; newer writers are better off to pitch another section first.

VISUAL FEATURES

Photographers who have produced a range of images on a particular theme are invited to submit their work for inclusion in *The Walrus* as a photo essay.

ARTS & CULTURE

Our review section usually includes a books essay and one or two other pieces. We consider submissions on architecture, art, books, dance, fashion, film, media, music, poetry, television, and theatre. Note that *Walrus* essays are typically thematic explorations of ideas, not reviews of one particular work or profiles of a particular artist.

PARALLEL UNIVERSE

Parallel Universes are illustration-based pieces that take as their starting point the question “What if there were a parallel universe where...?”