

THE WALRUS



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Walrus invites writers to submit brief query letters detailing prospective stories on Canada and its place in the world. A good query will convey clearly and concisely the elements of the story, the intended approach, the intended section, and the author's credentials.

Note that the time required to take a *Walrus* story from query to newsstand is three months at a minimum.

Non-fiction queries should go to pitch@walrusmagazine.com, with the contents of the pitch in the body of the email and samples included as attachments or web links.

Send fiction and poetry submissions to literature@walrusmagazine.com (two short stories and/or five poems, maximum, please).

Pitches, fiction, and poetry can also be sent by post to:

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

No phone queries or follow-ups, please.

SECTION GUIDE

THE OBSERVATORY

Our front-of-book section contains timely short pieces (max. 1,000 words), reported from Canada and around the world. They take the form of reported narratives, memoirs, profiles, dialogues, correspondence, or reports on frontier ideas and projects. Writers new to *The Walrus* or without long-form journalism experience are encouraged to pitch this section before seeking more ambitious assignments.

HUMOUR

The Walrus runs one humour piece of up to 1,200 words in each issue. Humour submissions should be sent in their completed form. They should also, preferably, be funny.

JOURNALISM

Walrus narratives range from 3,000 to 7,000 words and focus on issues relevant to Canadians in fields including politics, international affairs, the arts, the environment, health, science, and sports. Journalists pitching narratives should have strong reporting and prose skills, and experience writing for magazines.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

The Walrus seeks stories that expose wrongdoing affecting the lives of Canadians. Would-be Hershes and Woodwards should have an extensive track record as investigative reporters, or one heck of a story.

PROFILES

Walrus profiles take as their starting point a person of some importance to Canadians, but seek also to shed light on some other facet of contemporary life. Good profiles are distinguished by access to the subject, strong reportage, and the ability to reveal character through narrative.

ESSAYS

Essays in *The Walrus* run between 2,000 and 6,000 words, and cover a range of subjects and ideas. They demand a singular, focused argument and a strong writing voice. *Walrus* essays differ from newspaper op-eds in their breadth, depth of research, and quality of prose.

MEMOIRS

The Walrus is looking for long-form autobiographical writing that illuminates issues relevant to Canadians.

FICTION & POETRY

Short stories in *The Walrus* have no fixed length, but please note that longer pieces are more difficult to find space for. Poems should fit in a single half-page column.

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

The review section of *The Walrus* covers architecture, art, books, dance, fashion, film, media, music, poetry, television, and theatre, with a special focus on literature. Each issue contains three pieces. One is a thematic review exploring one or more new works in the context of other works. One is a timely profile of an important figure in the arts. And one is a narrative essay on a new or ongoing phenomenon in the cultural world. Writers in this section should have some expertise and authority in their area of interest.