

The 2015 CAJ Awards

caj The Canadian Association of Journalists
L'Association Canadienne des Journalistes

Applications will be accepted starting in January for the 2015 CAJ Awards and the CAJ / CNW Group Student Award of Excellence in Journalism

MOST AWARDS CARRY \$500 PRIZE

Entries for the CAJ awards must be submitted no later than:

FEBRUARY 5, 2016

Investigative awards –

- Open media
- Community media
- Open broadcast feature
- Open broadcast news
- Community broadcast
- CAJ / Marketwired data journalism
- Online media

General awards –

- Photojournalism
- Scoop
- Daily excellence
- Text feature
- JHR / CAJ Award for Human Rights Reporting
- CWA Canada / CAJ Award for Labour Reporting

Entries for the CAJ / CNW Group Student Award of Excellence must be submitted no later than:
February 28, 2016

Recipients of the 2015 CAJ Awards will be announced at the CAJ's National Conference in
Edmonton, May 27-28, 2016

For more information:
email awards@caj.ca
or visit our website
www.caj.ca/awards

CATEGORIES

INVESTIGATIVE AWARDS:

These categories recognize journalism in a variety of media. Entries don't have to be purely investigative to qualify; investigative entries are given added weight. Items based on the same body of research, regardless of which medium they were released in, can only be entered in one category. The recipient(s) of the Don McGillivray Award for Investigative Journalism is/are chosen from these categories.

– **OPEN MEDIA** – Entries welcome for predominantly text-based entries published in print or online, in any Canadian media outlet, regardless of publication frequency, circulation or audience reach. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **COMMUNITY MEDIA** – Entries welcome for predominantly text-based entries published in print or online in any Canadian media outlet. Print entries limited to those media printed fewer than five times a week or with an average daily print circulation of under 25,000. Online-only entries not from a print newsroom must provide verifiable proof the website serves a regional or community audience. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **OPEN BROADCAST FEATURE** – Entries welcome for any piece with a runtime of over five minutes, predominantly audio and/or video, broadcast to an audience of any size over the air or online. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **OPEN BROADCAST NEWS** – Entries of any length welcome for any piece, predominantly audio and/or video, broadcast to an audience of any size over the air or online. These entries can be of any length—judges and the CAJ awards committee reserve the right to recommend entries with longer runtimes be moved into the Open broadcast feature category. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **COMMUNITY BROADCAST** – Entries of any length welcome for any piece, predominantly audio and/or video, whose broadcast is targeted to a community or regional audience over the air or online. Over the air broadcast submissions must come from a local or regional station. Online entries not from a TV or radio broadcaster must provide verifiable proof the website is targeted at and serves a regional or community audience. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **ONLINE MEDIA** – Entries welcome in any online-only format. **No part of this entry** can include any element that was published in print or broadcast on television or radio. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces.

– **CAJ / MARKETWIRED DATA JOURNALISM** – Entries welcome from any media in any format published or broadcast in Canada where data journalism / CAR techniques played a key and indispensable part in developing the story. This category is meant to highlight the use of data journalism, but not at the expense of good journalism and good storytelling. An entry is one piece or a series limited to five related pieces

GENERAL AWARDS:

These categories recognize exemplary journalism. Recipients are not eligible for consideration for the Don McGillivray award.

– **PHOTOJOURNALISM** – Entries welcome showcasing a portfolio of up to 20 photographs demonstrating journalistic vision, consistent quality and a reflection of the entrant's professionalism and journalistic abilities. Photos (including sound slides or equivalent) must have been first published or broadcast by Canadian media (URL or other proof of publication required).

– **SCOOP** – Entries welcome from any media in any format published or broadcast in Canada that was the first to bring new or significant information to light of regional or national importance. A cover letter explaining how the entry met this criteria is highly encouraged. Entry limited to one piece.

– **DAILY EXCELLENCE** – Entries welcome from print, radio and television journalists for items published or broadcast in Canada demonstrating excellence in daily, deadline-driven reporting based on same-day research. One piece plus related element.

– **TEXT FEATURE** – Entries welcome for any primarily text-based article published in print or online in Canada that is not specifically investigative in nature. An entry is one piece.

– **JHR / CAJ AWARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING** – See criteria on following pages.

– **CWA CANADA / CAJ AWARD FOR LABOUR REPORTING** – See criteria on following pages.

Entry procedures:

Entries must have been first published or broadcast in either official language by a Canadian-based media outlet within the previous calendar year. Entries welcomed from journalists working outside of Canada, provided the location of first broadcast / publication originated within Canada. Proof of publication / broadcast meeting these criteria, if not ascertainable from the entry itself, may be requested by the awards committee.

The CAJ Awards wants to recognize your best work and we acknowledge it can be challenging at times to pull out a few items from a body of work that includes many different elements. We hope the following, in addition to what's listed with each category, can be helpful in determining what is chosen for submission.

Entry composition is defined in this package and online for each category. ***Please do not overburden the judges with an unending entry.*** Careful consideration of which elements are included with an entry that effectively demonstrate your best work is encouraged.

Material produced from the same body of research cannot be submitted in multiple categories (ex: Same topic and sources feed items published in print and broadcast on television—only eligible for submission in one category). Entrants are encouraged to carefully weigh what they've produced and which elements most powerfully and effectively tell the story and submit the appropriate pieces into the suitable category.

No part of any entry can be submitted in another category. No part of any team entry can be submitted by an individual in the same or another category. Entrants are asked to carefully consider and weigh the categories before submitting.

Except where noted for specific categories, it is the entrant's choice whether to include a supporting letter with an entry. If one is submitted in a circumstance where it's not required, it should detail impact, change or action resulting from the publication and/or broadcast of the entry. Some judges also find it useful to have information on the resources available to the journalist(s) completing the piece(s) submitted in the entry. Cover letters are not endorsements or testimonials and except where noted are considered at the judge(s)' discretion.

If submitting a team entry, please include the names of all those who were part of the team as part of your entry. We will not recognize finalist team members whose names were not included when the team entry was finalized and submitted, so please ensure all those deserving of credit for the entry are listed on submission and payment.

Judging procedures:

At least one winning entry per category can be declared by the judges. Winning entries in the investigative categories are then passed on to the Don McGillivray Award judges, who decide the winner of this overall award. Judges may declare "no winner" for a category. If this occurs, no finalists in that category will be announced.

It is the judges' prerogative to name any number of finalists of between one and five entries. Judges use the same published criteria available to those who enter the awards along with the general criteria below to determine their ranking.

In those categories including French-language entries, the awards committee will assign a minimum of one bilingual or Francophone judge to the category. Judges selected and assigned by the awards committee are experienced

journalists who are not eligible to compete in the category in which they are judging.

Judges are asked to consider the following:

- Entries in investigative categories need not be purely investigative, however investigative entries are given added weight;
- Original subjects and content matter;
- Effective use of the medium—imagery, clarity, language and narrative;
- The breadth and scope of the research undertaken, as well as how it was used within the entry;
- Impact and timeliness;
- Discretionary elements might include degree of difficulty in research or production, resources available to the journalist / newsroom, time available for production and/or risk involved in getting the story;
- In the photojournalism category, the objective is not to find the single best photo but the overall body of work submitted in the entry;
- In the labour category, entries that go beyond a work-to-rule, strike, lockout or other job action to report on the broader social, economic and political impact on the labour movement and market will be given preference and added weight.

Fees:

An entry fee is required for each entry in every category. Entry fees include taxes.

- CAJ member - \$30
- Non-member - \$110
- CAJ student member - \$25 *
- Team entry, all CAJ members - \$60
- Team entry, non-members - \$200

Non-member entrants are encouraged to sign up for a membership when submitting an entry so they can pay the CAJ-member entry fee.

* *There is NO entry fee for CAJ student members entering the student award of excellence.*

2015 CAJ Awards entry information

← → ↻ 🏠 <https://caj.secure-platform.com/a/> Thursday November 6, 2014 JOIN THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF JOURNALISTS >> Follow Us [f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

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Login to Complete an Application or to Access Judging Panel

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Welcome to your home base for submitting entries to the 2014 CAJ Awards program.

The deadline for entries is 11:59 p.m. ET on Feb. 9, 2015.

[To enter the 2014 CAJ Awards, click here.](#)

We're pleased to offer 14 categories in this annual program. [Detailed information on each category](#) is available.

Our categories are:

- Open Media
- Community Media
- Open broadcast feature
- Open broadcast news
- Community broadcast
- CAJ / Marketwired data journalism
- Online media
- Photojournalism
- Scoop
- Daily excellence
- Text feature
- JHR / CAJ Award for Human Rights Reporting
- CWA Canada / CAJ Award for Labour Reporting
- CAJ / CNW Group Student Award of Excellence (deadline Feb. 28)

Fees remain **unchanged** for the 2014 program. Our fees are structured to offer the best rates to CAJ members. [Become a CAJ member today](#) to take advantage of the lowest fees. Full information on entry criteria, submission tips and entry fees is available. Payment of fees is done online as part of submitting your entry/entries.

Fees (all fees include taxes):

We're using the same entry platform used last year — if you created an account and submitted entries last year, please use the same account. We expect this system to be more user-friendly. **All deadlines to complete your entry are midnight ET.** Information is available at www.caj.ca/awards. To go directly to the submission site, point your browser to www.caj.ca/enterawards.

A few notes on the process:

- Before you go to the entry site, please consider the entry categories and what you wish to submit. Collating and collecting relevant files, links and the supporting letter is encouraged prior to logging in.
- If you did not submit an entry in 2015, you will need to create a submission account. Do this by clicking “To enter the 2015 CAJ Awards click here.” Enter your email to begin the process. Those who entered previously can login at this screen.
- Follow the page-by-page prompts to complete each of the forms tied to your entries.
- On the first entry submission screen, **please be sure to enter accurate information about the entrant and entry** — these fields are used to apply the correct entry fee(s) and if entered incorrectly could result in payment of the wrong amount.
- The first screen for submitting your entry covers details about the entry; the second allows you to attach files; and the third allows for URL submissions. You are then taken to confirmation screens. To pay, “checkout” from your cart.
- The system allows uploads of up to 21 files in a wide variety of formats, including video and audio files..
- You can enter up to five URLs for online work or for streaming video/audio. Please ensure the links remain accessible and functional throughout the judging period (beginning of April).
- Payment is done via integrated PayPal option. Fees are calculated and paid without leaving the entry site. Please double check your fee calculation to ensure you are paying the correct fee. If the incorrect fee appears, please **DO NOT** finalize your entry. Contact us to resolve the matter.
- If you run into any difficulties through the process and/or have any questions, please email awards@caj.ca.

The 2015 JHR / CAJ Human Rights Reporting Award

\$1,000 cash prize

What is human rights reporting?

This prize rewards journalism that puts a human face on situations where human rights are not respected and/or holds authorities to account to do a better job of protecting those rights. As a result, the story builds awareness of human rights and social justice issues, and shows the human impact and the human cost of abstract political and economic forces. To qualify, a story must also be international in scope.

For examples of human rights reporting, visit www.jhr.ca/success/

Entry procedures:

Entries are submitted as part of the CAJ Awards program, at www.caj.ca/awards. An entry consists of a single piece, in any media format, published or broadcast in either official language by a Canadian media outlet in the 2015 calendar year. The deadline for entries is **Feb. 5, 2016**. Finalists will be announced in late-winter or spring 2016 and the winner will be announced at the 2016 CAJ conference, scheduled in Edmonton from May 27-28.

Entrants must be CAJ members or willing to pay the non-member award fee.



Canadian Media Guild
La Guilde canadienne des médias
CWA/SCA CANADA



Apply starting in January at www.caj.ca/awards

The 2015 CWA Canada / CAJ Award for Labour Reporting \$1,000 award

CWA Canada and its largest local, the Canadian Media Guild, are partnering with the Canadian Association of Journalists to offer the 2015 CWA Canada / CAJ Award for Excellence in Labour Reporting. This award will recognize excellence in Canadian journalism completed in the 2015 calendar year in any format on labour issues.

What are labour issues?

The award seeks to honour journalism that goes beyond a work-to-rule, strike, lockout or other job action and shows skill in reporting on the social, economic and political factors that impact the labour environment in Canada. Entries showing impact on policy, law or public awareness are encouraged. This award is meant to recognize great journalism on labour issues that can make a difference in the lives of Canadians.

Does an entry have to be reporting on a union?

No – judges are looking for the best journalism on labour issues. While Canada's unions are integral to the labour movement, not all of the labour issues that are reported on in this country involve unions. It's expected many entries will include the labour movement and unions, but this is not a requirement of the award.

Entry procedures:

Entries are submitted as part of the 2015 CAJ Awards program, at www.caj.ca. An entry consists of a single piece, in any media format, published or broadcast by a Canadian media outlet in the 2014 calendar year. **The deadline for entries is Feb. 5, 2016.** Finalists will be announced in late-winter or spring 2016 and the winner(s) will be announced at the 2016 CAJ conference, scheduled for Edmonton from May 27-28.

Entries are encouraged in either official language. Should the judges determine it appropriate, one award may be handed out for reporting done in English and another in French.

Entrants must be CAJ members or willing to pay the non-member award fee.

Questions? E-mail the CAJ Awards committee at awards@caj.ca



Le Prix d'excellence en journalisme SCA Canada / ACJ 2015 pour les reportages sur le syndicalisme Récompense d'une valeur de 1 000 \$

SCA Canada et sa plus importante sous-section, soit la Guilde canadienne des médias, ont fait équipe avec l'Association canadienne des journalistes afin de remettre le Prix d'excellence en journalisme SCA Canada / ACJ 2015 pour les reportages sur le syndicalisme. Cette récompense vise à souligner l'excellence en journalisme au Canada pour l'année civile 2015. Plus précisément, le prix est remis pour les reportages portant sur des enjeux relatifs au syndicalisme, et ce, peu importe la plateforme de diffusion ou de publication.

Qu'entend-on par enjeux relatifs au syndicalisme?

Les membres du jury seront invités à récompenser les reportages soumis ayant conscientisé le public sur divers enjeux d'importance touchant le domaine syndical. Le prix a pour but de souligner le travail journalistique dont la nature s'étend au-delà des habituels sujets tels le pouvoir du travailleur, les grèves, les lock-out et autres, tout en faisant preuve de solides aptitudes dans la façon d'aborder les facteurs sociaux, économiques et politiques ayant une incidence sur le syndicalisme au pays. Les journalistes dont le reportage a eu un impact sur les politiques, la législation ou la conscientisation du public sont invités à soumettre le fruit de leur travail en candidature pour l'obtention d'un prix. Ce dernier vise à rendre hommage à un journalisme de qualité axé sur les enjeux propres au syndicalisme, et pouvant avoir un impact bénéfique dans la vie des Canadiens.

Les reportages soumis doivent-ils être axés sur un syndicat en particulier?

Non. Les membres du jury sont à la recherche des meilleurs reportages ayant abordé des enjeux relatifs au syndicalisme en général. Si les syndicats font certes partie intégrante du mouvement syndical, cela ne signifie pas pour autant que tous les enjeux ayant fait l'objet d'un reportage doivent invariablement impliquer un syndicat. On s'attend à ce que plusieurs candidatures aient traité à la fois du mouvement syndical et des syndicats eux-mêmes; toutefois, il ne s'agit pas d'un critère d'admissibilité pour l'obtention d'un prix.

Processus pour soumettre un reportage en candidature:

Les candidatures sont soumises dans le cadre du programme 2015 de remise de prix de l'ACJ, dont les détails se trouvent au www.caj.ca. Une candidature consiste en un seul reportage, soumis dans n'importe quel format et publié ou diffusé par un média canadien au cours de l'année civile 2015. La date limite pour les candidatures est le 5 février 2016. Le nom des finalistes sera dévoilé à la fin de l'hiver ou au début du printemps 2016, et le(s) gagnant(s) sera(seront) connu(s) lors du congrès 2016 de l'ACJ, qui se déroulera du 27 au 28 mai prochain à Edmonton.

Les candidatures seront acceptées dans l'une ou l'autre des deux langues officielles. Si les membres du jury le considèrent justifié, un prix sera décerné pour un reportage réalisé en anglais, et un autre pour un reportage de langue française. Les participants doivent être membres de l'ACJ ou, dans le cas contraire, défrayer les coûts de participation à la remise de prix.

Des questions? Faites-les parvenir par courriel au comité des Prix de l'ACJ à awards@caj.ca