

CANADA'S PADDLING MAGAZINE
KANAWA

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
FOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS**

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KANAWA Magazine is the property of:

Paddle Canada Pagaie Canada
PO Box 20069, RPO Taylor Kidd
Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2T6
CANADA
Tel: 1-888-252-6292 (Toll-free)
Tel: 613-547-3196
Fax: 613-547-4880
Email: info@paddlingcanada.com
Web: www.paddlingcanada.com

For more information about KANAWA contact:

KANAWA, Canada's Paddling Magazine
c/o Anne Baxter & Associates
12 Elizabeth Street
Brockville, Ontario, K6V 7B4
CANADA
Tel: 613-342-0599
Fax: 613-342-0599
Email: kanawa@paddlingcanada.com

KANAWA IS CANADA'S PADDLING MAGAZINE

Published by Paddle Canada, it is a full-colour national magazine published four times a year (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter). KANAWA focuses on recreational paddling of all kinds, including canoeing, sea kayaking, river kayaking and just about anything else paddle related. We accept queries and photographs from professional writers and photographers, as well as individuals who share a love of paddling and who possess the ability to tell a good story. Most of our stories are Canadian based, but those that aren't are considered on an individual basis.

KANAWA accepts queries and photographs from professional writers and photographers, as well as individuals who share a love of paddling and who possess the ability to tell a good story. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts or artwork and cannot assume responsibility for the loss and return of such.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITERS

Query Requirements

If you are a novice writer, we encourage you to review the **Writing Tips** provided on Pages 5-6.

- Give a brief summary (bio) of your qualifications for writing about the topic.
- If you have not previously written for KANAWA, include 2-3 samples of your writing, published or not.
- Clearly indicate if the article has been published before and, if so, when and where.
- Clearly indicate if you are also submitting your article submission to other magazines.
- Clearly state the point and angle of your article.
- Indicate the proposed length of your article.
- Identify the section of KANAWA to which your article is tailored.
- Briefly expand on the idea of your article;
 - Indicate the structure of the article and explain how it will be developed;
 - List exactly what you intend to include and exclude;
 - Indicate whether, or not, you have photographs, diagrams or additional materials to accompany your article. (See **Photographer's Guidelines**)

Feature (1,500-2,500 words) and Mini-Feature (500-1,500 words) Articles

Tell us your stories and experiences.

- Tripping stories
- Reviews of Books and Films of interest to paddlers
- Environmental and/or Safety issues as they relate to paddling
- Interesting and/or gripping historical tales
- Photography-based pieces
- Outdoor skills and equipment

We are looking for articles that offer a fresh idea, topic or angle; add something to our knowledge and/or understanding; provide useful and appropriately detailed information; tell a previously untold story; offer gripping accounts of tripping adventures etc.

Tripping stories should be informative and entertaining; they should make the reader want to go to that location. Look beyond the river and include interesting information on history, geology, wildlife, flora and especially people. Include anecdotes where appropriate. A variety of personal writing styles is welcomed but **do not send** journal style stories (day-by-day or week-by-week logs) as these are not accepted.

All tripping stories **must** include a trip planner with a map of the route (hand drawn acceptable), trip length and difficulty, access/egress information, notes essential to those wishing to plan a similar trip and reference information, which may include web addresses, maps and guide books. We are particularly interested in stories from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and PEI.

Techniques & Tips (500-800 words)

'How-to' articles; those that offer ideas, advice or perspective.

- Equipment; particularly anything novel or new.
- Where appropriate, include any necessary diagrams; hand drawn images are acceptable.

Food court (400-550 words)

Food for tripping, camping and guiding.

- Recipes beyond GORP; campfire, cooking stove, fireless, etc.
- Equipment; particularly anything novel or new.

Instructor news (200-500 words)

Note: Submissions accepted only from certified instructors.

- News items
- Teaching tips and techniques
- Opinions

Paddling briefs (200-500 words)

Forward us the details of your paddling-related event. Let us help you spread the word.

- Events Calendar; Symposiums, Paddling Festivals, Annual General Meetings, etc
- Local Paddling News; New facilities
- happenings and developments in the paddling community
- Interesting and/or funny tales and anecdotes

Ask a pro (maximum 50 words)

Submit your question(s) on anything related to paddling and we'll have our Pro answer it.

The last word (25-250 words)

Photo plus some reflective words; original prose, a quote, poem etc.

SUBMISSION FORMATS

- We prefer to receive queries via e-mail, either:
 - As an attachment (Microsoft Word, RTF or Plain Text document)
 - Included in the body of the e-mail
- If you are sending your query by regular mail, please include your name, phone number and e-mail address in your correspondence. Also include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for reply and return of all items submitted to KANAWA.

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

- Full credit is given to the author via a by-line, a brief 1-2 sentence biography at the end of the article and three (3) copies of the KANAWA issue featuring their article following publication.
- Payment is offered based on the experience of the author and the amount of work required editing the article prior to publication.
- KANAWA will retain both the North American serial rights and all electronic to post the article on our website; the author retains resale rights six (6) months following publication in KANAWA.

GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Submission Requirements

Safety is a cornerstone of the Paddle Canada mandate. Subsequently, all photographs used in KANAWA **must** meet sound safety criteria. Individual paddlers or groups of paddlers **must** be wearing life jackets or personal floatation devices (PFDs). For moving or whitewater photos and images, paddlers **must** also be wearing suitable safety equipment, including a helmet.

- Include a clear caption; all people (excluding those who were part of a large group and/or public gathering), places and things (flora, fauna etc, which may be the focus of the photo) should be clearly identified.
- In the case of photos containing people (who are not part of a public gathering), clearly state whether or not you have obtained their permission to publish their image.
- Identify the photographer for each image provided

Cover Photos

- We are interested in bright, focused images of picturesque scenes with paddlers in them and close-up paddler action shots, including children and animals.
- We make every effort to alternate between canoe and kayak images, dependant upon the quality of the images received.

Photos Accompanying a Story Submission

- Good pictures tell, and sell, a story!
Stories accompanied by good, focused images are far more likely to be accepted for publication.
- If you don't have your own photos consider approaching tourist operations, conservation authorities, and other like-minded associations to donate images; they will be given full credit and their photos will be returned following publication.
- Maximum submission is twenty-five (25) images per story

SUBMISSION FORMATS

To expedite the review process, we prefer that low resolution digital photos are sent via e-mail (slides may be scanned). We will contact you directly to obtain any originals and/or high resolution images we intend to print.

- If you are sending your images by regular mail, please include your name, phone number and e-mail address in your correspondence. Also include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for reply and return of all items submitted to KANAWA.
- In the case of slides, we prefer originals over duplicates.
In the case of Cover Photos, the original slide is required.
- In the case of digital photos, we require a minimum resolution of 300 ppi (dpi), with a minimum picture size of 1,200 pixels by 1,500 pixels (4 x 5 inches). Web images are not of suitable resolution for printing purposes. In the case of Cover photos, we require a minimum size of 8¾ x 11¼ inches (2,625 pixels by 3,375 pixels).
- Files may be saved in TIFF, PSD or JPEG formats. When saving files in JPEG format please use the 'maximum quality' compression setting.

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

- Full credit is given to the photographer via a photo credit and three (3) copies of the KANAWA issue featuring their image following publication.
- Payment is offered based on the expertise of the photographer and the amount of work required editing the image prior to publication.
- All slides and/or materials are returned within 6-8 weeks following publication

WRITING TIPS

"Good writing is supposed to evoke sensation in the reader – not the fact that it's raining, but the feel of being rained upon."

EL Doctorow

1. Clearly express the theme of your article in your opening paragraph. If your opening paragraph recounts an experience, which leads you into the story, then the theme can be expressed in the second paragraph. Ensure you keep to your theme throughout the story.
2. Have you written an attention-grabbing lead? For instance, if you're writing a tripping story, begin with the most harrowing, funniest and/or reflective moment and then take the reader through the events leading up to that moment.
3. Do not assume the reader is familiar with your topic, whether it is a person, place or thing, regardless of how "well known" it/he/she is. Before jumping into your topic, ensure there are 2-3 sentences at the beginning of your article (most likely your second or third paragraph, depending on your opening; see Point 1) to introduce your reader to the topic.
4. Ensure a consistent thought flow throughout your article. Do not go off on tangents unless there is a clear purpose for it. You should be able to read the first sentence of each paragraph only and be able to follow the entire flow and action of the story without reading the details in the paragraphs.
5. Avoid verbose writing and edit your work prior to submission.
Say what you need to say with the fewest words possible and avoid unnecessary information.
6. Write in plain English and avoid complex phrases or words, unless they are fundamental to the story.
7. Put the reader there by appealing to their senses. Rather than just saying it was a cold, windy day, make them feel it. Write vividly and think of all your senses; vision, touch, taste etc.
8. Write in a lively manner and liven up your story by including interesting people, unique experiences, interesting facts etc. Your article should not read like a brochure. It should maintain the reader's interest throughout.
9. Use an active voice. Attribute specific actions to the person and/or thing doing them; ie activate passive verbs. For example, the sentence, "Every corner of the site had to be checked for garbage."
Should be changed to: "We checked every corner of the site for garbage."
10. Use the appropriate tense and keep to it.
Don't confuse readers by switching back and forth between past and present tense.
11. In most cases you should write in first person.
12. Divide any article longer than 600 words into sections with section headings. Ensure each section has a proper introductory sentence to transition the reader into the topic for that section.
13. Suggest a title and sub-title. The title should be short and witty and give the overall sense of the article. The sub-title is longer (no more than the length of a short sentence) and should summarize your story. Although we encourage writers to submit titles and subheads, KANAWA reserves the right to change them as we see fit.

WRITING TIPS FOR REVIEWS

Writing a review is not as easy as it sounds. If you've never written a review before or are new to writing reviews, check out the following websites for some good tips:

'How to write a book review' by Bill Asnejo
www.writing-world.com/freelance/asenjo.shtml

'How to write a movie review, a guide'
www.spiritofbaraka.com/how-to-write-a-moviereview.aspx

'Film Reviews' by Esther Godfrey
www.wcu.edu/writingcenter/isource.asp?page=freviews.html

EDITING YOUR WORK

Edit your work prior to submission.

When you think you're done, review your article slowly and carefully for the following:

- Delete extraneous words and passages: Be ruthless!
See Writing Tip Point 5
- Does it have an attention-grabbing lead? Does it make you want to read more? If not, rewrite it.
See Writing Tip Point 2
- Have you maintained a consistent flow?
If not, you are missing information (a lead sentence perhaps) or have extraneous information.
See Writing Tip Point 4
- Have you used active voice?
See Writing Tip Point 9
- Have you kept to the same tense throughout?
See Writing Tip Point 10
- Reread your article for correct spelling. Do not assume your spell-checker is correct and ensure that you are using Canadian, and not American, spelling. I.e. Travelling not traveling.
- KANAWA uses the Canadian Oxford dictionary; double check the correct spelling for all names.