



Judging Criteria and Rules

Important Dates, Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality, Award Submissions Rules and Entry Guidelines, and Criteria and Description Summaries

Thank you for volunteering to be a judge for the RTDNA Canada 2023 Awards. These are awards to be presented in 2023 for journalism published in 2022.

Members of RTDNA Canada appreciate the valuable contribution you make to improve audio, digital and video journalism by helping to judge these prestigious awards.

Good luck and good judging!

If you have any questions, please email us at awards@rtdnacanada.com

Awards Committee, RTDNA Canada

Mary Nersessian - Chair

Espe Currie

Michael Goldberg

Sarah Mills

Janice Neil

Colleen Schmidt

Judging - Important Dates and Deadlines 2023

Regional and National scoring - **Wed Feb 8 -Tue Feb 21, 2023 = 14 days** (tie break Wed Feb 22 to Fri Feb 24)

Best Canadian Local News scoring - **Fri Mar 3 - Mon Mar 13, 2023 = 11 days** (tie break Tue Mar 14 to Thu Mar 16)

Judging and Conflict of Interest

RTDNA Canada's judges come from a wide variety of backgrounds and affiliations - ranging from people working at small private news organizations to large news organizations to faculty of journalism programs. And just as many Canadian journalists work for a handful of large employers, many of our judges come from large organizations in this country's very concentrated media landscape.

We have taken certain measures to minimize conflict of interest. For example, individuals are assigned to judge entries that originate in other regions of the country. Similarly, journalists who work at the *National* level are asked to judge *Regional* entries and vice versa.

From time to time, a judge will flag us about a potential conflict of interest, and we will rule whether to assign them elsewhere or leave them as assigned. We trust in the professionalism of

judges to vote for excellence even if an entry was submitted by the "competition." Looking at our former judges and their track record, we would say that our trust is well placed.

For this reason, RTDNA Canada does not release the names of judges.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to flag a potential conflict of interest, please contact us at awards@rtdnacanada.com.

We are also sensitive to Canada's employment climate and that some of the country's premier journalists have found their job status has changed - sometimes of their own choice, sometimes not. Consequently, some of our judges are self-employed and others have taken a break from their retirement to judge for us. Their employment status has not diminished their ability to judge journalistic excellence.

We are beholden to all our judges - regional, national, faculty, freelance and retired - for the time and expertise that they donate to us annually!

There would be no RTDNA Canada Awards without you.

Judging and Confidentiality

To ensure the confidentiality of members' submissions and maintain the integrity of the awards, we ask you to keep the information assigned to you private.

Specifically, you undertake to:

1. Respect the confidential nature of all submissions and not disclose information in submissions, in any way whatsoever, to third parties;
2. Use such information as is disclosed to you only for the express purpose of scoring submissions assigned to you, and for no other purpose.

Award Submissions Rules and Entry Guidelines, and Criteria and Description Summaries

Please click these links to view [Regional](#) and [National](#) Awards Criteria and Descriptions summaries and this link to view [Award Submissions Rules and Entry Guidelines](#).