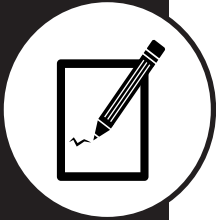


# Arts & Culture Writing

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



Awarded to the best article, feature or series highlighting performing, visual or literary arts in the community (can be fine or folk art). The focus can be on an individual, group, event, innovation, history, etc - but it must relate directly to arts and culture in the community. The winning entry should help people become more aware of and/or more involved in arts & cultural opportunities or issues in the community. It may also address a community problem related to those activities. The award strives to recognize a story that goes beyond the usual arts review or single interview profile.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar).....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & interest to community .....	20
• Effectiveness in enhancing the public understanding of, or interest in, arts & culture in the community .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

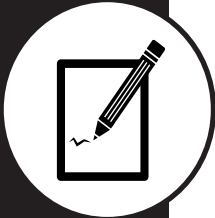
- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- Entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Business Writing

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



Awarded to the best article, column or feature that highlights business issues relevant to your community. Entries are judged on their effectiveness in enhancing public understanding of business issues as they relate to the community. The topic may be a national or regional business issue, but it MUST show how it impacts the local community.

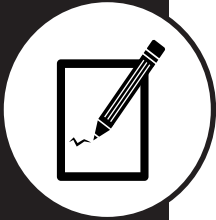
Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting - (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community.....	20
• Effectiveness in enhancing the public understanding or interest in local business issues.....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- Entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Columnist

Open to full and associate members

This award recognizes excellence in writing by a local general interest columnist. The column must be published on a weekly or bi-weekly basis and be non-syndicated. **Entries must include two samples from the same columnist, each from a different issue.**

Entries will be judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar).....	40
• Choice of subject matter, including appeal to readers .....	30
• Originality & freshness of approach.....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- please ensure that each entry includes **two different columns from the same columnist**
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
www.betterbnc.com**



# Editorial

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

This award recognizes excellence in editorial writing, including ability to provoke thought and take a fearless stand on issues. Submissions should include a single editorial or an editorial series dealing with a single issue or event. The topic can be of local, regional, or national interest, but it **MUST** show how the issue impacts the local community.

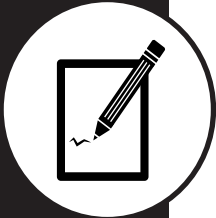
Entries are judged on:

• Overall impact (ability to stimulate thought, relevance to community).....	30
• Quality and clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar).....	30
• Persuasion and reasoning (includes quality of questions raised & solutions offered) .....	20
• Style & originality .....	20
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Environmental Initiative

Open to full and associate members

Awarded to the best article, feature, or series covering a positive contribution to environmental practices, initiatives, or innovation within the community. The subject can be an individual, a business, a non-profit organization or any similar body. Reporter(s) should look for original projects that have achieved extraordinary environmental outcomes, especially those that have harnessed the power of people to create sustainable communities and reduce their individual or collective footprint on the environment. Entries should demonstrate the economic and community benefits of the programs they describe, the extent of community participation, and the subject's overall environmental footprint. Topics of innovation might include: energy and climate protection, environmental education, green building and development, green business and environmental management, natural resource protection and restoration.

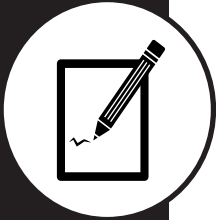
Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	35
• Impact on/benefit to readers (how well the article conveys the project and its environmental outcomes) .....	35
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Environmental Writing

Open to full and associate members

Awarded to the best article, feature, or series relating to an environmental topic or issue in, or impacting, the community. The winning entry should enhance public awareness or understanding of environmental issues. The entry should not be an editorial.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community.....	20
• Impact on readers/enhancement of public awareness of environmental issues.....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Feature Article

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your "under/over 10,000" circulation category refers to your "NX Circulation" as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. It does not refer to your paper's actual circulation.

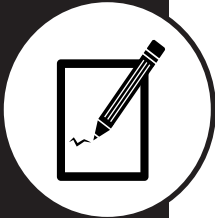
Open to full and associate members. Note that associate members will automatically be placed in the Over 10,000 group.

Awarded to the best single feature article. Features go beyond the news, providing a more in-depth look at the issues and people of the community. Entries must relate to a topic or issue in, or impacting, the community. Entries should be thought-provoking and relevant to the community.

Entries are judged on:

- Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) ..... 40
- Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) ..... 30
- Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community..... 30
- Total ..... 100**

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry).
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.



SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)

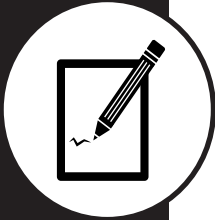
ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

# Feature Series

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



An entry in the Feature Series category consists of a series of two to five stories about one specific topic or issue in, or impacting, the community. Entries should be thought-provoking and relevant to the community. Syndicated material will not be accepted.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	40
• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community.....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the first entry from the series.)
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

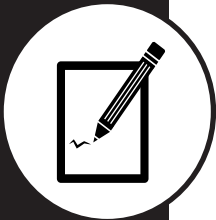


# Historical Writing

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



This award is presented to the best article or series of articles (by the same author on the same topic) covering local history. If you publish a history section in your newspaper, you must clearly identify which article is to be judged. The article or series should increase awareness of local history within the community.

Entries will be judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community .....	20
• Effectiveness in enhancing the public understanding of, or interest in, history in the community .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry.)
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Investigative Journalism

Open to full and associate members

This award goes to the best article or series of articles (maximum 5) relating to an important news story in, or impacting, the community, that would not have come to light except for an extraordinary effort and significant research and/or investigation by the author. Entries should show journalistic initiative and promote public awareness of the issue. The winning news story will exhibit an approach and extra effort that sets it apart from usual news coverage.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	50
• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	25
• Overall impact and significance to community .....	25
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

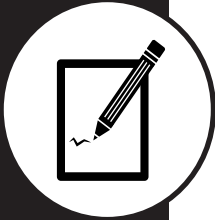
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry.)
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Outdoor Recreation Writing

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



This award is given to the best article, feature or series about outdoor recreation opportunities in the local area. It may feature a group, individual, or an outdoor recreation activity. The winning entry should help people become more aware of and/or more involved in, outdoor recreational opportunities in the community, or address a community problem related to those activities.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & relevance to community.....	20
• Effectiveness in enhancing the public understanding of, or interest in, outdoor recreation opportunities in the community.....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

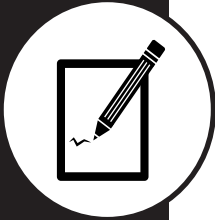
- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry.)
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Sports Writing

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



This award is given to the best article, feature or series highlighting sports activities in the community. The focus can be on an individual, a sporting team, event, sports activity, innovations, history, etc – but it must relate directly to sports in the community. The winning entry should help people become more aware of, and more involved in, sports & fitness activities in the community, or address a community problem related to those activities. The award strives to recognize a sports story that goes beyond the normal game recount or single interview profile.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality & clarity of writing (style, organization of thoughts, grammar) .....	30
• Quality of reporting (research, initiative, comprehensiveness) .....	30
• Original treatment of the topic & interest to community .....	20
• Effectiveness in enhancing the public understanding of, or interest in, sports & fitness in the community .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit no more than five stories from a series
- please submit a PDF of the complete entry, with 2022 dateline visible (if you are selected as a finalist, you will then be asked to provide a Word or text file of the entire entry.)
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Feature Photo

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your "under/over 10,000" circulation category refers to your "NX Circulation" as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. **It does not refer to your paper's actual circulation.**

Open to full and associate members. Note that associate members will automatically be placed in the Over 10,000 group.

Photos can be either colour or black and white, and should depict an event or scene considered to be of a feature photo nature (such as people, animals, scenery). Staff or regular freelancers must take photo.

**Any image created principally on computer software or manipulated on computer software beyond generally acceptable adjustments for proper reproduction (such as cropping, sharpening, adjusting brightness and colour) is not acceptable. Adding or subtracting elements to or from an image, or combining multiple images into a single image, are not permitted.**

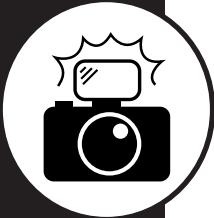
Entries are judged on:

• Human interest & impact on reader .....	40
• Originality & forethought.....	30
• Technical ability (angle, focus, clarity, exposure, etc) .....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes photos that have been entered as part of a photo series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of full page with 2022 dateline visible.
- we also strongly encourage you to submit a jpeg of the original photo.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

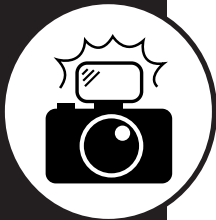
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ENTRY DEADLINE  
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# Photo Essay

Open to full and associate members

This award recognizes photographic excellence, attention to composition, communication quality of the individual photos, and their combined capacity to communicate a whole story. Entries will consist of two or more photos that tell a story about a single event/theme. Photos must dominate the pages. Please note that "Day in the Life" entries should be submitted in this category (not in the Special Section category).

You may submit a print-only photo essay, an online-only photo essay, or a combination essay.

**Any image created principally on computer software or manipulated on computer software beyond generally acceptable adjustments for proper reproduction (such as cropping, sharpening, adjusting brightness and colour) is not acceptable. Adding or subtracting elements to or from an image, or combining multiple images into a single image, are not permitted.**

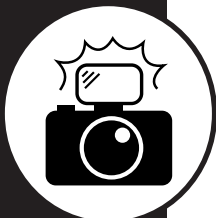
Entries are judged on:

• Human interest & impact on reader .....	45
• Originality & forethought.....	20
• Technical ability (angle, focus, clarity, exposure, etc) .....	20
• Composition/layout and design.....	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this means that if you have submitted one photo from a photo essay into an individual photo category (ie feature photo), then you may not also submit the photo essay as a whole, and vice versa
- please submit a PDF of full page with 2022 dateline visible.
- we also strongly encourage you to submit jpegs of the original photos.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Portrait/Personality Photo

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your “under/over 10,000” circulation category refers to your “NX Circulation” as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. **It does not refer to your paper’s actual circulation.**

Open to full and associate members. Note that associate members will automatically be placed in the Over 10,000 group.

Portraits, whether of a single person or multiple individuals, must reveal the personality of the character(s) through lighting, environment and composition.

**Any image created principally on computer software or manipulated on computer software beyond generally acceptable adjustments for proper reproduction (such as cropping, sharpening, adjusting brightness and colour) is not acceptable. Adding or subtracting elements to or from an image, or combining multiple images into a single image, are not permitted.**

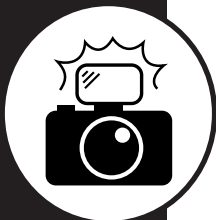
Entries are judged on:

• Character illustration and impact on reader.....	40
• Originality and forethought .....	30
• Technical ability (angle, clarity, exposure, etc).....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes photos that have been entered as part of a photo series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of full page with 2022 dateline visible.
- we also strongly encourage you to submit a jpeg of the original photo.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
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SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
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# Sports Photo

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your "under/over 10,000" circulation category refers to your "NX Circulation" as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. It does not refer to your paper's actual circulation.

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

A sports photo must convey emotional impact to sum up a sports event, requiring quick forethought and ingenuity on the part of the photographer. The winning entry should inspire an appreciation for, or understanding of, sports in the community. Staff or regular freelancers must take photo.

**Any image created principally on computer software or manipulated on computer software beyond generally acceptable adjustments for proper reproduction (such as cropping, sharpening, adjusting brightness and colour) is not acceptable. Adding or subtracting elements to or from an image, or combining multiple images into a single image, are not permitted.**

Entries are judged on:

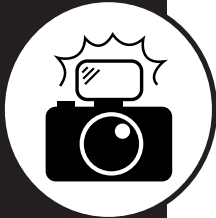
• Sports value (contributes to an appreciation or understanding of sports) ....	30
• Overall impact on readers .....	30
• Originality & ingenuity .....	20
• Technical ability (angle, focus, clarity, exposure, etc) .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes photos that have been entered as part of a photo series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of full page with 2022 dateline visible.
- we also strongly encourage you to submit a jpeg of the original photo.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.



ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
www.betterbnc.com**



# Spot News Photo

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

**\*Please note: Your “under/over 10,000” circulation category refers to your “NX Circulation” as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. It does not refer to your paper’s actual circulation.**

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

A spot news photo illustrates an unplanned news event happening in your community. It must contain emotion and action or illusion of movement. Staff or regular freelancers must take the photo.

**Any image created principally on computer software or manipulated on computer software beyond generally acceptable adjustments for proper reproduction (such as cropping, sharpening, adjusting brightness and colour) is not acceptable. Adding or subtracting elements to or from an image, or combining multiple images into a single image, are not permitted.**

Entries are judged on:

• News value & action .....	30
• Human interest & impact on readers.....	30
• Originality & ingenuity .....	20
• Technical ability (angle, focus, clarity, exposure, etc) .....	20
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes photos that have been entered as part of a photo series or campaign
- please submit a PDF of full page with 2022 dateline visible.
- we also strongly encourage you to submit a jpeg of the original photo.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Ad Campaign

Open to full and associate members

**Note: Open to both original and collaborative ad campaigns.**

An ad campaign is a series of ads (minimum two ads) for one client (not a series of ads for several clients built around one theme.) This award goes to the best ad campaign developed and executed by the newspaper for an advertising client. Entries may either be produced entirely in-house, using original art, photography, and copy writing OR they may incorporate client-provided and/or stock photography and creative. Both formats will be accepted in this category.

Please be sure to submit PDFs of the full tearsheets showing the ads as they appear on the page, with 2022 dateline visible. Do NOT just submit the ads on their own.

Members are encouraged to submit campaigns that are **either print, digital, or both**. Higher marks will be given for those entries that have both print and digital.

Entries are judged on:

Overall impact & success in communicating message .....	30
• Design (includes typography, layout, headlines) .....	25
• Quality of copy writing (unique selling proposition, benefits statements, etc) .	15
• Images/graphics .....	15
• Creativity/originality .....	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the campaign was a team effort, please indicate the leader's name (e.g Joanne Smith & team)
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this means that if you have submitted one ad from a campaign into an individual advertising category (ie ad design), then you may not also submit the ad campaign as a whole, and vice versa
- please submit PDFs of full tearsheets with 2022 dateline visible. If you wish, you may also include separate files containing the individual ads.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.



SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
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ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
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Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

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# Ad Design

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your “under/over 10,000” circulation category refers to your “NX Circulation” as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. **It does not refer to your paper’s actual circulation.**

Open to full and associate members. Note that associate members will automatically be placed in the Over 10,000 group.

**Note: Open to both original and collaborative ad designs.**

Awarded to the best single ad developed and executed by the newspaper for an advertising client. The ad may either be produced entirely in-house, using original art, photography, and copy writing OR it may incorporate client-provided and/or stock photography and creative. Both formats will be accepted in this category.

Please be sure to submit a PDF of the full tearsheet showing the ad as it appeared on the page, with 2022 dateline visible. Do NOT just submit the ad on its own.

Members are encouraged to submit campaigns that are **either print, digital, or both**. Higher marks will be given for those entries that have both print and digital.

Entries are judged on:

• Overall impact & success in communicating its message .....	30
• Design (includes typography, layout, headlines) .....	25
• Quality of copywriting (unique selling proposition, benefits statements, etc) .....	15
• Images/graphics .....	15
• Creativity/originality .....	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the design was a team effort, please indicate the leader’s name (e.g Joanne Smith & team)
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this means that if you have submitted one ad from a campaign into an individual advertising category (ie ad design), then you may not also submit the ad campaign as a whole, and vice versa
- please submit PDFs of full tearsheets with 2022 dateline visible. If you wish, you may also include a separate file containing the individual ad.
- entries in all categories (except for Newspaper Excellence, Special Publications, Magazine Excellence, and those in the Digital division) no longer need to be in print only - they can be submitted even if they only appeared online.

# Reader Engagement Campaign

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:**  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



The promotion of a newspaper's own business is very important. This revised award category recognizes the most effective campaign launched by a newspaper, designed to promote the paper's readership or grow its audience. This can mean many things: a campaign that highlights any of the paper's services or offerings; a contest that engages readers and the local community; a creative drive (think "Get to know us") to connect the newspaper's staff and the community at large; a "Best of the City" competition for local businesses; promotions for subscriptions, sponsorships, newsletters; social media campaigns to attract followers and online engagement, and much more.

Your entry must include complete PDF tearsheets of pages (with 2022 dateline visible), on which relevant materials were published, and/or relevant URL links. You may include photos or other collateral material from other media, as well as a supporting letter if needed.

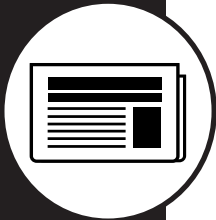
Entries are judged on:

• Overall impact & success in promoting the paper to the community.....	30
• Design (includes typography, layout, headlines) .....	20
• Quality of copywriting (unique selling proposition, benefits statements, etc) .	20
• Images /graphics .....	15
• Creativity/originality of campaign .....	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the promotion was a team effort, please indicate the leader's name (e.g Joanne Smith & team)
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit PDFs of full tearsheets from your campaign with 2022 dateline visible. If you wish, you may also include additional files, photos, or other collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)**



# Community Service

Open to full and associate members

This award recognizes newspapers that have demonstrated a leadership role that goes well beyond reporting the news and the newspaper’s normal community service mission (unusual support for a community cause or program, fundraising efforts, public awareness, education, etc). The story or campaign should clearly indicate a contribution to the betterment of the community. Service must be non-political and provide no obvious financial benefit to the newspaper. Can be a one-time event or an ongoing program. Your entry must consist of PDF tearsheets of the story or campaign (with 2022 dateline visible) along with any relevant material relating to the newspaper’s community service (letters, pictures, descriptive accounts, etc). Please do not send anything to the BCYCNA office - entries should be submitted online only. This award recognizes the achievements of the newspaper as a whole, not individuals, but please indicate the team leader.

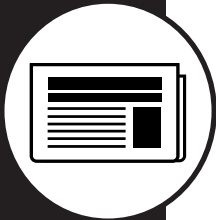
Entries are judged on:

• Extent of newspaper involvement in community service .....	30
• Relative importance of project.....	30
• Benefit to community .....	30
• Innovation of idea .....	10
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the leader’s name (e.g Joanne Smith & team)
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit PDFs of full tearsheets from your campaign with 2022 dateline visible. If you wish, you may also include additional files, photos, or other collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

ENTRY DEADLINE  
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SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community News Media Industry

Open to full and associate members

This award recognizes the achievements of an individual who works, or has worked, in any area of the community news media industry. Nominations can come from member newspapers or the judging panel can select its own nominees. Recipients can include newspaper staff or other members of the community news media industry.

Nominees will have demonstrated strength, leadership and dedication to the industry, and will be judged on both their contribution to the industry and to the community/communities where they work/have worked.

A brief biography of the nominee should accompany each submission, along with the nominator's reasons for nominating the individual.

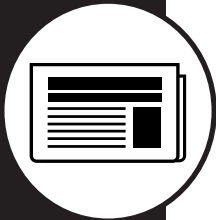
Nominations are judged on:

• Contributions to the industry.....	40
• Contributions to community.....	30
• Personal attributes, such as leadership skills and commitment.....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- maximum of 3 nominations per newspaper
- please submit a biography/letter about the nominee to [www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com).
- if selected as this year's recipient, we will contact you for photos.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# New Journalist of the Year

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

**Three** New Journalist Awards will be handed out at the 2022 Ma Murray Awards Gala, and each will include a **cash prize of \$1,000**. These awards are open to journalists at a BCYCNA member paper, with less than two years' experience as a journalist. The ending date for the two-year rule is December 31, 2022. All previous paid journalism work (excluding internships) must be counted in the two-year rule, including that which was completed or worked on during or before attending school.

Nominees should have excellent skills in terms of video, web work and social media engagement; they should be reporting on multiple platforms, and should have the ability to find, research and write a great story. Judges will look for journalistic qualities such as creativity, innovation, persistence, initiative, and commitment to community.

Entries should include samples of **three to five published pieces, at least two of which must include digital content**. Include evidence of consistent engagement with the digital audience through videos, Twitter, Facebook posts, Facebook Live, and robust web stories that include links, graphics, maps, etc.

Entries must also be accompanied by a **letter of endorsement** from the individual's direct supervisor and ideally from the publisher as well, and should also include a short explanation of the new journalist, his or her industry timeline, and a summary of the stories submitted.

Nominations are judged on:

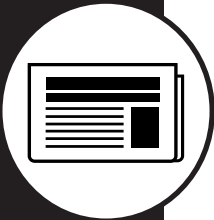
• Quality of reporting.....	30
• Digital engagement.....	30
• Letter(s) of endorsement .....	20
• Commitment to community and community journalism.....	20
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>100</b>

- maximum of 3 nominations per newspaper
- please include all of the following:
  - three to five published pieces, at least two of which should include digital content
  - letter of endorsement from direct supervisor, and ideally from publisher as well
  - a short bio/timeline of the nominee
  - summary of each of the submitted stories



ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
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# Special Section

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your circulation category refers to your "NX Circulation" as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. **It does not refer to your paper's actual circulation.**

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

Entries in this category will consist of run-of-press sections, paginated with the rest of the newspaper, and printed on standard newsprint. The section can be on any theme (although "Day in the Life" entries should not be submitted in this category, but rather in the Photo Essay category). Entries must include the complete section, and must be written and designed entirely by newspaper staff. The section should show an innovative approach to a traditional theme or development of a new theme. Editorial content should be original, rather than canned feature copy. Judging will be done from two perspectives: that of the advertiser (whether they received full value for their advertising investment), and that of the reader (whether the section would be of interest to them). Contents of these special sections are eligible for entry in other award categories such as writing, photography, and ad design.

**Please submit online only. Material sent to the BCYCNA office will not be considered.**

Entries are judged on:

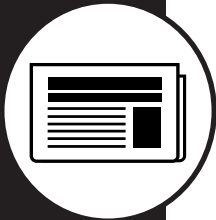
• Quality of editorial content (including photos) & its ability to attract advertising to the section .....	20
• Advertising content/quality (should be well-balanced with editorial) .....	20
• Originality of idea.....	20
• Layout and design (includes typography).....	20
• Effective use of artwork.....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- please submit complete section (as one PDF) with 2022 dateline clearly visible
- submit online only; hard copies/supplements mailed into the BCYCNA office will not be considered
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign.



ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



# Special Publications

Under 10,000  Over 10,000 (check one)

\*Please note: Your circulation category refers to your "NX Circulation" as defined in the spreadsheet provided to all members. **It does not refer to your paper's actual circulation.**

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

Entries in this category will consist of Tourism and Recreation guides, as well as any non-run-of-press publications (ie lifestyle magazines, calendars, etc.) created by a member newspaper. Entries must be **produced and managed by the newspaper, and content must be predominantly produced by staff members and regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancers/contributors.** If some aspect of the publication was **not** done by staff, please provide details in the comments section.

The publication must include the newspaper's logo somewhere on the front cover or on the first few inside pages. Note that if the publication was created for the 2023 year, a 2022 copyright must be visible somewhere.

The editorial content should be original, rather than canned feature copy. The judging will be done from two perspectives: that of the advertiser (whether they received full value for their advertising investment), and that of the reader (whether the publication would be of interest to them). Contents of these special publications are not eligible for entry in other award categories such as writing, photography, and ad design.

Did you do anything to support this publication in an online forum? If so, please provide details in the comments section and feel free to include any relevant URLs (no more than 3 please) on the contest website.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality of editorial content (writing & photos); its ability to attract advertising to the section and generate interest in the subject matter .....	30
• Advertising content/quality (should be balanced with editorial) .....	30
• Layout and design (includes typography) .....	20
• Effective use of artwork .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader. If the publication was a team effort, each entry must be headed by a different team leader; please indicate the leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- **please upload a PDF of the first page of the publication AND please send a hard copy of the entire publication with 2022 dateline visible (original only; no photocopies accepted) to the BCYCNA office. See contest site for more info.**

# Feature Video

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



Awarded to the best single video presentation on a feature topic. One video constitutes an entry; videos must not be longer than 10 minutes. Entries should include URL, and may include a supporting letter or one supporting print article for context (article will not be judged; for context only).

Judges will look for creativity, original content, innovative use of storytelling, technical and journalistic quality, impact, and value to the viewer. Criteria shall also include quality of the video and audio, content and editing.

Content must be accessible from the submitted URL.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality of video and audio / editing .....	40
• Creative and innovative storytelling .....	30
• Journalistic quality .....	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the team leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team.
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit the URL with 2022 date visible.
- If you wish, you may also submit additional collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

# Breaking News Video

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



Awarded to the best single video presentation on a breaking news topic. One video constitutes an entry; videos must not be longer than 5 minutes. Entries should include URL, and may include a supporting letter or one supporting print article for context (article will not be judged; for context only).

Judges will look for effective and innovative use of live platforms, immediacy and relevancy of video, original content, technical and journalistic quality, impact, and value to the viewer. Criteria shall also include quality of the video and audio, content and editing.

Content must be accessible from the submitted URL.

Entries are judged on:

• Quality of video and audio / editing .....	30
• Creative and innovative storytelling .....	25
• Journalistic quality .....	25
• Impact and immediacy .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the team leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team.
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit the URL with 2022 date visible.
- If you wish, you may also submit additional collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

# Multimedia Feature Story

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



Awarded to the best single multimedia story (not part of a series) on a feature or non-deadline subject.

Each entry should be a multi-platform piece demonstrating multiple forms of media, including, but not necessarily, the main print product. Judges will look for web-based interactive graphics and displays, videos, stories, blogs, photo galleries, audio slideshows, social media, or any combination of these elements. Creativity, ease-of-use for the website visitor, impact on the community and overall technical execution will be among factors considered by the judges.

Video should help users better understand the story, and other individual elements should add to the total package without being merely duplicative.

A short statement of less than 200 words, detailing specific circumstances surrounding your entry, may be included for additional context. All supplemental content should be collected in one PDF document and uploaded to the contest website.

Entries are judged on:

• Effective use of multimedia elements in a variety of formats .....	30
• Journalistic storytelling.....	20
• Overall creativity .....	20
• Technical execution.....	15
• Ease of use and navigation.....	15
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the team leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team.
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit the URL with 2022 date visible.
- If you wish, you may also submit additional collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

# Multimedia Breaking News Story

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

Awarded to the best single multimedia story (not part of a series) on a breaking subject, posted within the first 24 hours after the story breaks.

Each entry should be a multi-platform piece demonstrating multiple forms of media, including, but not necessarily, the main print product. Judges will look for web-based interactive graphics and displays, videos, stories, blogs, photo galleries, audio slideshows, social media, or any combination of these elements.

Judges will also consider speed at which the story went live, along with creativity, ease-of-use for the website visitor, impact on the community and overall technical execution.

Video should help users better understand the story, and other individual elements should add to the total package without being merely duplicative.

A short statement of less than 200 words, detailing specific circumstances surrounding your entry, may be included for additional context. All supplemental content should be collected in one PDF document and uploaded to the contest website.

Entries are judged on:

• Effective use of multimedia elements in a variety of formats .....	30
• Journalistic storytelling.....	20
• Overall creativity .....	20
• Technical execution and immediacy of story .....	20
• Ease of use and navigation.....	10
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the team leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team.
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit the URL with 2022 date visible.
- If you wish, you may also submit additional collateral material to support your entry (but only online)



ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

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# Online Advertising

Open to full members only. Associate members not eligible.

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:**  
[www.betterbnc.com](http://www.betterbnc.com)



This award will go to the best ad or ad campaign developed and executed for online placement by the newspaper for an advertising client. The ad(s) must be produced entirely in-house but can incorporate stock photography, client-provided creative, etc.

Judges are looking for creative and innovative use of the digital platform (such as wallpaper, takeovers, social, sponsored content, etc), as well as the ad's overall design, and its impact and success in communicating its message.

Entries must have been executed and made available live online during at least part of the eligible year (January 1 to December 31, 2022), and for judging purposes must still be live online through the judging season.

Entries are judged on:

• Innovative use of digital platform .....	30
• Design (includes typography, layout, headlines) .....	20
• Quality of copywriting (unique selling proposition, benefits statements etc) .....	15
• Choice of images/graphics .....	15
• Overall impact & success in communicating message.....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

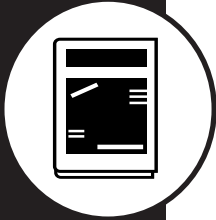
- please submit entries online only
- maximum of 3 entries per newspaper
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader; if the project was a team effort, please indicate the team leader's name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team.
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- you may not submit the same entry in more than one category; this includes articles, photos, or ads that have been entered as part of a series or campaign
- please submit the URL with 2022 date visible.
- If you wish, you may also submit additional collateral material to support your entry (but only online)

# Magazine Excellence

Open to full and associate members

ENTRY DEADLINE  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023  
@ 9 p.m.

**SUBMIT ENTRIES TO:  
www.betterbnc.com**



Entries in this category will consist of magazines that publish in print at least four times per year. This new Magazine Excellence Award will honour the magazines that most consistently engage and serve the needs of their readers. Judges will evaluate entries based on editorial quality, design, reader experience, and advertiser experience. Magazines should include stories about the local cultural or economic scene; stories about interesting residents; and/or stories told from a distinctly community-focused perspective.

Editorial must be original, entries must be produced and managed by the magazine staff, and content must be predominantly produced by staff members and regular freelancers/contributors.

To be eligible, each entry must include two separate issues published between January 1 and December 31, 2022, which demonstrate the publication’s best work, mailed to the BCYCNA office, with the front cover of one of those issues also uploaded to betterbnc.com.

Note: A single issue dated January or Winter 2023 (even if it is made available in 2022) is NOT eligible for submission. In the case of a split issue dated Dec 2021/ Jan 2022 or Dec 2022/Jan 2021, magazines may choose to enter the content for this year’s competition, but may not then also include it in next year’s competition.

Entries are judged on:

• Overall concept and creativity.....	20
• Quality of editorial content (writing & photos) .....	30
• Advertising content/quality .....	30
• Layout and design.....	20
• Reader experience .....	20
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100</b>

- maximum of three entries per full member newspaper
- maximum of one entry per associate member
- each entry must be from a different person or team leader. If the publication was a team effort, each entry must be headed by a different team leader; please indicate the leader’s name (e.g) Joanne Smith & team
- each entry must come from a staff member or regular (ie minimum once per month) freelancer/contributor
- **please upload a PDF of the first page of the publication AND please send a hard copy of the entire publication with 2022 dateline visible (original only; no photocopies accepted) to the BCYCNA office. See contest site for more info.**