

Writer's Guidelines

Speaking primarily from the coast and interior of British Columbia, the *Watershed Sentinel* presents a bioregional perspective on environmental topics. The emphasis of the magazine is on the integrity and sustainability of the environment, and on the interdependence of the vast array of natural systems. It also strives to link up individuals and communities and inspire them to understand their responsibilities for the protection of the environment.

Although we report on local battles, we also highlight the overarching structural issues that allow these situations. Public policy, colonialism, privatization, and world economic institutions are inextricably linked to the sustainable use of resources, climate change, and biological diversity. We do not publish much poetry or fiction, but we are interested in occasionally doing so. We are also interested in short essays and journals. Our standards for creative writing are professional.

Artwork and photographs are welcome and any hard copies will be returned. It is the submitter's responsibility to ensure that we have permission to publish the images.

Articles range from 500 to 1800 words, with very occasional features up to 2200 words. Subject matter can range from forestry to fish farms, from parks to pulp mill pollution, from science to politics to Indigenous issues, and so on. We like articles to be pithy and factual. We are interested in news and philosophy, but we are not interested in personality politics.

We believe advocacy journalism can be accurate and to the point. Our readers are busy people; they trust the magazine to present an accurate summary of facts and situations for them. We pay 35c/word for work produced by established writers, and, in select circumstances, to dedicated emerging writers. Unfortunately, our budget does not allow us to pay for copy from NGOs, academics, communications professionals, or citizen journalists not reliant on writing for income. We have a print circulation of over 2,500 and are distributed in bookstores and green venues across Canada. Many of our articles are also published online.

To pitch a story idea or submit an on-spec piece, email to the editor (editor@watershedsentinel.ca) is preferred. Articles with graphics are favoured, but please note that we require high-resolution graphics for print. Thank you for thinking of the Watershed Sentinel. We look forward to hearing from you.

Watershed Sentinel Philosophy

- * People powered, bottom-up media
- * Learn from Indigenous viewpoints
- * Give voice to grassroots and community activists
 - * Reflect, not dictate
 - * Explore, not pre-determine
- * Provide balance, a voice to all sides within an environmental and social justice perspective, with content inclusive of science and passion, environmental justice and conservation.