A quick guide to writing for The Conversation Canada

The Conversation Canada is a daily independent online publication, delivering analysis and explanatory journalism from the academic and research community directly to the public. It’s a not-for-profit collaboration, where professional editors work directly with academics and researchers to publish articles for a wide audience. All of our content is published under a Creative Commons licence, which means major and specialty publications around the world use our content with full attribution to the author and their university.

What types of stories are we looking for?

Most of The Conversation’s articles fall into one of these categories:

● timely, evidence-based analysis of issues making the news;
● articles explaining new research and its significance to a non-expert audience;
● timeless, plain-English ‘explainers’ of complex issues.

Who can write?

To be a lead author on an article, you must be a current researcher or academic. Associate, adjunct or honorary roles with universities are usually fine. PhD candidates and postdocs are also eligible. Masters students can write for The Conversation Canada if a professor is the lead author on article. Authors can only write about their areas of expertise.

How to submit an article

The first step is to register as an author, then summarize and submit your idea via our simple “pitch” form. Once submitted, the pitch is sent to the appropriate editor for consideration.

What happens next?

Once the editors at The Conversation Canada have received your pitch, they will let you know if we like your idea. We’ll respond within a week (sooner if the pitch is time sensitive), but sometimes the volume of pitches means we need more time to get back to you. If your pitch is accepted, the editor will send you an email with a link that allows you to submit the full story into our editorial system. Our editorial system allows for collaborative and transparent editing. The editor will send you email updates about the progress of your story. Authors must also do a final approval before the article can be published.

After publication

Authors have access to an analytics dashboard that shows how often the article has been viewed, what publications have published it, where it’s been viewed around the world and other information.

Any further questions?

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