

Message from the CEO

Dear OCNA Members,

I am blown away by the accomplishments we are celebrating in this special issue of Newsclips.

Spanning the ages, the OCNA is celebrating and acknowledging the great lives and outstanding work being done in communities across Ontario. Our OCNA Junior Citizens program puts focus on several outstanding young individuals (aged nine to 17), who are making a difference in their communities. These young inspiring individuals are bringing voice to challenges in their communities and contributing their time and energy to making improvements. Lives are better off, more enriched, and connected because of their efforts. Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, Her Honour, The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell will help our Junior Citizens celebrate in a virtual event on May 11, 2022. You can read about all their accomplishments and volunteering on our website [OCNA 2021 Junior Citizens](#).

On Friday, April 29th the OCNA announced the winners of the 2021 Better Newspapers Competition. The talent that exists in community newspapers was truly evident in the just under 1,500 submissions. Congratulations to this year's finalists for their excellence in the newspaper industry and their meaningful contribution to communities across Ontario. Your work enriches our lives and contributes to the well-being of individuals and communities, which is why these awards are so important. You can get additional information on all the finalists on our website [2021 BNC Winners!](#)

Our staff and board of the OCNA are so proud to recognize and celebrate individuals who have made exem-

plary contributions to Ontario's community newspapers through our Hall of Fame. The 2022 Hall of Fame inductees have just been announced and are **William Charles Cavell**, President & Publisher, Iroquois Falls Enterprise; **Wayne Green**, Publisher, Northern Times of Kapuskasing and the Temiskaming Speaker of New Liskeard; **Ron Lenyk**, Vice President, Newspaper Strategic Support, Torstar; and **Jack, John, Robin, and Jeff Morris**, Editors and Publishers, Prescott Journal, Chesterville Record, Winchester Press, Eastern Ontario AgriNews, Tupper Lake (NY) Free Press, Gouverneur (NY) Tribune, Manotick Messenger, Barrhaven Independent, and the Russell Villager. These leaders are respected community news professionals who have remained passionate about the industry and, each in their own way, has helped community newspapers adapt and grow.

And last but certainly not least, a huge heartfelt thank you to all our volunteer judges and the sponsors of this competition. Without your generosity, knowledge, and patience, these amazing contributions to the industry may go unnoticed, so thank you for your time, energy and financial contributions in making these annual celebrations a success.

Newsclips is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Any contributions or ideas are appreciated and should be emailed to our new Editor, Erica Leyzac at newsclips@ocna.org.

Thank you for supporting the OCNA.

Ronda Parkes

Chief Executive Officer

r.parkes@ocna.org

**WHAT'S
INSIDE:**

BETTER NEWSPAPERS COMPETITION

And the winners are...

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ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARDS

And the recipients are...

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HALL OF FAME AWARD

And the inductees are...

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Association Events

May 11, 2022

Virtual Junior Citizen Awards Presentation

The Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA) and their member newspapers are very proud to celebrate the final recipients of the 2021 Ontario Junior Citizen Awards.

May 19, 2022 @ noon

Webinar - Business Innovation Fund

OCNA will host a Webinar with the Federal Government to present their new Business Innovation Fund for community newspapers under the Canadian Periodical Fund. Keep an eye out for the registration email coming soon.

May 23, 2022

Victoria Day

OCNA & Ad*Reach Offices Closed

Nov 4th & 5th, 2022

OCNA Independent Publishers Retreat

Come join us for this great opportunity to network with your peers, share experiences and learn about issues and resources that might impact your business. More details to follow. Save the Date!!

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2021 BNC AWARD WINNERS

The OCNA is proud to recognize the outstanding work produced each week by our member newspapers and showcase it to readers and advertisers. Thank you to everyone who submitted entries for the 2021 BNC Awards and congratulations to the winners in each category.

Thank you to our Gala Sponsor, Ontario Power Generation, for their continued support of Ontario's community newspapers!



Where a brighter tomorrow begins.

General Excellence Awards

GE01 - Class 1: Circ. 1,999 & under

1st place: The Independent Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton
2nd place: Haliburton County Echo
3rd place: The Herald Serving Thamesville, Dresden and Bothwell
Honourable Mention: Deep River North Renfrew Times

GE02&03 - Class 2 & 3: Circ. 2,000 - 6,499

1st place: Niagara This Week, Niagara-on-the-Lake Advance
2nd place: Vankleek Hill Review
3rd place: Eganville Leader

GE04 - Class 4: Circ. 6,500 - 12,499

1st place: Haliburton, The Highlander
2nd place: Niagara This Week, Fort Erie Post
3rd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report
Honourable Mention: Voice of Pelham

GE05 - Class 5: Circ. 12,500 - 22,499

1st place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer
2nd place: Ancaster News
3rd place: Orangeville Citizen

GE06 - Class 6: Circ. 22,500 - 44,999

1st place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser
2nd place: Sarnia Journal
3rd place: Niagara This Week, Niagara Falls
Honourable Mention: Grimsby Lincoln News

GE07 - Class 7: Circ. 45,000 & over

1st place: Niagara This Week, St. Catharines
2nd place: Hamilton Mountain News
3rd place: Barrie Advance
Honourable Mention: Burlington Post

GE08 - Class 8: College & University

1st place: Durham College - The Chronicle
2nd place: Humber College - Et Cetera
3rd place: Fanshawe College - Interrobang
Honourable Mention: Loyalist College - Pioneer

College/University Awards

CU01 - Student Feature Writing

1st place: Durham College - Allaya Sue
2nd place: Algonquin College - Madalyn Howitt
3rd place: Durham College - Shaun McLeod

CU02 - Student News Writing

Sponsored by: Ontario Journalism Educators Association
1st place: Centennial College - Alexander Varoutas
2nd place: Humber College - Tyler Cheese
3rd place: Centennial College - Arsheen Shamaila
Honourable Mention: Algonquin College - Tamara Condie

CU03 - Student Photography

1st place: Loyalist College - Alex Lupul
2nd place: Algonquin College - Tamara Condie
3rd place: Loyalist College - Cassie Williamson

CU04 - Best College/University Newspaper Website

1st place: Fanshawe College - theinterrobang.ca
2nd place: Centennial College - torontoobserver.ca
3rd place: Algonquin College - algonquintimes.com
Honourable Mention: Durham College - chronicle.durhamcollege.ca

BNC AWARDS CONTINUED...

Premier Awards

PC01 - Arts & Entertainment

Sponsored by: Midwestern Newspapers

- 1st place:** Perth Courier - Laurie Weir
2nd place: Walkerton Herald Times - Colin Burrowes
3rd place: Manotick Messenger - Skyler Fraser & Jeff Morris
Honourable Mention: Fort Frances Times - Ken Kellar
Honourable Mention: Guelph Mercury Tribune - Jonathan Duncan

PC02 - Best Business and Finance Story

- 1st place:** Bracebridge Examiner - Mary Beth Hartill
2nd place: Brampton Guardian - Graeme Frisque
3rd place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Jordan Snobelen
Honourable Mention: Arnprior Chronicle-Guide - Derek Dunn
Honourable Mention: Stoney Creek News - Richard Leitner

PC03 - Best Editorial, circ. over 10,000

- 1st place:** Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Chris Daponte
2nd place: North Wellington Community News - Pat Raftis
3rd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - Steve Kannon
Honourable Mention: Brampton Guardian - Roger Belgrave

PC04 - Best Editorial, circ. under 9,999

- 1st place:** Eganville Leader
2nd place: Minden Times - Chad Ingram
3rd place: Burks Falls Almaguin News - Pamela Steel
Honourable Mention: Smiths Falls Record News - Hollie Pratt-Campbell

PC05 - Education Writing

Sponsored by: Ontario Journalism Educators Association

- 1st place:** Perth Courier - Desmond Devoy
2nd place: Ajax Pickering News Advertiser - Jillian Follert
3rd place: Milton Canadian Champion - Bambang Sadewo
Honourable Mention: Barrhaven Independent - Jeff Morris
Honourable Mention: Newmarket Era/Aurora Banner - Lisa Queen

PC06 - Environment Ontario

- 1st place:** Parry Sound North Star - Stephannie Johnson
2nd place: Manitoulin Expositor - Mike Erskine
3rd place: Waterdown Flamborough Review - Mac Christie
Honourable Mention: Kincardine Independent - Tammy Schneider

PC07 - Feature Writing, circ. over 10,000

Sponsored by: O'Donnell, Robertson & Partners

- 1st place:** Guelph Mercury Tribune - Jessica Lovell
2nd place: Cambridge Times - Bill Doucet
3rd place: Oshawa This Week - Jillian Follert
Honourable Mention: Northumberland News - Natalie Hamilton

PC08 - Feature Writing, circ. under 9,999

Sponsored by: O'Donnell, Robertson & Partners

- 1st place:** Voice of Pelham - Dave Burket & Helen Tran
2nd place: Haliburton County Echo - Sue Tiffin
3rd place: Haliburton, The Highlander - Sam Gillett & Lyelca Rodrigues

PC09 - Health & Wellness

- 1st place:** Cambridge Times - Bill Doucet
2nd place: Glanbrook Gazette - Tamara Botting
3rd place: Haliburton County Echo - Sue Tiffin

PC10 - Heritage

Sponsored by: Fort Frances Times

- 1st place:** Eganville Leader - Johanna Zomers
2nd place: Haliburton County Echo - Sue Tiffin
3rd place: Voice of Pelham - Dave Burket & Don Rickers
Honourable Mention: Vankleek Hill review - Louise Sproule

PC11 - Best Investigative News Story

- 1st place:** Perth Courier - Laurie Weir
2nd place: Cambridge Times - Bill Doucet
3rd place: Smiths Falls Record News - Evelyn Harford

PC12 - Best News Story, circ. over 10,000

Sponsored by: Hydro One

- 1st place:** Wasaga/Stayner Sun - Ian Adams
2nd place: Sarnia Journal - Cathy Dobson
3rd place: Niagara This Week, Welland - Nick Fearnis

PC13 - Best News Story, circ. under 9,999

Sponsored by: Hydro One

- 1st place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Warren Schlote
2nd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake Local
3rd place: Voice of Pelham - Dave Burket & Don Rickers
Honourable Mention: Burks Falls Almaguin News
Honourable Mention: East Gwillimbury Express - Jeremy Grimaldi

PC14 - Best Rural Story, circ. over 10,000

Sponsored by: Ontario Federation of Agriculture

- 1st place:** Milton Canadian Champion - Herb Garbutt
2nd place: Haldimand County, The Sachem - Tara Lindemann
3rd place: Waterdown Flamborough Review - Julia Lovett-Squires

BNC AWARDS CONTINUED...

PC15 - Best Rural Story, circ. under 9,999

Sponsored by: Ontario Federation of Agriculture

- 1st place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Don Reynolds & Jill Troyer
- 2nd place:** Barrhaven Independent - Jeff Morris
- 3rd place:** Aylmer Express - Jodi Clayton & Veronica Reiner
- Honourable Mention:* Gravenhurst Banner - Sarah Law
- Honourable Mention:* Smiths Falls Record News - Evelyn Harford
- Honourable Mention:* Voice of Pelham - Michael Ruehle

PC16 - Best Feature/News Series, circ. over 10,000

Sponsored by: Hydro One

- 1st place:** Smiths Falls Record News - Laurie Weir, Evelyn Harford, Tara Gesner, Jonathan Mulvihill
- 2nd place:** Burlington Post - Herb Garbutt, Bryan Myers, Bambang Sadewo
- 3rd place:** Newmarket Era/Aurora Banner - Lisa Queen

PC17 - Best Feature/News Series, circ. under 9,999

Sponsored by: Hydro One

- 1st place:** Barrhaven Independent - Jeff Morris
- 2nd place:** Barry's Bay, The Valley Gazette - Katrina Boguski
- 3rd place:** Listowel Banner - Colin Burrowes
- Honourable Mention:* Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley, Elizabeth Masson, Evan Saunders

PC18 - Sport & Recreation Story

- 1st place:** Guelph Mercury Tribune - Jessica Lovell
- 2nd place:** The Haldimand Press - Mike Renzella
- 3rd place:** Listowel Banner - Dan McNeen

PC19 - Best Headline Writing

- 1st place:** Walkerton Herald Times
- 2nd place:** Listowel Banner
- 3rd place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley & Kevin MacLean
- Honourable Mention:* New Liskeard Temiskaming Speaker - Steven Larocque

PC20 - Best Covid-19 Coverage

- 1st place:** Barrie Advance - Janis Ramsay & Chris Simon
- 2nd place:** The Independent Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton - Heather Wright & Alex Kurial
- 3rd place:** Aylmer Express - Brett Hueston & Veronica Reiner
- Honourable Mention:* Carleton Place/Almonte Canadian Gazette - Ashley Kulp

PC21 - Diversity Coverage

- 1st place:** The Haldimand Press - Mike Renzella
- 2nd place:** Wingham Advance Times - Cory Bilyea
- 3rd place:** Waterdown Flamborough Review - Mac Christie & Julia Lovett-Squires
- Honourable Mention:* Caledon Enterprise - Steve Cornwell
- Honourable Mention:* Manotick Messenger - Jeff Morris
- Honourable Mention:* Smiths Falls Record News - Evelyn Harford

PC22 - Best Police/Court Story or Series

- 1st place:** Gravenhurst Banner - Kristyn Anthony
- 2nd place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Lori Thompson
- 3rd place:** Perth Courier - Desmond Devoy
- Honourable Mention:* Renfrew Mercury - Jonathan Mulvihill
- Honourable Mention:* Voice of Pelham - Dave Burket & Don Rickers

PC23 - Best Guest/Freelance Column

- 1st place:** Deep River North Renfrew Times - Jenna Walsh
- 2nd place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Bonnie Kogos
- 3rd place:** Niagara This Week, Fort Erie Post - Wendy Sturgeon
- Honourable Mention:* Dundas Star News - Shane Pennells

PC24 - Humour Columnist of the Year

- 1st place:** Haliburton County Echo - Steve Galea
- 2nd place:** Vankleek Hill Review - Mike Gasher
- 3rd place:** Niagara This Week, The Leader - James Culic

PC25 - Columnist of the Year

- 1st place:** The Independent Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton - Heather Wright
- 2nd place:** Cambridge Times - Loraine Centeno
- 3rd place:** Uxbridge Cosmos - Ted Barris
- Honourable Mention:* Mississauga News - John Stewart
- Honourable Mention:* Niagara-on-the-Lake Local - Jane Andres

PC26 - Reporter of the Year - Stephen Shaw Award

Sponsored by: Ontario Power Generation

- 1st place:** Richmond Hill/Thornhill Liberal - Kim Zarzour
- 2nd place:** The Haldimand Press - Mike Renzella
- 3rd place:** Markham Economist & Sun - Jeremy Grimaldi

PC27 - Best Feature Photo, circ. over 10,000

- 1st place:** Hamilton Mountain News - Mark Newman
- 2nd place:** Orangeville Banner - Alexandra Heck
- 3rd place:** Sarnia Journal - Ronny D'Haene
- Honourable Mention:* Cornwall Seaway News - Marc Benoit

BNC AWARDS CONTINUED...

PC28 - Best Feature Photo, circ. under 9,999

- 1st place:** Wilmot Post - Lisa Hagen
2nd place: The Independent Serving Petrolia and Central Lambton - Heather Wright, Alex Kurial, Cathy Dobson
3rd place: Minden Times - Darren Lum

PC29 - Best Photo Layout

- 1st place:** Wingham Advance Times - Cory Bilyea & Kelsey Bent
2nd place: Sarnia Journal - Ronny D'Haene & George Mathewson
3rd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley & Jill Troyer

PC30 - Best Sports Photo

- 1st place:** New Liskeard Temiskaming Speaker - Steven Larocque
2nd place: Deep River North Renfrew Times - Vance Gutzman
3rd place: Wilmot Post - Lisa Hagen

PC31 - Best Spot News Photo

- 1st place:** New Liskeard Temiskaming Speaker - Sue Nielsen
2nd place: Voice of Pelham - Don Rickers
3rd place: Aylmer Express - Rob Perry
Honourable Mention: Cambridge Times - Bill Doucet

PC32 - Best News Photo

- 1st place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley
2nd place: Eganville Leader - Gerald Tracey
3rd place: Wingham Advance Times - Cory Bilyea
Honourable Mention: Voice of Pelham - Don Rickers

PC33 - Most Creative Grip and Grin Photo

- 1st place:** Oakville Beaver - Graham Paine
2nd place: Perth Courier - Desmond Devoy
3rd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Jessica Maxwell
Honourable Mention: Milton Canadian Champion - Graham Paine

PC34 - Photographer of the Year

- 1st place:** Richmond Hill/Thornhill Liberal - Steve Somerville
2nd place: Oakville Beaver - Graham Paine
3rd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley

PC35 - Cartoonist of the Year

- 1st place:** Stoney Creek News - Mike Vukovich
2nd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - Scott Arnold
3rd place: Minden Times - Kim Wark

PC36 - Community Service

- 1st place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Out of the Shadows: Manitoulin's Opioid Crisis
2nd place: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Pandemic Heroes
3rd place: Eganville Leader - Cycling for Hospice

PC37 - Best Vertical Product

- 1st place:** Haliburton, The Highlander - Here With Colin and Justin
2nd place: Listowel Independent Plus - Country Life Spring 2021
3rd place: Blyth/Brussels Citizen - Stops Along the Way - Summer 2021

Honourable Mention: Haliburton County Echo - Welcome to Haliburton County 2021

PC38 - Best Front Page, circ. over 10,000

- 1st place:** Ancaster News
2nd place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser
3rd place: Dundas Star News

PC39 - Best Front Page, circ. under 9,999

- 1st place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report
2nd place: Parry Sound North Star
3rd place: Voice of Pelham

PC40 - Best Sports Section

- 1st place:** New Liskeard Temiskaming Speaker
2nd place: Haliburton, The Highlander
3rd place: Eganville Leader

PC41 - Special Section, circ. over 10,000

- 1st place:** Sarnia Journal - Sarnia Remembers: A special tribute to our local heroes
2nd place: Cornwall Seaway News - Christmas At Home 2020
3rd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - Observer 25th Anniversary

Honourable Mention: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Remembrance Day

PC42 - Special Section, circ. under 9,999

- 1st place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Out of the shadows: Manitoulin's Opioid Crisis
2nd place: Fort Frances Times - 2021 Agricultural Edition
3rd place: Barry's Bay, The Valley Gazette - Christmas Wishes 2020

BNC AWARDS CONTINUED...

PC43 - Best Feature/Unit Pages

- 1st place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Pandemic Heroes
2nd place: Aylmer Express - This is Aylmer, Our Hometown
3rd place: The Haldimand Press - Nurses Week

PC44 - Best Creative Ad

- 1st place:** Listowel Banner
2nd place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Jacqueline Furfaro
3rd place: Fort Frances Times - Susan Taylor
Honourable Mention: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report
Honourable Mention: North Wellington Community News - Alicia Roza

PC45 - In House Promotion

- 1st place:** Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley & Kevin MacLean
2nd place: Fort Frances Times - Leanne Donaldson
3rd place: Manitoulin Expositor - Kendra Edwards

PC46 - Local Retail Layout

Sponsored by: Metro Creative Graphics

- 1st place:** Listowel Banner
2nd place: Manitoulin Expositor - Kendra Edwards
3rd place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Jacqueline Furfaro

PC47 - Original Ad Idea

- 1st place:** Ayr News - Helen and Mark Hall
2nd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - Pat Merlihan
3rd place: North Wellington Community News - Alicia Roza
Honourable Mention: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - Jacqueline Furfaro

PC48 - Best Use of Colour

- 1st place:** Deep River North Renfrew Times - Jane Barkley
2nd place: Kincardine Independent
3rd place: Haliburton, The Highlander - Lyelca Rodrigues

PC49 - Best Community Website/WebPortal, circ. over 10,000

- 1st place:** Cornwall Seaway News - cornwallseawaynews.com
2nd place: Fergus Wellington Advertiser - wellingtonadvertiser.com
3rd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - ObserverXtra.com

PC50 - Best Community Website/WebPortal, circ. under 9,999

- 1st place:** Manitoulin Expositor - manitoulin.com
2nd place: Deep River North Renfrew Times - northrenfrewtimes.ca
3rd place: Listowel Banner - midwesternnewspapers.com
Honourable Mention: Blyth/Brussels Citizen - huroncitizen.ca
Honourable Mention: The Haldimand Press - haldimandpress.com
Honourable Mention: Wilmot Post - wilmotpost.ca

PC51 - ONLINE Special Initiative

- 1st place:** Manitoulin Expositor - Giovanni Capriotti, David Patterson, Warren Schlote
2nd place: Elmira-Woolwich Observer - Pat Merlihan
3rd place: Muskokaregion.com - Pamela Steel
Honourable Mention: Parry Sound North Star
Honourable Mention: Scarborough Mirror - Dan Pearce, Mike Adler, Tamara Shephard, Andrew Palamarchuk, David Nickle, Joanna Lavoie

PC52 - ONLINE Breaking News Coverage

- 1st place:** Burlington Post - Graham Paine, Louie Rosella, Bambang Sadewo
2nd place: Barrie Advance
3rd place: Burks Falls Almaguin News - Sarah Cooke
Honourable Mention: Niagara-on-the-Lake, The Lake Report - Richard Harley

PC53 - Multimedia Online/Best Online Experience for a Story

- 1st place:** Milton Canadian Champion - Bambang Sadewo
2nd place: Georgina Advocate - Amanda Persico
3rd place: Mississauga News - James Chaarani & Steve Cornwell
Honourable Mention: Brampton Guardian - Clarrie Feinstein

PC54 - Breaking News Video

- 1st Place:** Peterborough This Week - Todd Vandonk
2nd Place: Cornwall Seaway News - Nick Seebruch
3rd Place: Oakville Beaver - David Lea

*Congratulations
to all the
winners!*



Powering community spirit

From all of us at OPG, we would like to extend our congratulations to the 2021 OCNA award nominees and recipients.

OPG is a proud partner of many community activities, initiatives and events across Ontario. As the province's largest clean energy generator and a climate change leader, we're dedicated to making Ontario the best place to live, work and play.



opg.com

ONTARIOPOWER
GENERATION

UPCOMING WEBINARS

The OCNA has teamed up with the Online Media Campus and Newspaper Academy to help the association fulfill its mission of providing affordable and relevant training to members.

Online Media Campus

Warming Up Cold Calls

Thursday May 5, 2022

2-3pm (EDT)

\$35 USD

Presented by Ryan Dohrn

In this webinar, 30-year veteran ad seller Ryan Dohrn will share his recent research that suggests warming up your clients before you cold call them. His research has shown a 40% increase in connections and successful meetings with these new techniques. This is a webinar you will not want to miss.

[Click here to register](#)

From Once Upon a Time to the End

Thursday May 12, 2022

2-3pm (EDT)

\$35 USD

Presented by Jean Hodges

Or as journalists say, from the lead to the kicker. This session explores why beginnings and endings are so important to your writing, and how to nail them every time. Plus, beginnings and endings are just as important in a paragraph as they are to the overall arc of the story. This isn't just an academic session on writing. This is about grabbing readers' attention, keeping them engaged, and rewarding them at the end. Where are you likely to lose a reader? In the middle. This hands-on session will leave you with concrete tips to keep readers' attention until the end.

[Click here to register](#)

To view more information and archived webinars hosted by OnlineMediaCampus go to: www.onlinemediacampus.com

Newspaper Academy

Update Design - or Redesign Your Newspaper

Thursday May 5, 2022

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm (EDT)

\$59 USD

One of the consistent themes in the post-pandemic (we hope it's almost "post") newspaper is improving design. Community newspapers are bucking the trend of metro papers and investing in growing readership, which in turn grows advertising revenue. A key element of growing readership is making the design of your paper more reader-friendly, drawing the reader rather than turning the reader away.

In this session, Kevin will cover these topics and more:

- New design styles vs. old design styles
- Clean is in! Creating cleaner pages
- Using up-to-date fonts. Getting rid of outdated fonts
- Creating styles for your new design
- Photo and story placement on the page
- Elements that carry from page to page
- Proper (and improper) use of color on pages
- AND MUCH MORE!

Bring two pens. You'll need them!

[Click here to register](#)

To view more live and archived webinars hosted by Newspaper Academy, go to: newspaperacademy.com



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Offer valid until June 26, 2022. Valid for 15% off per admission ticket purchased online or onsite. Limit 4 guests per coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers. Not valid during discounted hours of admission. Sperm Whale © Reinhard Mink. ROM is an agency of the Government of Ontario.



2021 ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA) and their member newspapers are very proud to celebrate the final recipients of the 2021 Ontario Junior Citizen Awards.

These outstanding young individuals, aged nine to 17, are making a difference in their communities. Not only do these inspiring individuals see a need but rise to the challenge and contribute both their time and energy to making improvements. At a young age, they are committed to making a difference.

The 12 finalists will be invited to celebrate their accomplishments during a special virtual ceremony on Wednesday May 11th.

Please join us in celebrating the 2021 Ontario Junior Citizens, listed below in alphabetical order.



Jacob Colatosti, 17, Hamilton

Jacob is a true believer of civic engagement, and that youth can play an important role in advising government on important issues. Jacob believes that you can have a voice in government, even if not old enough to vote. He used this voice to encourage voter turnout during the federal election.

He is a member of local Constituency Youth Council which offers federal government a youth perspective on important issues including climate change and mental health, while also working on community projects including community cleanups and food drivers.

He is also an ambassador for UNICEF Canada One Youth U-Report, creating content and speaking about key issues it stands for.

Jacob is trying to change history by advocating to lower the voter age in Canada. He is one of 13 young people from across the country that has filed an application at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice to challenge the voting age in Canada.

He is also involved in many extracurricular activities and is an academic achiever.



Alexandra Elmslie, 17, Guelph

Alexandra has been significantly involved in community service over the past four years; and intends to amass 1,000 hours of volunteer work by the end of high school.

Alexandra's many activities include: election campaign youth engagement lead for local MPP, youth council president, KidsAbility youth advisory council co-chair, Upper Grand DSB student senate, reading club, hockey coach, swim coach for Special Olympics, and many more.

She has received several community awards, is an honour roll student, musically talented and bilingual.

Her biggest motivator for all her volunteerism came from her own challenges as a student with ADHD. She has found ways to manage her mental health and wellbeing and used these as motivation and inspiration to work on projects that facilitate real change and have impact on others.



2021 ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Stella, Portia & Violet Gorgonio, 12/10/8, East Gwillimbury

In January 2021, sisters Stella, Portia and Violet started an organization called LIL BIG KID Squad, after being inspired by friends to make holiday cards to cheer up seniors during pandemic lockdowns. They rallied their friends, and through a series of virtual meetings to discuss and plan community activities, they created and completed 12 successful projects.

Their projects included Elf Squad, making cards for seniors in long term care facilities, Kid Squad, putting together 400 jars with inspirational notes delivered to kids' porches during school lockdowns,

Super Squad, collecting over 3,500 lbs. of food and over \$5,000 in cash and gift cards with Food 4 Families for the Newmarket Food Pantry, Earth Squad, picking up 776 bags of garbage, and many other community endeavors.



Neha Gupta, 17, Dundas

Neha has been involved in the fight for human rights and equity since 2018. At the age of 14, she became co-Chair of the Human Rights and Equity Advisory Committee for her school board and has been re-elected for this position since then. The Committee meets monthly, but Neha extends work to outside meetings; facilitating discussion between members, meeting with community stakeholders, and mentoring new members.

She has led the initiative to terminate the Hamilton Police Liaison Program within her school board. She's a two-time TEDx Speaker - on the inequities and urgent need to dismantle barriers. Neha was invited to speak at the school board's Administrators Day on the importance of student identity in the classroom. She has empowered others to take action against injustice.

She is an IB Diploma Candidate, competes in Science and Engineering Fairs, has created a digital magazine relating to science, and speaks at human rights-related events.

Neha has faced her own divisions in school due to her religion and race and is passionate about promoting multiculturalism and diversity in schools. These experiences help fuel her hope for inclusivity.



Sophie & Valerie LeVasseur, 16 & 13, Ottawa

Sophie and Valerie are two very motivated sisters who want to make a difference, one step at a time. Sophie has been involved with volunteering and fundraising for many vulnerable groups including young girls, veterans, and kids with hearing deficiencies. Along with her fundraising, she provides comfort and support to these individuals through her volunteering. She is currently running a fundraising campaign to support the local kids' hospital to enhance research of heart issues.

She is an elite baseball and hockey player and helps to train and coach junior sports teams. She recently received a grant to purchase electronic equipment to allow kids with hearing deficiencies to learn to play baseball for the first time.



2021 ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS

Valérie is actively involved in organizations catering to women's issues. She began with Girl Guides, then started volunteering with the local church to raise funds and Christmas gifts for children in need. She has organized social events for the inclusion of new arrivals to Canada and was part of a group encouraging young kids to take part in sports, explaining how to play and getting free equipment. Valérie takes great pride in the sports she plays - hockey, baseball and swimming, and is a highlander dancer, mentoring younger dancers throughout the year.

Both sisters have helped publish several books with proceeds going to a variety of social causes. 'A little Girl Suffers from Cancer' also resulted in Air Canada donating \$50,000 to the CHEO Foundation on behalf of Valerie and the book. Other books published include 'VIMY, the duty of A Soldier and of a Country', and 'Ottawa Senators, 1923, Determinations and Courage'. They are completing their latest book on the 100 Most Remarkable Women in Canada. The book will have a special version in the four Indigenous languages of the 10 Indigenous women interviewed and will be distributed on Reserves in Canada.

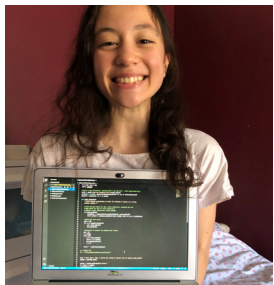


Abby Mitchell, 7, Port Dover

In the Spring of 2021 Abby created 'The Abby Post', a local Port Dover newspaper - to share community news and to give residents something to do during the isolation of Covid.

Abby's paper was about more than sharing news. She felt it was important that people had something to do during Covid. Rediscovering the town and county became a focus for her writing. Sharing fun activities to do around town, either for free or for minimal cost, keeping in mind that not everyone could pay to have fun. Interviews showcased not only local businesses, but everyday people and family members.

Abby collected money selling bags and pens, and from interview fees, which was given to the food bank in Port Dover. She raised \$3,400 over the summer and continues to raise money with new interviews and sponsorships.



Jin Schofield, 17, Richmond Hill

As an aspiring neurosurgeon and neuroscientist, many of Jin's activities are innovation and medicine-focused. She is a co-founder of ConchShell, a start-up that seeks to create a wearable translator for the speech-impaired that converts American Sign Language into a spoken voice. ConchShell has since earned \$16,600 in funding.

She's co-lead of a youth non-profit Operation Med School Toronto, organizing conferences and events allowing youth to interact with medical students/professionals.

The organization engages with over 1,000 students through social media. She also co-leads STREAM Syndicate, that exposes students to learning opportunities across STEM, the arts, and humanities.

Jin is CEO of MarketAngelo, a student start-up that operates a website allowing students to learn about ESG ethical investing. She is President of the Student Council, President of the school's HOSA (future health professionals) chapter, President and founder of her school's Medical Sciences and Statistics Club, and co-President of the school newspaper.

She was a volunteer researcher at the Hybrid Biomedical Optics Laboratory at York University, senior board member of her school's competitive robotics team, and is the director of parliamentary debate for her school's Debate Club.

Jin has a medical condition that often hinders her ability to work for long hours. Her personal experience with this difficulty, as well as her past life experiences, have made her a very empathetic and passionate person that seeks to better the situations of other individuals.



2021 ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Kusha Shirani, 17, Oakville

Kusha began serving the community at the age of nine by raising money for McMaster Hospital childhood cancer research through making and selling comic books at his school. The project grew to raise \$2,000. He is a champion of his community and has made measurable impacts as a passionate advocate for children, youth and the environment. His volunteer activities are as varied as his skills, and they include: mentoring and coaching young children both academically and athletically, and organizing various fundraising and food and clothing drives to help children and youth in need.

To date, he has completed more than 1,000 hours of community service for causes including: Oakville park ambassador, Farsi language teacher, Oakville Big Brothers/Big Sisters, referee/coach for youth soccer, Oakville Police youth advisory committee, Oakville Food Drive, Bronte Creek neighbourhood clean-up, Kerr Street Mission, and many others.



Sarah Syed, 17, North York

Sarah has amassed over 1,000 volunteer hours and is passionate about giving back to her community. Initially in elementary school, helping students and teachers in the classroom, she expanded her volunteering by supporting vulnerable members within her community, by helping prepare Ramadan Dinners at her mosque.

Sarah developed a passion for humanitarian and environmental work through the University Leadership Program at her school where she is an Events Lead that organizes and facilitates new clubs, trips and

fundraisers. She volunteers at Ecoambassadeur preparing materials (campaign letters/brochures) for an equity and diversity campaign for workplaces. She is the committee Co-chair and Accessible Housing Network Social Media Coordinator at the AEBC Toronto chapter and has organized fundraising trivia events to support the program.

She is active in environmental sustainability as co-editor of the Green Neighbours Network monthly newsletter and an idea leader for Youth in Action. She has developed prototypes of life changing innovations. Sarah has won numerous Science Fair awards, a Top 25 Under 25 Environmentalist Award and the Nature Inspirations Finalist award.



Jaylynn Wolfe, 14, Kincardine

Jaylynn is proud to share her native Ojibway heritage with the community. At a young age, she learned of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), which troubled her deeply, and moved forward in raising awareness for the MMIWG. She was a keynote speaker on the subject at the Unity Gathering at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation.

Her most recent and significant project is The Ribbon Skirt Project, setting out to make ribbon skirt kits.

Through donations and volunteers, the project was able to make more than 215 ribbon skirts gifted to youth on her First Nation of Kettle and Stony Point.

She received the Young Woman of Distinction Award in March 2018, the Remarkable Citizen of the Year Award in 2020, and the Inclusiveness and Diversity Award in 2021.



2021 ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Alexa Yeo, 12, Goderich

Alexa is a musician and harpist who uses her talents to raise money to support local charities. She uses her music to help better her community. In 2020, she wrote a song dedicated to frontline and essential workers and enlisted over 50 Ontario children to say thank you for the worker's dedication and bravery. That video was featured on CTV National News.

She also wrote and performed an original song for a local hospice telethon, alongside other artists, which raised over \$100,000 for the cause.

Here many other music and art-related community service activities have helped raise funds for worthwhile local organizations in her community and beyond.



Laiba & Manha Yusuf, 9 & 10, Newmarket

Sisters Laiba and Manha have proven that you can make a difference in your community no matter your age.

Laiba started her "Kindness For Buddies" campaign, to raise awareness of good deeds and spread kindness through fundraisers to collect financial and in-kind donations, empowering abused women and children, youth and homeless, and patients receiving mental health treatment.

free tutoring, free access to reading resources, and free delivery of food to families in need. Manha started her "Stamp Out Stigma for Mental Health" campaign to raise awareness and reduce the stigma around mental health through fundraisers. She recognizes the needs of the community and works on making a positive change through in-kind donation drives and fundraisers of those facing hardship, poverty, homelessness and mental health issues.

Both sisters are involved in many other community fundraisers as well, including Back to School, Young Mothers at Rose of Sharon, Inn From the Cold, SickKids, and the Children's Aid Society, helping to raise thousands of dollars over the past three years, leading to several community awards.



The Ontario Junior Citizen Awards are promoted through the OCNA. Nominations of eligible youth aged six to 17, are received through 215 community newspaper members committed to recognizing the young leaders who are making a difference in their communities. Nominees may be involved in community service, are contributing to their community while living with a physical or psychological limitation, individuals who have performed acts of heroism or bravery, or those who achieve excellence in personal achievement. Candidates are also recognized for being 'good kids' who go above and beyond what is expected of their age and show a commitment to making life better for others. A panel of judges unanimously agreed on the final award recipients.

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2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The Ontario Community Newspapers Association is excited to unveil the seven extraordinary individuals who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame for 2022. These inductees are respected community news professionals who remained passionate about the industry throughout challenges, opportunities, and changes. They have made exemplary contributions to Ontario's community newspaper industry and will be celebrated and remembered for their tremendous contributions to community journalism and have helped community newspapers to adapt and grow.

To view the OCNA Hall of Fame inductees, please go to <https://www.ocna.org/hall-of-fame-award>.

William (Bill) Charles Cavell,
Publisher,
Iroquois Falls Enterprise
Awarded Posthumously

William (Bill) Charles Cavell began his over 72-year career in the newspaper business in a small way. Learning that his high school had no newspaper, Bill stepped in to fill the void with a mimeographed sheet that he sold to fellow students. He also wrote a column as sports editor of Canadian High News. Eager to "Get busy right away" after graduation, he got the job of night editor at the daily Owen Sound Sun Times.

Needing a district reporter to cover southwestern Ontario, the Toronto Telegram liked what they saw in Bill when they interviewed, and he was hired.

It was while working for the Telegram that reporter Bill got his biggest story that shook Canadian justice. He and a colleague were the first reporters to interview 14-year-old Steven Truscott. Truscott was charged with the rape and murder of classmate Lynne Harper. After his wrongful conviction, Truscott spent 50 years seeking justice until he was finally acquitted in 2007.

After a brief stint as editor of the Confederation Life Insurance Company magazine, and then reporting and selling ads at the Goderich Signal Star, Bill was given his first opportunity to run his own paper. A friend offered to print a weekly paper in the small town of Thedford (population 700). The entire family pitched in.

But after 3 years, Bill needed a new challenge. He wanted to start his own paper, with no financial backing. After extensive research and several possible locations, he made his decision.

At Christmas 1963, the brand new Enterprise hit the streets of Iroquois Falls. Getting it up and running was no easy task. Bill wrote all the copy and sold all the ads, and the family helped out too.



Beginning as a free paper for three months, the local minor hockey association started selling \$3 subscriptions. He remained publisher for 56 years.

After moving to Ottawa in 1980, he continued to run The Enterprise long distance, with the help of very competent staff.

Bill received the Canadian Community Newspapers Association's Silver Quill Award in 1991, recognizing 25 years of distinguished service to the newspaper industry.

Right up to the day of his death, Bill was still involved with the running of The Enterprise. Just a few hours before he died, he was giving instructions to be relayed to his staff.

This is why the Ontario Community Newspapers Association is thrilled to announce William (Bill) Charles Cavell as an inductee of the OCNA Hall of Fame.

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Wayne Green

Publisher & Editor

The Northern Times, Kapuskasing and The Temiskaming Speaker, New Liskeard

Awarded Posthumously

Wayne Green's newspaper career began at the age of 16 in 1951, right out of high school, as an "apprentice printer" at the Temiskaming Printing Company (TPC) in New Liskeard, printer of the Temiskaming Speaker weekly newspaper. Eleven years later he was in charge of all newspaper production.

In 1962 he was hired to become the first managing editor and the first full-time employee at the new Northern Times newspaper in Kapuskasing. Barely five months later, the Northern Times would take a photo of the infamous Reesor Siding labour dispute. Recognized as the bloodiest labour battle in Canadian history, the international incident attracted journalists from all over, but that photo would be the only one of the killing scene. It would appear in publications across North America, including the Times.

When the Times decided to operate its own printing plant in 1965, offset was the system chosen. It was considered a relatively new and radical approach to newspaper production, making the Times a leader in introducing it to Northern Ontario.

Over the years Wayne Green eventually became publisher of the Times, winning 98 awards in national, provincial, and regional competitions during his 33 years as publisher. In 1968 he helped found The Tribune, a new weekly in Sturgeon Falls. He managed its operations until the paper was sold in 1973.

The Northern Times again became a leader in new and radical approaches by becoming the first weekly newspaper in Ontario to use computers and laser printers to produce all editorial material.

In 1988 Wayne Green received a Silver Quill Award from the Canadian Community Newspapers Association in recognition of 25 years of distinguished service to the newspaper industry. He was also awarded the "Northern Ontario Journalist of The Year" as part of the annual Canadore College Northern Ontario Journalism Awards.

After retiring in 1995, he continued to write a regular column for the Northern Times and began writing weekly columns for The Temiskaming Speaker.



In 2014 he published a book "The Last Newspaperman" about his life in the industry interweaved with some of his Northern Times columns. The title of the book is quite appropriate, as

Wayne was among the last of a long line of individuals who had entered the field of journalism through training as a printer.

His last column for The Speaker appeared in the summer of 2017.

After his passing in 2018, he was remembered by former Temiskaming Speaker Editor Gordon Brock: "At his professional peak Wayne Green was a recognized Canadian community journalism icon and his passing requires a moment for the industry to remember an individual that helped symbolize how good Canadian community journalism can be."

This is why the Ontario Community Newspapers Association is thrilled to announce Wayne Green as an inductee of the OCNA Hall of Fame.

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Ron Lenyk
Vice President,
Newspaper Strategic Support
Torstar

Awarded Posthumously

Ron Lenyk began his career in 1970, working for the Mississauga News as a sports reporter and was promoted to sports editor not a year later. By June 1971, he was promoted to editor and in 1977 was named publisher of the Brampton Guardian.

Two days before his 32nd birthday, in 1978, Ron was named publisher of the Mississauga News. Under his direction, the newspaper became the most profitable, award-winning suburban newspaper in Canada, winning hundreds of awards at the local, provincial, national, and international levels.

He eventually became the South Peel Regional Publisher and Vice President of Metroland Media Group. In 2009, Ron was named Vice President of Newspaper Strategic Support for Torstar Corporation.

Throughout his long career, Ron won many coveted awards and honours, including the Canadian Community Newspapers Association's Silver Quill Award for 25 years of outstanding service, Ontario Community Newspapers Association's President's Award for Exemplary Service to the newspaper industry, and most notably, Suburban Newspapers of America's Dean S. Leshner Award, the highest award in suburban newspaper publishing in North America. He also sat on the Ontario Press Council.

A staunch community leader, advocate, and volunteer, Ron played instrumental roles in community organizations such as United Way of Peel Region, Interim Place, Peel Partners for a Drug-Free Community, the Peel Lung Association, the Mississauga Sports Council, Success by 6 Peel, both hospitals in Mississauga, Mississauga Opera Company, Mississauga Board of Trade, Fair Share for Peel, Mississauga Deaf Ice Hockey League, and the Mayor's Gala Hospital, just to name a few.



Ron helped to transform The Mississauga News into one of North America's largest and most profitable papers. He took it from the dead-ball era (typewriters and typesetting) to the digital age and beyond.

This is why the Ontario Community Newspapers Association is thrilled to announce Ron Lenyk as an inductee of the OCNA Hall of Fame.

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Jack, John, Robin and Jeff Morris

Editors and Publishers, Prescott Journal, Chesterville Record, Winchester Press, Eastern Ontario Agri-News, Tupper Lake (NY) Free Press, Gouverneur (NY) Tribune, Manotick Messenger, Barrhaven Independent, Russell Villager

Awarded Posthumously to Jack, John & Robin Morris



Jack Morris

Jack Morris began his newspaper career at the Chesterville Record in the 1920s as a “printer’s devil” and spent 65 years in the community newspaper business. It would have been more, but he served as an intelligence officer in WWII. In 1947, he accepted a job as the editor of the Prescott Journal. He became a partner in 1949, and he became sole proprietor of the business in 1963. Jack sold his interests in the company to his sons, John and Robin, in 1976 and stepped back from the day-to-day operations of the business, though he remained on staff as a reporter and columnist.

Jack was an Ontario Community Newspapers Association board member and president, as well as a board member and president for the Canadian Community Newspapers Association. He received the Canadian Community Newspapers Association Gold Quill Award in 1976 for 50 years of distinguished service to the community newspaper industry. He was a pioneer in modern typography and was the first community newspaper publisher in Canada to convert to cold type and go to offset.

Jack was heavily involved in the community, and in 1967, he published a book on the rich history of Prescott.

He was involved in the publishing of 3,276 community newspapers during his career. In 1989, Jack Morris was honoured with a CCNA Honorary Life Membership.

John Morris

John Morris followed in the footsteps of his father. He had a similar passion for the community, and for the newspaper business. At the age of 15, he revived the school’s student newspaper, and he also worked for his father as the Prescott Journal’s high school sports reporter. In 1957, 21-year-old John Morris went to the bank to get a loan and bought the Kemptville Advance. He was editor and publisher of the Advance until 1964, when he sold it to join his father at St. Lawrence Printing Company, publishers of the Prescott Journal and Cardinal News. In 1976, Morris purchased the Tupper Lake Free Press in Tupper Lake, NY, and then the Gouverneur (NY) Tribune in the late 1980s. He also partnered with his younger brother Robin to purchase the Chesterville Record, the newspaper where his father’s newspaper career began. While their newspaper company was growing and flourishing at that time, the two brothers purchased the Winchester Press in 1980. In 1986, John launched the Manotick Messenger with the help of his family, and from that newspaper spawned the Barrhaven Independent in 1990.

John’s lifetime in newspapers led to major contributions to the industry across Canada. He served for more than 20 years on the board of directors of both the OCNA and CCNA, and was the OCNA president in 1990. Throughout his career, he won numerous provincial and national awards for news, feature and editorial writing, photography, layout, design, and community service. He, as well, was honoured with a Gold Quill Award in 2002.

Before his passing, he released his book, *Morris’ History of Prescott 1800-2000*. He wanted to update and build on his father’s book. His book not only tells the historical facts of the town, but it also focuses on the people and characters who built and grew

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Robin Morris

Robin Morris was often in the shadow cast by his father and his brother, who was nearly 15 years his senior. Like Jack and John, he had a strong passion for local history and an even stronger passion for journalism. While John and Jack were in Prescott, Robin spent much of the 1970s working in Chesterville and then Winchester. He launched the United Counties Agri-News and grew it into one of Eastern Canada's largest and most successful rural agricultural newspapers. He returned to Prescott to be the editor of the Journal in the early 1980s. Robin also grew the family business by launching the Russell Villager, which operated for decades before merging with the Chesterville Record.

Robin's attention to detail was impeccable, which resulted in the Morris newspapers being among the most acclaimed publications in the country. All three of the newspapers were regular OCNA award winners. He also established himself as one of the best news and sports photographers in the industry in Canada.

While Jack was a pioneer in printing, Robin had an eye for technological advancement within the business. He was among the first community newspaper publishers in the province to use digital photography, and he was also one of the first in Canada to use Macintosh computers for desktop publishing.

Robin served on the OCNA board of directors for a number of years and served as president in 1991. He also played a key role in the establishment and growth of the Association's reciprocal insurance exchange. He received his Silver Quill Award for distinguished service to the community newspapers in 2003.

Jeff Morris

Jeff Morris began his career in community newspapers as a nine-year-old, working in the Prescott Journal mailroom after school and landing his first Wednesday afternoon paper route. He continued to work in the family newspaper business throughout high school, covering events at the school during the school year. In the summers, he worked as a full-time sports reporter while helping out with obituaries, production, page layout, collation and store deliveries.

Morris went to Carleton University to study Journalism and Communications. He was recruited by the school to play football, and he played for the Ravens from 1982-86. Morris graduated from Carleton as the Ravens' all-time scoring leader and is one of only a handful of players in Carleton history to be named league all-star three times.

In 1986, while he was in his final year at Carleton, he joined the family business full-time and was involved in the launch of the Manotick Messenger. He began his career selling advertising and eventually transitioned back to the editorial side of things.

In the late 1980s, Morris helped lay the groundwork for, and was involved in the 1990 launch of the Barrhaven Independent. He was a part of the editorial staff at the Independent for two years, before leaving the family business to take a job with Trajan Publishing in St. Catharines as the editor of Canadian Sportscard Collector magazine.

Morris transitioned from journalism to marketing in 1996, joining Pinnacle Brands, Inc. in Dallas as a brand manager. He went on to become a marketing and product development executive for Collector's Edge (Denver), Shop at Home Television (Nashville), and Pacific Trading Cards (Seattle). During this time, he was also an NHL columnist for ESPN.com.

Following the passing of his father in 2004, Jeff returned to Canada to work in the family business. He purchased the Manotick Messenger and Barrhaven Independent from his mother, Beth, in 2017. He also served on the OCNA's CNRIE board and was President for four years.

Between 2005 and 2021, Morris was a top-three finalist for more than 60 OCNA awards. He is a two-time winner of the OCNA Stephen Shaw Reporter of the Year Award, a two-time winner of the OCNA Humour Columnist of the Year, a winner of the OCNA Columnist of the Year Award, and he was also a winner of the CCNA Award for best local editorial.

He says the highlight of his newspaper career was being able to work through two bouts of bone marrow/plasma cancer.

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

In 2019 he lost a quarter of his skull to a tumour that had penetrated his brain. He had a craniotomy and brain surgery on May 9 and was able to put a newspaper out four days later. In 2020, after a stem cell transplant, he produced and sent four editions of the Messenger and Independent to print from his bed at the Ottawa Cancer Centre.

“If my father, my uncle and grandfather would be proud of me for anything, it would be that,” he says. “Being a Morris means having a relentless work ethic and a thirst for excellence, and I learned that from all members of my family.”

This is why the Ontario Community Newspapers Association is thrilled to announce Jack, John, Robin and Jeff Morris as inductees of the OCNA Hall of Fame.

The OCNA Hall of Fame Award recognizes and celebrates individuals who have made exemplary contributions to Ontario’s community newspapers. Inductees are respected community news professionals who have remained passionate about the industry throughout challenges, opportunities, and changes. They are leaders who have helped community newspapers adapt and grow.



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