



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, June 12, 2011

Finalists Announced for the Second Annual PWAC Writing Awards

Ten finalists have been chosen in the second annual writing awards of the Professional Writers Association of Canada (PWAC) for stories published in 2010 in print or on the web.

In the Features category (over 1,200 words), the finalists are:

- **Beverly Akerman** for “Six Pixels of Separation” (*Grain Magazine*)
- **Mark Cardwell** for “Getting Away with Murder” (*Canadian Lawyer*)
- **Stephen Kimber** for “Is Corey Wright the Wrong Man?” (*The Coast*)
- **Melissa Martin** for “La lang di Michif Ta-pashipiikan” (*Winnipeg Free Press*)
- **Terri Perrin** for “All in the Family” (*InFocus Magazine*)
- **Mark Witten** for “Heal or harm?” (*Today’s Parent*)

In the Short Articles category (up to 1,200 words), the finalists are:

- **Beverly Akerman** for “Woman’s murder exposes need to raise age for gun ownership” (*The Toronto Star*)
- **L. D. Cross** for “How to Get the Money You’re Owed” (*PROFIT Magazine*)
- **Karen Virag** for “The Naked Truth About Raw” (*The Tomato*)
- **Mark Witten** for “Brainwashed” (*The Walrus*)

“Congratulations to the finalists on their excellent submissions. They showcase the quality and diversity of Canada’s professional writers and do us all proud,” said PWAC President Tanya Gulliver.

Gulliver also thanked the competition’s judges for their expert consideration. In the Features category, the judges were freelance writer and editor Richard Burnett, *The Georgia Straight’s* Senior Editor Martin Dunphy and freelance writer Nora Underwood. In the Short Articles category, freelance writer and journalism instructor Lezlie Lowe, *Prairie Dog* Editor Stephen Whitworth and *Harrowsmith Country Life* Senior Editor Bridget Wayland weighed in.

The winners and runners-up will be announced at the PWAC Gala Awards Ceremony & Dinner presented by Access Copyright on Saturday, June 18, in Montreal, QC. The first prize in each award category has a \$750 value (increased from \$500 in 2010), including a free PWAC membership for a year to those eligible. Second-place winners get a year’s free PWAC membership, if eligible. The awards are open to PWAC members and non-members.

PWAC created its PWAC Short Articles Writing Award and the PWAC Features Writing Award in 2010 to showcase Canadian writers. “For the second year in a row, we have received more entries than we expected,” Gulliver said. “We’re honoured to celebrate the work of these finalists as examples of the high-quality writing produced by PWAC’s members and other Canadian writers.”

PWAC, established in 1976, is the national organization representing freelance writers and journalists in Canada.

More information:

Sandy Crawley, Executive Director
Tanya Gulliver, President

scrawley@pwac.ca
tanyagulliver@gmail.com

(416) 504-1645
(504) 292-0683