

Call for Contributors – NobelCanadian Project

Project Description:

Defining Moments Canada, a digital heritage education platform, is seeking external consultants, experts, scholars, and writers to contribute insightful, project-relevant articles and/or strategic educational development to our website – in this case, for the purposes of the **NobelCanadian** commemorative project.

Following our commemoration of Dr. Gerhard Herzberg's 1971 Nobel Prize win in Physics for his contributions to the study of spectroscopy, Defining Moments Canada will be showcasing Canada's other Nobel stories. NobelCanadian explores laureates and prizes which are connected to Canada through birth, scholarship, place of work, or other factors. These notable figures in science, literature, and politics have had major impacts on society, but often their stories – and the historical context surrounding their work – is unfamiliar to many Canadians.

A core goal of the project is to profile a curated list of Nobel Laureates and, although content creation has already begun, there are still Laureates and topics in need of exploration. Those who need to be profiled are listed below. In addition, we are also seeking to feature pieces which add nuance to this historical conversation: themes of under-representation in science, questions of Nobel nationalism, discussions about the significance of international achievements like the Nobel, and resources which adapt these historical works for the Canadian classroom.

Individuals in Need of Content:

Defining Moments Canada will accept proposals from writers of all disciplines for submissions related to the topics and individuals stated below, and also welcomes submissions for peripheral themes at our discretion.

- Willard Boyle (2009 Nobel Prize in Physics for invention of the charge-coupled device, awarded jointly with American physicist George E. Smith, shared with physicist Charles Kao)
- Michael Smith (1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for work in developed site-directed mutagenesis, shared with Kary Mullis)

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- William Giaquie (1949 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for studies of the properties of matter at temperatures close to absolute zero)
- Michael Houghton (2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology for Medicine for discovery of Hepatitis C virus, received with Qui-Lim Choo, George Kuo, and Daniel W. Bradley)
- Andrew Schally (1977 Nobel Prize in Physiology for discoveries concerning the peptide hormone production in the brain)
- Henry Taube (1993 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for work on the mechanisms of electron transfer reactions, especially in metal complexes)

Format, Tone, and Length:

Please see attached submission guidelines for details.

Schedule:

The content for the project will be published throughout 2022. For more information on writing and revision timelines, please see attached submission guidelines.

Remuneration:

Compensation will be provided for all accepted submissions. Individual terms will be agreed upon by all parties conditional on submission details. For more information, please contact info@canhist.ca.

Please express interest by reaching out with a brief proposal to Executive Director, Jenifer Terry, by email: jterry@canhist.ca. We are very willing to speak further about the project with you and encourage all interested parties to contact us. Questions and inquiries will be responded to as quickly as possible.

We are grateful to the history and science communities across Canada for their suggestions and support in developing this collection of stories.

[Defining Moments Canada](#) is a not-for-profit organization that has worked with experts and institutions in Canada and beyond to mark milestone moments in our shared histories through digital and physical storytelling infrastructures and innovative pedagogical approaches.

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Tone and Voice

Audience



Prose for a General Audience

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'At a Glance'

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Types of Content

We primarily accept Article submissions for our blog section and for project-specific microhistories.

Thematic Structure

Each of our commemorative projects are founded-upon a core set of themes. In your initial discussions with our Projects Managers, you should be clear on precisely which theme(s) your writing is based. There may be occasions where our content writers have been engaged to contribute on a topic that is beyond the scope of the themes, but you should already be aware of that from the outset.

Articles for the blog section will deal with topics related to our projects – often we co-publish these with partner affiliates such as ActiveHistory.ca or [the Canadian Science and Technology Historical Association \(CSTHA\)](http://theCanadianScienceandTechnologyHistoricalAssociation(CSTHA)). These These pieces will seek specifically to present academic or higher level content in a manner that is accessible for general audiences. They may also deal with curriculum and pedagogy-adjacent topics related to our mission statement.

Microhistories will tell an engaging story about individuals or communities directly related to our current projects and education initiatives. These Microhistories would act as authentic illustrations of our themes. We actively encourage microhistories which tell previously untold stories about the impact of our themes on a variety of individuals and communities in Canada.

Length and Format

All pieces will be published on the web, and this should be considered when settling on a length and format. Short, structured paragraphs, articles in a list format, and section sub-titles can be especially effective at maintaining a reader's attention. We encourage the use of graphics (images, illustrations, charts, etc.) and descriptive captions.

Length requirements are flexible in order to accommodate the content and subject matter, but we ask that articles/microhistories aim to be in a range of 1,000 to 2,000 words. If a specific piece demands more space, we may consider publishing it in a multi-part format.

Further examples which illustrate the tone, audience, are available as necessary.

Subject Matter

The subject matter will be directly related to an ongoing or past Defining Moments Canada project, or further explore topics relates to pedagogical issues integral to our mission statement. Exact details will be determined via a discussion between the author and our team.

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Author Info

We request that you submit a headshot, byline, and brief biography (<100 words) to accompany your piece. Following the publication of your piece, we may seek feedback from you on your **experience working with us.**

Review Process

Defining Moments Canada retains the services of a professional editor, and every submission will undergo a review process (with author involvement and approval) to ensure it adheres to all guidelines. We reserve the right to choose not to publish an article that cannot be satisfactorily adjusted to fit within these requirements.

All articles will be professionally translated and presented in both English and French.

Images and Citations

We request that at least one image be submitted for use with your piece, with appropriate citations. The image should be owned by you, available in the public domain, or be provided with appropriate permissions.

We will include any in-text citations or bibliographical information provided.

We recommend providing 2-5 suggestions for further reading which can accompany your piece.

Preparing your Submission

1. We expect that you will provide the Project Managers with a brief précis proposal for your submission including a timeline for delivery at an agreed-upon date, including:
 - Initial Draft (one month before delivery) – to be edited by our team;
 - Revised Draft (2-3 weeks prior to delivery), subject to further revisions;
 - Final Draft (1 week prior to delivery), subject to review from our Academic Board;
 - Final Submission on agreed-to delivery date.
2. As a part of the editing/review process, further changes/edits may be required.

Please remember to ‘stay-in-your lane’ to ensure you are not repeating content from topics/themes assigned to other contributors.

We will host regular Zoom collaboration ‘check-ins’ for our contributors, but we also encourage you to collaborate among yourselves independently – such is a richer experience for all!

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Defining Moments Canada commissions articles from a range of contributors and retains an exclusive first publication right to post these works on our website, with the understanding that any changes to the articles will be approved by the author prior to publication. Contributors retain all copyright in their works. If an article is subsequently re-printed elsewhere, we ask that it include following credit line: "Originally published by Defining Moments Canada and reprinted with permission."

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