

BEST AGRICULTURAL STORY

Proof that agriculture stories need not be boring, this year's winners prove that one of the pillars of rural and remote newspapers - agriculture reporting - is in good hands in Quebec. While there were solid entries from right across the province, this year's top three were difficult to separate. Congratulations to all the reporters involved in this year's competition.



LISA GREGOIRE & DAVID MURPHY

Nunatsiq News

One of the toughest stories to write - and to write well - surrounds Canada's controversial seal hunt. Far too many times, the story is biased heavily for or against the hunt, which is why David Murphy and Lisa Gregoire's piece is so refreshing. The story starts strong and finishes stronger, using multiple voices who give insight into the importance of the traditional hunt and the differentiation between it and the commercial venture. It gives context, sparkles with personality and weaves background and facts with a strong narrative style. A worthy winner.

DAVID TULLOCH

The Equity

Colourful and interesting, David Tulloch's story shines a light on the world of competitive pumpkin growing. Tulloch's attention to the smallest details added glorious ingredients to the tale. It needed some further tightening to push it into the top spot, but still an admirable challenger.

JAMES PARRY

Your Local Journal

Community newspapers give writers the perfect platform to tell uniquely hyper-local stories, something that James Parry did excellently with his profile on Terry Jones, a former rancher turned tobacco 'plantation' owner. A solid piece of writing.

Judge: Juris Graney, Interactive Coordinator, Leader Post, Regina, SK • Number of entries in the Best Agricultural Story category: 15

BEST COMMUNITY HEALTH STORY



DANIEL J. ROWE

The Eastern Door

This story is an excellent example of what a community health story can do to dispel rumors surrounding a recent viral outbreak. Rowe does a great job.

KATE ALEY

The Equity

Aley reports a story we seldom hear: Parents awaiting the birth of a baby with a serious medical condition. This is a very good story that raises our level of awareness.

CARMEN MARIE FABIO

Your Local Journal

This story adds some fun to a well-covered (albeit very important) topic of events that raise money for cancer research. The story is paired with excellent photos.

Judge: David Secko, Associate Professor, Concordia University/Department of Journalism, Montreal, QC • Number of entries in the Best Community Health Story category: 25