



# Mi'gmaq Writer's Award

Chance to win:

\$1500.00 (Ages 18 and older)

\$500.00 (Ages 17 and under)

Contest is open to:

Any Member of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band,  
the Nation Micmac de Géspeg and the  
Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation.

Details on this Contest are enclosed.

## Mi'gmaq Writer's Award

The Chiefs and Councils of the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Nation, the Nation Micmac de Gespeg and the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band have decided that there is an urgent need to uncover and reward talented Mi'gmaq writers. It is imperative for the survival of the Mi'gmaq as a people that we can identify members who possess a special aptitude and a keen interest in pursuing writing as a hobby or as a career. We have been an oral people for thousands of years, a number of our ancestors were some of the greatest storytellers. This tradition must continue; however, we must be mindful of the use of the technology inherent in the written word and the benefits this can accrue to future generations of Mi'gmaq. Therefore, we are offering the annual **"Mi'gmaq Writer's Award"**.

The award for the winning candidate(s) will consist of the following:

- ◆ The final winning entry will receive a **prize award in the following categories:**
  - **Ages 17 and under: \$500.00**
  - **Ages 18 and older: \$1500.00**
- ◆ The article, as it appears during entry, will be printed in book-style for distribution as per MMS distribution list only.
- ◆ **The finalist will receive an Honor Award Plaque** during the Mi'gmawei Mawiommi Annual General Assembly acknowledging his or her outstanding contribution to the literature of the Mi'gmaq Nation.

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### Who is eligible to enter this contest?

Any **registered** member of the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Nation, the Nation Micmac de Gespeg or the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band residing on or off reserve may make a submission according to the criteria set forth. This includes all members regardless of age, educational background, and life experience including individuals currently working for any of the First Nation Governments of our member communities. Proof of membership is required.

Previous Mi'gmaq Writer Award winners are NOT eligible to enter.

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### What is considered to be eligible to enter this contest?

No submissions will be accepted if it has been previously published in any form.

All entries will be judged on basis of originality, creativity, writing style, spelling, grammar, readability and Mi'gmaq content.

All entries must be the original content of the person submitting it. If any submitted entry is found to be the work of another individual, the entry will be disqualified.

Any eligible member of Listuguj, Gespeg and Gesgapegiag may submit an entry as per the category the entrant falls under, **by mail only** (**no e-mail or hand delivered entries will be accepted**).

**Mail submissions to:**

**Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat**

**c/o Mi'gmaq Writers Award**

**2 Riverside West**

**Listuguj, Quebec**

**G0C 2R0**

**Contest Rules:**

***- 17 and under:***

Entries granted will be in the form of a poem or short story consisting of a minimum of 500 words or less. Content can be that of fiction or non-fiction.

All entries must be accompanied with a signed waiver of release by a parent or guardian along with a completed entry form. (Please continue to read the below section of signing the entry form).

***- 18 and older:***

Entries granted will be in the form of a short story, essay, current or past events, consisting no less than 1500 words and over. Content can be that of fiction or non-fiction.

All entries must be accompanied with a signed and completed entry form.

By signing the ***Entry Form***, the entrant represents that the entry is wholly original, that the entry is of original content and composed solely by the entrant. In signing the Entry Form, the entrant agrees in the event of being chosen the winning entry to waive and assign the entrant's Exhibition Rights in the winning entry, together with all rights of copyright and reproduction, in favour of Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat.

## **A Selection Committee will identify the finalist**

The selection of the finalists will be made by a committee that will be comprised of at least one of the following: an elder, an individual from the education field, a professional Mi'gmaq employee as well as a noted Mi'gmaq academic.

Committee members will receive and judge the entries under anonymous pretenses.

The committee will make their final selection and announce its decision to the Chief's Executive Committee.

## **Announcing and Publishing the Winning Article**

A public announcement will be made once the winning entries have been selected and the winner(s) notified. A picture of the winner(s) and an excerpt of the winning entry will be published in the Gespsiq Newsmagazine and on the MMS website.

The complete winning entry, as it appears during entry, will be printed in book-style for distribution as per MMS distribution list only. 50 copies will be given to winner for his/her own dispersment. MMS will not be responsible to edit the winning entry prior to print. Spelling and grammar is the sole responsibility of the person submitting the work.

## **Instructions and Procedure to Submit Your Article**

Ensure that your entry is attached with the all spaces on the Entry Form and that all information are filled in correctly, and that the form is dated and signed, otherwise Mi'gmawei Mawiomi reserves the right to disqualify the entry. The Entry Form will be available at [www.migmawei.ca](http://www.migmawei.ca) or by mail upon request.

Individuals may submit as many entries as they wish - however, a SEPARATE entry form must accompany each entry.

Only mailed entries will be accepted. No hand delivered or e-mailed entries will be accepted. The entry must be postmarked by midnight **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019** to be eligible. MMS is not responsible for entries that get lost in the mail or do not arrive due to improper postage or mislabeled address.

MMS will not acknowledge the receipt of any entry. However, if the entrant requires notification, the entry should be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope, which will be mailed to the entrant with an acknowledgment of receipt when the entry is received.