

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW



Thank you for being part of Canada's conversation

THE WALRUS is a community. It's a group of people who are deeply curious and engaged in the world we live in. They read, watch, listen, convene, and converse. They contribute ideas and emotional and financial support—and they make it possible for our charitable organization to provoke conversations, in every part of the country, on the most complex issues of our time. This community cares deeply about the future of our country, and it believes firmly that quality information and a diversity of perspectives are essential to the health of our democracy and our society.

2018 was an important year for The Walrus. As other media organizations scaled back or disappeared, we celebrated fifteen years by finding new opportunities to tell stories, convene conversations, and further improve the quality of our work. We launched The Walrus Books (see p. 22), The Walrus Podcasts (see p. 22), and The Walrus Lab (see p. 23); we gathered for The Walrus LIVE, a multiday festival of ideas; we published a special fifteenth anniversary issue on the future of almost everything; and we increased our fact-

checking efforts on all platforms and as a service for outside clients. Jessica Johnson, our executive editor and creative director, has more on this on the following page.

We hope you will take the time to read about some of the conversations we sparked in 2018 and to catch up on some of the award-winning editorial work and The Walrus Talks content you may have missed. Whenever and wherever you read, watch, attend an event by, or listen to The Walrus, our goals are to provide you with opportunities to think about something in a new way and to connect with others like you who care about the important issues and perspectives shaping our cities, our country, and our world.

The future is complicated and uncertain and will require a community of thoughtful Canadians who advocate for quality, trustworthy, fact-based journalism. We know you have our back, and we take the trust you put in our team very seriously. On behalf of our board of directors, our team, and our network of artists, writers, and thought leaders from across the country, we thank you for being part of Canada's conversation. Always remember, *you* are, truly, The Walrus.



Shelley Ambrose
Executive Director, The Walrus



Helen Burstyn
Chair, The Walrus Foundation Board of Directors

The year of facts

RISING CONCERNS about fake news on social media—especially after the Cambridge Analytica scandal and fears about disinformation—challenged the traditional media to do its best work in years. Here at The Walrus, we responded to these challenges through our reporting, as in Justin Ling’s feature “Could the Russians Decide Canada’s Next Prime Minister?” and we reassessed our own editorial processes and put more resources toward strengthening them.

In early 2018, we made a decision to extend the same rigorous process applied to our print journalism to our digital journalism. Fact-checking—the process of verifying every detail in an article, from the spelling of names to historical dates to the content of quotations—is a time-consuming, expensive, and difficult process. But it also results in higher-quality, more trustworthy reporting.

Later in 2018, we joined the Trust Project, an independent, international association of media organizations dedicated to promoting journalistic transparency and accountability (you can read about the Trust Project, and about our ethics and reporting standards, at thewalrus.ca/site-wide-policies). The Walrus Lab also launched The Walrus Fact-Checking, a third-party fact-checking division that vets the accuracy of a wide variety of content published digitally—from statements made by public figures to social-media posts and articles in other publications.

Nobody asked us to make these changes. Some of them—such as the decision to apply the rigorous print standards of fact-checking to digital journalism—go against the conventional wisdom: that the goal should be to quickly turn around work with a view to reaching the widest possible audience. This has led to a glut of poorly researched, opinion-based articles on other digital platforms: the opposite of the substantive, factually accurate journalism for which The Walrus is known. In response to recent attacks on the media by the US president and others, fact-checking has become a buzzword, and many writers and publications, from independent blogs to international newspapers, have declared themselves to be in the facts business. The Walrus is in the fact-checking business, and in the words of our head of research, Viviane Fairbank, “If we get one thing wrong, people begin to question everything.”

The Walrus was founded in 2003 and committed to making a Canadian magazine on par with the most respected publications in the world. Fifteen years ago, nobody could have predicted the world we live in today: a world of threats—to democracy and the state of discourse—but also a world of incredible possibility, when it comes to education and dialogue. Our journalism has never been read by so many people, on so many platforms, and our industry has never been more challenged.

Thank you for helping us make The Walrus what it needs to be today.



Jessica Johnson

Executive Editor and Creative Director, The Walrus

CANADA'S RECONCILIATION CONVERSATION

A close-up photograph of two young Indigenous women. The woman on the right is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. She has dark hair and is wearing a light blue and white striped shirt. The woman on the left is looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression. She is wearing a green headscarf with a red and orange floral ornament on top. The background is a clear, bright blue sky.

How Crowdsourcing is
Helping Communities
Reclaim Their Stories

Author: Paul Seesequasis
Photograph by
Rosemary Gilliat Eaton

IN 2018, contributors to *The Walrus* highlighted how First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities have worked to reclaim their histories and identities.

Paul Seesequasis shared a selection from his Indigenous Archival Photo Project, in which the Willow Cree journalist curates images, many of which he gathers from museums and Library and Archives Canada, of previously unidentified Indigenous people and uses social media to crowdsource their names. And Trevor Jang recounted how some BC First Nations embraced basketball as part of their culture after sacred ceremonies such as the potlatch were outlawed by the federal government.

But our contributors had no illusions about the progress that remains to be made. With a controversial plan to expand the Trans Mountain Pipeline looming, Robert Jago drew on an example of a Supreme Court case involving the Mikisew Cree First Nation to argue that federal legislators are honour bound to consult Indigenous stakeholders about extracting resources from their ancestral lands—and to respect the feedback from these consultations. Curator and editor Lindsay Nixon explored how the #MeToo movement is complicated for Indigenous people by a shared trauma that transcends gender. Nixon detailed the wrenching choice survivors face between speaking out and protecting Indigenous men from further persecution in settler society. At *The Walrus Talks the Indigenous City* in Gatineau, *Seven Fallen Feathers* author Tanya Talaga explained how coming together in remembrance of those who have fallen to tragic acts of anti-Indigenous racism can be a force for inclusion.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

The Power of Indigenous Kinship
Author: Tanya Talaga

How Indigenous Filmmakers Are Changing Contemporary Cinema
Author: Alexander Tesar

#MeToo and the Secrets Indigenous Women Keep
Author: Lindsay Nixon

Why Canada's Duty to Consult with Indigenous Peoples Isn't Negotiable
Author: Robert Jago

Inclusion and Exclusion in the Indigenous City
Tanya Talaga at
The Walrus Talks n Gatineau

What I Learned from My Grandfather
Iskwē at The Walrus Talks in London

Humour and Community
Ryan McMahon at
The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

The Memories of Residential Schools
Marie Wilson at
The Walrus Talks in London

How Basketball Became Part of First Nations Culture
Author: Trevor Jang
Photograph by
Jocelyn Dick



CANADA'S HEALTH CONVERSATION

A photograph of a person climbing a snow-covered mountain peak. The climber is silhouetted against a bright, clear blue sky. The snow is white and textured, with some shadows. The climber is positioned near the bottom of the frame, looking up towards the peak. A rope is visible extending from the climber down the slope.

My Life and Death on Opioids

Author: Chris Willie
Photograph by
Quentin Roberts

A

S PART OF an ongoing efforts to provide the necessary information for Canadians in order to safeguard public health, The Walrus added a new dimension to our coverage in 2018—two multifaceted, multimedia digital series that dove into the country’s foremost public-health issues.

Last year marked a tragic milestone for the country—the number of Canadians killed by opioid overdoses since 2016 hit more than 10,000. One of these people was BC writer and university lecturer Chris Willie, who had been working with The Walrus on a memoir about his struggle with fentanyl before his death. Willie’s story, posthumously published in September, went on to become the centrepiece of “Opioids: A Public Health Crisis,” a digital series that delved into the opioid crisis and presented a framework for addressing it.

In response to nationwide shortcomings in the sex-ed curricula of Canadian schools, editors and contributors at The Walrus consulted with experts to create “Sex Ed: Beyond the Classroom,” a digital series aimed at better explaining intimacy, pleasure, and consent.

At The Walrus Talks Disruption in Ottawa, infectious-disease physician Kamran Khan recalled a SARS outbreak in Toronto that taught him how vulnerable globalization has left our cities to the spread of disease—and inspired him to develop a pioneering early warning system. And septuagenarian Sandra Martin wrote a feature that questioned whether Canada is prepared to support its increasingly elderly population in an era when humans are living longer than ever before.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

How Canada’s Health Care System Helped Create a Killer

Author: Martin Patriquin

The New Old Age

Author: Sandra Martin

How Racism Affects Your Health

Author: Mojola Omole

Opioids: A Public Health Crisis

Author: The Walrus Staff

Cannabis, Amnesty, and Justice

Annamaria Enenajor at The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

Leaders in Unexpected Places

Alicia Raimundo at The Walrus Talks in Nanaimo

Disruption and Disease

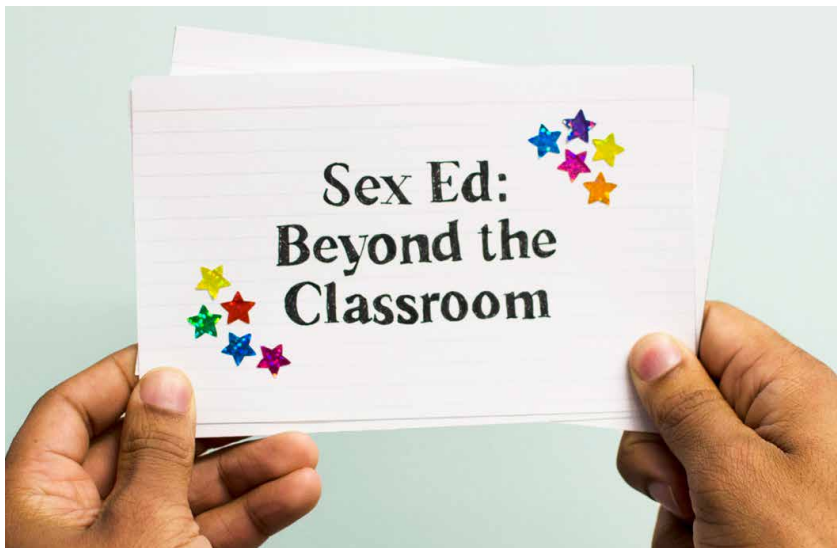
Kamran Khan at The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

The Connections We Need to Develop to Deal with an Aging Population

Sandra E. Black at The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

Sex Ed: Beyond the Classroom

Author: The Walrus Staff
Photograph by Natalie Vineberg





CANADA'S SUSTAINABILITY CONVERSATION

The Value of a Bear
Author: Gloria Dickie
Illustration by
Steven P. Hughes

LAST FALL, a report by the world’s leading climate scientists warned that we have only twelve years to prevent catastrophic changes. A feature by Anne Casselman presented the work of various auditors general tasked with evaluating Canada’s preparedness for the effects of climate change—and presented a sobering analysis of their findings so far.

The increasing urgency to address humanity’s impact on the planet has motivated us to further our efforts to cover this important topic. Writing on the future of nature, David Suzuki asserted that, in order to save the world, we have to keep believing it’s still possible to do so. And, at The Walrus Talks Connection in Ottawa, *Anthropocene* photographer Edward Burtynsky envisioned a future in which we’re all better connected to—and more consciously responsible for—the salt mines, the landfills, and “the places we partake of every day of our lives but never get a chance to experience.”

The Walrus also addressed whether current sustainability best practices are actually working. Matthew Halliday’s investigative report on Canada’s recycling system showed that, though widely touted third R of sustainability may make us feel better about the waste we produce, it doesn’t necessarily do our planet any good. And, in an article detailing the Ktunaxa First Nation’s legal fight to prevent a ski resort from disrupting the ecosystem of a BC alpine valley, Arno Kopecky assessed the drawbacks of a legal system that cannot recognize the importance of land to Indigenous communities.

In 2018, long-time supporter Labatt Breweries of Canada became our national sustainability partner, helping us spark conversations about climate and the environment across all platforms.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Environmental Disaster Is Canada’s New Normal. Are We Ready?

Author: Anne Casselman

The Future of Nature

Author: David Suzuki

Inside the Legal Battle to Preserve Land As Sacred Space

Author: Arno Kopecky

What the Trans Mountain Pipeline Battle Is Really About

Author: Gillian Turnbull

The Connections That Created Anthropocene

Edward Burtynsky at The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

Climate Change Is Just a Symptom

Nicholas Parker at The Walrus Talks in Vancouver

Clean Energy Is More Than Electronic Cars

Merran Smith at The Walrus Talks in Vancouver

The Crisis of Belonging

Zita Cobb at The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

Why Recycling Doesn’t Work

Author: Matthew Halliday
Illustration by Ricky Leung

CANADA'S POLITICAL CONVERSATION



Becoming Natan Obed
Author: Samia Madwar
Photograph by Peter Wall

IN 2018, The Walrus provided vital reporting and analysis on political phenomena—from the evergreen question of national unity to the recent rise of populism.

At The Walrus Talks in Ottawa, Radio-Canada’s Manon Globensky made the case that friction between Alberta and the Trudeau government has made the oil-rich province “the new Quebec.” In Ontario, Doug Ford’s election last June ended fifteen years of Liberal leadership and, according to an article by Susan Delacourt, could provide a blueprint for the Conservative Party to win the country. Alberta-based contributor Jen Gerson used the rise and fall of Patrick Brown to illustrate how modern party-leadership campaigns are designed to elect not the best candidate but the one who can sell the most memberships. Samia Madwar, managing editor at The Walrus, profiled Natan Obed, who is the president of the organization that represents Inuit in Canada. In following his efforts to advocate for Inuit rights and self-determination, the profile examines a new model for a relationship between Inuit, the federal government, and the Crown.

Our contributors also kept an eye on developments south of the border, recognizing the extent to which Canada’s political landscape exists in a global context. Following the revelation that Russian agents carried out an online campaign to sway US public opinion during the 2016 presidential election, Justin Ling reported a disquieting article on how, heading into its own federal election, Canada may be vulnerable to similar digital threats to democracy. And Stephen Marche wrote a speculative feature that tracked the ongoing deterioration of US politics and society.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Win Or Lose, Doug Ford Has Changed the Conversation

Author: Susan Delacourt

The Dark Side of Modern Leadership Campaigns

Author: Jen Gerson

Could the Russians Decide Canada’s Next Prime Minister?

Author: Justin Ling

The Enemy Next Door

Author: Joseph Rosen

Even Radical Extremists Deserve a Second Chance

Author: Seila Rizvic

Alberta Is the New Quebec

Manon Globensky at
The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

The Campaign for Cannabis Amnesty

Annamaria Enenajor at
The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

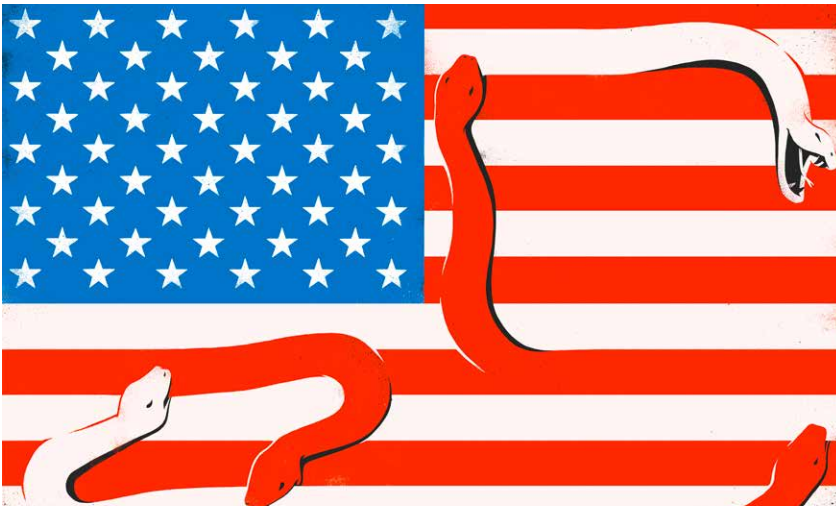
Diversty Is Not Yet a Strength in Canada

Ujjal Dossanjh at
The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

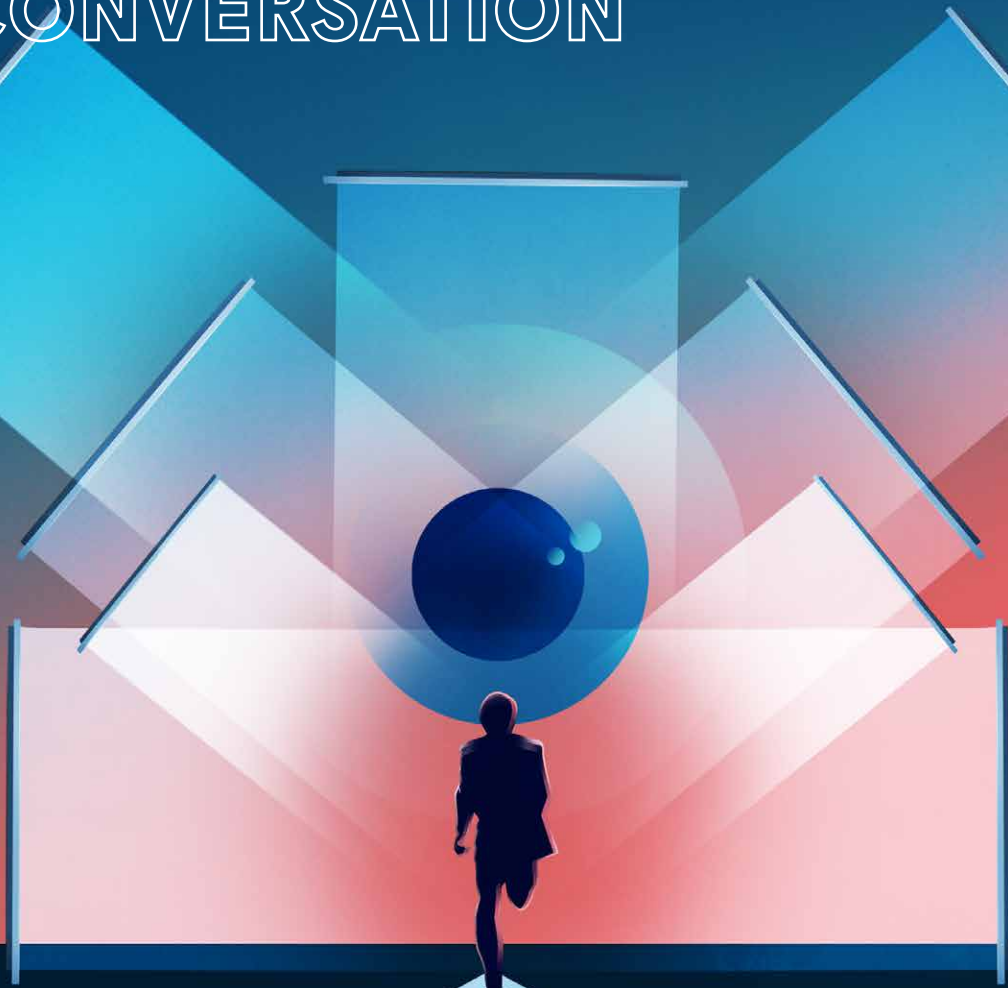
America’s Next Civil War

Author: Stephen Marche

Illustration by
Sébastien Thibault



CANADA'S SCIENCE & INNOVATION CONVERSATION



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Busted by Big Data

Author: John Lorinc

Illustration by

Matt Murphy

AT THE WALRUS TALKS Humanity and Technology in Toronto, tech entrepreneur Huda Idrees lamented the amount of meaningful human interaction we have given up for the convenience of apps and algorithms, and Andrea Slane gave a talk on the human need for companionship in the face of an emerging public-health crisis of social isolation. And John Lorinc investigated the proliferation and social impact of predictive-policing technology—a new tool available to Canada’s police forces that risks reinforcing their worst instincts.

The Walrus writers and talkers also tackled some of the toughest ethical questions of our time. Julia Zarankin wrote on a unique, controversial team of scientists bent on using genetic biotechnology to resurrect long-extinct species, and Concordia professor Vincent Martin spoke on the necessity of genetic modification of food if we are to feed a booming population. And Christopher Pollon explored the advent of tidal power, arguing that a greater investment is needed if this latest innovation in energy is to take its rightful place alongside solar and wind as a main source of tomorrow’s power.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Tidal Power Is the Next Big Green Wave

Author: Christopher Pollon

The Greatest Mathematician You’ve Never Heard Of

Author: Viviane Fairbank

Can Science Bring Extinct Animals Back To Life?

Author: Julia Zarankin

How Technology Can Fill the Gaps in Our Mental-Health System

Author: Jodi Shupac

The Rise of the Tech-Savvy Parent

Author: Angela Misri

Companionship and Technology

Andrea Slane at

The Walrus Talks in Toronto

Playing with Genomes

Vincent Martin at

The Walrus Talks in Toronto

Humanity and Technology

Huda Idrees at

The Walrus Talks in Toronto

How the Internet Changed Sex

Author: Anna Fitzpatrick

Illustration by Leey Aikawa



CANADA'S PLACE IN THE WORLD CONVERSATION

Chrystia Freeland
Wants to Fix the
Twenty-first Century
Author: Simon Lewsen
Illustration by Denise Nestor

NATIONAL IDENTITY can be a fraught question for Canadians, particularly at a time when the definition of nationhood and the strength of long-standing international agreements have been thrown into flux. Speaking before a packed audience at The Walrus LIVE, Margaret Atwood forecasted that Canada would need to take a leading role in the global response to climate change—a prediction made more relevant this year by new evidence that Canada is warming at twice the global rate. “It’s all very well for Justin Trudeau to say we won’t be pushed around,” she said. “But we probably will be pushed around—more than likely by the weather.”

Amid the rise of right-wing populism around the world, contributors to The Walrus examined the work of Canadians promoting liberal ideologies abroad. Curtis Gillespie wrote a timely update on Michael Ignatieff, who now finds himself in Hungary, caught up in the attacks by far-right prime minister Viktor Orbán against liberal philanthropist George Soros. And, in the midst of last year’s fight to salvage NAFTA, Simon Lewsen profiled foreign-affairs minister Chrystia Freeland, who believes that a robust system of international trade is the key to world peace.

Immigration continues to be a key conversation, particularly in light of the recent global refugee crisis. As tens of thousands of Syrian refugees were being settled in Canada, Kamal Al-Solaylee reported on a humanitarian crisis our foreign policy has overlooked—refugees from Yemen.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

How NAFTA Changed the Way We Eat

Author: Corey Mintz

Poutine in Qatar

Author: Corey Mintz

Can Michael Ignatieff Beat Back Authoritarianism in Hungary?

Author: Curtis Gillespie

Eating Dinner with Canada’s Migrant Workers

Author: Corey Mintz

One Person Can’t Save the World

Author: Sidney Coles

Charlottesville:

One Year Later

Author: Melissa J. Gismondi

The New Social Contract We All Have to Build for the Digital Era

Don Tapscott at

The Walrus Talks in Ottawa

The Future of Everything

Margaret Atwood at

The Walrus Talks in Toronto

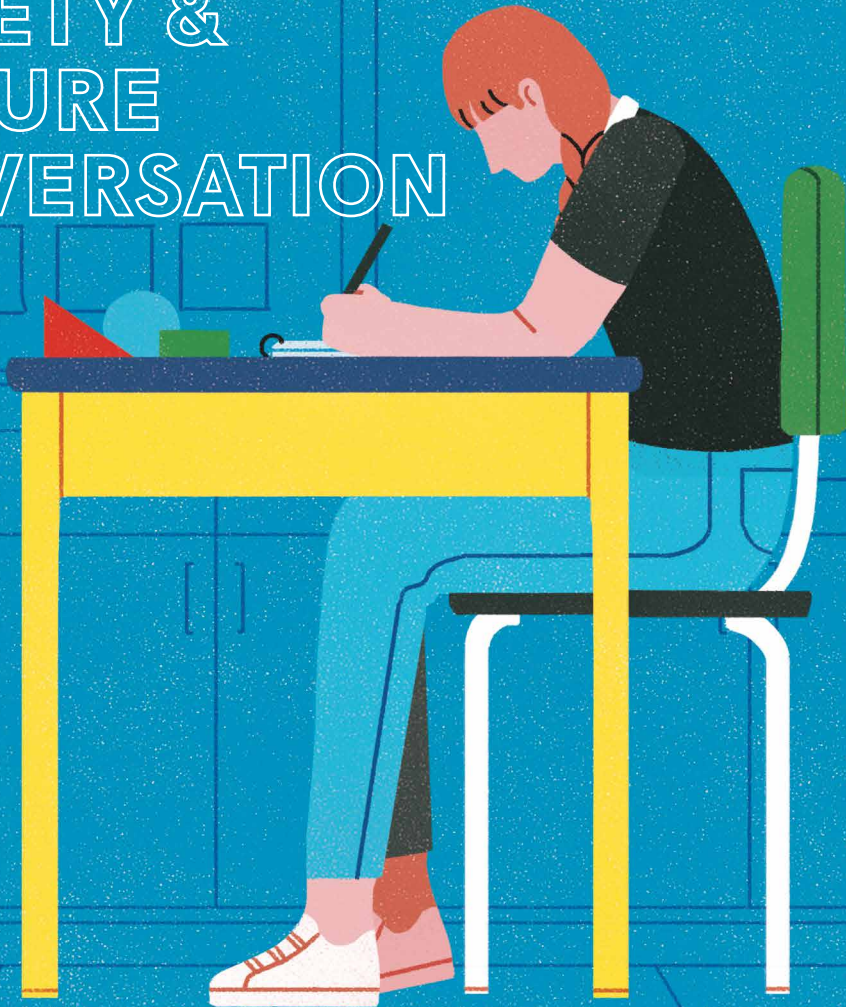
Unwelcome to Canada

Author: Kamal Al-Solaylee

Photograph by Ian Teh



CANADA'S SOCIETY & CULTURE CONVERSATION



Who Gets to Be Gifted?

Author: Katrina Onstad

Illustration by Jeannie Phan

W

HAT IT MEANS to be Canadian continues to evolve, and The Walrus has worked toward a more nuanced and inclusive vision of Canadian identity. Charmaine A. Nelson travelled to Saint-Armand, Quebec, where the mistreatment of a nineteenth-century black cemetery speaks to the racist history of how Canada treats the dead. And Katrina Onstad investigated the troubling fact that, across Canada's largest school board, children from less privileged backgrounds are less represented in gifted programs.

More Canadian women than ever before are choosing not to have kids. The Walrus digital editor Lauren McKeon detailed the movement to rewrite the flawed social script that places motherhood at the heart of being a woman. In a year when stigma against immigrants was harmfully politicized around the world, award-winning *Immigrant City* author David Bezmozgis, who left the Soviet Union when he was six, reflected on how Canadian citizenship both does and does not make him who he is. And, in June, Mark Abley marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Official Languages Act in the O'Hagan Annual Essay on Public Affairs, by questioning whether, at a crisis point for many Indigenous languages and at a time when many Canadians are multilingual—but not necessarily fluent in both English and French—it's time to move beyond the confines of official bilingualism.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Who Gets to Decide What Being a Canadian Means?

Author: David Bezmozgis

The Story Behind Jordan Peterson's Indigenous Identity

Author: Robert Jago

Black Cemeteries Force Us to Re-examine Our History With Slavery

Author: Charmaine A. Nelson

How to Build a Life without Kids

Author: Lauren McKeon

We've Legalized Marijuana. Let's Modernize our Alcohol Laws Too

Author: Paul Gallant

How Racism Fuels Ineffective Gun Control

Author: Angela Wright

The Links between Privilege and Success

Rachel Clark at
The Walrus Talks in Toronto

How to Get Laid without Your Phone

Siri Agrell at
The Walrus Talks in Toronto

Beyond Bilingualism

The O'Hagan Annual Essay on Public Affairs
Author: Mark Abley
Photograph by Whitney Light



CANADA'S ARTS CONVERSATION

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**How One First Nation Artist
Makes Noise With Antlers
and Amplifiers**

Author: Erica Ngao
Photograph by
Matthew Hayes



IN 2018, The Walrus hosted artists from across the country and around the world and published poetry, fiction, photography, criticism, and illustration. At The Walrus Talks in Toronto on the future of art, Shary Boyle imagined the role of artists as chroniclers of human presence after the apocalypse. Egypt-based poet

Noor Naga spoke on her decision to make a Muslim mistress the protagonist of her verse novel, arguing that demonizing Muslims or representing them as saints leaves no room to depict their humanity. And dance critic Martha Schabas profiled Crystal Pite, the revolutionary BC choreographer whose latest work attempts to communicate the loss, alienation, and anxiety of those displaced by the global refugee crisis.

A large amount of the most innovative and globally significant work in Canada is currently being done by Indigenous creators. Cree writer Billy-Ray Belcourt—who went on to win the Griffin Prize—poeticized the beauty of the reserve in June. Erica Ngao, editorial fellow at The Walrus, profiled Jeneen Frei Njootli, an interdisciplinary Gwich'in artist who creates sound installations by looping and amplifying the sounds of cymbals, antlers, and power tools. Curator Catherine Dean covered the opening of a cultural centre in Cape Dorset, Nunavut, and the new wave of Inuit printmakers in the region. And Sarah MacDonal profiled Jeremy Dutcher, a Wolastoqiyik musician who hopes his Polaris Prize-winning debut album can breathe new life into an endangered language.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

The Future of Inuit Art

Author: Catherine Dean

Tax Ni? Piĳak (A Long Time Ago)

Author: Troy Sebastian /
Nupqu ʔa-kʔ aṃ

The Terrible Beauty of the Reserve

Author: Billy-Ray Belcourt

How Jeremy Dutcher Keeps His Ancestors' Language Alive

Author: Sarah Macdonald

This New CBC Show is an Antidote to Reality TV

Author: Caoimhe
Morgan-Feir

Mistresses Should Be Muslim Too

Noor Naga at
The Walrus Talks in Toronto

A Short Story About the End of the World

Shary Boyle at
The Walrus Talks in Toronto

Are Our Memories Based on Fiction False?

Lisa Moore at
The Walrus Talks in London

Can Choreography Help Us Understand the Refugee Crisis?

Author: Martha Schabas
Photograph by
Tristram Kenton



BY THE NUMBERS

IN THE fifteenth year of The Walrus, our operations are virtually unrecognizable from the days when we published just ten print issues a year. As a result, not only is the size of our audience growing but so are engagement levels.

IN 2018

- The Walrus reached a community of **579,000** interested and interesting people each month.
- **2,100** people supported the Canadian conversation through donations to The Walrus.
- We produced a multiday event that convened **900** guests and **75** speakers across **5** stages.
- **315** pieces of journalism were published, along with **20** poems, **12** works of fiction, and **105** pieces of original artwork.
- The Walrus Talks featured over **100** perspectives at **15** events in **6** cities.
- **87%** of our print subscribers renewed for another year.
- **24** sponsors supported our live events.
- **19** community activities were sponsored by The Walrus.
- Digital readers spent an average of **6** minutes per page (higher than industry average).
- **6** fellows were trained in The Walrus Editorial Fellowship Program.
- **4** interns and summer students joined our efforts.
- **2** new platforms were launched: The Walrus Books and The Walrus Podcasts.
- We published **1** special anniversary issue — “The Future of Almost Everything.”



Allan Slaight Prize
for Journalism

Danielle Groen and
Emmanuelle Gattuso Slaight

THE 2018 ALLAN SLAIGHT PRIZE FOR JOURNALISM

THIS ANNUAL prize celebrates journalistic achievements by writers in The Walrus and supports journalists in pursuing compelling stories of social import.

In 2018, the \$10,000 Allan Slaight Prize for Journalism was awarded to Danielle Groen for her story “Bad Code,” an article which dives into the world of artificial intelligence to outline its racist and sexist biases and to describe how those biases influence a broad range of sociological and economic decisions.



THE WALRUS EDITORIAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

THE WALRUS Editorial Fellowship Program offers promising young journalists the opportunity to work with skilled professionals, reducing barriers to future employment by providing introductions to those in the sector and by helping the fellows develop a strong portfolio of published work. The fellows work closely with our editorial team for six months, participating in every part of the publication process. Over 100 fellows have graduated from the program, and more than 70 percent have gone on to distinguished careers in Canadian and international media organizations.

The Walrus trained six aspiring journalists in 2018, thanks to the generosity of Adventure Canada, Geoff Beattie and Amanda Lang, the Chawkers Foundation, Lucille and Urban Joseph, Sandra and Jim Pitblado, and the William and Nona Heaslip Foundation.

"I want to express my immense gratitude to the Slight Family Foundation for its tremendous contribution to and support of long-form journalism and to The Walrus for providing such a remarkable home for vital, independent Canadian writing."

Danielle Groen

The other shortlisted stories for the 2018 Allan Slight Prize for Journalism were:

"Unwelcome to Canada" by Kamal Al-Solaylee

"Why I Developed a Roll of Film I Found on the Curb"
by Christine Estima

"At The Walrus, I was given the weighty task of making sure every word, sentence, and paragraph was as accurate as possible. The editorial team trusted me to flag what needed flagging, and with the two other fellows, I quickly became an important cog in the system as we all worked each production period to put together the best journalism in Canada."

Amy van den Berg, 2018 Adventure Canada Fellow

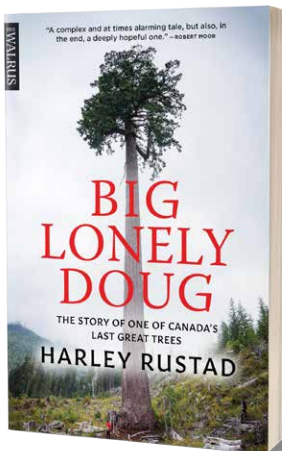
THE WALRUS BOOKS

thewalrus.ca/books

IN SEPTEMBER 2018, the first of the The Walrus Books was published through a partnership between The Walrus, House of Anansi Press, and the Chawkers Foundation Writers Project.

Big Lonely Doug, by Harley Rustad, features editor at The Walrus, was originally a long-form article in The Walrus that garnered a National Magazine Award (Silver). *Big Lonely Doug* weaves the ecology of old-growth forests; the legend of the West Coast's big trees; the turbulence of the logging industry; the fight for conservation; the contention surrounding ecotourism, First Nations land, and resource rights; and the fraught future of these ancient forests around the story of a logger who saved one of Canada's last great trees.

Big Lonely Doug was a finalist for the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing, the Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize, BC Book Prizes, and the Banff Mountain Book Competition.



THE WALRUS PODCASTS

thewalrus.ca/podcasts

THE WALRUS Podcasts was launched in 2018 as an extension of the award-winning storytelling that The Walrus is known for.

Pivot, with author, producer, and cultural critic Noah Richler, is a nine-episode podcast series about people fighting their way back from the edge—their battles, their triumphs, and the pivotal turning points in their journeys. From war photographers on the front lines to novelists battling the “sophomore curse,” the thread that ties these diverse people together is the existence of a watershed moment that changed their stories—and their lives.

THE WALRUS LAB

thewalrus.ca/lab

THE WALRUS LAB offers services for clients who need help getting their story out to the right audience. We bring our extensive expertise in storytelling and convening to navigate complex conversations and make our clients look their best. The Walrus Lab specializes in client-branded awards, prizes, tours, custom content, podcasts, and more. Significant projects to date include the Lieutenant Governor’s Visionaries Prize, the Amazon Canada First Novel Award, and the Governor General’s Literary Awards. With these projects, we convened diverse audiences to celebrate and spur conversation around excellence in their fields, and we succeeded in enhancing our clients’ brands and furthering their specific goals. The Walrus Lab also offers third-party fact-checking, writing, and copy-editing; training programs in fact-checking and editing; and support for clients through promotional elements like reports, supplements, and brochures.

Amazon Canada First Novel Award



The Amazon Canada First Novel Award, co-presented with The Walrus, recognizes the outstanding achievement of a Canadian first-time novelist. In 2018, a new category was added to recognize young authors with a Youth Short Story Category; Robin de Valk-Zaiss won the inaugural prize for her short story “Robin Bird.” The 2018 winner for the Amazon Canada First Novel Award was Michael Kaan for his book, *The Water Beetles*.

The Lieutenant Governor’s Visionaries Prize



visionaries
prize

An Ontario 150 Signature Initiative launched to celebrate

Canada’s sesquicentennial, the Lieutenant Governor’s Visionaries Prize was established to give Ontario’s most creative thinkers a forum for tackling the challenges that Ontarians and Canadians will face over the next fifty years—and to give them a chance to present their solutions in front of the Lieutenant Governor and a panel of the province’s thought leaders. The prize and province-wide events were produced by The Walrus Lab.

Other Clients



VitalSigns



National Trust for Canada



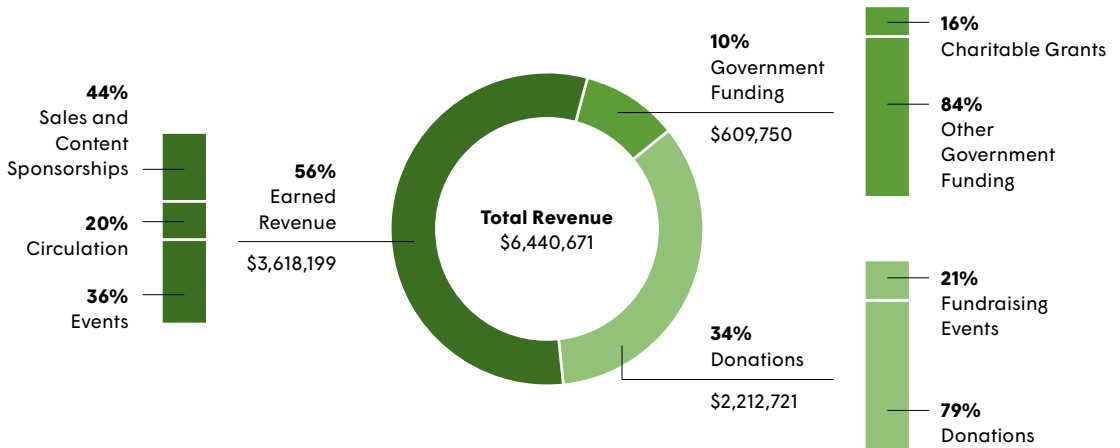
Fiducie nationale du Canada



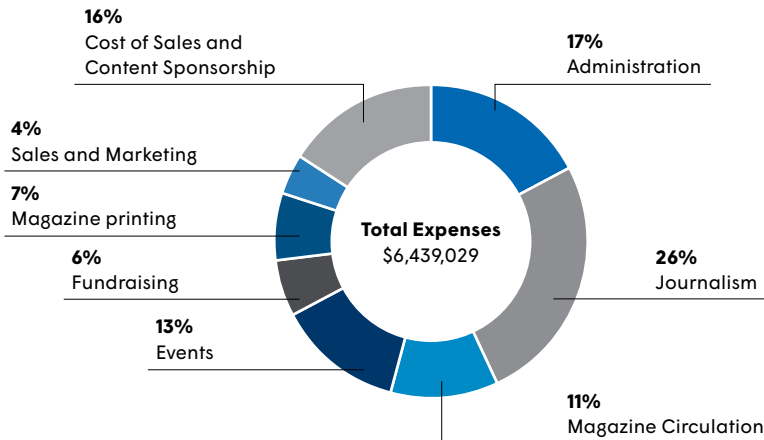
For additional information, please contact Mihira Lakshman, director of The Walrus Lab (mihira@thewalrus.ca).

THE WALRUS 2018 FINANCIALS

REVENUE



EXPENSES



THE WALRUS SPONSORS & PARTNERS

THE WALRUS TALKS

2018 was a busy year for the events team, which produced fifteen public events across Canada, convening diverse audiences and sparking conversation on a wide range of topics. The Walrus Talks included Canada 150: What Next?, Leadership, Energy, The Indigenous City, Health, The Future, Connections, Success, Humanity and Technology, Cannabis, Disruption, Remembrance, and The Future of The Arts.



THE WALRUS LIVE

To celebrate the 15th anniversary of The Walrus, a marquee gathering of more than 75 speakers and 900 guests took place in June on the theme "The Future of Everything."



THE WALRUS LEADERSHIP DINNERS

The Walrus Leadership Dinners are invitation-only, private gatherings of senior business, media, academic, policy, and political leaders who come together to discuss the most complex issues facing the country.



THE WALRUS GALA

Each January, over 400 of Canada's highest-profile leaders in arts, politics, business, and society gather to support independent, fact-based journalism. The Walrus thanks the following sponsors.

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To find out more about becoming a partner of The Walrus, please contact Andrea Boyd, director of partnerships & sponsorships (andrea.boyd@thewalrus.ca).

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THE WALRUS TRUST

With the multiyear commitment of exceptional donors, The Walrus Trust will secure the long-term future of fact-based journalism at The Walrus.

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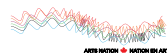
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The Walrus is eternally grateful for the continued generosity of our founding donor, the Chawkers Foundation.

The Walrus proudly recognizes the contribution of the Government of Canada, the Ontario Media Development Corporation, the Ontario Arts Council, Proof Inc., and the Slight Family Foundation, creator of the Allan Slight Writers' Fund.

Emerging artists at The Walrus are generously supported by the RBC Emerging Artists Project.



"There are no other organizations in Canada that take on the long and deeply reported stories that The Walrus does. Any financial support it gets is richly deserved and contributes to elevating the public conversation in Canada."

Kamal Al-Solaylee

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The Walrus salutes these community leaders who have made substantial multiyear commitments, allowing us to plan on a longer horizon and execute projects in an environment designed for success rather than survival.

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These donors have made a second optimistic commitment.

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Richard O'Hagan 1928-2018

Richard O'Hagan was deeply committed to democracy and the role of quality journalism in building and sustaining a healthy society. He was a much-loved member of The Walrus community, where he served three terms on the foundation's board of directors from 2007 to 2018. His wise counsel, intellectual curiosity, strategic thinking, and charming manner will be deeply missed by the staff, the board of directors, and all those who worked at his side.

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THE WALRUS | CANADA'S CONVERSATION

The Walrus provokes new thinking and sparks conversation on matters vital to Canadians. We publish independent, fact-based journalism; we produce national, ideas-focused events; and we train emerging professionals in publishing and nonprofit management. The Walrus is invested in the idea that a healthy society relies on informed citizens.

The Walrus is operated by the Walrus Foundation, a registered charitable nonprofit with an educational mandate to create forums for conversations on matters vital to Canadians.

For more information, please visit thewalrus.ca or contact:

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