



WAG REPORT

Writers Advisory Guild

Vol. I, Issue 2: Nov 11, 2020

We thank Sheila for this useful list of writers' associations. Richard added the comments in red after a quick perusal of each site:

Writers' Union of Canada

<https://www.writersunion.ca/>

Extensive directory of members; a number of our group are members

Canadian Authors Association (CAA)

<https://canadianauthors.org/national/>

Very lofty support aims; expansive description page; many active officers, staff, executives; est. 1921;

Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators and Performers (CANSCAIP)

<https://www.canscaip.org/>

Est 1977 by Port Colborne library, 11 original members who wanted to share their expertise, \$45/85 fee to join as a friend/full member;

Crime Writers of Canada

<https://www.crimewriterscanada.com/>

Mandate to promote; offer links to other writer groups; very extensive staff; practical members chart with links to authors

InScribe Christian Writers' Fellowship

<https://inscribe.org/>

Purpose to stimulate, support and encourage; professional blog, very informative; catalogue tho not linked; in-house press; email links to executives (all women); exclusive to Christian writers?

The Word Guild (Christian Canadian writers and editors)

<https://thewordguild.com/>

Est 2002 by two writers; mission to promote Judeo-Christian worldview; writers, editors, mentors for hire; password reqd to enter exclusive areas

Commonwealth Writers

<https://www.commonwealthwriters.org/about/>

Seem to be affiliate of broader organization (Commonwealth Foundation) ; simple website, no frills, utilitarian; not much there really.

League of Canadian Poets

<https://poets.ca/>

Phone number; mission to develop the art of poetry, etc etc...blah blah

World Poetry

https://worldpoetry.ca/?page_id=2

Some of our people belong; dedicate to long and prose poetry; Atwood; "How-to series: Publicity & promotion, Self-publishing, income tax, incorporation, legacy and estate planning.

CONCLUSIONS:

None of the associations look like they offer any kind of tech help, something that may benefit many writers depending on their level of tech skill. This definitely should be a feature we offer and with which we deal.

A website presence seems to be essential, though its elaborateness is debatable.

A team of devoted staff seems to be essential if the goals of the association are to be fulfilled: webmaster, treasurer, coordinator, communications, membership officer

All the associations offer support, encouragement, and some promise of promotion.

Besides offering 'promotion,' some also offer publishing information.



Richard's last word

With the exception of the technology aspect, which our association seems to have covered in spades, we are very similar to the many writer associations which already exist.

However, perhaps our best focus may be to concentrate on helping each other until we have significantly more before going "big time."

At this time, it may be better to focus on helping each other in areas where each of us needs help, publishing, launching, promotion, editing help, illustration and graphics help, tech help...we likely have enough on our own plates so jumping into a big pool may be of little value at this time.