

## Muskoka Novel Marathon 2022

# Registration Package

**As announced, despite expectations, we're going to Zoom it again this year.**

The beautiful Active Living Centre in Huntsville, Muskoka, Ontario, Canada, is booked again for 2023 and our fingers are firmly crossed. Please cross yours!

**Date and time: July 15-18, 2022.** The bell will be rung in beautiful Muskoka to start the Marathon on Friday at 8 p.m. EDT (GMT-5) and end it on Monday at 8 p.m. EDT. We are going to charge CAD\$25 again this to cover our reduced expenses. (Registration for in-person MNMs is \$100.)

**There is NO cap on the number of writers... tell your writer friends! Build your local MNM Writers' Pod!**

By registering, you will get:

- Schedule and link for all regular Zoom events (MNM orientation and opening bell, Saturday fundraising awards and preliminary total announcement, Sunday midnight reading, etc.)
- All other links for relevant online happenings and resources during the Marathon
- Eligibility for awards: Best Novel (Adult or YA/Juvenile), Most Prolific Award, Rockstar Award, Techie Award, Spirit Award and Remington Award (for most funds raised).
- A link and page for easy-click fundraising for our beneficiary: YMCA and its Muskoka literacy programs.
- An opportunity to buy one or more of our MNM 2022 t-shirts. See below for design and colour/style/size options.
- Eligibility to join an MNM Writers' Pod in your area (if there is one).

TO REGISTER:

**Registration is now open.**

**Please use a computer – mobile devices often have issues,** so for the best chance of a non-problematic registration please do not use your phone or iPad.

Visit [www.muskokanovelmarchathon.com](http://www.muskokanovelmarchathon.com) and click on the “MORE INFORMATION/REGISTER ME” button. Then follow the instructions. When you register, you'll get the opportunity to order one (or more) of our stylish t-shirts.

Finally, you'll be invited to provide a head shot and a mini-bio to let the rest of us know who you are on our website! (Note: we always do this with in-person Marathons as well.)

## The Point of It All

There are two reasons we put our time, energy and love into organizing this event:

1. to raise funds for YMCA Muskoka's adult literacy programs - because literacy, numeracy and computer skills liberate people, give them possibilities they never had before, and change lives;
2. to provide a unique opportunity for writers to step out of their everyday lives, write like crazy in the company of a bunch of other writers doing the same, and compete to have their manuscript seen by a publishing professional.

Re #1, we will send you some tried and true fundraising tips, gathered from our star fundraisers, once you are registered. THE single best fundraising practice: make your asks personal and individual.

#2 is harder to do at home than it is in the Active Living Centre, of course, but there are ways. We strongly encourage you to still step outside of your usual life to free yourself up for 72 hours of pure unadulterated writing. Don't schedule anything else, take Monday off work if you can, send the spouse and kids to Grandma's or on a canoe trip or to Canada's Wonderland, or mark your room "Genius at Work, Do Not Disturb", and claim MNM for your writing.

## Writers' Handbook & Manuscript Template

Prior to the event, you will receive an email with a PDF of a shortened version of our Writers' Handbook, which contains all sorts of useful information, including submission guidelines. (We are simplifying the submission email process this year by popular request.) Stash your Handbook somewhere easy to find on your computer or mobile device for reference during the event. You'll also get our handy manuscript template as a Word doc, which is pre-formatted to the MNM standard manuscript format. Just open it and start writing!

## Fundraising

Because the beginning of this year has been Covid-stricken again, while we will set up a fundraising link for everyone, we will not look askance upon you if you don't use it. However now there are cool and interesting sponsored prizes up for grabs once again, not to mention the Remy.

Once you have registered you will receive an email from the Y with your fundraising link and more information.

## Writing

All forms of writing are permissible, including poetry, anthologies, short stories, non-fiction, etc. Collaborative entries by two writers maximum are permitted.

If you are submitting your manuscript for judging, **you may not submit any words other than those written during the specified 72 hours**. You may use a pre-prepared one-page writing outline to help organize your writing.

**IMPORTANT information about synopses:** even with a completed novel manuscript, **a synopsis of your story is REQUIRED**, as we allow the judges the option of reading only 50 pages plus the synopsis, in order to ease their workload. Synopsis writing is a necessary skill for professional novelists, so you should practice it anyway. Need tips? Try here: [A Short Guide to Synopsis Writing](#) from the Porcupine's Quill: [[online](#)] [[.doc file](#)].

## Awards

Writers who wish to take part in the Best Novel competition may submit their manuscripts electronically at or before the end of the marathon. Our judges, who may include authors, librarians, editors, book publishers and bookstore owners (and are all total bibliophiles), will determine the winners in each of two categories: Juvenile/Young Adult, and Adult.

Winners will be announced at our Wrap-up Event, which we'll do by Zoom on September 24. They will have some weeks to revise their manuscripts before sending them to David Patterson, our Publisher Liaison, who will then submit them to the editor or agent.

Once the manuscripts have been sent to the editor or agent, the discussion will continue between that party and the author directly. The Muskoka Novel Marathon will cease to be involved from that point onwards (except to wish you the best of luck!)

Our full collection of awards is listed on our website [here](#). They're all up for grabs, and peer voting for awards will be done electronically.

## Social Media

Once you're registered you don't need to wait until July 15 to start hanging out online with your fellow Novel Marathoners! Please join the [Muskoka Novel Marathoners Facebook Group](#). Writer Liaison Shellie Westlake can best be contacted via email ([writerliaison@muskokanovelmarathon.com](mailto:writerliaison@muskokanovelmarathon.com)), but join this group and reach out to your fellow writers if you have any questions. We're a family here, and love to help! To see our official public announcements, go to our official Facebook page, [Muskoka Novel Marathon](#). Our official hashtag is #writeMNM2022.

## Contest Submission Rules

1. Entrants to either Best Novel or Most Prolific contests must begin writing their manuscripts no earlier than 8:00 p.m. (20h) EDT on the first day (Friday) of the marathon and end no later than 8:00 p.m. (20h) on the final day (Monday) of the marathon. An affidavit to this effect, which we will provide, must be signed by the author, signed by a witness and submitted by the end of the event. Please print, scan and email the scan to us, or use electronic signatures.
2. Completed manuscripts to be submitted to the judges will be in Microsoft Word, double-spaced in 14-point Times New Roman with page number and title of work on each page. A separate title page will include the title of the work and the intended audience only (Young Adult/Juvenile and Adult). Once you're registered, we will provide a template Word file for you to use so you don't have to worry about formatting. **To ensure the objectivity of the judging process, the author's name must not appear anywhere on this copy.** If it does, we will delete it if we can, because otherwise we must disqualify you.
3. There are no limits to the length of the manuscript, however **a synopsis must be included** even if you complete your work, as one or more judges reading it might opt to read just 50 pages and a synopsis. Knowing how the rest of the novel goes, especially its ending, allows them to evaluate its quality as a whole work and provide plot feedback. (If they love it, of course, they'll read the whole thing.)
4. For writers wishing to submit their work for judging, electronic copies will be accepted by the Novel Marathon Committee up to 8:00 p.m. EDT on Monday. We will give you the email addresses later.
5. The judges reserve the right to declare "no award" in a category if they feel none of the manuscripts are acceptable for submission to a publisher or agent.

## Questions?

Please contact our friendly and helpful Writer Liaison **Shellie Westlake** at [writerliaison@muskokanovelmarathon.com](mailto:writerliaison@muskokanovelmarathon.com)

or on Facebook Messenger – Join "[Muskoka Novel Marathoners](#)"

There is also more Marathon info on our website, [muskokanovelmarathon.com](http://muskokanovelmarathon.com). If you haven't yet checked out our [Resources for Writers](#) page, please do – it's chock full of writerly goodies.

## Muskoka Novel Marathon 2022 T-Shirts

Once again, the wonderful Beth Brittain, owner of Portage Promotionals of Huntsville, is providing our lovely, comfortable, custom-printed Muskoka Novel Marathon t-shirts... with the usual MNM logo on the front over your heart and our 2022 slogan and hashtag on the back.

The T-shirt industry is unfortunately beset with Covid-related supply chain issues now, making keeping a steady stock impossible. Thus we and Beth have had to make some accommodations. First: T-shirts will just come in one style (crew neck, no v-neck) and two fits (ladies or unisex). All shirts are preshrunk 7.5 oz cotton. **The ladies' styles have a tapered body and fit SMALL. And we mean really small.** (Approximate sizes are S=2, M=4, L=6, XL=8, XXL=10-12.) Unisex sizes range from S (about equivalent to a Ladies 6) to XXL (about equivalent to a Men's XL). The text and graphic on all shirts are white and won't stand out as much on lighter-coloured shirts.

Second accommodation: Because we are anticipating stock problems with certainty, we're allowing you to choose first, second and third colour preferences. For each t-shirt you buy: when ordering it on the website, choose your favourite colour; then send an email to [convenor@muskokanovelmarathon.com](mailto:convenor@muskokanovelmarathon.com) specifying your second and third colour choices. If you make no second and third choices, we will assume that you prefer no t-shirt to a t-shirt in a different colour than your favourite. If you don't receive a reply acknowledging receipt of your email, assume we did not receive it and try again. If you don't order a t-shirt when registering but then change your mind and want one, you can order up to May 15 and no later. We will send you a dedicated link for doing this upon request.

### **Pricing:**

Third, sadly, the t-shirts are going to cost us CA\$3-4 more per shirt so we are reluctantly raising our price per shirt by \$3 to \$26.

If you live in Muskoka and surrounds and want to pick up your t-shirt(s) in Huntsville, select the "Local pickup" option. Otherwise, add shipping via Canada Post:

- Within Canada: CAD\$31 (\$26 + \$5) for one shirt; \$29 (\$26 + \$3) for each additional shirt (if ordered together).
- To continental USA: CAD\$38 for one shirt (\$26 + \$12); \$36 (\$26 + \$10) for each additional shirt (if ordered together).
- To other locations: Price TBD (please inquire).

**The pages below show what the shirts will look like, then size, style and colour choices.** The colours shown may not exactly match the actual shirt colour (but mostly they're pretty close).

What the t-shirts will look like:

**Unisex**



**Ladies**



# Size, style and colour choices

## Unisex Crew Neck S-2XL (\* indicated 3XL available)

	Black*		Antique Sapphire		Cherry Red		Sapphire		Heather Cardinal Red		Sport Grey*		Navy		
NO X-LARGE IN THESE COLOURS															
	Heather Irish Green*		Heather Orange		Heather Purple		Heather Red*		Heather Royal*		Metro Blue		Red		Royal*
NO 2X-LARGE IN THESE COLOURS															

## Ladies' Crew Neck S-2XL

	Black		Dark Heather		Navy		Red		Royal		Sport Grey
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