

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

*Kootenay Mountain Culture Magazine* and *Coast Mountain Culture Magazine* celebrate, document and investigate all facets of mountain culture. Our goal is to inspire readers to interact with their mountainous landscapes and expose them to new mountain-culture experiences from abroad, as well as those in their own backyard.

Send us your ideas. If you would like to submit a story

query or any photography, get a copy of our magazine or explore our website and get to know our style. See further down for a description of the magazine's departments.

We welcome story ideas of all stripes: essays, interviews, investigations, action, history, art, humour, profiles, science and invention. Don't be afraid to tackle any issue, big or small. We're looking for fresh perspectives.

A few tips and guidelines about submitting story ideas and photographs:

- Send two or three paragraphs outlining your story idea to [submissions@mountainculturegroup.com](mailto:submissions@mountainculturegroup.com) and attach it in a Word document. Please make your subject line either, "Pitch KMC" or "Pitch CMC" as appropriate. Your text should give us a sense of your style and editorial direction.
- We get many queries about trips people have taken with their friends, so if you're incubating this type of idea, think of the bigger picture. Why are you telling us this story? Why do our readers need to know?
- We do not accept completed stories at the query stage.
- Our readership is broad-based and therefore we look for writing that may have wit, irony or style that is balanced with a plain-language approach that both high-school students and academics can appreciate.
- Avoid clichéd phrases and jargon at all times.
- We really appreciate writers who let us know if they're submitting the same story idea somewhere else.
- Deadlines are law. If you've agreed to write a piece, it's your responsibility to get it done on time. We can be reasonable and flexible, but don't make us grumpy.
- Send photo submissions to our photo editor Peter Moynes at [peter@mountainculturegroup.com](mailto:peter@mountainculturegroup.com). We are open to most submission styles. We like to see unusual and unique perspectives in your imagery. Submit low-resolution photographs to start,

via compressed zip file or attached to an email. Ensure you include all applicable metadata in your file.

Each magazine is printed twice a year: the Summer Issue is released mid-May and our Winter Issue at the end of October.

- Summer Issue feature-story writing takes place in September/October and Frontside and Stash stories are written in November/December.
- For our Winter Issue, April/May is when feature writing happens and June/July is when Frontside and Stash are written.

Send an email to [submissions@mountainculturegroup.com](mailto:submissions@mountainculturegroup.com) to find out what the theme is for upcoming issues.

### DEPARTMENTS

#### FRONTSIDE/WESTSIDE

At the front of the book is Frontside, a collection of newsworthy, engaging 200- to 800-word pieces that profile people, places, ideas, works, experiences and happenings that bite into the less obvious undercurrent of local mountain culture: surfing Alberta's Bow River to First Nations pro snowboarders, alpine-climbing-bums-turned-winemakers to Mount Elbrus gondola terrorist attacks. Stories can be regional, global or unattached to place altogether, as long as they are compelling.

#### GALLERY

Our stunning multi-page photographic gallery is where we showcase those

sublime shots that encapsulate the essence of mountain culture.

#### FEATURE WELL

This is one of our defining editorial characteristics—a dedicated, themed feature well. In the past, we've tackled ideas like Funk, Competition, Power, Wanderlust and Design, to name a few. Stories in the feature well cover a range, from 800-word essays to 1,500-word Q&As to 3,000-word in-depth investigative features. A story's affiliation with the feature well theme can be understated or overt. For instance, in our recent Power Issue, our stories range from the physical electricity that powers the Shambhala Music Festival to the environmental debate surrounding run-of-river projects, along with a piece on the allure of gas-fuelled redneck culture for good measure (go figure). Feature well themes are usually determined by our editors, so for a more efficient query, inquire about the upcoming themes.

#### STASH

Small 200-word text bites focused on films, books, websites, music, art and design. Subjects are usually from our respective regions or surrounding regions, but we do entertain subjects that have a larger role in mountain culture.

Thanks for taking the time to check out *Kootenay Mountain Culture Magazine* and *Coast Mountain Culture Magazine*. We look forward to your queries.