

Career Exploration Centre

Online



 **SAIT**
**YOUNG
ORIGINALS**

Reporter

Career Description

Reporters gather information and write articles for print media (newspapers and magazines), or prepare news items (written, audiotaped, or videotaped) for broadcast on radio, television, or the internet.

They are employed by:

- Television, radio, and internet networks and stations
- They may also work independently as freelancers

Working conditions:

Some reporting environments can be dangerous. Assignments can range from covering wars or natural disasters to local news, including fires, vehicle collisions, and police standoffs. They must cope with a hectic pace, long and irregular hours, and a work environment filled with noise, interruptions, and distractions.

Skills & Abilities:

Print and broadcast reporters must have:

- communication and interview skills
- a keen interest in people and current events
- initiative, curiosity, persistence, and resourcefulness
- physical and emotional stamina

Stats:

Average salary in Alberta: \$61,112.00*

Average wage: \$31.43*

Minimum education: 2 years post-secondary

*Statistics from 2019, alis.alberta.ca

For more Alberta career information and stats:

<https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta/occupation-profiles/reporter/>

Activity Mission

You are working on a news report for the 6:00 evening news. In this activity, you will complete some typical duties of a broadcast journalist:

1. Write a news report
2. Record a news report
3. Review the video

Tools:

Pen or pencil and paper

Task 1: Write a News Report

Instructions

1. Choose one of the stories over the next 3 pages to present as your story.
2. Each story contains a set of sentences which are labelled as follows: **L**-lead, **S**-support, **B**-body, **C**-closing
3. Create your news story by selecting:
 - **1** Lead sentence: One simple sentence with basic but Intriguing Information to capture the audience's attention.
 - **1** Support sentence: One sentence that helps the audience understand what the story is about.
 - **2** Body sentences: Two sentences that describe the bulk of the story.
 - **1** Closing sentence: One sentence that concludes the story. It may also suggest where the story will go in the future (e.g., *the jury is expected to reach a verdict early next week.*)
4. Construct your news story by combining the 5 sentences you have selected to form a whole paragraph.

National Music Centre Story

Big Announcement from the National Music Centre

- L - The National Music Centre (NMC) made a big announcement this week about a new committee that they are adding to their team.
- L - The National Music Centre (NMC) recently welcomed a new advisory committee.
- S - The Indigenous Programming Advisory Committee will collaborate on programs and content for the National Music Centre.
- S- The new Indigenous Advisory Committee will assist with Indigenous content at Studio Bell.
- B- The new advisory committee's advice on programming will guide the NMC in sharing the rich history of Indigenous culture with the next generation.
- B - With the new programming, the NMC and its advisory committee will honour the heritage, cultures, and contributions to society of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis communities.
- B - Indigenous Music Week is an upcoming program that will run in conjunction with National Indigenous Peoples Day and will offer free admission for people who identify as Indigenous, or are of Indigenous descent.
- B- The NMC is honored by the experience and dedication that the advisory committee has brought to this project and is excited to collaborate with the diverse Indigenous communities.
- C- The NMC is dedicated to providing space for Indigenous artists to be celebrated and acknowledged.
- C - To find a complete listing of all scheduled activities and events, please visit the National Music Centre's website at amplify.nmc.ca

Calgary Flames Story

Calgary Flames to Offer More Affordable Tickets

L - Many Calgary Flames fans are dancing for joy this week.

L - Calgary Flames fans were shocked by a major announcement made by the hockey club this week.

S- Calgary Flames President and CEO confirmed last week that there will be a number of seats in the lower bowl sold for more affordable prices.

S- If you are a fan who has been at home watching your team and wishing you could be there, now is your chance to get to see the Flames live in great seats.

S - The Flames franchise has decided to give back to their fans by lowering ticket prices in select sections of the lower bowl.

B - The Calgary Flames' legions of fans have been dedicated to supporting their team all the way to the Stanley Cup, but not all fans are able to come to the games due to the high price of tickets.

B - After many requests from their fans, the hockey team opened up certain seats at a lower price, which can only be purchased at the ticket booth the day before any game.

B - The team wanted to give back to their loyal fans, so by offering these lower-priced seats, the hockey club is hoping to bring in spectators who have never seen a live game before.

C - For more information about tickets, visit the team's website at nhl.com/flames.

C - The club is hoping to continue with the discounted seats for many hockey seasons to come.

Calgary Humane Society

Calgary Humane Society Improves Adoption Process

- L - The Calgary Humane Society (CHS) is providing more hope for animal lovers and unwanted pets in our city.
- L - The Calgary Humane Society (CHS) has announced major improvements to the process for adopting unwanted animals.
- S - The Executive Director of the CHS is focused on all aspects of animal welfare and understands that education is key in developing inspired and confident pet owners.
- S - Since 1922, the CHS has been leading the way in animal welfare, researching all aspects of pet care based on the latest research and animal behavior science.
- B - Having a pet is a lifelong commitment with an animal companion. The CHS offers many courses through their Animal Behavior Department to assist owners in overcoming challenges.
- B - From obedience classes, private consultations, and seminars, the CHS has something for every pet owner. The classes cover a variety of topics, including recall training, building a strong foundation with your puppy, and walking nicely on a leash.
- B - The CHS believes that all children and youth deserve the opportunity to learn, and offer field trip options to educate the next generation on wildlife preservation and animal protection.
- C - Expect to see new “Before Adoption” classes added to their already long list of educational programming.
- C - New “Before Adoption” classes will begin in the spring of next year.

Task 2: Record your News Story

Instructions

1. Using a webcam or your phone, set up your camera to record yourself as you read out your script.
2. Have your script set up on paper or on your computer screen so that you can follow it as you present your story.
3. Review the tips below and practice reading your story a few times.
4. When you are ready, record your newscast.

Tips for Presenting a News Report

- Practice reading your story out loud so that it sounds natural and interesting.
- Remember to breathe calmly.
- Project your voice (speak loudly), but don't shout.
- Be expressive. Pretend you're telling a dramatic story to a friend.
- Pace yourself; don't speak too quickly or too slowly.
- Enjoy yourself! People can hear it in your voice if you are interested in what you are reading.

Task 3: Review the Video

Instructions

1. Watch your video recording.
2. Review the ***Tips for Presenting a News Report*** on the previous page and identify:
 - 2 things that you did well
 - 1 thing to improve
3. Record again if you feel that you could make your newscast even better.

Bonus Task

Instructions

Using the skills that you have learned, do research and create a news story on a topic that you are passionate about!

For more information on a SAIT program connected to this activity, please visit:

<https://www.sait.ca/programs-and-courses/full-time-studies/diplomas/radio-television-and-broadcast-news>