GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
PERCY JANES FIRST NOVEL AWARD 2027

The aim of the Percy Janes First Novel Award is to commemorate the life and work of one of Newfoundland and Labrador's most distinguished writers, Percy Maxwell Janes, who died February 19, 1999, at the age of 76; and to support and encourage Newfoundland and Labrador writers who wish to make a serious commitment to the writing profession.

Entries must be submitted in digital format.

GUIDELINES

1. Deadline: Entries must be received no later than **midnight, Friday, November 20, 2026**.
2. Manuscripts must be unpublished and between 30,000 and 100,000 in word-length.
3. Writers must be a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador for a minimum of 12 consecutive months at the time of application (proof of residency may be required) and have reached the age of 19 by the deadline date.
4. Writers who have already published a manuscript or literary work (adult or young adult) of comparable length are **NOT** eligible to enter this category. Past winners are ineligible to enter.
5. To enter, email your work in PDF format to artsandletters@gov.nl.ca
6. Entries must be double-spaced, 12 pt, and page numbered.
7. Ensure your name and any other identifying information does **NOT** appear anywhere on the work.
8. Each entry must be accompanied by an application form as a separate attachment, indicating the work is original, has been completed within the last 12 months, has not been accepted for publication before November 20, 2026, and will not be publicly presented, in whole or in excerpt, before April 23, 2027. Application forms are available as a fillable PDF.
9. One prize of $2,500 will be awarded. The winner will be contacted no later than April 1, 2027.
10. A brief written adjudication will be provided, if requested.

11. Each entry must be an original work.

    - Any literary entry that plagiarizes another work will be disqualified. Plagiarism is the word-for-word duplication, in whole or in part, of someone else's work. The Arts and Letters Awards Program carries out random plagiarism checks each year.
    - Adaptions will not be accepted.

12. The Arts and Letters Program will accept a manuscript that has been submitted **ONCE** within the last three years. Entry forms for resubmitted manuscripts must identify the manuscript as such, and the year it was first entered. Manuscripts submitted more than twice are **NOT** eligible.

13. Entries must be the result of individual effort; group work is **NOT** eligible.

14. Only one entry permitted per entrant. The copyright remains the property of the entrant.

15. The prize will be awarded if sufficient entries are received. All prizes are at the discretion of the adjudicator.

For inquiries, call 709-729-7446 or email artsandletters@gov.nl.ca