

Paula Sarson

Editor/Proprietor, PLS Editing Services
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Profile

Clear, authentic communication is my objective. I am a thorough, accurate, organized, and resourceful editor. Proven ability to manage relationships with a collaborative approach and solid editorial skills are the foundations of my diverse portfolio. I am adept at working with authors, designers, and production and managing editors, as well as independent clients. Excellent communication skills serve me well in liaising as a team member and forging congenial relationships. I appreciate the fine balance between adherence to rules and respect for the integrity of authorial intention and readership.

Professional Experience

1998–Present **Independent Editor and Proprietor**, PLS Editing Services, Middle Sackville

As proprietor of my editing business for more than two decades, I have established a diverse client base among authors, publishers, and independents.

- Conduct all levels of editing, from substantive/stylistic to proofreading, either on-screen or on hard copy as required.
- Liaise between authors, managing editors, designers, and independent clients.
- Research and fact check as projects require.
- Develop and build on style sheets for publishers and other clients.
- Implement different styles (Chicago, APA, in-house).
- Solicit and edit articles and images for a biennial newspaper tabloid to promote Pharmacy Awareness Week (1997–2007).
- Edit a wide range of text from newspaper tabloids to cookbooks, guidebooks, essays, memoir, art exhibition catalogues, biography, public education brochures and campaigns, academic texts, forum proceedings, creative non-fiction, non-fiction, and fiction.
- Work with first-time authors such as Deborah Carr, Bruce MacNab, and Gerry Fostaty to seasoned writers such as Freeman Patterson, Lynn Johnston, and Theresa Kishkan.
- Develop business website.
- Prepare MS Word documents for layout.
- Manage accounting, marketing, and correspondence for small business.

Editorial Highlights

Writing Topography: The Marion McCain Exhibition of Contemporary Atlantic Art, Corinna Ghaznavi, PhD, Curator, 2015 (Beaverbrook Art Gallery)

For Better or For Worse: The Comic Art of Lynn Johnston, Lynn Johnston and Katherine Hadway, 2015, (Goose Lane Editions and Art Gallery of Sudbury)

Caring Leadership in Turbulent Times: Tackling Neoliberal Education Reform, Mary G. Green, 2014, (Information Age Publishing Inc.)

Freeman Patterson: Embracing Creation, Freeman Patterson, 2013, (Goose Lane Editions and the Beaverbrook Art Gallery)

Running the Whale's Back: Stories of Faith and Doubt from Atlantic Canada, Andrew Atkinson and Mark Harris, eds., 2013, (Goose Lane Editions)

the blue pearl: getting the most from coaching, Shae Hadden, 2013, (self-published)

Immigration and Settlement: Challenges, Experiences, and Opportunities, Harald Bauder, ed., 2011, (Canadian Scholars' Press)

2010 International Solidification/Stabilization Technology Forum, Dr. Craig B. Lake and Dr. Colin D. Hills, eds., 2010, (Dalhousie University)

The Practice of Politics in Safavid Iran: Power, Religion, and Rhetoric, Dr. Colin P. Mitchell, 2009, (I. B. Tauris & Co. Ltd., London, England)

In Search of Moral Authority: The Discourse on Poverty, Poor Relief, and Charity in French Colonial Vietnam, Dr. Van Nguyen-Marshall, 2008, (Peter Lang Publishing Inc., New York, United States)

1995–1998 **Senior Editor**, Nimbus Publishing Limited, Halifax

Worked at Atlantic Canada’s largest publisher, from editorial assistant to senior editor, and assumed increasing responsibilities.

- Edit an average of three books a season, conducting all levels of editing.
- Project manage and edit government co-publishing projects.
- Source images and recommend selection, sequence, and placement.
- Write captions for non-fiction and back cover and marketing copy.
- Write uncredited introductions to photographic books.
- Develop styles sheets based on house style and negotiate modifications.
- Report to managing editor.
- Work closely with production manager.
- Coordinate with production and design to meet deadlines and consult with graphic designers on aspects of layout.
- Recommend unsolicited manuscripts for consideration and field inquiries regarding publication.
- Liaise between authors and managing editor.
- Input hard-copy edits from freelancers and amendments to contracts, and checked corrections.
- Attend book launches to represent publisher.

1994 **Editorial Assistant**, Formac Publishing, Halifax

Worked as editorial assistant.

- Copy edit and proofread.
- Recommend and organize images for books.
- Input hard-copy edits from freelancers and check corrections.
- Draft back cover copy.
- Research content for titles.
- Liaise between authors and managing editor.
- Work closely with production manager and in-house designers.

Award-winning and nominated titles

For a complete editorial portfolio, including testimonials, please visit my website <http://paulasarson.com/>.

Prairie Ostrich, Tamai Kobayashi, 2014, (Goose Lane Editions), Winner the Writer’s Trust of Canada’s Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT Emerging Writers

The Ballad of Jacob Peck, Debra Komar, 2013, (Goose Lane Editions), Shortlisted for Democracy 250 Atlantic Book Award for Historical Writing, 2014

The Strangers’ Gallery, Paul Bowdring, 2013, (Nimbus Publishing), Winner, 2013 BMO Winterset Award

The August Gales: The Tragic Loss of Fishing Schooners in the North Atlantic, 1926 and 1927, Gerald Hallowell, 2013, (Nimbus Publishing), Winner Democracy 250 Atlantic Book Award for Historical Writing, 2014

Almost a Great Escape: A Found Story, Tyler Trafford, 2013, (Goose Lane Editions), Winner Alberta Readers’ Choice Award, 2014; Winner Wilfrid Eggleston Award for Non-fiction, 2014; and Winner City of Calgary’s W.O. Mitchell Award, 2014

The Metamorphosis: The Apprenticeship of Harry Houdini, Bruce MacNab, 2012, (Goose Lane Editions), Winner APMA Best Atlantic-Published Book Award, 2013; Winner Redgee Award for Print Design (Best in Category and Best of Region), 2014

GWG: Piece by Piece, Catherine C. Cole, 2012, (Goose Lane Editions), Winner Alberta Historical Resources Foundation Heritage Award, 2012; Winner Canadian Museums Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in Publication, 2013; Shortlisted for Robert Kroetsch City of Edmonton Book Prize, 2013

Mnemonic: A Book of Trees, Theresa Kishkan, 2011, (Goose Lane Editions), Shortlisted for Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize, 2012

Salmon Country: New Brunswick's Great Angling Rivers, Doug Underhill (Author) and André Gallant (Photographer), (Goose Lane Editions), Shortlisted APMA Best Atlantic-Published Book Award, 2012

Sanctuary: The Story of Naturalist Mary Majka, Deborah Carr, 2010, (Goose Lane Editions), Shortlisted Atlantic Independent Booksellers' Choice Award, 2011

Halifax and the Royal Canadian Navy, John Boileau, 2010, (Nimbus Publishing), Shortlisted Dartmouth Book Award (Non-fiction), 2011

Strong at the Broken Places, David Doucette, 2001, (Nimbus Publishing), Winner Dartmouth Book Award (Fiction), 2002

In the Wake of the Alderney, Harry Chapman, 2000, (Dartmouth Historical Association), Winner Dartmouth Book Award (Non-fiction), 2001

Dalhousie's Department of Psychiatry: A Historical Retrospective, Patrick Flynn, MD, FRCPC, ed., 1999, (Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University), Winner of History of Psychiatry Farrar Prize, 1999

I'll Buy You an Ox, Betty Boudreau Vaughan, 1997, (Nimbus Publishing), Winner Dartmouth Book Award (Fiction)

Education and Professional Development

Editors' Association of Canada Workshops
Embracing Your Inner Editor: A Primer on the Art and Science of Editing
Starting Out and Thriving as a Freelance Editor
Eight Step Editing

The Banff Centre
Publishing Workshop: Book Editing (Phyllis Bruce, mentor)

Dalhousie University, Halifax
Master of Arts (English Literature)
Bachelor of Education
Bachelor of Arts (Hon. Cert.)

Volunteer and Community Support

Capital Health Patient Education Materials Editorial Advisory Committee member
Editorial Freelancers Association member
Project Bookmark Canada Reading Circle member
Writers Federation of Nova Scotia member
Word on the Street's Blue Pencil Café, service provider

References and portfolio are available upon request.