

# JOHN MILLER

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM, RYERSON UNIVERSITY

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## QUALIFICATION SUMMARY

Award-winning professional journalist with experience as a reporter, editor, newsroom manager, consultant, expert witness, and academic administrator, teacher and researcher. Special research interest in newsroom diversity, reporting on minorities and multicultural media.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2009 - Awarded Ryerson University's Career Achievement Award upon retirement from teaching.
- 2004 - Winner, Canadian Association of Journalists national award for outstanding investigative reporting, community newspapers. Series examined Canada's worst train derailment, and the state of disrepair of our railroads.
- 2003 - Winner, national Award of Excellence from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. For designing and teaching a course for Ryerson journalism students in cross-cultural reporting, the first of its kind in Canada.
- 2000 - Winner, Excellence in Environmental Reporting, presented by the Canadian Community Newspapers Association, for a story on shortcomings at the Ontario Ministry of the Environment that made homeowners wait 10 years to win their fight against a pig farmer who contaminated their well water; won Ontario Community Newspapers Association award same year for best editorial.
- 1998 - Published *Yesterday's News* (Fernwood), a critique of Canada's newspaper industry that was chosen by The Globe and Mail as one of its 100 Most Notable Books of the year.

## ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Professor, School of Journalism, Ryerson University – 1996-2009**

Developed and taught a new introduction to reporting course for Masters of Journalism program and a new senior reporting course for the Bachelor of Journalism program. Served as associate chair (2008-9) and director of newspaper journalism (1999-2003). Developed and taught courses in Newsroom Leadership and Covering Diversity. Served as director of internships for students specializing in newspaper journalism. Published research included a diversity census of Canadian newspaper newsrooms (1994-2004), an analysis of coverage of the 1995 Ipperwash confrontation for a provincial judicial inquiry (2007), and a survey of Canada's Ethnocultural Press, done for the Publications Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage (2006).

### **Chair, School of Journalism, Ryerson -- 1986-1996**

Administered Canada's largest journalism school during its transition from Ryerson Polytechnic Institute to degree-granting status as a fully-fledged university. Helped plan facilities and raise funds

for the school to move into the new Rogers Communication Centre in 1991. During a time of fiscal restraint, developed the vision and resources to make the school fully computerized. During my leadership, two separate curriculum reviews transformed the school into a 4-year undergraduate degree program. Increased the number of faculty and also the student enrolment, with a special emphasis on attracting under-represented groups.

### **Senior newsroom editor, Toronto Star -- 1968-1986**

Part of key leadership group in Canada's largest newspaper newsroom. Was senior deputy managing editor for last five years, responsible for news and feature planning. Served for three months as acting managing editor. Prior to that, as weekend editor, I oversaw the Saturday and Sunday editions. Launched the Sunday Star as editor in 1977. As foreign editor, from 1973-76, I edited three National Newspaper Award-winning projects and supervised the paper's coverage of Watergate, the Vietnam war and two Mideast wars. Assembled the paper's first Policy Manual and was its representative on the Ontario Press Council. Won a Southam Fellowship for a year of study at the University of Toronto in 1976-77.

### **OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES**

**2010** - Completed two-part analysis of media coverage of the Toronto 18 terror case and published both in academic journals: "Trial by Media? How Newspaper Opinion Framed Canada's Biggest Terrorism Case" published in Vol. 10, No. 1 of *the International Journal of Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations*. The second paper, entitled "Terrorism and Anonymous Sources: The Toronto 18 case," was published in Vol. 8 of the *Canadian Journal of Media Studies*. The studies documented how overly dependent the media were on unnamed government sources.

**2010** - Lead media researcher and co-author of *DiverseCity Counts 2: A Snapshot of Diverse Leadership in the GTA*, which took a look at leadership in the media and other sectors. Done in conjunction with the Diversity Institute at the Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson and the Maytree Foundation.

**2010** - Served as faculty representative on Ryerson University's Taskforce on Anti-Racism, which made 16 recommendations on how the university could be more equitable to students, faculty, administrators and staff.

**2007** - Analyzed newspaper coverage of the 1995 shooting death of Dudley George for the Ipperwash Inquiry headed by Mr. Justice Sidney B. Linden. My findings were cited in the final report of the Ontario judicial inquiry in May 2007. Later published as an academic paper, "Ipperwash and the Media: Case Study of How an Aboriginal Confrontation was Covered," *International Journal of Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations*, Vol. 8, No. 3 (2009).

**2009-present** - Member of the business advisory board of Multimedia Nova Corporation, Canada's largest publisher, printer and distributor of multicultural newspapers.

**1990-2010** - Acted as expert witness in more than a dozen legal cases involving defamation, undercover reporting and protection of sources. Retained by media companies as well as plaintiffs suing media companies. Testified before Supreme Courts in Ontario and British Columbia.

**EDUCATION:** Bachelor of Arts, University of Western Ontario (1965)