

## 2025 Collins Writing Contest

**Rules and Regulations** 

- 1. By submitting an entry, authors confirm that they have read and understand the full contest rules and regulations available online at <u>www.gppl.ca</u> and at the Children's Information Desk at GPPL.
- 2. Authors must live in the City of Grande Prairie, the County of Grande Prairie, or the MD of Greenview.
- 3. Authors may submit only one entry per year, 2000 words or fewer.
- 4. Judges must be able to read the stories easily.
  - a. Entries must be typed (not handwritten) and double-spaced, with a minimum 12-point font size.
  - b. Entries may not use custom fonts.
  - c. Stories must be written in English.
- 5. Entries must be able to be accurately reproduced in the print anthology.
  - a. Authors must submit a digital copy of their stories.
  - b. Entries may not use custom fonts.
  - c. Stories may not refer to external material (websites, songs, etc.)
  - d. Stories may not include illustrations.
  - e. Authors must submit stories as .doc/.docx
  - f. Authors may not edit their story after submission; the story printed in the anthology must be identical to the story as read by the judges.
- 6. Entries must represent a single author's storytelling.
  - a. Authors are encouraged to use a spellchecker.
  - b. Parents and friends may assist with typing, answer questions regarding spelling and grammar, or assist by reading sections aloud to dyslexic authors, but the process must be author-directed.
  - c. Authors cannot work in teams, nor workshop stories online.
- 7. Entries must be unique and publishable with no legal impediments.
  - a. Stories must be original content with original characters.
  - b. Authors may not submit fanfiction.
  - c. Stories must be fiction, not a simple retelling of something that happened in real life.
  - d. Stories must be previously unpublished.
  - e. Stories may not be posted online.
  - f. Stories may not be self-published.



- g. Story titles must be unique and not the same as the contest theme.
- 8. Stories must be able to be judged fairly.
  - a. Authors cannot put their names on their stories.
  - b. Authors cannot name characters after themselves, friends, or family members in any way that might identify the story's author.
  - c. Judges may not judge a category a friend or family member has submitted a story for.
- 9. This year's entry deadline is Friday, February 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm.
  - a. Entries submitted after this point will not be accepted for judging.
- 10. GPPL staff members will notify contest winners by phone starting Friday, April 4, 2025. Please do not contact GPPL to ask if you have won.