

# THE PHOTO TIMES

NEWS

About photography, career opportunities and much more

Weather:

Today- 26° sunny, humidex of 32°, precip. 20%

Tonight- 14°, partly cloudy, precip 45%

**ALL ABOUT PHOTOJOURNALISM**

**EXCLUSIVE NEWS TODAY**

## ALL ABOUT PHOTOJOURNALISM

### WHAT IS IT?

Photojournalism is the presenting of news through the use of visual media (mainly photographs) to tell stories and highlight important parts of them.

#### Where do they work?

Photojournalists go wherever the story is. You could be working for a local news source, so you wouldn't have to trek that far, but many national news corporations have international stories that require them to go to that location

#### Why do they do it?

News companies need compelling media to tell a story, or they will lose their audience's attention span. Photojournalists aid in the story by contributing important imagery and videos related to the topic to keep the audience entertained and interested.

#### How do they earn their salary?

Photojournalists either work for a specific company or do freelance work for multiple companies. Salaries range widely from \$30,000 - \$75,000 depending on if it's a side job or your full-time job. Median salary for a photojournalist is around \$42,000.

### Steps to becoming a Photojournalist

The journalism career path as a whole is very crowded, so you must stand out in order to succeed. With that in mind, you will need to have a good portfolio to be able to start your career in photojournalism.

Starting with previous experience, it will definitely be an aid to already have a decent camera and have a variety of pictures that your customers could look at. Another great asset to have is to have taken a photo class in high school or post-secondary, as well as learning how to use applications like Photoshop and Lightroom. Another strong experience is to have done some previous work, either helping with the school newspaper or yearbook, or doing projects that required photo skills.

It would also be a small benefit to get a bachelor's degree in photojournalism, although it is not necessary. Internships however are a big bonus since it's out in the field learning along with a pro.



*Sample pictures will improve your chance at employability*

### What Have I Done so far?

I'm only a teenager and far from getting a degree, but I have been interested in photography for 3 years and have saved up for my own camera. I also have a website with an extensive portfolio of images. I also know how to use editing applications.



I also have worked on my middle school's yearbook, and also have taken Photography 9 in high school. All I need to work towards is a degree and an internship to advance my photography skills and become a better journalist.

## Why I Want to Pursue Photojournalism



I got interested with photography in grade 8, and it became the dream job I've always wanted ever since. Yet there are a lot of aspects to the job. I need to pay attention to detail, good communication skills, decision making and the ability to make deadlines. So far, I'm very good at all of those expect for good communication skills. If you want to dive into writing, well that's a whole other field.

## Opportunities in British Columbia



### INDIE NEWS COMPANIES

There are many startup indie news sources in the province, especially in cities like Kamloops and Squamish that could be a very good starting point for my career. They're pay isn't half bad and I could take some risks since they don't have much of a reputation to uphold.

## Post-Secondary Degrees

While a degree is not required, getting one will increase your probability of getting hired. At Concordia University in Montreal, they offer a Visual Journalism program, where you get directly into an internship and learn everything about photo and video journalism. It's very competitive and will set you out into any form of media in journalism. The course itself costs only \$9,500/year, but when you add up all the expenses with living on your own and resources, it comes to a total of \$26,300/year, or \$105,000 for the 4-year course.



### PLAN B

You always need to have a plan B in case your interests change, or something happens where you cannot achieve your goal. These are my 2 jobs that I would do instead of pursuing my passion as a photojournalist.

### Marketing & Design

I always have a keen for design and attention to detail, so I would be perfect to design brochures and PowerPoints for companies. I basically do all the design work for group presentation (eg. YPI & Trends project).

### Accounting

I'm great with numbers and I took the Accounting 11 course earlier this year. My extensive knowledge of software and computers will aid in pursuing this career. I also have a neighbor who is a CPA, so I could get a reference if needed.

