

Marc Edge Bio

I was a journalist from 1974-1993 at the *Calgary Herald*, where I rose to the position of Financial Pages Editor, and the *Vancouver Province*, where I spent 10 years as Supreme Court Reporter. My first two degrees were taken in the field of business. I studied for my Ph.D. in the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University from 1997-2001. I taught journalism for the next 20 years at universities in five countries before retiring recently. My doctoral thesis won the 2002 dissertation award of the American Journalism Historians Association and was published as my first book, *Pacific Press*. I followed that with the 2007 sequel *Asper Nation*, which was called “a must read for anyone who aspires to active and informed Canadian citizenship” by a reviewer for the *Globe and Mail* and was shortlisted for the Gertrude Robinson Book Prize of the Canadian Communication Association.

My current research agenda took shape in 2011 after I was selected for a fellowship to the Reynolds Center for Business Journalism at Arizona State University, which included training in reading financial statements. The result was my 2014 book *Greatly Exaggerated: The Myth of the Death of Newspapers*, which showed that newspapers in the U.S. and Canada were not losing money as widely believed. My 2016 book *The News We Deserve* was described by a reviewer for the Vancouver alt-weekly *Georgia Straight* as “incendiary and subversive research” and was longlisted for the George Ryga Award given annually to a book by a B.C. author that shows outstanding social awareness. In his Foreword, the eminent political economist of communication Vincent Mosco described me as “one of the foremost scholars of media ownership in Canada” and added that I have “justifiably earned a reputation as a leading voice in Canadian media and journalism studies.” I am an editorial board member of the *Newspaper Research Journal*. My research, including my books, is archived on my website at <http://marcedge.com/>.

I submitted my 2019 *Journal of Media Business Studies* article on UK newspaper finances to the Cairncross Review into the sustainability of high-quality UK journalism and it was quoted on the opening page of its report. I subsequently consulted with policy staff in the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport in London. I visited Vancouver Centre MP Dr. Hedy Fry in early 2016 to protest that the recent newsroom mergers at newspapers owned by Postmedia Network in Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, and Ottawa were illegal in Vancouver and unjustified elsewhere. She soon convened hearings by the standing Heritage committee into media and local communities, which sat for more than a year and produced a report in mid-2017. Unfortunately, this report was over-shadowed by one released earlier that year by the Public Policy Forum think tank, which portrayed a severe crisis in Canadian journalism. Instead of the ownership reform I urged, news media in Canada were given a \$595 million bailout. I am researching a book tentatively titled *The Great Canadian Media Swindle* that will deconstruct the 2016-18 disinformation campaign waged in pursuit of the news media bailout and a second campaign currently under way on behalf of entertainment industries, which could result in a bailout several times larger. My forthcoming article in the *Canadian Journal of Communication* titled “Greatly Exaggerated in Canada” will form the basis of this planned book. In the meantime, I have also posted a blog of research which can be found at <https://thegreatcanadianmediaswindle.blogspot.com/>.

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