

# Lesley Evans Ogden

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I am an innovative thinker, kindling story ideas even in my sleep. Highly motivated and productive on my own, I also enjoy the imaginative sparks that fly during team brainstorming. Versatility and clarity are my greatest assets. I am equally at ease writing web and magazine articles, science books for children, exhibit signs for teenagers, and stories for television, radio, and multimedia. My continually evolving problem-solving abilities are cultivated from experiences with writing, reporting, teaching, research, stimulating collaborations, negotiating with precocious children, and outdoor pursuits. I love the inspiration, creativity and exhilaration that flood my brain in anticipation of a deadline.

## EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**School of life experience** – nocturnal mountain hiking, marathons, watching lava spew into the sea.

**Investigative Journalism Intensive** – (October 2017) Banff Centre with faculty from New York Times, Toronto Star, CBC Fifth Estate, CBS 60-Minutes.

**British Columbia Institute of Technology** (2016) – Introduction to TV & Radio Broadcasting

**MIT Science Journalism Bootcamp** (December 2013) – Fellowship to attend a 2-day workshop on medical evidence in journalism; how to avoid perils and pitfalls in medical reporting.

**Santa Fe Science Writer's Workshop** (May 2013) – One-week training with instructors from the New York Times, National Geographic, Wall Street Journal, & MIT.

**Science Communications** – Banff Centre (Aug 2011) – intensive two-week training on writing, producing, and broadcasting multimedia science in inspiring and imaginative ways. Mentor: former Daily Planet TV host Jay Ingram.

**Mediabistro.com** (2009-2012) – professional development courses in Magazine Writing, Feature Writing, TV news, Social Media, and Social Media Marketing.

**Ph.D.** – Wildlife Ecology (2002) Simon Fraser University.

**MSc** – Biological Sciences (1994) York University (with distinction).

**BSc (Hons.)** – Zoology (1991) University of Toronto.

## RECENT EXPERIENCE

**October 2012 to Present. Self-Employed Freelance Journalist, Multimedia Producer, Author.**

By-lines at *New York Times*, *Natural History*, *BBC Future*, *New Scientist*, *Scientific American*, *BioScience*, *Science*, *CBC*, *Nature*, *Science News*, *Discover*, *Audubon*, *Mosaic*, *BBC Earth*, *The Guardian*, *Washington Post*, *The Independent*, *Canadian Running*, *Discover*, *Aeon*, *National Geographic*. Guest columnist on CBC Radio's *Quirks and Quarks*. Creator, researcher, writer, assistant director of "Stay at Home Animal Dads" television documentary (*Rotating Planet* productions) broadcast 2018 on CBC's *The Nature of Things*. Writer for "Aging in the Wild" broadcast in 2017 by CBC's *The Nature of Things*. Creator of an animal social network multi-part documentary for ARTE with *Rotating Planet*. Pitch writer for *Merit Motion Pictures* and *Curious Features*.

**October 2011 to October 2012. Vancouver Media Officer, Science Media Centre of Canada**

Assisted journalists, broadcasters and producers with timely access to science news and expert sources; wrote fact sheets on complex science topics; assisted with production and hosted webinars for journalists, including pre-interviewing and preparing scientists to present to media; compiled teasers on breaking news.

**August 2010 to May 2011. Content Developer, Science World, Vancouver.**

Researcher & writer for the Ken Spencer interactive Outdoor Science Park - the science of sustainability. Researched and developed stories, wrote interpretive signs, and guided narratives behind exhibit design as part of a creative team of graphic artists, 3-D designers, architects, engineers, consultants, managers.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS.

World Conference of Science Journalists (WCSJ) Travel fellowship 2019. WCSJ "Trouble with Politics" Fellow 2018. Multiple COMPASS Journalist Fellowships (Toronto, ON, 2018; Madison, WI, 2016; San Francisco, CA, 2015); Journalist Fellow at Falling Walls International Conference on Future Breakthroughs in Science and Society, Berlin (2014); Knight Science Journalism Medical Evidence Bootcamp fellowship (MIT, Boston, 2013), Canadian Institutes for Health Research Journalism Awards in 2011 and 2012. Recipient of two awards for public speaking at international science conferences during my Ph.D.