

Social Media Smarts



CANADIAN
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ASSOCIATION



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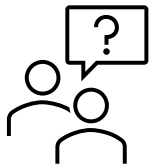
Fact vs Fiction

Student Worksheet

Watch CCLA's video, *Social Media Smarts: Facts vs Fiction* at this [link](#) and complete the following exercise to practice finding accurate information online.

One of the tips mentioned in the video was to visit trusted news sources that adhere to high standards of journalistic integrity. Below is a list of things to consider when deciding whether a news source is to be trusted.

- Look at whether the organization adheres to a Code of Ethics and, if so, what that Code includes.
- Consider what is made accessible about the author of a piece, their credentials and experience. Where anonymous sources have been relied upon, have the reasons been explained?
- Consider if the news organization has submitted to a form of regulation by joining the [National NewsMedia Council](#). While there is no regulatory body in Canada for journalists, the National NewsMedia Council is a voluntary self-regulatory body that helps to hold its members accountable for their coverage.
- The Trust Project is an organization working to help individuals determine which news sources can be relied upon; they have developed trust indicators and are working with social media companies to help ensure that trustworthy information is promoted on their platforms. You can look at their website (<https://thetrustproject.org/>) and also look for the Trust mark on news sources that adhere to the principles the Trust Project has developed.



Find and research three different Canadian online news sources and fill in the charts below to give each organization a trustworthy rating from 1 star (not very trustworthy, low journalistic integrity) to 4 stars (trustworthy, high journalistic integrity).

News Source #1:	
Trusted Source Consideration	Finding
Does the organization adhere to a Code of Ethics and, if so, what does that Code include?	
Provide a link to an article featured by the news source and examine what information is made available about the author, their credentials and experience. Where anonymous sources have been relied upon, have the reasons been explained?	
Has the news organization submitted to a form of regulation by joining the National NewsMedia Council ?	
Does the news source adhere to the principles of The Trust Project ?	
Rating: 	

News Source #2:	
Trusted Source Consideration	Finding
Does the organization adhere to a Code of Ethics and, if so, what does that Code include?	
Provide a link to an article featured by the news source and examine what information is made available about the author, their credentials and experience. Where anonymous sources have been relied upon, have the reasons been explained?	
Has the news organization submitted to a form of regulation by joining the National NewsMedia Council ?	
Does the news source adhere to the principles of The Trust Project ?	
Rating: 	

News Source #3:	
Trusted Source Consideration	Finding
Does the organization adhere to a Code of Ethics and, if so, what does that Code include?	
Provide a link to an article featured by the news source and examine what information is made available about the author, their credentials and experience. Where anonymous sources have been relied upon, have the reasons been explained?	
Has the news organization submitted to a form of regulation by joining the National NewsMedia Council ?	
Does the news source adhere to the principles of The Trust Project ?	
Rating: 	