

10 tips to get your letter to the editor (LTE) published

Tip 1. Finish that letter! You don't have to be an expert to have an opinion.

Tip 2. Find a 'hook.' Use current events in the local or national news that can be linked to your issue, like a recent report, upcoming conference/event or something that's hot in the media.

Tip 3. Keep it short. Your letter should be about 3 paragraphs long or 150 words. Refer back to [these examples](#). If you want to write something longer, try publishing an opinion piece or an op-ed.

Tip 4. Adopt the proper tone. Be respectful and polite. Wit and humour can increase your chances of being published.

Tip 5. Expand your reach. Slightly modify your letter and send it to dozens of papers across the country. Use our easy [LTE list](#) to create a quick email list of papers that receive letters via email. And don't forget to cut and paste into the web forms listed for other papers.

Tip 6. Display authorship. The strength of an LTE is that it represents the view of an ordinary citizen. Always include your name, address, and telephone number in the signature block. But, don't include mention of Results – this keeps our letters looking more like a groundswell of public interest.

Tip 7. Dynamite title. A unique title that attracts the attention of the Editor increases your chances of getting published.

Tip 8. Share it! LTEs have impact beyond their publication date. After, or even before, you are published, share your letter with colleagues, friends, decision-makers – particularly your MP!

Tip 9. Don't give up. If your letter hasn't been published, call the editors and ask them for feedback.

Tip 10. Track it. When you're published (Google your name, follow up with the paper), share that info with Results Canada by tracking it using our [online reporting system](#).

Bonus tip! Reach out to Results volunteers to ask for help and feedback via our [online groups](#).

Updated: January 2020