

Cross Country Canada - CCC Awards

Media Recognition Award

Martin Cleary, The Ottawa Citizen, Ottawa, Ontario



Amanda Fortier and Joanne Thomson presenting to Martin Cleary

This year marks the 30th year Cleary has been writing for the nation's capital Southam newspaper, namely the Ottawa Citizen. Cleary has been a loyal media contact with the National Cross Country Ski Team for several years, serving an integral role in keeping the public abreast to Nordic athletes' results on a regional, national, and international level.

This sporting enthusiast covers all amateur sports at a variety of different levels and competitions. Cleary has been covering cross-country skiing from his very start as a sports journalist. In this period, he has covered such events as the Canadian Ski Marathon, the Keskinada Loppet, the Winter Olympic Games, the Canada Winter Games, the World University Games, the World Nordic Ski Championships, local Ontario and Canadian Championships, and all sorts of personal stories on local athletes. Cleary also takes the time to attend local press conferences and smaller regional events, all the while presenting the sport in a positive and exciting manner.

Cleary has done an exceptional job over the years of devoting himself to a journalistic practice of precision, integrity, and accountability. His reports and reviews have encouraged the development of cross-country skiing in the Ottawa-Gatineau regions and have facilitated the ease with which non-Nordic member can keep informed. Without the interest and aid of such reporters as Martin Cleary, the cross-country ski community in Canada is easily overshadowed by the plethora of other sports filling the pages of our daily newspapers.

Martin Cleary has long been a mainstay with Cross Country Canada's Media Relations program and as such is a most worthy candidate to be recognized for this year's CCC Media Award.