



## **Rules and Regulations**

May, 2010.

The Polaris Music Prize is Canada's first juried award for creative artistic achievement in recorded music. This national critic's prize honours the full-length album as an art form and awards a cash prize of \$20,000 to the artist or artists who create the best album of the year.

All genres of contemporary music are considered for the Polaris Music Prize and no entry fee is required. Artists or their representatives do not submit to Polaris. Only titles suggested by Polaris jury members are considered for the Polaris Music Prize.

A Long List of 40 nominated Albums of the Year will be selected by an independent panel of over 200 jurors from the fields of music journalism, blogging and broadcasting from across Canada and announced to the media June 17, 2010. This same jury will vote for a Short List of 10 titles which will be announced to the media on July 6, 2010. These 10 titles will also be marketed through various means and specially presented at music retail across Canada. A second panel of 11 jurors will convene at the Polaris Music Prize Gala in September, 2010 to select the winner of the Polaris Music Prize.

### 1. Eligibility:

#### 1a. Criteria.

Polaris Music Prize nominees and winners will be selected solely on artistic merit without regard to genre, sales history or label affiliation.

#### 1b. Genres.

All forms of contemporary music (including, but not limited to, pop, rock, hip-hop, R&B, electronic, experimental, jazz, classical, instrumental, country and blues, or any combination of the above, and including genres not mentioned or invented at the time these rules were written) are eligible for the Polaris Music Prize.

#### 1c. Album definition.

Only albums qualify for consideration. An album is defined as at least 30 minutes of music, or at least 8 songs. Compilations of previously released recordings, such as "greatest hits", "best of packages" or similar are not eligible. Re-released albums do not qualify.



1d. Release definition.

A Release is a full-length recording (as defined in 1C above) that has been made available:

- a) for purchase in Canada at any bricks and mortar retailer,
- b) for purchase digitally in Canada from any digital retailer or artist website,
- c) for free as a download with the artist's consent. Advance streams, leaks or promotional releases will not be considered.

1e. Qualifying period.

To qualify, albums must have been released between June 1, 2009 and May 31, 2010.

1f. Canadian definition.

Artists must be Canadian citizens or Canadian landed immigrants. For bands, at least 50% of members must be Canadian citizens. Proof of Canadian citizenship includes:

- a) Valid Canadian passport
- b) Canadian citizenship papers
- c) Canadian Birth Certificate
- d) Proof of landed immigrant status is a Canadian Permanent Resident Card.

1g. Additional interpretations.

Any additional interpretations of the rules shall be at the sole discretion of the Polaris Music Prize Board Of Directors. All rulings are final.

2. Jury Process:

2a. Submission.

There is no submission process for artists or their representatives. An independent panel of jurors will consider eligible releases and nominate 40 albums for the Polaris Music Prize Long List, and 10 albums for the Polaris Music Prize Short List.

2b. The jury.



2.b.1. The Jury is.

Jurors are selected from across Canada. The jury includes those who regularly review and/or programme local and national artists, and independent and major label artists. Jurors are music journalists and programmers or producers from daily, weekly, local and national print publications, local and national radio, music television, and web media.

2.b.2. The Jury isn't.

The jury does not include artist managers, record label employees, agents, publishers, promoters, publicists, music retailers or anyone who professionally or otherwise represents, gives away or sells a recording artist or artists or their work.

2c. Conflict of interest.

In the event that a potential jury member, as defined in 2.b.1, professionally or otherwise represents, as defined in 2.b.2, a recording artist or artists, or is a recording artist themselves, they must disclose any possible conflicts to Polaris before being accepted as a jury member. In the event that there is a conflict of interest, he/she will not be allowed to submit the related artist on their list. Lack of conflict of interest disclosure will result in cancellation of their entire ballot for that year and lifetime exclusion from the jury.

A complete list of Polaris jurors is available at [www.polarismusicprize.ca/jury](http://www.polarismusicprize.ca/jury)

2d. The voting.

The selected jurors submit a list of what they consider to be the five best Canadian recordings in any genre. These picks are vetted for eligibility and tabulated to form a Long List of 40 nominees. The jury then selects from this Long List to comprise the Short List which will be announced at a press conference July 6, 2010.

A smaller group of 11 jurors ("The Grand Jury") will convene and select the winner the night of the gala ceremony.

3. Polaris Music Prize Money:

The Polaris Music Prize will be announced at a Gala Ceremony in Toronto in September, 2010.

**SIRIUS**  
SATELLITE RADIO PRESENTS



The winner will be selected that evening by (11) judges selected from the Polaris Music Jury. This jury is called the Grand Jury.

The winning band or artist or group will receive \$20 000.