

THE NORTHWEST SCIENCE FAIR

EXTRAVAGANZA 2012

Dear Parents and Students,

The Northwest Science & Innovation Society (NSIS) is pleased to present the 2012 Northwest Science Fair Extravaganza for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

These **FREE** events will be held on the following dates:

Kitimat
Saturday, February 25th
Mount Elizabeth Secondary School

Terrace
Saturday, March 3rd
Veritas Catholic School

Prince Rupert
Saturday, March 10th
Charles Hays Secondary School

Science Fairs provide students with an opportunity to explore their talents and passions. Planning and conducting a science fair project helps to develop self-confidence, expand imagination, encourage creative expression and contributes to creating a stronger scientific community close to home.

The projects will be evaluated by a panel of local volunteer judges to provide the students with valuable feedback about their project. As well, the judges will help identify projects that may be good candidates for the upcoming Regional and Canada-Wide Science Fairs.

This year we have added **NINE** New Special Showcase Awards to our Awards of Excellence. Categories include:



Special Effort Award:

Awarded to the student who put the most interest and energy into their science fair project, regardless of whether the project received any other awards.



Environmental Awareness Award:

Awarded to the best project that demonstrates general environmental awareness as it relates to preserving and protecting the environment for people, wildlife and habitat preservation.



Sustainability Award:

Awarded to the best project that encourages a zero waste philosophy and whose goal is to minimize the amount of waste through reduction, reuse and recycle.



Innovation Award:

Awarded to a student who has developed a science or technology innovation or invention.



Einstein Award:

Awarded to a student who has done an outstanding astronomy or physics-related project that demonstrates creativity, innovation and contributes to a greater public understanding of science.



Engineering Award:

Awarded to the most outstanding engineering project including those in the fields of chemical, civil, electrical, environmental, industrial and mechanical engineering as well as systems design



Entrepreneur Award:

Awarded to a project that demonstrates informed curiosity, exploration and discovery as well as the practical potential for real world application and entrepreneurship.



Healthy Lifestyle Award:

Awarded to the project that promotes the importance of health and wellness and encourages healthy, active lifestyles.



Aboriginal Science Award:

Awarded to the project that focuses on integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems and the exploration of different ways of knowing.

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And as always, Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards are presented to the winners in each age category, as well as, the prestigious 'Community Futures 16/37 Best in Fair Award' is presented to a student whose project recognizes science and technology excellence.

Each student will receive a Certificate of Participation plus a variety of complimentary gifts and the opportunity to win one of the many door prizes.

CHECKLIST

Your step by step guide to a successful science project

- Choose a project format:**
 - a) **Experiment:** Students state a hypothesis, then design and undertake an experiment to test it. Experimental variables, if identified, are controlled to some extent.
 - b) **Study:** Students ask a specific question to be answered or solved. A collection and analysis of data is undertaken to reveal evidence of a fact. It could include a study of cause and effect relationships or theoretical investigations of scientific data.
 - c) **Innovation/Invention:** Students ask a specific question to be answered or solved. The development and evaluation of innovative devices, models, techniques or approaches in technology, engineering or computers is then undertaken.
- Review the judging criteria on our web site**
- Create a log book for the science project**
- Follow the steps of the scientific method**
 1. Identify a question
 2. Determine your hypothesis
 3. Conduct the experiment, innovation or study
 4. Collect the data, analyze and examine the results
 5. Draw your conclusions and prepare the presentation
- Check the display tips for the presentation on our web site**
- Get excited about the itinerary**
 - 8:30-9:30am Students set up projects
 - 9:30-12:30pm Judging of Projects
 - 12:30-1:30pm Free lunch and science activities
 - 1:30-2:30pm Awards ceremony
 - 2:30pm Students take down projects
- Visit www.nsis.ca to complete and submit the online registration form**
- Most importantly have fun while learning**

For further information about science fair projects, related resources, or the event itself, please visit our Web site at www.nsis.ca, call 250.638.0950 or email contact@nsis.ca. Thank you very much in advance for your support!

Yours sincerely,
Christine Slanz, Executive Director

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of our 2012 sponsors**



www.nsis.ca

