



Science Fair
Foundation^{BC}

9th Floor - 1188 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC
Canada V6E 4A2

Tel: [604] 602-5262
Fax: [604] 683-6567
E-mail: info@sciencefairs.ca
Website: www.sciencefairs.ca

**Science Fair Foundation
of British Columbia**

Founding Patron
Dr. Michael Smith (1932 – 2000)
Nobel Laureate

December 16, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Patti Leigh

604-862-5262

pleigh@sciencefairfoundationbc.ca

Science Fair Team – Off to Taiwan!

The New Year will bring excitement for two British Columbia teens and an educator. January 30th they will board a plane for Taipei, Taiwan to represent British Columbia and Canada at the annual Taiwan International Science Fair to be held January 31 to February 7, 2010. Nicholas Randall a Grade 12 student at Penticton Secondary School in Penticton and Michael Peters a Grade 12 student at Glenlyon Norfolk School in Victoria will be accompanied by Ms. Anjula Corbin, Principal at Spruceland Elementary School in Prince George. Nicholas' project *Yogurt Trek* investigated the concentration of probiotic bacteria in three probiotic yogurts after refrigerated storage (opened yogurt container) and also a week before the expiry date (unopened container). Michael's project *The Actuator: a New Wheelchair Designed to Prevent DVT* is an invention – he designed a wheelchair that increases circulation to the legs to prevent deep vein thrombosis in wheel chair bound people. His secondary purpose was to increase the range of motion of the legs and prevent excessive scar tissue post-operatively.

The students' week at the Taiwan Fair will include a home-stay with a Taiwanese family, involvement in cultural activities, presentation to judges and a public exhibition of their work. Mr. Randall and Mr. Peters are science fair veterans – both have participated in their local Regional Science Fairs and at the national Canada-Wide Science Fair. Mr. Peters has also participated at the USA Intel International Science & Engineering Fair. As Randall says, "I enjoy the experience of different cultures, cuisine and languages. I know this will be another fantastic learning opportunity."

Come spring, hundreds of British Columbia students will present projects for school science fairs. As a result they will develop an appreciation for scientific research as they engage in their own discoveries, prepare displays and present their work. At least 2,500 of these young scientists, from schools throughout British Columbia, will take part in the annual Regional Science Fairs in March and April.

'Through scientific research, Science Fair participants are able to gain important life and job skills which help reveal where new career opportunities exist' said Patti Leigh, Executive Director, Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia. 'Science fairs allow students to stretch their imaginations and intellect, and they also provide a chance for young scientists to network with their peers and with potential mentors.'

Attendance by British Columbian students at the Taiwan International Science Fair is part of an international science fair exchange program established by the Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia. British Columbia Regional Science Fairs are supported by the Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia, a charity and non-profit organization whose vision is to sustain and enhance the science culture of the youth of British Columbia.

-end-



About the Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia

The Science Fair Foundation supports science education through the science fair program to foster curiosity and build for the future. The Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia (SFF BC) is a non-profit, charitable organization incorporated in February 1998 to support and promote science fair activity in British Columbia. The Foundation is committed to ensuring ongoing financial support in order to build a stronger and more visible Science Fair Program throughout the province.

To learn more about the Foundation, please visit our website at: www.sciencefairs.ca.

Local Contact, Additional Information:

Anjula Corbin – 250-250-563-4208 (W)

- email: ACorbin@sd57.bc.ca
- [Science Fair Foundation of BC](#)