

York Region Sci-Tech Fair 2009

Seneca College was the host of the York Region Sci-Tech Fair on April 4, 2009. Students from York Region District School Board, York Catholic District School Board and Independent schools competed in six science categories: Biotechnology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Health Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

Laurel Schollen, Chair of YRSTF congratulated all of the young scientists who participated in the fair, and commended them for their talent and innovation. She commented, "These awards help encourage more students to pursue education and careers in science and technology."

The winner of the **2009 Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation Stepping Stone Award** for best project at the regional level was Adelina Cozma from Silver Stream Public School for her project "Growing Up Emotionally Smart." Adelina received a gold medal and will be representing York Region at the Canada Wide Science Fair.

Five other students will be representing York Region at the Canada-Wide Science Fair: Revi Bonder and Shirley Nakhshon from Thornhill Secondary School for their project "Is there a good alternative to oil-based plastics?", Alexandra Gaglione from St. Clare Catholic Elementary School for her project "Butterfly Power", Sapna Shah from Markham District High School for "Potential of Using Microencapsulated Live Yeast Cells in the Treatment of Kidney Failure," and Geoffrey Sem from Richmond Hill Montessori School for "Homemade Organic Soil versus Commercial Soil in Plant Growth".

In addition to the 6 gold medals, there were 15 silver and 18 bronze medals awarded.

Winners of the following special awards were:

The **Hydro One Energy Ambassador Award**: Spencer Tran and Ethan Lundie from Kateri Tekakwitha for their project "Renewable Energy."

The **University of Ontario Institute of Technology Award**: Andrea Trozzo from Richmond Hill Montessori School, for her project "Harness the Moon" and Kevin Kodama from Kateri Tekakwitha for his project, "Port-a-Quencher."

The **Ontario Association of Medical Laboratories Award**: Sapna Shah from Markham District High School, for her project "Potential of Using Microencapsulated Live Yeast Cells in the Treatment of Kidney Failure."

The **University of Ottawa \$1,000 Admission Scholarship** for the top senior project at the regional level: Sapna Shah from Markham District High School for her project "Potential of Using Microencapsulated Live Yeast Cells in the Treatment of Kidney Failure".

The **Chemistry Institute of Canada (Toronto Section)**: Shirley Nakhshon and Revi Bonder from Thornhill Secondary School for their project "Is there a good alternative to oil-based plastics?"

The **Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Award**: Geoffrey Sem from Richmond Hill Montessori School for "Homemade Organic Soil versus Commercial Soil in Plant Growth."

The **Paz-Soldan Cournoyea Peer Award**: Samantha Panoff from St Julia Billiard for her project "Go for the Mold."

The **EnviroExpo Special Award** sponsored by ViaRail: Teija Jogi from Morning Glory Public School for her project "Environmentally Friendly Paint."

The **S.A.N. Award for Excellence in Science**: Geoffrey Sem from Richmond Hill Montessori School for “Homemade Organic Soil versus Commercial Soil in Plant Growth.”

The Science Communication Design Award: Taylor Abel and Shawna Jackson from Morning Glory Public School for their project “Avoiding Germs.”