



Earth Day 2006 Thanks You!



Highlights

My first year as Earth Day Ottawa co-ordinator was challenging. Dena was Earth Day Ottawa for so long and did it so well, it isn't possible to measure up without a lot more experience! I am thankful, however, for lots of help from Dena as I learned the ropes, for the volunteers, the teachers, and the students who all entered enthusiastically into the contests. I am especially grateful to Nadia Towajj-White who led both the Wind Warriors and the Solar Sprint, demonstrating she is an incredible organizer. The partnership with the

Ottawa EcoFair has continued to be beneficial to both Earth Day Ottawa and the EcoFair itself. Exhibits and crowds are bigger each year, and the enthusiasm of the children radiates throughout the hall. The contests bring out the kids and the kids bring out their families, and everyone is obviously having a great time. I'm looking forward to 2007 as I co-ordinate both the Earth Day Ottawa activities and the EcoFair—with the help of the superb volunteers we have always had, and generous sponsors like those noted below, I'm sure it will be great!

Elaine Gibson

P.S. New initiative on Page 4!

The Ottawa Eco-Stewardship Fair

Platinum EcoFair Sponsors: Ontario Trillium Foundation, The Ottawa Citizen, the City of Ottawa, TD Friends of the Environment, Runge Newspapers; **Gold Sponsors:** the Ontario Government and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. The Planning Committee (including GREENPRINT, Earth Day Ottawa, Enbridge Distribution Inc., Ottawa Carleton Wildlife Centre and Ottawa Stewardship Council) were thrilled with the



growth in the EcoFair, attracting over 80 exhibits and an estimated crowd of 4000 to the R A Centre location. The exhibition featured booths packed with environmentally friendly products, and information on services and programs with a balance of ENGOS, businesses and government represented. Outside, the Transportation Fair showcased energy-efficient cars like the Enbridge natural gas car, and, past friends

(Continued on page 2)

Sponsors	
ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION	1-4
OTTAWA CITIZEN	1-2
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ONTARIO POWER GENERATION	3

What's Inside?

- EcoFair at R.A. Centre 1-2
- Earth Day T-Shirt Design 2
- EcoTrivia Challenge 2
- Poster Contest 3
- Wind Warriors 3
- Essay Contest 4
- What's New for Earth Day 2007? 4
- Contact Information 4

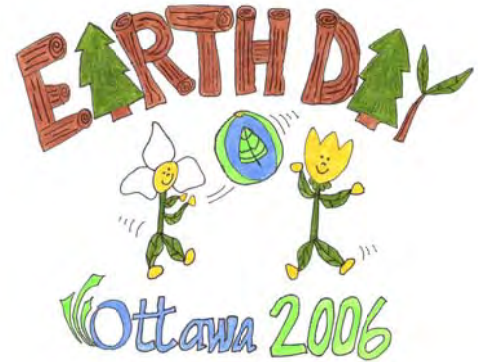
EcoFair (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

of Earth Day's EcoForum, the Queen's University Solar Vehicle and the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa. Earth Day Ottawa organized the Children's Activities that filled the Curling Rink, and hosted the award ceremony for Earth Day Ottawa Contests. On the right are David McGuinty, MP, Anna van der Kamp, Olympian and Clean Air Champion, Melanie Juneau with her poster and T-shirt designs, and Elaine Gibson, Earth Day Ottawa.



T-shirt Designs



First Prize
Melanie Juneau



Second Prize
Patrick Kidney



Third Prize
Susan Liu

T-shirt Design Contest

Sponsored by Viridis Environmental

This year's winning design was submitted by **Melanie Juneau**, a talented Grade Three student from St. Mary's Catholic School, who also won the poster contest. St. Mary's Catholic School is apparently an artistic place because second-prize winner, **Patrick Kidney**, is a classmate of Melanie's. **Susan Liu**, a Grade Five student from W. Erskine Johnston, took home third Prize honours. Each of the students earned cash prizes for their school's environmental programs, a laminated plaque of their winning design, and a copy of the winning shirt. **Brianna Rose Clarke** of Chapel Hill School was given an honourable mention. All the designs appear on the Web Site at www.earthdayottawa.ca. The design was printed on the front of T-shirts distributed to volunteers, prize winners, and event participants.

EcoTrivia Challenge

Sponsored By Ontario Trillium Foundation and , Shell Environmental Fund

The EcoTrivia Challenge, first introduced in 2005, was very popular at the 2006 EcoFair. A steady stream of children gathered around the projector to answer the questions posed by the software. Since initiating the EcoTrivia Challenge, Earth Day Ottawa has been developing new sets of questions and answers.

Poster Contest

Sponsored by TD Friends of the Environment

The Poster Contest, now in its ninth year, continues to receive excellent entries. The judges were pleasantly surprised by the response to this year's theme, "Renewable Energy". Even very young children understood the concepts of wind and solar energy and power generated by water. First prize went to **Melanie Juneau**, Grade Three student from St. Mary's Catholic School, with her SolarMobile. **Sonia Khubchandani** also colourfully highlighted solar energy - Sonia is in Grade Five at RE Kindergarten and School Age Program. **Victoria Canning-Choi** of Chapel Hill Catholic School, presented a vibrant portrayal of water power. Honorable mention went to **Kirsty Barrett**, W. Erskine Johnston Public School. Winning entries can be seen on the Web Site. Winners received \$40 to support environmental programs in their school, a laminated plaque of their original art work and an Earth Day T-shirt at the EcoFair Award ceremony.



First Prize
Melanie Juneau



Second Prize
Sonia Khubchandani



Third Prize
Victoria
Canning-Chol

Wind Warriors

Sponsored by General Electric Canada

Our 3rd annual wind turbine contest provided a sense of energy and excitement to the Ottawa EcoFair. Students were provided with a commercial kit, and encouraged to increase the performance of the turbine by improving the design and materials. A wind tunnel was built to judge the low speed performance of the entries, and hair dryers were also utilized to judge the effectiveness of the design, moving from a standing start. There are actually three competitions—the Light Wind Start competition was won by Pope John XXIII Catholic School; the Best Voltage competition was won by Rockcliff Park School; Jean of Arc had the Best Design. Nadia Towajj-White, our very able organizer of this competition, moved each competition along efficiently. Winners each received \$75 to fund their school's environmental programs and a laminated plaque for their efforts. We're looking forward to 2007!





EARTH DAY OTTAWA

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Our Mission

EDO aims to raise the profile of the environment in Ottawa by hosting Earth Week events, and providing an information exchange for everyone interested in promoting environmental protection.

Organizational Profile

EDO is the local officially accredited affiliate of Earth Day Canada, a non-profit national organization dedicated to "improving the state of the environment by motivating and helping individual Canadians to take positive environmental action." The new official coordinator for Earth Day events for Ottawa is Elaine Gibson from Aurora Environmental Consulting.

What's Planned for Earth Day 2007?

- New Essay Contest for High School Students
- A new theme for Poster Contest—Climate Change
- T-Shirt design contest to create the Earth Day 2007 shirt
- More programs for the "EcoTrivia Challenge"
- EcoFair on April 21, 2007
- We need volunteers for Wind Warriors and Solar Sprint

**Look for our Earth Day Ottawa
2007 Sponsor Request
with this newsletter. We look forward
to your continued
support!**

Essay Contest for High School Students

Earth Day Ottawa is excited to join forces with the Ottawa International Writers Festival for an event on April 21st that is a predecessor to their Climate Change Forum on April 22nd at the National Archives Building. *Climate Change – Our Children's Future* will be held at the RA Centre in conjunction with the EcoFair, featuring at least one author (to be announced) with a family orientation to appeal to children and youth as well as adults. The Writers Festival has built an incredible reputation for attracting first-rate authors over the past ten years, so both days are guaranteed to provide the foremost thinkers in the field of climate change. We are also challenging young authors to demonstrate their understanding of Climate Change.

Guidelines for the contest will appear on the Web Site, but in general, the parameters of the contest are:

- Essay may be about the impacts of Climate Change, the causes or how to decrease Greenhouse Gas emissions.
- Contest is open to all Grade 9 to Grade 12 students
- Winners will be recognized at an award ceremony of the *Climate Change – Our Children's Future* on April 21st.

ottawa
INTERNATIONAL
writers
festival
www.writersfest.com