

April 25, 2016

## **BURNABY SCHOOLS' STUDENTS EXCEL AT SKILLS BC**

On April 13th in Abbotsford, Skills BC showcased the top secondary & post-secondary students in a variety of vocations & trades. Over 7000 people attended the show. Congratulations to Burnaby Schools' winners that included:

- **Calvin Leung** and **Calvin Hua-Nguyen** from Burnaby South's Computer Networking Program won gold and bronze respectively in the IT Network Systems Administration Competition. Leung is eligible for the upcoming Skills Canada event in Moncton NB.
- Burnaby North's **Kayla Wenzek** competed in the Baking & Pastry Arts event and earned a bronze medal.
- **Cody Zahradnick** and **Nick Murphy**, recent grads from Community & Continuing Education's Horticulture program won silver in the Landscaping category.

## **CELEBRATING RCMP YOUTH ACADEMY 2016 GRADUATES**

Two weeks ago, ten of Burnaby Schools' grade 11 & 12 students graduated from the Lower Mainland RCMP Youth Academy program. BC's Lieutenant Governor, **Judith Guichon**, was on hand at the ceremony to congratulate them. The 8 day camp is held near Cultus Lake, and involves demanding physical and academic training for day and night scenarios designed to simulate the rigours of police work. Eighty percent of program graduates go on to careers in policing.

## **DISTRICT STUDENTS MAKE THEIR MARK AT GREATER VANCOUVER SCIENCE FAIR**

Alpha Secondary dominated this year's Greater Vancouver Science Fair and brought home multiple awards.

Grade 11 student **Dante Wong** won gold for his project on harvesting energy from a water hammer found in household pipes. In May, he will represent Metro Vancouver schools at the National Science Fair in Montreal. He also received a UBC Science Entrance Award for Best Earth & Environmental Sciences Project and a nomination for a BC Hydro award. Three grade 8 Alpha students captured bronze, **Maya Siemens** for her project on "How much gas certain beverages produce in your stomach?" and **Catherine Wang** and **Jenny Chan** on "How people's focus is enhanced by a hungry state of mind."

Burnaby North captured two silvers, and Burnaby South and Moscrop each received a bronze medal.

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### **UNMASKING MOZART AT DOUGLAS ROAD**

Students in **Ms. Migliuris** and **Mr. Milloy's** classes at Douglas Road recently completed a VSO Music Connects Program to gain knowledge and appreciation of classical music. Their topic was the life and talents of the composer Mozart, and they worked with a music student from UBC. The grand finale was a special presentation for parents and relatives where they hosted a Masquerade Ball in the gym, complete with music by Mozart. A grand time was had by all!

### **PLENTY OF SPIRIT FOUND AT SEAFORTH**

Seaforth's Spirit Day is an elementary school career and community day unlike any other. It's been taking place for more than 10 years through the support of their dedicated PAC and each year seems to top the rest. Last Friday's Spirit Day consisted of 48 workshops - some for primary grades and some for intermediate. Highlights of the day included "Bears! Oh My!" where Grouse Mountain shared knowledge of their resident grizzly bears, Movie Makeup, Spa Science, and Backyard Birds. No doubt, many future careers were ignited that day.

### **THE TECHNO-WIZARD-ESSES OF CAMERON ELEMENTARY**

Three teams from Cameron Elementary have been working since January on their submission to the Regional Tech-novation Challenge, an event hosted by SFU that encourages girls to try out STEM careers. Each team was tasked with coming up with an idea for a mobile phone app to help their community - concept, design and pitch - and their hard work paid off in spades. The youngest team in the contest consisting of grade 4's who called themselves the "**Tec Girls Team**" won first place in the elementary school category. Their app game 'City Helper' will help students and their families become familiar with their new community. It was inspired by the 61 new students that Cameron welcomed this year. Third place also went to a Cameron Elementary team for a homework organizer app. The teams are hoping to move to the next round where winners will receive funding to actually launch their product.

### **ONE WEEKEND, TWO FUNDRAISERS**

Communities are known by the schools they keep and on April 16 two community organizations had the interests of Burnaby Schools at the heart of their events. The Rotary Club of Burnaby held an International Food, Music and Fun event, where student chefs from the ACE-IT Professional Cooks program prepared an around the world sampler. Proceeds will support student scholarships.

The Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society held their 24<sup>th</sup> annual Firefighters Charitable Ball and it was a sell-out. Proceeds will be supporting the nutritional snacks program at 27 District schools and funding for dry grad programs to ensure that graduating students act responsibly and stay safe during their celebrations.

School trustees attended both events. Thank you Rotarians and Burnaby Firefighters for supporting our students. We appreciate the difference you make in our schools.