
For Immediate Release

Local Students Awarded for Reducing Their Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Kamloops, June 24th, 2008--- In the past school year over 460 grade five and six students throughout the Kamloops-Thompson School District participated in the BC Sustainable Energy Association's (BCSEA) Climate Change Showdown. Awards are being handed out this week to the top scoring students acknowledging their remarkable efforts at adopting lifestyle habits and consumer choices that will reduce their carbon emissions.

The Climate Change Showdown, an educational workshop developed by the BCSEA teaches students about climate change and the many solutions available to address this problem. To date, over 550 free workshops have been delivered in elementary school classrooms across the province, reaching over 14,000 households and stimulating greenhouse gas reductions of over 7,500 tonnes.

"We found a successful way to influence household behaviour and reduce carbon emissions," reported Climate Change Showdown project manager Estella Bastidas. "After our workshop the school children took the challenge home, worked with their parents for four weeks to reduce their emissions, and won prizes for becoming Superheroes."

BCSEA's Regional Coordinator, Lea Bucknell, awarded Mrs. Weddell's grade 5/6 students at McGowan Park Elementary with a lunch-time pizza party. These grade 5/6 students worked hard as a team to ensure that their energy saving efforts would earn them the most combined points.

Also from McGowan Park Elementary was the individual student to score top points, grade five student, Kaylan Phillips.

The BCSEA offered the Climate Change Showdown workshops thanks to generous contributions from Environment Canada, Vancity, City of Vancouver, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, City of Coquitlam, City of Richmond and Epod Solar.

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To learn more about the Climate Change Showdown Project, visit <http://www.bcsea.org/ccshowdown/> or call Lea Bucknell at (250) 372-5536. Authorized photos for publication available upon request.