



Science Fair
Foundation^{BC}

1455 Quebec Street
Vancouver, BC
Canada V6A 3Z7

Tel: [604] 443-7557
Fax: [604] 443-7430
E-mail: scifair@scienceworld.ca

**Science Fair Foundation
of British Columbia**

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

May 20, 2008

ADVISORY

Contact: Patti Leigh

Tel: 604-443-7557

pleigh@sciencefairfoundationbc.ca

Science Fair Educator Receives Prime Minister's Award

Ms. Devon Ross, a science teacher at Vancouver Technical Secondary in Vancouver, BC and Chair of the Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair, is one of 16 educators from across Canada to receive the national level 2008 Prime Minister's Award – a Certificate of Excellence. Ms. Ross received her award at a special ceremony in Ottawa, Ontario where Prime Minister Steven Harper said, 'The award honours the talented and caring teachers in the country whose contribution to the lives of individual Canadians, and to Canada as a whole, is truly priceless.'

In collaboration with her colleagues, Ms. Ross achieved the commitment of the Vancouver Technical Science Department to ensure that students complete Science Fair projects every year for five years. She and other teachers spend countless hours in class and after school assisting students with data analysis and proper researching skills. By the time the students leave high school, they are well versed in research techniques and they understand that science is a dynamic process that they can be a part of. "I am so pleased that Vancouver Technical has been recognized at the national level. I have known for a long time what a special place it is to work and learn and the unique stories we have to tell. I am glad to know that these positive experiences can now be shared with a broader audience," said Ms. Ross.

"Ms. Ross, herself a Science Fair Alumna, is a role model for teachers and students. Her commitment to engaging others in the learning of science and technology through the Science Fair program has had a strong impact on many British Columbians,' says Patti Leigh, Executive Director, Science Fair Foundation of British Columbia

Through the Science Fair program, Ms. Ross has demonstrated innovative use of information and communications technology in the classroom, incorporated excellence and innovation in her teaching practices, achieved outstanding results with her students, inspired them to learn and continue learning, and equipped them with the knowledge, attitudes and skills they will need to succeed in tomorrow's society and economy.

The Prime Minister's Awards program for the Teaching Excellence program is Canada's way of recognizing its best teachers, promoting what they have achieved and sharing their innovative and successful teaching practices. Recipients encourage individuals to think outside the box, help them feel good about themselves and encourage students to continuously strive to do better.

-30-

BC

About the Science Fair Foundation

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 web site at: www.sciencefairs.ca.