

For Immediate Release

November 28, 2016

"Skills Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Rewards Excellence"

Nearly 50 medals were awarded this past Saturday at the Skills Canada Intermediate Challenge

ST. JOHN'S, NL– Skills Canada Newfoundland and Labrador hosted its 14th Annual Skills Canada Intermediate Challenge and F.I.R.S.T Lego League Robotics Competition on Saturday, November 26, 2016. Close to 400 junior high students from across Newfoundland and Labrador gathered at College of the North Atlantic- Prince Philip Drive Campus and competed in seventeen different trade, technology and employability competition areas in hopes of receiving a gold, silver or bronze medal (Please see attached document with list of results).

The gold medal winners in <u>most</u> competition areas are invited to represent their school at the Skills Canada Provincial Competition on April 7, 2017. At this competition, they will compete against secondary students for the opportunity to represent Newfoundland and Labrador at the 23rd Annual Skills Canada National Competition held in Winnipeg, MB in June 2017.

"Throughout its fourteen-year history, the Skills Canada Intermediate Challenge has demonstrated its value as an ideal opportunity to expose young people to careers in skilled trades and technologies," said Carole Ann Ryan, Executive Director of Skills Canada Newfoundland and Labrador. "In the last five years alone, over half of all winners who progressed to the Skills Canada Provincial Competition won medals over students several years their senior. We take great pride in how the Skills Canada Intermediate Challenge provides youth with a large range of options to inform their decisions on course selection and career planning before they even enter high school."

Skills Canada Newfoundland and Labrador (a member of Skills/Compétences Canada) was established in 1998 as part of an effort to maintain Canada's international competitiveness amidst a declining Canadian labour force. Skills Canada Newfoundland and Labrador receives funding from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Employment and Social Development Canada, the Provincial Government's Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and Department of Advanced Education and Skills and Vale.

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For more information or photos, contact Communications Manager Jess Baldwin: 709-739-4172 (office)/709-573-0170 (cell)/jessicab@skillscanada.com (email) (Photos available upon request)

SKILLS CANADA INTERMEDIATE CHALLENGE

2016 RESULTS

PUBLIC SPEAKING Gold: Shea Kieley, Holy Spirit High School* Silver: Emma MacIsaac, Beaconsfield Junior High Bronze: Momin Anwar, MacDonald Drive Junior High

TV VIDEO PRODUCTION (Team of 2) Gold: Richard Whittle & Peter Noel, Holy Spirit High School* Silver: Ashley Howe & Daniel Scott, Villanova Junior High Bronze: Michael Meaney & Evan Vokey, Mount Pearl Intermediate

GRAPHIC DESIGN Gold: Abigail Galway, Holy Redeemer* Silver: Rielly Puddester, Beaconsfield Junior High Bronze: Melissa Mercer, Villanova Junior High

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT Gold: Jenna Neville, Villanova Junior High* Silver: Ethan O'Brien, Mount Pearl Intermediate Bronze: Brady McEachren, E.G. Lambert School

IT OFFICE SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS Gold: Anna Broussard, Lakecrest Independent School* Silver: Autumn Penney, E.G. Lambert School Bronze: Haley Somers, Carbonear Collegiate

3D COMPUTER ANIMATION (Team of 2) Gold: Moira Costigan & Alexandra Sparkes, Villanova Junior High* Gold: Kyle Short & Nicholas Nowak, Carbonear Academy*

2D COMPUTER ANIMATION (Team of 2)

Gold: Avery Greening & Ethan Stuckless, Villanova Junior High* Gold: Cahley Warren & Cyan Martin, Carbonear Collegiate* Silver: Krista Sellars & Isabella Mullins, Beaconsfield Junior High Bronze: Amber Kelly & Madison Langdon, Frank Roberts Junior High

JOB SEARCH

Gold: Rory Murphy, Beaconsfield Junior High* Silver: Zoe Rowe, Frank Roberts Junior High Bronze: Hayley Gosse, Villanova Junior High

JOB SKILL DEMONSTRATION Gold: Kimberly Jacobs, E.G. Lambert School* Silver: Sydney Dawe, Frank Roberts Junior High Bronze: Abby Azizan, Villanova Junior High

WORKPLACE SAFETY Gold: Grace Bryant, Holy Spirit High* Silver: Noah Slaney, Frank Roberts Junior High Bronze: Amy Grimes, Mount Pearl Intermediate

WIND TURBINE CHALLENGE

Gold: Daniel Olvera & Madison Noel, Immaculate Heart of Mary School Silver: Shane Murphy, Beaconsfield Junior High Bronze: Andrea Lane & Callie Boyde, E.G. Lambert School

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gold: Leah Burke, MacDonald Drive Junior High* Silver: Joel Lake, St. Kevin's High Bronze: Mia Farrell, Villanova Junior High

IT NETWORK SYSTEMS SCAVENGER HUNT Gold: Logan Smith & Gavin Hull, Mount Pearl Intermediate Silver: Mitchell Barrett & Kira Piercey, Holy Redeemer Bronze: Adam Seviour, MacDonald Drive Junior High

JUNIOR CHEF CHALLENGE

Gold: Emma Moores & Laura Priddle, Holy Spirit High Silver: Anna Rowe & Victoria French, MacDonald Drive Junior High Bronze: Hailey Churchill & Ireland Fitzpatrick, Holy Name of Mary

JUNIOR HAIRSTYLING CHALLENGE

Gold: Anna Boland & Laura Pottle, Villanova Junior High Silver: Cheyenne Bursey & Kori Noel, Immaculate Heart of Mary Bronze: Mallory Hunter & Madison Borden, Exploits Valley Intermediate

THE PITCH

Gold: Wayne Walsh & Lily Bertolo, Holy Spirit High Silver: Madisyn Browne & Bria Kelly, St. Peter's Junior High Bronze: Lauren Dibbon & Grace Walsh, Beaconsfield Junior High

F.I.R.S.T. LEGO LEAGUE ROBOTICS

GOLD / 1st PLACE - Our Lady of Mercy Elementary** SILVER / 2ND PLACE - Lakecrest Independent School Team 2 BRONZE / 3RD PLACE - Jakeman All-Grade

TOP PLACING SCHOOLS 1st – Villanova Junior High 2nd – Beaconsfield Junior High 3rd – Holy Spirit High School

*Teams that advance to Skills Canada Provincial Competition in April 2017 to compete against high school students

**F.I.R.S.T. Lego League Robotics winning team that may go on to compete at the F.I.R.S.T. Lego League World Festival