

Check out the 2026 Peterborough Regional Science Fair Award Winners!

In this document you will find a list of our award winners, by type of award, and division (age/grade).

For full descriptions of awards, visit our website under: PRSF Experience > Our Awards & Prizes

To learn more about the projects, check out the summaries on our website under: PRSF Experience > Project & Results > 2026 Participants & Projects

Note: Items in this document are clickable! Click on the division and category below to read about projects under that heading. To return to this page, click on 'Return' on the bottom right of each page.

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GRAND PRIZE WINNERS

The participants awarded these prizes will represent the Peterborough Region at the Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF) in Edmonton, Alberta from May 23-30, 2026.

1st Place - Dr. Raymond March Memorial Award, CWSF trip sponsored by: SGS Canada

4403 – **Claire Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
A Novel, Biodegradable Treatment to Limit Drought and Wildfire Disaster and Retain Soil Nutrients

2nd Place - Dr. Stephanie Rutherford Award, CWSF trip sponsored by: SGS Canada

5602 – **Isaiah Jalsevac**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*
Firebird: Autonomous UAV Detection and Monitoring of Wildfires

3rd Place - Thomas Howard Award, CWSF trip sponsored by: BWXT

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines

SCHOOL & TEACHER AWARDS + PRSF GAMES & DRAW PRIZES

These prizes are unique to our fair. They recognize teachers, schools, and students who contribute to the outstanding participation in our fair each year.

Top School Award (Elementary) – *Rhema Christian School*

Top School Award (High school) - *Port Hope High School*

Teacher Award (awarded based on 2025 student “Who Inspired You” submissions)

Mr. Krueger, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
For showing his students the importance of science and igniting their love of science.

Teacher Award (awarded based on 2025 student “Who Inspired You” submissions)

Mr. Briere, *Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute*
For his encouragement and guidance.

Early Bird Registration - All Divisions & Categories

Oliver Mertick, *Rhema Christian School*

Candy Game - Primary & Elementary (closest guess)

Galvin Gagliardi-Stabler, *Home Schooled*

Candy Game - Junior, Intermediate & Senior (closest guess)

Ella Baklinski, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*

Random Rookie Award - Primary

Audrey McLean, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*

Random Rookie Award - Elementary

Quinn Smith, *St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School*

Random Rookie Award - Junior

Christian Walkey-Levesque, *St. Paul's Catholic Elementary School*

Random Rookie Award - Intermediate

Alexander Arrigo, *Port Hope High School*

Random Rookie Award – Senior

Phoenix Fleming, *Port Hope High School*

DIVISIONAL AWARDS

These awards are presented to the top student in each age/grade group division, per subject category.

Primary (grades K-3): General Science

Honourable Mention - Primary, General Science

1112 – **Oliver Mertick**, *Rhema Christian School*
The Great Eggsperiment

Honourable Mention - Primary, General Science

1110 – **Phia Higdon**, *Evergreen Education*
Zombie-ant Fungus

Honourable Mention - Primary, General Science

1111 – **Audrey McLean**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
Earth's Rotation

Honourable Mention - Primary, General Science

1101 – **Elsie Boshart and Chelsea Fintelman**, *Rhema Christian School*
Oil & Water : Why can't they just get along

Award of Excellence - Primary, General Science

1105 – **Ruby Francis**, *Rhema Christian School*
How do clouds float?

Award of Excellence - Primary, General Science

1102 – **Kennedy Cole**, *Baltimore Public School*
Hidden Energy in Food

Award of Excellence - Primary, General Science

1107 – **Galvin Gagliardi-Stabler**, *Home Schooled*
Beyblades and Friction

Award of Excellence - Primary, General Science

1104 – **Oliver Feldman Reyes**, *Queen Elizabeth Public School*
testing counteracting forces with a magnetic train

Award of Excellence - Primary, General Science

1103 – **Kalea Curry**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
Sweet Science: A hummingbird experiment

Best Overall - Primary, General Science

1106 – **Lucas Friesen**, *Rhema Christian School*
Liquid Lightning

Elementary (grades 4-6): Biological Science

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Biological Science

2203 – **Clara Boshart**, *Rhema Christian School*
Eye Colour Genetics

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Biological Science

2236 – **Lily Young and Jada Khan**, *Westmount Public School*
Are door handles really dirty?

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Biological Science

2234 – **Audrey Thomas**, *James Strath Public School*
Cut Flower Survival in Different Solutions

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Biological Science

2222 – **Naomi Lennie**, *Home Schooled*
Farming on an Alien World

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Biological Science

2228 – **Sage Newland**, *Trinity College School*
Underground Urban Environments: Can mycorrhizal fungae survive above-ground habitat destruction?

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Biological Science

2232 – **Quinn Steuart**, *Home Schooled*
FUTURE FOOD - FLY LARVAE

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Biological Science

2213 – **Norah Fintelman and Geneva Boshart**, *Rhema Christian School*
Bendy Bones

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Biological Science

2215 – **Leah Friesen and Naomi VanBerkel**, *Rhema Christian School*
Tree-mendous Growth

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Biological Science

2218 – **Hope Haggarty and Robbie Wade**, *James Strath Public School*
Can Viruses Save Lives?!

Best Overall - Elementary, Biological Science

2214 – **Clara Fraser**, *James Strath Public School*
What Water Works Best?

Elementary (grades 4-6): Physical Science

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Physical Science

2327 – **Audrey Sweeney**, *Rhema Christian School*
Reaction Distraction

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Physical Science

2310 – **Shiven Dave and Orion Combrie**, *Westmount Public School*
The Frozen Ice Cube Race

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Physical Science

2329 – **Veronica Wall and Kali Grylls**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
Sweet crystals that rock

Honourable Mention - Elementary, Physical Science

2314 – **Layla Hipgrave**, *Chemong Public School*
Flour Power

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Physical Science

2332 – **Ellie Xi**, *Baltimore Public School*
Electrolytes in Drinks

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Physical Science

2322 – **Lincoln Rose**, *James Strath Public School*
Sweet Water

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Physical Science

2326 – **Annabelle Sutton and Emma Salmans**, *Westmount Public School*
The Competition Of Fusion

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Physical Science

2311 – **Annabelle DeBlock and Ella Drysdale**, *Rhema Christian School*
Clean up Crew is on the Rescue!

Award of Excellence - Elementary, Physical Science

2331 – **Cavan Wood**, *Baltimore Public School*
H2-Whoa!

Best Overall - Elementary, Physical Science

2316 – **Isabelle McLean**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
The power of Insulation

Junior (grades 7-8): Physical and Mathematical Sciences

Honourable Mention - Junior, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

3704 – **Emma Kohut**, *Adam Scott Intermediate School*
Cabbage Chemistry

3rd Place - Junior, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

3702 – **Thomas Boustead and Lucas Pearce**, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
Cloudy With A Chance of Radiation

2nd Place - Junior, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

3707 – **William Tamblyn-Sabo**, *St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School*
Exploring Magnetic Feilds

1st Place - Junior, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

3701 – **Jaxon Blacklock and Alex Sangster**, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
Splatter Science

Junior (grades 7-8): Health and Life Sciences

Honourable Mention - Junior, Health and Life Sciences

3510 – **Leilana Lewis and Lilly Nolan**, *St. Paul Catholic Elementary School*
Blood Testing

3rd Place - Junior, Health and Life Sciences

3511 – **Kailey McDannold and Adria Andreoli**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
The Power of REM

2nd Place - Junior, Health and Life Sciences

3509 – **Talia Lennie**, *Home Schooled*
Sensory Overload: Does Multitasking Affect Our Day-to-Day?

1st Place - Junior, Health and Life Sciences

3515 – **Lily Watson**, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
Sound You Can See: From Cymatic Patterns to Tissue Organization

Junior (grades 7-8): Earth and Environmental Sciences

Honourable Mention - Junior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

3408 – **Sahana Vignarajah**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
The Future of Pollination

3rd Place - Junior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

3401 – **Zoe Giroux and Kenzie Gilkinson**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
Power of negative and positive words on plant growth

2nd Place - Junior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

3403 – Mackenzie Murdock and Claire Ruck, Adam Scott Intermediate School
The Bin Lid

1st Place - Junior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

3405 – Henley Picken, Bobcaygeon Public School
Solar Pop Can Greenhouse Heater

Junior (grades 7-8): Computer and Engineering Sciences

Honourable Mention - Junior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

3601 – Thomas Black and Yuze Li, St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School
Light vs Sound in sensing technology

3rd Place - Junior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

3606 – Bohdan Renaud, Bobcaygeon Public School
Top Gears: How does gear ration affect acceleration and top speed?

2nd Place - Junior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

3608 – Orion Teleki, St. Paul Catholic Elementary School
Expanding Goalie Glove Abilities (Hockey)

1st Place - Junior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

3604 – Heidi Kam and Aleena Aborig, Adam Scott Intermediate School
The Shortcut Effect: Risks and Rewards of AI Usage in Students

Intermediate (grades 9-10): Physical and Mathematical Sciences

2nd Place - Intermediate, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

4701 – Alexander Arrigo and Thuversan Uthayakumar, Port Hope High School
The Relationship Between Loop Radius and Minimum Velocity Required for Circular Motion

1st Place - Intermediate, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

4703 – Lucas White, Port Hope High School
The Effect of Barrel Length on Projectile Distance in a Combustion-Based Launcher

Intermediate (grades 9-10): Health and Life Sciences

2nd Place - Intermediate, Health and Life Sciences

4502 – **Kossy Akaeze**, *St. Mary Catholic Secondary School*
The Neuro-survival tactic

1st Place - Intermediate, Health and Life Sciences

4501 – **Maryam Abid and Gabrielle Barona**, *Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute*
Seeing is believing . . . or is it? Investigating the McGurk effect

Intermediate (grades 9-10): Earth and Environmental Sciences

3rd Place - Intermediate, Earth and Environmental Sciences

4402 – **Kiera LeVon**, *Port Hope High School*
Contamination Experiment

2nd Place - Intermediate, Earth and Environmental Sciences

4401 – **Ella Baklinski**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*
Effective and Eco-Friendly Cleaning: Analyzing Chemical vs. Organic Cleaners on their Effectiveness and Environmental Impact

1st Place - Intermediate, Earth and Environmental Sciences

4403 – **Claire Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
A Novel, Biodegradable Treatment to Limit Drought and Wildfire Disaster and Retain Soil Nutrients

Senior (grades 11-12): Health and Life Sciences

2nd Place - Senior, Health and Life Sciences

5502 – **Noah Nowak**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
A Scald-Faced Lie: Never Burn Your Mouth Again

1st Place - Senior, Health and Life Sciences

5501 – **Zena Muhandes**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
Nourishing the Mind: Diet's Impact on Alzheimer's Biochemistry

Senior (grades 11-12): Earth and Environmental Sciences

3rd Place - Senior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

5401 – **Henry Elliott and Seth Gibson**, *Port Hope High School*
Effects of Fungi on Plastic Degradation

2nd Place - Senior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

5402 – **Leah Ferguson**, *Port Hope High School*
The Effects of Saltwater on Freshwater Plants

1st Place - Senior, Earth and Environmental Sciences

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis
in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines

Senior (grades 11-12): Computer and Engineering Sciences

3rd Place - Senior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

5601 – **Phoenix Fleming and Ryerson McBride**, *Port Hope High School*
Designing and Testing a Magnetic Levitation System to Reduce Friction in Transportation

2nd Place - Senior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

5603 – **Bazeltine McGriskin**, *Port Hope High School*
Effect of Different-Shaped Nozzles On Pulse Jet Engines

1st Place - Senior, Computer and Engineering Sciences

5602 – **Isaiah Jalsevac**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*
Firebird: Autonomous UAV Detection and Monitoring of Wildfires

SPECIAL AWARDS

Awarded to students whose projects fit and demonstrate the unique criteria required for each award. This list is organized by divisional eligibility. For full details about our special awards visit our website under:
PRSF Experiences > Our Awards & Prizes

All Divisions & Categories

Community Betterment Award - All Divisions & Categories

2316 – **Isabelle McLean**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
[The power of Insulation](#)

Shaw Computer Systems Award for Energy Management - All Divisions & Categories

3405 – **Henley Picken**, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
[Solar Pop Can Greenhouse Heater](#)

1st Prize - Peterborough Astronomical Association Award - All Divisions & Categories

2222 – **Naomi Lennie**, *Home Schooled*
[Farming on an Alien World](#)

2nd Prize Peterborough Astronomical Association Award - All Divisions & Categories

1111 – **Audrey McLean**, *St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School*
[Earth's Rotation](#)

Elementary Only Projects

Peterborough Field Naturalists Award - Elementary

2215 – **Leah Friesen and Naomi VanBerkel**, *Rhema Christian School*
[Tree-mendous Growth](#)

Peterborough Field Naturalists Award - Elementary

2228 – **Sage Newland**, *Trinity College School*
[Underground Urban Environments: Can mycorrhizal fungi survive above-ground habitat destruction?](#)

Integrative Wildlife Conservation Lab: Science & Discovery Award - Elementary

2222 – **Naomi Lennie**, *Home Schooled*
[Farming on an Alien World](#)

Junior Only Projects

Integrative Wildlife Conservation Lab: Science & Discovery Award - Junior

3404 – **Ashton Omland-Findlay**, *Home Schooled*
From Stress to Mutation

Otonabee Region Conservation Authority Award: Earth & Environmental Sciences - Junior

3402 – **Mason McPhail**, *Rhema Christian School*
How does carbon affect the layers of the ocean?

Senior Only Projects

Trent Entrance Scholarship - Senior

5502 – **Noah Nowak**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
A Scald-Faced Lie: Never Burn Your Mouth Again

Ottawa Entrance Scholarship - Senior

5501 – **Zena Muhandes**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
Nourishing the Mind: Diet's Impact on Alzheimer's Biochemistry

Junior, Intermediate, or Senior Projects

Peterborough Field Naturalists Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

3405 – **Henley Picken**, *Bobcaygeon Public School*
Solar Pop Can Greenhouse Heater

Peterborough Field Naturalists Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5402 – **Leah Ferguson**, *Port Hope High School*
The Effects of Saltwater on Freshwater Plants

Water Environment Association of Ontario Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

3402 – **Mason McPhail**, *Rhema Christian School*
How does carbon affect the layers of the ocean?

Water Environment Association of Ontario Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis
in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines

Mapleview Farms Health & Life Sciences Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior, Health and Life Science

5501 – **Zena Muhandes**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
[Nourishing the Mind: Diet's Impact on Alzheimer's Biochemistry](#)

Mapleview Farms Health & Life Sciences Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior, Health and Life Science

3510 – **Leilana Lewis and Lilly Nolan**, *St. Paul Catholic Elementary School*
[Blood Testing](#)

Trent School of the Environment Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior, Earth and Environmental Science

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
[Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines](#)

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Luc C. Matteau Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5602 – **Isaiah Jalsevac**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*
[Firebird: Autonomous UAV Detection and Monitoring of Wildfires](#)

Honourable Mention from Professional Engineers of Ontario from judge Michael Wearing, P. Eng

5502 – **Noah Nowak**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
[A Scald-Faced Lie: Never Burn Your Mouth Again](#)

Professional Engineers of Ontario Peterborough Chapter Innovation & Impact Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5602 – **Isaiah Jalsevac**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*
[Firebird: Autonomous UAV Detection and Monitoring of Wildfires](#)

Society Of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
[Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines](#)

Society Of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

4403 – **Claire Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*
[A Novel, Biodegradable Treatment to Limit Drought and Wildfire Disaster and Retain Soil Nutrients](#)

Molecules, Cells & Systems Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5501 – **Zena Muhandes**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*
[Nourishing the Mind: Diet's Impact on Alzheimer's Biochemistry](#)

Molecules, Cells & Systems Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5403 – **Ella Sehn**, *Lakefield College School*

Removal of Aquatic Microbial Biocontaminants with Ozonide: An Assessment of Apoptosis
in Wildtype and CRISPR-Cas9 iPT Homozygous Knockout Cell Lines

OntarioTech University Innovation Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5602 – **Isaiah Jalsevac**, *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School*

Firebird: Autonomous UAV Detection and Monitoring of Wildfires

OntarioTech University Innovation Award - Junior, Intermediate, or Senior

5502 – **Noah Nowak**, *St. Peter Catholic Secondary School*

A Scald-Faced Lie: Never Burn Your Mouth Again