



Creating Opportunities for Kids in Science, Technology & Mathematics

## MITCHELL ODYSSEY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS 5 MORE SCHOOLS

### More Than 40,000 Students Wild About Science!

With the “science buzz” resonating in Odyssey schools, the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation sparks student interest and generates enthusiasm for exploring science. The Foundation is supporting 5 more schools in B.C. as part of a targeted growth strategy to create more opportunities for students in science, technology and math. The Odyssey Schools Network now includes 65 schools covering 18 School Districts, engaging over 40,000 students in science enrichment opportunities.

“We in School District No. 67 are very pleased to be involved with the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation. This grant makes it possible for our science teachers to further enhance the science learning experience for all of our students.”

*Wendy Hyer, Superintendent of Schools (SD#67 – Okanagan Skaha)*

“What a wonderful learning opportunity for Summerland students to have a greenhouse in the courtyard to encourage their hands on learning experiences. The ability to have inquiry-based learning on an ecological theme within the walls of the school is fantastic! With five diverse departments having a vested interest in our Greenhouse Project, it means it is a school-wide focus, not just a science-based focus.”

*Donna Moroz, Vice-Principal, Summerland Secondary*

Science programs at two secondary schools School District No. 42 have received a welcome boost, thanks to the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation. In Maple Ridge Secondary, technology like Smartboards, probeware and projectors in the classroom will enhance the science curriculum and increase students’ appreciation and excitement for science. Science Head Beth Warner says the overall objective of this Odyssey project is to encourage students to become lifelong learners of science by improving their science literacy. Odyssey funds will also be used to create classroom activity kits to demonstrate concepts in earth sciences, electricity and structures.

At Samuel Robertson Secondary, the Odyssey grant will fund new lab equipment that will facilitate hands-on learning during units on water systems, ecosystems, chemistry, motion and engineering. Science Head Brent Crich believes that multisensory learning that spans many disciplines will benefit students by enhancing their scientific curiosity and stimulating their pursuit of careers in science. The grant will also facilitate a Robotics Club, an Electric Vehicle Club and visits to Science World, Vancouver Aquarium and the HR MacMillan Planetarium.

“School District #73 (Kamloops/Thompson) acknowledges and applauds the efforts of the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation in enhancing technology and science education for the 21st century. Two District schools, Brocklehurst and NorKam Secondary have received Odyssey grants and are excited about the science promoting opportunities that these projects will provide for their students. Odyssey’s vision and support for quality public education in School District #73 is appreciated and valued.”

*Ross C. Spina, Assistant Superintendent of Schools (Secondary)*

Launched in 2004, the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation is seeking to expand its programs with the longer-term aim of sustainability through additional sponsorships. Each Odyssey school receives up to \$25,000 over a five-year period to implement a “teacher-defined” program unique to their school. Career Discovery opportunities help translate science interest into real world accomplishments when students visit organizations that research, develop and market innovative technology. “We believe that leading edge, hi-tech companies will recognize the benefits of participating in Career Discovery to encourage and motivate our future scientists, engineers and innovators,” explained Cheryl Kristiansen.

For more information about the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation (MOF), please contact:

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