



Mitchell  
Odyssey  
Foundation

**MITCHELL ODYSSEY FOUNDATION LAUNCHES CAREER DISCOVERY INITIATIVE**

***TechAlliance helps create opportunities for student exploration!***

With the “science buzz” resonating in Odyssey Schools, the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation sparks student interest and generates enthusiasm for discovering science and technology. During the week of February 18<sup>th</sup>, with the help of TechAlliance, the Foundation is launching its Odyssey **Career Discovery** Initiative in London, Ontario.

Eighty students from Woodstock's Huron Park Secondary School will travel to London to visit the Biotron Experimental Climate Change Facility and participate in other activities at the University of Western Ontario including interactive lab demonstrations and campus tours.

“**Career Discovery** is a Mitchell Odyssey Foundation initiative that provides students with the opportunity to visit technology-based companies, key research organizations and post-secondary institutes,” explained Cheryl Kristiansen, the Foundation’s Managing Director. “These visits are designed to educate and inspire students in various scientific and technical fields, ultimately resulting in better-informed educational and career choices.”

TechAlliance has been working with the Foundation to help identify and create opportunities for student exploration. The Foundation pays the travel costs connected with these visits and hopes that other technology-based companies in London will recognize the benefit of participating in the **Career Discovery** Initiative to encourage and motivate future scientists.

The Mitchell Odyssey Foundation has provided funding support for two of TechAlliance’s key initiatives for students: the BIOlympics held in September 2007 as part of London Biotech Week, and the Sanofi Aventis BioTalent Challenge.

"We are so pleased to have been given the opportunity to spearhead this initiative in London and that we are able to provide this kind of career exploration opportunity for our local students," notes Marilyn Sinclair, President and CEO of TechAlliance.

The Mitchell Odyssey Foundation was established by Ross Mitchell, a high-tech entrepreneur who was inspired by a school trip at age 13 to pursue a life-long path of discovery into the physical sciences and to create innovative communication technologies that have enhanced the world around him.

“The objective of the Foundation is to give adolescents the same opportunity I had by engaging, stimulating and mentoring them in the areas of science, technology and mathematics,” said Ross Mitchell, Chairman of the Foundation.

For more information about the Mitchell Odyssey Foundation and **Career Discovery**, please contact:

- Cheryl Kristiansen, Managing Director, Mitchell Odyssey Foundation
- Tel: 604.889.0530
- Email: [ckristiansen@m-o-f.org](mailto:ckristiansen@m-o-f.org)
- Web: [www.m-o-f.org](http://www.m-o-f.org)

To learn more about TechAlliance and its educational initiatives, please contact:

- Allison Fisher, Education Outreach Liaison, TechAlliance
- Tel: 519.858.5059

- Email: [allison.fisher@techalliance.ca](mailto:allison.fisher@techalliance.ca)
- Web: [www.techalliance.ca](http://www.techalliance.ca)
- 

