



Creating Opportunities for Kids in Science, Technology & Mathematics

MITCHELL ODYSSEY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS 5 MORE SCHOOLS

Focus On Science Students in Outlying Areas of BC

The Mitchell Odyssey Foundation continues to expand its network by supporting 5 more schools in outlying areas of BC. The Odyssey Schools Network now supports 70 schools covering 23 School Districts, engaging over 45,000 students in science enrichment opportunities – and inspiring a culture of science exploration and career discovery.

LV Rogers Secondary in Nelson BC will receive \$25,000 funding to implement a Technology Design project, which focuses on purchasing a CNC router to create new and exciting learning activities for students in Math, Physics, Technology Trade & Education courses. New technology will enable students to design, create technical drawings and manufacture components, while applying math theory and exploring physics concepts. This Odyssey funding grant leverages industry support from local companies who will provide in kind contributions of materials, hands-on instruction and work experience for students.

In Fort St. John, a “Smart Learning Via Smart Board” project at Dr. Kearney Middle School will create a technology-based learning environment incorporating modern educational advances into the classrooms of an isolated Northern BC community. Career Discovery activities will focus on local oil, gas, hydro and forestry industries as well as explore wind technology, geothermal and geo-surveying.

At Skeena Junior Secondary School in Terrace, their Future Science project will also focus utilizing educational technology such as Smartboards and upgrading equipment such as data loggers to support a variety of hands-on lab activities. Funds will also be used to create hands-on science kits, a science club and for Career Discovery trips in mining, hydroelectric and natural gas exploration.

Two schools on Vancouver Island will benefit from Odyssey funding grants this year. GP Vanier Secondary in Courteney will use its funding to instill an interest in science through scientific inquiry and enrich the laboratory experience in the classroom. Senior students will mentor and peer-tutor junior science classes in hands-on lab activities. Field trip explorations will expand on lab activities; and an extracurricular science club will help reinforce the scientific method and encourage students to compete in Science Fairs. Career Discovery activities will focus on local industry such as hydroelectric, waste treatment plants and ecosystems.

In the Comox Valley, Quamichan Middle School will use Odyssey funding to support educational technologies such as Smart Boards, computer sensors and software to reinforce scientific concepts; as well as hands-on activities with Robotics, structures and rockets. Field trips will include Science World, Dominion Observatory, Michael Smith Labs at UBC, Pacific Research Station and other marine ecosystems. Funding will also bring practicing scientists into the classroom while Career Discovery will focus on biotechnology and visits to local universities and colleges.

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.

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