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Sanofi Aventis BioTalent Challenge Changes Its Name

The Sanofi Aventis BioTalent Challenge has changed its name to the **Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge Canada (SBCC)**. This reflects the name change of the program's major national sponsor, from "Sanofi Aventis" to just "Sanofi". It also recognizes that BioTalent Canada is no longer involved as a national sponsor.

Bioscience Education Canada (BEC) is the national coordinating organization for the **Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge Canada**.

The program remains supported at the national level by the National Research Council and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research. The program also remains strong through the support of over 100 other organizations in regions across Canada, including many of the nation's leading universities.

Restructuring of this award winning science opportunity for youth has resulted in 9 regional competitions, from coast to coast, across Canada. The winning team from each region will compete in the **National SABC Competition** at the National Research Council facility in Ottawa on **May 7-8, 2012**

The SBCC gives students a real life experience in a laboratory setting.

Students submit proposals for professional review. Upon securing appropriate mentors in the scientific community, students then arrange to carry out their research in the mentor's lab.

The competition is open to all Grade 9 to Grade 12 students in schools across Canada. Proposal applications for the 2012 competition can be submitted on line starting on June 1, 2011 at <http://sanofibiogeneiuschallenge.ca/>.

Competition dates and on-line application deadlines vary from region to region. For further information, check <http://sanofibiogeneiuschallenge.ca/competitions/regions/>. Contact your local coordinator to see how you can get your students involved.

SBCC (Greater Toronto Area)

April 17-19, 2012

Competition location to be determined
Award ceremony at MaRS.

Bioscience Lectures and Workshops

BEC is working with various partners in centres across southern Ontario to offer a 1-day lectures and workshops for high school students during the spring semester. For further information, check <http://bioscienceeducation.ca/coming-events/>

For more information please visit our website, www.bioscienceeducation.ca or email info@bioscienceeducation.ca

Green Mining Experience at McMaster

Last June, McMaster University, once again offered a one week research experience for students interested in bioremediation of waste water mining. Students from Labrador, Sudbury and Northern Manitoba participated and took their experiences back to their communities.



This scientific research camp was funded through the RBC Water and Health Initiative with help from Vale Canada Limited and support from McMaster and BEC.

Gowlings Biotech Essay Contest on “Canada’s Top Biotechnology Story of the Year”

Each year, Gowlings offers their Biotech Essay Contest. The top prize of \$5,000 was won by Susie Youn, a graduate of Old Scona Academic in Edmonton for her essay, “Cellular Alchemy: Breakthroughs in Canadian Stem Cell Research”.

Second place went to Amanda Doggett of Winnipeg while Emma Maione of Winnipeg captured third.

This competition is open to all Canadian high school students who plan on starting their first year at a Canadian post-secondary institution in a life sciences-related field in the 2010. First prize is a bursary of up to \$5000 toward their first year of tuition. The entry deadline is in May 2012. For further information, go to www.gowlings.com/essaycontest

Ontario Genomics Institute “Genomics Teaching Prize”

The annual prize recognizes the Ontario secondary school teacher whose teaching best exemplifies OGI’s commitment to preparing Ontario’s students for an understanding of genomics and its future impact on society.

The recipient of the 2011 Genomics Teaching Prize was Ms. Jacqueline Ross, who teaches biotechnology at Thornlea Secondary School (Markham, Ontario)

For further information about previous awardees and the submission process for the OGI Genomics Teaching Prize, go to: <http://www.ontariogenomics.ca/teaching-award>



Bioscience Education Canada (BEC)

BEC is a non-profit Canadian science education organization which supports the expansion of Canada's bio-economy by educating students, teachers and the public about the economic and social benefits of using biotechnology to create new drugs, foods, fuels and solutions to environmental problems. In addition to the Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge

Canada, BEC offers a number of specialized educational programs in the life sciences across Canada.

The BEC Patrons Council includes the following distinguished Canadian scientists: Dr. Alan Bernstein, Dr. William Cochrane, Dr. John Dirks, Dr. John Evans, Dr. Peter Hackett and Dr. James E. Till

For more information please visit our website, www.bioscienceeducation.ca or email info@bioscienceeducation.ca