

CWSF 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario



Taneille Johnson

Amplification of hTERT cDNA For Transient Transfection with Mammalian Cells

Division: Biotechnology / None
Category: Intermediate
Region: Northern British Columbia
City: Fort St John , BC
School: North Peace Secondary
Abstract: Telomerase (hTERT) has been studied in correlation to cancer, and is primarily known to help maintain telomere lengths in some cancer types, allowing continuous cell division without senescence. My project studied whether hTERT had a role in benign cancer cell division rates, and studied whether benign mammalian cancer cells could be prompted into a malignant state, by transient transfection of hTERT.

Biography

My life consists of three things: chocolate, back pain, and science. The chocolate part is inherent, and the back pain stems from a recent speed skating injury. However the science part seems to make up the most of who I am. For the past 9 years I have competed in science fairs and have had the pleasure of attending two other Canada Wide Science Fairs. I lead a fairly active life, essentially stuffing as much into each moment as I can. I am actively involved with science in my community: SMARTS, and the Youth Advisory Group for the Canadian Commission to UNESCO. When I am not doing homework or studying biochemistry, I am playing one of my musical instruments: either clarinet, oboe, piano, or violin. I enjoy living in Northern BC away from the bustle of the city. Living in the north allows me to pursue my dreams of becoming either a professor, or a doctor. My most notable achievement this year was when I won 'Least Improved' at a speed skating awards banquet after being out all season with my back injury. In my spare time I enjoy talking about politics and living life to the fullest. Sincerely, Taneille

Awards

Value

The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$1 000
Bronze Medal - Biotechnology & Pharmaceutical Sciences Intermediate Sponsor: Rx&D Health Research Foundation	\$300
Total	\$1 300