

CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



Grant Mansiere

Does Light Cause Crime?

Challenge: Energy

Category: Junior

Region: Central Okanagan

City: Summerland, BC

School: Summerland Middle School

Abstract: Is there a connection between light (measured in skyglow) and different types of crime? The analysis of crime distribution along with skyglow revealed patterns. My study backs up the surprising results from other cities that have added light (and suffered increased crime) or reduced light (and had reduced crime). Lighting can help criminals, cause health and environmental issues, and is costly. Solutions to skyglow examined.

Biography

School is very important for me, and I continue with my own learning in my free-time. I read "Instructables" about electronics and electricity to figure out how they work and try to reuse parts in new ways. I would like to go on to a career in that uses electronics in my future. Another way to learn is to listen to TED talks, and I recently got to present at one. I play the tenor saxophone in my school stage and concert band. I am in my school's French Immersion so most of my classes are in French. To keep myself active I dance in my free-time to EDM music; as well as riding my bike and long-boarding around my district. Once a week I fence with my local club. My project idea came from a woman being beaten in a dark parking lot. This got me wondering how light could have been a factor. I plan on expanding my study by adding new towns to show their crime. My advice to other students pondering if to do a project would be to start right away! Time is of the essence; Once you have your idea ironed out, GO!

Awards

Value

Excellence in Astronomy Award - Junior Sponsor: Royal Astronomical Society of Canada	\$500
The Actuarial Foundation of Canada Award - Junior	\$500
Excellence Award - Junior - Gold Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	\$700
Western University Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$4000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$4 000
Total	\$5 700

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