CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick

Keegan Dursun

Watercress Cleans Toxic Chemicals From Waterways

Challenge: Environment
Category: Junior
Region: Edmonton
City: Edmonton, AB
School: Stratford School
Abstract: This controlled experiment investigated if Hydroponic watercress, as a natural and eco-friendly solution, would clear oil sand related chemicals pollutants (nitrates, arsenic, copper, iron, manganese and chlorine) from the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta.

Biography
Keegan is in Junior High at Stratford Elementary Junior High School in Edmonton, Alberta. He first became inspired to enter the ERSF by his grade 5 science teacher, Ms. Benedet. He wanted to expand his Grade 6 Science Fair project and test several toxic chemicals in the water. Living in Alberta, Keegan is very aware of the news stories and controversy surrounding the Althabasca River system and pollutants in the water. He wanted to look at a natural solution involving watercress to see if it would clear various toxic chemicals in the waterways. Further investigations may involve testing more river systems and/or attempting to grow watercress in the North Saskatchewan River and determine how successful the application of watercress in the river system would be. He loves science and is an avid basketball player. Keegan would provide advice to other students to plan the project early and choose something that inspires and excites you.

Awards	Value
Excellence Award - Junior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - $1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	$1 000
Total	$1 000

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