

## CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



### Meg Warhurst

#### Wildfires - Protect Your Home!

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Junior

**Region:** Cariboo Mainline

**City:** Lillooet, BC

**School:** Lillooet Secondary

**Abstract:** Wildfires threaten residential areas increasingly with little fire-smart awareness by homeowners. This experiment determines if landscaping influences wildfire threatening homes. Scaled wooden houses with different landscaping were compared for burn patterns and times. Landscaping influenced burn times and patterns for wooden houses and provided demonstrable evidence that landscaping can lead to fire-smart neighbourhoods and communities.

#### Biography

This project stems from an interest in retaining traditional forms of agriculture, promoting locally sustainable food production and concern about the growing influence of GMO companies on agriculture. This project is important because it demonstrates that locally harvested seeds, can reasonably compete with commercial seed varieties. I will continue this project into next year to follow production in more detail, and further evaluate whether local harvesting is an alternative to commercial seeds. Seeds from the hardy plants will also be harvested by the investigator and then planted the subsequent year and further analyzed. As a member of a small town, I involved community members to obtain seeds, become educated about local seeds harvesting, seed banks local sustainable food production. I will disperse this knowledge through local community group in the future. I am one of 6 children from rural BC. My achievements are art awards, story and poetry publishing, Lions Peace Prize local and regional awards, Regional science fair and Agriculture Awards, and recently Bronze Medallion for swimming. I play piano, violin, paint and write poetry.

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
Total	\$2 000