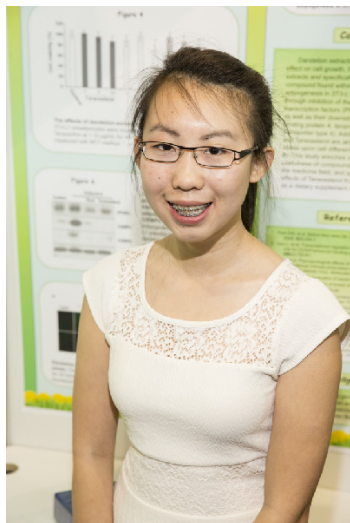


# CWSF 2015 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



## Kelly Yang

### Identification of A Novel Anti-adipogenic Compound from Dandelion

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Intermediate

**Region:** Northwestern Ontario

**City:** Thunder Bay, ON

**School:** Sir Winston Churchill C.V.I.

**Abstract:** Adipogenesis is the process in which cells differentiate into adipocytes. These cells are often referred to as "fat cells". An overabundance of fat cells increases the risk for diabetes and obesity. Taraxasterol is a natural chemical compound special to the dandelion family. Through various cellular mechanisms, dandelion extracts and specifically taraxasterol has the ability to prevent cells from differentiating into adipocytes.

#### Biography

As a grade 10 IB student attending Sir Winston Churchill high school in Thunder Bay Ontario, I appreciate the fine balance between academics and extra curricular activities. I strongly value creative expression and I fulfill this passion through music and art. I am a violinist in the Thunder Bay Symphony Youth Orchestra and my artwork has been chosen for display in the Thunder Bay Art Gallery. Health and wellness is another important aspect of my life. I enjoy playing soccer, snowboarding and running. Last fall, I attended the Ontario Provincial Cross Country Running Championships held in Waterloo. I strive to contribute positively to my school community through active participation in Student Council and the IB Student Advisory Group. In the community, I donate my time to volunteering at the hospital and art gallery. In the future, I would like to pursue a career in medicine and I hope to attend an honourable university in Canada. As this is my third Canadian Wide Science Fair, my advice to students considering doing a project is to go for it. Often times our own doubt is the biggest thing holding us back and once we've overcome that initial uncertainty, we can achieve anything.

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Intermediate - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2 000</b>