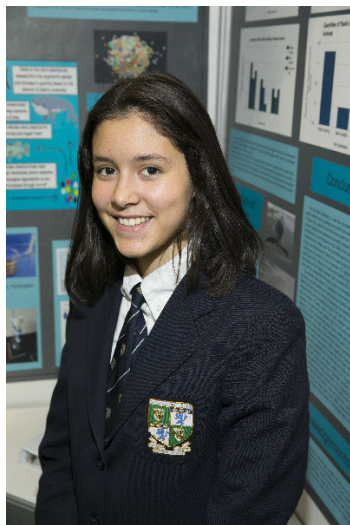


# CWSF 2017 - Regina, Saskatchewan



## Anastasia Castro

### Fluctuation of Oceanic Microplastics at Depth and Effects on Marine Ecosystems

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Intermediate

**Region:** Vancouver Island

**City:** Victoria, BC

**School:** Glenlynn Norfolk School

**Abstract:** Samples from various depths in the ocean at Ogden Point in Victoria, BC were collected and tested for traces of microplastics. Additionally, three organisms from three different ocean depths and locations (ex. surface and bottom feeders) were dissected and checked for traces of microplastics to see which animals in the ecosystem have heightened chances of ingesting these particles.

#### Biography

I generated the idea for my project due to my work with Surfrider, a worldwide organization that focuses on protecting the oceans, including from plastics. Since I do a lot of work talking to various municipalities about banning single use plastic bags I used this as an opportunity to further my knowledge about the local circumstances of microplastics. And as such for my career I would like to join my interest in science with my love of environmentalism. I have a great love of the outdoors, hiking as well as indoor rock climbing, which I pursue avidly and have competed in. If given the opportunity to further my project I would most likely focus on the chemical content in microplastics as well as the effect they have on marine animals. In terms of advice to others who wish to start their own science fair project I would recommend choosing a topic you are passionate about, this makes the project so much more engaging and interesting!

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Intermediate - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1 000</b>