

# CWSF 2010 - Peterborough, Ontario



## Kurtis Turnbull

### A Radical Theory: Why Antioxidants May Not Always Be Good

**Division:** Life Sciences

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Chignecto East

**City:** Pictou, NS

**School:** Pictou Academy-Dr. T. McCulloch School

**Abstract:** This project focused on the effects of antioxidants on the differentiation of stem cells into somatic cells. The ability of planaria to regenerate was measured under exposure to an antioxidant, ascorbic acid, to determine if stem cell differentiation was impaired. The regeneration was quantified through length and the photonegative response. It was found that elevated levels of antioxidant may impair the capacity for differentiation.

#### Biography

Kurtis Turnbull is grade 12 student from Nova Scotia who possesses a variety of interests and is heavily involved with both his school and community. Outside of academics, he dedicates his time to music, his school's arts club, writers club, student council, the global issues committee and, most recently, his science fair project. Following graduation, Kurtis plans to attend Dalhousie University and receive a Bachelor of Science.

#### Awards

#### Value

The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$1 000
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$1 000
Bronze Medal - Life Sciences - Senior Sponsor: Pfizer Canada	\$300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2 300</b>