



**Calgary Youth Science Fair**  
**April 18 – 21, 2012**  
**Olympic Oval**  
**University of Calgary**

Dear Colleague;

Would you like your students to participate in an exciting event for the year 2012? Then consider helping them take part in the Calgary Youth Science Fair, the annual city-wide Science Fair, which is open to students in Grades 5 to 12. Your students will benefit in a variety of ways by completing a science fair project at the school level. For those students who wish to compete at the next level, our annual city-wide fair also provides a healthy competitive environment. Our fair is organised to benefit all students, regardless of whether or not they end up winning a major prize. The Science Fair experience is truly a unique learning opportunity that we highly recommend for your students.

The Calgary Youth Science Fair Society is a non-profit organization made up of approximately forty directors who work year-round to put on the city-wide science fair. With an annual prize budget in excess of \$40,000, our fair has a prize structure that rewards all students who participate. We have a very close relationship with Devon Canada Corporation, Nexen Inc. and BP Canada Energy Company, our major sponsors. Our fair would not be possible without their support. BP Canada is our Outreach Sponsor for 2012 and will have lots to offer to our schools and their coordinators. See this link for more details: [www.aplusforenergy.ca](http://www.aplusforenergy.ca).

The 2012 Calgary Youth Science Fair is going to be a very special event for two reasons. First, we will be celebrating 50 years of science fairs in Calgary. Second, the University of Calgary has come on board as a major sponsor. Our 2012 Fair will be hosted by the U of C at the Olympic Skating Oval. As members of CYSFS, we are delighted with this new development in the staging of our fair.

The Calgary Youth Science Fair is also part of a larger, national organisation, Youth Science Canada, which sponsors a national science fair. Every year up to twelve students with the best projects from our local fair are sent to the Canada Wide Science Fair, at our expense.

If your school would like to participate in our program, please identify a school science fair coordinator to whom we can send all future communications for this year's science fair. A coordinator's responsibilities include:

- Receiving all communications from CYSF and sharing them with students/parents in a timely fashion, as appropriate
- Ensuring the online school sign-up is carried out on time; you will be asked to give coordinator contact information during the online school sign-up
- Ensuring students from their school are aware of procedures and rules regarding science fair projects. For this reason, serious work on projects should not begin until the coordinator downloads the project entry package from our web site in early November (you will be advised when it has been posted).
- Overseeing the students' projects and school science fairs
- Ensuring that the student/project registration forms and associated paperwork are submitted to CYSF on time
- Ensuring that students have the documentation required to do their project check-in and setup the week of the fair

**Online School Sign-up (opens Oct. 1, 2011; must be completed no later than Oct. 31, 2011):**

- Go to our web site ([www.cysf.org](http://www.cysf.org))
- Click on Registration and then again on School Sign-up
- Follow the directions there

CYSF directors are willing to assist school co-ordinators with school-based fairs and any aspect of preparing for the city-wide fair. To request assistance email us at [help@cysf.org](mailto:help@cysf.org) or [entries@cysf.org](mailto:entries@cysf.org).

**TIMELINE:**

**PLEASE PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE DEADLINES AS THEY ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE.**

October 1, 2011	Online school sign-up begins
October 31, 2011	Online school sign-up ends
October 31, 2011	Student/Project registration package available on-line
November–February 2012	Schools work with their students on their projects
January – February, 2012	School-based science fairs take place
February 24, 2012	Deadline for submitting completed student/project registration forms and associated paperwork to CYSF
March 19, 2012	Student/Project check-in/set-up packages sent to schools
April 18, 2012	Student/Project check-in and set-up at the Olympic Oval
April 20, 2012	Projects are judged (with students present)
April 21, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fair is open to the public</li> <li>• Awards Ceremony</li> </ul>

**IN SUMMARY, PLEASE NOTE:**

1. Schools must appoint a coordinator and sign up online by October 31 to participate in the 2012 Fair.
2. If a student needs to register as an independent (their school does not have a school coordinator) they must contact Fraser Head at [entries@cysf.org](mailto:entries@cysf.org).
3. If you hold a school-based science fair as a means to select your entries for the city-wide fair, it must take place in January or early February in order to meet the deadline for student/project registration.
4. **It is now necessary for us to impose a quota on the number of projects that can be entered, from BOTH elementary AND secondary schools. For elementary schools the quota is based on the total number of students in grades 5 and 6 registered at your school as of September 30<sup>th</sup>. For secondary schools, the quota is based on the total number of students registered in your school as of September 30<sup>th</sup>. It is important that both elementary and secondary schools report student totals on the on-line school sign-up form. Middle schools must report their elementary student totals (for grades 5 & 6) and secondary student totals (grades 7-12) separately, as indicated on the online school sign-up form.**

The quota for elementary and secondary schools is 1 project per 20 students registered, as explained above, with a maximum of 20 students per school. All schools will be allowed at least 4 project entries regardless of their enrolment (new this year).

5. Our web site address is [www.cysf.org](http://www.cysf.org). New information and updates will be added as appropriate.
6. **If you have any questions please contact us at [entries@cysf.org](mailto:entries@cysf.org).**

Yours sincerely,  
Arnold Ingelson and Fraser Head  
Co-chairs, Entries Committee

