

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



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### **Ontario students win national stock market competition**

By buying stocks when they reached a yearly high and hoping they'd go higher, four students from Nepean, Ontario rode the bull market and parlayed a mythical \$100,000 into \$177,420 in 12 weeks in Wilfrid Laurier University's annual spring Stock Market Competition for high school students.

The team of Tyson Morrow, David Mohajer va Peseran, Patrick Henein and Ryan Kricorissian, all students in teacher Harriet Podolak's Grade 12 management studies class at Nepean High School, reported that they "liked to buy stocks that had just reached their 52-week high, preferably the previous day."

One of those stocks was General Minerals Corp. Beginning in February, the Nepean team "bought (General Minerals) at various prices, mostly at \$6.50 or less," said Sandra Kuehl, manager of the stock market competition. General Minerals recently hit \$13.45 per share, and "this is where they made their money."

About 950 teams involving 4,400 to 5,000 students took part in the competition.

The national winners will receive \$500 to be split four ways, courtesy of The Toronto Stock Exchange, a school trophy, engraved plaques, certificates, and an all-expense paid trip to the June awards ceremony in Toronto. In addition, one member of the winning team judged by the teacher to have contributed most to the team, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from Wilfrid Laurier University.

The national and Ontario regional winners will be in Toronto on June 5, where they will tour the trading floor of The Toronto Stock Exchange and attend an awards luncheon at the Board of Trade. Guest speaker will be Susan Crocker, senior vice-president, equity and derivative markets, of the Toronto Stock Exchange.

The Stock Market Competition was established in 1968 as part of a first-year business program at WLU, was later played by high school students across Ontario, and went national in 1983. A university/college competition was launched in 1993.

The purpose of the competition is to give the contestants a realistic understanding of how the stock market operates in Canada. Teams watch stock market quotations in daily newspapers and use e-mail to send their daily buy and sell orders to the university. In return, they receive a transaction report.

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Sponsors of the high school competition include The Toronto Stock Exchange, Spectra Securities Software Inc., The Canadian Securities Institute, Institutional Equity Traders Association (of Toronto), Vancouver Security Traders Association, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Richardson Greenshields of Canada Ltd., and Bell Canada.

In addition to the national winner, eight regional winners were chosen, as well as one team that was selected for the Huntly McKay Award. That award, named in honor of the late Huntly McKay, a TSE vice-president, goes to the team that best embodies the ideal and spirits of the competition. The Huntly McKay winners this year were Wayne Francis, John Hibbert and Alex Morrison of North Park Secondary School in Brampton. Kuehl said the team, under the direction of teacher Chan Maharaj, was a very active trader and demonstrated considerable trading savvy. The members will receive certificates, share \$500 courtesy of the TSE, and the school will get a trophy.

Regional winners in the high school competition will receive a school trophy, individual certificates, and will split \$250 in cash.

The **national champion** team can be reached through their teacher, Harriet Podolak, at Nepean High School (613) 722-6551.

The regional winners are:

**British Columbia/Yukon** - Leslie Brise, Malin Olafson and Anne Fontaine of Fraser Lake School, Fraser Lake, BC, with \$130,541. National ranking: 4th. Advising teacher, Gerald Brise (604) 699-6233.

**Alberta** - Naomi Rankin and Melanie Sowers of Cochrane High School, Cochrane, AB, with \$109,622. National ranking: 48th. Advising teacher, Verne Friesen, (403) 932-2542.

**Saskatchewan and Manitoba** - Matthew Komus, Brooke Ladyman, Travis Costello, Cedryck Taiarol and Aynsley Kluchnik of Westwood Collegiate, Winnipeg, MB, with \$142,553. National ranking: 3rd. Teacher, Terence R. Ladyman, (204) 888-7650.

**Ontario - North and East** - Todd Fryer, Shawn Neveu, Dennis Deschamps and Scott Howe of French River District Secondary School, Noelville, ON, with \$115,530. National ranking: 19th. Advising teacher, Gerry Mack, (705) 898-2282.

**Ontario - Greater Toronto** - Matt Glickman, Ben Morton, Cory Rosen, Jeff Schwartz and Rebecca Weinberg of Thornlea Secondary School, Thornhill, ON, with \$120,583. National ranking: 9th. Advising teacher, Marney Pollock, (905) 889-9696.

**Ontario - South and West** - Jeff Kehl, Doug Bauman, Paul Douglas, Matt Thomson and Jon Fretz of Elmira District Secondary School, Elmira, ON, with \$115,938. National ranking: 17th. Advising teacher, Susan Brooks, (519) 669-5414.

**Quebec** - Cindy Carney, Patrick Benoit, Jennifer Quinn, Sara Griffiths and Joanne Ross of Bonaventure Polyvalent School, Bonaventure, PQ, with \$130,073. National ranking: 5th. Advising teacher, John Williams, (418) 534-3446.

**Maritimes** - Leroy Deny, Cordell Grant, Emma Locke, David MacKean and Erin Ramsay of Riverview High School, Sydney, NS, with \$117,230. National ranking: 15th. Advising teacher, Vincent Walker, (902) 564-5411.