

Competition sponsored by Canada Post

OTTAWA -- The environment is the subject of this year's national letter-writing competition conducted by Canada Post Corporation for young Canadians aged 12 to 15 inclusively.

All entries, which must be written in either English or French and be from 500 to 1,000 words in length, are to be postmarked no later than March 15, 1989. They should be sent to:

Canada Post Letter-Writing Competition
Community Programs
(Station 483)
Sir Alexander Campbell Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0B1

The competition is conducted in conjunction with an international contest sponsored by the Universal Postal Union (UPU), an organization made up of 166 postal administrations representing nearly all the countries in the world. Information on the contest has been sent to all schools across Canada.

The UPU, set up in Switzerland more than 100 years ago, has chosen this year's theme for the competition:

"Tell me how we can protect nature and decorate the earth with

flowers and greenery." The theme was chosen to mark the 1990 International Garden and Greenery Exposition in Osaka, Japan.

The aim of the competition is to encourage clear expression and creativity in writing. For teachers and youth leaders the competition, as a class activity, is an excellent opportunity to teach the art of letter-writing and proper addressing.

The winner of the national competition will receive an IBM personal computer and a trip to Ottawa, accompanied by an adult.

The first prize winner and the three runners-up will each receive a certificate of excellence, a 1988 Canadian souvenir postage stamp collection and a pen set.

The national winner's entry will be entered in competition by Canada Post against winning entries from around the world in the UPU's International Letter-Writing Competition. The UPU's top prize is a trip to Osaka, Japan.

The winner of last year's national competition was 15 year-old Helen Garratt, of North Vancouver, B. C. Her letter, dealing with the theme "How do you imagine the journey of a letter", went on to earn second honourable mention in the international competition.

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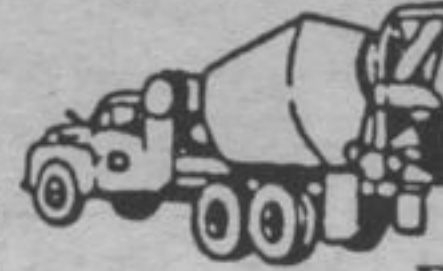
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