

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Westmount Collegiate wins Laurier stock market competition

For Immediate Release

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WATERLOO – Westmount Collegiate Institute has won a national stock market competition organized by Wilfrid Laurier University, ending Thornlea Secondary School's six-year winning streak.

A team of students from the Toronto school – Ilan Mann, Adi Viner, Jason Senensky, Anatoliy Weinberg and Kasra Kamyab – won the winter 2006 National Secondary School Stock Market Competition, turning a virtual \$100,000 into a portfolio worth \$285,697 in just 12 weeks. The team's advising teacher, Robyn Madill, can be reached at (905) 882-0277. A second team from Westmount also won at the regional level.

Westmount's national success was largely due to an early acquisition of shares in Crystallex International Corporation (KRY), which quickly increased the team's portfolio value by almost \$8,000. Seeing the potential in this company, the students then purchased additional shares, using their margin account to leverage their portfolio by more than \$164,000. A final purchase of KRY shares added an additional \$15,000 to their portfolio and secured the win.

"The stock market competitions give students the opportunity to make choices and decisions concerning the market, and to learn from those decisions," says Sandra Hughes, director of Laurier's national stock market competitions. "Clearly these students followed the market closely and benefited from their hard work."

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Stuart Novak, Moshe Kellestein, Zach Saadon and Jordan Sherman of Westmount won this spring's Ontario (Greater Toronto Area) regional competition. The team finished with \$183,812, after also investing largely in Crystallex International Corporation, making multiple purchases of shares that were steadily added over the course of the competition. Robyn Madill was also the advising teacher for this team.

The other regional winners are:

Western Canada – Hoydi Cheng and Bob Ma from Sir Winston Churchill High School in Calgary, Alberta, finished with \$120,668. The team built its portfolio steadily over the course of the competition, as shares were bought and sold in Connacher Oil and Gas Ltd., Sino-Forest Corporation, Yamana Gold Inc., Breakwater Resources Ltd. and Wolfden Resources Inc., adding over \$20,000 to its portfolio. Advising teacher Gerry Donaldson can be reached at (403) 289-9241.

Ontario (South and West) – Student Jamie Neil from Ursuline College in Chatham won with a portfolio of \$142,290. Options were the secret to Neil's success, as he bought and sold contracts on shares in Inco Ltd., Teck Cominco Ltd., Suncor Energy Inc., Cameco Corporation, Research In Motion Ltd., HudBay Minerals Inc. and Cambior Inc. Advising teacher Joseph Moran can be reached at (519) 351-2987.

Ontario (North and East) – Adrian Cecco from Mackenzie High School in Deep River finished with \$111,685. Cecco utilized his margin account to its fullest as he leveraged his position on equities in Russel Metals Inc., Northern Orion Resources Inc., Crystallex International Corporation, ATI Technologies Inc. and Canadian Natural Resources Ltd., building his portfolio to a winning position. Advising teacher Suzanne Dunford can be reached at (613) 584-3361.

Ontario (Toronto) – Christopher Cunningham from Richview Collegiate Institute in Toronto won with a final portfolio of \$106,750. Cunningham gained early in the competition on the sale of multiple purchases of shares, bought on margin, in Railpower Technologies Corp. Advising teacher Ryan Sloan can be reached at (416) 394-7980.

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Eastern Canada – Neil Stewart from Auburn Drive High School in Cole, Nova Scotia, finished with a portfolio of \$121,638. Early purchases of shares in Silver Wheaton Corp. and Globex Mining Enterprises Inc. were the foundation of Stewart's portfolio, adding almost \$28,000 in profits and bringing him the win. Advising teacher Todd Armstrong can be reached at (902) 462-6900.

The winter competition ran from February 6 to April 21 and included 474 teams from 70 schools. As the national winner, the Westmount team will receive \$500 and a scholarship to Laurier worth \$1,000. The competition also awards the first-place team from six different regions \$250; second-place teams earn \$100 and third place is worth \$50.

Ashley Victoria Wright, Shaun Rajan, Jamal Trumpet, Ahmed Yahya and Zishan Ashraf from David and Mary Thompson Collegiate Institute in Toronto won the Huntly McKay award. The \$500 award goes to the team from the fall or winter competition that best embodies the spirit of the competition by fully participating in active trading and experimentation with a range of investment strategies.

The team from Toronto impressively met the requirements of the award by trading steadily over the course of the competition. The team made 66 successful transactions, spending over \$200,000. Team members utilized all the investment vehicles presented in the competition, particularly their margin account, with steady gains made over the entire course of the competition, to build a successful portfolio worth \$105,335. Advising teacher Jake Carroll can be reached at (416) 396-5525.

Laurier offered its first stock market competition in 1972 and now runs them at the high school, university/college and MBA levels. Held twice each year, the national competitions teach participants about investing as they monitor stock quotations, submit daily trade requests and view their portfolios online. The National Post is a major sponsor of the competition.

For more information on Laurier's stock market competitions, please visit the website at <http://invest.wlu.ca>.