

For immediate release

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### **Valley Students achieve excellent results at the 2021 World VEX Robotics**

**Comox Valley, B.C.** - Comox Valley has the distinction of achieving excellence in robotics and have proven once again to be among the best on the world stage.

Three local teams represented Comox Valley Schools at the 2021 VEX Competitive Robotics World Championships May 16 to 22, which were virtually hosted from the REC Foundation's headquarters in Greenville Texas.

Due to the current global pandemic, robotics teams were faced with the additional challenge of having to collaborate and compete in relative isolation using web-based technologies to bridge the resulting gaps and compete on-line remotely. And, as a result, the championship competition qualified for the Guinness World Book of Records as the largest on-line competition of its kind.

Finalists from the over 12,200 registered teams vied for World supremacy in the field of VEX robotics. Overall, teams representing Canada earned 6 of the top 10 positions at the World's LRS competition, establishing Canada as a dominant force in the field of competitive robotics and STEM education.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Markham, Ont.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Richmond Hill, Ont.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Richmond Hill, Ont.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Burlington, Ont.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Comox Valley, BC
- 8<sup>th</sup> Ottawa, Ont.

The 2021 game challenge *Change Up* was loosely based on *Tic-Tac-Toe*, where teams attempted to take ownership of a 3 x 3 grid of nine goal towers by depositing red balls in the top and de-scoring blue balls from the bottom.

Navigators team 7842B comprised of Theo Lemay and Sawyer scored a perfect driver mode and autonomous runs for a maximum possible score of 252 in the Live Remote Skills (LRS) competition. Their results earned them first place for much of the competition, however, on the second day of competition they were unseated, thus finishing in fifth place in their division and 6<sup>th</sup> overall in the world standings.

In the middle-school division, first time competitors Nicholas Horel, Andrew Phillips and Logan McCoy, competed on Team 7842M in the LRS competition scoring 81 points in driver mode and 52 points in autonomous mode for a very respectable total of 133 points. Results landed the team in 36<sup>th</sup> place in their division and 50<sup>th</sup> in the over-all world ranking.

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All three of team combined to make up Team 7842 were also recognized by the judges as having one of the best staged video productions in the World competition, earning them an additional 15 points.

Comox Valley Schools extends a gratitude to the hosts of the 2021 Vex Robotics World Games and congratulations to our 7842 team members and the supporting volunteers who helped make this unique and extremely challenging season such a memorable success.

Congratulations and best wishes also goes to our senior team members; Zane Henderson, Joel Saunders, Sawyer McClellan and Theo Lemay who are graduating this year.

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To view the team's world-class performances, visit the following video links:

**Team-A:** <https://youtu.be/0xC1r6lWlzl>

**Team-B:** <https://youtu.be/BGxN8K-vBjE>

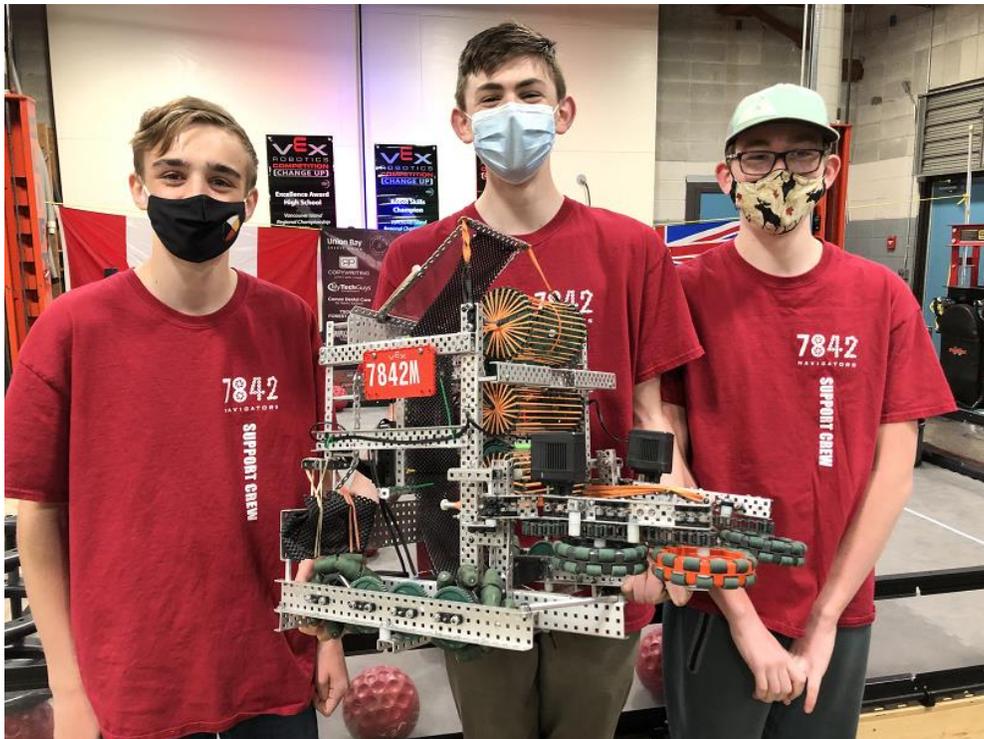
**Team-M:** <https://youtu.be/guEMYxtS7co>

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*Members of Team 7842 (A,B and M) proudly showcase the Canadian and British Columbia flag after achieving remarkable results at the 2021 World VEX Robotics.*

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*Our middle-school division team 7842M consisting of members Nicholas Horel, Andrew Phillips and Logan McCoy, competed in the Live Remote Skills (LRS) competition's top seeded "Mercury" division where they scored 81 points in driver mode and 52 points in autonomous mode for a very respectable total of 133 points, finishing 36<sup>th</sup> in their division and 50<sup>th</sup> in the over-all World rankings.*



*In the high school division, Team 7842A comprised of members Joel Saunders and Zane Henderson, competed in the LRS competition second seeded "Venus" division where they scored an almost perfect 123 points in driver mode and 78 points in autonomous mode for an impressive total of 201 points, finishing 11<sup>th</sup> in their division and 49<sup>th</sup> in the World rankings. A very admirable finish for Team-A.*



*Navigator/NIDES Team 7842B; with senior team-leaders Theo Lemay and Sawyer McClellan in the LRS competition's top seeded "Mercury" division, who managed to score perfect driver mode and autonomous runs for a maximum possible score of 252 with a total of 11 seconds remaining.*