

For immediate release

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### **Comox Valley Schools Minecraft Challenge winners announced**

**Comox Valley, B.C.** – Comox Valley Schools is very pleased to announce the winners of the Comox Valley Schools Minecraft Build Challenge. Students were challenged to look at the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, choose a problem that inspires them, and craft a solution that may have an impact on our community or the world. Every student demonstrated creativity, collaboration and problem-solving throughout this challenge. There were over 288 competitors from 11 schools in SD 71.

Students in this challenge worked on solving problems by creating worlds with recycling factories, underwater kelp research facilities, completely sustainable farms that give back their community and so much more. The challenge aims to trigger creative ideas on how to change our habits and participate in designing more sustainable, fairer, and healthier societies.

There were three categories for the competition and the following winners received prizes from Comox Valley Schools:

#### **Primary Grades K-3 Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Drostan DeVere-Marwood – NIDES

2<sup>nd</sup> Oscar Silverstein, Wilder Petch, Everett Dickens and Glen Nasadyk – Cumberland Community School

3<sup>rd</sup> Briar Carroll, Zoey Thomson, River Hutchison Crooks, and Nadia Staathof – Cumberland Community School

#### **Intermediate Grades 4-7 Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Alaina Aubin – NIDES

2<sup>nd</sup> – Seamus Kelly, Burwyn Turner and Leo Johnson – Enter Program NIDES

3<sup>rd</sup> – Eamonn Dattoo and Henry Waite – Enter Program NIDES

#### **Secondary Grades 8-12 Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Isabelle Aubin – NIDES

2<sup>nd</sup> – Page Johnson-Milne – NIDES

3<sup>rd</sup> - Harley Hart, Kaylan Johnston, Dassan Sorenson, Noah LaPointe, Adon Pahanic – Lake Trail

Minecraft is one of the world's most popular video games, where players build and interact in virtual worlds. Students often use Minecraft as they would a never-ending box of Lego where they can build their dream designs.

We are very proud of all participating students and teachers and have been very impressed with what you've built!

People can view the winning entries on Comox Valley Schools Youtube channel via this playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9hIYx3GSeG0vmwkDkRTZ9MtHODI1cGju>

A backgrounder follows. Attached pictures are courtesy of SD 71.

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**BACKGROUNDER**

SD 71 Director of Instruction Jay Dixon with Primary 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners: Oscar Silverstein, Wilder Petch, Everett Dickens and Glen Nasadyk and Grade 3 teacher Kathryn Ney from Cumberland Community school



Primary 3rd place: Zoey Thomson, River Hutchison Crooks, and Nadia Staathof, Briar Carroll (not pictured) with grade 3 teacher Kathryn Ney – Cumberland Community School



Intermediate 2<sup>nd</sup> place: – Seamus Kelly, Burwyn Turner and Leo Johnson – Enter Program NIDES



Intermediate 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Eamonn Waite and Henry Dato – Enter Program NIDES



## Secondary

3rd place - Harley Hart, Kaylan Johnston, Dassan Sorenson, Noah LaPointe, Adon Pahanic – Lake Trail

