
News Release Communiqué

CBO051583

Minister Oda Announces Canada Day Poster Challenge 2006 Winner for British Columbia

VANCOUVER, APRIL 28, 2006 – Minister of Canadian Heritage and Status of Women Beverley J. Oda today announced the names of the Canada Day Poster Challenge 2006 winner and finalists for British Columbia. The winner is Lisa Qiu, aged 15, of Eric Hamber Secondary School, in Vancouver.

The first place winner was selected from the finalists in the following age categories:

Age 5–8	Brandon Chow, 7, of Saint Francis Xavier School, in Vancouver
Age 9–11	Shayna McGrath, 11, of Maple Bay Elementary School, in Duncan
Age 12–14	Jane Cheng, 13, of Bonnaccord Elementary School, in Surrey
Age 15–18	Lisa Qiu, 15, of Eric Hamber Secondary School, in Vancouver

The contest results were revealed at a ceremony that took place at Canada Place today.

“The Canada Day Poster Challenge encourages young Canadians to visualize Canada through their eyes and explore the many facets of our country, from its landscape and heritage to its people, cultures, and ideas,” said Minister Oda. “This contest provides them with an opportunity to display their creativity while demonstrating their pride in being Canadian.”

The theme of this year’s Canada Day Poster Challenge is “Images of Canada.” The contest invited participants to express themselves through images that portray what Canada means to them.

The design of one of the provincial or territorial winners will be chosen as the official Canada Day 2006 poster and distributed throughout the country. The name of the national winner will be announced in May. All 13 provincial and territorial winners and their escorts will be guests of the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Status of Women, in Ottawa, on July 1, where they will join thousands of other Canadians gathered on Parliament Hill to celebrate Canada’s 139th birthday.

From June to September 2006, the 13 winning posters will be on display at the Canadian Children’s Museum, located in the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec.

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Initiated in 1987, the Canada Day Poster Challenge is one of the Department of Canadian Heritage's most popular programs. Official partners of the 2006 Canada Day Poster Challenge—Hudson's Bay Company, the Trans Canada Trail Foundation, the Historica Foundation of Canada, the Dominion Institute, and the Canadian Children's Museum - will offer prizes to this year's winners.

Partners of the Poster Challenge in British Columbia include CityTV, Canada Place Corporation, and IMAX Theatre.

To find out more about the Challenge, please visit our website at www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/affiche-poster

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(This news release is available on the Internet at www.canadianheritage.gc.ca under **Media Room**.)