

School Poster Contest – Save the National Capital Sand Dunes

Sponsored by: Biodiversity Conservancy International

Purpose: To introduce elementary and secondary school students to the concept of conservation of the Earth's biodiversity and environment using the ongoing restoration of a unique and ancient sand dune system in Canada's National Capital as a model.

Biodiversity Conservancy International (BCI) undertakes programs contributing to the preservation of species, habitats, and the environment, through conservation, education, and research. BCI's effort to save the Pinhey Sand Dunes in the National Capital Greenbelt (NCG) (under the jurisdiction of the National Capital Commission) represents a local example of such a contribution. This sand dune habitat and its associated ecosystem are undergoing restoration to preserve native species and enhance species diversity in the NCG. Located in Nepean, the Pinhey Sand Dunes are bordered by Woodroffe Avenue, Slack Road, Vaan Drive, and Pineland Avenue (entrance at Pineland Avenue & Vaan Drive).

BCI invites students in Ottawa schools to participate in a poster contest entitled "Save the National Capital Sand Dunes." Students are invited to create a poster that highlights the Pinhey Sand Dunes as well as some of its key native insects and plants (see websites below). Students are encouraged to visit the Pinhey Sand Dunes site to get the full experience of this unique, 10,000 year-old habitat (where summer temperatures may reach 70°C) and its highly specialized biodiversity.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ottawa-Sand-Dune-Conservation/185427924836242>

<http://www.biodiversityconservancy.org/species01.html>

Posters will be submitted to a panel of judges for review. The artists of the three winning posters will be awarded \$100 each, and these posters will be displayed on the official BCI website and included in the international quarterly journal *Biodiversity, Journal of Life on Earth*. The top 20 posters will be given recognition and be used in promotion of the Pinhey Sand Dunes restoration. BCI will retain the print rights for each of the posters. The original art and copyright will remain with the artists.

This Poster Contest is part of the educational program of Biodiversity Conservancy International, specifically in this case, to promote and enhance the long-term conservation of the Pinhey Sand Dunes. The ongoing restoration of Pinhey Sand Dunes is being carried out in collaboration with the National Capital Commission with funding support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, TD Friends of the Environment, and the City of Ottawa Community Environmental Projects Grant Program.

Contest Rules

- Only one poster submission will be accepted from each school. The school will be responsible for selecting their own best submission.
- Posters may be hand-drawn or painted on paper, or canvas in any medium of the artist's choice, including cut-paper designs and mixed media, or generated on a computer. However, the final artwork must be flat enough, or of high enough resolution if digitally created, to allow for a high-quality digital image.
- Names of the student artist and their school must be included in the lower right corner of each poster.
- Artwork to be submitted by computer file only: 300 dpi (jpg, gif, pdf) at full poster size – 24" W x 36" H. If traditional media are used, an electronic image should be captured with a quality scanner or camera.
- File name must include the name of the school and the student artist in the following format: *surname-first name-school name*.
- Files of the posters are to be submitted to: CormierC@biodiversityconservancy.org

Submission deadline is October 31, 2014. The winners will be announced December 1, 2014.