



Nathan Hellner-Mestelman



Evan Papps



Katherine Morley



Eunjo An

ASL would like to congratulate all of the participants in the Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair and would like to recognize those that went on to receive recognition at the 2022 Canada-Wide Science Fair.

In April, ASL was proud to sponsor the fourth-prize winner of the Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair. This prize was awarded to Nathan Hellner-Mestelman for his project entitled “Breakup is a Drag - Using a Lower CubeSat Orbit to Protect Space Infrastructure,” a study on how to reduce space debris by adjusting satellite orbits using a cost-efficient delivery system. Nathan, along with six other Vancouver Islanders (see results virsf.ca) were selected to continue on to the nationals.

The Canada-Wide Science Fair saw many innovative and complex studies demonstrating a broad range of skills from young up-and-coming scientists. A total of four Vancouver Islanders received awards at this high level competition. [Nathan](#) was awarded a silver medal in the Curiosity and Ingenuity category and a Western University Scholarship. Following the path of other Vancouver Islanders, [Evan Papps](#), also within the Curiosity and Ingenuity category, won a silver medal for his project entitled “Can Slime Mold Adapt and Communicate?” Evan studied how these organisms can learn and share information with other slime molds. Results from his study suggest potential innovations in nanotechnology. Evan was also awarded a Western University Scholarship.

Another key topic for Vancouver Islanders was the Environment and Climate Change category where [Katherine Morley](#) won a bronze medal for her work “Coagulant Conundrum: Exploring the Efficacy of Natural and Chemical Coagulants on Microplastics.” In addition to the bronze medal, she was also awarded the Nanotechnology for Sustainable Society Award sponsored by the Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology.

[Eunjo An’s](#) work entitled “Orange Peels as Biosorbents in the Treatment of Heavy Metals Wastewater “ won her a bronze medal in the Environment and Climate Change category as well as two additional awards including the [Sanofi Biogenius](#) Canada Award and a University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship.

A job well done!