



Port Alberni Community Science Celebration, February 11th, 2012 at Alberni Athletic Hall and North Island College

In partnership with the Mid-Island Science, Technology and Innovation Council (MISTIC) and North Island College, Science World held its fifth *Community Science Celebration* of the 2011/2012 school year in Port Alberni, B.C. This was our second celebration in the Alberni Valley.

There were 18 exhibitors from a variety of different organizations from the Alberni Valley and beyond including: North Island College (4 departments), MISTIC, ASTTBC, Genome BC, Bear Smart BC, Milner Gardens, CWC Forest Society, NI Wildlife Recovery Centre, BC Hydro Community Outreach, Bamfield Marine Science Centre, Save Our Valley Alliance, Neptune Canada, Horne Lake Caves, Otolith Lab & the Science Fair Foundation.

The North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre ran talks in a classroom in the college with one of their owls, Bardo, who was a big hit and attracted a large audience for all 4 talks. The college also opened their Biology and Chemistry Labs with some exciting display including a tank touch full of marine wonders and the insides of a pig including the heart and lungs, as well as some anatomically correct, muscular body painting

Science World ran 4 different make-and-take stations including stunt fliers, popsicle stick harmonica, pinwheel, and our *Big Science For Little Hands* catapult. Science World also delivered 3 science shows from the main stage. All

activities were offered thanks to the help of 9 volunteers from Canada Wide Youth. Canada World Youth (CWY) is a world leader in developing international educational programs for young people **aged 15 to 35**. A non-profit organisation, CWY is dedicated to enriching the lives of young people that have a desire to become informed and active global citizens.

This culminating event, attended by approximately 2700 students, parents, teachers and their families, followed one week of science activities in the community. Science World visited 8 schools and presented 4 different shows to 1,347 participants in five communities (Port Alberni, Ucluelet, Tofino, Ahousat and Bamfield) with the *On The Road* outreach program. Science World also delivered two *Big Science For Little Hands* workshops, one for 17 ECE students from North island College and one for 25 child care providers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our community partners, exhibitors, college staff and volunteers for the support and resources allocated to the planning and delivery of the celebration. We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks again for making the *Community Science Celebration* such an amazing and successful event!

Sincerely,

Jo-Ann Coggan

Manager, Community Outreach

t | 604-443-7553 or 1-800-363-1611

f | 604-443-7435

e | jcoggan@scienceworld.ca

w | telusworldofscience.com/vancouver

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