



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Grade 6 students create original art for immunization awareness**

8 December 2016 (OTTAWA) – Every other year, Immunize Canada, with funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada, organizes a National Immunization Poster Contest for Grade 6 students in conjunction with the biennial Canadian Immunization Conference.

“This exciting poster contest is open to all Grade 6 students in Canadian schools,” says Dr. Shelly McNeil, Chair of Immunize Canada. “The goal of the contest is to encourage students to understand the importance of immunization and its effects on the health and well-being of children, and to provide them with an opportunity to submit their original works of art reflecting their ideas on immunization for good health.”

Close to 500 entries were received from schools across the country. Twelve winning posters – a National Winner, a National Runner-up, and one winner from each participating province/territory – were selected based on creativity, artistic quality, colourfulness, imagination and the immunization message.

Immunize Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada are both pleased to announce this year’s National Winner as **Isabella Quinn** (age 11, a Grade 6 student at Bliss Carman Middle School in Fredericton, New Brunswick), and the National Runner-up as Bethany Antle (age 11, a Grade 6 student at A.G. Baillie Memorial School in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia).

Isabella Quinn, National Winner, was recognized during the opening session of the Canadian Immunization Conference on December 8 in Ottawa, Ontario. Isabella’s winning poster, along with the other winning posters, was displayed during the conference. In addition to being displayed at the national conference, the posters will be used to promote immunization during Immunization Awareness Week in April 2017.

The provincial winners are as follows:

#### **ALBERTA**

Julia Dolejsi (Two Hills School – Two Hills)

#### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Grayson Kelly (McGowan Park Elementary School – Kamloops)

#### **MANITOBA**

Maggie Slivinski (Holy Ghost School – Winnipeg)

**NEW BRUNSWICK**

Qixin Guan (Northrop Frye School – Moncton)

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR**

Marie-N. Jatta (Tricon Elementary School – Bay de Verde)

**NOVA SCOTIA**

Makenzi Sangster (Chedabucto Education Centre – Guysborough)

**ONTARIO**

Juliana Li (Donald Cousens Public School – Markham)

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

Deborah Omofaye (Stratford Elementary School – Stratford)

**QUEBEC**

Chloé Daoust (Institut Gault Institute – Valleyfield)

**SASKATCHEWAN**

Elizabeth Elder (Regina Christian School – Regina)

No entries were received from the Territories.

Prizes for the winners were kindly donated by BIOTECanada Vaccine Industry Committee, the Canadian Paediatric Society, and Kaleidoscope Kids' Books (Ottawa).

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**For more information, and to download winning poster images:**

<http://immunize.ca/en/events/imm-poster-contest.aspx>

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**About Immunize Canada**

Immunize Canada is a national coalition with the overall aim of increasing awareness about the benefits of immunization and promoting the understanding and use of vaccines as recommended by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI). It is a trustworthy and independent voice in support of immunization of children, adolescents, adults and health care professionals. For more information, visit [immunize.ca](http://immunize.ca).

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